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# achenachi

Member APNS & CPNE

Chief Editor: Syed Farooq Shah

Approves PEMRA

**Amendment** 

**Bill 2023** 

**Monitoring Desk** 

SLAMABAD: President

Arif Alvi on Tuesday ac-

corded his approval to

Pakistan Electronic Me-

lia Regulatory Authority

PEMRA) Amendment

The president ap

roved the bill under Ar-

icle 75 of the Constituion of Pakistan, President

Secretariat Press Wing

said in a press release.

Bill 2023.

www.dailyindependent.com.pk

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# President assures support on PEMRA (Amend) Bill 2023

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

President Dr Arif Alvi on Tuesday assured media workers and the journalist community of his support for the Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (PEMRA) Amendment Bill 2023. The president was talking to a delegation of the representatives of Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists (PFUJ), All Pakistan Newspapers Society (APNS), Pakistan Broadcasters Association (PBA), Council of Pakistan Newspaper Editors (CPNE), and Association of Electronic Media Editors and News Directors (AEMEND), who called on him at the Aiwan-e-Sadr, the President Secretariat Press Wing said in a press release.

cluded Afzal Butt, Arshad Ansari, Naz Afreen Saigol, Sarmad Ali, Shahab Zuberi, Shakeel Masud, Ijazul Haq, Kazim Khan, Ayaz Khan, and Azhar Abbas.

Talking to the delegation, the president appreciated the collective efforts of the media community for introducing amendments to the PEMRA law, especially to protect the rights of media workers.

He said that the linking of government advertisements with the payment of dues to electronic media employees would help address their issues.

The president discussed in detail various aspects of the bill with the visiting delegation. The

Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar visited the residence of

President JUI-F Maulana Fazal Ur Rehman to express his condolences for

those martyred in suicide attack in Khar, Bajuar at the JUI-F Workers'

The delegation in- amended bill had brought improvements to the existing media law, he said.

He also asked the members of the delegation to volunteer to educate the youth about fake news and disinformation, and highlighted that teenagers were among the most vulnerable populations to the scourge of fake news, and needed to be educated and sensitized about its implications.

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

Continued on page 2



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

Matter of public interest'

### ECP should conduct delimitations transparently, says CJP Bandial

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

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

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

The CJP remarked delimitation of constituencies is matter of public interest. The matter of delimitation of constituencies has come in SC several times. EC tion.

SLAMABAD (Online): should conduct delimitation of constituencies in transparent manner. There is too much sensitivity on delimitation of constituencies in Sindh. It is often complained by Sindh that delimitation of constituencies was not carried out cor-

> The CJP inquired during the hearing of the case EC is holding election when. Upon it DG Law EC shrugged his shoulders. The CJP remarked no

Cheema, Mushtaq Sukhera,

Muhammad Ali Durrani,

Jalil Abbas Jillani, Absar

Alam, Salim Safi, Hamid

Mir, Hafiz Sheikh, Gohar

Ejaz, Dr Shoaib Suddal,

Ahsan Bhoon, Sarfraz

Bugti, Zulfiqar Cheema,

Shamshad Akhtar, Raza

Baqir, Ashtar Ausaf,

Mohsin Jugnoo and Ayesha

date has been set for election so far. EC should resolve all matters before elec-

# PM for road infrastructure in areas serving magnet for foreign investment

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

Briefed in detail about ongoing work on Pinjarra bridge on Quetta-Sukkur Highway and Sawar bridge on Quetta-Zhob Road

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

The caretaker prime minister chaired a meeting to review the ongoing road infrastructure projects. The meeting was attended by restored the vehicular

PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

ongoing work on Pinjarra bridge on Quetta-Sukkar Highway and Sawar bridge on Quetta-Zhob Road. The work on Pinjarra bridge, which was damaged during the last year's flood, would com-

mence next month. A causeway was con-

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

The prime minister directed for reducing the stipulated time period for the completion of new

The meeting was apprised that the reconstruction and rehabilitation work

Continued on page 2

### Caretaker PM vows to eliminate terrorism. promote peace

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

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

Convention Islamabad.

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

The prime minister offered Fateha for the de-

He reiterated that terrorist elements could not deter the morale of Pakistani nation and assured taking of steps against terrorism and maintenance of law and order in the country on priority basis.

parted souls and prayed for

the early recovery of the

Fazlur Maulana Rehman, on the occasion, felicitated PM Kakar on assuming the office of the caretaker prime minister and extended his best

### News about resignation of Governor baseless

and fabricated Independent Report QUETTA: The Spokesman

to Governor Balochistan Secretariat has contradicted a news item running on social media regarding resignation of Governor Balochistan, Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar.

According to a statement issued here by the spokesman to Governor's Secretariat, the news running on social media about resignation of the Governor Balochistan is baseless and fabricated. There's no truth in the news in this

regard, he added. The spokesman urged the people associated with the media to avoid spreading unverified news and sensation.

### Care taker PM decides to induct small cabinet ISLAMABAD (Online): Rokhri, Shahid Afridi, Qari Sadaqat Ali, Ahmad

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

cided to review profile of

all the persons by him in connection with cabinet. The name of those who are likely to be inducted in care taker cabinet have come

Consultations have care taker cabinet. been started for giving portfolios of main ministries including ministry of for-

eign affairs, finance, interior and others. As per sources the name of Faisal Vawda, Maj

**Independent Report** 

QUETTA: A total of 31

persons including seven students and a female

teacher of a school got in-

jured in two different road

accidents occurred in

Kuchlak area of Quetta and

Bolan area of Kachhi dis-

a turn in Kuchlak area. As a

result eight persons includ-

ing female teacher and seven

other students aged be-

tween 6 to 15 years got in-

trict on Tuesday.

Raza Farooq are under consideration for induction in Sources disclosed name of Brig (Retd) Muzaffar

(Retd) Khurram Hamid oath.

Seven students, teacher of a

school among 8 injured in

road accident in Kuchlak

Ranjha and Sittara Imtiaz are also under consider-In the first phase 10

to 12 ministers will take

soon after the accident and

shifted the injured to the

pital sources, all the injured

have been admitted in the

Trauma center and being

provided necessary medical

aid. However, condition of

a student is stated to be

curred in Gogart area of

Bolan where a passenger

wagon rammed into a truck

coming from opposite di-

some 23 passengers sus-

tained injuries who were

shifted to the civil hospi-

tal, Dhadhar. Condition of

at least four passengers is

stated to be critical. Out of

all injured, some 11 were

shifted in the trauma center

The other accident oc-

As a result of collision,

According to the hos-

civil hospital.

### Professor Dr. **Abdul Saboor** selected for Tamgha-e-Imtiaz

Independent Report
QUETTA: The Dean Faculty of Arts, Social Sciences & Humanities, University of Turbat, Professor Dr. Abdul Saboor Baloch has been nominated for the civil award Tamgha-e-Imtiaz in recognition of his meritorious services and performance in the literature.

The selection of Professor Dr. Abdul Saboor Baloch has been made on the eve of Independence Day, stated in an official hand out issued

here on Tuesday. The award would be conferred on Professor Dr. Abdul Saboor Baloch on Pakistan Day, 23rd March, 2024. Meanwhile, the Vice Chancellor of University of Turbat, Dr. Jan Muhammad as well as faculty members and students have congratulated Dr. Abdul Saboor Baloch on his achievement

The Vice Chancellor described the award not only for Dr. Abdul Saboor but

### ISLAMABAD: Opposition leader Malik Sikandar Khan Advocate meeting with Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Abdul Ouddus Bizenjo Sikander, Bizenjo engages in discussions to select

QUETTA (APP): Opposition Leader Malik Sikander Khan Advocate met with Outgoing Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Abdul Quddus Bizenjo on Tuesday to evolve a consensus on the name of the caretaker chief minister.

They discussed the names of the proposed candidate to reach a consensus over a candidate for the post of interim chief minister as the decision has to be made within three days of assembly dissolution, under the

interim Chief Minister agreed to continue the discussions until to finalize the name of the caretaker chief minister by mutual agreement, said a handout released here.

A consensus on the name of the caretaker chief minister in Balochistan is expected soon.

On August 12, Balochistan Governor Malik Abdul Wali Kakar signed the summary moved by CM Bizenjo for the dissolution of the provincial

### **BAEF** approves 515 cases in its 20th board meeting

QUETTA (APP): The Welfare Imran Khan on Board of Balochistan Awami Endowment Fund (BAEF) has approved 512 cases to provide financial assistance to poor patients.

The decision was taken in 20th board meeting of BAEF, held under the chair-

Tuesday. A total of 532 new cases

suffering from various diseases across the province were presented in the meeting, of which 515 were approved for treatment.

Continued on page 2



QUETTA: Inspector General of Police Balochistan Abdul Khaliq Sheikh and Additional IG Police Jawad Ahmed Dogar pinning ranks to officers promoted

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

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

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

Senator Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar — a lawmaker belonging to Balochistan Awami Party (BAP) — has been selected as caretaker prime minister. The decision came after the second

round of consultations between then prime minister Shehbaz Sharif and Leader of the Opposition in the dissolved NA Raja Riaz, and a summary to this effect had been approved by

Article 224 1A. In Sindh, Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah and Leader of the Opposition in the dissolved provincial assembly Rana Ansar on Monday night reached a consensus on the appointment of Justice (retd) Maqbool Baqar as the interim CM.

President Arif Alvi under

The selection for the name of caretaker chief minister in Balochistan remains in limbo as incumbent CM Mir Abdul Quddus Bizenjo and Leader of the Continued on page 2

### Electricity supply fully restored to Makran Division from Iran

QUETTA: The supply of

electricity was fully re-stored from Iran to Makran Division on Tues-According to spokes-

Company

man said that supply of 100 megawatt is continued from the 132 KV Polan-Jiwani transmission line while 100 megawatt electricity is also being supplied from 132 KV Jeki Gor-Mand trans-

### According to details, the first road accident occurred in Kuchlak area where a school van carrying female teacher and seven students of a school to main Quetta city met road accident. The van collided with a passenger coach coming from opposite direction at

Independent Report

man of Quetta Electric Supply (QESCO), the quota of power supply has also been increased by Iran for the areas fall in Makran Di-

The QESCO spokesmission line.

### of civil Hospital Quetta the The rescue teams and also for the province and police reached the spot same night manship of Secretary Social University of Turbat. Governor Balochistan MalikAbdul Wali Khan Kakar offering Fateha for departed soul of Abaseen Roshaan son of PKMAP leader Essa Roshaan

# Taliban's governance achieved semblance of stability & security: Speakers

ISLAMABAD (APP): Speakers at a webinar on Tuesday said along with governance structure, the Taliban rulers had achieved some semblance of stability and security, and visible pragmatism regarding the economy in Afghanistan.

The Centre for Afghanistan, Middle East and Africa (CAMEA) at the Institute of Strategic Studies (ISSI) hosted a webinar titled "Interim Afghan Government in Power - Two Years On". It was moderated by Ms. Amina Khan, Director CAMEA, a news release said. The speakers at the webinar included ISSI Direc-General Sohail Mahmood, Charge d'Affairs and Minister Counselor, Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan Sardar Ahmad Shakeeb former Afghan Minister of Mining and Petroleum

Nargis Nehan, former ambassador Avaz Wazir, Head of Office, UNAMA Liaison Office, Islamabad Dr Malick Ceesay, Nonresident Senior Fellow Atlantic Council Omar Samad and Research Fellow at the Ouincy Institute for Responsible Statecraft Adam Weinstein, and Chairman BoG, ISSI, Khalid Mahmood

Sohail Mahmood stated that completion of two years since Kabul's fall and the establishment of Interim Afghan Government was an important juncture to take stock. He recalled the several unanticipated developments including short timeline of eventual U.S./ NATO troop withdrawal, meek response of Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) to Taliban advances, and sudden departure of the then Afghan

turn of events culminating in the transition of August 15 2021 He underscored Pakistan's role in mobilization of international support for preventing a humanitarian crisis and crafting a regional response with Afghanistan's neighbors through the establishment of six neighbouring countries platform. He added that besides humanitarian assistance, unfreezing of Afghanistan's financial assets was pivotal for building a sustainable economy

While shedding light on other challenges, Sohail Mahmood pointed out that



ISLAMABAD: Former Chief Minister Balochistan Jam Kamal and Ali Mardan Domki called on Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar.

### **British-Pakistani** journalist 'wins right' to sue CNN

ISLAMABAD (INP): British-Pakistani journalist ran over her foot in a car, Saima Mohsin has won the right to sue Cable News Network (CNN) for racial discrimination and unfair dismissal in UK Employment Tribunal, the journal-

Wednesday August 16, 2023

girls' education and women's

rights faced restrictions.

while terrorist entities targeting Pakistan remained a con-

cem requiring concrete steps

by the Interim Afghan au-

ful, stable and prosperous

Afghanistan was in the vital interest of Pakistan, while

regional economic integration

and connectivity - including

through CPEC - would ben-

efit all. In the wake of pre-

vailing challenges and oppor-

tunities, he stressed the need

for all actors to ensure a pru-

dent response, constructive

engagement, and win-win

He stressed that a peace-

thorities

outcomes

ist said on Tuesday.
Taking to X, formerly Twitter, Mohsin wrote: "I won! I won the hearing against CNN

She also said the employment tribunal will hear her case on unfair dismissal, disability, discrimination and equal pay in London. "Thank you for all your support. Truly It has helped me get through this," she added.

According to Deadline, Judge Klimov ruled in Mohsin's favour following a preliminary hearing last month, meaning that her case can proceed to a full tribunal at the London Central Employment Tri-

A date for the hearing is yet to be determined. Mohsin had filed a lawsuit against the news agency for racial discrimination and unfair dismissal

The reporter was left disabled following an accident when she was reporting from Jerusalem on the Israel-Palestine conflict,

the Guardian had reported.

resulting in severe tissue

- wherein her cameraman

Following the upsetting event, she urged to media organisation to switch her to a physically less demanding role and support for rehabilitation, but CNN flat-out refused.

"She also alleges that she asked CNN if she could switch to a presenting role in order to reduce the amount of time spent travelling but was told 'You don't have the look we are looking for'," the Guardian reported.

Three years later, CNN fired her. The reporter then de-

cided to move the employment tribunal claim as CNN refused to support her following her lifechanging injury.
"I worked hard to

become an international correspondent and loved my job with CNN. I risked my life many times on assignment for CNN believing they would have my back. They did not," she said.

Mohsin alleged that she faced racial and disability discrimination as well as a gender pay gap during her stint at CNN.

The former CNN reporter also alleged that the

### World Cup tickets to NHMP foils effort to smuggle go on sale on ice worth August 25: ICC millions of rupees ISLAMABAD (APP)

Sports Desk

Motorway Police on Tuesday foiled an attempt to LAHORE: The Internasmuggle huge quantity of ice tional Cricket Council worth millions of rupees on (ICC) on Tuesday an-Islamabad- Peshawar nounced that tickets for the ODI Men's World Cup — set to commence in India's Ahmedabad on October 5 — will go on sale According to the details, the contraband was recovered near Rishkai Service Area, when patrolling Sector Commander M-1 ber 5 — will go on sale from August 25. Shafiqur Rahman signaled

India's opening match against Australia is set for October 8 in Chennai, followed by the eagerly awaited showdown against arch-rival Pakistan on October 14 in Ahmedabad. However, fans won't have instant access to tickets for all matches, according to The Times of India. The report said

to travel to India.

However,

had

suspicious vehicle, 15 packs of ice were recovered from the vehicle. The
Motorway Police
seized the suspicious vetematic hicle and started searching for the accused. The total weight of ice was 15 kg and

National Highways and

to stop a suspicious ve-

hicle. The driver fled from

the spot and the Sector Commander M1 issued an

instruction to stop the sus-picious vehicle and chased

it himself. Seeing the Motorway Police from be-

hind, the accused pulled the

vehicle off the road and left

the vehicle and fled from

the spot. On searching the

Motorway

600 grams.

The price of ice in the world market is said to be

in millions of rupees. AAfter completing the initial legal proceedings, the vehicle and drugs were handed over to the police station of Tor District, Mardan. The instruction to keep a close watch on the vehicles was ongoing and further legal action was on-

As per the fresh changes, the world's biggest cricket stadium in Ahmedabad will host the hotly anticipated match between Pakistan and India on Oct 14, instead of Oct 15.

Among the other changes, Pakistan's match against Sri Lanka has been brought forward by two days and will now be played on October 10.

Meanwhile, Australia's match against South Africa in Lucknow will be played on October 12 instead of the following day. England will take on Afghanistan in Delhi on October 15, a day after the original date. New Zealand's the sale of tickets will

be conducted in a sysmanner against across phases.
Fixtures for the 50over World Cup were Bangladesh, originally scheduled as a day match for October 14 originally published in in Chennai, will now be held on October 13 June after weeks of delays arising from as a day-night contest.

Pakistan's reluctance The global cricket body began registrathe tion online for fans to schedule was overget tickets.

hauled on Aug 9, two According to the TOI report, ticket sales months before the tournament begins, for the semi-final and after the Board of Confinal matches of the trol for Cricket in Intournament are scheddia said foreign teams uled to begin on September 15.



QUETTA: View of illegal encroachment on a road by influent parking and encroachment mafia, which is creating problems for residents and commuters, showing negligence of concerned authorities of anti-encroachment department to draw its attention toward issue, at Qandhari Bazar in Quetta.

# BAEF approves...

the BAEF was held after a period of seven months due to a lack of funds to approve more cases of poor patients The aid would be given to poor and needy patients suffering from different chronic diseases under the BAEF initiative to get them treated in the best public and private sector hospitals across the coun-

As many as 161 patients would be provided treatment in Bolan Medical Complex (BMC) Hospital Quetta, 179 people would be treated in Sinar Hospital Quetta, 69 in Agha Khan Hospital Karachi, 21 in Ziauddin Hospital Karachi, 21 in Liaquat National Hospital Karachi, 13 in NIBD Karachi, 8 in Shifa International Hospital Islamabad, 20 in Kiran Hospital Karachi, 4 in National Medical Center Karachi (NMC), 2 in Shaukat Khanum Hospital Lahore, 6 in Taba Heart Hospital

Under the BAEF initiative, financial assistants has been providing to the poor patients for the treatment of "open heart surgery, Thalassemia, Cancer, liver

proved by the medical board on merit basis

### Powell full of praise for fans after winning blockbuster series against India

BARBADOS (INP): West encouragement and support Indies captain Rovman Powell and his team celebrated their stunning series win over India and the skipper Powell was understandably overjoyed with the result in the Kuhl Stylish Fans T20I Series Powered by Black and White.

Heading into the winner-take-all contest at Central Broward Stadium, Powell said it would be a grand finale, and so it proved. West Indies dominated the final showdown to win by eight wickets to take the series 3-2. The result means West Indies are unbeaten in T20Is Series this year, following their 2-1 win over South Africa in

rallied around us, offering Series

through thick and thin. Their presence physically and virtually, through social media, underscores the profound impact of cricket as a unifying force," Powell said. He was speaking after collecting the winner's trophy from Dr Kishore Shallow, President of Cricket West Indies. The star performers on Sunday were seamer Romario Shepherd who turned in a career-best 4-31 with the ball, and opener Brandon King, who scored a career-best 85 not out. Shepherd was named Player of the Match and was also the leading wickettaker in the series. Nicholas Pooran was the leading run-scorer with 176 runs to "Credit to the fans who be named the Player of the

بعدالت سيثل جح انسداد وهشت گر دی خضدار اشتنهار بحكم احضار فحض ملزم زمر دفعه (۸۸خس ف) (10)19 انسداد د بشتگر دي ايك 1997ء

مسمى سعيداحد ولدعبدالغن عرف جيئد قوم سريره بلوج سكندكر دگاپ مستومگ قرم زیر دفعہ: 3-4-Exp/su/,ATA/1950-324-353-34pp کے مرتکب ہوئے ہیں یا ان پر اٹکاب جرم کا ہاز روئے کیفیت تغیل وارنٹ کرفتاری جوسطیق نالش متعلق جاری ہوا ہے کہ مسمیاں ندکورہ دستیاب نہیں سکتے اور ہرگاہ حسب اطمینان ہمارے ٹابت ہوا ہے کہ ملزمان ندکورہ بالا فرار ہوگئے ہیں یا انہوں نے وارنٹ رفناری کی خیل کے کریز کرنے کیلئے اپنے تین روایش کئے ہیں لہذا اس اشتہار کے روے تھم دیا جا تا ہے کہ مسمی میداحمہ کولاڑم ہے کہ بتاریخ 09 تمبر 2023 کوعدالت انسداد دبیشت گردی بمقام خضدار میں جواب دہی نالش

PRQ NO. 388 / 15-08-2023

President that shaped the inclusive governance and

in Afghanistan. He noted that while territorial control had been established and security environment had improved, terrorist attacks by Daesh/ ISKP had continued.

ivouth hyd

HYDERABAD: Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) Chief, Siraj-ul-Haq addresses during the Youth Convention held in Hyderabad.

### PTI chairman's interim bail dismissed in three cases

ISLAMABAD (INP): An anti-terrorism court (ATC) in Islamabad rejected bail petitions of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chairman Imran Khan, who is incarcerated in Attock Jail, in three cases after he could not appear before court. ATC Judge Abul Hassan announced the reserved decision in three cases and rejected his bail petitions after former prime minister failed to show up before the court.

Earlier on Friday, the anti-terrorism court in Lahore dismissed interim seven cases. Insaf (PTI) chief in seven

cases over no-show. ATC Judge Aijaz Buttar heard the bail plea of PTI chairman in seven cases including Jinnah

rister Salman Safdar, former prime minister's lawyer requested the court to grant a day exemption from court appearance to his client as he is currently in jail and cannot appear before the court for bail extension.

Safdar pleaded with the court not to reject the plea on the technical grounds on which the judge remarked that already your client has been given numerous chances. Later, the court dismsissed the interim bail pleas of former prime minister and PTI chairman in

It is pertinent tion here that PTI Chairman Khan was arrested from his Lahore residence on August 5 after he was slapped with a five-year disqualification and a three-year prison

### House attack case. At the outset of the hearing, Bar-**Startling revelations about** privileges offered to **PIA** employees

ISLAMABAD (INP): Of- thousand 95 rupees. ficial record has made stunning revelations regarding privileges offered to Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) employees. The national airline is currently going through an annual

loss of 112 billion rupees. As per official documents available with INP news agency, the highest salary of PIAs permanent pilots is more than 20 lakh rupees per month, while the minimum salary of an employee is 50 thousand rupees, besides free air travel and medical treatment facility for all employees, one vehicle for use on the company's charter for all directors and general man-

In accordance with details, there are 15 groups in PIA, the lowest of which is group I getting Rs50,000 per month followed by group II having average salary of Rs64,516 and maximum salary of Rs1,96,000 per month. The maximum salary of aircraft engineers is more than Rs11,00,000 and minimum salary of Rs1,96,000. The average monthly gross salary of air-

The maximum salary of cabin crew is Rs3,68,000 and the minimum salary is Rs23,000 per month. The average monthly gross salary of cabin crew is Rs,1,69,070. The average salary of category three (admin) is more than Rs70,000 and the maximum salary is Rs98,000. The average salary of category three (technical) is more than Rs59,000 and the maximum salary is Rs90,000. The average salary of category four (admin) is more than Rs77,000 and the maximum salary is more than Rs1,81,000

The average salary of category four (technical) is more than Rs71,000 and the maximum is more than Rs1,23,000. The average salary of category five is more than Rs97,000 and the maximum is salary is more than Rs1,52,000. The average salary of category six is ??more than Rs1,18,000. And the maximum salary is more than Rs2.02.000. The average salary of category seven is more than Rs1,41,000 and the maximum is more than

### Pak, Afghanistan ODI series begins on 22 August Sports Desk

LAHORE: The three match Pakistan, Afghanistan ODI series is scheduled to be held in Sri-Lanka from 22 of this month.

Prior to the ODI Series against Afghanistan the Training Camp of National Cricketers started at National Cricket Academy Lahore today.

Meanwhile five members of the Pakistan squad for the side's upcoming One-day International series reported for a two-day preparatory camp, which started at the Gaddafi Sta-

Opener Abdullah Shafique, all-rounder Faheem Ashraf, pacer Mohammad Wasim Jr and batters Salman Ali Agha and Saud Shakeel are the only ones training for the three-

match series in Lahore. Mainstay fast bowlers Haris Rauf and Shaheen Shah Afridi and Pakistan wicket-keeper Mohammad Rizwan will join the team ahead of their departure to

Sri Lanka on Aug 17. The remaining players including Pakistan captain Babar Azam are already in Sri Lanka due to their Lanka Premier League commitments and will unite with their national side team-mates in the island country only, with the matches are set to be held in Hambantota from Aug

### **President** assures support... Continued from page 1

The president also urged the need to promote diversity of thought and opinions by promoting dialogue in society and free exchange of ideas. He said that the dynamics of new forms of media, especially social media, should be understood, adding that it was the responsibility of media to educate the people on morality and the use of social media in a responsible

and constructive manner. The delegation briefed the president about various provisions of the new bill that would benefit the journalist community as well as



ISLAMABAD: A view of the close fuel station at Sector G-8 as station authority close it after the news of price hike of patrol once again in country.

after she was severely injured while on assignment in Isreal.

She has been struggling turn to work full time-time

managers preferred white American correspondents over her even when she was ground — giving her less on-air time.

### after the incident in 2014 PM for road infrastructure....

Continued from page 1

on 118-km long Quetta-Dhadar Road and 188-km Dhadar-Jacobabad Road would be undertaken anew which would not only help in fuel saving, but also reduce the vehicular pressure.

It was also informed about the repair work on Sawar bridge. The repair work on the 282-meter long bridge was in the final stages while during the work, the traffic could not be diverted due to lack of alternate route.

The reconstruction work on the bridge would commence soon and its completion would take about six months.

The caretaker PM observed that the National Highway Authority (NHA)

in the maintenance and construction of roads. He emphasized upon completion of road infra-

was playing an efficient role

structure in the Balochistan province and directed the reconstruction of Karachi to Chaman highway. He also asked for adoption of the out of the box approach to expedite con-

struction work because it

was the responsibility of the government to provide facilities to the masses. The prime minister directed the relevant authorities to expedite work on the ongoing projects on priority basis and sought brief-

ing over the proposed projects. He also asked for improving the road network linking Balochistan with other provinces.

### ECP urges caretakers to ensure....

Continued from page 1

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

was mandated with the constitutional duty to organise and conduct elections in terms of Article 218(3) of the Constitution and to make such arrangements as are necessary to ensure that the elections are conducted honestly, justly, fairly and in accordance

"It has become imperative that the ECP shall take all necessary steps under the Constitution and prevalent law for the smooth conduct of general elections," it added.

with the law.

The electoral watchdog directed the caretaker governments at the federal and provincial levels to assist the ECP in holding elections in accordance with the law and ensure the compliance of all the notifications, directives and provisions as laid down in Section 230 of the Act ibid. The ECP also placed a

ban on transfers and postings of public officers to ensure transparent elections. "Not to post or transfer any public official after the issuance of this notification under the federal and the provincial governments without prior ap-

proval in writing of the ECP as laid down in Clause 2(f) of Section 230 of the Elections Act, 2017," it added.

The election body also banned all kinds of recruitment in any ministry, division, department or institution under the federal. provincial and local governments with immediate effect, except with the prior approval of the Commis-

The ECP also refrained the interim government from announcing or executing any kind of development schemes at federal and provincial levels except those which are ongoing or approved before the issuance of the notification. All development funds

relating to local government institutions in the provinces and cantonment boards, for the new schemes, throughout the country, will stand frozen after the announcement of the election schedule with immediate effect till the announcement of the results of the general elections, read the notification.

It further said the caretaker governments shall perform their functions and attend to day-to-day matters which are necessary to run the affairs of the federation and provinces in accordance with the law

### Continued from page 1 The board meeting of

Karachi, 20 in Gambat Hospital, 2 in Patel Hospital and 1 PKL Hospital Lahore.

and kidney transplants.

All cases had been ap-

# Kashmiris observe India's **Independence Day as black day**

Kashmiris living in Azad Jammu & Kashmir and In- in the liberated territory indian Illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday observed India's Independence Day as a black day to mark protest against long forced and illegal occupation of a large part of Jammu and Kashmir State by India.

According to the report, in district Mirpur, a protest rally was staged to observe the black day, through a unanimously passed resolution warning India to abstain from launching any aggression against Pakistan or Azad Jammu & Kashmir.

"Every individual of AJK is fully prepared to make a defense of inch after inch of the motherland shoulder to shoulder with valiant armed forces of Pakistan if India dared to launch any attack against Pakistan or AJK", the rally declared.

The rally thanked and paid rich tributes to the people of Pakistan for their unequivocal full support of Kashmiri's struggle for right self-determination.

The Indian independence day was marked with mass anti-India protest ral-

lies and demonstrations in all small and major towns Rawalakot, Bagh, Palandri, Neelam Valley, Jhelum valley, Havaili and other towns

People from diverse segments of civil society including social, political, and other public representative organization attended the rallies

holding black flags and wearing black bands around their arms to mark Indian Independence Day as black day. In Mirpur, elders of the city representing all segments of life including social and political workers, employees of private and public sector organizations besides senior officials led the rally which marched through major city streets including Quid e Azam Chowk, Mian Muhammad Road, Allama Iqbal Road, and central Shaheed chowk raising zindabad slogans for Pakistan and the valiant armed forces of the country. The rally expressed grave concern over the fastdeteriorating conditions of

ISLAMABAD: Activists of All Parties Hurrivat Conference are shouting

slogans during protest outside Foreign Office to commemorate Indian

Independence Day as Black Day because of their oppressor attitude with the innocent citizens of Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

Popular makeup artist and something creative and dif- the authorities concerned to

playing today and who I

ing on eastern fashion be-

cause the idea of designing

is to be versatile and not to

restrict at any point. And

my wardrobe has also been

featured on Rahat Fateh Ali

Khan and in other artists

Pakistani fashion industry

needed to catch up with the

Chinese fashion industry,

because we were far behind

them. She suggested to new

comers to remain consis-

tent and keep on working

She warned that rising

obesity among children and

youths is putting them at

risk for several ailments, in-

cluding coronary heart dis-

ease, high blood pressure,

people of all ages, have been

adapted to the Western

lifestyle of consuming fast

food at random in our coun-

should be launched to en-

courage healthy lifestyles,

she said, adding, "We have

to educate children at homes

and schools on how they

giving rise to obesity in

people who are subse-

quently developing non-

communicable diseases, she

she noted

can stay fit.'

"Children, as well as

Awareness campaigns

Urbanization is also

Aasma Khan said that

music videos too.

She said: "I like work-

she added.

Proud to be part of Pak,

China first collaborative

feature Movie: Aasma

ISLAMABAD (APP): of always coming up with

fashion designer Aasma ferent that has prepared my

Khan has said that she was mind for the role that I am

artistic mind since I was a hard to achieve the desired

Healthy diet, regular

exercise can prevent

obesity, Expert

proud to be part of the Pa-

kistan-China first collabo-

rative feature Movie

"Ba'tie Girl. Talking to

APP, she said that she had

also worked on the China-

Pakistan Economic Corri-

dor (CPEC) Cultural Cara-

van which was one the suc-

she had done numerous in-

ternational fashion photo

shoots as well, adding that

"I have completed my fash-

ion designing from

Hunerkada College of Vi-

ISLAMABAD (APP): A

Health expert Tuesday ad-

vised that all parents

should monitor their

children's eating habits and

encourage the develop-

ment of healthy eating and

regular exercise for better

Talking to a private news channel, A health spe-

cialist Dr. Shabana Naz ex-

plained that children eat

excessive amounts of food,

and the calories they con-

sume mostly go unburned

due to a lack of physical

need to build more and more

playgrounds and parks to

promote the culture of

walk, exercise, jogging, and

other recreational activities

in children youth, and eld-

erly people.

She emphasized the

mental health.

"I have always had an

little child and that mindset outcomes.

sual & Performing Arts".

Aasma Khan said that

cessful project.

past 10 days. India, it said, cluding the capital city of Muzaffarabad, Mirpur, Kotli, Bhimbher, world's largest jail and garworld's largest jail and garrison. The rally, through another resolution, called upon the international community especially the United Nations to immediately move for getting the special status of the disputed Jammu & Kashmir state restored – for onward early peaceful settlement of

the Kashmir issue in line

with the UN resolutions. It urged the world body to take immediate notice of history's worst Indian act of state terror ism and aggression let loose against the innocent people in occupied Jammu Kashmir by forcibly revoking the special status of the disputed state. Through another unanimously passed resolution, the rally called upon the world body – UNO, international human rights organizations including Amnesty International Red Cross, Human Rights Watch and others to immediately move for ensuring the supply of food and medicines to save the lives of the house the people in strife-torn and fully-locked indefinite curriddled occupied Jammu.

**IHC directs** 

police to

ÎSLAMABAD (APP)

The Islamabad High Court

(IHC) on Tuesday directed

produce arrested Pakistar

Tehreek-e-Insaf's (PTI)

leader Sheharyar Khan

Afridi before it on Wednes-

day and also summoned the

Chief Commissioner of

Islamabad Capital Territory

(ICT) in personal capacity

hearing the case, observed

that it was necessary to cite

reasons for keeping anyone

in custody. He issued show-cause notices to the

ICTDeputy Commissioner

and Senior Superintendent

of Police (SSP) Operations

as to why not contempt of

court proceedings should be

**Outsourcing** 

of IIA for

15 years

approved

ISLAMABAD (Online):

Approval has been ac-

initiated against them.

Justice Babar Sattar



ISLAMABAD: Governor Gilgit Baltistan Syed Mehdi Shah calls on Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar.

# Martyred cop laid to rest, son granted to join police dept

The funeral prayer of the valiant martyr and Head Constable of Islamabad Capital Police, Rashid, was held on Tuesday at the police lines headquarters with utmost respect and honor.

The ceremony was attended by a multitude of police personnel, including Islamabad Capital City Police Officer (ICCPO) Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan and senior police officers.

The sacrifice of Rashid, who lost his life in the line of duty, was com-memorated with somber reverence. A vast gathering of police officers and employees, along with ICCPO began on the night of Janu-

fered their final respects in a touching funeral prayer. The attendees expressed their deep condolences and offered Fateha for the elevation of the martyr's rank. Honoring the supreme

sacrifice made by Head Constable Rashid, his son was announced to be granted a position within the police department, a fitting tribute to his father's legacy. Additionally, his name will be submitted for consideration for the prestigious 'Tamgha-e-Shujaat' by the ICCPO, recognizing

his bravery and dedication. Constable Head Rashid's journey of valor

licemen headed by ASI Arshad Mehmood, confronted armed terrorists riding on a motorcycle during snap checking at Naka Chaman Road Jilania Chowk in G-8 area of Karachi Company police station. The attackers, armed

with Kalashnikovs and pistols, unleashed a hail of gunfire, resulting in the martyr-dom of Head Constable struggling for life at the hos-

**GB** Governor calls on

Caretaker PM ISLAMABAD (APP)

Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar

The GB Governor

Munawar and critical injuries to Head Constable Rashid and Constable Rooz Amin. Despite their best efforts, the injuries proved fatal for Rashid who was

### NDMRF to kick off country's first ever 3-day DRR Expo today

ISLAMABAD (APP): The National Disaster Risk Management (NDRMF) is going to inaugurate the country's firstever three-day disaster risk reduction expo at the Pak-China Friendship Center that will continue from August 16-18 with a vibrant gathering of local and international experts on the subject matter. The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) in collaboration with the NDRMF is organizing a national-level Pakistan Expo on Disaster Risk Reduction (PEDRR-23) under the title Making

Resilient Pakistan. Chief Executive Officer (CEO), of NDRMF, Bilal Anwar in a video message shared on the official Twitter handle of the Fund informed the masses regarding PEDRR-23. During PEDRR-23, a large number of high-level dignitaries, representatives from the international community, government officials, humanitarian organizations, academia, media, and members of the private sector would attend the event.

He said, "PEDRR-23 will comprise of multiple activities including seminars, panel discussions, green talks, student competitions, and academic paper presentations. NDRMF looks forward to collabora-

tive efforts in making it a

The Green Talks at PEDRR-23 is one of the important events focused on Climate-Induced Disasters to be led by CEO

NDRMF, Bilal Anwar. The Green Talks that aim to shed light on the lessons learned from Pakistan's experience with disasters, showcasing stories of resilience, innovation, and community empowerment will highlight key lessons learned from past disasters, focusing on innovative approaches, communitydriven initiatives, and sustainable solutions that have emerged from Pakistan's

experiences. Moreover, a panel discussion under the title Investing in an Adaptive and Resilient Future of Pakistan would also convene key stakeholders to unearth the way forward in the rising climate crisis and vulnerability of the region.

Pakistan's vulnerability to a range of climate-induced disasters underscores the urgent need for comprehensive strategies that enhance disaster resilience. This Panel Discussion, hosted by NDRMF aims to bring together experts, policymakers, and practitioners to delve into effective Disaster Risk Reduc-



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Ethiopia H.E. Jemal BekerAbdula along with Principal, Ms. Sobia Abid distributing shields to student in connection with 77th Independence Day Celebration at Roots International Schools & Colleges, H-8.

## **University of Tehran offers Adjunct Professorship** to Prof. Choudhary

ISLAMABAD (APP): chanters in books published The President of the University of Tehran, offered Adjunct Professorship to Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary at the Institute of Biotechnology and Biophysics, University of Tehran. Through a letter addressed to Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary, he offered Adjunct Professorship in recognition of outstanding contribution of

Prof. Choudhary. He further mentioned that the expertise, experience, and perspectives of the university's adjunct professors were highly valued assets to the academic

programs of the university.
Prof. Dr. Muhammad Iabal Choudhary is a world renowned medicinal chemist. He has published 1,175 research papers in the fields of organic and bioorganic chemistry in international journals, 76 books and 40 by major US and European press. He has secured 40 US patents so far.
Prof. Choudhary's

work has been cited by the researchers from around the world by 27,407 times and his h-index is 70.

By now 94 national and international scholars have completed their PhD degrees under his supervision. Prof. Choudhary is

D.Sc., Ph.D., and C. Chem. He has been awarded by different governments of Pakistan with Hilal-e-Imtiaz Sitara-e-Imtiaz, and Tamgha-e-Imtiaz. He has been elected fellow by academies named Academy of Sciences for the Devel-

world renowned science oping World, Islamic World academy of Sciences, Pakistan Academy of Sciences. Royal Society of Chemistry, and Chemical Society of Pakistan.



### Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan, of- ary 17, 2022, when he, **Court instructs Bushra** to join investigation

ISLAMABAD (APP): A local court on Tuesday granted last opportunity to kistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chairman, to join the investigation in a case registered by the Kohsar Police Station and extended her pre-arrest bail.

The same court also reserved its judgments on the interim bail petitions of Imran Khan in six cases registered in connection with the May 9 incidents. Additional District

and Sessions Judge Muhammad Sohail heard produce Afridi the interim bail petitions of the PTI chief and his wife in various cases.

To a court's query, the investigation officers said

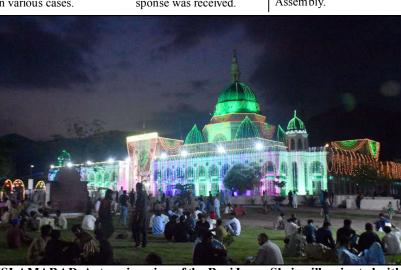
joined the investigation in several cases. The petitioners' lawyer Salman Safdar Advocate argued that almost same charges were levelled against the former prime minister in six cases. They had approached the investigation officers to join the investigation but no response was received.

Governor Gilgit Baltistan ing, the prosecutor adopted the stance that courts had Syed Mehdi Shah Tuesday terminated the interim bails called on Caretaker Prime of the PTI chief in various Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq cases as he had been con-Kakar and congratulated victed in a criminal case and him on assuming the charge of Caretaker PM. was currently in jail. thanked the GB Governor on extending best wishes to

the PTI chairman had not

said selection of a caretaker prime minister from Balochistan province would strengthen the federation of Pakistan. He invited Caretaker PM Kakar to visit GB and address the Gilgit Baltistan

Assembly.



ISLAMABAD: A stunning view of the Bari Imam Shrine illuminated with colorful lights as decorated by authority due to the starting of Urs Mubarak, which will be from 15 August till 17 August in Federal Capital.

# ECP's training

corded to outsource Islamabad International Airport (IIA) for 15 years. According to sources third party will pay 100 million dollars in advance after IIA is outsourced. The agreement will

stand cancelled without returning advance payment in the event of any violation. According to sources customs site security and immigration service will re-

main with Civil Aviation Authority. The administrative matters, financial close, design and construction, services charges, exchange rate

and shops rent will be the

responsibility of third

party. Sources disclosed that third party will be allowed to open shopping mall and brands shops at airport.

program for 29 officers commences at PADRM ISLAMABAD (APP): vice training for newly re The training of 29 officers cruited officers will cover

of the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) began on Tuesday at the ECP's Pakistan Academy for Democratic Practices, Research, Management (PADRM). On the inaugural day, ECP's Additional Director General Law Khurram Shahzad delivered

an enlightening lecture, fo-

cusing on election laws and

the constitution., a press

release said Scheduled until

was evident from the thoughtfully designed training.

various aspects of the electoral process, including Electoral Management Electoral Laws, and Electoral Practices. The training aims to offer an understand ing of the complexities and hurdles associated with electoral processes. According to an ECP spokesperson, the Commission's commitment to nurturing professionalism and competence among its officers

### Court terminates interim bails of PTI chairman

ISLAMABAD (APP): An Anti-Terrorism Court (ATC) on Tuesday terminated the interim bails of PTI Chairman in three cases registered under antiterrorism law. ATC Judge Abul Hassnat Zulkernain announced the verdict against the pre-arrest bail petitions of PTI chairman. The court dismissed the petitions due to none pursuance and none appearance. The Khanna Police Station had registered two cases of terrorism while Barakahu Police Station registered one case against the PTI chairman.

### ISLAMABAD: Student giving final touch to her painting in the training class at Peshawar Morr Weekly Bazar.

### August 25, 2023, the in-ser-Exorbitant prices of back-to-school supplies haunt inflation-stricken parents what to talk about the other uncomfortable life in these

With back-to-school essentials in demand amid opening of the educational institutions in the federal capital after summer vacation break, majority of the parents are grappling with the exorbitant prices of all school items.

Most of private schools start their new academic session after the summer break when most of parents have to purchase back-to-school essentials for their kids by physically visiting the stationary stores or ordering through online suppliers.

The price of school supplies from glue, color pencils, markers, lunch box, water bottles, geometry boxes, school bags, and cut boxes to textbooks, notebooks, and uniforms has registered a significant increase which made it diffi-

ISLAMABAD (APP): cult for families, especially salaried class, to manage the educational expenses. 'I have spent around

Rs 20,000 to purchase only the textbooks of my son studying in Grade II while I still have to buy the stationary items and uniform as per the list provided by the school administration" Shaista Adil, a mother of two children said.

'Although it has become difficult to bear the expenses of my one schoolgoing son who is studying in private school, we have no option left when the government institutions lack facilities and educational standards, she lamented.

Abid Shah, another parent said, "I was surprised to hear the price of the trolley bag which was Rs 12,000 during my visit to the school supplies shop

Talking to APP, he said, "Getting education in a private school has be-

come a luxury keeping in

view the increasing fee structure and a long list of stationary and other items they give.
The fee of my son studying in early year class is Rs. 23,000 besides annual

charges of Rs 25,000 which is too hard to afford during the prevailing price hike situation' Another parent, Farah Hamid said that instead of making things easier for the

parents, the private schools provide a long list of stationary items to the parents for buying which are hardly used during the whole year.

'Not only the parents have to buy all the stationary themselves but these schools also grab annual

charges for stationery too in the name of artwork, overburdening the parents", she observed.

She urged the concerned authorities to keep check on unusual increase in the prices of school items in the markets and take action against the unjust price hike. Tahir Mehmood, who

is associated with the profession of teaching for a long time, said that parents already struggling amid rising inflation and facing a cost of living are forced to pay high prices of essential school items for their kids.

He said that back-toschool shopping is really stressful for them but they have to pay as being parents they consider these items as an essential category in their shopping list.

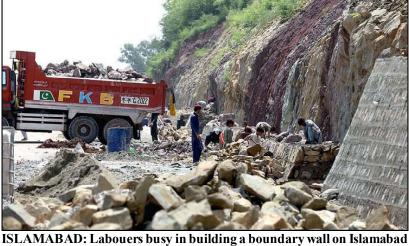
real sacrifices and leading

days due to soaring infla-tion, high-priced fuel, electricity, and gas. Prices of school items

like shoes, uniforms, backpacks and lunch boxes, crayons, markers, notebooks, chart papers, binders, papers, pens, erasers, and pencils have increased substantially due to the prevailing inflation. When contacted the

owner of a prominent book and stationery shop in F-8, he said that the inflation has not only distressed the parents of the school-going kids but every section of life. He said that since our

country import paper and the price of paper has increased due to which the prices of textbooks and notebooks have registered a 40 to 45 percent statio-They are making some nery increase this year



Expressway.

# Daily soice of Masse, Independent

Wednesday August 16, 2023

## Resurgent terrorism

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

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

The top brass is seemingly aware of the delicate situation. While addressing the Independence Day parade at Kakul, the the universe. Some people army chief thanked the people of KP and Balochistan for "resiliently fighting ... terrorism", while he urged Afghanistan to shut" He learnt the art of prevent its soil from being used against Pakistan. Yet the battle his sight was declining against militancy cannot be an open-ended exercise, as people living in the affected regions have had enough of violence, and are demanding the state the power to see was a chaltake decisive action.

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

Whether it is TTP, IS-K or separatist militants, an effective means the process of tive counterterrorism strategy is needed to calm the affected new order is facilitated via regions, dislodge the terrorists actions that make transition possible. In the climate and cause minimum disruptions in the lives of the local people, who have sacrificed from crises. In politics, it much over the past several means marching in step with the times you live in years and seen numerous and course correcting to counter-insurgency operations. Within Pakistan there in research innovative can be no safe havens for militants, their sympathisers or facilitators. Moreover, the state must continue working with the Afghan Taliban to ensure no anti-Pakistan militants find the same sequential process sanctuary across the western border. Efforts to address maximising co-benefits. Pakistan's concerns on this front may have continued since therefore cannot be adthe Taliban took Kabul in 2021, but have yielded mixed results.

Sometimes there is talk of direct impact on the growth indicators of countries most cooperation, at other times affected and least prepared much acrimony. For example, the Taliban spokesman recently criticised Pakistan for being unable to address the implementation intent militancy issue. Instead of trading blame, both sides should in the puzzle is who, when work to ensure militants do not and how. This stumbling block has prevented us have the space to operate, with from achieving policy obthe onus on Kabul to prevent guired progress in our elianti-Pakistan terrorists from mate journey. There can be launching attacks.

# Age of caretaking



Arifa Noor

The parliament elected in 2018 has come to an end, but despite not lasting longer than its predecessors, it seemed to stretch on. The caretaker prime minister is in place, a dark horse for sure. A senator from the Balochistan Awami Party, he has announced stepping down from the party as well as tive move indeed. His nomination has been widely welcomed. How much of this is due to Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar's affability and how much where few are willing to question the choice of those who matter is hard

But the reception aside, there are questions about the selection process. Politicians of the

former government are whispering or saying out loud how they were kent in the dark about the dark horse on whom the spotlight was switched on last Saturday. First came the 'admission' of Khursheed Shah, who told the media his party did not know about Kakar. And how he may not have been a good choice. However, his words were followed by a statement from Shazia Marri dispelling the impression of the PPP having any reservations. Since then, Akhtar Mengal has issued a strongly worded

Be that as it may, the story of how Anwaar Kakar was shortlisted and then chosen is still to be told; but this is Pakistan and few of us can resist telling a good story. It is bound to come out sooner rather than later. In the meantime, the

letter on the matter.

rest of us will keep wondering about the details. After all, Raja Riaz was going to be the key man in making the decision, as many had been predicting, so did Shehbaz Sharif go rogue? Not rogue on those he is accused of being close to but his own fam-

ily members? Or was it simply a matter of the family accepting the inevitable? As someone pointed out, once all the legislation was done, there was little leverage the PML-N enjoyed. In other words, even if Nawaz Sharif wanted Ishaq Dar as caretaker prime minister, there was little he could do to insist his choice be accepted. In case of a deadlock, the decision would have ended up with the ECP, and their wavelength is aligned with the stars that shine near the old airport of the twin cities.

the details, there are some news stories about BAP from recent days, which are intriguing to say the least. One was the random and rather short news story about Abdul Quddus Bizenio having written a letter to Asif Ali Zardari, expressing his regret at having deciding against joining the PPP. This news came in the last week of July. No outlet provided details on what this meant for the other BAP politicians who had joined PPP earlier in the

But while we await

Shortly after came

the news of the Jam Kamal group in the BAP meeting the prime minister with a view to joining the PML-N. The delegation included the caretaker prime minister but again, the news disappeared as quickly as it appeared and there were few details on what the final decision Without any infor-

mation from any zarai, all one can assume is the efforts to push some in Balochistan to the PPP had become half-hearted if not been dropped altogether; and that some winds may also have begun to blow towards the If this had some bear-

ing on the decision of the new caretaker prime minister, we may just find out soon enough. Once we do, we'll also find out why the PML-N is stoically quiet, while the PPP is not.

Mengal's letter is perhaps not all that important in the context of the politics of allies. However, it does point to something more pervasive if we want to give it importance, ie, how this appointment will be viewed caretaker prime minister may not be in a position to assuage any of the discontent in Balochistan by his climb to the highest office (in theory) in the country.

But then, this is not a serious concern if elections are held in time. The caretaker prime minister is, after all, not there to hold state and society together. His or her job is to hold elections and go home. But in case he stays on à la Punjab and KP, his personal reputation will come under strain. Whether that is a cost too heavy for the prime minister is hard to say; the past five years show no politician or party has found the price of power too high to pay. Will Kakar be the exception that proves the rule?

Moving beyond, it is worrying that everyone expects a delay in elections. No one thinks elections within three months are a possibility while some hope they will take place within six. A delay of more than six months is not in the realm of the impossible even though the variables are so many in the home province. The that few can be sure of this

in immoral and unethical

practices of blackmailing

reform. If elections are delayed, some of the truly difficult' decisions will have to be taken under the caretaker set-up. This may range from quick privatisation to raise some cash, as well as expanding the tax base and/or reducing subsidies or cutting expenses. Each one of these solutions will lead to social costs — lobbies or sectors will be hurt and state-employed people will be let go. There will be a backlash, which will add to existing socioeconomic problems as well as the worsening security situation. Can Kakar Sahib be the face of these deci-

eventuality.

Herein lies the rub. If

one of the reasons for the

delay is the PTI's popu-

larity, a second, more im-

portant one is of economic

sions? Will his cabinet bear the burden? I am reminded of my early years in journalism when Pervez Musharraf came in promising change but backed down soon enough. But then he wanted legitimacy and popularity. Perhaps those are not needed nowadays in the difficult times we face. -- Courtesy Dawn



Dr Naazir Mahmood

Without differences in our abilities, the world would have been a bland sphere in have more pizzazz than others, and one such person is Zahid Abdullah who according to him can perform all tasks with his "eyes wide living without sight some 20 years ago. Even before that, steadily, and his gradual sight loss was a painful process as he knew that soon he would be a different person altogether. Till he lost the capacity to see in his early 30s. To live his life without lenge that he took head on. and his story is worth tell-

Zahid is a master learner; he quickly adapted

to the new realities that enriched his other senses. He could hear and smell much better and his taste developed beyond simple culinary delights; he acquired a taste for creative arts, music, and of course drama in life: he had also studied a drama course as a student and teacher of English Language and Literature at the post-graduate level. With nis partial sight he completed his first Master's degree at a public university and acquired another from a private university after he

had lost his sight. Zahid was not an only child of his parents; he had eight siblings and one can imagine the plight of a boy growing up with declining sight in such a large crowd. Ultimately, he managed to raise his three daughters and proved that a sightless father may be an even more caring parent.

Throughout his life he has fought against access barriers and advocated for a better physical and social environment for people liv-ing with disabilities. He believes that an inaccessible environment renders people disabled, not the impairment

Disability rights are not book also discusses the lack the only area he is working of ethical behaviour in medi-

in. The right to information has become his lifelong passion, and he has delivered some remarkable instructions to relevant departments as the information commissioner. He is also a researcher, resource person and trainer who teaches how to improve productivity to his colleagues and learners in a friendly man-

He has authored books and has become an objective commentator on human contradictions that he reflects in his writings. 'The Wise Man' was his second book that attracted the attention of readers in 2015. It was a collection of stories that he wrote in a humorous

But here we are more interested in his first and third books. 'Disabled society' (2012) was his first ground-breaking book that deals with the challenges and problems people living with disabilities face in a society such as Pakistan Its contents ranged from strategies to cope with disabilities and the misplaced concept of 'divine justice' and 'majoritarian dictatorship' that marginalizes a differently abled minority. The

cal professionals, a majority of whom need better training and capacity development in dealing with differently abled people.

Zahid has written 'Dis-

abled society' with an insight that comes with a life of constant challenges and obstacles that hinder the path to a successful career. He has specifically focused on gender issues that are normally ignored in discussions about people with disabilities. One of the most significant contributions the book makes is on the front of information access. It argues that society itself blocks building barriers so that only a privileged few enjoys access to information and uses it for their benefits. Any information about the rights

The book is unique in that it includes four research papers on people with disabilities and the electoral process. The papers also deal with the gender divide that is even more harmful for women with disabilities; perhaps it is the first-ever research paper in Pakistan that so comprehensively covered the topic.

of the disabled is not easily

available to those who may

benefit from it.

Girls and women with disabilities face extraordi-

nary discrimination and across many different parts misbehaviour, especially in of Lahore.' universities. In a society where campus officers and university teachers indulge

students, one can imagine how vulnerable disabled female students are. Now something about Zahid's latest book 'Honour Among Judges and Other Tales of Justice'. This is a marvellous collection of stories and revolves around a group of lawyers who gather at a restaurant in April 2021 when the government lifted the lockdown it imposed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The 15 lawyers gather on a rooftop of a popular restaurant near Heera Mandi in Lahore and narrate their stories. The

prologue: They have been shunned and condemned by some, but loved and patronto condemn them was a cartoonish general who had a permanent smile plastered on his face, though it was never reflected in his cold eyes. When he closed down

have a specific significance

as the writer mentions in his

The story tells that

these lawyers were regular customers of the particular restaurant but the pandemic intervened and they could not meet as long as the lockdown lasted. Now they regroup – minus the two who succumbed to the virus -and share their tales.

There is a lawver who claims to 'punish evil and reward virtue', coupled with a judge who has 'sad roomy eyes'. There is one law practitioner who brews his own wine and always has Plan B ready for all eventualities. Another lawver nicknamed the Decoupler deals with divorce cases. Then there are lawyers in their 70s, with plenty of experiences to women of the red-light area

There is a female lawver with 'well-earned bragging rights' to claim that she had never taken a single case before a judge and vet had the most successful practice ized by most. The last one in the city. Not far behind is the story of a public pros-ecutor famous for his "dogged pursuit of criminals". Then there is "Wiley Wali" with a dubious reputation of hiring judges to the Heera Mandi in the seek justice for his clients. -- Courtesy TheNews

# Let's adapt

actions to push the change

agenda forward.



Aisha Khan

change through which integration into an emerging world, this refers to strengthening resilience to absorb shocks and recover with the times you live in stav ahead of the curve. In science, it means discovery, thinking, in media effective communication and at the people's level, embracing change and willingness to transform.

You can look at adaptation through any lens but the end response will yield ... anticipatory planning, thinking strategic and Climate change is not

a stand-alone subject and dressed in isolation. It changes demography, alters social dynamics and has a to cope with change.

The sectoral impacts of climate change are well researched and policies and plans in place to highlight through action frameworks. However, the missing piece quired progress in our clino progress without investing in enabling agencies re-

sponsible for structural adjustments and making the necessary changes at different levels. In every society, the enablers are the people, government policymakers who together work on, and support strategies for enabling critical

In Pakistan the climate crisis is a cause that is championed by all political parties and experienced by people at all levels. But despite national consensus on being a vulnerable and hardnundrum. hit country, not enough has been done to make a difference on ground. This places a high responsibility on the interim government to own the climate agenda and use

the momentum for raising the level of engagement to a higher equilibrium. This is a time to go beyond rhetoric and take a more reflective view of the challenge. There is a growing tendency to attribute everything to external finance and resort to inaction. However, not all paradigm shifts cost money. Finance is only a byproduct of good policy. A little soul-searching may help us to understand that investment in people, shift in policy, and indirect approaches can enhance productivity, boost the

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

economy and incentivise

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

It is not a coincidence that countries with high human capital and empowered women have sustainable populations. Advocacy alone on family planning has not shown the desired results in Pakistan. The latest census is a strong signal for the need to adopt an indirect management approach for long-term divi-

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

prepare for the next elec-

evolving narrative for a

safe future. -- Courtesy

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

tions, it is important that clarity is provided to the tional as the federal governpeople on actions that will ment has not transferred the be part of their electoral funds to Sindh. manifestos on climate change. The vision for a resilient Pakistan needs to go beyond going green to transformative changes in the social landscape and demonstration of political will to shift from status quo to new and dynamic equations for internal and in pension. After devoluexternal cohesion. An ention, the federal government abling environment is the had no lawful authority to product of actions set in administer the scheme but motion by enablers. It is has continued with it on an time to adapt and move ad hoc basis. forward recognising constraints and building an

EOBI was being managed smoothly until devolution and all three stakeholders — employers, employees and government faced no issues. An increase in employers' monthly contribution would mostly be followed by an increase

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

### Workers' benefit fixed amount to the follow-

ing: "'wages' means the

rates of wages as declared

under the Minimum Wages

for Unskilled Workers Or-

dinance, 1969". After devo-

lution, any amendments

carried out by the govern-

ment in federal laws would

only extend to Islamabad

Capital Territory, and not

wage for unskilled workers

became a provincial subject

after devolution, but em-

ployers would not accept

these for paying EOBI

contribution as the relevant

law for the purpose was

the 1969 ordinance. Conse-

quently, some employers

continued to pay the con-

Fixing the minimum

beyond.

1980s, these girls spread



Parvez Rahim

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

tribution at six per cent of age Benefits Institution, Rs6,000 per insured emconstituted under the 1976 ployee, which was the mini-Act, is the only such mum wage rate under the scheme which continues to latter ordinance at the time be administered centrally of devolution in April 2010. by the federal government In 2015, the federal of the day despite devolugovernment made an tion. There is no doubt that amendment to the 1969 orissues relating to disbursedinance, fixing the minimum ment of pension to migrant wage at Rs13,000. The relretired employees will arise evant notice to employers if the Act is devolved to the by the EOBI to pay a provinces. Nevertheless, monthly contribution of over the last 13 years, the 6pc of this amount was federal government has challenged by them across made no effort to give legal Pakistan before their recover to retaining this spective high courts. They scheme. In 2014, the Sindh got favourable judgments Employees' Old-age Benfrom the Punjab, KP and efits Act was promulgated Balochistan whereby the EOBI's claim but has not been operawas set aside.

The Sindh High Court in its judgement dated Feb 22, 2023, has held that employers are required to pay a contribution of 6pc of the prevailing minimum wage of Rs25,000 per insured employee. High courts in the other provinces have granted stay orders on paying the contribution at this rate. While employers in Sindh are paying it, those in the other provinces pay workers at rates ranging from 6pc of Rs3,000 to Rs13,000 or at whatever

courts,

rate they deem appropriate. The federal government would be empowered to resolve this issue by taking EOBI into its fold

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

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

leave stipulations of the 1958 ordinance, but Sindh has a total of 16 and Balochistan 14 weeks of maternity leave with different conditions for eligibility. As requirements are not different anywhere, it is more realistic to have similar conditions and quantum of leave in the entire country. Under all these enactments, there is no limit to the number of times a woman may avail her maternity leave during her employment with the same employer. Conversely, most progressive organisations allow maternity leave only twice during a woman's career. The respective provincial legislatures should also consider prevailing industrial practices to this effect. Having a realistic common policy for the grant of maternity benefits all over Pa-

kistan will be more accept-

able to employers. -- Cour-

# CM for boosting efforts to rehabilitate drug addicts

Independent Report LAHORE: Punjab Caretaker Chief Minister complete centers with a Mohsin Naqvi visited the

rehabilitation center for drug addicts in Raiwand on Tuesday, where he assessed the facilities highlighted the importance

inspected the various He pledged to allocate all sections and wards necessary resources for dedicated to the drug addicts, engaging with them and encouraging them to overcome their addiction.

During the visit, Mohsin Naqvi emphasised the need to enhance the rehabilitation treatment services for drug addicts. He also issued directives for the establishment of new centers to cater to their rehabilitation. He assigned the task of building additional centers to the

combined capacity of 400 beds across different areas of Lahore within a span of two weeks.

The provided for the recovery of individuals struggling with drug addiction.

He thoroughly inspected the various and regular addicts at 'Roshan Ghar'.

He pledged to allocate all processory, resources for effective treatment and rehabilitation of drug addicts and he stressed the significance of digitising the these

records of these individuals.

While touring the facility, Mohsin Naqvi visited the computer lab and domestic tailoring lab that serve the drug addicts. He acknowledged the devastating impact of addiction on families and expressed his commitment to helping those affected find a path to recovery. As officers.

**Report** and the Secretary of part of the effort to combat Punjab Health, with a mandate to drug trafficking, a drug trafficking, a comprehensive crackdown had been initiated across Punjab

The chief minister received detailed briefings from the Secretary of Social Welfare regarding the rehabilitation process for drug addicts and from the Secretary of Health concerning the available treatment facilities.

The briefing revealed 'Roshan Ghar' currently houses up to 100 beds. Present on this occasion were Provincial Minister of Specialized Healthcare and Medical Education Dr. Javed Akram, along with the secretaries of Health, Industry and Excise, Commissioner of Lahore Director General of Social Welfare, Deputy Commissioner, Principa of Allama Igbal Medical



SUKKUR: Members of Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists (PFUJ) are holding protest demonstration against killing of Jan Muhammad Mehai Senior Journalist, at Sukkur press club.

Motorway Police Ahmed

Nasir Aziz for supporting

requested the cooperation

corruption and nepotism in

the land acquisition

system. He stated that any

instance of bribery and

disciplinary action. In a bid

to enhance efficiency, he

mandated the swift dissemination of all rules

and regulations related to

management to all deputy

need for timely registration

of areas which were yet to

He also stressed the

commissioners (DCs).

acquisition

**SMBR** reviews state land

management system

LAHORE (APP): Senior tolerance policy towards

the Directorate of Land nepotism would be met Records (DLR) here with immediate

# LWMC, Motorway Police sign MoU for licensing of drivers

LAHORE (APP): The MoU. LWMC CEO Babar Lahore Waste Management Sahib Din, DIG Motorway Lahore Waste Management Company and National Highway and Motorway Wirk, and a large number Highway and Motorway
Police on Tuesday signed
a Memorandum of
Understanding (MoU) for
technical training and
Motorway
Motorway
Police
Motorway
Police licensing of drivers of participated in the event.

assisted in technical department is taking all

training and licensing.
Under the MoU,
LWMC's drivers and other staff will be eligible for strong pillar of the international licence, on organization. Our workers completion of technical training. Further, the perform the duties of Education Wing of cleaning Lahore with full Motorway Police will honesty and hard work on provide awareness about road safety and rules.
According to LWMC

spokesman Umar Chaudhary, Motorway Police Sector Commander this great initiative and Shahbaz Alam and Deputy CEO LWMC Fahad of citizens to support the Mehmood signed the LWMC staff.

Member Board of Revenue

(SMBR) Nabil Javed

reviewed the state land

management system under

Land Records Authority

Information Technology

Board (PITB), Directorate

of Land Records (DLR)

and other relevant

departments attended the

meeting, the SMBR issued

processes and ensure

these directives was to

address the issue of groups

unlawfully occupying

meeting.During

transparency.

government land.

Nabil

(PLRA),

Officers from Punjab

Punjab

### Restoration of Lahore's historical gates approved

LAHORE (Online): Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi has approved the plan to restore four historical gates to their original condition out of 11 historical gates and one

It has been reported that the summary sent by operational vehicles. Addressing the event, More than 3,000 LWMC CEO Babar Sahib has also been approved, LWMC drivers will be Din said that the according to which the project will cost seven and possible steps to train and a half crore rupees. Among the historic guide workers.

"Trained staff is the gates to be restored are Shiranwala Gate, Lohari Gate, Kashmiri Gate and Roshnai Gate, instructions are our valuable asset who have been issued to remove all encroachments from outside. every occasion festival," he added. He thanked

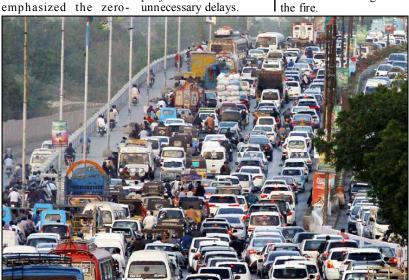
### Five injured as lightning strike hits Attock Kurd police station

ATTOCK (APP): The Attock Kurd Police station turned into rubble as a Police spokesman attributed it to lightning which hits the building in the early hours of Tuesday. Five Policemen were also injured in the incident, among them one critical

According to a police spokesman, the lightning hit a portion of the police station where the mall khana was established which results in a blast subsequently the whole building was damaged. The spokesman has said that five police officials including assistant subinspector Imtiaz, Wireless operator Bilawal Siddiqui, constable Sajjad, Faizan

directives to streamline complete their online One of the injured was shifted to Rawalpindi registration. He directed the PLRA The foremost among to expedite the creation of due to his critical injuries comprehensive Soon after the incident dashboard as this was in rescue 1122 teams reached line with the commitment the spot and carried out to ensure that government rescue services. The fire projects did not suffer tenders have extinguished unnecessary delays





KARACHI: A large numbers of vehicles stuck in traffic jam due to construction and repairing work of Natha Khan Bridge located on Shahrahe-Faisal in Karachi.

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

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

LAHORE (APP): An which was granted by the accountability court on Tuesday handed over former Punjab chief Special prosecutor
Waris Ali Janjua, who
minister and Pakistan
Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)
President Chaudhry
Parvez Elahi to the
National Accountability Bureau (NAB) on physical remand till August 21 in a case of receiving kickbacks

in development projects.

Earlier, the NAB team produced the PTI president before Accountability Court Judge Zubair Shahzad Kiyani amid strict security. Advocate Amjad Pervaiz requested the court to to his client before submitting arguments, after settling the matter of

to boost tourism, the

Caretaker Provincial

Minister for Information

and Tourism Amir Mir on

Tuesday inaugurated four

new buses for sightseeing

collaboration of Punjab

Tourism Department and

Tourism Development

Corporation of Punjab

(TDCP), these newly

introduced single-deck

buses would now run on

inaugural ceremony, the

minister said the new buses

would also be utilized for

tours to Wagah Border and

Gurdwara Kartarpur. Currently, these buses

would operate within

Lahore. TDCP's Sales and

Tour Promotion Wing

the roads of the city.

Addressing

tour of Lahore.

Through

approval was given for the projects on a fast-track basis, in violation of the grant him 5 minutes to talk rules and regulations.

new buses for sightseeing

tour of Lahore

LAHORE (APP): In a bid buses for various tour

court.

the kickbacks, the amounts for the projects were released even before the commencement of the work. He submitted that the step was also a violation of the law and the

that four persons had already been arrested in in this regard. At this stage, Parvez Elahi's counsel Advocate connection with the case. He submitted that as chief Amjad Parvaiz submitted that the cases were pending minister Punjab, Parvez Elahi gave a development package of Rs 72 billion for at the Supreme Court and the Lahore High Court against the arrest of his Guirat division alone. He submitted that a list of 200 client. Therefore, the court projects was finalised and should give the physical remand of Parvez Elahi till Monday, so that the decision of the Supreme Court and the Lahore High Court would also come by then, he added.

bureau had strong evidence

He further alleged that Minister inaugurates

packages, he informed.

the future, additional buses

would be introduced under

the World Bank project,

offering tourists the

opportunity to explore

destinations like Murree,

Patriata and other northern

areas. He added that three

buses were already

operating in Lahore and the

total count would reach at

seven, providing tourists

opportunity to explore

landscapes and historical

sites. AC and non-AC

buses would also operate

in different cities during

seasonal events, he said.

Secretary Tourism Asif

Bilal Lodhi expressed hope

that these initiatives would

open a new chapter for

aĥore's captivating

an excellent

Amir Mir said that in

### Police arrest six for possessing illegal weapons RAWALPINDI (APP):

Rawalpindi district police on the directives of the Senior Superintendent of Police, Operations conducted raids in different areas and netted six accused of possessing illegal weapons. According to a police spokesman Bani, Race Course, Taxila, Saddar Wah, and Rawat police conducted raids in their respective jurisdiction and arrested six namely Anwar, Muzamil, Waseem, Asif, Umair, and Jawad, and recovered five 30-bore pistols, a 32 bore pistol and ammunition. Separate cases have been registered against the accused while further investigations are under process.Divisional Superintendents of Police said that strict action by the law was being taken

against the lawbreakers and

operations against aerial

firing and illegal weapon.



presides over the syndicate meeting DG Khan University

He said that anti-

The court has asked

NAB, Anti-Corruption and

another case, against former MNA Anwer Taj,

the court adjourned the

hearing till August 21 due

to the unavailability of the

legal counsel of the

# PHC seeks details of cases, inquiries against ex MNA, MPA

would also utilize these tourism in the province.

PESHAWAR (APP): A counsel of the petitioner's two-member bench of Advocate Malik Ajmal Peshawar High Court Advocate said that as soon (PHC) on Monday as the petitioners are directed the National released from jail, they are Accountability Bureau (NAB), Anti-Corruption He said that anti-Department and Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) to provide details of the cases registered against former MNA Mehboob Shah and MPA Humayun.

comprising Justice Syed Arshad Ali and Justice Qazl Subhan asked the anticorruption watchdogs to provide details of all the cases and inquiries against the petitioners. legal con Earlier, the legal petitioner.

The bench

**Commissioner visits DHQ** to inspect facilities

Commissioner Rawalpindi Liaqat Ali Chatha on Tuesday Chatta also visited the visited the District hospital's Neurosurgery, Headquarters Hospital(DHQ) and reviewed the medical facilities provided to the patients there.

He interacted with the patients and their attendants a n d inquired about the redressed.

RAWALPINDI (APP): treatment facilities provided to them at the hospital.

Chatta also visited the Emergency, OPD and operation theatre and directed the concerned to keep functional all the medical equipment and air conditioners of the hospital so that public grievances could be

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

LAHROE (Online); Anti Terrorist Court (ATC) heard post arrest bail plea of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaaf (PTI) leader Dr. Yasmeen Rashid in four different cases of May 09 corruption bodies had not provided details of the inc ident. Judge Ijaz Ahmed of cases and inquiries against

ATC heard case. Court summoned lawyers for arguments. FIA to respond on the next hearing. Meanwhile, in

Case number 23/1271 and 23/1280 in Gulburg Police Station are filed against accused.

Case number 23/36 in Model Town Police Station and case number 23/108 in Server Road police station are also registered against accused Yasmin Rashid.

### Anti-polio drive begins in Khyber

PESHAWAR (Online): A seven-day anti-polio drive has kicked off in district Khyber of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.During the campaign, more than twohundred thousand children up to age of five will be administered anti-polio vaccine.A total of ninehundred and sixty-five teams have been formed for this purpose.

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

looming threats of climate official source. change and offer a verdant Department of School

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

The inaugural planting of the Miyawaki forests is set to unfurl on August 16 (Wednesday) in a gala event at the Government High School Jamia Uloom New Multan. Notable dignitaries including the Secretary of School Education South Punjab, Rana Salim Ahmad Khan, and Secretary of Forests South Punjab, Sarfraz Ahmed, are poised to inaugurate the ambitious campaign.

The concerted effort new forests give us hope will usher in the growth of for better future, he forests maintained Miyawaki

MULTAN (APP): In a alongside the monsoon bold move to counter the planting season, said

sanctuary for students, the Miyawaki technique promises to usher in Education South Punjab forests with a swiftness has unveiled plans to and density as it is 10 cultivate Miyawaki forests in 258 government schools. times faster and 30 times thicker, compared to thicker, compared to natural forests. Secretary Rana Salim Ahmad Khan underscored the urgency of the initiative, revealing Pakistan's fifth-ranking status among nations bearing the brunt of climate change ramifications. Tackling this dilemma becomes the cornerstone of preserving both the present and the posterity.

Secretary further emphasized that metropolises and densely populated zones, often marred by pollution and a dearth of greenery, would get immense benefits from the Miyawaki Forests. Planting Miyawaki forest is a good idea. It will make cities better and give use cleaner air to breathe. The



PESHAWAR: Pharmacy Students are holding protest demonstration for their rights, at Peshawar

# S.Punjab secretariat puts region on new path of development: ACS

MULTAN Additional Chief Secretary South Punjab, Capt. ® Saqib Zafar, said that the South Punjab Secretariat has put the region on a new path of development.

Administrative Service at secretariat office system the Civil Service Academy has been digitized and ewho called at his office here filing system on Tuesday.

South Punjab Saqib Ali Ateel, Secretary Services will also be a refle South Punjab Amjad corporate culture. Shoaib Khan Tareen and Wali Khan were also of the country.

present in the meeting. He further said that now not even a single penny could be transferred from development funds allocated in the budget out of South Punjab. Likewise, He expressed these an integrated mechanism views while talking to a has been developed for the delegation of 36 officers of timely resolution of public under training Pakistan grievances.He said

introduced for official Secretary Agriculture correspondence. The under construction Secretariat will also be a reflection of ACS said that South

Deputy Director Civil Punjab plays a key role in Service Academy Rehmat the agricultural production

### **IGP** orders to launch crackdown to eradicate drug menace in GB

General of Police (IGP) Gilgit-Baltistan Àfzal Mahmood Butt on Tuesday issued orders to start crackdown against traffickers and drug addicts to stop the use and sale of drugs in Gilgit-Baltistan.

According to a press release issued from the spokesman of Gilgit-Baltistan police office, IGP Gilgit-Baltistan has given strict instructions to the DIGs of all ranges and the SSPs of all districts

GILGIT (APP): Inspector including the DIG Special Branch to prevent drug dealers and traffickers. He issued order to

take strict legal action against them. IGP GB said that to save the youth from this scourge, the region has to be free from drugs. He added use all your resources for this. The IGP urged immediate and strict implementation of these instructions. Mehmood Butt concluded by saying that anti-social elements target.



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

## TMA Hangu unveils app for easy access to municipal services

PESHAWAR (APP): Municipal Tehsil Administration (TMA) Hangu launched an E-TMA app to make access to municipal services easy.

The launching ceremony of the app was held at the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Office, Hangu on Tuesday.

TMA Hangu has developed the app in collaboration with FCDO (FCDO)—Funded Sub- (LGERD) KP.

National Governance (SNG) Programme Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Hangu, Fazal Akbar highlighted the role of the app in establishing a transparent and efficient governance system tailored to meet the needs of the people. This pioneering the

developed in partnership with (Foreign, Commonwealth Government, Elections, and Development Office and Rural Development

# Caretaker govt to ensure continuity in economic policies: PM Kakar

Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Tuesday said that the caretaker government would ensure continuity in the economic policies, besides further improving

He said that further enhancement of foreign investment under the Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC)

has said that Kenya is

gateway to most of African

economies including

Rawanda and South

He was speaking at the Lahore Chamber of

Commerce and Industry

(LCCI) on Tuesday. LCCI

Acting President presented

the address of welcome expo would have given

Waithira Mwangi and agriculture & food sector Sajjida Parveen Butt also which is not limited to

Railways spends Rs.1862m

for rehabilitation of track

between Kotri-Khanpur

been rehabilitated along ensure quality of track with the replacement of maintenance work.

Khattak for inspection

of industrial units,

poultry sheds & kilns

MULTAN (APP): including new petrol Commissioner Multan Division, Engineer Aamir warehouses were approved

Khattak, termed a zero-tolerance policy for the commissioner ordered

environmental pollution complete NOCs of petrol

Tuesday. He directed to division. He said that

merit.

ordered the environment department

for the thorough inspection of industrial

units, poultry sheds, and brick kilns.

views while chairing the

divisional environmental

committee meeting here on

include civil society and

He expressed these

ISLAMABAD (APP): turnouts.

Pakistan Railways is

rehabilitation of 518

kilometres of track between

Kotri-Khanpur under the

project of Immediate Track

management of Pakistan

Railways is putting maximum efforts into

infrastructure including

tracks, bridges, stations

etc, an official in the

Ministry of Railways told

Under the project of

rehabilitation of Karachi

Port tracks, 24-kilometre

tracks, 17 level crossings

and seven bridges have

Despite financial

Safety Works (ITSW-I).

constraints,

improvement

prevention

ISLAMABAD (APP): chaired a meeting in which he was given a detailed situation, the PM Office revenues. Media Wing said in a press

During the meeting, the prime minister said that work on the public welfare projects would continue and the government would ensure provision of international quality facilities in the was among the top health and education priorities of the caretaker sectors. He also directed for set-up. The prime minister expediting ongoing reforms

KARACHI: Members of Peoples Unity of PIA Employees are holding protest

demonstration for acceptance of their demands, held at Karachi press club.

Kenyan delegation keen to

explore opportunities in Pak

Kenyan delegation head lot of opportunities in seafood, confectionery Geoffrey Gichura Mutura Pakistan." LCCI Acting items, spices, processed

organized by Trade Development Authority of

while other members of the excellent rundown of the Pakistan in Nairobi who

spoke on the occasion.

Mutura said, "We came to Karachi to visit an Mutura said to karachi to visit and "We came to Karachi to visit an Mutura said to karachi to karac

Rachael potential of Pakistan's

the Lahore (Mughalpura)

have been upgraded.

Badami Bagh and Azakhel

Immediate Track Safety Works (ITS W-II & IMTS

W-III), the railway track

between Tando Adam-

Khanpur covering 456 kilometres would be rehabilitated at a cost of

Rs. 4830.437 million and

Rs.4875.461 million

respectively by replacing

the US components of the

track by ensuring the

safety of train operation.

Rs.4930.22 million for the

rehabilitation of track

machinery has been

approved which would

departments concerned to

pumps in the timeline on

action would be taken over

violation of SOPs of

infrastructure and master

plan. He asked to accelerate

the process of shifting

brick kilns to zigzag

technology across the

complete scrutiny of

He warned that strict

A PC-I amounting to

He said under the

Pakistan in Karachi would Khan have been helpful. This Couns

(Online): exhibition and have seen a fields like Halal meat, rice,

President Zafar Mahmood food items, cooking oil/

Chaudhry hoped that ghee, honey and tobacco

participation of the etc. It is worth mentioning delegation in the 1<sup>st</sup> that Pakistan's food International Food & exports are well above US Agriculture Exhibition \$5 billion," he added.

The official said that Railway Dry Ports at data released by Pakistan

He commended the role played by Mr. L.D.

Counsellor based in the

High Commission of

recommended the team

to visit Pakistan to

attend the expo and also

Cars' sale drops

64% in July

ISLAMABAD (APP)

The sale of cars during the

first month of the current

financial year 2023-24 has

dropped by 64.32 percent

as compared to the same

Automobile Manufacturing

Association (PAMA) said

data, as many as 3,702 cars

were sold during the month

under review as opposed

to 10,378 units in the same

showed that 208 units of

Honda Civic and City were

corresponding month of

the year 2023-24 as

as it went down to 1,067

July of the previous year.

also decreased by 22.42

percent as its sale went

down to 249 units from 321

**PSX** witnesses

bullish trend,

gains 141 points

ISLAMABAD (APP): The 100-index of the

Pakistan Stock Exchange

(PSX) witnessed a bullish

trend on Tuesday, gaining

141.35 points, a positive

change of 0.29 percent,

closing at 48,565.75 points

against 48,424.40 points

251,692,333 shares were

traded during the day as

compared to 368,334,990

shares the previous day,

whereas the price of shares

stood at Rs9.038 billion

total

the previous trading day.

units last year.

2,408 units last year.

during

month of last year.

According to the

The breakup figures

Commercial

strict implementation of briefing over the economic measures for increasing tax

> Prime Minister Kakar said that the caretaker government concentrate on deregulation and responsible autonomy for further improvement of economy, and expressed the resolve to focus their energies on economic reforms during their tenure.

The meeting was attended by senior officials, including the State

Bank of Pakistan governor, secretaries of Finance Division and Power, and Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) chairman.

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

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



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

### hit \$200bn by 2025: Study ISLAMABAD (APP): Global artificial intelligence investments are projected to hit \$200 billion by 2025 and could possibly have a

bigger impact on gross domestic product, a study has revealed. AI investments will

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

large-scale transformation, businesses need to make "significant up front investments in physical, digital and human capital to acquire and implement new technologies and reshape business processes", the US bank's economists Joseph Briggs and Devesh Kodnani wrote in the following widespread

"Those investments. which could amount to around \$200 billion globally by 2025, will probably happen before adoption and efficiency gains start driving major gains in productivity." In the long term, AI-

related investments could peak as high as 2.5 per cent to 4 per cent of gross domestic product in the US and 1.5 per cent to 2.5 per cent in other countries that lead in the technology, if the research's growth projections are fully realised, Goldman Sachs

Generative AI, in particular, has "enormous" economic potential and could boost global labour productivity by more than

1 percentage point annually during the decade



shop at Weekly Margalla Bazaar of H-9 to buy, in Federal Capital.

### Spokesperson says: PRA sets over Rs. 80b target of revenue collection from key sectors for FY

billion, the Punjab Revenue Authority (PRA) has set an ambitious over Rs 80 billion target of revenue collection from diverse key sectors including IT, Real Estate, and Hospitality for

against last year's collection of Rs. 12.6 compared to the sale of billion. According to a PRA Toyota Corolla and Spokesperson, Yaris cars sales also Authority under the dynamic leadership of decreased by 38.46 percent Chairperson Javed Badar units from 1,734 units in was taking proactive measures to diversify Suzuki Swift's sales

revenue streams and strengthen fiscal resilience. In this regard the

LAHORE (APP): With an overall target of Rs 240 business houses operating

in the province. The spokesperson further said that real estate sector had been identified as a potential source of significant revenue as over 1400 societies were the current fiscal year operating under the jurisdiction of Lahore Development Authority (LDA) and Rural Development Authority (RUDA) covering vast area, taxable at a rate of Rs 100 per square yard.

In the area of property developers and promoters an ambitious revenue target of Rs 48 billion has been fixed for the fiscal year 2023-24 as focus lies on expanding tax compared to a meager compliance and realizing collection of Rs 0.478



ISLAMABAD: Avendor arranging and displaying Fruits to attract the customers at weekly bazaar, Peshawar Morr.

# **FESCO** reduces line losses up to 8.59% against target of 8.84%

Faisalabad Electric Supply company among the Company (FESCO) has performance of other reduced its line losses up to 8.59 percent against its target of 8.84 percent.

Tahir Sheikh said here on Tuesday that NEPRA had set line loss target of 8.84% for FESCO but the company has surpassed this target by 0.25 percent due to its efficient team work under the supervision of Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Engineer Bashir

Ahmed. He said that the FESCO had saved Rs.991 million by reducing its line losses during 2022-23 which was a great

FAISALABAD (APP): achievement of this power distribution companies.

It is also worth-FESCO spokesman mentioning here that losses of FESCO in the last five years were less than the targets given by the NEPRA Authority, he added.

Engineer Bashir Ahmed and Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Mian Nazir Ahmed in the public hearing of the five-vear informed the NEPRA about multi-year tariff for the financial year 2023-24 to 2027-28 and said that the recovery of FESCO was 100%.

### **Implementation of GSP-Plus Conventions to help Pakistan** for enhancing trade with EU ISLAMABAD (INP): Hussain,

Ambassador of Belgium to Commissioner of the Pakistan, Charles Belgium Embassy also DELOGNE on Tuesday that implementation Generalized Schemes of Preferences (GSP- Plus) conventions, especially labour rights, human rights environmental protection would help Pakistan to further improve its trade with the European Union.

The Ambassador said this while addressing the business community during his visit to the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI), said in a press release issued here. Abid

Gold rates up

by Rs 1,100

ISLAMABAD (APP):

The per tola price of 24

karat gold increased by Rs

1,100 and was sold at

Rs.222,900 on Tuesday

compared to its sale at Rs

221,800 on the previous

Rs.191,101

The Envoy said that Belgium is the 5<sup>th</sup> largest trading partner of Pakistan in the EU and it is interested in further

accompanied him on the

enhancing cooperation

with Pakistan in various

sectors including trade,

scientific research and education sectors. He said that the IMF agreement was key to Pakistan as it has provided more flexibility to it and added that Pakistan should ensure its implementation to save its economy from

He said that PIA is in negotiations with the EU to reopen its flights and the start of PIA flights would facilitate Pakistan's trade promotion with EU

He said that Pakistani educated and skilled workers can directly apply to Belgium companies and his embassy is ready to facilitate them in signing employment contracts in case of their selection by Belgium companies.

Speaking on the occasion, Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, of the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry said that Pakistan and Belgium enjoy cordial relations.

### Int'l traders want to develop ties with agro-based SMEs

LAHORE (APP): The Authority

The price of 10 grams of 24 karat gold also increased by Rs.943 to Rs.190,158 whereas the Chief Executive Officer of 10 gram 22 Karat gold the Small and Medium

went up to Rs.175,176 from Rs174,311, All Sindh Sarafa Jewellers Association reported. The price of per tola

traders of China, Indonesia, Belgium and ASEAN (Association of South East Nations) have evinced keen interest in developing trade dealing in food and agriculture products. It was disclosed by Farhan Aziz Khawaja,

Tuesday while relations in food and commenting on SMEDA's agriculture sector," he participation in the 1st added and appreciated the and ten gram silver International Food and role of Pakistan's remained constant at Rs | Agriculture Exhibition commercial counsellors in (FoodAg-2023) organized managing networking with

(TDAP). The exhibition, he said, had provided a unique opportunity to SMEDA meeting international SMEs from relations with local SMEs 60 countries along with 15 regulatory development bodies of the visiting countries. "We held exclusive meetings with delegates of ASEAN, Indonesia, China and Enterprises Development Belgium for promoting Authority (SMEDA) on SME to SME trade



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

### Shipping activity at **Port Qasim**

KARACHI Shipping activity was recorded at the Port where three ships, Northern Jamboree, Theresa Schulte and Milha Qatar carrying Containers, Chemicals and LNG, berthed at Container Terminal, Engro Terminal and Gasport Terminal respectively on Monday. Meanwhile four more

ships, Maersk Atlanta, Maersk Boston, Bow Titanium and Takreem with Containers, and Chemicals also arrived at outer anchorage of the Port Qasim during the last 24 hours.PQA berths engaged by eight ships during the last 24 hours, out of them, four ships, Northern Jamboree, Pacific Julia, Centurion Signifer and Ruby are expected to sail on today afternoon. A cargo volume of

147,620 tonnes comprising 127,288 tonnes imports cargo and 20,332 tonnes export cargo including containerized cargo carried in 2,220 Containers (1,024 TEUs imports and 1,196 TEUs export) was handled at the Port during last 24 hours. Three ships five ships are at Outer Anchorage of Port Qasim, out of them, six ships, Takreem, Maersk Bostan, Maersk Atlanta, Imke Selmer, Hafnia Nile and Jipro Neftis & another MSC Yukta X scheduled to load/offload Clay.

## **Provincial Additional** Secretary visits DG Khan to review cotton's record

KHAN (APP): Provincial Additional Secretary Muhammad Shabir Ahmad Khan paid a visit to DG Khan, Kot Chhata, Dajal, Jampur, and Fazilpur to review the record of cotton arrival in cotton management. ginning factories operating across the division.

field, he met the farmers

insects on the advice of the local agriculture experts. According to him the cotton crop was at a critical stage within the next two

particularly in terms of Не said agricultural extension staff After reviewing the would be involved in cotton condition of cotton in the pest scouting, surveillance, and timely control of pest

weeks were important,

and directed them to use improved kinds of technical guidance for the pesticides against harmful farmers.

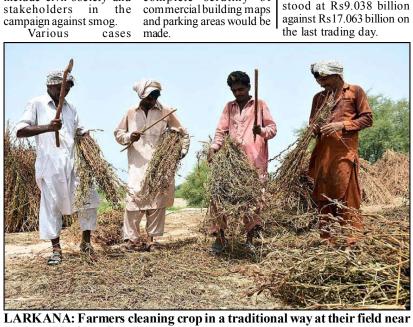
### **SMEDA** establishes **BSDC** for women in DI Khan

DERA ISMAIL KHAN (APP): The Small and Medium Enterprises
Development Authority (SMEDA) established a Business Development Center (BSDC)" for women in Dera Ismail Khan to provide a safe and hasslefree business environment to local women.

The established here at Government Technical and Vocational College for Women. On this occasion, Commissioner Dera Zafarul Islam along with Assistant Commissioner Dera Farhan Ahmad visited technical and

vocational college. The department (HoD) briefed the visiting officers about the newly established Skills BSDC. He said the center would be helpful in providing resources and services for business to the women. It would also accelerate development by promoting business culture among women. The commissioner said by setting up BSDC in Dera Ismail Khan, the problems of women in terms of business infrastructure, business development support and local mobility will be

alleviated.



Larkana-Khairpur Road.

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

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

"During the rescue operation

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

A witness quoted on Telegram by the Russian

daily Izvestia said the fire were parked and spread to started in an area where cars the petrol station

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

MOSCOW: Russian President Vladimir Putin urged Moscow and Pyongyang to strengthen their ties in a message of congratulations to Kim Jong Un, the su-preme leader of North Korea on the occasion of the nation's National Liberation Day on Tuesday.

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



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

# Sunak blames 'criminals' for migrant deaths in Channel Monitoring Desk Channel in recent days

LONDON: UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak blames the "criminal gangs" facilitating small boat Channel crossings for the "horrific" weekend deaths of at

said one person could still the six was still being investigated, the local maritime authorities Premar said on Monday. "Possibly" one person remained unaccounted for, a spokeswoman said. All passengers were men, most of them from Afghanistan.

Six Afghan men died and dozens more required rescuing after a small vessel bound for the southeast English coast from France sank in the Channel in the early hours of Saturday.

The blame for the tragedy we've seen in the from claiming asylum.

Channel in recent days lies squarely in the hands of criminal gangs who are exploiting people's lives for profit," Sunak's spokesman told reporters.

"This is a horrific tragleast six migrants, his spokesman said on Mon- edy and his thoughts first and foremost are with the families and friends of French authorities those who lost their lives," he added.

"It's a stark reminder of how dangerous these crossings are and how vitally important it is to disrupt these criminal gangs, and it is right the government acts urgently and takes all possible steps to close down this route." On Sunday, around 200 people gathered in the port city of Calais to pay tribute to the victims. Sunak's government has faced strong criticism from migrants' rights groups for its policies towards the small boats, af-

ter recently barring arrivals body yet, but we are still searching," he said.

## Santiago Pena, Paraguay's new president, faces tricky balancing act

**Monitoring Desk** ASUNCION: Paraguay's new president Santiago Pena takes office on Tuesday, a clean-cut economist for the conservative Colorado party who will need to juggle ties with Taiwan, pressure from farmers, rising crime and a U.S. probe into his political mentor.

Pena, 44, scored a strong win in April elections against a center-left opposition challenger, and helped the Colorado Party, the dominant political force for the last three-quarters of a century, secure a majority in both chambers of

But the political highachiever must now maneuver a difficult path ahead.

His party's diplomatic support for Taiwan has hurt local farmers grains exports to China, which claims sovereignty over the self-governed isWilliam Lai is in Paraguay for Pena's inauguration.

Relations with the United States will also be in focus after the U.S. government accused Pena's political backer, former President Horacio Cartes, of corruption.

"I'm aware I have no margin for error and we can't build something simply saying they gave me carte blanche," Pena said in an exclusive interview with Reuters last week ahead of the handover. "We are constantly going to be scrutinized in every decision.'

Pena in the interview said he would push for a greater police presence in the streets to head off rising concerns about security, look to tame prices to avoid a cost-of-living crisis, ensure access to healthcare, and encourage private en-

rescue team said by phone, declining to be identified due to safety concerns. Eight people were injured and taken to hospital on

36 feared dead

after landslide

at Myanmar

mine

**Monitoring Desk** 

HPAKANT: At least 36

people were feared dead at

a jade mine in northern

Myanmar after being swept

into a lake by a huge land

slide, a rescue worker and

local journalist said on

pened on Sunday in the re-

mote town of Hpakant, the

centre of Myanmar's secre

tive jade industry, where

scavengers risk their lives

picking through unstable

earth and rubble excavated

by mining companies,

searching for small pieces

of the semi-precious stone.

workers were looking for

survivors, a member of the

More than 100 rescue

The accident hap-

Monday.

'We haven't found a

### Jamaat leader's death sparks protest in Bangladesh

**Monitoring Desk** DHAKA: Thousands of furious protesters chanting anti-government slogans marched in Bangladesh on Monday hours after a leader of the Jamaat-i-Islami died of a heart attack aged 83.

Hossain Delwar Saye-dee, the Jamaat's vice president, died in a prison hospital on Monday evening, just over a decade since his conviction by a controversial war crimes court triggered the deadliest political violence in the country's history.

Thousands of mourners and supporters of Delwar Sayedee rallied outside the hospital after his death, chanting "Allahu akbar". "We won't let the blood of Sayedee go in vain," supporters shouted, with many blaming the gov-emment of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.



National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) personnel search for victims at the site of a landslide after a temple collapsed due to heavy rains in Shimla.



Polish President Andrzej Duda arrives for the military parade on Armed Forces Day, celebrated annually on August 15 to commemorate Poland's victory over the Soviet Union's Red Army in 1920, in Warsaw, Poland.

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

**Monitoring Desk** 

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

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

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

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

Minister Fumio Kishida are expected to announce plans for expanded military cooperation on ballistic missile defense and technology development, according to two senior Biden administration officials. The summit "will set a

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

China, India

agree to maintain

peace, tranquillity

on the ground

in border areas

**Monitoring Desk** 

BEIJING: China and In-

dia agreed to maintain

peace and tranquillity on

the ground in the border

areas, China's defence

ministry said in a joint

statement on the 19th

round of the China-India

Corps Commander Level

tive, constructive, and in-

depth discussion on the resolution of the remain-

ing issues along the LAC

(line of actual control) in

Both sides had a posi-

Meeting on Tuesday.

### US, Japan, South Korea to announce deeper defense cooperation at Camp David summit

**Monitoring Desk** 

WASHINGTON: The United States, Japan and South Korea are expected to announce plans for expanded military cooperation on ballistic missile defenses and technology development in the face of growing concern about North Korea's nuclear program when the countries' leaders gather at Camp David for a summit Friday, according to two senior Biden administration offi-

The officials, who spoke on the condition of and South Korea. Japan anonymity to discuss planning for the summit,

of initiatives that will be unveiled as President Joe Biden hosts Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida and South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol for the one-day gathering at the presidential retreat in Maryland's Catoctin Mountains. The summit is the

first Biden has held during his presidency at Camp David and comes amid a thaw in the historically complicated relationship between Japan colonized the Korean Peninsula from 1910 to



Taliban members celebrate on the second anniversary of the fall of Kabul on a street near the US embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan.

pounding the legal threats he

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

**Monitoring Desk** WASHINGTON: Donald Trump was indicted on Tuesday on charges of racketeering and a string of election crimes after a sprawling, two-year probe into his efforts to overturn his 2020

defeat to Joe Biden in the US state of Georgia. The case — relying on laws typically used to bring down mobsters — is the fourth targeting the 77-yearold Republican this year and could lead to a watershed moment, the first televised trial of a former president in US history. Prosecutors in Atlanta charged Trump with

13 felony counts — com-

is facing in multiple jurisdictions as a firestorm of investigations imperils his bid for a second White House term. Eighteen co-defendants were indicted in the probe, including Trump's former personal lawyer Rudy Giuliani, who pressured local legislators over the result after the election, and Trump's White House chief of staff, Mark Meadows. With Trump already due to go on trial in New York, south Florida and Washington, the latest charges herald the unprecedented scenario of the 2024 presidential election.

### Advocates sue federal government for failing to ban imports of cocoa harvested by children

**Monitoring Desk** 

WASHINGTON: Child welfare advocates filed a federal lawsuit Tuesday asking a judge to force the Biden administration to harvested by children in West Africa that can end up in America's most popular chocolate desserts and candies.

The lawsuit, brought by International Rights Advocates, seeks to have the federal government enforce a 1930s era federal law that requires the government to ban products created by child labor from entering the U.S.

The nonprofit group says it filed the suit because Customs and Border Protection and the Department of Homeland Security have ignored extensive evidence documenting children cultivating cocoa destined for well-known U.S. candy makers, including Hershey, Mars, Nestle and Cargill.

The major chocolate companies pledged to end their reliance on child labor to harvest their cocoa by 2005. Now they say they will eliminate the worst forms of child labor in their supply chains by

### Baghdad zoo animals suffer as mercury hits 50 degrees Celsius

Monitoring Desk BAGHDAD: A pair of Siberian tigers pant incessantly beside a pond at their zoo enclosure in the scorching summer heat of the Iraqi capital.

Temperatures on Monday breached 50 degrees Celsius in Baghdad for the second day in a row making life outdoors unbearable for both humans and animals.

The orange, striped felines from far-eastern Russia are more suited to living "where temperatures drop to as low as minus 20 degrees" than in one of the hottest cities in the world, said Wassim Sarih, the veterinarian at Baghdad's only zoo.

### American tourists found sleeping it off atop Eiffel Tower

**Monitoring Desk** 

PARIS: Two American tourists were found sleeping off a heavy night in the heights of Paris' Eiffel Tower on Monday, after dodging security the night before, the monument's operator said on Tuesday.

Security roused the men "in the early morning" as they were making their rounds before the French landmark's 9:00 am opening time, publiclyowned Eiffel Tower operator Sete said.

### Afghanistan's Taliban govt marks two years since return to power

**Monitoring Desk** KABUL: Afghanistan's

Taliban government marked on Tuesday the second an-niversary of their takeover of the country with celebrations and a public holiday, issuing a defiant statement commemorating their surge back to power.
Flags of the Islamic

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

In the two years since, Taliban authorities have imposed their strict interpretation of Islam, with women bearing the brunt of laws the United Nations has termed "gender apart-

A statement from the authorities early on Tuesday hailed a victory that was able to "pave the way for the establishment of the cans."

Islamic system in Afghani-

"The conquest of Kabul proved once again that no one can control the proud nation of Afghanistan" and that "no invader will be allowed to threaten the independence and free-

dom" of the country, it said. Quiet Kabul streets early today began to give way to convoys of Taliban members and a gathering at Massoud Square near the abandoned US embassy

Some of the men carried their weapons, while others snapped smiling selfies as anthems blared and young boys sold the movement's white flag inscribed with the Islamic declaration of faith. In Herat in the west, a

crowd of Taliban supporters chanted: "Death to the Europeans, death to the Westerners, long live the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, death to the Ameri-



Supporters of Delwar Hossain Saveedi, of the gather in front of the hospital after his death in Dhaka.

# China opposes UN Security Council meeting on North Korea rights

Monitoring Desk NITED NATIONS

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

issue since 2017. "China sees no added

not human rights.'

"A council meeting on human rights in the DPRK falls outside the council's mandate, politicizes human rights issues, and only serves to intensify confrontation and antagonism,' said the spokesperson, referring to the country's formal name - the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). North Korean leader Kim Jong Un called for an increase in missile production to help secure overwhelming military 15-member council on the power" and be ready for war, state media KCNA said on Monday, as South value for the council to have Korea and the United such a meeting and will be States gear up for annual against it," said China's U.N. mission spokesper- immediately clear if China son, adding that the would call a procedural vote council's mandate was on Thursday to try and maintenance of internablock the Security Council tional peace and security, meeting on rights abuses.

# **Poland showcases military** might in a parade as war rages in neighboring Ukraine

**Monitoring Desk** WARSAW: Poland staged a military parade on Tuesday to showcase its stateof-the-art weapons and defense systems, as war rages across its southeastern border in neighboring Ukraine and ahead of parliamentary elections scheduled for Oct. 15.

Crowds gathered in scorching temperatures expected to reach 35 degrees Celsius (95 degrees Fahrenheit) to see U.S.-made Abrams tanks, HIMARS mobile artillery systems and Patriot missile systems, as well as South Korean FA-50 fighter jets and K9 howitzers. Since Russia

Ukraine in February 2022, Poland's right-wing government has spent more than \$16 billion on tanks, missile interceptor systems and fighter jets, many pur-chased from the U.S. and South Korea.
Poland, a NATO

member, supports Kyiv in its war against Russia.

The parade was held in Poland's capital on the anniversary of the 1920 Battle of Warsaw, in which Polish troops defeated Bolshevik forces advancing on Europe. The military upgrades have bolstered Poland's defense capabilities and some items replaced Soviet- and Russian-made equipment that launched its invasion of Poland gave to Ukraine.

# Militia clashes rock Libya's capital, leaving civilians trapped, health ministry says

**Monitoring Desk** CAIRO: Clashes between rival militias in the Libyan

capital have left residents trapped in their homes unable to escape the violence, the country's health ministry said Tuesday, in what appears to be the most intense fighting to rock Tripoli this year.

Fighting broke out between the 444 brigade and the Special Deterrence Force late Monday evening, according to local media. Tensions flared after the head of the 444 brigade was allegedly detained by the other force at an airport in Tripoli earlier Monday, media reported.

The Health Ministry urged the warring sides to allow ambulance and emergency teams to enter the affected areas, primarily in the south of the city, and for blood to be sent to nearby hospitals.

It remains unclear how

many casualties there are. Libya's Red Crescent did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

OPSGroup, an organization for the aviation industry, said late Monday that a large number of aircraft departed the capital due to the clashes. Inbound flights were diverting to the nearby city of Misrata, it said. The escalation follows months of relative peace after nearly a decade of civil war in Libya, where two rival sets of authorities are locked in a political stalemate. Longstanding divisions have sparked several incidents of violence in Tripoli in recent years, although most have been over in a matter of hours. In a statement Tuesday, the United Nations Support Mission in Libva said it was following with concern 'the security incidents and developments" that began Monday.

### Rules out political alliance

# IPP decides to expose PDM, PTI failed policies

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

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

Sources divulged that

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

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

During the meeting, it was decided to focus on the prices of the petroleum

highlight the issue of the inflated electricity bills. On this occasion, Mr

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

Mr Tareen made it clear the IPP will fulfil the dream of creating 'Naya

nated divisional presidents of the party. Meanwhile, former

PTI stalwart Hashim Dogar officially made his announcement of joining the 'grandiose" party. IPP rules out political

President of the

Istehkam-e-Pakistan Party (IPP), Abdul Aleem Khan, ruled out coalition alliance



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar chairs a meeting to review ongoing road infrastructure projects.



ISLAMABAD: An Afghan national with her hands and face painted rakes part with others in a demonstration against the Taliban government on the occasion of the second anniversary of the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan.

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

Khan has decorated GRAMMY award winner Urooj Aftab with presti-Performance award dur-ing a ceremony held in with the power of music,

WASHINGTON (APP): ducer in the United States. Pakistan's Ambassador to She is the first Pakistani the United States Masood woman to ever win a woman to ever win GRAMMY award.

Lauding her achievement especially in bringing gious President's Pride of the people of Pakistan and



connection with Independence Day in Washington

Urooj Aftab is an internationally recognized PaAmbassador Masood Khan said that that diplomacy and interstate relations

were all about perceptions and Urooj Aftab has helped kistani American vocalist, changing the perceptions

### music composer and pro- about Pakistan. Food Festival arranged to mrk I. Day celebrations at Railway Station Qta

Independent Report OUETTA: The special Food Festival was organized at the Railway Station Quetta on Monday

The Festival which marked the celebrations of Independence Day was organized in collaboration with the Balochistan Food Authority and district administration.

Different stalls with variety of foods were set up in the Festival by the famous food points and outlets of the city and district administration that attracted a large number of

However, the stall of

special attention of the people where they were informed about the proper and healthy diet and food. The exhibitory tests

were also conducted at the BFA stall to check quality of food. In addition to this, music programme was also arranged that enthralled the participants. The Commissioner

Quetta, Sohailur Rehman Baloch and Secretary Information, Muhammad Hamza Shafqaat among those who visited the food festival and enjoyed the fes-

They also inspected the stalls and expressed pleasure over interest of the



QUETTA: Pakistan Mili Tehreek Chairman, Syed Ghulam Rabbani addresses to media persons during press conference, at Quetta Press Club.

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

RAWALPINDI (INP): parted, saying that they Awami Muslim League were humiliated and not (AML) chief Sheikh Rashid Ahmed has said that the hopes and aspirations of the 13-party opposition alliance, Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM), were dashed to the ground after the appointment of a care-

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

Rashid also criticized the way the 16-month-old PDM government de-

even considered worthy of being consulted.

He asked in which country of the world Section 144 was imposed on Independence Day. He said that electricity was cut off in those areas where the headquarters of all the military organizations were located. People were arrested and locked up in police stations, he added. The AML chief said that the institutions should make it clear where women and children were kept after they were taken away from their homes. He warned that the seeds of hatred which were being sown in Pakistan would not yield any positive results. The consequences might be dire, he said.

### **SC** dismisses contempt of court plea against Ahsan

ISLAMABAD (Online): Supreme Court (SC) has dismissed contempt of court plea against former federal minister Ahsan Iqbal.

Ahsan Iqbal had said we have also respect like a military officer or judge.

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

The CJP remarked Ahsan Iqbal had said we have too respect like any army officer or judge. This sentence is not enough to run a case further. The CJP remarked

this is upto us to decide if the contempt of court has taken place or otherwise. The petitioner Mehmood Akhtar Naqvi Sahb, you informed, thanks.

The CJP further remarked to my views Ahsan Iqbal is very serious and intellectual man. May be he has said some thing under

# 3 terrorists outfit held

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

According to the CTD spokesperson, a team of the department searched a Jaffarabad bound vehicle near Dargah Pir Musafasii in Sukkur.

During search, three members of banned outfit including Akram Ali, Rashid Hussain and Muhammad Yousaf were arrested. Three hand grenades, a timer, 20 detonators, nut bolt, ball bearings, 400 gram explosive chemical, 15 feet safety fuse wire were recovered and vehicle

was taken into custody. The CTD spokesper son said that the detainees were involved in assisting the terrorist and target kill ing of several people. Further investigation from them was underway.

# **US** dollar strengthens further gainst

rupee KARACHI (INP): The value of the US dollar has surged against the Pakistani rupee in the interbank exchange, causing concerns for the local economy.

At the beginning of

the business week, the US dollar recorded a notable gain of one rupee against the rupee, solidifying its up ward trajectory.

The dollar rose by Rs3.60 in the interbank market on Tuesday morning, reaching a new high of Rs292.10.

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

Currency experts and dealers reported that on the opening day of the business week, the US dollar continued its ascent, becoming more expensive by an additional rupee in the interbank

This development comes on the heels of a previous increase, where on the

### NAB Balochistan organises **Independence Day celebration** QUETTA (APP): Like mingled with the officers, counted the benefits of in-

proud nations, NAB Balochistan celebrated Independence Day with zealous and enthusiastic manner. NAB officers, officials and other staff participated therein ardently.

employees dressed up in colorful ceremonious clothes in accordance with the day put in their presence at the event. Director General NAB Mr. Zafar Igbal Khan unfurled the flag in the presence of cheers faces of the participants. Achakzai expresses

**Independent Report** 

CHAMAN: The senior

Balochistan Awami Party

(BAP) and former Provin-

cial Minister, Captain (Retd) Abdul Khaliq

Achakzai has expressed

deep concern over the in-

crease in dens of narcotics

as well as lack of health and

education facilities in

Chaman. He charged that

the corruption has been

rampant in the development

schemes. He said that the

development works have

been carried out in a spe-

cific area. This and similar

views were expressed by

Abdul Khaliq Achakzai

while addressing an emer-

gent press conference in

present decision of Election

Commission is appropriate

He said that the

Chaman on Tuesday.

President of

staff and children. He individually shook hands with every officer, official and kid in connection with the Independence Day celebration. Groups photos with kids, officers The children of NAB and officials were taken separately for their solace

Subsequently, the Director General made a speech in commemoration of day. He put heartfelt felicitations for the day. He paid tribute to Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Soon after hoisting the flag, Mr. Zafar Iqbal Khan of Pakistan movement. He

concerned quarters to con-

duct inquiry into the cor-

ment projects of previous

the slogan of "Bacha Khan"

He said that tribes are

dens in Chaman

Chaman.

a specific area.

plight of Muslims before the creation of Pakistan. He recalled the Quaid's quote "Work, Work and only Work" and advised the audience that the development of Pakistan is hidden in hard working. He advised to adapt the lives on the principals of "Self-Ac-countability is the Best Accountability"

The ceremony ended at comprecation wherein Qari Abdul Hafeez made special prayers for the permanency and prosperity of the country

# concern rise in narcotics

LAHORE (INP): Former ruption done in develop-May 9 violence.

settled in the area for centuries, but those who raised made an attempt to create hatred in Chaman by establishing grid station, sports complex and girls college in Langrial and others.

The senior leader of The former provincial BAP on the occasion congratulated the caretaker Prime Minister, Anwarul Haq Kakar and hoped that he would not leave any stone unturned in perform-He said that a political party has done nothing

for the area except nationalism and spreading hatred. Also present on the regarding the constituencies as he had been separated from his workers.

Occasion were Attaullah Achakzai, Matiullah Achakzai and other office. other office

ing his responsibilities.

He demanded of the bearers of BAP.

### Samsam Bukhari quits PTI

dependence by recalling

Punjab minister Samsam Bukhari on Tuesday announced to part ways with Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) after condemning

Samsam Bukhari made this announcement after meeting Istekham-e-Pakistan Party chairman Jahangir Khan Tareen in Lahore. The meeting was also attended by senior leaders of the party including Aun Chaudhry, Noman

minister is likely to join IPP in the coming days. Bukhari in his statement said like every patriotic Pakistani he also condemns May 9 violence, triggered after the arrest of the former prime minister in Al-Qadir Trust case. He also urged the need for joint efforts for the betterment of the country. Earlier, Special Assistant to Prime Minister of Interior, Attaullah Tarar shared an alleged leaked au-



CHAMAN: Balochistan Awami party Sr. Vice president Cap(R)Abdul Khaliq Achakzai is addressing a press Confentce at Press Club.

### Maryam chairs party meeting to interview candidates for in KP

organisational meeting of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Youth Wing was held Tuesday under the chairmanship of Chief Organiser Maryam Nawaz to interview candidates for the posts of Youth Coordinators in seven districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP). Interviews of candidates from Bannu, Hazara,

ISLAMABAD (INP): An sions were conducted. The Youth Organising Committees will work under the supervision of the Provincial

Organising Committee. Earlier, the Youth Organising Committee of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) was formed. PML-N Chief Organiser Maryam Nawaz Sharif was appointed as the Dera Ismail Khan, chairperson while B Peshawar, Mardan, Azhar Kayani as the se Malakand and Kohat divitary of the committee. chairperson while Bilal Azhar Kayani as the secre

# **Fawad Ch files** new written apology in contempt of EC case

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

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

Fawad Chaudhry and counsel Faisal Chaudhry appeared in the

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

apology in the EC.
The CEC while ad journing the hearing of the case till August 24 remarked we order on next hearing.

### JIT grills Bushra Bibi for 20 minutes in Toshakhana

case

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

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

The development comes after Bushra Bibi met Imran Khan in Attock jail earlier today, the sources said, adding that their meeting lasted for about two hours. She had left for the DIG office after her meeting with Khan, the sources added. The session court had directed Bushra Bibi to join the investigation team.

Speaking to media persons after the appearance before the JIT, PTI legal team's Quratul Ain said that Bushra Bibi underwent interrogation for about 20 minutes. The JIT asked 20 questions from the former first lady and she answered all of the questions, Quratul

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

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Senator Raza Rabbani said on Tuesday that despite passage of six days after dissolution of National Assembly, the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) has not yet announced about elections.

The Senator said, Time passes rapidly over the 90 days' constitutional deadline for elections but regretfully the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) has yet to issue a comprehensive statement on the election."
"The ECP should in-

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

He emphasized, "The election commission should not treat the issue as a routine matter." "The delay in holding elections within the period allowed by the constitution, will bring serious consequences for the federation," he cautioned. Senator Raza Rabbani had earlier also warned that delay in elections would prove to be "dangerous" for the federa-tion. The PPP Senator had commented after the CCI unanimously approved the 7th Population and Housing Census, making it almost certain that the general elections would not be held within the constitutional period and during the current year as the election commission will be needed time for fresh delimitation

of the constituencies



ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani meeting with Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Abdul Quddus Bizenjo

# **Hurrivat leaders say:** India's status in Kashmir is nothing but an aggressor SRINAGAR (INP): All APHC leader from

have said that India's status in Kashmir is nothing but an aggressor, so it has no right to celebrate its Independence Day in the territory. According to Kashmir Media Service, APHC leaders Khadim Hussain and Syed Sibte Shabbir Qummi in a joint statement issued in Srinagar said that India had snatched the freedom of Kashmiri Muslims at gunpoint.

The leaders said that India was taking their lands, houses, business centers to make Kashmiri Muslims strangers in their own homeland

Parties Hurriyat Confer- Jammu and Jammu and ence leaders and organiza-tions in Indian Illegally Oc-cupied Jammu and Kashmir Singh Bahl in a statement said that Kashmiri people celebrate India's Independence Day as a black day every year, and every national day of India as a black day. He said that on August 5, 2019, the fascist Modi government violated the rights of the Kashmiri people to turn the Muslim majority of the occupied territory into a minority. Hurriyat Muhammad Yasin Attai, Maulana Musab Nadvi and

Jammu and Kashmir

People's Movement, Jammu

and Kashmir Pir Panial Free-

dom Movement and Jammu



HUB: Journalists are holding protest demonstration against killing of Jan Muhammad Mehar Senior Journalist, at Hub Press Club.

### NA speaker extends felicitations to Pakistan **Civil Award nominees**

ISLAMABAD (APP): National Assembly Speaker, Raja Pervaiz Ashraf, on Tuesday, conveyed his heartfelt congratulations to the individuals nominated for the prestigious Pakistan Ĉivil Awards in a gesture of appreciation and recognition. These awards, which

acknowledge remarkable contributions in diverse fields, including social, public, educational, scientific, heroic, artistic, literary, cultural, journalistic, and medical domains, reflect the nation's gratitude for their exceptional services. A notable highlight of

Ashraf's message was the

profound tribute paid to senior political leader Syed Qaim Ali Shah. Acknowledging Shah's profound political acumen and unmatchable insights, he lauded him as a seasoned political and social luminary. "A significant historical figure, Syed Qaim Ali Shah stands as the sole surviving member of the 1973 Constitutional Committee, having the distinct honor of signing the Constitution. Given his extensive political, social, constitutional, and public contributions, the conferment of the esteemed Nishan-e-Imtiaz, Pakistan's highest civilian award, is seen Speaker Raja Pervaiz as a commendable acknowledgment," he maintained

