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President assures support on PEMRA (Amend) Bill 2023

President Alvi appreciates collective efforts of media community; Says amendment bill brought improvements to existing media law; Urges need for promoting diversity of thought and opinions.

President Dr Arif Alvi on Tuesday assured media workers and the journalist community of his support for the Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (PEMRA) Amendment Bill 2023. The president was talking to a delegation of the representatives of Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists (PFUJ), All Pakistan Newspapers Society (APNS), Pakistan Broadcasters Association (PBA), Council of Pakistan Newspaper Editors (CPNE), and the media community for in-members of the delegation

Directors (AEMEND), to protect the rights of mewho called on him at the Aiwan-e-Sadr, the President Secretariat Press Wing tisements with the payment said in a press release.

The delegation included Afzal Butt, Arshad Ansari, Naz Afreen Saigol, Sarmad Ali, Shahab Zuberi, Shakeel Masud, Ijaz ul Haq, Kazim Khan, Ayaz Khan, and Azhar Abbas.

Talking to the delegation, the president appreciated the collective efforts of

dia workers. He said that the linking of government adverof dues to electronic media employees would help address their issues.

The president discussed in detail various aspects of the bill with the visiting delegation. The amended bill had brought improvements to the existing media law, he said.

He also asked the

Association of Electronic troducing amendments to to volunteer to educate the Media Editors and News the PEMRA law, especially youth about fake news and youth about fake news and disinformation, and highlighted that teenagers were among the most vulnerable populations to the scourge of fake news, and needed to be educated and sensitized about its implications.

He further said the media, especially senior journalists, should enhance linkages with academia and universities to guide and educate students about fake news and the new developments taking place in the field of journalism.



ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi in a meeting with the representatives of the Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists (PFUJ), All Pakistan Newspapers Society (APNS), Pakistan Broadcasters Association (PBA), Council of Pakistan Newspaper Editors (CPNE), and Association of Electronic Media Editors and News Directors (AEMEND), who called on him, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.



Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar visited the residence of President JUI-F Maulana Fazal Ur Rehman to express his condolences for those martyred in suicide attack in Khar, Bajuar at the JUI-F Workers' Convention Islamabad.

PM for road infrastructure in areas serving magnet for foreign investment

Emphasizes upon completion of road infrastructure in the Balochistan and directed the reconstruction of Karachi to Chaman highway

ISLAMABAD (APP): which was damaged during Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Tuesday said that an efficient road infrastructure played a pivotal role in the development and progress of any country and stressed for laying of road infrastructure in those areas which could attract foreign invest-

The caretaker prime minister chaired a meeting to review the ongoing road infrastructure projects. The meeting was attended by relevant authorities, the PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

The meeting was briefed in detail about the ongoing work on Pinjarra bridge on Quetta-Sukkar Highway and Sawar bridge on Quetta-Zhob Road. The work on Pinjarra bridge,

the last year's flood, would

commence next month. A causeway was constructed after floods which restored the vehicular movement

The construction period of the new bridge with 15-meter height and 12meter width, would take about nine months, it was further added.

The prime minister directed for reducing the stipulated time period for the completion of new bridge. The meeting was apprised that the reconstruction and rehabilitation work on 118km long Quetta-Dhadar Road and 188-km Dhadar-Jacobabad Road would be undertaken anew which would not only help in fuel saving, but also reduce the vehicular pressure.

IGP organizes farewell for recently retired, outgoing officers

KARACHI (APP): Inspector General of Police (IGP)
Sindh Ghulam Nabi
Memon on Tuesday organized a simple and dignified argrenany in honour of recomments. ceremony in honour of recently retired and outgoing officers at the Central Police Office (CPO) Karachi.

The farewell lunch was given in honor of retired and about to be retired officers that included superintendents of police (SP) Muhammad Najeeb Khan, Muhammad

Zubair, Wajahat Hussain,

All senior police offic-ers of CPO were also present on the occasion.

preciated the efforts and measures taken by these officers for the Sindh Police Department in controlling the law and order situation while performing their

The Police Chief ap-

Caretaker PM ISLAMABAD (APP): Khan Tessori on Tuesday

Governor

Sindh calls on

Sindh Governor Kamran called on Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq

The governor congratulated the caretaker prime minister on assuming his office and expressed his best wishes, the PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

During the meeting, Senator Sarfraz Bugti was also present.

The prime minister thanked the Sindh governor for his good wishes.

Police register FIR of journalist Mahar's murder

SUKKUR (APP): The Sukkur Police on Tuesday registered a first information report (FIR) of the murder of senior journalist Jan Muhammad Mahar on the complaint of elder brother

Karamullah Mahar. Six main suspects Sher Muhammad alias Sheral Mahar, Khurram Naseer Mahar, Qurban Mahar, Roshan, Gulzar and Mir Muhammad Mahar, and three unknown accused have been nominated in the case lodged at the C Section

Police Station under sec-

tions 302, 120 B, 337, 440,

247, 148 and 149 of the

Pakistan Penal Code (PPC) and 6/7 of Anti errorism Act (ATA). According to the postmortem report, the de-ceased died of gunshot

wounds. Mohammad Jan Mahar, bureau chief of the Sindhi-language cable television network KTN News, was shot dead by armed men riding a motor-cycle on Queens Road late Sunday night.



SUKKUR: Journalists of Larkana and Sukkur Divisions are holding protest demonstration against killing of Brave Senior Journalist Jan Muhammad Mahar who was murdered in Sukkur a few days ago and demanding to arrest his murderers, outside SSP Office in Sukkur.

Caretaker PM vows to eliminate terrorism, promote peace

Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar visits Maulana Fazal's residence to condole over death of party workers

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Tuesday visited the residence of Amir of Jammiate-Ulema Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) Maulana Fazlur Rehman to express condolences on the death of his party workers who were martyred during a terrorist attack on a party conven-

tion in Khar, Bajaur district. Sindh Governor Kamran Khan Tessori also accompanied the prime minister, the PM Office Media Wing said in a press

The prime minister offered Fateha for the departed souls and prayed for the early recovery of the He reiterated that ter-

rorist elements could not

deter the morale of Paki-

stani nation and assured taking of steps against terrorism and maintenance of law and order in the country on priority basis. Maulana Fazlur Rehman, on the occasion, felicitated PM Kakar on assuming the office of the caretaker prime minister and extended his best wishes.

'Matter of public interest': ECP should conduct delimitations transparently, says CJP Bandial

Says Election Commission should resolve all issues before polls; SC refers matter of Sindh delimitations back to electoral body.

ISLAMABAD (Online): Supreme Court (SC) has returned the matter of delimitation of constituencies to Election Commission (EC).

The petitions filed against provincial delimitation of constituencies by EC in Sindh came up for hearing before 3-member bench of SC presided over by the Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Umar Ata Bandial Tuesday.

The CJP remarked de-

limitation of constituencies is matter of public interest. The matter of delimitation of constituencies has come in SC several times. EC should conduct delimitation of constituencies in transparent manner. There is too much sensitivity on delimitation of constituencies in Sindh. It is often complained by Sindh that delimitation of constituencies was not carried out cor-

Masood Khan decorates Urooj Aftab with President's 'Pride of Performance' Award

WASHINGTON (APP): and Urooj Aftab has helped Pakistan's Ambassador to changing the perceptions the United States Masood Khan has decorated

about Pakistan Thanking the Ambas-GRAMMY award winner sador and government of



Performance award during a ceremony held in connection with Independence Day in Washington DC. Urooj Aftab is an in-

ternationally recognized Pakistani American vocalist, music composer and producer in the United States. She is the first Pakistani woman to ever win a GRAMMY award.

Lauding her achieve-ment especially in bringing the people of Pakistan and US closer to each other with the power of music, Ambassador Masood Khan said that that diplomacy and interstate relations were all about perceptions

Pakistan for the award, Urooj Aftab said that it was a good moment to acknowledge that literature, poetry and music has been an integral part of our identity as Pakistanis.

Terming the conferment of award upon her as a matter of pride and a source of inspiration for other female artists of the country, she said that it was a bright day for Pakistani female musicians to have received the award. On the occasion, Urooj Aftab also thanked and paid tribute to legendary female Pakistani singers, from Mukhtar Begum to Abida Parveen. She also thanked her parents for their continued support to her.

To be sworn in today Justice (retd) Maqbool appointed as Caretaker **Chief Minister Sindh**



KARACHI (INP): Sindh caretaker Chief Ministerdesignate Justice Retired Maqbool Baqar will take the oath to his office in a swearing-in ceremony to be

and also issued a notifica-The governor while exercising his powers con-

ferred on him under Article 224 (1-A) of constitution, accorded approval for appointment of former Supreme Court Judge, Justice ® Maqbool Baqar as Caretaker Chief Minister Sindh. Chief Minister Sayed

Murad Ali Shah also moved a summary to the governor for the appointment of caretaker Chief Minister as required by the constitu-

Governor be held on August 16. Kamran Khan Tessori approved the appointment of approval on the recommenminister."

The governor gave his approval on the recommenminister."

Justice ® Maqbool Baqar dation of Sindh Chief Minas caretaker Chief Minister ister Syed Murad Ali Shah, who sent the name to the governor on Monday night.

Outgoing Chief Minister Shah and Opposition Leader in Sindh Assembly Rana Ansar reached a consensus on the name of Justice ® Baqar as a caretaker chief minister after hectic three-day consultations which ended yesterday.

According to a statement issued by Sindh CM Office, "After three-day consultations between Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah and Leader of Opposition in the dis-The oath-taking cer- solved provincial assembly held on August 16 (tomor- emony of the caretaker Rana Ansar, the two have of retired justice Maqbool The governor gave his Baqar as caretaker chief



the Youth Convention held in Hyderabad.

JIT grills **Bushra Bibi for** 20 minutes in Toshakhana case

ISLAMABAD (INP): Bushra Bibi, who is the former first lady and wife of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan, Tuesday appeared before a joint investigation team (JIT) in connection with the Toshakhana case

The former first lady reached the DIG Office in Islamabad accompanied by the PTI's legal team where she was interrogated by the investigation team probing the Toshakhana case.

Five policemen injured as lightning strikes police station in Attock

Monitoring Desk

ATTOCK: A police station in the Hazro tehsil of Punjab's Attock district was struck by lightning, resulting in injuries to five police officers, as confirmed by an official on Tuesday. Attock District Police Officer (DPO), Dr Sardar Ghias Gul Khan, confirmed the incident and the injuries to the media. He mentioned that four of the injured personnel received first aid and were subsequently discharged, while one police officer was referred to the Holy Family Hospital in Rawalpindi for further treatment.

Delayed elections not to be in favour of country, people: Raza Rabbani

kistan People's Party (PPP) Senator Raza Rabbani said on Tuesday that despite passage of six days after dissolution of National Assembly, the Election Commission of

The Senator said, Time passes rapidly over the 90 days' constitutional deadline for elections but regretfully the Election

Pakistan (ECP) has not

yet announced about elec-

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pa- comprehensive statement on the election."
"The ECP should in-

form about the time limit it required for fixing boundaries of constituencies after approval of the digital population census results, Raza Rabani maintained.

He emphasized, "The election commission should not treat the issue as a rou-tine matter." "The delay in holding elections within the period allowed by the constitution, will bring serious Commission of Pakistan (ECP) has yet to issue a consequences for the federation," he cautioned.

PTI chairman's interim bail dismissed in three cases

ISLAMABAD (INP): An terim bail of Pakistar anti-terrorism court jected bail petitions of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chairman Imran Khan, who is incarcerated in Attock Jail, in three cases after he could not appear before court.

ATC Judge Abul Hassan announced the reserved decision in three cases and rejected his bail petitions after former show up before the court.

Earlier on Friday, the anti-terrorism court in Lahore dismissed in- tension.

Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) (ATC) in Islamabad re- chief in seven cases over no-show.

ATC Judge Aijaz Buttar heard the bail plea of PTI chairman in seven cases including Jinnah House attack case.

At the outset of the hearing, Barrister Salman Safdar, former prime minister's lawyer, requested the court to grant a day exemption from prime minister failed to court appearance to his client as he is currently in jail and cannot appear before the court for bail ex-

Daily Aoice of Masse Independent

Resurgent terrorism

As the nation enters a period of political transition, there is a critical need to stay focused on counterterrorism measures. This is particularly true for the militancy-hit parts of KP and Balochistan, where security forces regularly continue to face off against militants.

Two incidents on Sunday in the two provinces illustrate the varied nature of the threat. In Gwadar, calamity was narrowly averted when security personnel confronted terrorists belonging to the banned Baloch Liberation Army. The ISPR says two terrorists were killed as they attacked a convoy transporting Chinese workers in the port city. Luckily, the foreigners were travelling in bulletproof vehicles. The Chinese consulate in Karachi has called upon the state to "severely punish the perpetrators and take concrete ... measures" to protect Chinese citizens and projects. In the other incident, a soldier was martyred while four TTP terrorists were killed in a gun battle in Bajaur.

The top brass is seemingly aware of the delicate situation. While addressing the Independence Day parade at Kakul, the army chief thanked the people of KP and Balochistan for "resiliently fighting ... terrorism", while he urged Afghanistan to prevent its soil from being used against Pakistan. Yet the battle against militancy cannot be an openended exercise, as people living in the affected regions have had enough of violence, and are demanding the state take decisive action.

In this regard, a rally was held on Saturday under the aegis of the Bara Siasi Ittehad in Khyber district. The event, which saw heavy participation from the public, was supported by political parties from across the ideological spectrum. The main demands of the rally participants were peace in their region, and an end to violence, extortion and militancy. This is only the latest of well-attended rallies in KP that have echoed similar demands.

Whether it is TTP, IS-K or separatist militants, an effective counterterrorism strategy is needed to calm the affected regions, dislodge the terrorists and cause minimum disruptions in the lives of the local people, who have sacrificed much over the past several years and seen numerous counter-insurgency operations. Within Pakistan there can be no safe havens for militants, their sympathisers or facilitators. Moreover, the state must continue working with the Afghan Taliban to ensure no anti-Paki stan militants find sanctuary across the western border. Efforts to address Pakistan's concerns on this front may have continued since the Taliban took Kabul in 2021, but have yielded mixed results.

Sometimes there is talk of cooperation, at other times much acrimony. For example, the Taliban spokesman recently criticised Pakistan for being unable to address the militancy issue. Instead of trading blame, both sides should work to ensure militants do not have the space to operate, with the onus on Kabul to prevent anti-Pakistan terrorists from launching attacks.

Let's adapt



Aisha Khan

Adaptation by definition means the process of change through which integration into an emerging new order is facilitated via actions that make transition possible. In the climate world, this refers to strengthening resilience to absorb shocks and recover from crises. In politics, it means marching in step with the times you live in and course correcting to stay ahead of the curve. In science, it means discovery, in research innovative thinking, in media effective communication and at the people's level, embracing change and willingness to trans-

You can look at adaptation through any lens but the end response will yield the same sequential pro-.. anticipatory planning, thinking strategic and maximising co-benefits. Climate change is not a standalone subject and therefore cannot be addressed in isolation. It changes demography, alters social dynamics and has a direct impact on the growth indicators of countries most affected and least prepared to cope

with change. The sectoral impacts of climate change are well researched and policies and plans in place to highlight implementation intent through action frameworks. However, the missing piece in the puzzle is who, when and how. This stumbling block has prevented us from achieving policy objectives and making the required progress in our climate journey. There can be no progress without investing in enabling agencies responsible for structural

the necessary changes at different levels. In every society, the enablers are high human capital and the people, government empowered women have and policymakers who together work on, and support strategies for enabling critical actions to push the change agenda forward. In Pakistan the cli-

mate crisis is a cause that is championed by all political parties and experienced by people at all levels. But despite national consensus on being a vulnerable and hard-hit country, not enough has been done to make a difference on ground. This places a high responsibility on the interim government to own the climate agenda and use the momentum for raising the level of engagement to a higher equilibrium. This is a time to go beyond rhetoric and take a more reflective view of the challenge. There is a growing tendency to attribute everything to external finance and resort to inaction. However, not all paradigm shifts cost money. Finance is only a byproduct of good policy. A little soulsearching may help us to understand that investment in people, shift in policy, and indirect approaches can enhance productivity, boost the economy and incentivise

family planning. There is no country in the world that has prospered without giving women equal access to opportunities and resources. Giving women equal space in society and freedom to make life choices needs no money and will serve as a powerful enabler

Investing in human capital with a focus on science and technology has been the foundational building block for developed countries to become resilient societies. We need to deliver quality education to all citizens to build a resource pool for functions needed by the state to optimise opportuadjustments and making nities for growth.

dence that countries with sustainable populations. Advocacy alone on family planning has not shown the desired results in Pakistan. The latest census is a strong signal for the need to adopt an indirect management approach for long-term divi-

Twinning human capital with gender empowerment may well provide the answer to the

population conundrum. There is global recognition that climate change knows no borders. It is also pertinent to note that the relevance of impact is more powerful when disruptive changes take place in your neighbourhood. makes regional integration an imperative and an essential part of adaptation, not just in the climate domain but also at the political, and people's level. As part of one South Asia, no country can forge its future trajectory without taking cognisance of climate-triggered upheavals in the region. Moving beyond past barriers to find common ground is also a part of adaptation that can no longer be ignored. As political parties

prepare for the next elections, it is important that clarity is provided to the people on actions that will be part of their electoral manifestos on climate change. The vision for a resilient Pakistan needs to go beyond going green to transformative changes in the social landscape and demonstration of political will to shift from status quo to new and dynamic equations for internal and external cohesion. An enabling environment is the product of actions set in motion by enablers. It is time to adapt and move forward recognising constraints and building an evolving narrative for a safe future. -- Courtesy Dawn

Workers' benefit



Parvez Rahim

By virtue of the 18th Amendment, all labour laws were devolved to the provinces, which then got the authority to amend them or make new laws. They have been doing so but the lack of coordination among them has caused acute differences in benefits for workers.

The Employees' Oldage Benefits Institution, constituted under the 1976 Act, is the only such scheme which continues to be administered centrally by the federal government of the day despite devolution. There is no doubt that issues relating to disbursement of pension to migrant retired employees will arise if the Act is devolved to the provinces. Nevertheless, over the last 13 years, the federal government has made no effort to give legal cover to retaining this scheme. In 2014, the Sindh Employees' Old-age Benefits Act was promulgated but has not been operational as the federal government has not transferred the

funds to Sindh. EOBI was being managed smoothly until devolution and all three stakeholders — employers, employees and government - faced no issues. An increase in employers' monthly contribution would mostly be followed by an increase in pension. After devolution, the federal government had no lawful authority to administer the scheme but has continued with it on an ad

A 2005 amendment to the Act of 1976 changed the basis of the monthly contribution by employers from a percentage of the fixed amount to the follow-

ing: "wages' means the rates of wages as declared under the Minimum Wages for Unskilled Workers Ordinance, 1969". After devolution, any amendments carried out by the government in federal laws would only extend to Islamabad Capital Territory, and not beyond.

Fixing the minimum wage for unskilled workers became a provincial subject after devolution, but employers would not accept these for paying EOBI contribution as the relevant law for the purpose was the 1969 ordinance. Consequently, some employers continued to pay the contribution at six per cent of Rs6,000 per insured employee, which was the minimum wage rate under the latter ordinance at the

time of devolution in April

In 2015, the federal government made an amendment to the 1969 ordinance, fixing the minimum wage at Rs13,000. The relevant notice to employers by the EOBI to pay a monthly contribution of 6pc of this amount was challenged by them across Pakistan before their respective high courts. They got favourable judgments from the Punjab, KP and Balochistan courts, whereby the EOBI's claim was set aside.

The Sindh High Court in its judgement dated Feb 22, 2023, has held that employers are required to pay a contribu-tion of 6pc of the prevail-Rs25,000 per insured employee. High courts in the employment with the same other provinces have employer. Conversely, granted stay orders on most paying the contribution at this rate. While employers in Sindh are paying it, those in the other provinces pay workers at rates ranging from 6pc of Rs3,000 to Rs13,000 or at appropriate.

The federal government would be empowered through a parliamentary

majority. Doing so would be in the interest of all stakeholders. EOBI could then fix the same amount of contribution across the country. Pensioners wouldn't have to wait for years for an increase in pensions; employers would have no cause to agitate. The authorities should realise that EOBI will not sustain the current ad hoc arrangement for

Another law which needs to have a uniform policy relates to maternity leave. The West Pakistan Maternity Benefit Ordinance, 1958, was promulgated by repealing existing laws on the subject. Under this ordinance, women with at least four months' employment in an establishment immediately preceding the day of delivery are eligible to get 12 weeks of maternity leave with full payment of salary, six weeks before and six weeks after childbirth. The employer is prohibited from dismissing the services of a woman in this

Punjab and KP follow leave stipulations of the 1958 ordinance, but Sindh has a total of 16 and Balochistan 14 weeks of maternity leave with different conditions for eligibility. As requirements are not different anywhere, it is more realistic to have similar conditions and quantum of leave in the entire country. Under all these enactments, there is no limit to the number of times a ing minimum wage of woman may avail her maternity leave during her progressive organisations allow maternity leave only twice during a woman's career. The respective provincial legislatures should also consider prevailing industrial practices to this efwhatever rate they deem fect. Having a realistic common policy for the grant of maternity benefits all over Pakistan to resolve this issue by tak- will be more acceptable ing EOBI into its fold to employers. -- Courtesy Dawn

Commerce News

Caretaker govt to ensure continuity in economic policies: PM Kakar

ISLAMABAD (APP): chaired a meeting in which Caretaker Prime Minister he was given a detailed strict implementation of secretaries of Finance Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Tuesday said that the caretaker government would ensure continuity in release. the economic policies, besides further improving

enhancement of foreign continue and Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) priorities of the caretaker sectors.He also directed for set-up.The prime minister expediting ongoing reforms officials, including the State

situation, the PM Office revenues Media Wing said in a press

During the meeting, He said that further welfare projects would for further improvement of investment under the government would ensure the resolve to focus their provision of international energies on economic quality facilities in the reforms during their tenure. was among the top health and education priorities of the caretaker sectors. He also directed for attended

he was given a detailed strict implementation of briefing over the economic measures for increasing tax

Prime Minister Kakar said that the caretaker government the prime minister said concentrate on deregulation that work on the public and responsible autonomy the economy, and expressed

The meeting was

Division and Power, and Federal Board of Revenue

(FBR) chairman. It was briefed over the steps taken for bringing further improvement and stability in the economy. A detailed briefing was also given over the reforms in the power sector.

The caretaker prime minister directed for submission of detailed reports regarding ongoing reforms in all sectors



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar chaired a meeting on economy. **Belgium Envoy says:**



FAISALABAD: Bikers rush to the fuel station to refuel their tanks after they come to know about the price hike of petrol, once again in Country.

Kenyan delegation keen to explore opportunities in Pak

Kenyan delegation head seen a lot of rice, Geoffrey Gichura opportunities in confe Mutura has said that Pakistan." LCCI Acting spices, processed food

He was speaking at Agriculture Exhibition billion," he added. the Lahore Chamber of organized by Trade He commend (LCCI) on Tuesday. of Pakistan in Karachi Khan LCCI Acting President Waithira Mwangi and

came to Karachi to visit doing really well in the Karachi

LAHORE (Online): an exhibition and have fields like Halal meat, of rice, seafood, in confectionery items,

Mutura has said that Kenya is gateway to most of African economies including Rawanda and South Saudan.

President Zafar items, cooking oil/ghee, honey and tobacco etc. It is worth mentioning that Pakistan's food exports International Food & According Exhibition

President Zafar items, cooking oil/ghee, honey and tobacco etc. It is worth mentioning that Pakistan's food exports are well above US \$ 5 billion," he added.

He commended the Commerce and Industry Development Authority role played by Mr. L.D. Commercial would have been helpful. Counsellor based in the presented the address of Welcome while other given excellent rundown Pakistan in Nairobi who members of the of the potential of recommended the team delegation, Rachael Pakistan's agriculture & to visit Pakistan to food sector which is not attend the expo and Sajjida Parveen Butt also limited to growing and also have direct spoke on the occasion. selling fruits & interactions with the Mutura said, "We vegetables rather we are business community in

hit \$200bn by 2025: Study artificial

Global AI investments could

intelligence investments are projected to hit \$200 billion by 2025 and could possibly have a bigger impact on gross domestic product, a study has revealed.

AI investments will ossibly take a few years to have a major impact on the economy, rising from a relatively slow starting point, Goldman Sachs Economic Research said in But for AI to trigger

large-scale transformation, gains in productivity.

businesses need to make "significant upfront investments in physical, digital and human capital to acquire and implement new technologies and reshape business processes", the US bank's economists Joseph Briggs and Devesh Kodnani wrote in the

study.
"Those investments, which could amount to around \$200 billion globally by 2025, will probably happen before adoption and efficiency gains start driving major

Khattak for inspection of industrial units, poultry sheds & kilns

MULTAN Commissioner Multan Division, Engineer Aamir prevention of

environment department for the thorough inspection of industrial units, poultry sheds, and brick kilns.

He expressed these views while chairing the divisional environmental committee meeting here on Tuesday. He directed to include civil society and stakeholders in the campaign against smog.

Various

(APP): including new petrol Multan pumps, cold storage, and warehouses were approved Khattak, termed a zero-tolerance policy for the commissioner ordered departments concerned to environmental pollution complete NOCs of petrol and ordered the pumps in the timeline on pumps in the timeline on merit.

He warned that strict action would be taken over violation of SOPs of infrastructure and master plan. He asked to accelerate the process of shifting brick kilns to zigzag technology across the division. He said that complete scrutiny of commercial building maps and parking areas would be cases made

Conventions to help Pakistan for enhancing trade with EU ISLAMABAD (INP): during his visit to the Ambassador of Belgium to Pakistan, Charles (ICCI) coid in a scientific research and Education sectors. He said that the Pakistan, Charles Commerce and Industry DELOGNE on Tuesday (ICCI), said in a press IMF agreement was key to Pakistan as it has

occasion.

that labour rights, human rights and environmental protection would help Pakistan to further improve its trade with the European Union.

The Ambassador said this while addressing the business community

The per tola price of 24

karat gold increased by Rs

1,100 and was sold at

Rs.222,900 on Tuesday

compared to its sale at Rs

221,800 on the previous

day. The price of 10 grams

of 24 karat gold also

increased by Rs.943 to

Rs.190,158 whereas the

prices of 10 gram 22 Karat

gold went up to Rs.175,176 from

Rs174,311, All Sindh

Association reported. The

price of per tola and ten

gram silver remained

constant at Rs 2750 and Rs

2357.68 respectively.

from

from

Jewellers

Rs.191,101

Sarafa

Implementation of GSP- Plus

The Envoy said that
Belgium is the 5th largest
He said that trading partner of with Pakistan in various promotion with EU sectors including trade, countries.

He said that the the release issued here. Abid to Pakistan as it has of Hussain, Trade provided more flexibility implementation of Hussain, Trade provided more flexibility Generalized Schemes of Commissioner of the Preferences (GSP- Plus) Belgium Embassy also Pakistan should ensure conventions, especially accompanied him on the its implementation to save its economy from

> He said that PIA is in negotiations with the EU Pakistan in the EU and it to reopen its flights and the is interested in further start of PIA flights would enhancing cooperation facilitate Pakistan's trade

Gold rates up Int'l traders want to develop by Rs 1,100 ties with agro-based SMEs ISLAMABAD (APP):

LAHORE (APP): The (FoodAg-2023) organized traders of China, Indonesia, Belgium and ASEAN Nations) have evinced keen exhibition, he said, had interest in developing trade relations with local SMEs dealing in food and agriculture products.

It was disclosed by Farhan Aziz Khawaja, Chief Executive Officer of the Small and Medium Enterprises Development Authority (SMEDA) on Tuesday commenting on SMEDA's participation in the 1st International Food and

Agriculture Exhibition

Development Authority (Association of South East Pakistan (TDAP). The provided a unique opportunity to SMEDA for meeting 500 international SMEs from 60 countries along with 15 regulatory development bodies of the

visiting countries. 'We held exclusive meetings with delegates of ASEAN, Indonesia, China and Belgium for promoting SME to SME trade relations in food and agriculture sector.

CM for boosting efforts to rehabilitate drug addicts

Independent Report Punjab Caretaker Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi visited the Ghar' rehabilitation center for drug addicts in Raiwand on Tuesday, where he assessed the facilities provided for the recovery of individuals struggling

with drug addiction. thoroughly inspected the various sections and wards dedicated to the drug addicts, engaging with them and encouraging them to overcome their addiction. During the visit, Mohsin Naqvi emphasised the need to enhance the

Peshawar High Court

(PHC) on Monday directed the National

Accountability Bureau (NAB), Anti-Corruption

Department and Federal

Investigation Agency

(FIA) to provide details of

the cases registered against former MNA Mehboob

Shah and MPA Humayun.

comprising Justice Syed

Arshad Ali and Justice Qazl

Subhan asked the anti-

ers, held at Larkana press club.

The

directives for the rehabilitation of drug establishment of new addicts and he stressed the centers to cater to their significance of digitising the rehabilitation. He assigned the task of building additional centers to the Secretary of Social Welfare and the Secretary of Health, with a mandate to complete centers with a combined capacity of 400 beds across different areas devastating impact of of Lahore within a span of two weeks. The CM also

highlighted the importance find a path to recovery. As of providing quality nutrition and regular supply of fruits to the addicts at 'Roshan Ghar'. He pledged to allocate all

PHC seeks details of

cases, inquiries against

ex MNA, MPA

Monday

bench

treatment services for drug addicts. He also issued effective treatment and individuals.

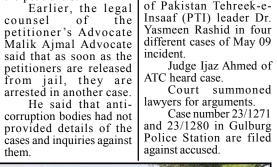
While touring the facility, Mohsin Naqvi visited the computer lab and domestic tailoring lab that serve the drug addicts. He acknowledged the addiction on families and expressed his commitment to helping those affected part of the effort to combat drug trafficking, a comprehensive crackdown had been initiated across

Dr. Yasmeen post arrest bail plea, lawyers' arguments summon

LAHROE (Online); Anti

PESHAWAR (APP): A corruption watchdogs to two-member bench of provide details of all the cases and inquiries against Terrorist Court (ATC) the petitioners. heard post arrest bail plea Earlier, the legal counsel of petitioner's Advocate Malik Ajmal Advocate incident. said that as soon as the petitioners are released from jail, they are arrested in another case.

He said that anti-





LAHORE: Caretaker Provincial Minister for Information and Culture Amir Meer inaugurates 4 new buses for Culture Department.

Corruption case: Parvez Elahi remand in NAB custody till Aug 21

National Accountability Bureau (NAB) on physical remand till August 21 in a case of receiving kickbacks

in development projects.

Earlier, the NAB team produced the PTI president before Accountability Court
Judge Zubair Shahzad

LAHORE (APP): In a bid

to boost tourism, the

Caretaker Provincial

Minister for Information

and Tourism Amir Mir on

Tuesday inaugurated four

new buses for sightseeing

tour of Lahore. Through a

collaboration of Punjab

Tourism Department and

Tourism Development

Corporation of Punjab

(TDCP), these newly

introduced single-deck

buses would now run on

the roads of the city.

tour of Lahore

LAHORE (APP): An Kiyani amid strict security. accountability court on Tuesday handed over former Punjab chief grant him 5 minutes to talk minister and Pakistan
Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)
President Chaudhry
Parvez Elahi to the grant nim 5 minutes to tak
to his client before
submitting arguments,
which was granted by the
court.

Special prosecutor Waris Ali Janjua, who represented the NAB, requested for physical remand of Chaudhry Parvez Elahi. He argued that four persons had already been arrested in connection with the case. He submitted that as chief

minister said the new buses

would also be utilized for

tours to Wagah Border and Gurdwara Kartarpur. Currently, these buses

would operate within Lahore. TDCP's Sales and

Tour Promotion Wing

would also utilize these

buses for various tour

the future, additional buses

would be introduced under

the World Bank project,

offering tourists the

Amir Mir said that in

packages, he informed.

minister Puniab, Parvez Elahi gave a development package of Rs 72 billion for Gujrat division alone. He submitted that a list of 200 projects was finalised and approval was given for the projects on a fast-track basis, in violation of the rules and regulations

He further alleged that after settling the matter of the kickbacks, the amounts for the projects were released even before the commencement of the

Minister inaugurates Police arrest six for possessing new buses for sightseeing illegal weapons RAWALPINDI (APP):

Rawalpindi district police on the directives of the Senior Superintendent of Police, Operations conducted raids in different areas and netted six accused of possessing illegal weapons. According to a police spokesman, Bani, Race Course, Taxila, Saddar Wah, and Rawat police conducted raids in their respective jurisdiction and arrested six namely Anwar, Muzamil, Waseem Asif, Úmair, and Jawad and recovered five 30-bore pistols, a 32 bore pistol and

Miyawaki Forest to be developed in 258 govt schools in south Punjab

bold move to counter the Khan, and Secretary of looming threats of climate Forests South Punjab, change and offer a verdant sanctuary for students, the Department of School Education South Punjab has unveiled plans to cultivate Miyawaki forests in 258 government schools.

The pioneering endeavor, designed to tackle tree scarcity and forge a resilient ecosystem, enters its second phase with 258 selected schools slated to embrace the transformation.

The inaugural planting of the Miyawaki forests is set to unfurl on August 16 (Wednesday) in a gala event at the Government High School Jamia Uloom New Multan. dignitaries including the Secretary of

MULTAN (APP): In a Punjab, Rana Salim Ahmad Sarfraz Ahmed, are poised to inaugurate the ambitious

The concerted effort will usher in the growth of Miyawaki alongside the monsoon planting season, said official source.

The innovative Miyawaki technique innovative promises to usher in forests with a swiftness and density as it is 10 times faster and 30 times thicker, compared to natural forests.

Secretary Rana Salim Ahmad Khan underscored the urgency of the initiative, revealing Pakistan's fifth-ranking status among nations bearing the brunt of climate School Education South change ramifications.



LARKANA: Activists of Awami Tehreek are holding protest demonstration for demanding arrest the killers of Brave Journalist Jan Muhammad Mahar who was murdered in Sukkur a few days ago, held at Larkana press club.

Sindh wins National Women Catchball championship

won the National Women Catch Ball Championship-2023, at Karachi Üniversity

here on Tuesday.

Director General (Sports), Higher Education Commission, Javed Memon was the chief guest and gave away the prizes to the players. President, Pakistan Catchball Federation, Maqbool Arain, Secretary

KARACHI (APP): Sindh ber of people were also present on the occasion, said a communique. Sindh won the titles of the National Women's Catchball Championship-2023. Karachi University obtained second position while The City School DK bagged third position and Islamabad finished fourth position. Twelve teams from across the country took part in the champi-General, Ume Laila onship, which was divided Kalsoom, and a large numinto four groups.

Addressing the opportunity to explore inaugural ceremony, the destinations like Murree. was murdered in Sukkur a few days ago and demanding to arrest his murder-International News

Explosion in Russian Dagestan kills about 30, injuring over 100 including children

LARKANA: Journalists of Larkana district are holding protest demonstra-

tion against killing of Brave Senior Journalist Jan Muhammad Mahar who

Monitoring Desk MOSCOW: At least 27 people died including three children when an explosion occurred in a filling station in the city of the Republic of Dagestan Monday, prompting a response from 240 firefighters to contain the deadly blaze that injured over 100 others, Russian news agency Interfax reported.

"During the rescue operation in Makhachkala, the bodies of three more victims were found," the Russian Emergency Ministry said on Telegram. "According to the updated information, as a result of the fire at the petrol station 105 were injured, and of them, 30 died

A witness quoted on

daily Izvestia said the fire started in an area where cars the petrol station.

Vladimir Putin urges Kim Jong Un to strengthen ties amid Liberation Day greetings

Monitoring Desk

MOSCOW: Russian President Vladimir Putin urged Moscow and Pyongyang to strengthen their ties in a message of congratulations to Kim Jong Un, the suoreme leader of North Korea on the occasion of the nation's National Liberation Day on Tuesday. Since the Kremlin sent soldiers to Ukraine resulting

in widespread conflicts last year, North Korea and Rus sia, both increasingly isolated from the West and bur-dened by sanctions, have grown closer: "I am sure that we will continue to build up bilateral cooperation in all areas for the benefit of our peoples, in the interests of strengthening stability and security on the Korean Penin-sula and in the Northeast Asian region as a whole," Putin said in a statement distributed by the Kremlin. According to Putin, it was during Korea's liberation from Japan and 'harsh wartime'' that groundwork was laid for close cooperation between Moscow and Pyongyang.



South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol and his wife Kim Keon Hee arrive at a ceremony to celebrate the 78th anniversary of the Korean Liberation Day from Japanese colonial rule in 1945, in Seoul, South Korea

Ex-US president Trump indicted for racketeering over 2020 election interference

Monitoring Desk

WASHINGTON: Donald Trump was indicted on Tuesday on charges of racketeering and a string of election crimes after a sprawling, two-year probe into his efforts to overturn his 2020 defeat to Joe Biden in the US

state of Georgia. The case — relying counts

on laws typically used to bring down mobsters is the fourth targeting the 77-year-old Republican this year and could lead to a watershed moment, the first televised trial of a former president in US history. Prosecutors in Atlanta charged Trump with 13 felony

36 feared dead after landslide at Myanmar mine

Monitoring Desk HPAKANT: At least 36 people were feared dead at

jade mine in northern Myanmar after being swept into a lake by a huge landslide, a rescue worker and local journalist said on Monday. The accident hap-

pened on Sunday in the re-mote town of Hpakant, the centre of Myanmar's secretive jade industry, where scavengers risk their lives picking through unstable earth and rubble excavated by mining companies, searching for small pieces of the semi-precious stone.

More than 100 rescue workers were looking for survivors, a member of the rescue team said by phone, declining to be identified due to safety concerns. Eight people were injured and taken to hospital on Sunday.

"We haven't found a body yet, but we are still searching," he said.



Forces Day, celebrated annually on August 15 to commemorate Poland's victory over the Soviet Union's Red Army in 1920, in Warsaw, Poland.

South Korea's Yoon calls for strong security cooperation with US, Japan ahead of Camp David summit

Monitoring Desk SEOUL: South Korea's president called for deeper security cooperation with the U.S. and Japan to address North Korea's nuclear threat, saying Tuesday that his upcoming summit with the U.S. and Japanese leaders at Camp David will "set a new milestone in trilateral

It will be the first time for the leaders of the three countries to gather specifically for a trilateral summit,

Monitoring Desk

WASHINGTON: The

United States, Japan and

South Korea are expected to

announce plans for expanded

military cooperation on bal-

listic missile defenses and

technology development in

the face of growing concern

about North Korea's nuclear

program when the countries'

leaders gather at Camp David

for a summit Friday, accord-

ing to two senior Biden ad-

spoke on the condition of

anonymity to discuss plan-

The officials, who

ministration officials.

cooperation.'

of international meetings. This suggests they are serious about boosting their ties in the midst of complex regional challenges such as North Korea's advancing nuclear arsenal and Washington's strategic rivalry with Beijing.

In their summit Friday at the U.S. presidential retreat in Maryland, President Joe Biden, South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol and Japanese Prime

and South Korea.

US, Japan, South Korea to

at Camp David summit

rather than on the sidelines Minister Fumio Kishida are expected to announce plans for expanded military cooperation on ballistic missile defense and technology development, according to two senior Biden administration officials.

The summit "will set a new milestone in trilateral cooperation contributing to peace and prosperity on the Korean Peninsula and in the Indo-Pacific region," Yoon said in a televised speech in Seoul on Tuesday.

China, India agree to maintain announce deeper defense cooperation peace, tranquillity on the ground in border areas ning for the summit, said the

announcements will be part **Monitoring Desk** of a broad set of initiatives BEIJING: China and India that will be unveiled as Presiagreed to maintain peace and dent Joe Biden hosts Japatranquillity on the ground in nese Prime Minister Fumio the border areas, China's Kishida and South Korean defence ministry said in a President Yoon Suk Yeol for joint statement on the 19th the one-day gathering at the presidential retreat in round of the China-India Corps Commander Level Maryland's Catoctin Moun-Meeting on Tuesday. Both tains. The summit is the first sides had a positive, con-structive, and in-depth dis-Biden has held during his presidency at Camp David cussion on the resolution of and comes amid a thaw in the remaining issues along the historically complicated the LAC (line of actual conrelationship between Japan trol) in the Western Sector.

Afghanistan's Taliban govt marks two years since return to power laws the United Nations

ABUL: Afghanistan's Taliban government marked on Tuesday the second anniversary of their takeover of the country with celebrations and a public holiday, issuing a defiant statement commemorating their surge back to power.

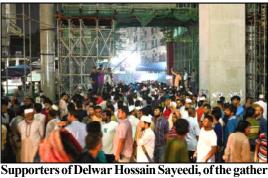
Flags of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan the name given to the country by its new rulers — fluttered at security checkpoints across the capital, which fell on August 15, 2021, when the US-backed government collapsed and its leaders fled into exile.

In the two years since, Taliban authorities have imposed their strict interpretation of Islam, with women bearing the brunt of

A statement from the authorities early on Tuesday hailed a victory that was able to "pave the way for the establishment of the Islamic system in Afghani-

stan".
"The conquest of Kabul proved once again that no one can control the proud nation of Afghanistan" and that "no invader will be allowed to threaten the independence and freedom" of the country, it said.

Quiet Kabul streets early today began to give way to convoys of Taliban members and a gathering at Massoud Square near the abandoned US embassy



in front of the hospital after his death in Dhaka.

China opposes UN Security **Council meeting on** North Korea rights

Monitoring Desk
UNITED NATIONS:
China opposes a planned
United Nations Security Council meeting on human rights abuses in North Korea because it will only "intensify confrontation and antagonism," a spokesperson for China's U.N. mission in New York said on Monday. The United States, Albania and Japan requested the meeting, which will be held on Thursday. It will be the first formal public meeting of the

"China sees no added value for the council to

issue since 2017.

15-member council on the

have such a meeting and will be against it," said China's U.N. mission spokesperson, adding that the council's mandate was "maintenance of international peace and security, not human rights.' 'A council meeting

on human rights in the DPRK falls outside the council's mandate, politicizes human rights issues, and only serves to intensify confrontation and antagonism," said the spokesperson, referring to the country's formal name the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Rules out political alliance

IPP decides to expose PDM, PTI failed policies

ISLAMABAD (INP): The was decided to focus on the alliance Istehkam-e-Pakistan Party (IPP) on Tuesday decided to expose previous rainbow coalition Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) on their failed policies.

The IPP had started its election campaign with verve. In this regard, the IPP top brass had formulated the strategy.

Sources divulged that

patron-in-chief Jahangir Khan Tareen and party chairman Abdul Aleem Khan hosted the luncheon to discuss matters related to the general elec-

IPP supremo also instructed the party workers to start campaigning in their respective constituencies.

prices of the petroleum (POL) products and power. The huddle also decided to inflated electricity bills. On this occasion. Mr

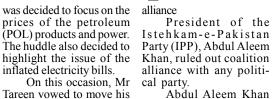
Tareen vowed to move his party forward for the sake of the national interest. The IPP was gearing up and working hard for the general elections, he added. Mr Tareen made it

clear the IPP will fulfil the Aleem Khan said. dream of creating 'Naya Pakistan'

chief felicitated the nominated divisional presidents farmers for free. of the party.

Meanwhile, former

PTI stalwart Hashim Dogar officially made his announcement of joining the "grandiose" party.



said that the party will par-ticipate in the election itself from each constituency. "Both governments are equally responsible for today's destruction," Abdul

IPP President also announced to give 300 units The IPP patron-in- of electricity to consumers and tubewells to small

> He commented that Jahangir Tareen sacrificed by disqualifying himself for PTI but it was unfortunate that Imran Khan did not benefit from Jahangii



ISLAMABAD: An Afghan national with her hands and face painted takes part with others in a demonstration against the Taliban government in Islamabad.

US dollar strengthens further against rupee KARACHI (INP): The cent, becoming more ex-

value of the US dollar has pensive by an additional surged against the Paki- rupee in the interbank stani rupee in the interbank exchange, causing concerns for the local

At the beginning of the business week, the US dollar recorded a notable gain of one rupee against the rupee, solidifying its upward trajec-

The dollar rose by Rs3.60 in the interbank market on Tuesday morning, reaching a new high

The greenback also rose by Rs6 in the open other hand, might find market, reaching Rs302. The increase in the dollar came amid concerns petitively priced in the about the country's economic outlook.

and dealers reported that consumer prices domeson the opening day of the tically, potentially leadbusiness week, the US ing to inflationary presdollar continued its as- sures.

Sindh Counter Terrorism

Department (CTD) in col-

laboration with the local

police conducted informa-

tion-based operations in

different districts of the

province to ensure that no

untoward incidents take

place during Muharram-ul-

The operations were conducted from July 17th to

August 13th, according to a

spokesman for CTD Sindh

operations were carried out

in Karachi, Hyderabad,

Information-based

Haram and August 14th.

10455 suspects

checked in operations

by CTD Sindh

KARACHI (APP): The Mirpurkhas, Shaheed

Sindh Chief Minister appoints

This development comes on the heels of a previous increase, where on the final day of the prior week, the US dollar had strengthened by 89 paise against the rupee in the interbank exchange. The rupee has been under pressure in recent weeks due to a number of factors, including rising inflation, political instability, and a widening cur-

rent account deficit. Exporters, on the some relief as their products become more cominternational market. Additionally, this devel-Currency experts opment could influence

Benazirabad, Nawab Shah,

Sukkur and Larkana areas.

10455 suspects were

checked through the Talash

App. 124 suspects, including 34 illegal Afghan immi-

grants, were handed over to

police stations concerned

for further support and

verification. A total of 24

accused were arrested and

cases were registered

against them in the CTD

police station. 15 illegal pis-

tols, a rifle and two cars

were recovered from the ar-

rested accused.

KARACHI: Alarge numbers of vehicles stuck in traf-

fic jam due to construction and repairing work of Natha

Khan Bridge located on Shahrah-e-Faisal in Karachi.

Police conduct crackdown

against drug supply in

educational institutions

KARACHI (APP): The used to sell drugs in the edu-

cational institutions in the posh areas of DHA and

Clifton. The arrested also

crystal, hashish, and others

were recovered. The ar-

rested accused used to com-

WhatsApp and supply diff

ferent types of drugs.

DIGP Irfan Baloch

said South Zone Police was

very committed and always

engaged in rooting out such

municate

A large quantity of

through

included three women.

South zone police of

Karachi have conducted a

comprehensive crackdown

against the network in-

volved in drug supply in educational institutions.

conducted on intelligence

collection, according to DIGP South Irfan Baloch

15 drug suppliers including

gangs of Anmol alias Pinky

and Dr. Baloch were held.

on Tuesday.

The crackdown was

During the crackdown

The arrested accused

During the operations.

Dean Sindh University HYDERABAD (ÅPP):

Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has appointed Prof. Dr. Lachman Das Dhomeja as Dean Faculty of Engineering and Technology University of Sindh Jamshoro.

According to the announcement from Sindh Universities and Boards Department, Prof. Dr. Lachman Das Dhomeja who was earlier serving as Professor of Dr. Abdul Hussain Shah Bukhari Postgraduate Centre of Information and Communication University of Sindh has been appointed Dean Faculty of Engineering and Technology of the same

university for a period of three years. His appointment as Dean has been ordered by Sindh Chief Minister on the recommendation of the Vice Chancellor, the university spokesman informed.

Uncovered manhole claims kid's life

KARACHI (INP): An uncovered manhole claimed life of a toddler in district Malir of Karachi on Tues-

two-and-a-half year son of Abdul Rehman slipped and fell into uncovered manhold at Memon Goth.

According to details, a

The kid stated to be only son of Abdul Rehman

died on the spot. Meanwhile, Karachi's Deputy Mayor Salman Abdullah Murad met Abdur Rehman and offered his condolences to him. He as-

Three terrorists of banned outfit held

SUKKUR (INP): The Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) arrested three terrorists of a banned outfit besides recovering hand grenades and detonators from their possession here on Tuesday

According to the CTD spokesperson, a team of the department searched a Jaffarabad bound vehicle near Dargah Pir Musafasir in Sukkur. During search, three members of banned outfit including Akram Ali, Rashid Hussain and Muhammad Yousaf were arrested.

Two killed, 15 injured as passenger bus overturns in Nawabshah

NAWABSHAH (INP) Two including a girl were killed and 15 others injured when a passenger bus overturned here on Tuesday, police said.

According to details, a Karachi bound passenger bus coming from Punjab turned turtle due to over speeding in jurisdiction of Khadar police station of Nawabshah.



Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar. Senator Sarfraz Bugti was also present

ECP urges caretakers to ensure 'level playing field' for all political parties in next polls

Independent Report tion Commission of Pakistan (ECP) on Tuesday instructed caretaker governments in the Centre and all the provinces to provide a level playing field to all contesting candidates and political parties during the upcoming general elections in the country.

In a statement, the election watchdog said that the National Assembly and provincial assemblies in Sindh and Balochistan stand dissolved on August 9, 11 and 12 respectively. Senator Anwaar-ul-

Haq Kakar — a lawmaker belonging to Balochistan Awami Party (BAP) — has been selected as caretaker **Corruption case**

LAHORE (Online): Ac-

countability Court (AC) Lahore has approved physical remand of former

Chief Minister (CM)

Punjab Chaudhry Pervez Elahi till Monday in corrup-

AC to present Pervez Elahi

in case pertaining to corrup-

tion in government contracts and kickbacks.

NAB team reached

NAB petition came

Zubair Shahzad Kiayani of areas of Gujarat.

tion case

AC approves physical

remand of Pervez

Elahi till Monday

prime minister. The decision came after the second round of consultations between then prime minister Shehbaz Sharif and Leader of the Opposition in the dissolved NA Raja Riaz, and a summary to this effect had been approved by President Arif Alvi under Article 224 1A.

In Sindh, Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah and Leader of the Opposition in the dissolved provincial assembly Rana Ansar on Monday night reached a consensus on the appointment of Justice (retd) Maqbool Baqar as the interim CM.

The selection for the name of caretaker chief minister in Balochistan remains

NAB prosecutor Waris Janjua and Amjid

Pervez counsel for Pervez

Elahi appeared in the court.

NAB team pre-sented Pervez Elahi in

thorities requested the

court to give physical re-

mand of Pervez Elahi.

The investigation au-

the court.

Bizenjo and Leader of the Opposition Malik Sikandar Khan could not reach a consensus on any name so far. The ECP said that it

was mandated with the constitutional duty to organise and conduct elections in terms of Article 218(3) of the Constitution and to make such arrangements as are necessary to ensure that the elections are conducted honestly, justly, fairly and in accordance with the law. "It has become imperative that the ECP shall take all necessary steps under the Constitution and prevalent law for the smooth conduct of general elections," it added.

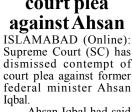
SC dismisses contempt of court plea

dismissed contempt of court plea against former federal minister Ahsan

military officer or judge.

The case came up for hearing before CJP Umar Ata Bandial here Tuesday.

Ahsan Igbal had said we have too respect like any army officer or judge. This run a case further.



Ahsan Iqbal had said we have also respect like a

The CJP remarked



KARACHI: Members of Peoples Unity of PIA Employees are holding protest demonstration for acceptance of their demands, held at Karachi press club.

PDM's hopes dashed to ground after appointment of a caretaker PM: Rashid

RAWALPINDI (INP): Awami Muslim League (AML) chief Sheikh Rashid Ahmed has said that the hopes and aspirations of the 13-party opposition alliance, Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM), were dashed to the ground after the appointment of a care-

taker prime minister. In a message on social media, Rashid said that the PDM parties were ashamed of each other and did not even have the courage to congratulate each other on the appointment of the caretaker PM. He said that the PDM parties were asking each other what had happened and how it had happened.

ited and patriotic event held

at Quaid-e-Azam House

Museum (QAHM), the

Grand Nephew of Quaid-

e-Azam, Mr. Liaquat Mer-

chant, along with Mr. Ikram

Sehgal, Vice Chairman of the

Board of Management (BOM) QAHM, led the

flag hoisting ceremony to

commemorate the enduring

Rashid also criticized the way the 16-month-old PDM government departed, saying that they were humiliated and not even considered worthy of being consulted. He asked in which coun-

try of the world Section 144 was imposed on Independence Day. He said that electricity was cut off in those areas where the headquarters of all the military organizations were located. People were arrested and locked up in police stations, he added. The AML chief said that the institutions should make it clear where women and children were kept after they were taken away from their

Four street criminals held with arms

KARACHI (INP): The police arrested four street criminals and recovered weapons from their posse sion here on Tuesday.

On a tip-off the po lice launched crackdown against street criminals in jurisdiction of Gordon Town police station.

During operation, four street criminals including Haseeb alias Viki Sabir, Haris Aftab and Shah Noor alias Mushki were arrested besides recovery of four pistols and rounds from their posses-

The detainees were wanted by police in dozens of cases of robberies and street crimes and further investigation from them was underway.

Care taker PM decides to induct small cabinet

Care taker Prime Minister (PM) Anwar ul Haq Kakar has decided to keep small cabinet and consultation process has been accelerated in this regard.

Care taker PM has decided to review profile of all the persons by him in connection with cabinet. The name of those

who are likely to be inducted in care taker cabinet have come to fore. Consultations have

been started for giving portfolios of main ministries including ministry of foreign affairs, finance, interior and others.

As per sources the name of Faisal Vawda, Maj (Retd) Khurram Hamid Rokhri, Shahid Afridi, Qari Sadaqat Ali, Ahmad Cheema, Mushtaq Sukhera, Muhammad Ali Durrani, Jalil Abbas Jillani, Absar Alam, Salim Safi, Hamid Mir, Hafiz Sheikh, Gohar

ISLAMABAD (Online): Ejaz, Dr Shoaib Suddal Ahsan Bhoon, Sarfraz Bugti, Zulfiqar Cheema, Shamshad Akhtar, Raza Baqir, Ashtar Ausaf, Mohsin Jugnoo and Ayesha Raza Farooq are under consideration for induction in care taker cabinet.

Sources disclosed name of Brig (Retd) Muzaffar Ranjha and Sittara Imtiaz are also under consideration.

In the first phase 10 to 12 ministers will take

Care taker PM is in contact with experts in different fields and prominent

According to sources former ambassador Jalil Abbas Jillani is likely to be given portfolio of ministry of foreign affairs, Dr Shoaib Suddal, ministry of interior, Ahsan Bhoon, law ministry, Dr Hafeez Sheikh ministry of finance and Gohar Ejaz ministry of industries



KARACHI: View of site after a fire broken out incident as the fire brigade officials are busy in extinguishing fire and rescue operation, located on I.I Chundrigar road in Karachi.

India's status in Kashmir is nothing but an aggressor: Hurriyat leaders

Parties Hurriyat Conference leaders and organizations in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir have said that India's status in Kashmir is nothing but an aggressor, so it has no right to celebrate its Independence Day in the ter-

According to Kashmir Media Service, APHC leaders Khadim Hussain and Syed Sibte Shabbir Oummi in a joint statement issued in Srinagar said that India had snatched the freedom of Kashmiri Muslims at

The leaders said that

SRINAGAR (INP): All lands, houses, business centers to make Kashmiri Muslims strangers in their own homeland.

APHC leader from Jammu and Jammu and Kashmir Social Peace Forum, Advocate Devinder Singh Bahl in a statement said that Kashmiri people celebrate India's Independence Day as a black day every year, and every na-tional day of India as a black

He said that on August 5, 2019, the fascist Modi government violated the rights of the Kashmiri people to turn the Muslim majority of the occupied India was taking their territory into a minority.

Fawad Ch files new written apology in contempt of EC case ISLAMABAD (Online):

Former federal minister Fawad Chaudhry has filed new written apology in Election Commission (EC) in contempt of EC case. The contempt of EC

case came up for hearing before 5 members bench of EC presided over by Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Tuesday.

Fawad Chaudhry and counsel Faisal Chaudhry appeared in the

Fawad Chaudhry took the plea during the hearing of the case that "you said in order my language was not correct. I am filing my written apology again after correcting my language He filed new written

apology in the EC The CEC while adjourning the hearing of the case till August 24 remarked we order on next hearing. Later Fawad Chaudhry in an informal chat with the journalists said he has filed unconditional written apology again. Let us see EC decides what. The general elections don't seem to be taking place in the country at present. The matter of delimitation of constituencies is being talked of. If delimitation of constituencies is carried out then it means the elections are not going to be held on time.



from null outside Mosque due to the shortage of water at Line area, which needs the attention of concern authorities.

Flag Hoisting ceremony held at Quaid e Azam's House



legacy of the Father of the

marked by a profound sense of national pride, brought together students from various educational institutions, highlighting the unifying power of Quaide-Azam's ideals. Students from Ida Rieu College for the deaf and blind, as well as Saint Joseph's Covenant School and Nasra School, participated wholeheartedly, creating a vibrant and festive atmosphere at The flag hoisting cer-

emony commenced with the resonant notes of the national anthem played by the band from Ida Rieu College. The fluttering national flag served as a poignant reminder of the sacrifices made by the Muslims of the British India to from Pakistan and ideals of Quaid-e-Azam and his vision for an independent Pakistan. The young students, bearing small flags in their hands, proudly marched before the Vice Chairmen, paying homage to the nation's founder. In an inspiring address to the gathering, Mr.

welcome to all attendees and shared insightful anecdotes about Quaid-e-Azam's pivotal role in guiding the Muslims of India towards the creation of Pakistan. Mr. Merchant emphasized the timeless relevance of Quaid-e-Azam's principles and encouraged the students to imbibe these values in their own lives, ensuring a bright future for Pakistan.

Vice Chairman of BOM

QAHM, extended a warm

Mr. Ikram Sehgal, Vice Chairman of BOM QAHM, delivered a motivational speech, underscoring the importance of youth in steering Pakistan towards a path of prosperity and success. He urged the students to strive for excellence and uphold the ideals Liaguat Merchant, Senior of unity, faith, and disci-

ceremony resonated with patriotic fervor as the students sang national songs with ferver, guided by the melodious tunes played by the Ida Rieu College's deaf and blind band, under the direction of Mr. Atif Bader. Ms. Ameena Saiyid, Member BOM, expertly conducted the proceedings, ensuring a seamless and engaging experience for all attendees. Ms. Shehnaz Wazir Ali, also present at the occasion, delivered an insightful address that highlighted the significance of preserving and cherishing the legacy of Quaid-e-Azam, emphasizing the role of educational institutions in nurturing future leaders who will continue to uphold the nation's ideals.

pline - the very essence of

Pakistan's foundation. The

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