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selection of the Caretaker Prime Minister.

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday said

that Imran Khan Niazi had

ruined relations with the

friendly countries and iso-

lated Pakistan in the world.

WeNews', said that an ef-

fort was made to create a

bloc and isolate Saudi

"What a sad incident and what a fallen thought that a friend who helps you

like a brother and family

without any condition or

greed and we become un-

grateful and forgetful of its kindness,"he added.

said that the two brotherly

countries could never have

imagined such a bad situa-

tion that happened during

Imran Niazi's tenure.

The prime minister

Arabia through that bloc.

interview

The prime minister, in

Institution of Senate have to be more empowered:

We accepted new population census in larger interest of province seeing ground realities, says CM Bizenjo

Says issue of Balochistan would not be resolved with increase of two or four seats in National Assembly; Joint action plan to develop Balochistan, instead of criticizing each other; Once again invited all political parties of the province to sit together and get accepted the interests of province from the federation

QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Abdul Quddus Bizenjo has categorically stated that we have accepted the new population census in a realistic manner and that seeing facts, in which the ratio

of population increase in

Balochistan is higher than

other provinces. He said that the issue of Balochistan would not be resolved with increase of two or four seats in the na-

institution of Senate would have to be empowered for the purpose, which has equal representative of all the provinces.

He stressed that we need to wage struggle to strengthen and empower

It has been our stance from the day one that the backwardness, land and law and order situation may also be included in the formula of distribution of resources in the NFC Award.

He stated so in a policy

statement issued here on Thursday. The Chief Minister described the ongoing debate on the new population census by some political circles as meaningless and said that those making criticism on the new census should determine those responsible who caused harm to the province's interests by reviewing the population census con-

Continued on page 2



QUETTA: A delegation led by Member Central Committee of BNP Mir Khursheed Jamaldini meeting with Balochistan Governor Malik Abdul Wali

Govt. taking concrete steps for promotion of mother languages, says Governor

Independent Report QUETTA: The Governor tions and to the constitu-Balochistan, Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar has stated that the government is taking concrete steps for development and promotion

of mother languages. He said that there is also a key role of the newspapers and periodicals being published in Pashto, Brahvi and Balochi languages in promotion of the mother languages.

The Governor was speaking to the Chief Editor of Pastho daily, Nowai Zowand, Syed Anwar Shah who called on him here at the Governor House on Thursday.

The Governor said that there is a great importance of mother languages, which is also guaranteed in guages.

the charter of United Nation of Pakistan 1973. He said that the mother languages are not the source of expression only, rather it is a long process of heritage from one generation to the

The Governor also said

that the local language newspapers and periodicals not only keep the general public aware of the latest happenings and circumstances around them, but they also play key role in promotion and development of the thousands years old lan-guages. Syed Anwar Shah on the occasion apprised the Governor about the issues being faced by the newspapers and periodicals being published in local lan-



QUETTA: Chairman Journalist Welfare Fund Committee, DGPR Kamran Asad presiding over meeting of Committee

Marriyum urges journalists, media workers to remain united for implementation of PEMRA

ISLAMABAD (APP): Information Secretary of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz and former Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb on Thursday urged the journalists and media workers to remain united and ensure implementation of PEMRA Amendment Bill 2023, which would replace the 2002 PEMRA Ordinance, a black law introduced by

Pervez Musharraf. Marriyum Aurangzeb thanked all the media organizations including All Pakistan Newspaper Society (APNS), Pakistan Broadcasters Association (PBA), Parliamentary Reporters Association (PRA), Council of Pakistan Newspaper Editors (CPNE) for their guidance and support in the preparation of the PEMRA Amendment Bill 2023

During her visit to National Press Club here, she said that for the past over 12 months, consultations were held with all stakeholders for the preparation She said that the rights

of working journalists and media workers have been protected in the Bill as the issuance of government advertisements has been linked to payment of salaries and dues of the journalists and media workers. Moreover, the rule of minimum wages would now be applicable for media organizations, she added. The former minister said that the outgoing government had introduced Health Insurance Card scheme for journalists and media workers and had created a fund for payment of Rs 4 mil-

Continued on page 2

23 KP cabinet members resignea

PESHAWAR (APP): 23 out of 25 members of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's caretaker cabinet on Thursday tendered resignations.

The caretaker chief minister had invited the cabinet members for tea here and informed them that the Election Commission had written a letter to seek resignations from members having political affiliations

According to CM Sec retariat Pir Haroon Shah Fazl Elahi, Himayatullah, Taj Muhammad, Zafar Mahmood and Rehmat Islam Khattak were among the members who tendered resignations.

Flash flood sweeps away four in Zhob

OUETTA (INP): Four people were swept away in flash floods due to torrential rains in Zhob district of Balochistan.

Due to heavy rains in the Mount Sulaiman range, a car was washed away in flash flood at Shirani area on Zhob-DI Khan Highway, resulting in the death of four people.

According to administration sources, two women and two children are among the dead, A man and a woman remained safe in the incident. The affected family belongs to Quetta.

Traffic flow has been suspended in Shirani area between Quetta and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa due to flooding. The administration said that people should avoid traveling on the highway until it is

On the other hand, according to the Met Department, rain was likely in Islamabad, Upper Punjab Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Kashmir today. Besides that, the coastal areas of Sindh could also receive

rushed to the scene and Hafizabad.

Medical aid was provided

With regard to the news about the cipher published oil from Russia? Would our relations with China in the international journal 'The Intercept', he said that be restored which were two meetings of the National Security Council redestroyed by Imran Niazi? So this one proof garding the cipher were held is enough," he added.

against Pakistan, he added.

tive was that America tried

to topple his government

because he was more attracted to China and Rus-

sia, so tell me that if our

government was formed

through the American

conspiracy, would we get

"Imran Niazi's narra-

Regarding the delay under his chairmanship. In a meeting, the then Pakiin finalizing the name of stani ambassador and curcaretaker prime minister, Shehbaz Sharif said there rent Foreign Secretary Asad Majeed clearly stated that was a mistake in underthere was no talk of constanding that the caretaker spiracy in his meeting with prime minister's decision the United States official was to be taken tomorrow. "It is not the case The then Chief of because there cannot be a consultation between the

Continued on page 2

PIA gets

new CEO

KARACHI (INP): Air

Vice Marshal (retired)

Muhammad Amir Hayat

has been appointed Paki-

stan International Air-

lines (PIA) Chief Execu-

tive Officer (CEO) on

spokesperson, the ap-

Muhammad Amir Hayat

has been made for a year.

Earlier, the retired Air

Vice Marshal was work-

ing as acting CEO of PIA.

CEO has been lying va-

cant after Air Marshal

Arshad Malik completed

his three-year tenure on

April 25. Arshad Malik

was appointed in October

2018. The appointment

was made after, the fed-

eral government ap-

proved the appointment

of the chief executive of-

ficer (CEO) of the na-

tional flag carrier Paki-

stan International Air-

lines, last week. The fed-

eral cabinet approved the

summary through circu-

lation. Sources told ARY

News that Hashim Raza

and Mazhar Uddin were

also being considered for

rejected the recommen-

dation to appoint the PIA

Low intensity

earthquake jolts

Zhob district,

suburbs of Ouetta

CEO for three years.

The prime minister

the PIA's top slot.

The position of the

According to PIA

Thursday.

pointment

Army Staff General Bajwa Terming the Pakistan and other services chiefs prime minister and the Tehreek-e-Insafchief's nar- also confirmed that there

ISLAMABAD: Leader of the Opposition, Raja Riaz Ahmad calls on Prime

Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif as part of the consultation process for

Pakistan isolated in world during

Imran Niazi's tenure: PM

Says Nawaz Sharif to return next month

to lead election campaign

government was brought in

power under an American

conspiracy, a pack of lies,

the prime minister said if

the contents of the cipher,

which was printed (in the

international newspaper),

were true, then it was a very

big crime.



Donald Lu.

QUETTA: Principal Secretary to Chief Minister Balochistan Imran Gichki meeting with Home Minister Mir Ziaullah Lango

CM annoved over increasing incidents of terrorism in **Ouetta and other areas**

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Abdul Quddus Bizenjo has expressed his annoyance over the increasing incidents of terrorism in Quetta and some other arras of the province

In a statement issued here on Thursday, the Chief Minister said that the antistate elements want to create the environment of fear and harassment through terrorism and subversive acts on occasion of the In-

dependence Day.
The Chief Minister was concerned that the tendency of terrorism has been increased in the month of August for last few years. He stressed that it is

unavoidable to take effective security measures in order to cope with the threat of terrorism in Quetta city. ries c He said that the people in it.

to this, foolproof security plan should be prepared for the Quetta city, adding he directed. He also said that it is right of the people to cel-

ebrate Jashne Azadi with-

out any fear and threat.

and city can't be handed

over to the terrorists in this

manner. He said that the

everyday blasts and sub-

versive acts are creating

very negative impression

would be allowed to devas-

tate the peace established

due to the sacrifices of gen-

eral public and security

other security institutions

to ensure sustainable peace

in the province. In addition

He asserted that no one

He urged the police and

from Balochistan.

Meanwhile, he condemned the bomb blast on Moti Ram road and expressed sorrow over injuries caused to three persons

8 of a family die as van collides with truck

QUETTA: Chief Secretary Balochistan Abdul Aziz Uqaili presiding over meeting of Provincial Selec-

LAYYAH (Online): At least 8 persons of a family died and 6 others were injured in van-truck collision n Layya Thursday. The accident took place

in Adda Hafiz Abad, Tehsil The Rescue teams shifted the bodies and injured to Tehsil hospital. to the injured in the hospital. According to sources the speedy passenger van was on its way from Bhakkar to Mian Channu and it collided with a truck at adda

QUETTA (Online): Earthquake tremors were felt early in the morning in vicinity of Zhob district, a suburb of Quetta. According to Seismological center, the magni-

tude of earthquake on rector scale has been recorded as 3 and depth 30 km. According to preliminary information, no casu-

alties have been reported so far due to low intensity of earthquake.

Court terminates Imran's bail petition in Al-Qadir Trust case

ISLAMABAD (APP): An into the case had been con-Accountability Court (AC) verted into investigation. on Thursday terminated the interim bail petition of PTI chairman Imran Khan due to non-pursuance in Al-Qadir Trust case connected with a scam worth Rs190

However, the court disposed of the pre-arrest bail case of Bushra Bibi after the NAB officials stated that in jail. no arrest warrants had been issued against her.

The AC-I Judge Muhammad Bashir announced the verdict against the bail petitions of former prime minister and his wife. On the query of the

judge, the NAB Prosecutor Sardar Muzafar Abbasi informed the court that no arrest warrants had been Khan. However, the bail issued against Bushra Bibi. case of Bushra Bibi was dis-

Her lawyer, Khawaja posed of after the statement Haris said that the inquiry of NAB.

Intizar Panjutha Advocate prayed to the court to pass an order refraining the arrest of his client in future in the said case.

Khawaja Haris prayed to the court to extend the interim bail of Imran Khan and grant him exemption from appearance as he was

NAB Sardar Muzafar Abbasi said that the defence could file the exemption from appearance request for one

The court earlier reserved the judgment on the bail petition of the two accused and later terminated the bail petition of Imran

To reach consensus on caretaker PM's selection

PM, opposition leader to meet again today



ISLAMABAD (APP): Leader of the Opposition in National Assembly Raja Riaz met with Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday as part of the consultation process for the selection of the caretaker

After detailed deliberation, the two leaders decided to meet again today (Friday) to reach a consensus on selecting a name for the caretaker prime minister.

As per the constitution, the prime minister had invited the opposition leader to a meeting regarding the appointment of the caretaker prime minister.

The meeting to consult the name of the caretaker prime minister was held in a cordial environment, said a press release issued by the Prime Minister Office.

One person killed, three injured in two different explosions in Quetta city, suburb

Independent Report

QUETTA: One person was killed and three others were injured in two different incidents of explosions and hang grenade took place in Aminabad area and Moti Ram road on Thursday.

According to the reports, some unknown miscreants hurled a hand grenade in Aminabad area of Brewery near Western bypass. As a result, two persons sustained injuries. Later, one of them died before he was provided any medical assistance. However, the other survived and shifted to the civil hospi-

The assailants fled from the scene.

Meanwhile two persons were injured in an explosion took place in a shop located on Moti Ram road here on Thursday afternoon. According to the reports, the explosion took place in a shop of national flags and other Independence day items being sold

However, the nature of explosion could not be determined immediately. Initial reports suggested that some unknown assailants hurled a hand grenade at the shop and fled from the



Moti Ram Road

Police firing on protesters in Lakki Marwat, one person killed, 4 injured

LAKKI MARWAT(Online): One person was killed and 4 were injured during police firing on protesters in Lakki Marwat.

The police firing incident took place in Dara Pizo area of Lakki Marwat city of Khy Pakhtunkhwa (KPK). Khyber

There are reports that the people of Wanda Jogi were protesting on the Indus Highway since late night against the arrest of their associates while the police opened fire on the protesters following exchange of bitter words

Police sources said that the police had arrested 4 people over the dispute with the Lakki Cement Fac-

After firing by police, the angry people placed the body of the dead person in front of the factory and started protesting again and closed the Peshawar Karachi Indus Highway for all kinds of traffic.

On the other hand after firing on protestors, police said that protestors fired at us in retaliation police resorted to aerial firing.

Prime Minister calls for unity to overcome challenges

Prime Minister Shehbaz of Sharif has emphasized for greater unity, cohesion and solidarity to steer the country out of challenges and put it on the path of prosperity. He was addressing the staff of PM House and PM office on the occasion of luncheon hosted in their honour in Islamabad.

Prime Minister recalled that our ancestors rendered immense sacrifices for a Pakistan where all the people had equal opportunities to excel in their fields. He regretted that we deviated from our

said it is time to renew the pledge to follow the teach-Prophet

ISLAMABAD (INP): Upon Him) as well as those erty, unemployment and Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah and Allama Igbal to foster

unity in our ranks. He said we should serve the country in such a manner that rids it of loans and take us on the path of self-reliance. He said this is not an impossible task but only requires sacrifice The Prime Minister and sheer dedication and devotion to work.

Alluding to the austerity measures taken during the past 16 months of his stint, Shehbaz Sharif said given the difficult economic situation, several cabinet members decided The Prime Minister to forgo their perks and privileges.

The Prime Minister ings of Holy Quran, Holy noted that by saving our Hazrat resources, we could spend the staff of the PM Office

illiteracy. He pointed out that God Almighty had blessed Pakistan with immense minerals, fertile land and a capable human resource. He said we can exploit this potential by putting our efforts together saying this will also enhance the country's image in the comity of nations.

was appreciative of the support, advice and guidance provided to him by the staff of PM House and PM Office over the last 16 months. On the occasion, the staff of the PM House presented a portrait to the Prime Minister.

Earlier, the Prime Minister distributed commendation certificates amongst



SUKKUR: View of stagnant water after low-level flood at Indus River while flood water entered riverside settlements, showing negligence of concerned authorities, in Sukkur.

We accepted new population....

Continued from page 1

ducted in 1998 and 2017.

The Chief Minister once again invited all political parties of the province to sit together and get accepted the interests of province from the federation.

He strongly believed that if we didn't come on one page then the federation would never give us our due rights.

He stressed that all poadopt a joint course of acthan other provinces. tion together instead of making criticism on each

To a query, the Chief Minister dispelled the impression that only the population of Balochistan has been reduced, if viewed, then ratio of population of the province has been increased.

He on the occasion stressed that we need to make struggle for special grants to be given to the backward districts of the province.

He said that if we are dreaming of development area and the factors of law merely on the basis of population, then it would remain just dream.

He said that accept that there might be some discrepancies in the recent population census, but it is also a fact that the population was presented abnormally in some districts. In addition to this, there were few districts from where the dwellers had migrated due to the floods and their counting could not be done in the census. But, in spite of that, we accepted the population census in the larger interest of the prov-

ince. APP adds: Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Abdul Ouddus Bizenio on Thursday said that instead of criticizing each other, a joint action plan should be adopted in a realistic and intellectual way to develop the province, it was not true that only the population of Balochistan was reduced.

He also termed the criticizing of some political circles meaningless regarding the new digital census

1998 and 2017 censuses.

The people responsible for the damage caused to Balochistan due to the lack of census should also be determined, he said.

The CM said that we accepted the new census by looking at the facts, in the new census, the population growth rate in litical leadership should Balochistan were higher

"The problem of four seats in the National Assembly", he said and added that for this, the Senate would have to be empowered in which all the provinces have proportional representation.

Mr. Bizenio said that our position from the beginning was that other factors should also be included in the formula for allocation of resources in NFC.

'Along with the population the backwardness and order situation should also be included", he noted adding that with the inclusion of these factors. Balochistan could gain ad-

vantage in NFC. He said that all the political parties of the province were invited to come and protect the interests of the province but they could get their rights recognized by the federation only through joint struggle.

If we do not come on the same page in this regard, the Federation will never give us our rights, he said and added that all the political leadership of the province should show foresight and political maturity,

he said. The CM said that the rate of population of Balochistan has increased which was more than other provinces saying that there was a need to empower the Senate where all provinces were represented on an

equal footing.

He said that there should be special grants for our backward districts and this procedure was common

saving that those who were in other developed councriticizing the new census tries as well saying that if should also consider the we were only dreaming of development based on the population, then it would

remain only a dream. If we demand distribution of resources on the basis of population, it will be wrong, tomorrow, this issue will be raised with regard to the Baloch and Pashtun population in the province as well as the population of the districts, he said.

He said that we ac-Balochistan will not be knowledged that there solved by increasing two or would be errors in the recent census as well saying that the fact should also be accepted that the population in some districts was unnaturally exaggerated.

"We also have some districts where many people were displaced due to flood, the displaced people could not be registered in the census". he underlined.

He said that however, we recognized this census in the wider interest of the province, our political leadership did not remember the absence of census in ten years and the holding of the recent census after six

The province suffered a lot due to the lack of census according to an estimate, we got 10 billion rupees less annually in NFC he said adding that why was the political leadership of the province silent on this loss of the province?

He said that those responsible for this loss must also be determined saying that the steps we have taken in a short period of one and a half years were like an open book.

The clean and transparent conduct of local elections, the agreement of Riko-Dig project, the principled stand on the rights of Balochistan and other innumerable achievements were included, he explained.

He said that the political leadership should adopt realist political behavior instead of non-issues saving that we could gain the right of Balochistan only by collective efforts



QUETTA: Boxers are in action during the Boxing Championship organized by Anjuman-e-Razm Sultan Boxing Association held in Quetta.

sign convention for elimination of

In this connection, tax delegations of both the from August 7 to 9, 2023, said a news release issued here on Thursday.

tions, a consensus was achieved and draft of the

not only provide safeguards against double taxation on the income of the residents of both the countries but will also promote economic cooperation and enhance investments. It will further strengthen the existing bilateral economic relations between the two contracting states. It will provide adequate certainty in respect of taxation rules applicable to cross-border business transactions, dividends, interests, royalties and fee for technical services and income from automated digital services etc. Taxpayers of both countries will get relief from doubletaxationresulting in further boosting up the trading activities in both countries.

Pakistan, Iraq double taxation ISLAMABAD (APP):

Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) has initiated negotiations on the convention for the elimination of double taxation with respect to taxes on Income, Capital and the Prevention of Tax Evasion with the Republic

countries met here for the first round of negotiations After detailed delibera-

convention was initiated by the respective heads of delegation on August 9th. The convention would

Pakistan most philanthropic, giving nation in world: Masood

ISLAMABAD (Online): Pakistan's Ambassador to the United States Masood Khan says Pakistan is the most philanthropic and giving nation on the face of the earth. He was talking to globally renowned cricketer Shahid Khan Afridi and legendary Squash champion Jahangii

Khan in Washington during luncheon meeting.

The two iconic superheroes are currently visiting the United States in connection with activities of Shahid

Afridi Foundation Highlighting philanthropic and humanitarian services of Shahid Afridi, Masood Khan said that his selfless

services saved hundreds from starvation in Azad Kashmir during COVID pandemic. He also appreciated role of Shahid Afridi for successful organization of Kashmir Premier League. He also lauded the services of the Foundation in education, water security, health and poverty alleviation.

Paying tribute to legendary Jahangir Khan, Masood Khan said that he was a source of inspiration for the nation. Speaking on the occasion, Shahid Afridi said that he formally started his humanitarian activities in 2011 with the establishment of a hospital in his area and also established five mobile health hospitals to provide healthcare services to the people of far-flung areas. He also lauded the role of Pak army which has always facilitated him in reaching out to the people of difficult terrain.

Legendary Squash Champion of the World Jahangir Khan in his remarks said that selfless service is an advanced stage of humanity and it is a unique honor to serve the community and motherland. He appreciated generous contributions of Pak diaspora enabling the foundation to expand the scope of its activities.

Partner and Co- Owner of Virginia Cancer Institute, Richmond and Chair of SAF US chapter Dr. Attique Samdani said the services of the foundation are being provided to the deserving people in a completely transparent manner. He said over 20,000 families are currently benefitting from the water filtration plants installed by the

President reaffirms commitment to safeguard minorities' rights

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Dr Arif Alvi on Thursday reaffirmed the nation's commitment to safeguarding the religious, social, political, and economic rights of minorities in Pakistan. "We assure all minority groups that Pakistan will continue to protect their rights as well as work for their well-being,' the president said in his message on Minorities' Day observed in Pakistan on

August 11 He called upon religious scholars and the media to educate society about the rights of minorities and

promote a culture of love, tolerance, brotherhood, and unity in the country He expressed the hope

that through society's collective efforts, a stronger and more prosperous Pakistan could be forged, where every individual could thrive and contribute their unique talents to the nation's development. The president high-

lighted the distinguished role played by minorities in the nation-building process and appreciated their role in the country's develop-

He expressed his plea-

sure that minorities in Pakistan enjoyed all political, economic, and social rights guaranteed by the Constitution of Pakistan

'The Constitution guarantees the political, economic, and social rights of all citizens, regardless of their religious beliefs or ethnicity. As Muslims, we find inspiration in the teachings of Islam, which emphatically advocate for the protection of minority rights and equality among all people, fostering a spirit of harmony and unity within our diverse society,



QUETTA: Members of PTCL Pensioners are holding protest demonstration for acceptance of their demands, at Quetta press club.

Pakistan isolated in world during....

Continued from page 1 opposition leader before the National Assembly is dis-

solved.' The prime minister said that the phase of dissolving the Assembly was completed last night, and after that he had the first meeting scheduled with the opposition leader today in which the caretaker prime minister's name would be

discussed. He said that right now he could not reveal the name of the caretaker prime minister, but assured that the matter would be revealed soon.

Regarding Pakistan's relations with India, the prime minister said that ties with the neighbouring country could not be restored without finding a just solution of the Kashmir issue because the Kashmiris had made great sacrifices to get their rights and thousands of them have died in 75

The hearts of Kashmiri mothers and daughters were torn, children and the elderly were martyred and the valley of Kashmir turned red with their blood, he added.

The prime minister made it clear that without resolving the issue of Kashmiris' right to self-determination, relations with India could not be normalized in any way.

Meanwhile Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif Thursday said Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz Quaid Nawaz Sharif would come back to Pakistan next month and face his cases in courts. The prime minister, in

an interview with a private

news channel, said after the formation of the caretaker government he would visit London to consult Nawaz

Sharif on his plan for return. Nawaz Sharif would lead the election campaign of his party and would be the next prime minister for the fourth time if the PML-N won the next election, he added.

The prime minister said last night the president signed the advice to dissolve the National Assembly and he had talked with the coalition partners about the caretaker prime minister and the decision in that regard would be made in the next three days.

"Tomorrow we will hopefully finalize a name for the post of caretaker prime minister," he said, adding he would further consult the matter with the allied parties and Nawaz Sharif

He said as he had been saying all along he would hand over the government to the caretaker set-up and the Election Commission would decide about the date for new elections. The Council of Com-

mon Interests (CCI) had already approved the new digital census and the election would be held according to it, he added. We have followed the

Constitution and now the institutions have the responsibility to hold the elections "he remarked, adding he desired that elections should be held as soon as possible

Shehbaz pointed out that he led the shortest government of 16 months

formed by the coalition

parties of various ideologies

and thinking.

We proved to the people that the coalition parties were united for sake of the country. We performed our responsibilities in the best interests of the state

He said after his taking charge of office the country faced devastating floods and the government within its limited resources provided timely relief to the people, took steps for their rehabilitation and transparently distributed the aid that came from foreign countries.

The biggest contribution of his government, he said was that Pakistan was saved from default and for that his government went through a difficult phase of negotiations with the International Monetary Fund (IMF)

The IMF managing director at one point in a meeting with him in Paris said that no time was left for revival of the programme but later an agreement was reached for loan of three billion dollars, he recalled.

The PM said in the four years of the previous government, relations with friendly and brotherly countries were damaged and long time friends of Pakistan were alienated.

He said the countries like Saudi Arabia unconditionally came to the rescue of Pakistan on numerous difficult occasions in the past, provided monetary assistance to it and gave oil on deferred payment for three years but despite all that the previous government could not maintain better ties with the brotherly country.

Marriyum urges journalists,

Continued from page 1 lion to the families of those

who die in the line of duty. She ruled out the impression given by a certain lobby that the Bill was prepared in haste or it was being passed on the instruc-

tions of someone. The former minister also rubbished the impression that she had withdrawn the Bill from the Senate Standing Committee on Information and Broadcasting under pressure of some persons. Citing the examples of slogans against her by workers of a political party, she said that she never bowed to pressure.

people had been opposing as she did not want that the the Amendment Bill with- coalition government standing committee, each and every clause of the Bill was discussed and then it was approved.

Criticizing the impression that the Bill was meant to impose restrictions on

the media, she said as a po-

litical worker, she could not even think about curtailing freedom of expression.

Marriyum Aurangzeb said that PML-N leadership had always faced censorship and restrictions on their media coverage and they could not think about imposing any bill against the interest of the media industry. The PML-N Secretary Information said that she was shocked when a person alleged that she was strangulation the media and imposing gag on freedom of

expression through this She said that she de-She said that some cided to withdraw the Bill coalition government out bothering to read it thor- should be blamed in any oughly. She said that in the way for bulldozing a bill to National Assembly and its curb media freedom. She said the protection of journalists and media workers rights were linked with the PEMRA Amendment Bill 2023 as a lot of efforts were

put in the Bill in this re-

CORRIGENDUM

with reference to this office Notice inviting tender published in Daily newspapers on 04-08-2023 vide PRQ No. 279/03-08-2023. The all newspapers but Construction of 03 rooms for Shelter less School Killi Mir Baiyan Pawadi District Kohlu TSE No.3240834603 date of Submission was 18-08-2023 and the new

PRQ No.349/10-8-2023

opening date may be read as 21-08-2023 CW PP&H DEPARTMENT DISTRICT KOHLU



🗳 www.dpr.gob.pk. 📝 @dpr_gob 👩 dpr.gob 🚹 @dgpr.bale (TENDER NOTICE)



The Secretariat Health Department invites bids from eligible Bidders for supply of following items. TSE-232408347461 Only electronic bid will be submitted, No physical bid is required. Note: In All Procurements of GOB Whether Through Electronic or Manual Bid Submission, It is Mandatory For All Bidders to Get Registered At Electronic Public Procurement

S.No Class of Object 1 Medical Equipment and Accessories

System of BPPRA GOB. Tender Fee Rs.1000/-

Bid Security

200,000/-

(Total Item(s) Count: 171) Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules - 2014. Eligibility of Bidders: 20 Assignments of Similar Nature and Complexity 5,000,000 in Previous 5. Turn over of at least 5,000,000 PKR in 3 Subsequent Previous Years Presence in Active Tax Payer List. Sales Tax Certificate. The bidding firm must not be currently blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan. Registration with Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan as Drug Manufacturer & Drug Seller. A:- Non-Declaration of substandard, spurious, adulterated, mis-branded or any other section of the Drug Act 1976 imposed or declared absconder by any Drug Court in Pakistan OR Regulatory body of any quoted items within last two years. B:- Supplies must be made at most reasonable prices for bulk order which must be below the Trade price of that product/s. C:- Bidder must agree to serve the Contract within 45 Days for locally manufactured items and 60 days for imported items from the date of Supply Order. D:- Shelf-life must be 75% & (from the date of supply of medicine). E: The bidding firm must not be black listed by any procuring agency during last two Fiscal years F: Must unconditionally agree with all the instructions, terms & conditions specified in the bidding documents & contract agreement G: The bidder must provide 02 fresh samples of quoted items once they are declared technically responsive and supply to procuring agencies as per Specs and provided sample. (Samples and supply should be provided with adequate cold chain maintenance mechanism, where applicable) Bid security, CDR of PK Rs 200000 Procedure Of Procurement: Single Stage Two Envelope Bidding Procedure Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Deposit at Call of amount 200,000 PKR specified above in the name of the under-signed from a scheduled bank. Tender Documents: The NIT & Bidding Document can be obtained electronically from www.bppra.gob.pk Issuance of tender Documents: Complete Bidding Document can be viewed at www.bppra.gob.pk Last Date of bid submission: Bid can only be submitted electronically lates: by 30 August, 2023 till 10:00 AM through supplier dashboard. Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day at 11:00 AM on EPPS System Address: Block 6 Civil Secretariat Health

Department Zarghoon Road Quetta Phone no: 0819201178 Email: dev.section.health@gmail.com

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SECTION OFFICER SECRETARIAT HEALTH DEPARTMENT

PUC urges religious scholars to advocate minority rights in Friday sermons

The Pakistan Ulema Council (PUC), in a unified call to action on Thursday, fervently appealed to religious scholars across the nation to use their Friday sermons as a platform to shed light on the rights of minorities in accordance with Islamic principles. The prominent leaders of the PUC, including Chairman Muhammad Hafiz Tahir Mahmood Ashrafi and esteemed scholars such as Allama Abdul Haq Mujahid, Maulana Muhammad Rafiq Jami, Maulana Muhammad Shafi Qasmi, Maulana Nauman Hashir, Allama Zubair Abid, Maulana Asadullah Farooq, Allama Tahir Hassan, Maulana Qasim

Qasimi, Maulana Abu Bakr

Hamid Sabri, Maulana

Tahir Ageel Awan Maulana

Muhammad Ashfaq Pitafi,

Maulana Aziz Akbar

ISLAMABAD (APP):

(AJK) Ex-Prime Minister

in IIOJK generating extreme

patriotic reaction among

Indian atrocities in occupied

Kashmir in his party work-

ers meeting at Mujahid

Manzil yesterday night he

said that oppression and

non-reaction cannot co-ex-

pier of Kashmir staged a

peak of oppression against

Kashmiris on August 5,

2019, by bifurcating and

annexing Kashmir which

cannot be responded to by

hearths, markets, busi-

nesses, schools, plains,

even animal stables stand

illegally annexed", he

15 million Kashmiris.

"Their

India, the illegal occu-

Speaking on unabated

Kashmiri's.

and Muslim Conference demographic aggression In-

chief Sardar Attique Ahmed dia committed on August 5,

Khan has said "fast in- 2019, in Jammu and Kash-

against innocent Kashmiri's unlawful occupation.

Muhammad Islam Siddiqui, and others, have come together to emphasize the importance of upholding the rights of minorities.

It, highlighting the diversity that enriches the cherished homeland of Pakistan, where people of various faiths coexist harmoniously, informed that August 11, is observed as a day dedicated to championing the rights of non-Muslims. It emphasized that this day serves as a poignant reminder of the significance of ensuring equal rights for every individual, regardless of their religious beliefs.

The PUC advocated

for a thoughtful discourse within Friday sermons on August 11, encouraging Ulema and Mashaykh to delve into the teachings of the Ouran, Sunnah, and the Muslim countries to have Constitution, in order to their rights safeguarded.

ISLAMABAD: Country Representative of UN Women Sharmeela Rasool cuts the ribbon along with Chairperson NCSW Nilofar Bakhtiyar, Founder

of Nomad Gallery Nageen Hyat and others to inaugurate photo Exhibition

entitled "Emerging Violence against Women Issues" in Federal Capital.

Sardar Attique says:

Extreme Indian oppression is

generating extreme patriotic

reaction among Kashmiris

that it is an act of socio-

creased Indian oppression mir State in her forced and were violating UN Kashmir

5 stays as a day of protest

against India's unilateral

geophysical changes in occupied Kashmir and its ob-

servance as a Day of Pro-

test has become part of our

ongoing struggle", he re-

marked, recalling that in

AJK and by Kashmiris

abroad in various continents

of the globe Kashmiri's

were vociferous against In-

dian occupation of Kashmir

by means of stealth and ag-

of Mujahid Awwal Sardar

Abdul Qayyum Khan ini-

tiated the practical phase of

the Kashmir liberation

movement on August 23,

1947, from the Neela Butt

Heights is keeping the

He said that the spirit

Attique said "August

He elaborated further,

Maulana shed light on the rights of non-Muslims and minorities in Pakistan.

It underlined that

Pakistan's Constitution is firmly rooted in the principles of the Ouran and Sunnah, underscoring the importance of honor and respect for all citizens. guided by the principles of Taqwa. Reverently referring to Allah Almighty as the "Lord of the Worlds" and Hazrat Muhammad? as the "Mercy for the Worlds" in the Holy Quran, the PUC emphasized that these attributes serve as guiding principles for the treatment of minorities. It underscored that it is not only the duty of Muslim-majority nations to protect the rights of non-Muslim minorities

within their borders, but it

is equally vital for Muslims

living as minorities in non-



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif distributing appreciation certificates among the staff of the PM House and PM Office.

PILDAT says: Legislative business in 15th NA witnesses 45% increase

According to the

PILDAT analysis, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif

reflected a much better fig-ure of 17% attendance of

the Assembly sittings as

against former prime min-

ister Imran Khan who showed a dismal 11% at-

members of the National Assembly (MNAs) in five

years stands at 61% though

it stood at 67% before the

Average attendance of

that trend.

tendance.

DC directs operation against

beggars, encroachments and

profiteers in the capital

ISLAMABAD (APP): the Assistant Commission-

ISLAMABAD (APP): Legislative activity in the 15th National Assembly, which was dissolved on Thursday, witnessed an increase of 45% as it passed a total of 279 bills against 192 laws by the 14th National Assembly, according to an analysis by the Pakistan Institute of Legislative Development and Trans-

parency (PILDAT).

The biggest show of confidence in the 15th National Assembly came from its own membership in terms of their attendance. The Prime Minister, as Leader of the House, set

Deputy Commissioner

Islamabad Irfan Nawaz

Memon directed all Assis-

tant Commissioners in the

capital to take stern action

against beggars, encroachments and profiteers in the

According to the spokesperson, the Assis-

tant Commissioners in-spected 125 sites and im-

posed fine of Rs. 11000,

sealed three shops, sent

three profiteers behind

the bar whereas regis-

tered FIR against one

federal capital

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's (PTI) decision to quit the The 15th National

ers arrested 54 professional

baggers and took action

against illegal clinic and

rests of three persons for

encroachments and or-

dered to register FIR

against one person and also confiscated 6 kg

missioners also took action against illegal petrol filling

agencies and illegal LPG fil-

ing stations while ordering

to seal 2 illegal filling sta-

The Assistant Com-

They also ordered ar-

sheesha cafes

polythene bags.

Assembly witnessed two governments: the first from August 18, 2018 to April 10, 2022 with PTI Chairman Imran Khan as PM, while the second was formed by a coalition of the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) and the Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentarians (PPPP) with Shehbaz Sharif as PM which lasted from April 11, 2022 to August 09, 2023.

The PTI government relied heavily on ordinances

for the purpose of legislation. Out of 75 ordinances laid in the National Assembly in five years. Renowned

TV, film actress Roohi Bano remembered

The birth anniversary of famous television and film actress Roohi Bano was observed on Thursday.

Roohi Bano was born in Karachi on Aug 10, 1951. She was the daughter of Alla Rakha, a noted tabla player of India and half-sis-

She was known for her roles in Kiran Kahani, Zard Gulab and Darwaza, Dehleez, Sarab, Neeley Hath. Some of the films in which she acted included Umang, Pakistan, Rastey

ter of Indian music virtuoso Ustad Zakir Hussain.

ISLAMABAD (APP):



ISLAMABAD: Workers of Anti Encroachment Cell of CDA clears the encroachments of restaurants on footpath at G-8 Markaz during Anti **Encroachment Operation in Federal Capital.**

shared her reflections on her time with the BISP team and the remarkable achievements accomplished under her leadership. Ĥowever, rain-thun-

Punjab, Islamabad, upper Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Kashmir. The rainfall recorded was Punjab: Lahore (Gulshan-e-Ravi 71 mm Pani wala Talab 49 Lakshmi Chowk 46, Upper Mall 38, Tajpura 15, Gulberg 09, Farrukhabad 06, Iqbal Town 05, Qurtaba Chowk 04, Samanabad and City 02), Islamabad (City 45, Saidpur 36, Golra 20) Rawalpindi (Shamsabad 18 Chaklala 08), Gujrat Narowal 04, Murree03 Sialkot Airport 01, Khybei Pakhtunkĥwa: Kakul 09 Mirkhani, Balakot 01, Kashmir: Rawalakot 05mm.

Farewell celebrations held to honour Shazia Marri for transformative leadership

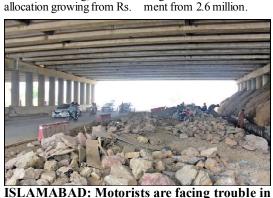
The Benazir Income Support Programme family acknowledged the unwavering dedication and efforts of the Federal Minister for Poverty Alleviation and Social Protection, Shazia Marri in championing the noble cause of welfare for marginalized segments of society. The officials came together at the BISP Headquarters on Tuesday to bid a heartfelt farewell to the outgoing minister, Shazia Marri who is also Chairperson BISP. The event marked an emotional yet celebratory moment as Shazia Marri

In her address, Shazia Marri said that BISP has witnessed a substantial increase in funding, with the

ISLAMABAD (APP): 235 billion in FY 2021-22 to an impressive Rs. 404.2 billion in FY 2022-23.

This surge in resources allowed BISP to expand its reach, as the number of eligible households surged from 7.6 million to 9 million. Notably, the stipend for the Benazir Kafaalat programme was raised by 25%, and the quarterly stipend for BISP beneficiaries was elevated from Rs. 7000 to Rs. 8750, she said.

Shazia Marri also highlighted the successful implementation of transformative initiatives, including the Benazir Nashonuma programme, which provided crucial support to 770,000 lactating mothers and infants through 488 Facilitation Centers across Pakistan. Additionally, the Benazir Taleemi Wazaif initiative witnessed a remarkable surge in children's enroll-



maneuvering due the debris of concrete during the construction of E-11 Flyover in Federal Capital.

IHC adjourns hearing in case regarding missing person

ISLAMABAD (APP) The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Thursday adjourned the hearing till tomorrow in a case pertaining to the recovery of a missing citizen Umar Nawaz, the brother of former MNA Ali Nawaz Awan.

Justice Mehmood Jahangiri heard the case regarding the aforesaid matter. At the outset of the hearing, SP Investigation Rukhsar Mehdi adopted the stance that he had submitted the progress report into the matter.

The Inspector general of police said that the capital police was using its all resources for the recovery of the missing person.

5-day teachers training workshop ends at AIOU

ISLAMABAD (APP): A five-day training workshop for the professional development of teachers of basic education community schools successfully concluded at Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU).

Vice Chancellor AIOU, Prof. Dr Nasir Mahmood was the chief guest of the closing ceremony while former Parliamentary Secretary of Federal Education, Zeb Jafar was the guest of honour.

Caretaker PM to hold transparent elections: Kundi

ISLAMABAD tary of Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Faisal Karim Kundi Thursday hoped that the caretaker prime minister will hold transparent elections which would lead towards a new chapter of prosperity in the

country.

"PML-N and the PPP had shortlisted three final names for the slot of caretaker prime minister and all of them were politicians", he said while talking to a private news channel.

He said Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif had taken all opposition leaders in confidence, adding,

Sheikh and Jalil Abbas Jillani among others have emerged for the interim premier's slot but Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif will disclose and confirm the

He also favoured the suggested name of Jalil Abbas Jilani for the caretaker PM, adding that the prime minister and the opposition leader must reach a consensus on the interim set-up within a period.

Replying to a question, he said that PPP is a public-serving party and will fight for true democracy in the country until the goal is achieved.



ISLAMABAD: Laborers are busy in carpeting of the road during the construction of E-11 Flyover in Federal Capital.

Traffic police renews commitment to ensure safe road environment in Capital

Islamabad Capital Police (Traffic Division) has reinforced their commitment to maintain traffic discipline and ensure a safe road environment in the city through the implementation of

Police officials from traffic wing in the light of directions of Islamabad Capital City Police Officer organized 'Police Darbar' at traffic headquarters which was attended by all officials including Chief Traffic Officer Dr. Syed Mustafa Tanveer, SP (Traffic) Ch. Abid Hussain, Zonal DSPs

and jawans from the force. Chief Traffic Officer directed policemen to en-

ISLAMABAD (APP): fic laws without any discrimination.

On the occasion, the officers and jawans shared their professional as well as personal issues and they also gave suggestions to improve the performance of the department. Chief Traffic Officer Islamabad listened to the problems and

assured to resolve them.
While addressing the officers and cops in Police Darbar, Chief Traffic Officer said that Islamabad Capital Police have become a role model for other law enforcement agencies due to its performance and service to citizens.

He said that its personnel are working day and sure a courteous attitude night to serve the citizens toward citizens and ensure and perform duties in tough the implementation of traf- weather conditions.

Ministry seeks applications for annual Urs of Hazrat Khawaja Moinuddin

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony has opened its doors to fervent Pakistani pilgrims, encouraging them to seize the opportunity and apply for participation in the annual Urs of the revered Sufi saint, Hazrat Moinuddin Chishti, held in Ajmer Sharif, India.

Ministry's The Spokesperson Muhammad Úmar Butt on Thursday informed that pilgrims could submit their applica-

tions through the dedicated

Ziyarat form until August

He said the Urs ceremonies, a cherished tradition among followers, were set to grace the holy city of Ajmer Sharif from January 13 to 23, 2024. Devotees from Pakistan and beyond would have the privilege to engage in this spiritually uplifting event, he added.

He said in anticipation of an overwhelming response, if the number of applications surpass the available slots, a selection draw would be conducted on October 10, 2023.



ISLAMABAD: A woman crossing road while carrying bundle of dry branches of tree for domestic use in Federal Capital.

APHC pay Tributes to martyr Sheikh on eve of his martyrdom anniversary

ISLAMABAD (APP): All Parties Hurriyat Conference leaders have paid glowing tributes to prominent Kashmiri leader, Shaheede-Azeemat Sheikh Abdul Aziz, on the eve of his 15th martyrdom anniversary.

According to Kashmir media service, Sheikh Abdul Aziz was martyred by Indian troops on 11th August in 2008 while he was leading a procession from Srinagar to the Line of Control against the economic blockade of the Kashmir Valley by Hindu extremists of Jammu. Illegally detained se-

nior APHC leader, Nayeem Ahmed Khan, in his message from Tihar Jail said that Sheikh Abdul Aziz championed the Kashmir cause throughout his life and even rendered the ultimate sacrifice for this pur- and Altaf Ahmed Shah.

bution and sacrifices of the martyred leader in the freedom movement were unforgettable. APHC vice chairman Ghulam Ahmed Gulzar while highlighting the contribution and sacrifices of the martyred leader for the ongoing Kashmir freedom movement said that Sheikh Abdul Aziz was truly a man of honesty and integrity who devoted his entire life for the Kashmir cause.He maintained that Sheikh Aziz went through trials and tribulations for his role in the Kashmiris' ongoing struggle for right to self-determination. He said that Indian agencies had martyred over a dozen APHC leaders including Mir Waiz Molvi Farooq, Khawaja Abdul Ghani lone,

Muhmmad Ashraf Sehrai

ISLAMABAD: Vehicle passing through rain water accumulated on road after heavy rain in the twin

Preparations for upcoming I-day celebrations at peak

ISLAMABAD (APP): Preparations for the upcoming 76th independence day (14 August) are at its peak as the country has worn its national flag color with a display of a number of seasonal footpath stalls carrying attractive colourful accessories and clothes.

Like every year, this year too Jashan-i-Azadi stalls carrying national flags, buntings, pin badges, green and white dresses, toys, and other accessories set up at the main avenues, markets and roads of the cities, said a report aired by PTV news channel. A trader selling na-

tional flags shared his views to APP scribe that there is much enthusiasm among youngsters, adding, the public is excited and buying tri-colored clothes and accessories.

"Our sales have already gone up by over 100pc and well surpassed

VIP Flags claimed.

ket, said a young girl.

rounded by youngsters who are eagerly waiting for the Independence Day celebrations said a vendor.

our targets," the owner of

The bazaars, buildings, markets, and houses are also decorated with national flags whereas, stalls of colorful buntings, national flag buntings, and portraits of Quaid-e-Azam and other national heroes have been set up too, said a citizen. Badges, caps, balloons and dresses inscribed "Jashn-e-Azadi Mubarak" are stacked in large numbers at every mar-

People belonging to every walk of life especially youngsters are busy decorating their houses and vehicles with national flags as the nation starts preparations to celebrate Independence Day, said a motorist. Stalls of different

Azadi accessories are sur-

2019, at gunpoint. **Rain likely** in few parts of country: PMD

whole struggle fully loaded

with irreducible public re-

solve to vacate Indian ag-

moves of August 5, 2019

resolutions and even against

the Simla accord. Therefore

those unilateral changes

cannot stay any longer, he

dispute over Jammu and

Kashmir is the global liabil-

ity of the UN. Therefore

UN representatives must

visit this UN liability region

mir dispute is a direct

threat to world peace and

security; it calls for prompt

international response to

the worst Indian wrought

situation today in Kashmir,

he stressed. Speakers

vowed to continue the

forceful struggle to undo the

entire geophysical saga In-

dia had staged on August 5

The unresolved Kash-

He informed that the

He said that Indian

gression from Kashmir.

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pa kistan Meteorological De-partment (PMD) has forecast hot and humid weather for most parts of the country during the next 24

However, rain-wind thundershower is expected northeast Punjab Potohar region, Islamabad Pakhtunkhwa and Kashmir

Gusty/dust-raising winds are likely in the central and southern parts of the country. According to the syn-

optic situation, moist currents from the Arabian Sea were penetrating in central and upper parts of the country. During the last 24 hours, hot and humic weather prevailed over most parts of the country.

dershower occurred at iso lated places in northeast

Daily soice of Masse, Independent

Friday August 11, 2023

Democracy lost

With PDM-led the government's controversial tenure drawing to an end, it is worth reflecting on what was gained from the change of leadership its component parties imposed on the country last

In March 2022, with the PTI at the nadir of its popularity amidst rising inflation and general disillusionment with its capability to govern, the opposition parties coalesced around the single-point agenda of tak- built road links and railway ing down Imran Khan's government.

It had seemed like a golden opportunity at the time — a chance to bury the 'hybrid regime' and reposition the parties that had been sidelined after the 2018 general elections as the true and deserving inheritors of Pakistan's political destiny.

The task before them was clear: reverse the economic slide triggered by the PTI's bad policies and offer the people the promise of a better future closely aligned with the aspirations of Pakistan's youthful population.

Unfortunately, those who took over never did their homework. They worsened the economic crisis by wasting months dilly-dallying over the 'best' response, introduced repressive first completes a pre-reqand regressive policies to uisite technical review of a counter and contain the PTI, and pushed a legislative agenda HEC's evaluation is that seemed tailored to suit a few vested interests rather than address the growing and a bill for the establishneeds of the many.

This quickly led to disen- then put to a vote in the chantment with the PDM-led Punjab Assembly. government's version of 'purana dal was the fact that the Pakistan'. The new rulers never technical review was comreally figured out how to address the vigorous challenge to their legitimacy launched by the prime minister they had ousted. Misstep after misstep lost them immeasurable political capital amidst social turbulence and a perfect economic storm.

Eventually, it seems, the politicians simply gave up trying to solve political problems with the lawful means at their disposal. In their desperation to keep Mr Khan away from (1996), derived from John power, they let unelected forces back into the driving seat. The tional town of Clanton in rest, as they say, is history.

The PDM-led government now leaves behind a political system ravaged by legislative black client (Samuel L. Jacksubterfuge and organised subversion of the parliamentary his young, 10-year-old process. It leaves the Constitution looking weak and irrel-evant, and has consciously ming up begins: "I want to tell you a story [about] a little girl walking home from ceded civilian power in its last the grocery store one sunny days to forces that have historically refused to play by any rules but their own.

How could a political move- the clothes from her body. ment that prided itself on utilising constitutional process to remove a 'bad' prime minister end up condemning Pakistan to a worse iteration of hybrid rule? One is now inclined to believe that bringing down the PTI government was never ine an illiterate 13-year-old about principle. Those who, with some justification, criticised Mr Khan for being a puppet prime minister proved more than eager to take his place. Ultimately, it was a race between two rival factions to prove who could be more 'loyal' and 'obedient' than the other. One has now won favour; but for how long is anybody's guess. port he filed with the police, "As I stepped in the

Balochistan in hot water



Ali Tauqeer Sheikh

Balochistan is fast emerging as Pakistan's climate hotspot. In recent years, it has become a favourite destination for the monsoon rains. Owing to widespread flooding, all ground links of the province with the rest of the country were cut at least twice in the last two years. Imagine a landmass that is larger in size than at least seven states in the US, including Massachusetts, and is disconnected from the mainland for weeks and months because the rains had washed away poorly lines. This is more damage than any outside enemy could have inflicted on Pakistan. Clearly, climate change has graduated from a nontraditional security threat to become a perilous hazard to national integra-

recent years, received more rains than many parts of Punjab, the traditional recipient of heavy monsoon downpour. Balochistan is now facing a dual water crisis: while struggling with extreme water scarcity, the province is overpowered by annual inundation. Both scarcity and excess are accelerated by climatic changes. The character of agro-ecological zones has begun to change, affecting unique characteristics and environmental conditions of different areas within the province. Some 10 rivers and basins in Balochistan have completely exhausted their water resources. Per capita water availability, including groundwater, has reduced over the years at a much faster rate than the national average, forcing outward migra-

The province has, in

Governmental efforts to increase water availability through such measures as water management projects or rejuvenating aquifers and karez maintenance have lacked long-term commitment. Worse, successes have rarely been upscaled from project level for wider application. The plans to address the water

or construction under the 100-dams project do not fully address the sedimentation, dredging and desilting challenges that are resolved in similar geographies elsewhere in the world. These efforts are now also hampered by multiple climate threats, particularly rising temperatures, erratic rainfall patterns, and extreme events such as floods, droughts and heatwaves.

tion poses a triple jeopardy to the province: a) loss of topsoil because of heavy run-offs; b) large-scale damage to government infrastructure; and c) widespread loss of human lives, livelihoods, livestock and other assets, particularly houses and communal lands. Let's see the ramifica-

Excessive precipita-

tions of these trends and initiate a conversation on how to cope with climate change in the province. Topsoil

Balochistan's arid and semiarid lands and fragile ecosystems do not have the absorptive capacity for heavy rains. The province is particularly vulnerable to topsoil loss, which has long-term negative impacts crisis through check-dams on soil fertility, soil struc-

biodiversity, and ecosystem services. Run-offs and topsoil losses, however, can be measured at local and watershed levels by applying different models and methods. Such studies are necessary to plan conservation and mitigative measures. Ecologists and environmental economists can calculate the run-off and rate of soil loss, and also estimate their environmental and economic values. Estimating the economic impact of soil loss on the sediment in reservoirs is routinely undertaken by assessing the reduction in capacity for holding floodwaters and water reserves for power generation. Several government departments have the capacity to calculate these costs and help build a case

productivity,

Infrastructural Loss: The provincial infrastructure is not designed to withstand heavy monsoon rains and floods. The rains have been record-breaking and have resulted in disproportionately higher economic losses, undoing the development gains of the past 75 years. According to the

for accessing the loss and

damage fund whenever it is

operationalised.

government's Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA), Balochistan lost \$1,625 million in the 2022 floods, with damage to schools, hospitals, roads, bridges, power stations, and other public infrastructure.

Critics have blamed these heavy losses on poor and nontransparent procurement processes that do not adhere to existing construction standards and materials. It is, however, also important to see how far construction standards and guidelines have been climate-proofed to withstand the accelerating climatic changes. While a parliamentary committee or a judicial commission should investigate the first, the second would require technical studies and the revision of national construction standards and guidelines, a process that has to be led by the Pakistan Engineering Council together with the federal and provincial

planning boards. Human settlements: Hamlets are scattered all over the landscape in Balochistan, often times in harm's way. The PDNA has not given any exact figure. but the National Disaster Management Authority es-

timated that almost 242,000 houses were destroyed or damaged in 24 districts during the 2022 floods. Additionally, the reports suggested that 304,000 acres of crops were lost and 500,000 livestock killed in the province. These are big losses for people living on subsistence and below the poverty line.

Cash disbursement

through the Benazir Income Support Programme can only be a one-off activity. The province needs longterm approaches, particularly risk transfer and insurance mechanisms for human lives, shelter, standing crops, livestock and microbusinesses. A recent innovation has been made by the World Bank's \$500m Sindh Floods Emergency Housing Reconstruction Projectthat gives a cash grant of Rs300,000 to construct flood-proof houses. The project empowers recipients, especially women-led households, and ensures that each beneficiary receives land ownership documents from the government. This project presents a strong case for replication in Balochistan. Courtesy Dawn

How the sausage is made



Dr Ayesha Razzaque

At the beginning of this year, I contributed an oped ('No, accreditation is not the answer', Jan 2, 2023) about how in its waning days, members of the Punjab Assembly went on a university charter awarding bonanza. When done by the book, the Punjab HEC university applying for recognition. If the Punjab favourable, the recommendation works its way through the bureaucracy to the chief minister's office ment of the new university and award of a charter is

What made this a scanpletely bypassed but bills went straight to a vote in

the assembly. The grapevine had it that this was a quick and easy way for MPAs to 'raise funds' ahead of the next elections while also proclaiming themselves champions of higher education: A political win-win.

Now that the term of this parliament is coming to an end, some in Islamabad have taken a leaf out of Puniab's playbook. In the twilight of its term, over the last few weeks, the National Assembly took up more than 50 bills for the establishment of universities and institutes, mostly through private member bills.

In the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, a university charter is the closest thing we have to a casino licence for Las Vegas. In a country massively underserved by universities even an incompetently run private university with a charter is a li-

orders of the day of the colleges that may be the National Assembly and the ones being elevated to the Senate of Pakistan included charters of 48 different no way to be sure because tions (HEIs), with more these aspiring HEIs is not added on August 7. A few readily accessible to the of these are genuine applications that are accompanied by technical reviews ment and relevant commit-

and supporting recommendations from the HEC which entails land, infrastructure, and facilities ready for operation.

Bills then go to the Senate where they are re-ferred to the Senate Standing Committee on Federal Education & Professional Training for study and recommendation before presentation on the Senate floor. However, at this time, movers of these bills are in such a hurry to see them passed and charters awarded that not only did they skip over prerequisite due diligence by the HEC but attempted to avoid scrutiny by the standing committee as well.

For the vast majority of HEIs named in parliamentary proceedings, there is absolutely nothing to be found – no website no web presence, not even as much as a pin on Google Mans cense to print money.
On July 30 and 31, the
On July 30 and 31, the cally or similarly named higher education institu- ownership information of public, unless you attend the proceedings of parlia-

tees in person. Since that is not practical for most people genuinely interested in the issue, I did it for you and spent almost all of last week following the progress of these university bills across houses and commit-

On August 8, bills for the establishment of 32 new HEIs were taken up by the Senate Standing Committee on Federal Education & Professional Training for scrutiny. Officials from the HEC were in attendance to provide their input on the status of applications. According to the HEC, of the 32 applications, only eight are supported for accreditation, seven are still being processed and 17 never bothered to approach the

The meeting began with an agreement by committee members to evaluate all bills by a consistent yardstick. I had some hope that this would be the step in the legislative process where sanity would finally prevail. By the time the committee got to the third bill, that principle had already been discarded.

Although the HEC recommended only eight bills for passage, the committee ended up supportmittee ended up supportsailed right through, but as -- Courtesy TheNews

ing 19, with only 11 not bills came up that lacked passed and two referred to and passed through another committee. The HEC was accused of "red-tapism" and its technical input sidelined in the name of parliamentary supremacy over the HEC and bills were openly recommended for passage citing 'credibility' and 'reputation' of movers of bills and owners of the underlying "business". I was most taken aback by all the things I imagined would go unsaid but were

The tech industry has a name for products – hardware or software – that are announced either because they are still in the design and development stage or only exist as concepts but never make it to market: Vaporware. Like vaporware, a lot of these HEIs only exist in someone's imagination.

instead uttered plainly and

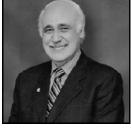
publicly.

standing committee's recluded bills for the establishment of 24 universities. some with HEC support

technical prerequisites and whose passage could not be justified, the session slowly began devolving into chaos ending in a suspension of the session, but not before seven or eight bills could be approved.

Once again, the arguments given in the Senate debate betrayed the lack of information and preparedness of its members. Like in the standing committee, no principle was being adhered to and exceptions were being made citing credibility and reputations of individuals. Obtaining a charter for a private institution can significantly raise its value and earnings potential. If you own a private college and can engineer the grant of a charter for it, you will find many willing investors, or you can exit the 'business' by selling it off for a much higher price. What is happening is a On August 9, the money grab, a heist on the way out, an inconspicuous port and recommendations scheme to either enrich onewere taken up in the Senate session. The agenda inexceptions, what we are witnessing here is the next big scam, the next big tragbut many without. The first edy in which the victims

A blind eye



F.S. Aijazuddin

The film A Time to Kill Grisham's best-selling novel, was set in the ficthe southern state of Mississippi in the US. In its closing scenes, a white defence lawyer (Matthew McConaughey) defends his son) against a murder charge against two white rapists of daughter.

The lawyer's sumafternoon. Suddenly, a truck races up. Two men jump out and grab her. They drag her into a nearby field and they tie her up and they rip After assaulting and brutalising her, they leave her for dead.

"I want you to picture that little black girl," he asks the Mississippi jury.
"Now imagine she is

Replace Mississippi with Sargodha, and fiction dovetails with reality. Imaggirl, Rizwana, employed by a civil judge and his educated wife in Sargodha. The teenager needs the work. She comes from an overcrowded home of impoverished parents and nine other siblings.

A fortnight ago, Rizwana's father, Manga Khan, called at the judge's residence to meet his daughter, probably to collect her meagre wages of Rs10,000.

According to the re-

screams of my daughter coming out from a room. We rushed to the room where we saw she was lying on Rs 100,000. the floor in an injured condition," with wounds on McConaughey asked his Rizwana's head, face, legs

Rizwana was admitted for medical care first in Sargodha, but because her condition was deemed too critical, she was shifted to Lahore General Hospital, where she has been fighting for a life that offers only pain and undeserved suffer-

According to the hospital team now caring with commendable zeal for Rizwana, her wounds were horrific. Her skeletal injuries were arms with multiple fractures, consistent with frequent blows from a blunt instrument.

Damage to her soft tissue consisted of unhealed wounds on her scalp, where her hair had been pulled away from its roots. These had festered and become a meal for maggots. She also had burn marks on her torso and back, which had filled with

On discovery, her weight was no more than 30 kilograms. Had she been fed properly and regularly (as Judge Hafeez's three children aged seven to 12 years were), her weight should have been closer to Because of her precari-

ous condition, an injection called pentaglobin, costing Rs500,000 is being administered to her, free of cost, to help eliminate the infection in her body. No one will ever be

able to assess the psychological trauma Rizwana has suffered, or how long it will take her to recover from it. Probably never in her damaged lifetime Meanwhile, while

Rizwana was being rushed to the hospital in Sargodha, her employer — the judge's wife, Ms Somia — rushed to an Islamabad district and

house of the judge, I heard sessions court, where a judge, Dr Abida Sajjad, granted her pre-arrest bail against a surety of

> the all-white jury to picture that young black victim: "Now imagine she is white.'

Now imagine that Rizwana had been the daughter of Judge Hafeez and his wife Somia, and that she had been systematically tortured by a lowly menial. Would that perpetrator have obtained prearrest bail from a judge as

Politicians from the PML-N have been quick to capitalise on Rizwana's predicament.

Khawaja Asif (minister of defence, and not health or social welfare) went to ask after her, followed by Maryam Nawaz, the senior vice president of the PML-N.

She asked Rizwana blithely why she had not reported the abuse when it had been going on for six months. Did she expect the injured teenager to escape from a domestic prison and then, with broken arms, sign an FIR? Had Maryam Nawaz

stayed long enough at the hospital beyond her brief social call, she would have learned that Rizwana's mother had endured 12 pregnancies in 15 years of marriage, and that she had no one to look after her nine other children while she was in the Lahore General Hospital caring for Rizwana. It took the police 10 days to constitute a joint investigation team to probe the case, and finally, on Aug 7, Somia Hafeez was arrested. Rizwana's doctors found fingernail marks around her eyes, indicating that someone with sharp nails had tried to gouge an eyeball out of its socket. Had that heartless person succeeded, Rizwana would have been as blind as justice is in Pakistan. -- Courtesy Dawn

Rafia Zakaria

Over the past half century, when the hold of liberal democracy over at least the world's rich and Western nations was strong, a level of predictability reigned. It could be assumed that elections would be held on time, that political opponents would not be imprisoned or tried for sham crimes, that minorities would not be persecuted. For those lucky enough to live in these countries, a semblance of a social contract existed between them and the state.

That status quo is no more. Even the US, not simply an old democracy but also the greatest democracy propagator, was recently moved to the category of 'backsliding democracies' — a category where the necessary precepts of democracy are not quite guaranteed. The recent list of indictments of former president Donald Trump have done away with the tradition of not slapping charges, technical or substantive, on political opponents. The fact that a good percentage of voting Americans do not believe that the 2020 election was fair and have even less faith in the possibility of free and fair elections in 2024 has been

another blow. Finally, the neutrality of the court and its ability to adjudicate on poll-related (the 2024 elections) lawsuits have been questioned following the political lobbying of the spouse of supreme court justice Clarence Thomas and the political leanings of various other judges in America, thus eroding further safe-

Hungary, the cult of personality has led to the ascendance of Prime Minister Viktor Orbán and his party. His dominance is so complete that only members of the inner elite can get government posts and contracts, even though Hungary is part of the EU and subject to all the checks and balances that come with the membership. In fact, Hungary is able to capitalise through the EU forum to get plum economic deals while paying no heed to democratic safeguards -

with other EU nations such

as Germany, Europe's eco-

nomic powerhouse that

outsources its car manufac-

turing to Hungary, looking

the other way. This web of interrelations and autocratic rule is expanding. Consensusbuilding, which is at the heart of democratic rule, takes time and energy (and chaos) to achieve. Autocratic rule, as the example of India — another backsliding democracy shows, is far more centralised and capable of fast action and producing intoxicating nationalism to satiate millions. Media censorship and bans on foreign funding for CSOs further enables a singular narrative

that defeats any possibility of democracy's resur-Pakistan's situation must be evaluated against such international realities. Until now, the health of democracy in developing countries had been more a matter of Western concern. Democratic indices during the height of the West's democracy-propagation decades were used to celebrate or lament a nascent democracy's ascent or descent. While meddling in Pakistan's affairs may still be strategically valuable to Western nations, America chief among them, there could to Pakistan's continuing

A new dark age? Things are worse in foibles that didn't exist

Europe. In countries like before. When you walk into a courtroom, or even watch a legal drama, you can see there are certain procedures to be followed. Evidence must be presented in a certain way, witnesses are questioned according to a certain procedure, and lawyers make arguments based on certain conventions. These procedures are followed because they ensure that all defendants are treated the same. The close following of these procedures means that the result or verdict is considered just and legitimate. The more strictly the conventions are followed, the more legitimate the result

Democracy is no dif-

ferent. When courts are seen to issue verdicts not based on law or evidence, or cave in to political pressure the verdicts they produce lack legitimacy. The more times this happens, the less legitimate court justice becomes. Similarly, when political figures are routinely imprisoned and indicted when they are not in power, elections become suspect, as do the charges against various politicians. The lack of accurate information concerning different varieties of corrupt rulers and their children means that the public is kept in a constant state of confusion and disbelief. It is also the public that has the most to lose as democracy, or at least the institutions and conventions that make it possible, are eroded. Every time power is transferred in a violent manner, or when political rivals try to get the other disqualified or imprisoned, each time the civil rights of political workers and activists are trampled on, it is the ordinary citizens who lose. In all the uncertainty that accompanies democratic backsliding, this be a level of indifference one thing is guaranteed. -- Courtesy Dawn

PESHAWAR

Governor Pakhtunkhwa

in the country.

military leadership have

best vision and approach

towards the facilitation of

business community and

promotion of investment

distribution ceremony

under the auspices of the

Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FPCCI) here at

Governor's House on Thursday, he said that

there are minerals worth

trillions of rupees in the

mountains of the country

Khyber

and

including Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and urged

the apex trade body to

conduct research on the

treasures hidden in the

mountains of Khyber

Balochistan and play a role

prosperity of the country

by utilizing these minerals

ensuring

Pakhtunkhwa

development

Addressing an awards

KP Governor says: Govt, military shares best

vision towards facilitation

of business, investment

(APP):

Alvi opens cardiac centre, stresses Islamic principles of welfare, service

President Dr. Arif Alvi underscored the intrinsic advancement and progress of society. Speaking at the Sarwar Shahida Memorial Cardiac Centre and Research Institute here on Thursday, he emphasised that engaging in charitable endeavours was a trait of Muslims. He lauded those who contribute to their betterment, labeling them as true

President Alvi's speech centered on the idea that Islam encourages a spirit of compassion and mutual support among individuals. He reiterated that while governments may change, the underlying national structure endures. Highlighting the growth of philanthropy among Muslims after the individuals in assisting the play in serving others.

Drawing from the Islam's Muhammad (PBUH) and the Khulafa-e -Rashidin, President Alvi conveyed the importance of service to humanity. He pointed out that Islam assigns societal responsibilities, a notion evident from the Quran's opening chapter. Pakistan's core objective, he maintained, is rooted in Quranic teachings of serving society and nurturing a strong sense of responsibility.

encouraged virtues such as charity, truthfulness, for elders, respect empathy, and cooperation, particularly in the younger acknowledging government's role in addressing major issues, he emphasised that every

stressed the pivotal role of framework has a role to Touching

examples set by Prophet philosophy, President Alvi emphasised the significance of fair wealth distribution. He noted that Islam discourages accumulation of wealth in few hands aiming for a more equitable society. The principles of equality, brotherhood charity, honesty, and lawful earnings underpin Islam's economic framework. President Alvi highlighted emphasis on human welfare and its call to support the fortunate. He reiterated that the essence of humanitarianism echoes in all religions. The president's conclusion emphasised emphasised Prophe Muhammad's (PBUH dedication to improving humanity's condition urging the nation to follow this example for Pakistan's



KARACHI: Governor Sindh, Muhammad Kamran Khan Tessori addressing as a Chief Guest of the Graduation Ceremony for the participants of 33rd Senior Management Course at National Institute of Management (NIM).

Pakistan is committed to complete eradication of polio virus: Governor

(Online): High Commissioner to Pakistan; Leslie Scanlon; met cooperation with Canada Governor Punjab in trade, environment, and Muhammad Balighur people-to-people contact. Rehman at Governor Governor Punjab told the House Lahore, here today. Canadian High In the meeting, issues of Commissioner that there is mutual interest and bilateral cooperation in health, trade, environment and mining sectors were discussed

Speaking on the occasion, Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman said that Pakistan is committed to complete eradication of polio virus, we are grateful for the support of the Canadian government in this regard, he added. The Canadian Commissioner appreciated the efforts of the Pakistani government to combat polio. Governor Punjab further said that Pakistanis living in Canada are playing a positive role in the development of exports to Canada

a favourable environment

for Canadian investors to

invest in Pakistan. He said that there are vast investment opportunities in mining sector in Pakistan. Governor Punjab said that the government has made a conducive policy for foreign investors, which is increasing foreign direct investment in Pakistan. He appreciated Canada's preferential tariff programme and said that Pakistan supports the creation of new Canadian

preferential tariff programme. This program will enable Pakistan to increase its



GILGIT: Workers presenting flower bouquet to Sadia Danish on becoming Deputy Speaker Gilgit-Baltistan Assembly at Assembly Secretariat.

Sindh govt approves 762 appointments under deceased quota

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Government has approved 762 cases for appointment under the deceased quota as per the rules and regulations.

The decision to this effect was taken in a meeting on the implementation of the deceased quota held here at Sindh Secretariat under the chair of Sindh Chief Secretary Dr. Mohammad Silohail Rajput on Thursday. Provincial secretaries

of various departments including senior member Board of Revenue and Chairman Enquires and Anti Corruption were present in the meeting.

approved appointments under the deceased quota (a quota fixed for the legal heirs of thousand government.

who died during service) in 29 departments including in Agriculture Department, 12 in Revenue, 32 in College Education, 93 in Health Department, 98 Irrigation Department, 294

government employees

in School Education Department, 46 in Works Service Department. 13 in Public Health Engineering, 4 in Excise Department, 61 in Local Government Department, 14 in Population, 11 in Forest, four in Home Department, 3 in Social Welfare, 3 in Services General Administration 2 and two in Culture department, 7 in

livestock and fisheries. Chief Secretary Dr Muhammad Sohail Rajput said that the families of 13

food department, 11 in

CM attends funeral prayer of martyred

policeman

PESHAWAR (APP): The Canada. He said that Pakistan is keen to further expand bilateral cooperation with Canada cooperation place at Police Lines.

Caretaker Chief making recruitments advertisements related to the jobs. The court also the jobs to the Single Azam Khan, along with CCPO and other police officials, attended the funeral prayer.

The attack occurred when unknown assailants on a bike opened fire on policemen who were on their way to duty in the morning. Police constable Sarwar Shah embraced martyrdom in the incident.

The chief minister and police officials laid floral wreaths on the martyr's coffin. Prayers were offered for the elevation of the martyr's rank, and a police force rendered a salute. Chief Minister Azam Khar condemned the incident of firing on the policeman.

Two ghost employees suspended

MUZAFFARGARH employees among dozens reported to have been deputed in Muncipal Corporation, suspended on Thursday after an enquiry.
A d m i n i s t r a t o

Muncipal Corporation Asghar Laghari sought attendance of the employees during surprise visit. He found that 27 employees were collecting salaries worth lacs at their homes while absent from the office since induction. The administrator

suspended two employees on the spot while served show cause notices on rest of the fifteen employees.

4 dacoits killed in two encounters

FAISALABAD (APP) Four dacoits were killed in encounters in Thikriwala

Lundianwala police station areas.A police spokesman said here on Thursday that seven armed bandits intercepted a car coming from Gojra near Naurang Abad check-post on Gojra-Painsara Road and tried to loot them, but the car riders opened fire on the outlaws.

As a result, two criminals received serious bullet injuries and died onthe-spot, whereas their other accomplices managed to escape from the scene under the cover of darkness.



LAHORE: President Dr. Arif Alvi unveiling plaque during ground breaking ceremony the Sarwar Shahida Memorial Cardiac & Research Institute.

Governor proposes setting up **Primary Education Commission** to ensure quality learning

Governor Sindh, Kamran Khan Tessori, on Thursday, suggested the formation of a Primary Education Commission for improving the quality of early childhood education. The Governor, while

addressing the Graduation

Ceremony of the 33rd Senior Management Course at the National Institute of Management, Karachi, said the proposed commission may be constituted on the pattern of the Higher Education Commission objectives of ensuring quality education to children aged between 5 to

Sindh High Court has

stopped the federal

government from recruiting

in various departments.
Sindh High Court

heard the petition filed by

MQM Pakistan against the

recruitment of Sindh

government in more than

In the petition of

140 departments.

SHC stopped the

govt from recruiting in

various departments

MQM, it was said that the Sindh government and

Sindh government is also suspended the various

provincial government is government and others for

along with training of the future generation on the lines that they grow to become productive, sensible and contributing citizens of the society who are always ready not only to help their fellow contribute wholeheartedly to the efforts of social and economic development of

the motherland, he stated. Stressing the need for the promotion of national spirit, the governor said that all 240 million Pakistani have to join hands for economic and social development and solidarity of the country.

National spirit and nationalistic vision were The commission the key to the success of would ensure learning all the developed nations

The petitioner said

that the term of the Sindh

government is ending on

August 11, 2023 and this

action of theirs falls under

the category of pre-

election rigging.

After hearing the

petition, the court stopped

the series of recruitments

in various departments of

the world, he noted and urged that the Pakistani nation has to unite under the national flag while putting aside all the linguistic, political, sectarian and other differences. Kamran Tessori while

recalling the sad incidents of May 9 said that those unfortunate occurrences were the manifestation of the fact that society had lost valuable qualities of patience and endurance and an infuriated mob inflicted damages to a house attributed to the founder of Pakistan Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah without having a second thought that it is our own

PTI former **MNA Gulzar** shifted to Adiala jail

RAWALPINDI (Online): PTI former MNA Shandana Gulzar has been shifted to Adiala jail.

According to sources Shandana Gulzar has been detained in Adiala jail for 15 days. She has been detained on DC Islamabad orders under 3 MPO.

Sher Afzal Khan counsel for PTI had said Police and the personnel in plain clothes have abducted Shandana Gulzar.

On the other hand Islamabad police had requirements and the issued notices to the Sindh confirmed the arrest of Shandana Gulzar



LAHORE: Chief Secretary Punjab Zahid Akhtar Zaman presides over the meeting regarding arrangements made for preparation of Independence Day

CS orders I-Day celebration with grandeur

Thursday issued directions to all the deputy commissioners regarding celebrations of the Independence Day in a befitting manner.

Chief Secretary Punjab said

Provincial Capital.

He directed this while presiding over a high-level meeting here at the Civil Secretariat. The meeting reviewed preparations to mark the Independence Day and decided that fireworks display would be held in all district headquarters at 12 night on August 13, while concerts of national songs would be organized in all districts at 8pm on August 14. The

LAHORE (APP): Chief that freedom was a great Secretary Punjab Zahid blessing, it should be Akhtar Zaman on valued. He said the purpose celebrating Independence Day with

grandeur was to make the young generation aware of the importance of freedom. He said that living nations celebrate Independence with enthus iasm.

The meeting was briefed that comprehensive plan had been prepared to observe the Independence Day with national zeal and zest. Events would be organized at provincial, divisional. district and tehsil levels. The main flag hoisting

ceremony would be held at Huzuri Bagh, Lahore.

LAHORE: Girls painters are participating in painting competition in

connection with 14 August celebrations, at Al-Hamra Cultural Complex in

Non bailable arrest warrants of PTI 268 absconding workers issued

LAHORE (Online): Anti Terrorism Court (ATC) has approved the plea for issuing the non-bailable arrest warrants of absconding workers of PTI.

The petition filed by police for issuing non bailable arrest warrants of 268 absconding workers of PTI came up for hearing which was approved by

The court issued non bailable arrest warrants of 268 workers of PTI in Jinnah House attack case. Judge Ijaz Ahmad Buttar of ATC issued 10page written decision.

As per decision the accused are absconding and they are avoiding from being arrested.



Red Crescent Society AJK Ejaz Raza was called on National Chairman Sardar Shahid Ahmed Laghari here on Wednesday. The meeting was aimed to discuss the on-going relief operations in a recent land sliding incident that struck the village Damishi/ district Muzaffarabad.

During the meeting, a significant step towards strengthening humanitarian efforts and disaster response was discussed besides focusing on collaborative strategies to enhance relief operations, healthcare services and

land sliding incident in district Muzaffarabad and on-going relief operations. Besides, both the chairmen engaged in a comprehensive consistently demonstrated discussion about the a deep commitment.

better manner. Besides, the Caretaker Provincial Minister Fazal Elahi, Ghulam Ali has said that the government and

and natural resources in a

Special Assistant to Caretaker Chief Minister Malik Maher Elahi, FPCCI President Irfan Iqbal Sheikh, Vice President Masoodur Rehman, SAARC Chamber Anjum Nisar, Chairman of Businessmen Panel Shah Zeb, FPC CI Coordinator Sartaj Ahmad Khan, former provincial minister Adnan Jalil along with former presidents of FPCCI, Peshawar, Mardan, Kohat, Swat, Karam, Dir, Nowshera, Charsadda, Swabi, Chitral, Bajaur, Bannu, Mohmand officials of other Chambers of Commerce of the province including Abbottabad, officials of various Women's Chambers of the

province and the business

community attended the

ceremony at large



Pakistan Leslie Scanlon meeting with Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman at Governor

Mayor Karachi calls upon journalists to discourage false, fake news

KARACHI (APP): Mayor Karamullah Waqasi, Senior Karachi Barrister Murtaza Journalist and Scholar Wahab on Thursday said that access to information, investigative reporting and responsibilities

Therefore, he said that journalists related to local government institutions citizens in mind by discouraging false and fake

He expressed these views while addressing the closing ceremony of a oneday training workshop organized by City Institute of Image Management of KMC on the topic of 'Role and Responsibilities of local government Journalists'

The Mayor Karachi Spokesperson for get guidance if there is a Affairs

Journalist and Scholar Mahmood Sham, Mazhar Abbas, Head of the Journalism Department, fact-finding are the main the University of Karachi of Dr. Tausif Ahmed Khan, professional journalists, Shehzad Chughtai, Imran success in this field is Ali Shah, Director Siim possible only through hard Muhammad Shahid and work and continuous other officers were also present on this occasion

Mayor Karachi said that local government reporting has a very always keep the larger important role in the better interest of Karachi and and more effective performance of local bodies as their effective guidance and identification of problems help in the completion of development

He said that positive thinking and sincerity is the basic condition for improvement in urban affairs and we get a lot of positive information from journalists reporting on local bodies, from which we

training workshop



FAISALABAD: Member Transgender Community holds awareness walk regarding the Rights of such

lauds AJK chapter's services for humanity MUZAFFARABAD current (APP): Chairman Pakistan

community engagement.

The Chairman PRCS oriefed about the recent

humanitarian activities within AJK and the broader goals of the PRCS. The leaders underscored the importance of unity and synergy among PRCS chapters to ensure a swift and efficient response to emergencies and to serve vulnerable communities effectively. The Chairman Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS), Sardar Shahid Ahmed Laghari lauded the exceptional and on-going relief operations conducted by the PRCS Chapter. The commendation comes as a testament to the dedication and tireless efforts of the PRCS AJK team in providing humanitarian assistance support communities in need. "Under the dynamic leadership of Ejaz Raza, the PRCS AJK Chapter has

06

Iran's CG for cooperation with Pakistan, China in energy, infrastructure projects

cooperate with Pakistan transformed into growing and China in many sectors including energy, infrastructure projects, and many other fields by providing its manpower and skilled labor.

expressed by Mr. Mehran Movahed Far, Consul General (CG) of Iran to Lahore who visited Pakistan China Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCJCCI) on Thursday at PCJCCI Secretariat to discuss trilateral relations between Iran, Pakistan and China.

Mehran Movahed expressed that Iran and business relations to achieve mutual economic

He stressed the need for a delegation of China and Pakistan to visit Iran These views were see the potential for business and investment opportunities and assured that his Embassy would provide them all possible support and cooperation.

He also thanked China and Pakistan for providing support to Iran at international forums and reaffirmed that he would work to further strengthen trade and economic bonds Far, on this occasion, between the three business linkages between countries. The meeting was the private sectors of these Pakistan enjoy good attended by the executive countries.

LAHORE (APP): Iran can relations that should be committee members of PCJCCI and many topnotch business leaders from both Pakistan and China.Moazzam Ghurki President PCJCCI said that Pakistan, Iran and China are three brotherly countries and they can complement each other's economy in many fields, therefore, they should focus on promoting trade and economic ties to achieve mutually beneficial

He also said that the trilateral trade between Pakistan, Iran and China is quite negligible, that can be improved by promoting



MULTAN: Labourers offloading sacks of vegetables from delivery truck at

USC starts targeted subsidy on special orders of PM

ISLAMABAD (APP): USC Utility Stores Corporation (USC) has started targeted subsidies on the special orders of the Prime Minister (PM) of Pakistan Mian Shahbaz Sharif.

basic commodities (flour, ghee, sugar, pulses, and rice) are that only targeted release issued here.

with a poverty index score country without any of PMT_40 or less, will be conditions. eligible for a subsidy.

users must show their provided to common original identity card at the consumers at normal/ counter to avail subsidy. After the targeted subsidy, flour will be available at Rs 648 per 10 kg bag, ghee at Rs 353 per kg and sugar at Rs 100 per kg.

pulses and rice.

eligibility for subsidy, visit with excellent quality.

SCCI gets **'Development** Leadership Award' SIALKOT (APP): The

website government has bestowed www.usc.org.pk/PMTupon the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry Those who are not (SCCI) the prestigious registered with BISP Development Leadership should approach the Award'. According to the nearest BISP Tehsil Offices SCCI press release, the for their registration. award was given in recognition of the SCCI It should be noted meritorious services in being provided at the subsidies will now be domains of trade, cheanest rates said a press available at utility stores. commerce, and industrial

However, common Households registered consumers can make all development. Through this award, the government has under the Benazir Income kinds of purchases from all acknowledged promotion of exports, capacity building of entrepreneurs, Sugar, ghee, flour, development, execution of mega projects, including the Sialkot

(BISP) Registered pulses, and rice are being general rates which are much lower than the general market. A wide range of essential items are being provided in abundance at all utility stores across the While a subsidy of Rs country. Along with this,

former federal minister for Planning, Development 25 per kg will be given on the own brand of pure and Special Initiatives spices in the utility stores To check your are available at low rates Ahsan Iqbal. of Commerce & Industry was the only trade body of

Price review committee reduces price of 8 food items in Haripur

Keeping in view the reduction and increase in the price of various essential commodities, the Price Review Committee (PRC) district Haripur on Thursday approved a decrease in the price of 8 food items.

Chaired by Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Haripur Imran Khan Jadoon, the PRC's meeting reviewed the current prices of 22 food items and approved the reduction in the prices of 8 food items including different pulses, rice and

According to the breakup of 22 food items price increase and decrease, the PRC approved decrease of 8 food items, increase in 10 items while

remained the same. The ADC issued an instruction to the concerned to strictly comply with the new rate lists and monitor prices of the food items in district Haripur, take stern legal action against the violators, profiteers and hoarders.

In the meeting was

attended by Additional Assistant Commissioner Haripur Sarfraz Ali Qureshi, District Food Controller Sheeraz Khan, Food Controller Pristan Director Livestock Dr. Sarab Khan, representative of the consumers of district Haripur Habee ullah Khan, President Karyana Stores Association Haripur Fakhar Alam, President ATA Muhammad Saleem from \$ 1,926,



ISLAMABAD: A vendor displayed wooden handicrafts to attract the customers along the roadside at G-9 Markaz.

coin to commemorate 10 years of CPEC Independent Report weight 13.5 grams and has KARACHI: To mark the 10th anniversary of the

SBP to issue Rs100

China-Pakistan Économic Corridor (CPEC), the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) to Rsissue commemorative coin on

Friday. The coin shall be issued through the exchange counters of SBP Banking Services issued here on Thursday.

The government of

Pakistan has decided to issue a commemorative coin of Rs.100 in recognition of the significant contribution of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor to country's infrastructure and economic development

since its decade of inception in 2013.

The coin is in round

Cupro-Nickel metal contents, the statement

Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FPCČI) at Governor's House.

On the obverse side and in the centre of the coin, an artistically designed five-pointed star has been reflected.

The crescent moor and star as present in Pakistan's national Flag and Corporation from August a group of five stars as 11, 2023, said a statement present in China's national Flag were also shown inside the artistically designed star at right and left positions, respectively.

The wordings
"CELEBRATING 10
YEARS OF CPEC" in
English Script and
"ISLAMI JAMHURIA PAKISTAN" in Urdu Script were written on the top and bottom of the star along with the periphery while both wordings were shape milled with separated with two stars serrations on the edge, on left and right sides of



KHARMANG: A couple arranging and placing apricot on a traditional wooden tray for drying purpose as a stock for winter and selling in

KU organizes seminar on 'artificial meat and the future of meat industry'

KARACHI (APP): The year 364 million tons of Department of Food Science and Technology of the University of Karachi in collaboration with Sindh Food Authority, Al-Ghazali University, and Halal Foundation organized a day-long

and

International Airport Limited (SIAL), Sialkot

Abdul Ghafoor Malik

received the award from

The Sialkot Chamber

Pakistan to be adorned

Gold rates

increase by

Rs 600

ISLAMABAD (APP)

The per tola price of 24

karat gold increased by Rs

600 and was sold at Rs 222,800 on Thursday

compared to its sale at Rs

222,200 on the previous

of 24 karat gold also increased by Rs 514 to Rs

191,015 from Rs 190,501

whereas the price of 10

grams 22 Karat gold rose

to Rs 175,097 from Rs

174,626, All Sindh Sarafa

Jewellers Association

reported. The price of per

tola and ten-gram silver

remained constant at Rs

2750 and Rs 2357.68

the international market

decreased by \$4 to \$1,922

The price of gold in

respectively.

The price of 10 grams

with this exalted laurel.

Dryport and AirSial.

President

seminar on 'artificial meat (lab-grown meat) and the future of meat industry' at KU-DFST UM Hall on Thursday. Speakers including SMIIC OIC General Turkey's Secretary Ihsan Ovut, Director General Sindh Food Authority Agha Fakhr Hussain, Vice Chancellor of Al-Ghazali University Professor Dr Zeeshan Ahmed, South Africa's Grand Mufti Saeed Nowlakhi, KU VC Professor Dr Khalid Mahmood Iraqi and others

sessions of the event. The

addressed

meat is consumed around the globe, including 143 million tons of chicken meat, 76 million tons of beef, and 17 million tons of mutton. They expressed that artificial meat or labgrown meat, (cultured meat or cell-based meat) is a revolutionary innovation in the realm of sustainable food production. They observed that developed through cellular agriculture. this cutting-edge technology allows the cultivation of real meat from animal cells. without the need to raise and slaughter animals.The speakers informed the participants that the process begins with a small sample of animal cells, which are carefully nurtured in a nutrient-rich environment Over time, these cells different multiply and differentiate into muscle tissue, mirroring the natural growth process.



SRSO transfers 103 livestock among ultra poor BISP beneficiaries

Sindh Rural Support Organization (SRSO) has transferred 103 livestock to the ultra-poor, BISP beneficiaries of different villages of districts Shikarpur under the National Graduation Programme (NPGP)- a flagship program o f Government of Pakistan, funded by the International Fund for Agricultural

Development (IFAD). It aimed to assist the ultra-poor and very poor BISP families in graduating out of poverty on a sustainable basis.

It is mentioned here that All transferred animals

SUKKUR (APP): The were vaccinated and insured as well under the Animal Death Claim Policy of SRSO's Micro Health Insurance.

On the occasion, the SRSO NPGP team briefed the beneficiaries about the Poverty program, assets care, complaint referral mechanism, and death claim policy.

According to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Muhammad Dital Khalhoro the aim of the NPGP is to assist the ultrapoor. This will be done by simultaneously improving their overall food security, nutritional status, and resilience to climate change,

Business community asked to cooperate in controlling use of polythene bags

ISLAMABAD (APP): the cooperation of ICCI Director General, Pakistan Environment Protection Agency (Pak-EPA) Ms. Farzana Altaf Shah Thursday said that the polythene shopping bags were posing serious threats to human health and the environment besides causing blockage of streams, nullahs and sewerage lines. Therefore, the business community should cooperate in controlling their use in the federal capital to promote a healthy environment, she said while addressing the members of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) during her visit to the Chamber.

PESHAWAR: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Haji Ghulam Ali distributing awards under the auspices of the Federation of

Farzana Altaf Shah said that PAK-EPA needed

Independence

He said that travellers

on all of the airline's

domestic flights on

valid for travel on August

Independence Day.

independence.

festivities.

regulations to prohibit the use of plastic shopping bags and hoped that as responsible citizens, they would extend full cooperation in complying

and the Market Associations for proper implementation of plastic Islamabad a plastic free She briefed the

business community about

the key features of the new

with these regulations.

shopping bags in Islamabad in order to make Islamabad a clean and green and environmentally shopping bags laws and friendly city. However, he regulations to make urged the government to ensure the easy availability of the alternatives of plastic shopping bags and adopt a gradual approach for the implementation of a ban on their use to save the business community from unnecessary problems. Ahsan Bakhtawari said that the rising heatwaves, droughts, floods and heavy rains are Speaking on the the outcome of changing

occasion, Ahsan Zafar climate and stressed the Bakhtawari, President government to take urgent ICCI assured that the measures to promote a business community healthy environment to would cooperate in save the country from more controlling the plastic natural tragedies.

Pakistani hand carved PIA offers 14% discount furniture on high demand on I-Day in global market: Kashif ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan International

announced a 14 per cent discount on all its domestic Chief Executive Officer Pakistan Furniture Council flights on Independence Thursday highlighted the According to a PIA global significance and high demand of Pakistani handspokesperson, the national flag carrier announced this 'Azadi Offer' as part of the furniture, carved particularly in America and the Middle East.

of furniture manufacturers can avail of a remarkable led by Araib Arain, he said 14 per cent price reduction It attracts foreigners, tourists and visitors who appreciate cultural authenticity, said a news

The special offer is set release issued here. to make travel within the country more accessible and affordable for passengers looking to commemorate the nation's promoting discounted tickets are exclusively

he added. He said hand- their craft over generations carved furniture promotes and their expertise and sustainable practices by dedication contribute to the

ISLAMABAD (INP): quantity that often utilizes locally sourced materials and minimizes the Mian Kashif Ashfaq on environmental impact associated with mass production.He said each creation becomes a work of art, preserving the essence of Pakistani culture. He said hand-carved furniture Talking to a delegation of Pakistan reflects the rich cultural heritage and craftsmanship of the region that attracts foreign buyers. He said these pieces often incorporate intricate designs and motifs that are deeply rooted in It serves as a way to share Pakistan's artistic traditions. He said the heritage with the world, creation of hand-carved cultural furniture involves skilled exchange and appreciation, artisans who have honed



PESHAWAR: Customer selecting and purchasing dress with national flag color for his daughter in connection with upcoming Independence Day celebration.

PSX loses 419 points ISLAMABAD (APP):

The 100-index of the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) witnessed a bearish trend on Thursday, losing 419.26 points, a negative change of 0.87 per cent, closing at 47,808.34 points against 48,227.00 pc the previous trading day.

A total of 322,207,162 shares were traded during the day as compared to 312,301,182 shares the previous day, whereas the price of shares stood at Rs12.757 billion against Rs 14.305 billion on the last trading day.

As many as 330 companies transacted their shares in the stock market; 104 of them recorded gains and 208 sustained losses, whereas the share price of 18 companies remained unchanged. The three top-trading

companies were ŴorldCall Telecom with 41,524,480 shares at Rs 1.20 per share; Bank Al-Falah with 23,236,014 shares at Rs.40.40 per share and Oil and Gas Dev with 22,027,805 shares at Rs.100.61 per share.

Nestle Pakistan XD witnessed a maximum increase of Rs 95.18 per share price, closing at Rs 7095.15, whereas the runner-up was Rafhan Maize with an Rs 40.00 rise in its per share price to Rs 8600.00.

Brands offering Independence Day discounts to customers

With only a few days left in the Independence Day celebrations, falling on August 14, different fashion brands and outlets in the federal capital have started offering good discounts on dresses, and shoes, other accessories to attract buyers, especially women.

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Every year, famous brands offer good sales and discount offers on the occasion of Independence Day giving an opportunity to the people to buy good stocks for the next whole season. "Buying summer dresses and other seasonal accessories at full price has

wait for such occasions to come", Aisha Naz, a mother of three children said.

Talking to APP, she said that "We always buy clothes for ourselves and kids at the sales offered on Independence Day and other such occasions for the next season"

Sajida Noreen, a government employee said, "I follow all the brands? pages on the social media platforms and whenever receive notification of discounts and sales on summer stuff, I rush immediately to buy these in bulk". However, online sales have also made the shopping hassle-free while become difficult for the saving us from visiting working class during the markets during humid prevailing inflation so we weather conditions.

WCCI Sialkot inks **MoU with Fair Trade NAP**

memorandum signed between the Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry (WCCI) Sialkot and the Fair Trade NAP.

A delegation comprising NAP Fair Trade Chairman Asad Bajwa and Country

SIALKOT (APP): A Programme Consultant for of Pakistan Sara Anum understanding (MoU) was engaged in discussions with WCCI President Dr Maryam Nouman, Senior Vice President Gulzaib Awan, Legal Adviser Lubna Tabassum and Executive Committee Members Nadia Qaiser and Shabina

Ukraine-Russia war:

Putin 'considers coming face to face with world leaders' at G20 summit

Monitoring Desk MOSCOW: Russian president Vladimir Putin is considering attending the G20 summit in person, a Kremlin source has claimed.

The summit is set to take place in September in New Delhi, India, focusing on the theme "One Earth, One Family, One Future.'

But Putin hasn't ruled out his attendance, the Kremlin official told NBC News, seeking to "relaunch himself on the world stage" ahead of next year's election. Likewise, the official claimed that Putin is keen to win over countries that aren't solid in their support for Russia in its invasion of Ukraine. After world leaders condemned Russia's war, Putin did not participate in the event in Bali

The news comes just one day after Russian president Vladimir Putin pledged to ramp up border defences following a surge

nister Sergei Shoigu said NATO-member Poland had already announced plans to strengthen its military, and he expected significant NATO forces and weaponry to be deployed in Finland. Russia claimed it shot down two Ukrainian drones headed for Moscow, one near a major airport to the south of the city and one to

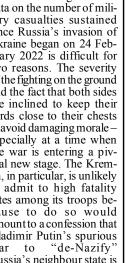
Russian president Vladimir Putin is considering attending the G20 summit in person, a Kremlin source has claimed. The summit is set to take place in September in New Delhi, India, focusing on the theme "One Earth, One Family, One Future."

the west of the capital.

But Putin hasn't ruled out his attendance, the Kremlin official told NBC News, seeking to "relaunch himself on the world stage" ahead of next year's election. Likewise, the official claimed that Putin is

port for Russia in its invasion of Ukraine. As world leaders condemned Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Putin did not participate in the event in Bali in 2022.

Establishing accurate data on the number of military casualties sustained since Russia's invasion of Ukraine began on 24 February 2022 is difficult for two reasons. The severity of the fighting on the ground and the fact that both sides are inclined to keep their cards close to their chests to avoid damaging morale especially at a time when the war is entering a pivotal new stage. The Kremlin, in particular, is unlikely to admit to high fatality rates among its troops because to do so would amount to a confession that Vladimir Putin's spurious war to "de-Nazify Russia's neighbour state is not going according to plan





India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi (R) is seen on a television screen as he addresses the lower house Lok Sabha in New Delhi.

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas fires nearly all governors in West Bank in major upheaval

Monitoring Desk RAMALLAH: Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas fired most of the governors in the occupied West Bank on Thursday, responding to long-standing demands for a political shake-up as frustration grows with the semi-autonomous Palestinian Authority.

dismissing the governors of mediate impact on the eight provinces under Palestinian administration in the occupied territory. The upheaval included the restive northern cities of Nablus, Jenin and Calls for change in the face Tulkarem, the focus of a recent surge in Palestinian "It gives the authority"

Monitoring Desk

ANKARA: Five Turkish

soldiers were killed in a

clash with militants of the

outlawed Kurdistan Work-

ers Party (PKK) in north-

ern Iraq, Turkey's defence

ministry said on Thurs-

Turkey has been carrying

fensive is a measure to pre-

vent the PKK from using

Iraq as a base to carry out

soldiers were killed in the

first round of fire by the

PKK militants while they

attacks in Turkey.

out a cross-border opera-

tion called "Claw-Lock".

The conflict took

Ankara says the of-

Five Turkish soldiers

killed in operations in

Iraq -ministry

place in Zap region, where is designated a terrorist

A Turkish defence eration Claw-Lock," which ministry official said all five was launched in April 2022,

mined the authority's leadership. Only three areas – including Ramallah, the seat of the Palestinian Authority — retained their governors. The president's office said that he would form a committee to suggest replacements. Although the decision

Abbas issued a decree is unlikely to have an imground, experts said it signals Abbas' recognition of the authority's deepening unpopularity and his desire to show that he is heeding

scan activity on the field. The PKK has large

fortifications around the region, where "the terrain is very tough," but the region will be "cleared up from terrorists" despite attacks, the official added

tacks, the official added.

bases around northern Iraq,

group by Turkey, the

United States and European

Union. The group launched

an insurgency in southeast Turkey in 1984 in which more than 40,000 people

586 militants have been

ish defence ministry also

"neutralised" to date, Turk-

As part of the "Op-

have been killed.

The PKK, which has

militancy that has under- a new face, which is important particularly as the governors are in charge of all security matters," said political analyst Jehad Harb. "But it won't change anything really (Abbas) is trying to rebuild some public trust, but it will take much more." Palestinians have not had the chance to vote in national elections since 2006. Abbas' original fouryear term technically ended in 2009. Although governors said they had expected an overhaul for years given growing demands for change, many said Thursday's decree took them by surprise.

tanker catches coast - TV

by Iranian rescue teams after the ship's captain requested assistance from the port authorities," state TV quoted a local ports official as saying. The official said that the tanker, carrying 40,000 tons ofliquefied petroleum gas, had experienced "a problem in the engine room due to a fire." Panama's vessel registry, the world's largest, has withdrawn its flag from 136 ships linked to Iran's state oil com pany in the last four years.

Panama-flagged fire near Iranian

Monitoring Desk DUBAI: A Panama-flagged tanker called White Pearl has caught fire near Assaluyeh on Iran's Gulf coast, Iranian state media reported on Thursday, adding that all crew members

were safe. "Twenty-two of the ship's crew have been rescued

India PM Modi's government defeats no-confidence motion **Monitoring Desk** don't trust democracy are

NEW DELHI: The government of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi defeated a no-confidence motion in parliament on Thursday after a fiery speech by the premier at the climax of a three-day debate.

Opposition lawmakers—who had brought the motion over months of ethnic violence in Manipur state — walked out of the chamber, prompting a furious rebuke from the premier, with the government then winning the vote.

The walkouts, according to broadcasters, included Congress party leader Rahul Gandhi, who on Wednesday said Modi's government was "set on burning the whole country".

always ready to make a comment but don't have the patience to hear [the rebut-

They would "speak ill and run away, throw garbage and run away, spread lies and run away", he added, to cheers from his own benches.

"This is their game and the country can't expect much from them.'

The no-confidence vote was dismissed by the government ahead of the vote as a headline-grabbing gimmick ahead of a general election next year.

Modi's Hindu-nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has a large majority in the 543-member lower house, and is widely ex-Modi denounced pected to win a third term them, saying: "Those who in power.

UN Security Council to meet on rights abuses in North Korea

Monitoring Desk UNITED NATIONS: The

United Nations Security Council will meet publicly to discuss human rights abuses in North Korea next week, a move requested by the United States, Albania and Japan that is likely to anger Pyongyang and face opposition from China and Russia. It will be the first formal public meeting of the 15-member council on the issue since 2017.

North Korea has repeatedly rejected accusations of abuses and blames sanctions for a dire humanitarian situation. Since 2006 it has been under U.N. sanctions over its ballistic missiles and nuclear programs, but there are aid exemptions. "It is long overdue," said U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Linda Thomas-Greenfield, reading a joint statement by the United States, Albania, Japan and

"We know the hold the meeting.

government's human rights abuses and violations facilitate the advancement of its unlawful weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missile programs," she said.

The council would meet on Aug. 17 and be briefed by U.N. High Com-missioner for Human Rights Volker Turk and the U.N. Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in the DPRK, Elizabeth Salmón, said Thomas-Greenfield. China and Russia object to the issue being raised in the council, which is charged with maintaining international peace and security. They say rights issues should be confined to other bodies such as the U.N. Human Rights Council or General Assembly. China and Russia could call a procedural vote next week, but a senior U.S. official said they were confident they have the minimum nine votes needed

At least 36 killed as wildfire burns historic Hawaii town to the ground

Monitoring Desk WAILUKU: Thousands of Hawaii residents raced to escape homes on Maui as blazes swept across the island, destroying parts of a centuries-old town and killing at least 36 people in one of the deadliest U.S. wildfires in recent years.

The fire took the island by surprise, leaving behind burned-out cars on once busy streets and smoking piles of rubble where historic buildings had stood in Lahaina Town, which dates to the 1700s and has long been a favorite destination for tourists. Crews battled blazes in several places on the island Wednesday, and the flames forced some adults and children to flee into the ocean.

At least 36 people have died, according to a statement from Maui County late Wednesday that said no other details were available on the deaths. Officials said earlier that 271 structures were damaged or destroyed and dozens of people injured.

Kamuela Kawaakoa and Iiulia Yasso described a harrowing escape under smoke-filled skies Tuesday afternoon. The couple and their 6-year-old son got back to their apartment after a quick dash to the supermarket for water, and only had time to grab a change of clothes and run as the bushes around them

caught fire. 'We barely made it out." Kawaakoa said at an evacuation shelter on Wednesday, still unsure if anything was left of their apartment. As the family fled. a senior center across the road erupted in flames. They called 911, but didn't know if the people got out. Fire alarms blared. As they drove away, downed utility poles and fleeing cars slowed their progress. Kawaakoa, 34, grew up in the apartment building, called Lahaina Surf, where his dad and grandmother also lived. "It was so hard to sit

there and just watch my town burn to ashes and not Lahaina residents be able to do anything.

Amazon summit shows thorny challenge for **Brazilian COP30 host city**

Monitoring Desk BELEM: Hosting a United

Nations climate summit for tens of thousands of people in any city is a daunting task. Doing it in a part of the Amazon rainforest unaccustomed to hordes of visitors will be even harder.

Belem, a city of 1.3 million in northern Brazil that will host the COP30 climate meeting in 2025, was put to the test during a summit of rainforest nations this week. With roughly half as many hotel beds as the 27,000 summit participants, room rates soared. But the city expects more than 70,000 for COP30. To deal with the shortage, it may lean on a solution central to life in the Amazon River delta for hundreds of years: boats.

Some delegates may commute daily by boat from nearby islands, while heads of state may stay on cruise ships parked in the harbor, government officials say.

The city plans to complete a diagnostic later this month on all the challenges to be confronted in the two

years until the summit, including an inadequate sewage system, dilapidated roadways and threadbare public transit.

"Is the city ready to host an event that big? If it were today, we wouldn't be," said Luiz Araujo, who leads the city's COP30 preparation committee. The United Nations

convenes an annual conference for the parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, an event that has taken on more urgency as heat records have fallen and the target of keeping warming within 1.5 degrees Celsius appears to be slipping out of reach. This year's COP28 will be in late November and December in Dubai. Brazil has a lot riding on COP30's success. The meeting will cap a diplomatic U-turn steered by President Luis Inacio Lula da Silva, who has vowed to restore Brazil's standing as a leader on environmental policy after four years of soaring deforestation under his predecessor Jair



At least 36 killed as wildfire burns historic Hawaii town to the ground.

allied capabilities.'

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condition of anonymity.

ing US national security."

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mate release, this is at best

the beginning of the end

There are simply no guar-

antees about what hap-

would remove a major ir-

United States and Iran,

though the nations re-

main at odds on issues

from the Iranian nuclear

program to Tehran's support for Shi'ite mili-

tias in nations such as

was convicted of espio-

nage-related charges the

United States has rejected

as baseless, has been de-

tained by Iran for more

than seven years. His fa-

ther, Baguer, was allowed

to leave Iran in October for

medical treatment after be-

ing detained on similar

charges also rejected by

Namazi, who in 2016

Iraq and Lebanon.

Freeing the four

between the

pens from here.'

and nothing more ...

promote

Four US citizens

moved from Iranian

prison to house arrest

Biden announces curbs on US investments in China counter United States and

Monitoring Desk

WASHINGTON: US President Joe Biden on Wednesday issued an executive order aimed at re- uity, venture capital and stricting certain American investments in sensitive advanced semiconductors high-tech areas in China — and some quantum infor-a move Beijing blasted as mation technologies in being "anti-globalisation". China, according to Treasury Department.

rules, expected to be implemented next year, target vestment programme will sectors like semiconductors fill a critical gap in the finance hub. and artificial intelligence, as Washington seeks to limit access to key technologies.

The commitment of the United States to open investment is a cornerstone of our economic policy and provides the United States with substantial benefits," Biden said in a letter to Congressional leaders announcing the executive order.

"However, certain United States investments may accelerate and increase the success of the development of sensitive technologies and products in countries that develop them to semiconductors.

Monitoring Desk

WASHINGTON: Four

U.S. citizens detained by

Iran have left Tehran's

Evin prison and are now

under house arrest, a law-

yer for one of them told

Reuters on Thursday, say-

ing he hoped this was a

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ally leaving the Islamic

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Siamak Namazi, 51, and

Emad Shargi, 58, as well

Morad Tahbaz, 67, who

also has British national-

ity, said Jared Genser, a

lawyer who represents

Namazi. The fourth U.S.

citizen's identity has not

the American hostages

from Evin Prison to an ex-

pected house arrest is an

important development,'

Genser said in a statement.

The move by Iran of

been made public

The Iranian Ameri-

environmentalist

Republic.

Hong Kong arrests 10 for 'foreign collusion' over pro democracy fund The programme is set

Monitoring Desk

HONG KONG: Hong Kong joint venture investments in police arrested 10 people on Thursday under the city's national security law, accus-China, according to the ing them of providing financial support to overseas dis-"The outbound insident groups pushing for sanctions against the Chinese

United States' national se-Beijing imposed a curity toolkit," a senior sweeping national security government official said on law on Hong Kong in 2020 after huge and sometimes violent pro-democracy What we're talking about is a narrow and protests the year before. Critics say the law has curthoughtful approach as we tailed political freedoms seek to prevent [China] from obtaining and using the most and quashed dissent. Auadvanced technologies to thorities said on Thursday four men and six women, modernisation and underminaged between 26 and 43, were arrested for "con-The Treasury is conspiracy to collusion with a foreign country or external sidering a notification requirement for US investelements" – an offence under the security law that ments in Chinese entities can carry a sentence of up involved in less advanced to life in prison.

Six killed as fires scorch

KAHULUI: fanned by the winds of a and residents to flee as bebecame flaming infernos.

Some people were forced to jump into the ocean to escape the smoke and fire conditions prompting the US coast guard to rescue them, according to a Maui county press release. The Ameri can Red Cross opened an evacuation centre in a school, the county said.

Six people had been fires, Maui county mayor Richard Bissen said at a press conference. Panicked smoke billowing up over formerly once-idyllic beaches and palm trees.

Hawaii resorts

residents fleeing the flames posted videos and photos on social media showing apocalyptic clouds of

Monitoring Desk

distant hurricane devastated Hawaii's Maui island on Wednesday, killing six people and forcing tourists loved holiday destinations

confirmed killed by the



Hong Kong arrests 10 for 'foreign collusion' over violent pro-democracy protests. Ecuador presidential candidate Fernando Villavicencio assassinated, one suspect dead

Monitoring Desk QUITO: Ecuador presidential candidate Fernando respond to repeated re-Villavicencio, a vocal critic of corruption and organised crime, was killed at a campaign event on Wednesday, authorities said, amid an upsurge in violence in the Andean nation blamed on

drug traffickers. some 30 shots had been fired at an event in the north of the capital, Quito. Video footage posted on social media showed Villavicencio getting into a car after the event, before the sound of apparent gunfire and

Ecuador's police and quests for comment about the details of the killing, but outgoing President Guillermo Lasso confirmed police safely detonated a grenade left behind by the

"This is a political Local media reported crime, which has the character of terrorism, and we do not doubt that this murder is an attempt to sabotage the electoral process," Lasso said in a video statement past midnight local time, after meeting with security and electoral

Four US citizens moved from Iranian prison to house arrest BEIRUT: Lebanese army

Monitoring Desk WASHINGTON: Four U.S.

citizens detained by Iran have left Tehran's Evin prison and are now under house arrest, a lawyer for one of them told Reuters on Thursday, saying he hoped this was a step toward them eventually leaving the Islamic Republic. The Iranian Americans include businessmen Siamak Namazi, 51, and Emad Shargi, 58, as well as environmentalist Morad Tahbaz, 67, who also has British nationality, said Jared Genser, a lawyer who represents Namazi. The fourth U.S. citizen's identity has not been made public. "The move by

Iran of the American hostages from Evin Prison to an expected house arrest is an important development, Genser said in a statement 'While I hope this will be the first step to their ultimate release, this is at best the beginning of the end and nothing more There are simply no guarantees about what happens from here." Freeing the four would remove a major irritant between the United States and Iran, though the nations remain at odds on issues from the Iranian nuclear program to Tehran's support for Shi'ite militias in nations such as Iraq and Lebanon.

fire at holiday home in France Monitoring Desk WINTZENHEIM: Eleven people were killed in eastern

Eleven die in

France on Wednesday when a fire tore through a ȟoliday lodging being used by a group of adults with learning disabilities, officials said. The fire at the timbered residence in the eastern town of Wintzenheim struck deep in the night while the guests were asleep, with many of those on the upper floor unable to react fast enough to save their lives. The fire, which came at the height of the nation's summerholiday season, is the deadliest in France since a blaze at a bar in the northern city of Rouen.

Lebanese army deploys in village after deadly shootout **Monitoring Desk**

troops deployed on Thursday in a Christian village following a deadly shootout there the previous evening between residents and members of the Shi'ite group Hezbollah.

A Hezbollah member and a Christian resident were killed in Wednesday's exchange of fire in the village of Kahaleh, near Beirut, in an incident that began when a Hezbollah truck carrying ammunition turned over while driving through the area. It was the deadliest confrontation between the Iran-backed Hezbollah and Lebanese who oppose it since clashes in Beirut.

President stresses AI importance for healthcare sector

LAHORE (APP): Presiber of deaths taking place dent Dr Arif Alvi on Thursday emphasised the importance of artificial intelligence (AI) in the health sector to provide better facilities to people.

Addressing Instacare Future Health Forum 2023 at a local hotel, he said the AI was a great hope in the health and medicine sectors, and in future, a medical graduate could utilise it for treatment of patients.

The president said now a doctor did not need to save information in his own memory as more data could be saved and accessed through his mobile phone and computer. He cited an example of the COVID-19 pandemic period in which Pakistan successfully used available data and saved several lives.

He said that the num-

due to COVID-19 was less in the country than in other countries of the region. He said Pakistan had a good collection of data; however, learning right question through the AI for right answer was important. He added that knowledge was free for everyone now and control over it by anyone had become almost impossible. He said that Islam stresses the state to work for welfare and betterment of the community. The president said science had brought about an ease in lives of the community, so the AI should also be used for facilitating human

Earlier, the president gave away awards to individuals and institutions, who contributed technology and AI to the healthcare



QUETTA: Chief Editor Nawey Zawand Syed Anwar Shah meeting with Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar

Dr. Rubaba says Nutritional deficiency program being implemented in 21 districts of Balochistan

Independent Report QUETTA: The Parliamentary Secretary for Law and Parliamentary Affairs, Science and Information Technology, Dr. Rubaba Buledi has stated that the nutrideficiency

programme is being run in 21 districts of Balochistan. The nutritional programme is being implemented with support of UNICEF.

She noted with concem that according to a survey, one third children aged between 6 to 23 months suffered from the severe nutritional deficiency in 15 flood affected districts of Khyber

Dr. Rubaba Buledi was speaking to the Provincial Manager of Nutritional Programme, Dr. Sultan Tareen, Deputy Director Owais Khan Tareen, Nutrition Assistance, Ms. Sanam Raisani and the social activist, Sami Zarkoon, here

She noted with concern that as a whole, around 54 percent children of the Balochistan province were suffering from the nutritional deficiency before

floods, but this ratio in-

creased to 70 percent after

the floods. She also mentioned that prior to the floods, nutritional programme was being run with support of UNICEF only in 13 districts of Balochistan, but, the flood affected areas were also included in the programme after the floods,

Dr. Rubaba on the occasion noted that the ratio of unemployment was higher than other parts of floods also increased it further. This is why, the poor mothers don't get the proper diet, as a result their children fall victim to the nutritional deficiency



QUETTA: DIG Quetta Aitzaz Ahmed Guraya offering Dua at Yadgar-e-Shuhada in Police Lines Head-

Action be taken against Imran by verifying the cipher: Rana Sanaullah

ISLAMABAD (Online): Former Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah said that American cipher that has come to light in the world media should be verified and if Imran Khan is found guilty in the cipher issue, action should be taken against him.

In his statement, PML-N leader and former Interior Minister said on be conducted to verify crets Act.

American cipher revealed in international media.

He said that it should be not forgotten that copy of cipher was with Chairman PTI which he did not return and statement of Imran Khan is on record that he had lost the copy of

Rana Sanaullah further said that if Chairman PTI is found guilty in this reissue of American cipher gard then he should be prosthat an investigation should ecuted under Official Se-

Pakistani and Chinese institutes sign MoU for joint research facility

Institute of Plant Protec-(IPPCAAS), and the Depart-University of Agriculture have signed an agreement in Beijing to establish the Pakistan-China Joint Research Facility for 'Trim Brother Administration.' The ceremony took place at IPPCAAS. The letter of IPPCAAS Executive Direc-

ISLAMABAD (INP): The tor Lu Yanhui and UAF Vice Chancellor Professor tion, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences stated in an official statement issued here, according ment of Entomology at the to Gwadar Pro. As per the agreement, both sides will establish the joint research facility to address the prevention and control of crop pests in Pakistan and China.

This collaboration involves conducting tests, demonstrations, and joint intent was duly signed by research on integrated disease control strategies



LAHORE: President Dr. Arif Alvi in a group photo with healthcare professionals attending the Instacare Future Health Forum 2023 on Advancing Healthcare with Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning.

Outgoing NA ends remarkable term, passing 235 bills and overseeing key transitions

ISLAMABAD (APP): The 15th National Assembly of Pakistan, which came to a close on August 9, 2023, left behind a legacy of legislative productivity, executive oversight and transformative leadership changes. With an array of accomplishments, the outgoing assembly's tenure underscores its commitment to democratic governance and national progress. During its tenure. the 15th National Assembly achieved an impressive feat by passing a total of 235 bills. The assembly, comprising 342 members, skillfully discharged its duty of executive oversight. ensuring the effective functioning of the government. Lawmakers displayed unwavering dedication by submitting thousands of questions across various ministries, probing into critical matters affecting the

CM satisfied with arrest of PO in murder case of Abdul **Wahid Raisani**

Independent Report QUETTA: The Chief Minister, Mir Abdul Quddus Bizenjo has expressed satisfaction over the arrest of proclaimed offender accused in the murder case of journalist Abdul Wahid Rasiani.

In an official statement issued here on Thursday, the Chief Minister said that the arrest of wanted female accused in the murder case of slain Abdul Wahid Raisani is an important development. The bereaved family would also get justice with her arrest, he believed.

The Chief Minister also appreciated performance of the police on arrest of the accused and said that the case of Shaheed journalist is pending for long, and the resentment was found among his heirs.

Asad says: PDM govt comes to end after deviating from constitution

ISLAMABAD (Online) PTI leader Asad Ùmar has said PDM government has eventually come to end and now the people have to avenge on them in election

He tweeted the government annihilated the economy in 16 months and people had to face the worst inflation of the history of

the country. PDM government de-based parliament and weakened democracy.

He held PDM government reached its end after deviating from the constitution and getting the corruption written off.

Pakistan's total foreign reserves reach at \$ 13.33bln

KARACHI (APP): The total liquid foreign reserves of Pakistan stood at US\$ 13,339.1 million while reserves held by the central bank reached \$ 8,043.4 million. The State Bank of Pakistan, in a statement issued here on Thursday, informed that SBP's reserves decreased by \$110 million to \$ 8,043.4 million on account of debt repayments during the week ended on August 04, 2023.

Meanwhile, net foreign reserves held by commercial banks stood at US\$ 5,295.7 million, it added.

In the previous week ending on July 27, 2023, total liquid foreign reserves held by the country.

Furthermore, the assembly took proactive steps towards addressing key concerns by introducing and adopting resolu-tions. A total of 107 resolutions were adopted, reflecting the assembly's endeavor to provide solutions to a broad spectrum of issues mainly related to governance, education, foreign affairs, health and energy.

According to the National Assembly's official website, the house witnessed the introduction of 181 government bills and 360 private member bills. This comprehensive legislative approach highlighted the assembly's commitment to inclusivity and addressing multifaceted challenges. Notably, 12 bills were referred to the joint sitting of Parliament, demcollaborative approach to enduring commitment to

The tenure of the outgoing 15th National Assembly was characterized by significant leadership shifts and milestones. The assembly played a pivotal role in the ousting of former Prime Minister Imran Khan through a motion of noconfidence passed on April 9, 2022. Subsequently, Mian Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif secured a vote of confidence, heralding a new era

of leadership.
A total of 126 bills were passed during the period from August 13, 2018 to April 9, 2022, underpinning the legislative achievements of the assembly's early years. The remaining 109 bills were endorsed during the tenure of the PML-N-led government, spanning from April 10, 2022, to August 9, 2023, onstrating the assembly's affirming the assembly's



QUETTA: A delegation led by Provincial Manager Nutrition Directorate Dr. Sultan Tareen meeting with Parliamentary Secretary and Law, Parliamentary Affairs, Science and Technology Rubaba Khan Buledi

governance.
The 15th National

Assembly marks the fourth instance in Pakistan's history where a National Assembly has successfully completed its term. In a notable departure from the scheduled term completion date of August 12, 2023, Prime Minister Mian Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif announced the dissolution three days earlier on August 9, 2023. Over its tenure, the outgoing assembly convened a total of 52 sessions, each dedicated to robust deliberations and the passage of vital legislative proposals.

The assembly's focus on the well-being and advancement of the nation is evident in its meticulously crafted bills that addressed a wide range of issues. With a strong emphasis on demo-cratic principles.

PM, Chairman **Senate discuss** prevailing political situation

SLAMABAD (APP): Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif here on Thursday held a meeting with Chair-man Senate Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani and discussed the prevailing political situation in the

He said the incumbent

government ensured the

completion of various pub-

vious government. Re-

counting the achievements

of his government, the

prime minister said the sign-

was a great success, other-

have been disastrous for the

country. He said the credit for all the successes

achieved by the government

also went to the federal sec-

retaries as they had been

serving diligently during the

challenging circumstances.

said that his government

played a constructive role

to mend the ties with

Court rejects

bail petition of

accused in girl

torture case

ISLAMABAD (APP): A

local court on Thursday re-

jected a post-arrest bail pe-

tition of accused Somia

Asim, the wife of a civil

judge, in a case pertaining

to torture against a minor

Shaista Kundi heard the

post-arrest bail petition of

the accused. The defence

lawyer said that they

wanted to get the medical

report obtained from a hos-

pital in Sargodha as new

clauses had been added in

the FIR on the basis of it.

On the query of the

As per the FIR, the girl

was in normal condition

Tĥe lawyer also pro-

Judicial Magistrate

The prime minister

particularly floods.

friendly countries.

ing of the IMF agreement

wise, the situation could

PM lauds bureaucracy for cooperation, guidance during 16-month stint

Prime Minister Shehbaz paved the way. Sharif on Thursday export and guidance throughenabling the coalition government to sail through tough circumstances.

The prime minister, in his farewell interaction with the federal secretaries, said despite being hugely diverse, the 13-party coalition government ran the affairs smoothly with utmost cooperation and prudence, also setting an example of the practicability of the coalition government.

He said during the 16 months, the bureaucracy also faced some difficult scenarios but the will to do

ISLAMABAD (APP): the people of Pakistan

The prime minister lapressed his gratitude to the mented the past practice of lic welfare projects which bureaucracy for their sup- unnecessarily criticizing had been halted by the preand victimising the compeout the 16-month tenure, tent officers which adversely impacted public service. Just like the politicians, the officers were also victimised and their families harassed

He said the civil service faced a severe blow during the devolution due to very reason, some of the youngsters also opted to join other services. Mentioning systemic

delays in the execution of 10.000MW solar energy project, Prime Minister Shehbaz called for establishing robust systems to ensure the smooth execution



are holding protest demonstration against high handedness of land grabbers, at Dera Murad Jamali.

I-Day to be celebrated with due national spirit and enthusiasm in Quetta

Independent Report QUETTA: The Independence Day would be celebrated with due national spirit and enthusiasm in Quetta like every year.

A colourful Jashne Azadi ceremony is scheduled to be held on August 14 at Railway Station where food stalls, musical programme, lighting, cultural dance, fireworks and other progrmames would be arranged.

This and similar other decisions were made during a meeting held with Commissioner Quetta Division, Sohailur Rehman Baloch in

the chair here on Thursday. The Commandant Chiltan Brigade, Brigadier Mirza Yasir Baig, Provincial Secretary Information, Muhammad Shafqaat, Director General Public Relations, Kamran Asad, SSP Security Azmat Shah and other concerned high ups attended the meeting. It was decided to make effective security arrangements for celebrations of Independence in Quetta and other districts of the division. The walk through

judge, the lawyer said that the girl was handed over to her parents on July 23, at Skyways Bus Terminal. reached the concerned hospital in Sargodha at 3:00 am at night, he said, adding, that the medical report was never raised before the court. He said that the girl

when she was handed over to her parents. duced the video in which gates would be installed on the girl was handed over to the entry and exit points of the Railway Station.





KSA shows interest in investment potential of Pak mining, energy, IT sectors

ISLAMABAD (APP): Saudi Arabia has shown keen interest in the investment potential of Pakistan's mining, energy, agriculture, and information technology

This interest was expressed by a high-level sixteen-member Saudi delegation led by Kingdom's Deputy Foreign Minister Waleed Al-Khuraiji, during its two-day special visit to Pakistan. The visit, concluded today, was the first one from any friendly country to promote foreign investment through the Special Investment Facilitation Council. The visit reflects a firm resolve of Saudi Arabia to invest in Paki-

given a detailed briefing relations between the two about the true potential of

Pakistan, highlighting SIFC as a single window to facilitate foreign investment in various sectors.

During the visit, views were exchanged with the Saudi delegation on specific development projects. The delegation members apprised the Pakistani side of benefits and their proposals about Saudi investment in various sectors of Pakistan. On the occasion, both the sides reiterated their resolve to work together to enhance bilateral cooperation in various sectors and projects

On the conclusion of the visit, the Saudi delegation also met with Army Chief General Syed Asim Munir and discussed vari-The delegation was ous matters and brotherly countries.



Sanjarani called on Prime Minister Muhammad

CM approves ownership rights for dwellers of Dera Murad Jamali town

Independent Report QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Abdul Quddus Bizenjo has approved to give ownership rights to the dwellers of Dera Murad Jamali

According to an official hand out issued here on Thursday, the ownership right has been given to the residents of Dera Murad Jamali town due to the efforts of the Minister Revenue, Sikandar Ali Umrani.

Needless to mention here is that prior to the important initiative, the people of Dera Murad Jamali were deprived of the ownership rights and there were hurdles in planning and development of the area.

The gabza mafia was

also active at everywhere in the Dera Murad Jamali town, it was mentioned.

In view of this, the Minister Revenue, Mir Sikandar Ali Umrani brought an end to the illegal occupation by ensuring ownership rights to the dwellers of Dera Murad Jamali in particularly and for interest of the province in general.

Thus, the Chief Minister approved the matter of giving ownership rights to the people through the provincial cabinet keeping in view the interest of people. In this this regard. guidelines were also issued for implementation on the decision of government by the Board of Revenue, it was mentioned further.



QUETTA: Secretary Information Muhammad Shafqaat inspecting preparation of Independence Day ceremony at Railway Station

Independence Day to be celebrated with great zeal in Duki: DC Mehran

day said that like every year, Independence Day would be celebrated with great enthusiasm and national unity.

Government buildings including markets will also be illuminated, he said.

He expressed these views while chairing a meeting to review preparations for the Independence Day.

The meeting was attended by all the district officers, representatives of Anjuman Tajiran, and other 14. district and administrative

QUETTA (APP): Deputy Commissioner Duki Mir Mehran Baloch on Thurs-Speech contests, songs, cultural events will

be organized between students of different schools and colleges, he said. He said that the municipal committee should take steps to further improve the sanitation arrangements in the city, along

with the government buildings, the business community would also float in the market and lights would be lit on the night of August He said that sports

competitions would also be Deputy Commissioner Duki Mir Mehran
preparations should be Baloch addressed the par-ticipants of the meeting Day.

NCSW launches commemorative stamp on gender-based violence

ISLAMABAD (APP): The created and signed which National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW) in support of the Ministry of Human Rights & UN Women launched a commemorative postage stamp to spread awareness about gender-based violence in the country and to honour the victims.

The first session of the event was a round table consultation on the increasing incidents of violence against women issues with Chairperson NCSW, Nilofar Bakhtiar and top leading gender experts in Pakistan. A resolution/charter of demands was then pinpointed the mechanisms to reduce the prevalence of gender-based violence in the country which was shared with the audience at the end of the event. The second session of the event was an art exhibition consisting of pieces of art from the NCSW poster competition held in 2021 and 2022, as well as artwork brought in by Nagin Hayat from the Nomad Gallery and the Czech Embassy. This commemorative stamp was selected after a poster competition on ending violence against women which was