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'Surrender not an option': We will fight extremism as surrendering not an option: PM

Praises sacrifices of martyrs for nation; says wars are not fought by individuals, but nations; Strongly abhorred terrorist acts and suicide attacks.

Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar Wednesday categorically said that Pakistan would never surrender to radicalization, extremism and intolerance but rather would fight without falling prey to war fatigue.

'Those who think we will fall prey to war fatigue should clear their misunderstanding. This war is not fought by individuals... This war is fought by nation... Surrendering is not an option. We will fight no matter what," he said during a press conference during his visit here. Referring to the martyrdom of soldiers in South Waziristan on Tuesday, he said that Pakistan was not a power that would return 5,000 kilometers away from here.

taker Prime Minister home in our own way," he misreading. "This is a clear said those trying to undermine the morale of the Pakistani nation should clear get the sacrifices of its martyrs. He said Pakistan was but rather spending our own taxpayers' money.

He said the Pakistani soldiers were not rendering sacrifices in return for the salaries. "Their service is not in return for salaries, rather respect and dignity is their salary. Salary is just meant to suffice their needs. The nation pays

them in the form of respect," he remarked. Prime Minister Kakar

KARACHI (APP): Care- are here. We will run our actually miscalculating and said. The prime minister message. They can fight for a limited time, but not for long. They are miscalculating and misreading whom their misunderstanding as they are faced with. We are Pakistan would never for- not afraid of suicide attack ers," he said. Referring to the rescue operation of not fighting this war on alms trapped eight passengers of a cable car in Battagram the prime minister said the

country's infrastructure was becoming a threat to human lives.

"We were overwhelmingly over the moon as we heard the rescue of the last kid.

We will celebrate it as it gave us an opportunity to unify us," he commented and appreciated the rescuers for the way they ressaid that those who were cued the kids and children

trying to create chaos in for the way they controlled "This is our home. We the name of religion were their nerves in a heroic way.



KARACHI: Flanked by Governor Sindh and Federal Minister for Information & Broadcasting, Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar addressing a press conference.

President invites CEC to fix date for general elections

In letter to CEC, Alvi cites constitutional requirement for president to decide date for elections within 90 days of NA dissolution; ECP decides to consult all political parties, including PTI, for elections schedule

ISLAMABAD (APP): day or tomorrow to fix an President Dr Arif Alvi on Wednesday invited Chief ter noted. Election Commissioner Sikandar Sultan Raja for a meeting by Thursday to fix an appropriate date for the general elections.

Dr Arif Alvi, in a letter to the Chief Election Commissioner, said since the National Assembly was dissolved on August 9, 2023, therefore under Article 48 (5) of the Constitution, he (as the president) was obliged to appoint a date not later than 90 days from the date of dissolution for the holding of general election of National Assembly.

"Forgoing in view, the Chief Election Commissioner is invited for a meet- stituencies' delimitations

next year.

its date.

appropriate date," the let-INP adds: The Elec-

tion Commission of Pakistan (ECP) has decided to consult all major political parties, including the PTI,

elections are expected early Sources said the ECP would consult all political parties separately regarding

the elections schedule and During the consultation, the electoral watchdog will also talk about a road map of the upcoming general elections. Similarly, the commission will also consult over the issues of coning with the President to- and voter lists as well.

To<u>shakhana case:</u> **Prima facie trial** court decision in the case was wrong: SC

ISLAMABAD (Online): Mazahar Ali Akbar Naqvi Supreme Court (SC) de-clared that decision in Mandokhail. Toshakhana case is prima

in high court therefore, we are not interfering in it today. The SC while direct-

ing Islamabad High Court (IHC) to hear appeal tomorrow remarked "we will hear the case again at 1 p.m. Appeal plea filed by chairman PTI against a decision of district election commission Islamabad and IHC in Toshakhana criminal case came up for hearing before a 3-member

Wednesday.

bench of SC presided over by CJP Umar Ata Bandial The other two mem-

KARACHI: Caretaker Chief Minister of Sindh Maqbool Bagar called on caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar.

Caretaker Law minister vows to make departments more vibrant

KARACHI (APP): Provin-He said that in the cial Caretaker Minister for current situation in the

Chief of Army Staff General Syed Asim Munir interacting with officers and troops deployed in Sherwangi area near Asman Manza in South Waziristan District.

PTI Chairman Ferrorists & affiliates to

The process of consulting the political parties will be initiated in next few days, sources added. The said the PML-N,

the PPP, the PTI, the MQM, the JI, the ANP, the JUIF and all other major about upcoming general elections and its date. The political parties will be taken onboard.

Meanwhile the mock exercise of the new Result Compilation System (RCS) has also been conducted which satisfied the ECP.

Chief Election Com missioner Sikandar Sultan Raja presided over a meeting of the commission in which a briefing on the RCS was given. During a briefing it was stated that the RČS allows the presiding officer to forward the results right away to returning officer via an app.

facie wrong. The Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Umar Ata Pandial remarked trial court Pandial remarked trial court Pandial remarked trial court Pandial remarked trial court order in Toshakhana case is there are three petitions not correct. The matter is before us.

The counsel for chairman PTI explained that the petitioner has filed appeal pleas against different decisions

At the inception of

Latif Khosa said Imran Khan was elected Member of National Assembly (MNA) from Mianwali in 2018. He was charged with concealing his and his wife assets in nomination papers. Latif Khosa said

member of parliament is bound to file details of his, his wife and children assets in EC till December 31 evbers of bench are Justice ery year.



approaches SC be hunted down till their against CJ IHC ISLAMABAD (INP): Chairman Pakistan surrender to State: COAS Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) on

COAS lauds troops' resolve in fighting the menace of terrorism; says Martyrs sacrifices will not go in vain

Caretaker home

minister, home

secretary visit CPO

said Nawaz.

was exceptional.

RAWALPINDI (APP): Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Syed Asim Munir on Wednesday said the terrorists, their affiliates and abettors, who were working on hostile said. The COAS appreciagenda to destabilise the country, would be hunted down until their surrender to the State of Pakistan.

The Army Chief was interacting with the offic- are our pride and their sacers and troops deployed in Sherwangi area near Asman Manza in South Waziristan District where six brave stan," he added.

Brigadier (Retd) Haris

Nawaz and Home Secre-

tary visited Central Police

Office (CPO) here on

and other senior police of-

ter and secretary on their

arrival at CPO, according to

a spokesman for Sindh Po-

DIGP Special Protec-tion Unit (SPU) briefed on CPEC and Non-CPEC

projects. He was informed

about the security of Chi-

nese experts/staff associ-

also drew attention to the at CPO

Wednesday.

Farooq. soldiers had embraced A petition has been filed on behalf of the PTI Shahadat (martyrdom) on Tuesday while fighting gal-Chairman by Latif Khosa lantly against terrorists, an in the apex court under Ar-Inter-Services Public Relaticle 186-A today. tions (ISPR) news release ated the unflinching resolve of army officers and troops in fighting the menace of

terrorism. "Shuhada (martyrs) rifices will not go in vain till the return of complete

"My cases should be transferred to the Lahore or Peshawar high courts from the Islamabad High Court (IHC)," petitioner pleaded. Petitioner also sought

restraining IHC Chief Justice Aamer Farooq from hearing the cases against him.

Jamal Shah announces to work without

salary ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister for National Heritage and

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Caretaker Home Minister at SPU. Culture Jamal Shah announced that he would not take a salary for his role as Minister Haris Nawaz the Caretaker Federal Minsaid recruitment in SPU ister for National Heritage should be done as soon as and Culture. possible on the basis of merit and ability.

"The minister has decided to work without re-The Inspector Gen-eral of Police (IGP) Sindh not want the country to He said the enemies do muneration, under the national spirit," said a press move towards prosperity release issued here on ficers welcomed the minis- and development. The se-Wednesday. curity of Chinese residents

The ministers' pracshould be made foolproof, tice to work without draw-The IGP Sindh on the ing salaries is unprecedented in the country's occasion said through close history monitoring and effective

Jamal Shah will work strategy, Chinese security on an honorary basis as

Federal Minister for Na-Later, the minister and tional Heritage and Culture the secretary also visited with an aim to contribute the Central Command and to the progress and prosated with the projects. He Control Center established perity of the nation.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control, Sarfraz Ahmad Bugti chairing a briefing session, at Ministry of Narcotics Control in Islamabad.



KARACHI: Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari addresses during reception dinner ceremony hosted by President of Honorary Consular Corps Sindh Mirza Ikhtiar Baig, held in Karachi.

'No political friends, enemies'; says Solangi Says caretaker govt has no role in fixing election date

ISLAMABAD (APP): stitution and law of the Caretaker Federal Minister country. for Information and Broad-

He said, "If the concasting Murtaza Solangi stitution, law, and courts Wednesday reiterated that take any action against the interim dispensation someone, the government had 'No political friends cannot stop the process." 'The Election Com-

and no political enemies'. While talking to a primission of Pakistan is a convate television talk show, he stitutional body which had said all political parties had the responsibility to conthe freedom to present their duct free, transparent, and viewpoint. impartial elections.3

'Criticism is their democratic right, we cannot oath, we cannot think of take this right from them. violating it at any stage" We are not in favour or Murtaza Solangi said.

against any political party,' The government had Murtaza Solangi said. no news of hopelessness The minister said the and there should not be caretaker government had suspicion of breach of no intention to interfere in

Finance minister reviews construction of 2.1m houses for flood victims

Caretaker Minister for Finance, Revenue, and Planning and Development Mohammad Younus Dagha, presided over a meeting to review the construction of 2.1 million houses for flood victims in the province.

The meeting was held at Sindh Secretariat Tughlaq House in the office of the Planning and Development department on Wednesday.

Chairman Planning added

KARACHI (APP): Sindh and Development Board Syed Hasan Naqvi, Chief Executive Officer Sindh People's Housing Scheme for Flood Affected People Khalid Mehmood Sheikh, and other officers briefed the minister.

On this occasion, Younus Dagha said that the construction of 2.1 million houses for the flood victims is a big project. The Sindh government is committed to the timely construction of flood-affected houses, he bile phones, one tablet.

Law, Religious Affairs and country, we need dialogue Human Rights Muhammad Umar Soomro on Wednesday affirmed to make Human Rights and Religious Affairs Department more functional and reachable for the general public at district level in Sindh. This he said in a meet-

ing with office bearers of legal fraternity and local dignitaries of different districts of Sindh. who came to felicitate the minister after assuming charge of the office.

He was optimistic about bringing reforms in Law Department and said that the Chief Minister and Governor Sindh would be approached through sum-

with everyone, we don't have to limit ourselves to Karachi, but we need dialogue in all the divisions of Sindh and to work for the betterment of the province and the people of the country.

He lamented that the Human Rights Department was also running like a post office and it must be improved.

He said that the instructions of the caretaker chief minister would be fully implemented. I have also taken a briefing from the secretaries of my departments, whatever defi-ciencies will appear in the departments will be removed, he added.



KARACHI: Peoples Party (PPP) Sindh President, Senator Nisar Ahmed Khuhro along with others addresses to media persons during press conference held at PPP Media Cell Bilawal House in Karachi.

Mayor Karachi calls for practicing politics of service in Karachi

KARACHI (APP): Mayor of the people of Korangi has Karachi Barrister Murtaza Wahab has said that they will work for the development and prosperity of Karachi, under the leadership of Bilawal Bhutto and we all have to make a decision that politics of service should be practiced in this city. Mayor Karachi Barrister Murtaza Wahab expressed these views while inaugurating Khulfa-e-Rashideen Family Park in Madina Colony Korangi

here on Wednesday. On this occasion Deputy Mayor Karachi Salman Abdullah Murad, Town Chairman Naeem Sheikh, People's Party Korangi District President Javed Sheikh, local leaders and concerned officers were

also present. Barrister Murtaza Wahab said that the long-

been solved, now Solid Waste vehicles will be seen working here. The Mayor Karachi said that if there is a wedding ceremony taking place in any KMC park, the people should inform the administration, action will be taken. He said that he visited the Jahangir Park Saddar earlier in the morning because a friend informed him that the condition in Jahangir Park was bad.

The Mayor Karachi said that KMC will provide more recreational facilities in Korangi. Recreational opportunities will be provided without discrimination in all the areas, he added.

Barrister Murtaza Wahab said that Korangi is the stronghold of Pakistan People's Party and Bilawal Bhutto Zardari loves the standing sanitation problem residents of Korangi.

"We will abide by our statement said.

promise, he added. "The Election Comany activity under the con-

envoys call on foreign minister ISLAMABAD (APP): Ambassador of the United

China, UAE

Arab Emirates Hamad Alzaabi and Chinese Charge d' Affaires Pang Chunxue on Wednesday separately called on Caretaker Foreign Minister Jalil Abbas Jilani

the UAE envoy, the two sides discussed bilateral, regional as well as multilateral issues of mutual interest and the potential of enhancing trade and investment ties between the two countries, a Foreign Office

During the meeting with Chinese Charge d' Affaires, the two countries reaffirmed their resolve to further strengthen the All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership between Pakistan and China.

Indian spy arrested in Karachi

KARACHI (INP): In a joint operation with Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs), District City Police apprehended an Indian spy engaged in spying activities targeting various key and sensitive locations in Pakistan. Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) for the City, Arif Aziz, confirmed that the Indian spy Akhil Dev and his local fa-

cilitator Zahoor Ahmed have been arrested. During the search, the police seized two Indian passports, one pistol, 500,000 Irani Riyal, a fake jewelry box, six mo-

here

In the meeting with

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Thursday August 24, 2023

OPINION

Daily **Independent**

Daily A oice of Masse, Independent

Persisting doubts

As the debate over the controversial amendments to the Army Act and Official Secrets Act and their current legal status continues, dark clouds are gathering over the Aiwan-i-Sadr.

On Monday, following President Arif Alvi's allegation a day earlier that he had been undermined by his staff, the presidency dismissed its top secretary. While the presidency itself did not really specify why the secretary was dismissed, the contents of a 'confidential' letter penned by the officer and leaked to the media suggested that the secretary at least considered the two events to be directly related. Considering the officer's proposal to take the matter to court to clear his name, the issue could turn very messy for the president if it continues to hang.

According to the leaked letter, the secretary says the president never gave him any 'written decision' to either assent to or return the bills to parliament, so he should not be held responsible for 'delaying' them. On the other hand, the president had previously claimed that he had asked for both bills to be returned within the stipulated time and was assured during follow-ups that they were.

Considering these contrasting versions, a high-level inquiry into the matter has become necessary. That it does not seem to have been initiated yet makes it all the more intriguing. It also ought to be noted that whatever his position may have been, the president seems not to have put his reasons for opposing the two bills in writing. This would suggest that his own hands are less than clean. His rather laid-back approach is also perplexing. So far, he has only posted a half-baked apology and fired a staff member without assigning any explicit reason.

The question is: what was the president thinking? Had he always wished to play his hand at the last minute, scuttling the laws only when his decision would be difficult to reverse? These two bills appeared to have had some very powerful sponsors backing them. Despite repeated opportunities, our parliamentarians ultimately found them rather difficult to resist despite their earlier protestations. Was the president's dillydallying followed by a public denial, therefore, a considered strategy to carefully outmanoeuvre those who would have done anything to see these bills enacted?

Alternatively, was it simply that he took a massive U-turn after facing criticism from his party for providing the state with a noose to hang its leaders with? Or, finally, was it that he genuinely opposed these bills and wanted them reviewed but was undermined by his subordinates, who may have been acting on somebody else's orders? It is critical that the nation gets to the bottom of this fiasco, and it is the president's responsibility to have the intelligence estimates, record set straight.



Rafia Zakaria

For three long decades, the world appeared to be moving towards greater interconnectedness. Trade ties between countries increased and pointed towards improved political stability. If emerging powers needed the consumer markets of existing superpowpresident ers in order to survive, it suggested that neither could afford a protracted war. This status quo of an integrated world now appears to be dissolving before our very eyes.

chief

This time, the alarm only keep whatever bits of Ukraine he has capwas sounded by IMF tured but also to likely Kristalina Georgieva. She would grab much more than know; not only does she that. have an inside view of the pen but that result, cumulative health of the world's struggling econowhile terrible for Ukraine, would suggest mies, her own experience. a less fragmented future too, makes her particularly for the world. The more sensitive to early signs of likely outcome is pockwant. Georgieva, who is ets of the world finding 70 now, grew up behind

the iron curtain in Sofia, Bulgaria. While neither of her parents belonged to the Communist Party, they were still caught up in the extremely restricted world that existed at that time under the shadow of the Soviet Union over East Europe. According to her, "things were cheap but not available". Her latest remarks came just order to function after US President Biden announced a partial ban on American investment

in China in sectors that could be used for military applications.

While the strained ties between the US and China is one indicator of a world moving farther apart, so too is the war in Ukraine. Recent US along with expert analy- and autonomy. How-

that ever, the fact is that the global economy makes it nearly impossible for oned, is unlikely to re- struggling economies with high levels of debt to make very many independent choices. Aid makes coun-

tries like Pakistan dependent for as long as Western countries make provided is likely to afit impossible for them to fect the future of Americompete fairly in the glocan aid to the country. bal market. Independent decisions by struggling In the meantime, not only can Vladimir Putin economies will only be possible if Western declare this a victory, he is also unlikely to withcountries stop draw from the country subsidising their industries to protect their own until after the results of the US election of 2024 companies. When American wheat sells for are known. If former US less than Pakistani Donald Trump is the Republican wheat because the Party's nominee (as it American farmer is proappears he will likely be), tected by subsidies and can sell below the marthen Putin has a 50 per cent chance of a friend ket price, the premise in the White House and that the world functions an opportunity to not along the lines of free market capitalism is exposed as a lie. The prospect of

darker times to come seems almost unbearable in times that already It is unlikely to hapappear dismal. And yet, that is just where the world appears to be headed. If the poor in US cities are taking to looting expensive stores and shoplifting comthemselves forced to plaints have risen expochoose loyalties benentially, imagine the tween the US and fate of the poor strug-China. This will be tergling Pakistani aghast at rible for countries like the insane rate of infla-Pakistan who would like tion in the country. good relations with The split world is materialising before our eyes and it threatens to both. Failure to listen and act on what Washington wants will expose

tear up lives, countries it to the risk of losing acand much more. The cess to funds that Pakiperilous economic constan and other developdition in which Pakistan ing economies need in finds itself is going to make it even more de-At the end, this is a pendent on international reminder of the adage financial institutions that beggars cannot be like the IMF as the alchoosers. A lot of politiready squeezed popucal debate in Pakistan lace suffers ever greater suggests that the choice privations. The most of allies is a product of dangerous people are ideological allegiances. those with nothing left Many think that turning to lose, and it appears away from the US sugmore and more that Pagests a greater commitkistanis might end up in that category. -- Courment to decolonisation

tesv Dawn

Mahir Ali

Late last week. Joe Biden hosted the leaders of South Korea and Japan at Camp David to nudge them towards increased economic and "security" cooperation, as part of the US administration's aggressive pushback against Chinese ambitions. Living memories of Japan's brutal rule in Korea have stood in the way of bonhomie between the two staunch American allies. The push for closer coordination coincides with a US-endorsed resurgence in Japanese militarism, which plagued the region in the early 20th century

A similar impetus is behind a parallel ÛS push for a formal diplomatic deal between a repressive monarchy and a diminishing democracy in the Middle East. Saudi Arabia enjoys reasonably cordial relations with China. Its de facto ruler, Mohammed bin Salman (MBS), knows that this mand as part of the price not least the Beijingsponsored rapprochement between Riyadh and Tehran — irritates Washington, and is lever-

aging it. The Saudis are not shy of implying they could shift their source of military imports to China, even Russia, if America falls short. The conditions for a deal with Israel reportedly include a mutual defence pact, a civilian nuclear plan involving the enrichment of uranium, and Israeli 'concessions' to Palestinians that would preserve the possibility — rather, the fiction — of a two-state solution

Many of Israel's traditional friends among gathered momentum.

Made for each other

the American commentariat have been critical of the regime's subjugate the judiciary, some even arguing that the US should curtail aid to Israel. A recent open letter from over 750 Israeli intellectuals to the American Jewish community urges it to stop supporting apartheid. The judiciary's fu-

ture and the brutal occupation of Palestinian teras distinct issues. Mass defence of its discriminatory democracy have largely ignored the redoubled efforts towards ethnic 'cleansing'. Israeli term. courts may have acted to restrict government excesses, but they are a part and parcel of the oppression since the 1940s, when the horrific Shoah

segued into the Nakba. Both words mean the same: catastrophe. The first, among the biggest crimes against humanity, ended in 1945. The second is ongoing, and it is almost inconceivable that the present regime would agree to ameliorate it. given its commitment to annexation of the West Bank by subterfuge. That, anyhow, is not something the Saudis de-

for a diplomatic deal. Most Arab leaders have never cared much about the fate of the Palestinians, despite leveraging the occupation for up in the past decade or political purposes. The so. And perhaps Ben-Palestinian Authority falls into the same category, serving as a puppet dispensation for an administration that ignores it. No wonder it has lost the allegiance of most Palestinians. Back when the Abraham Accords were announced, the UAE claimed they had merous hurdles to an Isforestalled the annex- raeli-Saudi conjugal ation of the West Bank by the Netanyahu regime; under the current variant of the same disease, the transgressions have only

None of this likely to faze MBS, whose mission to turn the nation named aggressive attempts to after his family into a sporting superpower is going gangbusters, with golf in the bag and men's football almost in the net. Underlying patterns of repression remain intact despite dramatic superficial changes. Raves in the desert and concerts by scantily clad Western performers — alongside the latest Holly-wood ritories tend to be viewed movies, professional wrestling tournaments mobilisations in Israel in and horse racing - are no longer verboten. But even mild dissent on social media can earn you a decades-long prison

> This week's horrific revelations from Human Rights Watch about Saudi massacres of hundreds, and quite possibly thousands, of Ethiopian refugees on the Yemeni border — children, women and men — help flesh out a more complete picture of the regime's nature. All too many European nations have a ruthlessly inhuman attitude towards would-be immigrants, including ignoring mass drownings in the Mediterranean. But none of them has thus far resorted to mass killings by gunshots.

On various other levels, the Saudis have been dealing with Israel for several years, although the collaboration has undoubtedly been stepped jamin Netanyahu missed an opportunity by failing to frame his judicial 'reforms' as a means of conforming with the Middle Eastern norm — after all, right across the region, judges tend to take their instructions from the powers that be. There are nuunion. But if and when it occurs, it's less likely to be a shotgun wedding than a marriage made in heaven -- Courtesy Dawn



PM for collective efforts to take forward economic journey, transform nation

Assures resolution of issues facing Karachi business community

KARACHI (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar has called for collective efforts to transform the 250 million nation of Pakistan through collective efforts by taking forward the the Indus Basin facing food economic journey.

He addressing the collective incompetence, he members of the business added. community here on The prime minister Calling Karachi, for skilled human Tuesday night during his said the caretaker Karachiites and the resources, the prime visit, assured them that the government would resolve business community a government would do the all of the issues confronting maximum possible for the the business community uplift of the business within its capacity. community as they were

the engine of economic government had a very contribution. growth. He said the \$6 limited mandate to assist in trillion natural deposits in elections, run day-to-day Balochistan did not reflect governance issues, and in the condition of the follow the international commitment till the new people living there. The nation living on

parliament. insecurity manifested the setup was becoming a source of peaceful transition.

sans

their

"grace of the nation"

He said the caretaker survive

Prime Minister Anwaar said the provision of low-cost electricity was inevitable for industrialization as the existing reserves of natural He said the caretaker gas were insufficient to support the industry's needs.

Emphasizing the need Calling Karachi, for minister also mentioned the issues of structural the prime minister challenges and business said Pakistan could not attitudes facing the goods and services sector.



KARACHI: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar addressing businessmen and owners of small and medium-sized industries.

US, UK and China remain the first month of the current financial year 2023-24, United States (US) remained the top export destination of Pakistani

QUETTA: Provincial Finance Secretary Zahid Saleem presides over the meeting to review progress of the department.

Senate body on Finance **SBP** should take precautionary measures to ensure dollar stability

ISLAMABAD (Online): measures to ensure dollar Meeting of Senate stability and discourage Standing Committee on masses from unnecessary Finance and Revenue was held here at Parliament House on Wednesday with Senator Saleem Mandviwalla in Chair.

The Committee was briefed on consistent fluctuations in dollar price. Dr. Inayat Hussain, Deputy Governor SBP, pointed out that rising demand of dollars among the masses and import uplift are the on starred question primary drivers in dollars related to status of assets fluctuations

Chairman Inland Revenue and The Committee was of Customs at the time of opinion that SBP should appointment and their precautionary current status. take

dollars purchases. Additionally, he highlighted the matter of he LCs opening to import EV Cars and maintained Senate that Government should prioritize import of EV cars over the average fuel

climate crisis.

the US dollar in the interbank trading and closed at Rs299.63 against the previous day's closing of Rs299. the Forex Association of Pakistan (FAP), the buying and selling rates of the dollar in the open market stood at

Rs313 and Rs316 respectively. The price of cars as it will contribute majorly in averting the the Euro decreased by Rs2.10 to close at Rs324.29 Furthermore, the against the last day's closing senate body deliberated of Rs326.39, according to the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP). The Japanese Yen declared by Officers of went up by 01 paisa and closed at Rs2.06, whereas a decrease of Rs2.32 was witnessed in the exchange rate of the British Pound.

Rupee sheds (SBP) statistics, the total exports to the US during 63 paisa against July 2023 were recorded at **US Dollar** ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistani rupee on Wednesday witnessed 63 paisa devaluation against

However, according to BAHAWALPUR (Online):

Federal Ombudsman of Pakistan, Ejaz Ahmed Qureshi has urged the provincial governments to pay outstanding dues to the federal government agencies/departments so that they could overcome their financial constraints.

China

He was talking to the media after presiding over a meeting of heads of the federal government agencies/departments including WAPDA, Sui Gas Limited, Postal

destinations in July ISLAMABAD (INP): July 2022, showing a During the month of July, decline of 13.38 percent.

This was followed by the UK, wherein Pakistan exported goods worth US \$169.789 million against the exports of US \$160.114 million last year, showing products, followed by the an increase of 6.04 percent. United Kingdom (UK) and China was the third

According to the top export destination, State Bank of Pakistan where Pakistan exported Muslim Commercial Bank (MCB) and one by Allied products worth US \$147.385 million during Bank Ltd (ABL) against the the month under review US \$432.803 million against th against the exports of US \$174.056 \$499.686 million during revealed. against the exports of US \$174.056 million, SBP data

Ombudsman asks provincial govts to pay outstanding dues to federal departments

Pakistan's top export

Services, FIA and others at South Punjab Secretariat here Wednesday.

The Ombudsman told that the Federal Ombudsman Secretariat had disposed of over 134,000 applications seeking justice and relief in issues pertaining to the federal government agencies/ departments including WAPDA, Sui Southern Gas

Limited, Sui Northern Gas Limited, Pakistan Railways. Postal Services, Estate Life Insurance and others

Director Livestock Dr Haider Ali said this while reviewing the facilities

available at various veterinary institutions on Wednesday. He asked the officers

to keep in close contact with the livestock farmers for redressing their issues.

ISLAMABAD (INP): fraud. The banks had operational without the to return a collective sum without obtaining the of Rs 4.1 million to four consent of the customers customers, who were and were found negligent in complying with the State swindled out of their Bank of Pakistan's various The president gave

President directs refund of

Rs 4.1mln to bank fraud victims

regulations regarding online these remarks while fund transfer facilities, three disclosing the terms of representations filed by fund transfer in a clear and simple language to customers, and assigning limits to fund transfer.

orders of the Banking Mohtasib directing these banks to refund the lost amount to victims of bank

enterprises.

President Dr Arif Alvi has activated the Electronic account holders' request, directed two private banks Funds Transfer (EFT) therefore, the banks committed maladministration and were liable to make good the loss of the customers.

As per details, Sumera Allahditta, Afzal Abbas Kazmi, Farah Muhammad Khan, and Dr Kanwar Shakeel Ahmed (the complainants) lost Rs 1,558,700, Rs 985,000, Rs 960,000, and Rs 598,000 respectively when these

President Alvi said that the loss of money amounts were transferred occurred due to the reason from their bank accounts that the banks made EFT without their consent.

APCEA holds briefing on CPEC energy projects

ISLAMABAD (APP): Power China Pakistan, China The All-Pakistan Chinese Three Gorges South Asia Enterprises' Association Investment Ltd, China (APCEA) on Wednesday Energy International Group organized a comprehensive Company Limited Pakistan briefing for media and think Branch, China Power Hub tanks to apprise about Generation Company (PVT.) potential and significance of Ltd, China Electric Power existing and ongoing energy Equipment and Technology projects under the China Company, China Machinery Pakistan Economic Corridor Engineering Corporation, and Huaneng Shandong Ruyi (CPEC). The briefing titled (Pakistan) Energy (Pvt) Ltd. "Infodor Salon on CPEC Energy Projects" brought together media, think tanks the Power China Pakistan and representatives from seven key CPEC energy

representative said that the company had been a pivotal driving force in the The consortium of development of the CPEC since its debut in Pakistan. seven companies included

During the briefing,

The Livestock department is taking effective measures to provide better facilities to livestock farmers in the division. In this regard, the quality of services of

money by fraudsters.

'Livestock

farmers being

facilitated'

FAISALABAD (APP):

rejecting

Federal veterinary institutions is beyond expectations.

Independent

National News

Page 03

Governor highlights sacrifices of tribal people, assures cooperation in addressing problems

PESHAWAR Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Haji Ali Ghulam here Wednesday highlighted the sacrifices of tribal people for country's sovereignty and said that peace is a prerequisite for the development and

prosperity of an area. He was talking to a 45-member delegation of rehabilitation tribal elders of Tehsil Shagai, South Waziristan. The delegation was led by a former member provincial assembly, Adnan Wazir and Chairman Tehsil Wana, Moulana Saleh.

The delegation apprised the KP Governor and sanitation. about their problems and said that Shagai was given

(APP): tehsil status in 2012 but resolve these problems and proper notification has not said that the development been issued yet. They of tribal areas is among the urged the governor to play his role and said that it would help address the in that area. They also highlighted

construction of a hospital

in Shagai area and

relating to water supply

Speaking on the

topmost priorities of the government. He said that the concerns of people living availability of all the needed basic amenities would be ensured to tribal

issues including the establishment of the people and added that funds would be released to NADRA Office in the area, local government of representatives aiming for infrastructure, the initiation of blacktopping of roads in developmental work at the Mantoai and Santoi, grassroots level.

Haji Ghulam Ali said that NADRA officials completion of projects would be contacted to provide a mobile registration van for Shagai till the establishment of a proper NADRA office in

occasion, the governor assured his cooperation to that area **Ombudsman Punjab provides** 15 more dengue cases reported in 24 hours

RAWALPINDI (APP): As

Ramzan bazar suppliers LAHORE (APP): On the the former Assistant order of the Ombudsman Commissioner Sargodha Punjab, Major (retd) Azam Suleman Khan, the penny against the goods outstanding dues amounting to Rs.1,090,950 dues supplied. The

relief of Rs. 1.09 mln to

ordered

have been paid to the suppliers of different articles for Ramzan bazar of Sargodha district.

According to a spokesman of the office of Ómbudsman, the complainant filed a complaint that he supplied sugar and oil for Ramzan bazar of Sargodha district, but even after the Ramzan.



HYDERABAD: Members of Channa Community are holding protest demonstration for demanding justice for 10-years old housemaid Fatima Fariro. at Hyderabad press club.

to join.

table," Xi said.

many as 15 more dengue cases were reported in Rawalpindi during the last 24 hours, raising the tally did not pay him a single of confirmed cases to 116. District Coordinator

Epidemics Prevention and Ombudsman Control (DCEPC), Dr Sajjad to pay the outstanding dues to the Mehmood, Wednesday said complainants, in that any that, among the new cases, further delay. six patients had arrived from The outstanding Chaklala Cantonment, five dues amounting to Rs 9,41,000 of similar kind of

from Potohar town urban area, three from Municipal suppliers were also Corporation, and one from cleared by the district Rawalpindi Cantonment administration of Sargodha area. He said 35 patients were on the directions of admitted to City's allied Ombudsman Punjab.

hospitals, out of which 24 were confirmed cases while 77 were discharged after treatment. Dr Sajjad informed that the district administration had registered 82 FIRs, issued tickets to 23, sealed 14 premises, and a fine of Rs 100,000 was imposed against the violations of dengue SOPs during the last 24 hours.

The health officer said that dengue cases were being reported across the district while the health authority along with allied departments was making efforts to control the spread of the disease.

KARACHI: Renowned Pakistani Actor Zahir Lehri called on caretaker

Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar.

Punjab Governor says: Jaranwala incident is very painful and reprehensible

Independent Report AHORE: A delegation led Governor Punjab said that by Bishop of Lahore, Nadeem Kamran met the Constitution of Pakistan does not allow Punjab hurting Governor Muhammad Balighur Rehman

high moral values among school children. He further said that tolerance and respect for

Sehat Card Caretaker CM takes notice of suspension of free treatment PESHAWAR

International News

(APP): Caretaker Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Muhammad Azam Khan has taken notice of the suspension of free treatment facilities under the Sehat Card scheme, and directed the concerned authorities to take steps on a priority basis for the restoration of free treatment facilities under the Insurance Company. scheme, said an official

equal citizens of Pakistan. Governor Punjab said that he appreciates the Punjab government as some churches have been religious restored in a short time, and the rest of the churches will also be restored soon. The Governor of Puniab said that the role of the Christian community in the creation of Pakistan and after the creation o Pakistan, in every field including health, education and defense

unforgettable.On this occasion, Bishop of Lahore, Nadeem Kamran, said that the way the state and the people stood by the Christian community is commendable.

Constable martyred; citizen injured in Tank firing PESHAWAR (APP): A

police constable was shot dead while a citizen sustained the injuries when armed men fired at them near a private bank in the city area of district Tank on Wednesday.

Police said the incident occurred at the main gate of a bank, where armed men fired at a police constable identified as Riaz Uddin.

KP govt orders safety checks of all chairlifts

Following a recent incident in which the lives of people instructed to conduct including school children thorough inspections of breakage of a chairlift wire mandate covers chairlifts in province.

cable car in Battagram was left stranded due to a cable snap, leaving 8 people including school children suspended for over 15 hours, the government has issued a comprehensive set of guidelines to enhance safety measures. Under the directive,

PESHAWAR (Online): deputy commissioners from all districts have been instructed to conduct were jeopardized due to chairlifts. This inspection in Battagram, the Khyber both commercial and Pakhtunkhwa government residential areas, as well as on Wednesday decided to those operating in ensure the safety of entertainment chairlifts across the establishments.

Particular emphasis In response to the has been placed on the swift incident where an open examination of chairlifts located within entertainment venues. This scrutiny aims to guarantee strict adherence to safety protocols. Special consideration will be given to chairlifts spanning over rivers and streams, necessitating a meticulous evaluation of their structural soundness

LAHORE: A delegation led by Bishop of Lahore, Nadeem Kamran in a group photo with Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman at Governor House.

SCCI, Gomal Uni agreed to enhance industry, academia linkages

PESHAWAR (APP): In Secretary to Vice Chancellor, Gomal order to build up industry-academia linkages, the Chancellor, Gomal University DIKhan and Sarhad Chamber of Commerce and Industry SCCI's Secretary General Sajjad Aziz were also has signed a memorandum present on the occasion. of understanding (MoU) the meeting, Ijaz Afridi with Gomal University Dera Ismail Khan here on informed that the chamber Wednesday. According to has so far signed MoUs details, the MoU was signed by SCCI's acting President Ijaz Khan Afridi with more than 16 public and private universities throughout the province, aiming to build up industry and the Director Office of Research, Innovation and and academia linkages.

Commercialization (ORIC), Gomal University DIKhan Dr Barkat Ali with Gomal University Khan during a ceremony held here today at the would help to strengthen chambers house. Abidur collaboration between the Rehman,

DIKhan was part of this series of agreements, which Personal institutions in future.

In his remarks during

He said the MoU

sentiments or harming anyone's life or property. here today at Governor House Lahore. Bishop Nadeem Kamran thanked the He said that there is a need to promote tolerance and government, Prime Minister, empathy in society, adding that it is very important to and Governor Punjab for expressing solidarity with inculcate positive thinking, the Christian community. tolerance, understanding Speaking on this occasion, Punjab Governor other's point of view and Muhammad Balighur Rehman said that Jaranwala incident is very

painful and reprehensible. each other's point of view He said that all is very important for

minorities including the coexistence in a society. Christian community are On this occasion, the

handout issued here on Wednesday. He further directed that arrangements should be made for immediate payment of dues to the implementing partner i.e. State Life Insurance Company for the purpose. On the directives of the Chief Minister, the quarters concerned approached the management of State Life

China's Xi calls for BRICS unity as bloc weighs expansion

Monitoring Desk JOHANNESBURG: China's President Xi Jinping called for unity among his BRICS counterparts at a summit in South Africa on Wednesday as he pushed the case for expanding the grouping to face a global "period of turbulence and transformation"

Leaders of the bloc of mit of the bloc's leaders, Xi leading developing nations Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa are meeting in Johannesburg with discussions around establishing a framework and criteria for admitting new members topping the agenda.

While all BRICS members have publicly expressed support for growing the bloc, divisions re-main over how much and

Monitoring Desk

MOSCOW: Russia has re-

moved Sergei Surovikin,

nicknamed "General Arma-

geddon", as head of the air

force after he vanished from

public view during a Wagner

mercenary mutiny against

the top army brass, the

RIA state news agency re-

Russia's top military

award, Surovikin would

be the most senior Rus-

sian military figure to lose

his job over the June 23-

34 mutiny, which Presi-

dent Vladimir Putin said

could have tipped Russia

source as saying.

into civil war.

A recipient of

ported on Wednesday.

how quickly. agreed to launch a study Bloc heavyweight group on artificial intelli-China has long pushed for expansion and views its gence (AI) and further expand cooperation on AI, deteriorating relations with including by strengthening information exchange and Washington as well as heightened global tensions technical cooperation. resulting from the Ukraine war as adding urgency to the enlargement project.

going major shifts, division and regrouping ... it has Addressing the sumentered a new period of turbulence and transformasaid he was glad to see that tion," Xi said. "We, the BRICS coun-

"The world is under-

developing countries had shown great enthusiasm in tries, should always bear in participating in BRICS and mind our founding purpose of strengthening ourselves many of them have applied through unity.

"We should let more BRICS group councountries join the BRICS tries have economies that family to pool wisdom and are vastly different in efforts to make global govscale and governments that often seem to have ernance more just and equifew foreign policy goals in Xi also said the common, complicating de-BRICS countries have cision-making.

Saudi Arabia, **Ethiopia to** probe HRW eport on killings

Monitoring Desk ADDIS ABABĂ: Ethiopia said on Tuesday it would launch a joint investigation with Saudi Arabia into a Human Rights Watch report accusing the kingdom's border guards of killing hun-

ing his first visit to Baghdad dreds of Ethiopian misince taking office. grants. The report sparked global outrage after its pub-lication on Monday, although a Saudi government

source dismissed the allegations as "unfounded." "The Government of

Ethiopia will promptly investigate the incident in tan-Prigozhin, who spearheaded dem with the Saudi Authorithe revolt, remains at liberty ties," the foreign ministry and on Monday posted a video address which he sugsaid on X, formerly Twitter. gested was shot in Africa. "At this critical juncture, it The two men Prigozhin had is highly advised to exercise utmost restraint from makwanted to topple - Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu and ing unnecessary speculations until (the) investigation Valery Gerasimov, the chief is complete," the ministry of the General Staff - remain said, noting the "excellent in their posts. Once comlongstanding relations" bemander of Russia's overall tween Addis Ababa and war effort in Ukraine when he was lauded by Russian Riyadh. The report points and Western military exto a surge in abuses along the perilous migrant route perts as one of its most effrom the Horn of Africa to fective operators, Surovikin oil-rich Saudi Arabia, where has not been publicly fired hundreds of thousands of but RIA cited an unnamed Ethiopians live and work.

President of China Xi Jinping attends the plenary session during the 2023 BRICS Summit at the Sandton Convention Centre in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Top Turkish diplomat calls for Iraq to designate PKK a terrorist organization during Baghdad visit

Tayyip Erdogan, after what has been months of esca-**Monitoring Desk** BAGHDAD: Turkey's forlating hostility between eign minister denounced a Turkey and Turkish-backed separatist Kurdish group that operates in northern groups on one side, and Kurdish fighters in Iraq and Iraqi territory as an enemy Syria on the other of both Turkey and Iraq, In a statement after and urged the Iraqi govern-

ment to ban the group as a meeting with his counterterrorist organization as part, Fidan urged Iraqi of-Ankara has done. ficials to "not allow our Turkish Foreign Minmutual enemy, the PKK ister Hakan Fidan urged terrorist organization, to

Iraq to label the Kurdistan

Worker's Party, or PKK, a

terrorist organization dur-

Monitoring Desk

poison our bilateral relations While Baghdad has frequently complained that Turkish airstrikes in northern Iraq are a breach of its

The trip came ahead sovereignty, Fidan de-scribed the PKK's activities of an anticipated visit by Turkish President Recep

there as a "challenge against Iraq's sovereignty," accus-ing the group of "occupying" areas in Iraq and seeking to link Iraq to neighboring Syria with a "terror cor-

The PKK question is expected to loom large during a visit by Erdogan, along with the resumption of oil exports from northern Iraq's semi-autonomous Kurdish region via the Ceyhan port in Turkey.

Officials in Baghdad and Irbil, the seat of the Kurdish regional government, have long been at odds over sharing of oil revenues

Ukraine destroyed N-capable

attempt to tamp down on any dissent ahead of it. DUBAI: Iran sentenced seven men and a woman to prison after their convicjudiciary's Mizan news tions over allegedly aiding

two men who were earlier executed for killing a paramilitary volunteer during the nationwide protests last year that followed Mahsa Amini's death in police custody, state me-dia reported Wednesday. The sentences come

just ahead of the one-year anniversary of Amini's Sept. 16 death, as authorities have those convicted. been rounding up activists

and others in an apparent The report by the

agency offered the first official confirmation of the sentences apparently handed down earlier by a Revolutionary Court in the city of Karaj, where the November slaying happened. The report said the country's Supreme Court upheld the sentences handed down following an appeal by the lawyers for

South Korea holds rare air raid drill, but many citizens ignore it

Monitoring Desk SEOUL: Sirens wailed on Wednesday as South Korea held its first nationwide air defence drills in six years to counter North Korea's growing nuclear and missile threats, but many people appeared to ignore calls to seek shelter.

The government has reintroduced the drills into the annual Ulchi civil defence exercises, held alongside the Ulchi Freedom Shield drills, which South Korean and U.S. troops began on Monday, to improve responses to a North Korean attack or other emergency.Air-raid sirens Eun, a 52-year-old architec-

GMT) on a rainy but hot summer afternoon in downtown Seoul. Community leaders in yellow jackets and hats with the "Civil Defence" logo asked people to get off the streets for about 15 minutes before the alert was eased.

But many pedestrians did not pay heed to those requests or rush to find designated shelters or nearby underground spaces

"I didn't know about the drill. And people don't seem to care about it much. I don't believe there will be an actual war either," Na blared at 2 p.m. (0500 tural designer told Reuters.



Rescue workers conduct a search operation at the site of an accident where an under-construction railway bridge collapsed in Sairang town of the Aizwal district in India's eastern state of Mizoram.

22 killed in Indian railway bridge collapse **Monitoring Desk**

merly known as Twitter. NEW DELHI: At least 22 Zoramthanga, who uses one name, added that he was grateful that people had "come out in large numbers to help with rescue operations". Forty labourers had been working at the

site, according to the Northeast Frontier Railway. An employee of the agency, who requested anonymity as he was not authorised to talk to the media, said 22 bodies had been recovered from the wreckage. Another four people were still missing, he added. A committee has been set up to investigate the cause of the accident. "Rescue operations are underway and all possible assistance is being given to those affected."

year's nationwide protests LONDON: British military intelligence said on Tuesday that a weekend drone attack on an airfield deep inside Russia which Moscow

likely to have destroyed a

nuclear-capable TU-22M3 supersonic long-range bomber. Kyiv, which on Monday claimed to have attacked another Russian military airfield, says Russia has used the TU-22M3 to bomb targets across

Ukraine with conventional munitions.

UK believes Iran sentences 8 to prison over paramilitary's death during last **Russian bomber** Monitoring Desk

blamed on Ukraine is highly

by Mizoram chief minister Zoramthanga showed a metal frame that had toppled off towering columns into a wooded valley below. "Deeply saddened and affected by this trag-edy," he wrote on X, for-

labourers were killed on Wednesday when the railway bridge they were building across a ravine in India's remote northeast collapsed,

with four others feared dead. The incident took place in Sairang, a town around 20 kilometres (12 miles) northwest of Mizoram state capital Aizawl — an outlying pocket of the country near the border with Myanmar.

Video footage shared

People watch a live stream of Chandrayaan-3 spacecraft's landing on the moon, inside an auditorium of Gujarat Science City in Ahmedabad, India. **Russia removes 'General** Armageddon' as air force chief after mutiny-related disappearance - RIA Wagner boss Yevgeny

Thursday August 24, 2023

Jaranwala tragedy: **Religious scholars, political** leaders unite in Islamabad **Declaration to promote harmony**

ISLAMABAD (APP): The religious scholars representing various schools of thought and political leaders on Wednesday an-nounced the 'Islamabad Declaration' to foster both interfaith and intra-faith harmony in response to the recent Jaranwala tragedy.

The joint conference took place at the 'Our Lady of Fatima Church' in the federal capital, where leaders from different backgrounds unequivocally condemned the appalling inci-dent that occurred in tion for the federal and

Jaranwala and called for Punjab governments, the ances of the affected indiswift trials and exemplary punishment for those allegedly responsible for this inhumane act, underscoring homes were demolished and their commitment to justhe allocation of funds for the rehabilitation of relitice.

The collective leadergious sites belonging to the ship also issued a demand Christian community in the for the government to conaffected region. Commending these duct an impartial and thorsteps, the leaders urged the ough investigation into the incident emphasizing to relevant authorities to ex-

accountability the affected community. that addressing the griev-

make its findings public, and

to ensure transparency and

leaders acknowledged the viduals would contribute to compensation provided to the collective healing prothe victims' families whose cess

The religious and political leaders extended their gratitude to Caretaker Prime Minister Anwar-ul-Kakar and nominated Chief Justice Qazi Faez Isa for their visit to the site of the incident, along with Chief pedite the entire process to of Army Staff General Syed Asim Munir's stateprovide a sigh of relief to ment expressing deep concern over the disgrace-They were of the view ful events in Jaranwala.



KARACHI: A delegation of Pakistan People's Party called on caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul-Haq Kakar.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Health Dr. Nadeem Jan addressing on the seminar regarding breast feeding.

Infrastructure Projects play crucial role in improving connectivity: Sami Saeed

ISLAMABAD (Online): induced calamities is the for Caretaker Federal Minister Muhammad Sami Saeed convened performance review meetings on the functions of infrastructure development and Monitoring & Evaluation Wings.

In the meeting, Mr. Waqas Anwar, Member Infrastructure delivered a detailed overview of projects spanning diverse sectors in transportation and communication.

telligent Project Automa-The Minister stressed tion System and outlined that Infrastructure Projects forthcoming action plans. play key role in improving connectivity and in meeting the challenges posed by Climate change and Water scarcity. He added that projects has become man- formation Technology that building resilient and

comprehensive need of the hour.

project assessment. Caretaker Federal In another subsequent meeting that reviewed the Minister Muhammad Sami progress evaluation of the Saeed expressed his resolve Monitoring and Evaluation and commitment to con-Wing, Dr. Zahir Shah, the tinue the development enrespective Member, and Project Director M & E, presented a thorough briefdeavors, stated that Progress and Development warrants harnessing and ing on real-time project optimal utilization of remonitoring and evaluation. sources with an entrenched The presentation Monitoring and Evaluation also underscored the Inmechanism in place.

The Minister appreciated that Monitoring and Evaluation wing of the It was highlighted that Ministry of Planning and with the integration of Development function is technology, impact analy- commendable as it laid the sis of development groundwork to employ Indatory under directions will improve the quality and

Nation united against terrorism, extremism: **Interior Minister**

peaceful country for all.

tive coordination.

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Interior Minister Sarfaz Bugti on Wednesday said that the entire nation was united against the menace of terrorism and extremism.

National Coordinator, National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) Inspector General Tahir Ray briefed the minister on his visit to the authority's headquarter.

ated zero tolerance against The minister reviewing the National Action terrorism and extremism, Plan said that the terrorism adding the law enforcement would be completely elimiagencies were taking effecnated from the society and tive measures to curb the Pakistan would be made menace from the society.

Govt to fully protect minorities' rights: Aneeq

FAISALABAD (APP): antee to protect their rights. Caretaker Federal Minister He condemned the Jaranwala for Religious Affairs & Inincident and quoted reference terfaith Harmony Aneeq of different Quranic verses Ahmad said on Wednesday and Ahadis the government would fully in which the Muslims protect the rights of minoriwere emphasized to defend

ties by penalizing the cul-prits involved in Jaranwala rights of the minorities. He said that Jaranwala tragedy was a deep-rooted con-Talking to the media spiracy hatched to create during his visit to Jaranwala, rift among the Muslimand he said that minorities were the Christians. However, an integral part of Pakistan the government and other as the national flag reflected law enforcing agencies took existence of minorities, immediate action and foiled whereas the Constitution of nefarious designs of miscre-Pakistan also provided guarants, he added.

First Pak-KSA **Joint Special Forces Exercise** AL BATTAR-I

begins RAWALPINDI (APP): The

He said Pakistan's narrative against terrorism First Pakistan-KSA 'Joint and extremism provided Special Forces Exercise AL complete guideline which BATTAR-I' began on Wednesday with opening needed to be promoted further. He said NACTA ceremony at Cherat.

would make effective and The special forces of Pakistan and Kingdom of workable policy to counter terrorism and the policy Saudi Arabia (KSA) are would be shared with all participating in the twoother departments for effecweek long exercise, an Inter-Services Public Rela-The minister reitertions (ISPR) news release said

> The exercise is aimed at further harnessing the historic military to military relations between the two countries, including nurturing of joint employment concept and identifying areas of mutual interest for future military collaboration, with a view to accrue maximum benefits from each other's experience in employment against terrorism.

The national anthems of both countries were played at the start of the ceremony. Senior officials from the two armed forces were present on the occa

Such joint military exercises between armies of the two brotherly countries were aimed at enhancing existing bilateral relations and benefiting from each other's experience, ISPR said.

PPP delegation calls on prime minister KARACHI (APP): A del-Murad Ali Shah and

Saeed Ghani.

The prime minister assured

the delegation that his

government would

utilise maximum re-

sources for early reso-

gratulated the prime

minister on assuming

the office and expressed

good wishes for him.

lution of the issues.

egation comprising the leaders of the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Wednesday called on Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar here.

The members of the delega-The PPP delegation contion apprised the prime minister of the problems confronting Sindh particularly Karachi

Karachi

Murtaza

Caretaker Federal Minister The delegation consisted of for Information and Mayor Broadcasting Murtaza Wahab, Solangi also attended Qaim Ali Shah, Syed the meeting.



KARACHI: Members of All City Tajir Ittehad block road as they are holding protest demonstration against massive unemployment, increasing price of daily use products and inflation price hiking, held at Saddar Regal Chowk in Karachi.

Negotiation between caretaker govt and IMF will take place next month

caretaker government will take place next month. ernment plan in this Authorities said

Negotiation will

Virtual conversa-

Finance Ministry

have

be held on new plan

to reduce circular debt

tion took place in this

regard last evening.

government.

of

gas sector.

authorities

IMF has asked for re deta

ISLAMABAD (Online): started giving circular Negotiation between debt repayment plan.

weather resistant Infrastruc-ture to embrace the climate velopment Working Party and Evaluation.

UN Pak launches dialogue campaign ahead of **SDG** summit

ISLAMABAD (APP): Ahead of the International Summit on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in New York next month, the United Nations in Pakistan on Wednesday launched a dialogue campaign with stakeholders across the country. The UN office in Islamabad will en-gage more than 1,000 local leaders living in 12 major cities outside of the federal and provincial capitals to discuss development priorities across the country.

In total, more than 1,000 local leaders living in eral and provincial capitals.

12 major cities across six provinces and territories alleged members of a notowill discuss the developrious dacoit gang known as ment challenges they face Buledi gang and recovered and how they impede ecoarms and motorcycles from nomic and social progress their possession. in their districts, a press release on Wednesday said.

Âmong the arrested dacoit gang members were The dialogues will be Sajjan Khan Buledi, Kamran Ali Buledi, Ghulam held in the different languages spoken across Paki-Yasin Buledi and Himmat stan in the coming weeks. Ali Buledi, according to SSP "These dialogues will SIU Junaid Sheikh. help United Nations agen-

The SIU received a cies better understand tip-off that the gang was planning to kill their rival which development issues local leaders see as their Gulab Chandio, a headpriorities outside of the fedmoneyed outlaw, who was accused of murdering two women of their family.

Bushra Bibi

meets her

The meeting of

Thursday.

PML-N constitutes 7-member delegation for ECP electoral procedure consultation

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan Muslim League-N (PML-N) has constituted a seven-member team to en-

gage in discussions with the lection Commission of Pakistan (ECP) regarding consultations on electoral procedures.

statement, In a Marriyum Aurangzeb, the party's Secretary of Information, said the Election Commission Secretary has officially invited the Pakistan Muslim League (N) for discussions on electoral

husband Imran in procedures, which are Attock jail scheduled for August 25 at TTOCK (Online): Former first lady Bushra

11 a.m. Comprising seven members, the delegation in-Bibi met chairman PTI in cludes Ahsan Iqbal, the Sec-Attock jail Wednesday. retary General of PML-N Senator Azam Nazir Tarar, Bushra Bibi with her hus-Zahid Hamid, Khawaja Saad band chairman PTI lasted Rafiq, Rana Sanaullah Khan, one hour. Engineer Amir Maqam

Bushra Bibi returned (Punjab and Khyber after her meeting with her Pakhtunkhwa Presidents husband respectively), and Attaullah According to reports, Tarar, Deputy Secretary his lawyers are likely to General will visit ECP on meet Chairman PTI on



Bibi.

week

riots

JARANWALA: Federal Minister for Religious Affairs, Aneeq Ahmad, chairing a meeting Christian community and Muslim Ulama at AC Office on his visit to Jaranwala.

JIT decides to conduct forensic test of two alleged videos of Bushra Bibi

ISLAMABAD (Online): which had allegedly come Joint Investigation Team from tosha khana to (JIT) of Islamabad Police Banigala House. probing into Toshakhana In the second video

case against chairman PTI she was heard talking to and his wife has decided to Zulfi Bokhari former special advisor of former Prime conduct forensic test of two alleged videos of Bushra Minister (PM) about toshakhana watch. Bushra Bibi has re-

Sources said Bushra futed the authenticity of Bibi was asked to identify these two alleged videos. the person whom she was taunting for taking pictures. Sources said Bushra Bibi appeared before JIT However Bushra Bibi

after being summoned in contradicted as her own Kohsar police station last voice which was heard in audios. She claimed these During the investigavideos are fake and she had never said so to any body.

Bushra Bibi

tion the investigators ran two videos which have be-Sources said the JIT come viral on social media. has decided to conduct forensic test of both audios In one video she was heard chiding some one for after the refusal from

PCAA & FOSPAH organizes seminar

KARACHI (APP): Paki-stan Civil Aviation Authority (PCAA) Human Resource Directorate in collaboration with Federal Ombudsman Secretariat for Protection against Harass-ment at Workplace (FOSPAH), organized a seminar at Jinnah Interna-tional Airport here on Wednesday.

taking pictures of goods

The session began with an opening note from Air Commodore ® Shahid Qadir, the Director of Security, who welcomed the Chief Guest Fauzia Waqar, the Federal Ombudsman. Air Vice Marshal Taimur Iqbal, Additional Director General of the Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority, Air Cdr Shahid Iqbal, Di-

rector of Security, Lt. ®

Abid Ali, Director HR, Syed Asif Raza Gillani, Director P&D, and Airport Manager Muhammad Erfan were also present at

the seminar. During her speech, Fauzia Waqar shared her experiences on the protection of women in the workplace. She enlightened the audience about the Federal Government's aim of cre-

ating a safe working environment for all females. The FOSPAH team delivered a presentation on the Protection against Ha-

rassment of Women at Workplace Act, which has been amended in 2021. Fauzia Waqar also answered questions from the

Security forces kill active terrorist in Ladha fire exchange

RAWALPINDI (APP): The security forces have killed an active terrorist during an exchange of fire exchange in the wee hours of Wednesday in the general area Ladha of South Waziristan District.

The army troops ef-fectively engaged the terrorists and resultantly one of them was sent to hell, an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release said

Weapon and ammunition was also recovered from the killed terrorist, who remained actively involved in various terrorist activities in the area, it said

Customs seizes non-duty paid goods in Karachi

. KARACHI (INP): Pakistan Customs on Wednesday foiled a bid to smuggle non-duty paid goods from Quetta to Karachi.

According to details, smuggled goods were being smuggled to Karachi from a passenger bus from Quetta via Hub River Road

The customs team on a tip off, searched the passenger bus and recovered non-duty-paid goods.

The recovered items include 170 kg of betel nuts, 10 cartons of cigarettes, 10 cartons of chocolate, 20 cartons of dry milk and 45 bundles

of gas pipes. An investigation has been initiated into the smug-

gling bid after registration audience and highlighted the of case in Medina Colony significance of the 2010 act. police station.

regard. Dr Shamshad will brief on loan repaythat circular debt will be the focus of the first contact negotiations with caretaker

ment scheme. After this repay-ment of loan of Rs 400 billion, payment of 900 million dollars is likely to be made to is likely to be made to the caretaker government

After this payment, the circular debt of this sector will stand at 1200 billion.



HYDERABAD: Members of Sindhiani Tehreek are holding protest demonstration for demanding justice for 10-years old housemaid Fatima Fariro, at Hyderabad press club.

Commissioner, DC visits SZABIST run People's School Programme

missioner, Deputy Com-missioner and Director NAWABSHAH (APP): Commissioner Muhammad Abbas Baloch along with ZABIST planted saplings Deputy Commissioner in the school premises with SBA Shehryar Gul Memon visited SZABIST-run the cooperation of FGFR, an organization of Jamaat-Peoples School Programme PSP. e-Islami. On the occasion,

Director ZABIST Lubna Khalid took the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner on a detailed visit to the School Computer Lab and classroom, which was appreciated by both dignitaries for better arrangements made by the

tal temperature and for that school administration. purpose, government departments and civil society They also expressed have to step forward for the pleasure in educational activities at PSP School. Durplanting of more and more trees. On the occasion, the ing the briefing, the Direcleader of Jamaat-e-Islami tor informed that PSP informed that its organiza-School is being organized tion FGFR has launched a under the supervision of ZABIST tree plantation campaign She said that PSP throughout the Sindh Prov-

School is giving free of cost education from fifth class

institution.

They said that under the tree plantation camto tenth class and computer training to all students. She paign, more than 15,000 saplings would be planted said that at present 550 stuthroughout district Shaheed dents are studying at this Benazirabad in cooperation During the visit Comwith district administration

the Commissioner and

Deputy Commissioner dis-

closed that the Jamaat-e-

Islami organization FGFR

has launched a tree planta-

tion campaign which is an

help reduce the environmen-

They said that trees

opreciable act.

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Friday for consultations.

BAHAWALPUR: Federal Ombudsman of Pakistan Ejaz Ahmed Qureshi presiding over meeting of heads of Federal Government Agencies/Departments including WAPDA, Sui Gas, Postal Service and others at South Punjab Secretariat.