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Army urges all stakeholders to play role in revival of economy

COAS invites foreign investors to explore hidden reserves of Pakistan; Says there are vast mining opportunities in our country which will be realized through joint efforts

Asim Munir on Tuesday said the Pakistan govern-ment, along with state institutions, had ensured the establishment of Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC), in order to bring the stakeholders at

one platform.

Addressing the Pakistan Mineral Summit, he said it had laid down new rules for 'ease of doing business' for domestic and foreign investors in the coun-

"We will ensure an investor-friendly system that avoids unnecessary delays and provides easy terms and conditions for business. There are vast mining opportunities in our country which will be realized through joint efforts," he

ISLAMABAD (APP): participating in the moot, Chief of Army Staff which was the first such (COAS), General Syed event in the country. He also thanked Barrick Gold Corporation CEO and President Mark Bristow and Saudi Mining Minister Engineer Khalid bin Saleh Al Madifar and other inves-

> He stressed persistence for staying on the path of peace and prosperity and said the mineral-related projects were the stepping stone, which would eventually lead towards the development of the masses.

> Referring to natural resources of the country, he said: "Just look at your country, from the snowcapped mountains to the vastness of the deserts, from the coastline to the plains. What else is not there in this land?"

He said:"In Surah Rahman, Allah the Exalted The Army Chief has said: And which of the thanked the foreign del-favors of your Lord will



ISLAMABAD: A delegation of Barrick Gold led by Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

CM condemns firing at police cops on polio duty:

Bizenjo vows to ensure healthy future of children through total eradication of polio

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Abdul Quddus Bizenjo has strongly condemned the incident of firing on the police cops deputed on security of the anti-polio campaign in Quetta suburb and expressed grief and sorrow over the martyrdom of two of them in the incident.

However, he expressed the government's resolve to ensure healthy future of our children through the complete eradication of polio from the province despite the incident of fir-

ing is a wicked conspiracy against healthy future of

In a condemnation issued here soon after the firincident Zarghonabad polio jurisdiction on Tuesday afternoon, the Chief Minister sought report of the firing incident from the con cerned authorities.

He said that the antistate elements want to foil the anti-polio campaign for their nefarious designs.

He pledged to fail the negative propaganda against the polio campaign and nefarious designs of the anti-social elements



QUETTA: Police and recues wokers shifting dead body to two policemen escorting a polio vaccination team were martyred on Tuesday when armed men opened fire on them in Quetta's Nawa Killi area, police said. Maulana Fazl says:

There are 26 intelligence institutions in the country, where they have gone

JUI-F chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman has said can you assure me that state can protect my life or oth-

"Can you give me assurance that state can protect my life or otherwise. Or will they collect tax from me and not protect my life Our party is party of peace. I will say to workers not to abandon the patience, he said this while reacting strongly to the incident of attack on workers convention here Tues-

He went on to say are our state institutions left for only this job of bring-

ISLAMABAD (Online): ing a poor moulvi to police station and allege him that has any one taken meal or taken tea with him. Are they holding only these capabilities

He underlined that as many as 26 intelligence institutions are operating in the country. Where have they disappeared.

Sectarian violence was fomented in Kurram Agency some time earlier. The entire Pushtoon belt is burning. Baloch belch is burning. Wave of riots is not coming to end upto Karachi. The entire nation is looking towards state institutions that they are paid for what, he underlined.



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and COAS General Sved Asim Munir witnessing the signing of MoUs for increasing foreign investment in the mining Industry of Pakistan during Pakistan Mineral Summit.

War no more remains an option

Ready to talk to neighbours on serious matters: PM

Our neighbors should understand to live with peace; Says we did injustice with Pakistan, poor people during last 75 years; Underlines need to learn from past, explore precious natural resources properly

ISLAMABAD (Online): the development of the Prime Minister (PM) Shehbaz Sharif has said we have to go ahead by learning lesson from past mis-

"Thar coal is one among the largest coal projects in world. Reko diq project is of special importance in the history of the country. We have to move forward by learning lesson from past mistakes. We have to convert the speeches into action. We have to work for | day.

Reko Diq project to prove a game changer; usher a new era of progress: PM

ISLAMABAD (APP):

talking to a delegation o the payment of Pakistan's share of investment in Paki

Amjad Zubair appointed as new FBR chairman

ISLAMABAD: The federal government on Tuesday appointed Malik Amjad Žubair Tiwana, a grade-21 officer of the Inland Revenue Service (IRS), as the new chairman of the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR).

eral cabinet through the circulation of the summary. He has replaced Asim Ahmed, who retired from the service after perannuation on July 30.

country. War no more remains an option.

said this while addressing the inaugural session Summit" in Islamabad Tues-

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday said that Reko Diq project would prove to be a game changer for the development of Balochistan and region besides ushering a new era of progress and prosperity. The prime minister

Barrick Gold led by CEO Mark Bristow which called on him, said Pakistan was rich with immense resources of minerals. The government was taking measures on priority to take maximum advantage of the said resources, he added. According to a PM Office statement, the Barrick Gold agreed to make stani rupees. The prime minister said the participation of Barrick Gold and other international firms in Pakistan Mineral Summit held earlier on the day manifested the revival of investors' confidence in Pakistan

Monitoring Desk

The notification has been issued after approval of his name by the fedreaching the age of su-

committee at Parliament House.

victimization, he held. Pakistan is a nuclear He remarked the socipower. But this power is ety has divided unfortu-

not meant to use against nately. Poison has been any other. Our neighbors should understand to live with peace. Meaningful talks should be held for addressing the problems, he of "Pakistan Minerals added.

We did not focus on the

NAB kept on subjectcountry in the last 75 years. ing the people to political Were we hesitant due to some cartel or political rea-

He underlined we should work for public inpoured into minds of terest and against the pov-Can any work be done for the development of

Today is a propitious day, he said adding nature

country in this situation, he has bestowed natural resources worth trillion dol-Its answer is "No", he lars on Pakistan. We did not pay attention to natural wealth during the last 75



QUETTA: A delegation of Young Nurses Association (YNA) led by its President, Irshad Baloch meeting with Governor Balochistan, Malik Abdul Wali

Only 950 nurses against need of 6,000:

Governor calls for preparing a comprehensive strategy to meet shortage of nurses

Independent Report QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Malik Abdul

Wali Khan Kakar has emphasized that it is responsibility of the government to prepare a comprehensive strategy to fulfil the shortage of staff nurses in the province. He was speaking to a

delegation of Young Nurses Association (YNA) who called on him under leadership of its President, Irshad Baloch here on Tuesday.

The Governor on the occasion paid tributes to the doctors, nurses and paramedics for serving the ailing humanity. He, how-

ever, noted with concern that at present only 950 nurses are busy in serving the people all over Balochistan while there is need of some 6,000 nurses. He was also concerned

that the nurses have been recruited at the division level are not performing yet in their concerned di-

Moreover, the young nurses are facing certain hardships due to shortage of the teaching staff in the government nursing colleges established in Zhob and Khuzdar. This is casting negative impacts on the education and training of

the young under trainee nurses, adding he mentioned. He said that nursing is a very sacred profession in health sector, and the role of nurses and other paramedics along with the doctors is very important to serve the ailing humanity and save precious lives from the natural

disasters and epidemics. Moreover, the Governor stressed that it is very important to make the nursing colleges fully functional for strengthening the health system in the province.

He also stressed the need to expand the nursing sector at the union councils.

In contrast, Imran

Govt raised petroleum prices ignoring 'political cost': Marriyum state over politics.

previous regime violated the

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Marriyum Aurangzeb Tuesday said the incumbent government had responsibly managed the agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and taken decisions to raise petroleum product prices ignoring "political

On the contrary, the

ISLAMABAD: Senator Prince Ahmed Umer Ahmedzai, Chairman Senate

Standing Committee on Communications presiding over a meeting of the

"The government's tenure will end in a few days, but we have prioritized the

agreement with the IMF Khan, who was certain just for political gains, she about end of his governsaid while addressing a ment, subsidized petronews conference after inauleum products and violated guration of the Foreign the IMF agreement which Media Digital Wall of Digiinflicted massive damage tal Electronic Media Unit to economy," she mainhere at the Directorate of Electronic Media and Pub-The minister said that the present coalition gov-

ernment did not take decisions for petty political advantages, rather the same were made in the larger national interest. She said about 15

months ago the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) and allied parties decided to save the country (from the clutches of an inefficient ruler). "Today we can hold

our heads ȟigh and say that the government took the decisions for the stability of the country's economy,

Diplomacy on track with extensive global

engagements: FM

ISLAMABAD (APP): Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto
Zardari on Tuesday said that through extensive engagement with the international community, Pakistan achieved
who tantially on the diplomatic front during the part of the substantially on the diplomatic front during the past fif-

Addressing a ceremony at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs after launching 'Digitised system under Foreign Minister's Change Management Reforms', the foreign minister said that through intensive engagements with the international community, they could now claim "diplomacy is back"

It was also an appropriate response to those who were touting about Pakistan being isolated at the global

evel, he added. The foreign minister said that due to consistent global engagements under his stewardship, and with the countries in the Middle East, the United States, China, and other members of the United Nations, they had increased Pakistan's outreach and viewpoint on different issues, leading to success at the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) after the country was removed from the grey list and climate change issue.



He said during the floods last year and afterward, in the post-flood scenario, the international community came to support Pakistan in the relief and rehabilitation ef-

The UN General Assembly members focused on Pakistan during the relief efforts and subsequently, they successfully arranged the Climate Resilient Pakistan summit in Geneva receiving 'a substantive and qualitative

Foreign Minister Bilawal, to a media query, reiterated that Pakistan was not keen to join the 'blocs policy' and would take decisions in the larger national interests. Pakistan had stressed upon resolution of all world ssues through dialogue and diplomacy, he added.

Two police cops deputed on polio team's security gunned down in Quetta

Minister Home slams firing on

police cops; seeks report **Independent Report** QUETTA: Two personnel of police deputed on secu-

rity of the anti-polio team were gunned down in the iurisdiction Zarghoonabad police staion on Tuesday. According to the police sources, the anti-polio team comprising male and female

nealth workers and volunteers were busy in administering anti-polio vaccine to the children in Killi Shah Alam area near Nawan Killi under police protection. All of sudden some unknown armed men appeared

on the scene and opened indiscriminate fire on the poice personnel guarding the anti-polio workers there. As a result, two police

epoys sustained serious

bullet injuries and thus succumbed to them before they were provided any medical aid.

In the meantime, the police and rescue teams reached the spot and shifted the bodies of deceased police cops to the civil hospital. Meanwhile the Pro-

vincial Minister for Home and Tribal Affairs, Mir Ziaullah Langove has strongly condemned the incident of firing on police personnel deputed on security of the anti-polio campaign in Quetta.

In a condemnation statement issued here on Tuesday, the Provincial Minister sought report of the incident from the concerned authorities



ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani exchanging views with Eng. Khalid Saleh Almodaifer, Vice Minister of Industry and Production of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia during meeting held in Islamabad.

Trying times for masses as govt goes for Rs20 hike in fuel prices

ISLAMABAD (Online): Federal government has

dropped bombshell on the people with jacking up price of petrol by Rs 19.95 per liter.

With the recent increase, the price of petrol per liter has escalated to Rs 272.95 per liter. Finance Minister (FM) Ishaq Dar announced

the hike in prices of petroleum products. FM said following the upturn in the prices of petrol the price of petrol will come to Rs 272.95. The price of high speed diesel has been scaled up by Rs 19.90 per liter and new price of high speed diesel will stand at Rs 273.40 per liter. The enhanced price of petroleum products will take effect immediately.

FM said the prices of petroleum products were to be determined on previous night. The price of crude oil has gone up in international market.

Consultation in this regard was made with Prime Minister and it was decided to pass on minimum possible burden to the masses.

We are in agreement with IMF, he added therefore we cannot make such decision which lands the country in difficult situation.

Daily Aoice of Masse Independent

Climate adaptation

For Pakistan, searing heatwaves, severe squalls hunger and displacement make climate change a hot topic. The country, with record temperatures and rainfall, is in unmapped territory as climate crises add more complexity to life and livelihood. Despite contributing under 1pc of global greenhouse gas emissions, it is in the midst of a perfect storm as one of the most intensely affected areas. So, extreme weather — last year's floods in Sindh and Punjab and the current Balochistan, Sindh and Punjab tumult — is merely a foretaste of the punishing seasons ahead. Studies provide ominous conclusions: glacier loss, landslides, frequent saturation, droughts and acute heat. Perhaps, last week's National Adaptation Plan from the Ministry of Climate Change, if put into practice with sincerity, can provide some respite from the elements. The document states: "Effective DRM [disaster risk management] requires enhancing the stability, adaptability, recovery capacity, and sustainability of all relevant sectors. This entails a meticulous process of identifying vulnerabilities.... Subsequently, implementing sectoral adaptation strategies to mitigate these risks while fortifying the overall resilience of system and service provision is paramount." It also scans the more intricate aspects, such as health, imperilled by "heat stress", disease, lack of amenities, as well as the blow to reproductive well-being: "It is important to stress that the adverse effects of climate change are not experienced equally by the population[;] women, the poor and landless are particularly impacted. Women are disproportionately vulnerable because their socioeconomic status is not equal to [that] of men...

A policy shift from impact and cause to adaptation and precaution is our burning need. Poverty, displacement, poor sustenance, damaged cropland unsafe water, pollution, and other factors have increased mortality and morbidity rates. Little surprise then, that Pakistan is ranked 99th out of 121 countries on the Global Hunger Index, and "with a score of 26.1", its hunger level is grievous. Also, it was fortunate that Cyclone Biparjoy, which caused brutal hot spells, dust storms and cloudbursts in southern Sindh, did not hit Pakistan, or else a frail municipal administration and scarce logistical provisions would have been swept away. It does not help that recent research claims the hottest summer so far may be "the coolest one left" and that the UN chief has called this "the era of global boiling". For these crucial reasons, all dispensations must treat climate vulnerability as a national emergency; investment should pour into drainage systems, dams, waterways, warning mechanisms, and pre-disaster management. Moreover, flooding dangers can be cut down with reforestation and preservation of green cover, including mangroves. An adaptation strategy cannot be set in motion without superlative human-centric climate management systems and manpower. We can avoid the worst if policymakers hit the ground running. The sun has to sustain not sear life.

paigns. The recent heavy taxation on cigarettes has trend of vaping in Paki
Courtesy Dawn

Killer tobacco

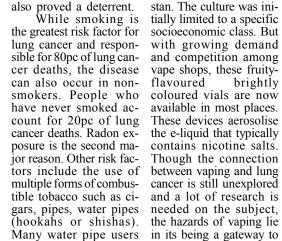


Navaira Ali Bangash

Three years ago, in 2020, GLOBOCAN, the global platform for cancer statistics, cited 10,538 new cases of lung cancer in Pakistan, making it the third most common cancer in the country after breast and oral cavity cancer. While two regional cancer registries, including the Karachi Cancer Registry (KCR) and Punjab Cancer Registry, are a substantial source of data related to lung cancer, the figures don't give a precise picture since there is no central population-based cancer registry.

Each year, World Lung Cancer Day is observed on Aug 1. Interestingly, a decline has been noted in the incidence of lung cancer worldwide by 2.2 to 2.3 per cent a year - in men since the mid-1980s though only since the mid-2000s in women. The explanation for this difference lies in the difference in historical patterns of smoking uptake and cessation between men and women.

A similar trend is noted in the Pakistani population as well. The biggest driving force behind the worldwide decline in the use of tobacco products is the constant nudging by medical experts and others. Pakistan's Ministry of National Health Services and Regulations has implemented the WHO guidelines of pictorial health warnings on cigarette packaging to be "50pc or more of the principal display areas". There has also been a surge of anti-smoking and anti-tobacco cam-



assume this to be less though this may deliver the same or even higher level of toxins. Despite the efforts ticles show that adoles-19.1pc of adults aged 15plus use tobacco in Pakipercentage of non-smokers are affected by second-hand smoke in pub-

People are not only becoming immune to the government's repeated health warnings in digital and print media, they are also enraged at the recent price increase in tobacco products. Smoking to relieve stress is a common excuse, especially in lower-income by the tobacco industry that calls the efforts of anti-tobacco organisations 'hooliganism' and the 'spread of misinformation' also en-

courages tobacco users. Meanwhile, lung cancer in Pakistan has caused an enormous financial burden. While the health sector tries to cope, waiting lists of patients are long, especially in government-funded radiotherapy units. What is perturbing is these facilities are reserved for the urban areas and patients in the rural areas are sometimes never even diagnosed, let alone treated for their condition.

Another recent chal-

stan. The culture was initially limited to a specific vape shops, these fruityflavoured brightly available in most places. These devices aerosolise the e-liquid that typically contains nicotine salts. Though the connection between vaping and lung cancer is still unexplored the hazards of vaping lie in its being a gateway to the use of combustible toxic than cigarette, tobacco am--ong those who would otherwise have been non-smokers.

Many research ar-

discourage them, cents and young adults using e-cigarettes and vape are more li--kely stan, while a significant than non-users to consume combustible toba-cco Un--fortunately, many lic transport and offices. misinformed smokers switch to vaping while trying to discontinue smoking, assuming this to be a 'healthier' alternative. To date, no e-cigarette or vape is FDA-approved as a cessation aid, and should not be used to quit smoking. Users should not go on to smoke cigarettes and groups. Strong lobbying stop using these aids too; former smokers using ecigarettes should not revert to smoking.

Health is precious. In times, where people are increasingly being afflicted by idiopathic health conditions, practices should be adopted for a healthier and safer lifestyle, with the government stepping up policymaking to regulate the mushroom growth of cessation aids, too. Traditional policies that are in place to discourage smoking need to be revisited, preferably backed by research, to factor in newer trends so that the population can be discouraged from practices that lead to potentially serious and sometimes fatal diseases

Justice or revenge?



Rashad Bukhari

In 2018, seven-vear-old Zainab of Kasur was murdered after being raped. According to some reports, she had been tortured horribly before death. How could a human

have been so savage and beastly? Feelings of outrage

and revenge rightly arose. A post on social media went viral, 'I demand that Zainab's killer be cut into pieces and dissolved in .". Many on TV agreed that the murderer should be hanged seven times in public and his body strung up in the marketplace so that people would draw a lesson and no other brutal person would think of such an act in the future. Her murderer, 24-year-old serial killer Imran Ali, was arrested and executed later that However, there is no

let-up and in fact an increase in cases of rape, child sexual abuse, and murder. In 2021, 5,200 rapes were reported in the country, according to the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan. Another report from a private TV investigation unit claims that as many as 21,900 women were reported to have been raped in the country from 2017 to 2021. This meant that around 12 women were raped across the country daily, or one woman every two hours.

The intensity of the emotions that poured forth in the Zainab case, and subsequently, in other instances of rape and/or murder, as seen in the Noor Mukadam case, with demands for justice is understand- world.

able. The louder the end violence with violence? Does punishing criminals after severely crime? Can any social reform be possible by creating fear and terror? Criminal justice researchers say that not only are harsher punishments unsuccessful in preventing crime they may, in fact, have the opposite effect. Emeritus

professor of law, University of New South Wales, David Brown claims that "harsher punishments deterrence — that is to deter the population at large — and specific deterrence to deter the individual, from re-offending in future is unfounded.'

It is generally assumed that harsher and more painful punishment, especially meted out in public, can ensure a decrease in crime. This assumption may appear valid to some extent, but often the evidence does rates are often lower in countries where the death penalty is banned. many people may think, crime did not increase after capital punishment was banned in many countries such as in Sweden, Denmark, Norway and Switzerland, as well as a few states in the US, while in countries where there is a practice of administering harsh, gruesome and public rate has not decreased. Every harsh punishment followed by another crime of the same type is proof that the criminal mind does not think as it is supposed to. China, Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Yemen are among the countries that carry out the highest number of death sentences in the

voice of the aching heart 1980s, during the rule of for the oppressed, the military dictator Gen better. But on the other Ziaul Haq, a few execuhand, is it possible to tions were carried out in public in front of thousands of people. But that hardly had a deterrent torturing them stop effect on the rate and nature of crime. Brutal punishments do not stop brutal criminals. Crime reduction has to do with ensuring just punishment, and not harsher punishments. Meanwhile, justice that is not even handed destroys trust in the justice system. Societies are built on the edifice of justice, not revenge.

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Another aspect of that both aim for general harsh public punishments that is more worriso-me is their impact on the individual and society. If the state here was to cave in to pressure for public punishments, it would normalise the scenes of violence and agonising death; the whole idea of punishment would lose its deterring effect and would leave society brutalised and ready to accept public executions as a way of life. This in not support it. Crime itself can lead to an increase in violence which would mainstreamed. Secondly, In fact, contrary to what the scenes stick to the minds, especially of young people, and can leave some permanently traumatised in a way that it becomes difficult for them to lead a normal life. There is a difference between revenge and justice. The delivery of justice is not possible in the raging currents of emotions. State decisions are punishments, the crime made with a cool heart and mind per the basic requirements of the law, and considering the best interest and best future of the country and the people living here. Our demand should be that criminals should be brought to justice as soon as possible, but God save the nation from becoming mentally ill in the process. -- Courtesy Dawn

Commerce News

PM says:

SIFC to ensure immediate, uninterrupted execution of foreign investment projects

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday said that the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) would ensure the immediate and uninterrupted completion of the projects of foreign investment in Pa-

The prime minister, in a meeting with a Saudi delegation led by Saudi Deputy Minister for Mining, Industries and Minerals Khaled bin Saleh Al-Mudaifer, said there existed immense investment opportunities in Pakistan, particularly in the mining sector. Welcoming the delegation, the prime minister said Pakistan was thankful to the Saudi government and megawatts announced by

Provincial Minister for Ag-

riculture, Industry and En-

ergy SM Tanveer empha-

sized the need to implement

modern technology and

China-style model to in-

crease cotton per acre yield.

He was presiding over a

meeting through video link

regarding cotton production

and growth strategy at Cir-

tary Agriculture, Punjab

Iftikhar Ali Sahoo, Secre-

In the meeting, Secre-

cuit House, Multan.

"Pakistan is your second home. The brotherly relations between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia were of special significance. The whole Pakistani nation was grateful to Saudi King Salman and Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman for supporting Pakistan in every difficult time," he remarked.

The prime minister assured the delegation that not only the interim government but also the next elected government would keep on facilitating the investors. He said the solar power project of 10,000

cellor MNS Agriculture

University, Multan Dr. Asif

Ali, Deputy Director Agri-

culture Information, Punjab

Naveed Asmat Kahlon

along with progressive

farmers Khalid Khokhar,

Syed Hasan Raza, represen-

tative of APTMA Dr.

Javed, and other officers

including Dr. Muhammad

Iqbal Bandisha participated

while Director General Ag-

riculture Extension Dr.

Muhammad Anjum Ali also

Tanveer for using modern

techniques to increase

cotton production

LAHORE (APP): Caretaker Punjab Saqib Ali, Vice Chan-

people for supporting Pa-kistan in every need of the good opportunity for investment

> The Saudi minister said that the establishment of SIFC was a positive message to foreign investors in Pakistan. Saudi Arabia was keen to invest in the vast opportunities of investment in the mining sector of Pakistan, he added.

The Saudi minister appreciated the prime min ister for the pro-investor measures particularly the establishment of the SIFC as it would lead to economic development.

Calling Pakistan his second home, the Saudi minister assured that Saudi Arabia would continue to support Pakistan

FCCI welcomes

appointment of

Malik Amjad as

Chairman FBR

FAISALABAD (APP)

Faisalabad Chamber of

Commerce & Industry

(FCCI) President Dr

Khurram Tariq has wel-

comed the appointment of Malik Amjad Zubair Tiwana, a senior officer of the Inland Revenue Service,

as new Chairman of the

Federal Board of Revenue

ISLAMABAD: A Saudi delegation led by Vice Minister for Mining Affairs, Ministry of Industry and Mineral Resources KSA, Khaled Saleh Al-Mudaifer calls on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif. Sovereign Wealth Fund established to promote investment in mining,

Terming the mining sector one of the key drivers of economy, Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar Tuesday said the government had established Pakistan Sovereign Wealth Fund to exploit potential of mining, agriculture and in-

"These are the future drivers of growth. Mines and minerals, and IT would be mainly focused in years to come for the country, no matter who is in governance," the minister said

He will replace Asim Ahmed who has retired on July 30th on attaining the age of superannua-



ISLAMABAD: Senator Hidayat Ullah, Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Aviation presiding over a meeting of the committee at Ministry Of Aviation.



ernment was taking serious

measures to facilitate inves-

tors and exploit the

islation for establishing the

fund, which was more ac-

ceptable globally, had been

tabled in the National As-

sembly and would be

moved in the Senate on

Egypt and Indonesia,

He said the draft leg-

country's resources.

Wednesday.

formation technology.

stan Minerals Summit titled added.

FBR collects Rs 538b net revenue in July

Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) on Tuesday announced collecting Rs 538 billion net revenue during the month of July 2023 despite all the economic challenges faced by the country, posting a robust 16.6 percent growth as compared to the corresponding month of the last

"As against the set target of Rs. 534 billion, regard to sustaining this net revenue of Rs. 538 billion has been collected,

which were facing a turbu-lent situation like Pakistan, had established the fund while addressing the Paki- and were doing well, he

Billion," said a press re-

continued showing a re-

markable growth of 30

percent during July 2023

whereas Inland Revenue

taxes has shown a

healthy growth of 18 per-

cent as compared to July 2022, and "The FBR

team is optimistic with

growth pattern for rest

of the year.

The direct taxes

lease issued here.

fluctuates KARACHI (Online): Dollar continued to fall in Indespite issuance of reter-bank market. funds amounting to Rs. 49

Value of dollar continued to fluctuate in Interbank on first day of business week.

the mineral sector only, it

had the potential of around \$6 trillion and the one thing

that needed was the finan-

cial management, he added.

government initiatives was

to attract investors to ex-

ploit the potential of the

assets. He said sub-funds

would be created under the

main fund which could in-

clude agriculture, green revo-

lution, minerals and mining

He said the investors would

have the choice whether

Dollar

they were interested in sov-

ereign wealth fund.

He said the goal of

The value of dollar increased marginally at the end of business. Dollar closed at RS

286.64 with an increase of 19 paisa.

A decline in value of dollar in Inter-bank is being witnessed during business on Tuesday and value of dollar has decreased by 39

Ahsan inaugurates 3 centers of excellence

Federal Minister for Planning Development and Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal inaugurated three centers of excellence have been started which include National Center for Manufacturing (NCM), National Center for Quantum Computing (NCQC) and National Center for Nanoscience and

Nanotechnology (NCNN). Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal was the chief guest at the launching ceremony.

Deputy Speaker of National Assembly Zahid Akram Durrani, Secretary

Syed Zafar Ali Shah, Vice Chancellors of Universities and senior officials of various ministries participated in the ceremony.

These centers would

be established in different universities in Pakistan. Among them are National Center for Quantum Computing Lahore University of Management Sciences Lahore, Ghulam Ishaq Khan Institute of Engineering Sciences and Technology University of Engineering and Technology, Karachi and Institute of Computer Science, University of Engineering and Technology Lahore.



ISLAMABAD: Finance Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar addressed the closing session of Pakistan Minerals Summit "Dust to Development: Investment opportunities in Pakistan".

Remote eye surgery trial uses 5G robot in China

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Zhongshan Oph-thalmic Center at the Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou, China has achieved a milestone in the field of ophthalmic surgery by completing the world's first remote, micron-level surgery on rabbits using an independently developed 5G robot.

The surgeries took place on June 23 on rabbits at the centre in Guangzhou, the capital of Guangdong province, with the surgical team operating the robot from the Hainan Eye Hospital at the Zhongshan Ophcapital of Hainan prov-

The trial was led by Professor Lin Haotian's

team, and all 12 rabbits operated on are in stable condition after a month of observation.

According to Lin, who is the director of the Zhongshan Ophthalmic Center, the breakthrough will help accelerate remote medicine in China, and elevate the country's medical devices and equipment to world-leading levels. It will also contribute to the development of national medical standards, China Daily re-

Lin said that this achievement has far-reaching implications in addressing the imbalance in the dethalmic Center in Haikou, velopment of ophthalmology and the uneven distribution of top-notch medical resources across the country

Governor chairs meeting to discuss education related matters of Edwards College

Ali here Tuesday chaired a meeting that was convened to discuss matters related to further improve education standards in historic educational institution, Edwards College Peshawar.

The meeting was also attended by caretaker ministers including Justice Retired Irshad Qaisar and Abdul Haleem Qasuria, Bishop Diocese Peshawar, Humphrey Sarfaraz Peter, Legal Advisor, Ishaq Ali and concerned officials.

The meeting discussed measures to improve educational standards in the college allowing the executive commit-

PP): Gov-Khyber tee of the college to work for the improvement of historic educational institutions. Participants also decided to convene the Board of Governor to complete the consultation.

Construction of the college building according to the cantonment board approved plan and formation of a construction committee was also discussed and it was decided that two construction experts should be included in the commit-

Addressing the meeting, Governor recalled the past glory of Edwards College and desired to make it a university adding that all the needed legal formalities

problems of the college and said that we play our part to revive the educational standard for the sake of stu-

He said that all the available resources would be utilized for the improvement of the educational institution and said that no compromise would be made on the quality of education in Edwards

Bishop Diocese of Peshawar lauded the efforts of the Governor to improve the education standard in the college and assured to make joint efforts for the betterment of Edwards College



PESHAWAR: Governor Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa Haji Ghulam Ali presiding over a meeting regarding academic and administrative affairs of Edward College

Govt taking measures to ensure mother, child health: Minister

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Caretaker Health Minister Dr. Javed Akram on Tuesday said that specific measures were being taken to ensure the health of mother and child in the province.

He expressed these views while addressing as a special guest in the seminar organized in connection the World Breastfeeding Week at the University of Child Health Sciences here.

The minister said that a national level awareness campaign should be conducted regarding breastfeeding. "We will convince the Cabinet to leg-islate on breastfeeding," he added. He advised that vice chancellor and other mothers should start guests on this occasion.

breastfeeding to their newborn shorty after birth until the age of six month. Mother's milk was essential for the good develop-ment of the child, he added.

Dr. Javed Akram said that daycare centers should be established in every institution for the convenience of women. In this regard, a comprehensive meeting was held with UNICEF yesterday, he informed.

The minister congratulated the University of Child Health Sciences and various stakeholders for organizing the seminar. He also distributed commemorative shields among the

JUI Chief visits LRH, inquires after health of Bajaur blast victims

PESHAWAR (APP): Chief

of Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (JUI), Moulana Fazal-ur-Rehman Tuesday visited Lady Reading Hospital Peshawar and enquired after the health of Bajaur blast injured. He prayed for early recovery of injured and extended cooperation to families of blast victims. He said we would not discourage and budge from resolve by these acts of cowardice. JUI Chief said that our party would not be deterred by these acts that are meant to disrupt peace and serenity in the country. He said we praised the com-

posure of party workers

who remained calm despite

facing the tragedy.

LAHORE: Federal Law Minister Azam Nazir Tarar, MNAs and former provincial ministers meeting with Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman **PDWP** approves seven

developmental schemes LAHORE (APP): Provincial Development Working tion Project (PRSWSSP) cial Development Working Party (PDWP) approved seven development schemes of the various sectors with an estimated cost of Rs 22011.593 million. These schemes were approved in the 8th PDWP meeting of current financial year 2023-24 presided over by P&D Board Secretary Sohail Anwar. The approved development schemes include: Development of a Controlled Access Corridor Fa-

change, Lahore at the cost of Rs 10842.253 million. Punjab Rural Sustain-able Water Supply and Sani-tation Project (PRSWSSP) in Tehsil Alipur Lot-2 at the cost of Rs 2280.402 million. Punjab Rural Sustainable Water Supply and Sanitation Project (PRSWSSP) in

cility from Niazi Inter-

change to Babu Sabu Inter-

Pilot Phase:

Cluster North Tehsil Kallar Kahar Lot-2 at the cost of Rs 3518.178 million. Punjab Rural Sustain-

able Water Supply and Sanitation Project (PRSWSSP) Pilot Phase: Cluster North Tehsil Noorpur Thal Lot-3 at the cost of Rs 1323.092 million. Punjab Rural Sustainable Water Supply and Sanitation Project (PRSWSSP) Pilot Phase: Cluster Central-II Pakpattan. Package-5, 5

Nos. Revenue Villages: (Chak 93-D, Chak 15-SP, Chak 16-SP, Chak 23-SP, Chak 2-KB) at the cost of Rs 1270.360 million. Development of Road from Amra to Sahana Lok Length 10.25 km, (Phase=I, approx.

Length=6 Km), Dis-Tehsil Kahror Pakka at the cost of Rs 1454.447 million. at the cost Rs 1322.861 Punjab Rural Sustainable million.

Jamal directs to suspend **Director Labour over** anti-dengue negligence

RAWALPINDI (APP): this regard. The minister di-Caretaker Provincial Minister for Primary and Secondary Health Care Punjab Dr Jamal Nasir on Tuesday directed the officials concerned to issue the suspension orders of the Director Labour Department, Rawalpindi over his negligence from duty.

Presiding over a meeting to review anti-dengue arrangements along with Commissioner Rawalpindi Division Liaqat Ali Chatha, he said that dengue was a national issue and no negligence would be tolerated in placed across the city.

rected the allied departments to ensure their performance satisfactory up to 100 per cent during the next two weeks else strict action would be taken against them. Taking notice of the fake entries, he directed to issue show cause notices to those involved in the bogus activities reports.

Dr Jamal Nasir further directed the Chief Executive Officer of Rawalpindi Waste Management Company to spray insecticides daily in 3,400 garbage bins

Two more **PTI leaders** join PTI Parl.

PESHAWAR (APP): Two more party leaders of Paki-stan Tehreek-e-Insaf from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Tuesday left the party and announced to join Pervez Khattak's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Parliamentarian. Core Committee member and Provincial Information Secretary of PTI Riaz Khan and former candidate Tehsil Shah Alam had announced the joining of Parvez Khattak's group. They would formally joint PTI Parliamentarian during the inauguration of its provincial secretariat in the city.

YDA presents charter of demands to **LUMHS VC**

HYDERABAD (APP): A delegation of the Young Doctors Association (YDA) held a meeting with the Vice Chancellor of Liaquat University of Medical and Health Sciences (LUMHS), Jamshoro, on Tuesday and presented their charter of demands.

The delegation led by YDA Sindh's President Dr Roshan Chandio, Dr Rakesh Nankani and Dr Fahad Pitafi, it put forward a set of 10 demands to the

They called for paying arrears of up to 17 months' stipends to the postgraduâte doctors and for releasing the third and fourth installments of the risk allowance for the PGs.

They urged the VC to allow the rotation of the PGs in other institutes so that they could expand their work experience.

AJK PM felicitates students for securing first three positions in exams

MIRPUR (AJK) (APP): Azad Jammu Kashmir Prime Chaudhry Anwar-ul-Haq on Tuesday ex-tended his heartfelt meritorious girl students hailing from Bhimber, AJK, who secured the first secured the first commitment to enthree positions in the recently announced achieve their goals. annuaľ results by Azad Jammu Kashmir Board of Intermediate and Secondary Educa-tion Mirpur for 10th-

tory message, praised the top position hold-Minister ers' hard work, dedication and outstanding performance in the annual examinations.

> commitment to enable their children to Congratulating all

the students who passed the matriculation examination, the AJK PM asked the grade students.

Prime Minister
Chaudhry Anwar-ulHaq, in his congratulaSuccessful students to make hard work their motto and devote their full time.

Asad Mahmood visits CMH inquires **Bajaur blast victims**

PESHAWAR (APP): Fed- lam (JUI) to continue their eral Minister for Communications Maulana Asad Mahmood visited Combined Military Hospital (CMH) here on Monday and inquired Bajaur blast victims in JUIF's public meeting.

Federal Minister Maulana Asad Mahmood, made a visit to the injured victims, expressing his deep grief and sorrow and offering prayers for their

speedy recovery.

During his visit,

Maulana Asad assured the injured that every possible assistance and support would be provided for their

recovery process. He emphasized the resilience of the workers and democratic struggle in the face of such cowardly acts. Maulana

Mahmood condemned the tragic incident, stating that the heinous attack has targeted not just JUIF, but also Pakistan's peace and secu-

He asserted that such malicious acts would not deter JUIF's resolve to uphold the values of democracy and peaceful coexistence in the country.
Asad Mehmood said

that the incident has deeply saddened and shocked the nation. He praised the courage and determination of the workers, reiterating that no cowardly act could obstruct JUIF's path towards a the unwavering commit- democratic and prosperous ment of Jamiat Ulema-e-Is- Pakistan.

International News

China's Xi calls for combat readiness as PLA marks founding anniversary

Monitoring Desk HONG KONG: After months of intensified and increasingly ambitious drills to project power, Chinese President Xi Jinping, speaking ahead of Tuesday's 96th anniversary of the People's Liberation Army (PLA), told China's armed forces to speed up

modernisation. In his address, Xi said the military must broaden its combat capability and readiness, the official Xinhua news agency re-

"We need to push for new equipment and new forces to accelerate forming combat capabilities and in-

system," Xi told the with Russia. Peoples Liberation Army Air Force's western theatre command during a visit last Wednesday, Xinhua reported on Sunday.

Marking the anniversary on Tuesday, an editorial in the official PLA Daily newspaper said the military had "enhanced its ability to carry out diversified military tasks in a wider

China has flaunted its military might this year, ramping up military manoeuvres and drills, signalling that its third and most advanced aircraft carrier will soon start sea trials, and tightening its

Some analysts say that the moves reflect China's perception of increased external threats from the United States and its allies, and that Beijing is flexing its military muscle to send political messages.

The reason is simple: the world is not peaceful and the external environment that China faces continues to deteriorate," said Chinese military analyst Song Zhongping, noting the increasing intensity and frequency of Chinese drills.

The US is also expanding regional deployments and tightening ties with longstanding allies and tegrate into the combat military relationship newer friends - sparking

that Washington should steer clear of China's coasts if dialogue between the two militaries is to resume.

Drew Thompson, visiting senior research fellow at National University of Singapore's Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, told Reuters that China's drills represent more of a political message than a military one.

"Everything the PLA (People's Liberation of Army) does is inherently political," Thompson said. 'When the Chinese military conducts an exercise, it is showing force - it is bestowing or sending a mes-



Ukraine, in Kharkiv, Ukraine.

Communal clashes in Nuh, Haryana, during VHP procession. Anjuman Masjid set ablaze; 3 injured, 1 deceased. 2 home guards killed, dozen cops injured.

rarely seen in Beijing,

At least 20 dead and 27 missing in floods surrounding China's capital Beijing, thousands evacuated

Monitoring Desk BEIJING: Days of unusually heavy rains around China's capital, Beijing, have flooded houses, torn apart roads and left at least 20 people dead and 27 missing, state media reported Tuesday.

flooding prompted authorities to close train stations and evacuate people in vulnerable areas to school gyms. Cars were washed away and piled into stacks by the

The level of rainfall is

Indonesia buys drones worth **\$300m** from Turkish Aerospace **Monitoring Desk** JAKARTA: Indonesia has

which generally enjoys moderate, dry summers but bought 12 new drones from has experienced record-Turkish Aerospace worth breaking extended days of \$300 million, its defence minhigh temperatures this sumistry said on Tuesday, the mer. Flooding in other parts latest in a series of purchases of northern China that aimed at modernising the rarely see such large country's ageing military equipment. The deal comes amounts of rain have led to scores of deaths. after Indonesian President Seasonal flooding hits Joko Widodo in July warned large parts of China every his cabinet to maintain a summer, particularly in the "healthy" budget as he high semitropical south, while lighted outsized spending by some northern regions this the country's security agenyear have reported the worst floods in 50 years. cies, including the defence ministry

key to countering China in Pacific **Monitoring Desk** SYDNEY: The United capability and the ease with States will rely on allies which it can position forces rather than a major expan- and equipment in the Pa-

US general says allies

sion of its own forces to cific. counter any Chinese military risk in the Pacific, a US general has said. Beijing enjoys "very clear" advantages in the re-

gion, said Major General Joseph Ryan, commander of the 12,000-strong 25th Infantry Division on Oahu,

He cited China's ex- sion of US military prespanding military defences, ence in the region.

its long-range rocket missile

By contrast, in the event of conflict, the United States and its allies would have to traverse international waters or the territories of multiple nations, requiring their permission as well as the mobilisation of air, land and sea transport. "I don't see a major expan-

The \$3.9 billion UN humanitarian appeal for Ukraine is only 30% funded, UN aid official says

Monitoring Desk UNITED NATIONS: The \$3.9 billion humanitarian appeal for war-torn Ukraine is less than 30% funded as the country starts preparing for a second winter with more residential buildings damaged and destroyed and thousands of people homeless following the collapse of the Kakhovka dam, the country's U.N. humanitar-

ian coordinator said Mon-

day. Denise Brown told a virtual news conference from Kyiv that 17 million Ukrainians need aid and the U.N. is targeting between 11 million and 12 million but funding is becoming a serious issue.

A report last week from the U.N. humanitarian office said lack of funding "is hampering opera-tions, adding to the challenges imposed by insecurity and other obstacles.

out on Saturday between mainstream faction Fatah Spain to evacuate

MADRID: The Spanish government is preparing to evacuate more than 70 Spaniards in Niger by air after the military seized power in West African country, the Defence Ministry said on Tuesday.

A foreign ministry spokesperson declined to provide further details about the operation, such as whether Spain would send its own aircraft, citing security concerns.

Hezbollah urges halt to Palestinian camp clashes and hardline Islamists, security sources in the camp

Monitoring Desk BEIRUT: The head of powerful armed group Hezbollah called on Tuesday for a halt to days of deadly clashes that have raged between rival factions in the Palestinian camp of Ain el-Hilweh in southern Lebanon.

most of them militants have been killed in the camp since fighting broke

At least 11 people -

more than 70 citizens from Niger **Monitoring Desk**

told Reuters. "This fighting must

Head of Lebanon's

not continue because its repercussions are bad - for the camp's residents, for the dear Palestinian people... for the south, for all of Lebanon," Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah said in a televised The United Nations

agency for Palestine refugees (UNRWA) said at least 2,000 people have fled their

UNRWA activities were suspended due to the violence. Negotiations between the rival factions have led to brief suspensions of fighting but have failed to secure a lasting ceasefire, with heavy clashes resuming on Tuesday.

Hezbollah, which controls southern Lebanon and is vehemently opposed to Israel, has ties to Palestinian factions and supports

At least 5 killed in **Hindu-Muslim clashes** in India's Haryana state

Monitoring Desk NEW DELHI: At least five people, including two police personnel, were killed in clashes between Hindus and Muslims in India's Harvana state, neighbouring capital New Delhi, on Monday, police officials told Reuters.

violence The erupted when a Hindu

Muslim-dominated Nuh region, located around 50 kilometres away from New Delhi.

'The procession was

meant to move from one temple to another but clashes broke out between two groups on the way, which resulted in the death of four people," Krishan Kumar, spokesreligious procession person of Nuh police, passed through the told Reuters.

PM visits Peshawar; briefed on investigation into Khar attack, anti-terror efforts

I S L A M A B A D ments hostile to Pakistan in (APP):Prime Minister planning and executing such Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday visited Peshawar where he was briefed about the overall security situation in the province with a focus on the Khar suicide blast and the status of ongoing investiga-

Chief of the Army Staff General Syed Asim Munir also accompanied the prime minister, a PM Office statement said.

The prime minister was apprised of the counter-terrorism efforts being undertaken to dismantle the terrorists' network by disrupting the linkages between planners, executioners, and abettors.

Prime Minister Shehbaz noted with concern the involvement of the Afghan citizens in the suicowardly attacks on innocent civilians from the sanctuaries across the border.

"Interim Afghan government should undertake concrete measures towards denying its soil to be used for transnational terrorism", the prime minister emphasised.

He also appreciated the emergency efforts undertaken by the army in the evacuation of wounded personnel from Khar to Peshawar, saving many

The prime minister and COAS also visited the wounded personnel under treatment at Combined Military Hospital (CMH) and inquired about their

The prime minister cide blasts and liberty of instructed the authorities

vices to the wounded patients until their full recov-

While interacting with the bereaved family members of the victims of Khar suicide blast, Prime Minister Shehbaz assured them that the entire nation stood with them in that hour of grief and shared the burden of their losses.

"These cowardly attacks by terrorists cannot weaken our resolve to eradicate the menace of terrorism from Pakistan. Security forces and law enforcement agencies with the support of the nation will ensure that those responsible for the dastardly attacks are brought to justice as soon as possible", he remarked.

Earlier on arrival, the prime minister and COAS were received by Com-



QUETTA: A delegation from different walk of life meeting with Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar

between the institutions

then full court should be

how can we constitute full

case then he cannot be

asked again to hear the case.

The CJP remarked

Trial of civilians in military courts SC to announce decision about full court bench today

ISLAMABAD (Online): when there is fear of clash Supreme Court (SC) has reserved judgment on whether full court will hear the case of trial of civilians in military courts or other-

The petitions filed against hearing of trial of civilian in military courts came up for hearing before a six members bench of SC presided over by Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Umar Ata Bandial here Tuesday.

During the hearing of the case, Faisal Siddiqui, counsel for former CJP Jawad S Khawaja de- counsel for chairman PTI full court.

Vice PM China left for home ISLAMABAD (Online)

Chinese Vice Prime Minister (PM) He Lifeng has left for China after completing 3 days visit to Pakistan.

Federal Minister for planning and Development and special measures Professor Ahsan Iqbal sent off distinguished guest.

court when some judges The visit of Chinese don't want to hear the case. Vice PM to Pakistan was The lawyer said as per also featured on Comcourt's order when some memorative album. judge refused to hear the

Chinese vice PM He Lifeng met with President of State and Prime Minister (PM) during his visit.

However during the hearing Suleman Akram He also participated in Raja counsel for petitionorganized events regarding ers, Abid Zuberi counsel 10 years completion of for SC Bar, Shoaib Shaheen China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project.

ATC issues non-bailable arrest warrants of Farrukh

LAHORE (APP): An antiterrorism court (ATC) on Tuesday issued non-bailable arrest warrants of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Farrukh Habib in a case of attacking police during an operation at Zaman Park.

ATC Judge Abher Gul Khan issued the warrants while allowing an application filed by the investigation officer.

The investigation officer submitted that the police had registered a case against Farrukh Habib and others on charges of attacking police. He submitted that the PTI leader had hidden himself to avoid arrest

in the case. He pleaded with the court to issue non-bailable arrest warrants of the PTI

Racecourse Police had registered a case against the PTI leaders and others on charges of attacking the police teams, creating a law and order situation outside the party chief's residence in Zaman Park.

The case had been registered under sections of Pakistan Penal Code and Section 7 of the Anti-Ter rorism Act, 1997.

manded for formation of and Aitzaz Ahsan opposed the constitution of full court Women harassment incident **BBISE** chairman

formed committee

man Balochistan Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education (BBISE) Ejaz Azeem Baloch took notice of the incident of harassment of women and suspended the accused official while forming an inquiry committee to probe

the incident in detail. Examinations Abida Kakar told the media on Tuesday stating that the committee comprising the Controller of Examination, Additional





QUETTA: BBISE's Controller of Examinations Abida Kakar, Additional Secretary Board Shamsullah talking to media regarding about ha-

Senator Qadir declares Pakistan's future as bright under CPEC project

man Standing Committee for Petroleum and Resources, Senator Abdul Qadir on Tuesday said that the future of China- Pak Economic Corridor (CPEC) project was bright which would bring economic change in the country after its completion. Ten years of this vital project were to be met with success for which the two nations China and Pakistan deserved the utmost congratulations, he expressed these

views while talking to APP. It is the responsibility of Pakistan to eliminate the obstacles to the completion of this great project and every power that is pursuing the policy of making it fail by erecting obstacles in its way needs to be crushed, he said.

He said that China has

QUETTA (APP): Chair- laid the foundation for the development and prosperity of the region by initially investing more than 25 billion dollars on this exemplary project saying that Pakistan's political conflict slowed down the project, but now the project was moving towards its development goal again.

Turkey, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and African countries will be able to benefit from this project. If the Afghan government tries to move forward with seriousness and tolerance, it will benefit them a lot from this project and instead of getting involved in terrorism, the Afghan people will start fo-

cusing on their development and prosperity, he mentioned

project would transform the backward areas into developed areas. Saudi Arabia has recently indicated to invest more than 24 billion dollars in Pakistan, while the United Arab Emirates has also given a clear indication of investment of 22 billion dollars to Pakistan.

Apart from this, by Afghanistan, Iran, utilizing the mineral reserves, Pakistan can earn 8 trillion dollars and bring the country out of the depths of poverty and bankruptcy he described,

He further said that the future of Pakistan was bright and shining, we have to overcome the terrible monster of terrorism to secure this investment.

As the interest of investors in the country is increasing, anti-national elements and terrorists have He said that the CPEC also become active.



ISLAMABAD: Chief of Naval Staff Amjad Khan Niazi calls on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz

NA passes three govt., other private members' bills

ISLAMABAD (APP): The National Assembly on Tuesday took up legislative business and passed three government bills as well as other legislative proposals sponsored by a private member. The House transacted the government business on private members' day after passage of the motion while private members' agenda was also taken up in routine.

Moved by the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Murtaza Javed Abbasi, the House passed a motion to suspend the rules for immediate consideration of the Official Secrets (Amendment) Bill, 2023. The House passed the bill after the Chair directed to circulate the copies of the bill among the lawmakers.

According to the Statement of Objects and Reasons of the bill, it is imperative to amend the offi-cial Secrets Act 1923 and make it more effective in view of the changing social

Minister for Parlia-mentary Affairs Murtaza Javed Abbasi moved the Toshakhana (Management and Regulation) Bill, 2023 and the Pakistan Airports Authority Bill, 2023. Both bills were passed by the House as the Senate has already approved both legis-

lative proposals.

The Toshakhana
Management and Regulation Bill 2023 passed by the house today envisaged that the existing and future gifts to be received in Toshakhana shall be disposed of through an open auction. The proceeds of such an auction shall be kept in a separate account and will be utilized for promoting female primary education in the most backward areas of the country. Three private members' bills passed by the House included the Promotion and Protection of Gandhara Culture Authority Bill 2023; the Margalla International University Bill, 2023 milieu to ensure safety and security of official docu- Institute Bill, 2023.

CM pays homage to Lt. Gen. Sarfraz on his first death anniversary

Independent Report QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Abdul Quddus Bizenjo has paid homage to the martyr Lt. General Sarfraz Ali on his first death anniversary

observed on Tuesday. In a statement issued here, the Chief Minister said that the services of Shaheed Lt. General Sarfraz Ali are commendable and worth following. He said that the Shaheed General kind human being. Mir Abdul Ouddus Bizenjo re- with him in the helicopte called that his relation with crash then. the martyr General was based

working very hard.

He said that the services of martyr General would always be valued a

province relentlessly and

lot by the people of province. He also recalled that General Sarfraz had met an unfortunate mishap during the relief operations launched for the relief and rehabilitation of the flood affected people last year.

He also paid tributes to the companions of Genwas a true soldier and a very eral Sarfraz who had embraced martyrdom along

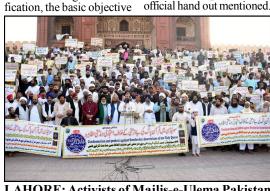
He said that the nation on sincerity and friendship. would never forget the great He said that Lt. Gen- sons of Pak army and the eral Sarfraz Ali worked for country. The Chief Ministhe rehabilitation of the ter also prayed for the deflood affected areas of the parted souls of the martyrs

Women development sector plan 2022-27 announced

Independent Report QUETTA: The Women Development Sector Plan for the year 2022-27 has been announced in the province. This was announced in an official notification issued here by the Women Development Department, Government of Balochistan

According to the notification, the basic objective

behind the Women Development Sector Plan is to eliminate the domestic violence and gender based discrimination through good governance and response to the gender based discriminatory attitude against women. This is also aimed at empowering women socially, economically and politically in the province, the



LAHORE: Activists of Majlis-e-Ulema Pakistan hold a protest against the burning of the Quran in Sweden, at Badshahi Mosque in Provincial Capital.

Khushhal, Yousafzai strongly reacts to tragic act of terrorism in Bajour

Independent Report QUETTA: The Chairman of Pashtoonkhaw Milli Awami Party (PkMAP), Khushhal Khan Kakar and co-chairman, Mukhtar Yousafzai have strongly reacted to the tragic act of terrorism in Bajour.

In a joint condemnation statement issued here, Khushhal Kakar and Mukhtar Yousafzai charged that the state is more interested in looting the maximum resources instead of stopping the massacre of innocent people of the area.

They said that the backwardness, terrorism, unemployment, deprivatoin and ignorance have been imposed on our people instead of giving development and prosperity to the Pashtoonkhaw land

is being snatched from us mercilessly, Mr. Kakar and Yousafzai further charged. They said that it is not

the first incident in which the innocent people have been targeted, rather there have been hundreds of similar incidents of terrorism and barbarism on the Pashtoon land instead, they maintained. Thousands of people have been massacred and several others injured in a number of incidents of target killings, bomb explosions, landmine and bomb blasts in the past, the central leaders of PkMAP recalled. The PkMAP leaders also questioned performance of the security and intelligence agencies as how and why the in-

Navy at the local level. He also informed the Prime Minister about ongoing measures to make Pakistan self-reliant in terms of defence and acqui-

Ex-officio BCSW

Independent Report

renotified immediately. According to an official notification issued here by the Women Development Department, Govern-

According to the notification, the BCSW would comprise 10 members including the Chairperson, Ms. Fauzia Shaheen, Secretary Commission, one minority member and seven ex-officio members.

Fawad submits written apology to election commission

tempt of EC case. Chief Election Com-

missioner (CEC) has re-marked EC will decide after seeing the written apol-

hearing before a five members bench of EC presided over by CEC Tuesday.

Chaudhry filed written apology in EC. Member Commission

. CEC remarked you

OIC expresses grave concern over rising Islamophobia

ISLAMABAD (INP): The ment the existing legal and Organisation of Islamic administrative framework Cooperation (OIC) expressed grave concern over the despicable acts of desecration of the Holy Quran in Sweden and Denmark.

The 18th Extraordinary Meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) of the OIC adopted a comprehensive resolution expressing grave concern over increasing incidents of intolerance, discrimination, and rising Islamophobia, a statement from the Foreign Office said. It reaffirmed the im-

portance of the 8-point action plan unanimously agreed upon by the UN Human Rights Council to counter incitement to hadiscrimination, stigmatisation, and violence based on religion and belief.

It also called on all governments to fully imple-

or adopt new legislation to protect all individuals against hatred and violence based on religion and belief.

FM Bilawal also attended the 18th extraordinary meeting held in a vir-

Addressing the CFM, FM Bilawal condemned, in the strongest terms, the Islamophobic and hateful acts of desecration of the Holy Quran, which manifested religious hatred and intolerance.

He underscored that these acts, and the permission to carry them out, did not constitute freedom of expression.

The foreign minister reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to work closely with OIC member countries, especially in Jeddah, Geneva, and New York to

willful acts of the burning and desecration of the Holy

He welcomed the adoption of resolutions in the UN Human Rights Council and the UN General Assembly advocating inter-religious dialogue and shunning religious hatred. He also called for promoting inter-faith harmony and peaceful co-existence.

The foreign minister reiterated his proposal, made earlier this year on the occasion of the International Day to Combat Islamophobia, for an action plan which would inter alia include the appointment of a UN Special Envoy to combat Islamophobia and the establishment of judicial mechanisms to hold the perpetrators accountable.



Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and Chief of Army Staff General Syed Asim Munir visiting those injured in Khaar (Bajaur) suicide blast in CMH Peshawar

PM, Naval Reiterates resolve against terrorism **Chief discuss** matters pertaining to Pak Navy

ISLAMABAD (Online): Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Amjad Khan Niazi called on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif in Islamabad on Tuesday. Detailed discussion on professional matters pertaining to Pakistan Navy came under discus-

The Naval Chief apprised the Prime Minister about the strategy of preparing weapons and warships for the Pakistan

sition of modern technol-

Members & members of renotified

QUETTA: The members and ex-officio members of Balochistan Commission on Status of Women (BCSW) have been

ment of Balochistan the other day.

ISLAMABAD (Online): Fawad Chaudhry has filed written apology in Election Commission (EC) in con-

The contempt of EC case came up for

Fawad Chaudhry appeared before EC. Faisal Chudury counsel for Fawad

inquired can chiding any one be policy of party. Fawad Chaudhry re-

plied there was such environment prevailing in the country that it had become incomprehensible we would go where in bitter-

have put first three lines of written apology condi-

President phones KP governor to condole deaths in Bajaur blast ISLAMABAD (APP): lam did not allow such hei-

President Dr Arif Alvi on Tuesday telephoned Gov-ernor of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Haji Ghulam Ali and expressed condolence over deaths in the recent suicide attack in Bajaur

The president conveyed his condolences to the KP governor and the people of the province over the loss of precious lives.

nous acts as well as terrorist attacks. He said the people of KP province had rendered

immense sacrifices against

terrorism. He reiterated that the elimination of terrorism and extremism from the country was inevitable.

He said the terrorists were enemies of the country and the nation, and that Talking to the gover- they would never succeed



ISLAMABAD: UN Resident Coordinator to Pakistan, Julien Harneis calls on Speaker National Assembly Raja Pervez Ashraf at Parliament House.

Imran records his statement in Tosha Khana criminal case

ISLAMABAD (APP): Imran Khan Niazi on Tuesday recorded his statement under section-342 before the trial court in Toshakhana criminal case after which further hearing was adjourned till August 2

District and Sessions Judge Hamayun Dilawar heard the criminal case wherein former prime minister Imran Khan appeared before the court amid foolproof security.

At the outset of the hearing, Imran Khan recorded his statement before the judge against 35 ques-

court. The judge inquired whether the accused was satisfied with his answers, and to this Imran Khan answered affirmation. As the hearing began,

the judge asked the former prime minister if he was going to read the questions and he (Imran Khan) could answer if he In his statement, the

former prime minister said that he had not heard the statements of the complainant as these were not recorded in his presence. He said that even the charges against him were not read

tions provided by the trial in his presence. **AJK President urges** Austria's vibrant role to resolve Kashmir dispute

MIRPUR (AJK) (APP): Azad Jammu and Kashmir President Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry on Tuesday urged the Austrian ambassador to play its role to resolve the Kashmir issue. According to the statement issued after the meeting with the Austrian ambassador, Mr. Andrea

Wicke at President House in Jammu Kashmir House in the federal metropolis, Barrister Sultan Mehmood Chaudhry said that Austria should play its role to help resolve the lingering dispute peacefully. Briefing Ambassador Wicke about the worsening political and human rights situation



GILGIT: FWO workers busy in clearing block area of Juglote-Skardu road after land sliding during rain in city