

# Independent

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## PM emphasizes significance of war games in validating naval war plans

KARACHI (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Wednesday emphasized the significance of war games in validating naval war plans in sync with military and national security policy, besides exploring operational concepts and refining deployment strategies.

The prime minister, addressing the debrief session of Pakistan Navy's war game Shamsheer-e-Bahr IX, lauded the well-deliberated plans of the force commanders and the insightful analysis of the war game, which would help crystallize operational plans for maritime security and seaward defence of Pakistan, a PM Office press release said.

He also highlighted the enhanced responsibilities of the Pakistan Navy in ensuring the security of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor and Gwadar Port.

Prime Minister Kakar expressed complete confidence in the preparedness of the Pakistan Navy to meet all threats and challenges, and reassured the government's commitment to provide all available resources for its capacity building. Earlier upon arrival at the venue, the prime minister was received by Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi.

While presenting the overview, the Deputy Chief of Naval Staff (Operations) outlined the objectives of the war game which was conducted in tri-service format, with participants of relevant ministries and divisions as well.



## Caretaker Sindh CM, UAE Consul General discuss bilateral ties

Independent Report

KARACHI: Consul General of United Arab Emirates Bakheet Ateeq Al-Remeithi called on Caretaker Sindh Chief Minister Justice (Retd) Maqbool Baqir in Karachi on Wednesday and discussed bilateral relations.

The Sindh chief Minister on the occasion said that there are ample investment opportunities in the province and invited UAE investors to take advantage of them.

The visiting Consul General informed the caretaker Sindh chief Minister that a biggest ever Visa center has been established in Karachi to facilitate the people of Sindh and Balochistan.

The caretaker chief minister on the occasion thanked UAE for extending help to flood affected in Sindh.

Meanwhile Caretaker Sindh Chief Minister Justice (retd) Maqbool Baqir has categorically announced that the government will not place a ban or bar on approvals of the layout plans of residential and commercial buildings.

In a statement issued here on Wednesday, the Chief Minister said that there was no ban on the approval of the plans for the construction of commercial, and residential buildings. However, violation of the building laws, rules, and regulations by the Sindh Building Control Authority or the builder(s) would not be tolerated, he said.

Talking about the regularization of the illegally constructed buildings, the caretaker CM said that no such proposal was under consideration at all.

The caretaker chief minister urged SBCA to encourage legal construction and simplify the procedure.



## Siraj calls upon govt for swift action to ensure safety, protection of people of Sindh

KASHMIRE (INP): Ameer Jamaat-e-Islami Emir Sirajul Haq led the peace march held Kandhkot on Wednesday to divert the government's attention towards the deteriorating law and order situation in the area, marked by the presence of dacoit gangs and the distressing surge in kidnapping-for-ransom cases.

During the march, he called upon the government to take immediate action and ensure the safety and protection of the people of Sindh. A large number of people participated.

Sirajul Haq expressed deep concern over the rampant issue of dacoits in Sindh. He said the problem had left the people in a state of sleeplessness, as incidents of daily kidnappings and killings were plaguing the region. He said that within the span of a year, a staggering 400 cases of ransom-based kidnappings had been reported in the Kashmir district alone. He held the former government of the PPP accountable for the prevailing situation, emphasizing that its 15-year rule over Sindh had failed to deliver much-needed peace and security to the people.

The JI chief urged the law enforcement agencies and security forces to emerge from their inaction and vigorously confront the menace posed by the dacoits. Stressing the paramount responsibility of the ruling authorities to safeguard citizens, he lamented that it appeared the authorities were shielding the criminals instead.

He said that if the government did not promptly fulfil its duties, the JI would lead marches on Islamabad and Karachi.

He also called upon the public to effectively support their strike call against the exorbitant electricity bills. He announced that a nationwide strike would be staged on September 2, aimed at drawing attention to the issue. He asserted that the JI would exert pressure on the government to retract the recent electricity price hikes.



KARACHI: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar addressing the debriefing session of Pakistan Navy's War Game "Shamsheer-e-Bahr IX".

## Apex court wants to conclude NAB amendments case early: CJP

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chief Justice of Pakistan Umar Ata Bandial on Wednesday observed that the top court wanted to conclude cases pertaining to the NAB amendments as soon as possible.

He was heading the three-member bench, comprising Justice Ijaz ul Ahsan and Justice Mansoor Ali Shah, which heard the case.

At the outset of hearing, Attorney General for Pakistan Mansoor Usman Awan said that he had not stated that 'there was a flaw in the Supreme Court Practice and Procedure Act', rather he was of the view that it was similar to the Supreme Court Review Act.

The chief justice remarked that the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) had withdrawn corruption cases of less than Rs 500 million. "Under which law this policy has been adopted?" he asked.

He observed that in the NAB amendments carried out in 2022, the arrest of accused at inquiry stage was excluded but in July 2023 the respective clause had been included in the law again, which was aimed at tightening the grip against politicians. CJP Bandial said that it had to be viewed that who had been targeted and for how long. Negotiations were underway some people in matters pertaining to the billions of rupees fraud. He said there was something wrong in the NAB law, due to which the apex court was approached to review it. Whether the Bureau was working to protect the public interest, he questioned.

The chief justice said the court had to view the amendments in light of the provisions of Constitution.

Justice Mansoor Ali Shah remarked that the NAB amendments were challenged by a person who had quit the Parliament. Fundamental rights had been clearly defined in the Imrana Tiwana case, adding that the top court had conducted some 50 hearings but no answer had been received regarding the impacts of NAB amendments on basic rights.

He said the amendments were not challenged by any citizen. He asked that whether the limit of Rs 500 million in NAB cases was fixed to book only big fish or whether the people committing corruption of less amount were honoured.

The chief justice asked lawyer Makhdoom Ali Khan to give arguments on Thursday regarding application of the NAB amendments from the past. The case then adjourned.



Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Syed Asim Munir visited Tilla Field Firing Ranges near Jhelum on Wednesday, where he witnessed field fire and battle drills.

## Minister assures steps for welfare of prisoners

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Caretaker Minister for Home and Prisons, Brig (retd) Haris Nawaz, on Wednesday, assured the Committee for the Welfare of Prisoners (CWP) of the maximum possible support for the welfare of inmates in the prisons.

He was talking to a 5-member delegation of CWP led by Barrister Haya Zahid, who called on him. Sindh Home Secretary Syed Aijaz Ali Shah was also present in the meeting, according to a statement issued here.

The minister was informed that 2,838 prisoners were interviewed and provided with 'legal advice' by qualified lawyers in the previous two years by CWP and 2,690 vakalatnamas (power of attorneys) were signed and filed in courts while 2235 cases were disposed of with certified judicial orders.

The committee successfully pleaded 1,349 applications for bail and also assisted 41 prisoners in the submission of fines and surety.

The committee also discussed with the home minister the financial issues being faced by CWP and requested support.



KARACHI: Factory Owners burning electricity bills during protest outside press club, against the price hike of electricity and inflation across the country in Provincial Capital in Provincial Capital.

## Battle preparedness of army personnel commendable: COAS

RAWALPINDI (APP): Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Syed Asim Munir on Wednesday visited Tilla Field Firing Ranges, near Jhelum and witnessed Field Fire and Battle Drills.

On arrival, the COAS was briefed on training objectives, set for the exercise with a view to validate operational readiness of the formation in the challenging environment, an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release said.

The COAS appreciated the synergy displayed by Air Force, Army Aviation and ground troops in the execution of various operational drills.

He lauded the troops for their combat proficiency and offensive spirit. He also appreciated the high morale and battle worthiness of the troops.

Earlier on arrival, the COAS was received by Lieutenant General Syed Aamer Raza, Commander Four Corps.

## Provincial caretaker gov't initiates action against illegal mining

HYDERABAD (APP): Caretaker Sindh Minister for Mines and Minerals Development Mir Khuda Bux Mari has informed that action has been initiated against all those who are involved in illegal mining of minerals in the province.

The provincial caretaker government also reviewed the lease permission and also taking action in this regard with the co-operation of the administration, he added.

Besides stopping illegal mining wherever reported in the province, he informed that strict legal action is also being taken against the persons who were involved in illegal mining.

The minister informed this while presiding over a meeting of the officers of his department and later talking to media persons here at the Commissioner's Office on Wednesday.



HYDERABAD: Caretaker Provincial Minister Mines and Minerals Development Mir Khuda Bakhsh Marri at a press conference at Shahbaz hall Hyderabad.

## Nothing left for Imran Khan in Pakistani politics: Tessori

LONDON (INP): Sindh Governor Kamran Tessori has said that he doesn't see any place in Pakistani politics for former prime minister Imran Khan after orchestrating 9 May violent attacks on Pakistan Army installations.

Speaking to the media in London, Tessori said that the events of 9th May — involving Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) attacks on Jinnah House and other military areas — had jolted Pakistan and set a new course. The governor said that 9th May was similar to the Peshawar Army Public School attacks and both events had united the nation against terrorism.

Tessori, who is in London on a private family visit, said: "The elements involved in the 9 May attacks are left behind and the nation has come on one page. No decent and civilised society allows the destruction and arson of its important national places such as the residence of Pakistan founder Muhammad Ali Jinnah, mosques and core headquarters; people don't burn their police stations in the world, these people burnt down their Core headquarters and attempted attacks on military installations. After all of this, I think there is nothing left for Imran Khan in Pakistani politics."

The Sindh governor also advised those still part of the PTI to, "Think of Pakistan first and then the leader. The nation comes first, no harm in following any leader but not at the cost of Pakistan." He also accentuated that he had the opportunity of working closely with former prime minister Shehbaz Sharif and found that he was very hard-working and well-meaning and always listened to the grievances of others and tried to resolve their problems. "Imran Khan only made others listen to him and never tried to listen to others", the Tessori noted.



KARACHI: Police officials arrest Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Sindh leader, Haleem Adil Shaikh after case hearing, at Sindh High Court building in Karachi.

## Haleem Adil Sheikh moves SHC against his arrest warrants

KARACHI (INP): Former PTI opposition leader in the Sindh Assembly Haleem Adil Shaikh who has been nominated in the May 9 riots case appeared on the scene after a long time on Wednesday.

The PTI leader submitted an application to the Sindh High Court challenging his non-bailable arrest warrants issued by an anti-terrorism court in Hyderabad in the May 9 mayhem case.

Shaikh said that he got a protective bail from the Peshawar High Court. He further said that the Sindh High Court too had barred the authorities from arresting him in any case.

He requested the SHC to suspend the non-bailable arrest warrants issued by a Hyderabad ATC.



Daily Voice of Masses  
**Independent**

**Some relief**

Former prime minister Imran Khan's legal team and party loyalists may rejoice in their consolation victory at the Islamabad High Court, but the suspension of Mr Khan's sentence in the Toshakhana case does little for him in the larger scheme of things.

His conviction and, therefore, his disqualification from holding public office continue to stand, and until his appeal against the trial court's verdict is disposed of, his political fate remains in limbo. Bail or not, it is also unlikely that he will be allowed to walk free anytime soon: as has been the case with other political leaders arrested in recent months, the state could bring new cases against him to bypass release orders.

The wheels are already in motion. Soon after the IHC announced its decision, it surfaced that a special court constituted to try Mr Khan under the Official Secrets Act had directed Attock Jail authorities to keep him locked up and produce him before the court on Aug 30 for the 'missing cipher' case.

It had previously been commented that the IHC would find itself compelled to give some relief to the PTI chief, especially after a Supreme Court bench headed by the chief justice made adverse observations regarding 'procedural defects' in Mr Khan's conviction in the Toshakhana case. Though the SC ultimately restrained itself from intervening more forcefully in the matter, it put the IHC on the spot.

While the apex court's 'reservations' were justifiably criticised as 'interference' in the high court's workings, it bears mentioning that the manner in which Mr Khan was tried and eventually convicted left a lot to be desired. No wonder that independent observers saw it merely as another example of unelected quarters inflicting punishment on a political leader who had dared cross them.

As the aphorism goes, justice must not only be done, but seen to be done. At some point in Pakistan's recent political history, the law stopped being a reference point for what is right and wrong or what is permissible and what is not. Perhaps it was always so. Court cases, especially those that have involved political actors, have always seemed more like a means through which different factions within the state may assert their dominance over the other. Despite many bitter experiences over the years, though, nothing seems to change. Those who were once the victims are now perpetuating the same cycle of violence under the patronage of their own oppressors, and those being oppressed today are just as likely to do the same whenever the roles are inevitably reversed. If the situation appears hopeless, it is only so because those who have had the power to change it have consciously chosen not to. Our leaders must answer: when do they want this to stop?

**The hardest hit**



**Abdullah Fadhil**

As monsoon rains bear down on Pakistan, children's vulnerability to climate change and extreme weather again comes to the fore. Seasonal rains have already wreaked havoc, displacing communities, damaging homes and vital infrastructure, and claiming the lives of at least 211 people, including 87 children. Tens of thousands of people are currently affected by floods in Punjab. Extreme weather events are becoming more frequent and destructive. All too often, it is children who pay the heaviest price.

The scale of last year's floods was unlike anything witnessed before. One third of the country was under water, 33 million people affected, over 1,700 lives lost. Homes, livelihoods, future hopes and dreams, wiped out in a flash. We cannot let this happen again. Pakistan is a known climate hotspot, suffering from floods, heatwaves and droughts that directly threaten families and livelihoods. It is only a matter of time before another large-scale climate disaster strikes.

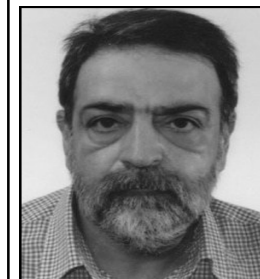
While Pakistan cannot alter the course of climate change alone, there is a clear need to invest in its children today to reduce their vulnerability to climate change in the future. Last year's floods made pre-existing inequities and deprivations painfully obvious: it is the poorest, most vulnerable girls, boys and women living in underserved areas who are bearing the brunt of climate change. What

little they had was washed away, and access to essential services was severed or disrupted.

Many of the hardest-hit districts were already among the most vulnerable in Pakistan. One-third of children aged five to 16 years were out of school. The floods damaged or destroyed 30,000 schools, locking an additional 3.5 million children out of learning. We know from experience that the longer children remain out of school, the less likely they are to return, exposing them to protection risks such as child labour and child marriage. As part of its flood response, Unicef is providing education support for 258,000 children, but this is a drop in the ocean compared to the needs.

Pakistan's looming nutrition crisis has worsened with the floods, bringing immediate and long-term consequences for children's survival and well-being. Around 1.5 million children in flood-affected areas are severely malnourished, the most life-threatening form of malnutrition. Low-birthweight babies continue to be born to mothers who themselves are malnourished. This robs Pakistan of human potential and capital that can help drive its economy forward: malnutrition results in a loss of three per cent in national GDP. As Pakistan undergoes a period of political transition, nutrition and education must remain national priorities while flood recovery and rehabilitation continue.

Pakistan has a window of opportunity to make critical investments in climate-resilient infrastructure and resilient services that bridge equity gaps and reach children, mothers and families in underserved areas. This is vital for not only education and nutrition, but also health, protection, water, hygiene and sanitation. Sadly, the children affected by the floods in 2010 are again bearing the brunt of last year's devastation. Without real change and societal transformation, the future for children in affected communities looks bleak. Poverty has increased after the floods, further perpetuating the cycle of intergenerational poverty, increasing inequality and worsening outcomes.



**Mahir Ali**

The latest chapter in the Taliban's crusade against women was unveiled this week, when at least 60 potential scholars expecting to be accommodated at a university in Dubai were turned away from Kabul airport. It followed a series of similar gestures that have stretched from stripping the right of girls to secondary or higher education, to bans on women working for aid agencies and a ban on hair and beauty parlours.

During the Doha conversations that preceded the cakewalk into Kabul two years ago this month, the interlocutors from Afghanistan indicated that Taliban 2.0 would be different from their Pakistani- and Saudi-backed incarnation in the mid-1990s.

It has not worked out that way. Just last week, the Band-i-Amir national park in Bamian was declared off-limits to women. "I've heard more than one Afghan woman talk about how next the Taliban won't allow them to breathe," Human Rights Watch's Heather Barr was quoted as saying. "That sounds very hyperbolic until you see them doing things like actually trying to stop women from being outdoors and enjoying nature."

The Taliban response? "Going sightseeing is not a must for women." That comes from a spokesman called Mohammed Khalid Hanafi who, like many of his Taliban brethren, seems to be unaware that he wouldn't exist without his mother's nurturing instincts following the

**Extreme misogyny**

agony of childbirth. In other words, as the singer-songwriter Peggy Seeger queried: "How can a man of woman born/ Thereafter treat her sex with scorn?"

She wasn't talking about Afghanistan. Prejudices against women have been entrenched to various degrees in all societies, and their recent resurgence in the US is deplorable but not surprising. Former first lady Laura Bush at one point pretended to be keen on women's rights in Afghanistan, which served as one of the post-hoc excuses for the 2001 invasion, but appears to have had nothing to say about their depletion in the US.

Only a few American journalists have acknowledged that women in urban Afghanistan experienced the least limitations on their ambitions during the Soviet-backed PDPA phase. As schoolteacher Glenn Sacks noted in Counterpunch this month, "In 1985, women accounted for 65pc of the 7,000 students at Kabul University — unthinkable in previous times."

Some US initiatives after the 2001 occupation may have echoed Soviet ones, but that could never officially be acknowledged — not least because back in the 1980s, the Afghan mujahideen were receiving instructions from America on slitting the throats of schoolteachers who dared to instruct girls. An outcome of recent Taliban policies has been to turn Afghanistan into one of the few countries where more women than men commit suicide. The ruling clique seems not to care.

There is a perception that the Taliban leadership is divided between those who might be willing to make social concessions, and a hard-line faction keen to reverse even the tiniest nod to liberalisation. Small wonder, then, that no country has formally recognised the regime — not even Pakistan, the

Saudis and UAE, the three sponsors of the Taliban's first incarnation. In a recent report, BBC's Lyse Doucet quoted a Kabul beautician as saying that the mounting pressure on women is part of an effort to win international recognition. If that's true, it's a strange way of going about it. One would have thought that some movement in the opposite direction might be more effective.

It is unlikely that any harm can come from talking to the Taliban — and the regime's emissaries are reputedly frequent flyers. So far, there is also no evidence that diplomatic dialogues will yield meaningful results. The conversations should nonetheless continue, if only because there is no obvious alternative. While resisting IS-K, the Taliban have also exercised control over opium production, and, more broadly, security for travellers is reported to have vastly improved since the US occupation — which is hardly surprising, given the Taliban and their affiliates were once the main purveyors of insecurity.

There has been talk of Afghanistan profiting by allowing exploitation of the rare earths buried underneath its soil — most likely by Chinese entities unbothered by violations of human rights. The country could obviously benefit from such engagements, given its most lucrative produce is the chief ingredient for heroin. The nation's future, however, will not be determined by royalties. It cannot possibly prosper without liberating women from their shackles. Afghanistan is not entirely an outlier in the Muslim world in the context of women's rights, but it goes further in denying them than even its most retrogressive peers. Plenty of nations have contributed to Afghanistan's plight, but right now its destiny is in the hands of the (originally Pakistan-spawned) Taliban. — Courtesy Dawn

**Commerce News**

**Experts call for leveraging waste to energy for decarbonization of cement sector, industries**

ISLAMABAD (APP): Decarbonization of cement sector and other industries requires strengthening of the regulatory and policy ecosystem, innovative technologies to replace carbon-intensive cement and reliable and affordable alternate energy sources like waste to energy to offset carbon emissions from cement supply chain.

These were the recommendations stressed by experts at a special guest lecture on "Charting the course of Decarbonization Driver's on Pakistan's Cement Industry" with Ahsan Anis, Chief Operating Officer, of Power Cement Limited, who unveiled an ambitious agenda for Pakistan's economic growth, setting a formidable target of 25 billion dollars in textile exports for the current year.

**UAF develops multi grain flour: Dr Iqrar**

FAISALABAD (APP): The University of Agriculture Faisalabad (UAF) has developed multi-grain flour which is being commercialized with the support of the industry. Addressing a one-day seminar on multi-grain flour, UAF Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Iqrar Ahmed Khan said the multigrain flour was developed by the National Institute of Food Science and Technology, Faculty of Food Nutrition and Home Sciences UAF under the Higher Education Commission Technology Transfer Support Project.

He said that 40 per cent of Pakistan's popula-



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Communications, Railways and Maritime Affairs Shahid Ashraf Tarar meeting with the officers of Pakistan Karachi Port Trust (KPT).

**Gohar pledges for reopening closed industry with 30 days**

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister for Commerce and Industries and Production, Dr. Gohar Ejaz Wednesday unveiled an ambitious agenda for Pakistan's economic growth, setting a formidable target of 25 billion dollars in textile exports for the current year.

Alongside this, he pledged a swift revival of all shuttered industries within the country, with a tight deadline of just one month, said a press release

issued here. During a crucial meeting convened with the Pakistan Textile Exporters Association, helmed by Khurram Mukhtyar, Gohar outlined his vision.

Comparing this year's projected export figures with the previous year's 16 billion dollars, he expressed strong confidence in surpassing this milestone.

Making a resolute commitment, the minister assured that each industry currently closed for various reasons would see reopening by September 30.

He emphasized that all challenges obstructing their operations would be systematically addressed.

Notably hands-on, Dr. Gohar asserted his willingness to personally engage with all stakeholders, including industrialists.

He even affirmed his readiness to visit their premises if required, underlining his dedication to revitalizing the industrial landscape. In a proactive approach, the minister re-

**Pak exports 8 shipments of rock salt to China via Khunjerab border**

BEIJING (APP): Pakistan has exported eight shipments of around 35 tons rock salt to China from June to July this year through the Khunjerab land border.

"Imports and exports volume across the Khunjerab Port stand at 40 to 80 thousand tons per year. Daily imports are about 471.6 tons per day," Zhang Xiaobo, China's Customs Director of Khunjerab Port, told CGTN.

He said since 2019, China had set up a dedicated border trade area, for businessmen to settle increasingly bigger trades, and after a three-year hiatus during the COVID-19, "the zone is officially in use this year".

Zhang said, "From June to July this year, we



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Commerce & Industries, DR. Gohar Ejaz calling on Chairman Senate, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani at Parliament House.

**Senate body on Commerce meets**

ISLAMABAD (Online): The Senate Standing Committee on Commerce convened today at the Parliament House, presided over by the Chairman of the Committee, Senator Zeeshan Khanzada. Distinguished attendees included Senators Fida Muhammad, Palwasha Muhammad Zai Khan, Talha Mehmood, and Danesh Kumar. Federal Minister for Commerce Gohar Ejaz, Secretary Commerce, CEO TDAP Muhammad Zubair Motiwala, along with other relevant officials also participated. During the meeting, the committee addressed the matter of approximately 40 vintage ve-



Senator Saleem Mandviwalla, Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Revenue presiding over a meeting of the Committee at Parliament House Islamabad

**PSX loses 525 points**

ISLAMABAD (APP): The 100-index of the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) witnessed bearish trend on Wednesday and shed 525.86 points, showing negative change of 1.12 percent, closing at 46,244.56 points against 46,770.42 points the previous trading day.

A total of 200,288,813 shares were traded during the day as compared to 217,852,268 shares, whereas the trading value of shares was recorded at Rs 8,987 billion against Rs 8,280 billion on the last trading day.

As many as 327 companies transacted their shares in the stock market; 70 of them recorded gains and 240 sustained losses, whereas the share price of 17 companies remained unchanged.



## Caretaker govt to remain apolitical, impartial: Azam

PESHAWAR (APP): Caretaker Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Muhammad Azam Khan on Wednesday said that the caretaker government will keep itself restricted to its constitutional and legal role and remain apolitical, impartial and will perform its duties without any sort of political affiliation.

He expressed these views while presiding over the 9th meeting of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa caretaker cabinet here.

Besides caretaker cabinet members, the meeting was attended by Chief Secretary Nadeem Aslam Chaudhry and concerned administrative secretaries. In his address to the participants of the meeting, the Chief Minister welcomed the new cabinet members. The chief minister said that the role, responsibilities, and dos and don'ts of the caretaker setup is very much clear in

the relevant provisions of the Constitution and Election Commission Act 2017.

Azam Khan remarked that the caretaker government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is faced with two major challenges: law and order and financial crunch, and continued that improvement of the prevailing law and order situation would be the top priority of government and pledged to make all-out efforts to this end.

He said that the province is largely dependent on the federal government, with regard to its revenue, and more than 90 percent of its revenue comes from various federal receipts and added that after the merger of ex-FATA, the population of the province has increased, and as per the existing population ratio, the NFC shares of the province has climbed to 19 percent of the federal divisible pool, but unfortunately, it is getting only 14.6 percent.

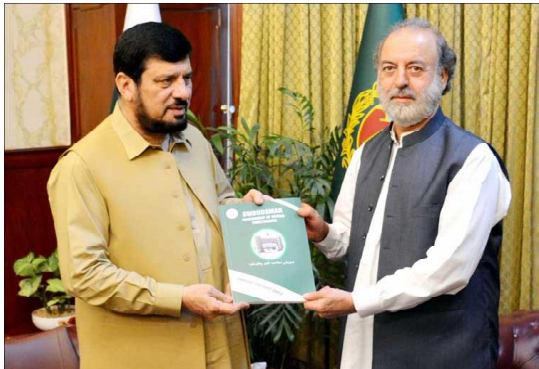
The Chief Minister remarked that at the time of the ex-FATA merger, it was committed by all the federating entities that three percent of their NFC share would be provided for the newly merged districts, whereas it was also pledged that Rs. 100 billion would be provided to Khyber Pakhtunkhwa every year for the accelerated development of the NMDs, but during the last five years, only 103 billion has been provided to the province out of the total 500 billion.

Highlighting the priorities of his government, the chief minister reiterated that his government will focus special attention on merit, transparency, and good governance in its day-to-day business, adding that the administrative secretaries of the provincial government has already been directed to take the necessary steps to this end.

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PESHAWAR: Provincial Ombudsman Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Syed Jamal ud Din presenting annual report 2022 to Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Haji Ghulam Ali.

## Provincial Ombudsman calls on Governor, presents annual report

PESHAWAR (APP): Ombudsman of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Syed Jamal-ud-Din Shah here on Wednesday called on KP Governor, Haji Ghulam Ali and presented the annual report of 2022.

Additional Secretary of Law Department, Zaheer-ud-Din and Principal Secretary of the Governor, Mazhar Irshad were also present on the occasion.

Provincial Ombudsman said that 2,519 complaints were received by the office of the ombudsman among which 1,947 have been addressed.

He said that 492 complaints were related to Elementary and Secondary Education. KP Governor appreciated the efforts of the ombudsman office and its overall performance to facilitate people.

## 3 of family gunned down

SHEIKHUPURA (APP): Three members of a family were gunned down in Shaqpur Khurd, in the jurisdiction of Factory Area police station, some 24 km away from here on Wednesday. According to police, unidentified people came on a motorcycle stormed into the house of Akram and opened indiscriminate fire at the family. As a result of which

Akram and his two daughters- Fatima and Uzma sustained critical bullet injuries and died on the spot. The motive behind the triple murder was stated to be an old enmity over a piece of land.

On information, Factory Area police reached the spot and collected evidences.

The police have sent the bodies to hospital for postmortem. DPO Sheikhupura Zahid Nawaz Marwat directed the police to cordon off the area for the arrest of suspects at the earliest. Further investigation was underway.



LAHORE: Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman addressing the launching ceremony of Literate Cholistan Project Phase 2 organized by Punjab Education Foundation.

## Punjab Governor says: PEF lighting the candle of knowledge in remote areas commendable

Independent Report  
LAHORE: Governor Punjab, Muhammad Balighur Rehman, attended the launch ceremony of Literate Cholistan Project 2 organized by Punjab Education Foundation here today at Governor House Lahore as a special guest. Secretary School Education Punjab Muhammad Ahsan Waheed, Managing Director Punjab Education Foundation Manzoor Javed Ali, Vice Chancellor University of Education, Talat Naseer Pasha and other senior officers were present in the ceremony.

Speaking on the occasion, Punjab Governor

Muhammad Balighur Rehman said that education is the way through which nations develop. He said that it is commendable that Punjab Education Foundation is lighting the candle of knowledge in remote and backward areas through public private partnership.

He said that the moral training along with education is very important, adding that high moral values including honesty and truthfulness should be inculcated in the youth. He further said that an educated person neither believes nor spreads what he hears without researching himself. He said that it is very important to research the news and information spread on social media. There was a time when Muslims made a name for themselves in education, science and research all over the world. But today we are lagging behind in research. We have to make joint efforts for bringing improvement in the education sector, he added.

Governor Punjab said that the best investment is on the education and training of children and youth. Governor Punjab said that Punjab Education Foundation (PEF) is doing good work. It is spreading the light of education in remote areas.

## Naqi urged to take notice of non-payments to printers, publishers by PCTB

LAHORE (APP): Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) on Wednesday urged Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqi and relevant authorities to take notice of non-payment of Rs 5.5 billion to respective printers and publishers by Punjab Curriculum and Textbook Board (PCTB) as they were facing a severe financial crunch.

The LCCI President Kashif Anwar made this demand after having detailed meeting with a delegation of printers and publishers led by Khalid Pervaiz here at Lahore Chamber. The LCCI Senior Vice President Zafar Mahmood Chaudhry, former president Muhammad Ali Mian, former vice president Faheem Rehman Saigol, All Pakistan Anjuman Tajran (APAT) Secretary Information Zakaria Butt

and All Pakistan Printers Association (APPA) Chairman Syed Makram Abbas also spoke on the occasion.

The delegation informed the LCCI office-bearers that Punjab Curriculum and Textbook Board had issued a tender worth Rs 15 billion for printing of text books for students of public sector schools, however, the payment of Rs. 5.5 billion for this printing was still pending. They added that price of paper had increased many times and if the Board did not pay the remaining amount of Rs.5.5 billion to the printers and publishers, they would not be able to print textbooks for next academic year and millions of students would not get free books thus putting their career at stake. The government should take an immediate notice of this situation and direct the relevant authorities.

## LHC reserves judgment on maintainability of petition against escalating bills, taxes

LAHORE (Online): Lahore High Court (LHC) has reserved judgment on maintainability of the petition against inflated electricity bills and recovery of taxes in bills.

The petition was filed by a citizen Muhammad Latif.

A single bench of LHC

led by Justice Shams Mehmood Mirza took up the case for hearing Wednesday.

Ahmad Abdullah counsel for the petitioner argued in the case.

The learned judge while addressing counsel for petitioner remarked "yes, you will say what."

## Dr Jamal Nasir says: Couple's test essential for controlling Thalassemia

RAWALPINDI (APP): Provincial Minister for Primary and Secondary Healthcare and Population Welfare, Punjab Dr Jamal Nasir has said that thalassemia disease can be controlled by conducting medical tests of the couple before marriage.

He said this while visiting Thalassemia House, Tipu Road here on Wednesday. The minister said that

thalassemia patients were increasing in Pakistan while public awareness and blood screening were indispensable to control this disease.

He said that the provision of a transplant facility in the Thalassemia house was a vital initiative that would benefit thalassemia patients.

Dr Jamal urged the people to play their role in eradicating thalassemia.



ISLAMABAD: Ms. Fauzia Viqar, Federal Ombudsperson (FOSPAH) presiding over a meeting regarding protection against harassment of women on workplace at Federal Ombudsman Secretariat.

# International News

## Ukrainian drones strike deep in Russian territory, Moscow says, while a barrage in Kyiv kills 2

Monitoring Desk  
KYIV: Ukraine sent waves of drones deep into western Russia in nighttime attacks that lasted more than four hours and struck military assets, Russian officials and media reports said Wednesday.

The drones hit an airport near Russia's border with Estonia and Latvia, causing a huge blaze and damaging four Il-76 military transport planes, which can carry heavy machinery and troops, the Russian state news agency Tass reported, citing emergency officials.

With at least six regions of Russia targeted, the barrage appeared to be the most extensive Ukrainian drone attack on Russian

soil since the war began 18 months ago, although no injuries were reported. The Kremlin has repeatedly accused the Ukrainian military of cross-border incursions on the Belgorod region of Russia and of launching drones toward Moscow.

There was no immediate comment from Ukrainian officials, who usually don't take responsibility for attacks inside Russia. The Kremlin's forces, meanwhile, hit Kyiv with drones and missiles during the night in what Ukrainian officials called a "massive, combined attack" that killed two people.

Aerial attacks on Russia have escalated recently

as Ukraine pursues a counteroffensive to drive out Moscow's forces. Kyiv increasingly targets Russia's military assets behind the front lines in eastern and southern Ukraine.

Ukraine has also claimed to have used naval drones against Russian ships in the Black Sea. Ukrainian media said that Kyiv saboteurs used drones last week to hit bomber aircraft parked at air bases deep inside Russia.

The airport in the Pskov region, about 700 kilometers (400 miles) north of the Ukrainian border and 700 kilometers (400 miles) west of Moscow, suffered the most damage in the overnight attacks.



Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi greets Sudan's army chief General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan at the Presidential palace in el-Alamein city, Egypt.

## China warns US against 'disastrous' trade curbs

Monitoring Desk  
BEIJING: China's premier warned US officials on Tuesday that moves to "politicise" trade issues would prove "disastrous" for the global economy, state media reported. US Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo is currently on a four-day bridge-building visit to China aimed at better managing tensions between the world's two largest economies.

But a meeting with Premier Li Qiang on Tuesday saw the top official lay into American trade curbs against Beijing, which Washington insists are necessary for its national security but China

says are meant to clip its economic rise. "Politicizing economic and trade issues and overstretching the concept of security will... seriously affect bilateral relations and mutual trust," he told Raimondo, according to China's official Xinhua news agency. They "also undermine the interests of enterprises and people of the two countries, and will have a disastrous impact on the global economy", he added.

Relations between the two countries have plummeted to some of their lowest levels in decades, with US trade curbs near the top of the list of disagreements.

This month, Biden issued an executive order aimed at restricting certain US investments in sensitive high-tech areas in China — a move Beijing blasted as being "anti-globalisation". The long-anticipated rules, expected to be implemented next year, target sectors such as semiconductors and artificial intelligence.

Premier Li on Tuesday urged the United States to change tack, saying "the two sides should strengthen mutually beneficial cooperation, reduce friction and confrontation, and jointly promote world economic recovery."

## US sees wake-up call, if not threat, as BRICS expands

Monitoring Desk  
WASHINGTON: The United States is racing to improve its messaging to the developing world as the BRICS group grows, although few in Washington view an immediate threat from the Chinese-backed club. The BRICS — Brazil, Russia India, China and South Africa — agreed at a summit last week to add six more members, in what Chinese President Xi Jinping billed as a historic moment among large emerging economies contesting the Western-led order.

As the BRICS leaders met in Johannesburg, President Joe Biden's administration renewed promises to step up funding for the developing world through the World Bank and International Monetary Fund.

Biden's national security advisor, Jake Sullivan, vowed to fight to reform the Washington-based lenders at an upcoming summit in New Delhi of the Group of 20 — boosting the roles both of the US-backed organisation and of India, a key member of both clubs.



Mutinous soldiers in Gabon said they were overturning the results of a presidential election that was to extend the Bongo family's 55-year hold on power.

## 176 global leaders and Nobel laureates urge Bangladesh to halt cases against Peace Prize winner

Monitoring Desk  
DHAKA: More than 170 global leaders and Nobel laureates have urged Bangladesh's prime minister to suspend legal proceedings against Muhammad Yunus, who was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2006 for pioneering the use of microcredit to help impoverished people.

In an open letter, the leaders, including former U.S. President Barack Obama, former U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and more than 100 Nobel laureates, said they were deeply concerned by recent threats to democracy and human rights in Bangladesh.

"One of the threats to human rights that concerns us in the present context is the case of Nobel Peace

Prize laureate Prof. Muhammad Yunus. We are alarmed that he has recently been targeted by what we believe to be continuous judicial harassment," said the letter, dated Tuesday.

"We are confident that any thorough review of the anti-corruption and labor law cases against him will result in his acquittal," it said.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina responded by saying she would welcome international experts and lawyers to come to Bangladesh to assess the legal proceedings and examine documents involving the charges against Yunus.

"If they send the experts and lawyers, many more things will get revealed, which remain untouched. Many such things will come out," Hasina said.



U.S. Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo talks with Shanghai Party Secretary Chen Jining, in Shanghai, China.

## US deploys B-1B bombers for separate drills with South Korea, Japan

Monitoring Desk  
SEOUL: The United States separately deployed B-1B bombers for joint drills with South Korea and Japan on Wednesday, as the three allies have stepped up responses to threats from North Korea.

A U.S. B-1B flew alongside South Korean FA-50 jets and U.S. Air Force F-16 fighters as part of ongoing Uchi Freedom Shield exercises, South Korea's defence ministry said. It marked the 10th

such flight by an American bomber this year.

North Korea routinely denounces the annual military drills as a rehearsal for war. The allies have stressed that the exercises are defensive. Separately, two U.S. Air Force B-1Bs joined joint drills with 12 Japanese fighters, including four F-15 jets, according to Japan's defence ministry. The U.S.-led bomber drills came days after North Korea attempted a satellite launch that ended in failure.

## IAEA moves to dispel fears about Fukushima

Monitoring Desk  
STOCKHOLM: The tritium concentration in wastewater being released from Japan's stricken Fukushima-Daiichi nuclear plant is under expected levels and poses no risk to the population, the head of the UN atomic watchdog said on Tuesday.

"So far we have been able to confirm that the first releases of these waters do not contain any radionuclide at levels that would be harmful," Rafael Grossi said during a visit to Stockholm.

## Category 3 Hurricane Idalia makes landfall on Florida coast

Monitoring Desk  
WASHINGTON: Hurricane Idalia made landfall in western Florida as an "extremely dangerous" Category 3 hurricane, prompting warnings of catastrophic effects, including storm surges of up to 16 feet (nearly five meters) on Wednesday.

Authorities in the southern US state described Idalia and its potentially deadly high surging waters as a once-in-a-lifetime event for Florida's northwest coast, ordering mass evacuations

and issuing flood alerts. The US National Hurricane Center (NHC) said Idalia, which earlier raked western Cuba, was packing maximum sustained winds of approximately 125 miles (215 kilometers) per hour as it made landfall around 7:45am (1145 GMT) in Florida's marshy Big Bend area.

Unlike most other coastal regions in the state, Big Bend, located along the arch of the Gulf of Mexico, does not have barrier islands.

## Kremlin says Prigozhin plane crash may have been caused deliberately

Monitoring Desk  
MOSCOW: The Kremlin said on Wednesday that the investigation into the plane crash which killed mercenary leader Yevgeny Prigozhin and nine others last week included the possibility that it was caused deliberately. "It is obvious that different versions are being considered, including the version — you know what we are talking about — let's say, a deliberate atrocity," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters. Peskov.

Prigozhin's plane crashed in a forest near the town of Khatynka, about 100 miles (160 km) from Moscow, on September 8. The crash killed Prigozhin and nine others, including a pilot and a co-pilot.

The investigation is still ongoing, but the Kremlin has already suggested that the crash was not an accident.



## Pakistan's economy linked with IT development: Alvi

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Dr Arif Alvi on Wednesday stressed the need to equip youth with skills of latest technology saying that the Pakistan's economy was linked with the development of Information Technology in the country.

He said Pakistan had become the second largest free lance market in the world, however the people were facing issues related to financial transactions.

He underlined that by easing the financial movement and financial transactions in Pakistan, the country's economy could further boost and its GDP growth rate could increase by 2-3%. Addressing the closing ceremony of Huawei ICT (Information and Communication Technologies) competition 2022-23 here, the president said IT had now become unavoidable part of almost every filed of life.

He informed that Huawei was going to open its global service center in Pakistan which would cre-

ate employment opportunities besides ensuring technology transfer to the youth of the country.

"This ICT Competition Program from Huawei speaks volumes of the efforts made in the past decade and how this Industry-Academia Relationship has been thriving towards providing the solid backbone towards the ICT Industry of Pakistan", he added. The president stressed that the universities should arrange boot camp in the campuses to train the university graduates and make them ready for the market.

He also urged the universities to start two-year undergraduate associate degree programs for the students as the growing technology around the globe does not need degrees but skills. Huawei Technologies held the closing ceremony of Huawei ICT Competition 2022-23 here at the Aitwan-e-Sadar, celebrating the success of the Pakistani teams that brought home prizes in the regional com-

petitions.

The students from Pakistan had won second and third prize in the Network Track and third prize in the Innovation Track at the Huawei ICT Competition 2022-2023 Global Final concluded at Huawei Headquarters in Shenzhen, China. The first to be held in person since 2019, the event's culmination was a competition between finalists in 146 teams from 36 countries.

The president said in today's time, every person irrespective of which filed he or she was in, should be familiar with the basics of modern technology including Artificial Intelligence, IT, and clouding etc.

He said the political and bureaucratic leadership must also be equipped with the basic skills of IT and modern technology.

He said a program was initiated by the government to train 1000 bureaucrats in IT field but despite several years, only 800 received the required training due to lack of will by the officers.

## Chairman PTI challenges law ministry notification

ISLAMABAD (Online): PTI chairman has challenged in Islamabad High Court (IHC) law ministry notification on shifting court to Attock jail.

Chairman PTI filed petition in IHC in this regard through his counsel Sher Afzal Marwat. Law secretary, interior secretary, chief commissioner, IG and DG FIA have been made respondents in the petition.

Superintendent Adiala jail and Superintendent Attock jail are also respondents in this petition.

## Sanjrani, FNF delegation discuss multilateral issues of mutual interest

ISLAMABAD (APP): A delegation of the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom (FNF) called on Chairman Senate, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani here on Wednesday.

The delegation consisted Dr Carsten Klein (Regional Director, FNF South Asia), Ms. Birgit Lamm (Head of Country Office, FNF Pakistan), and Ms. Rebea Firdous (Communication Officer, FNF Pakistan Office) engaged in a comprehensive dialogue with the chairman Senate.

The topics of discussion spanned a range of crucial areas, most notably renewable energy initiatives, fostering women's entrepreneurship, and fortifying the Pak-German trade relationship within the ambit of the GSP+ framework.

Of particular note was the foundation's unwavering commitment to nurturing a business-friendly landscape in Pakistan. This commitment was further underlined by an insightful exploration of challenges faced by businesses and

entrepreneurs, with a focus on proactive solutions.

In addition, FNF shared valuable insights from their ongoing study titled "Energy Security and Transition to Renewable Energies in South Asia," illuminating pathways toward sustainable energy practices.

The foundation also shed light on their collaborative efforts in empowering women entrepreneurs, a pivotal aspect of economic progress, in close collaboration with chambers of commerce in both Pakistan and Germany.

A poignant moment arose during the interaction as the visiting delegation presented a symbolic fragment of the Berlin Wall, evoking historical memories and embodying the spirit of unity.

In response, Sadiq Sanjrani exhibited profound appreciation for this gesture of remembrance.

Recognizing the historical value and symbolic significance of the artifact, he directed its placement within the Senate Museum.



ISLAMABAD: A group photo of participants during interfaith harmony conference at PNCA

## Aneeq stresses unity among faiths, condemns image-tarnishing efforts

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony Aneeq Ahmed, addressing the Interfaith Harmony Conference at the Pakistan National Council of the Arts on Wednesday, emphasized the need for unity among all faiths and condemned any attempts to tarnish the image of religions.

"Who are those individuals seeking to distort the essence of faith?" asked Aneeq, as he addressed a captivated audience. "We are brothers, and in our presence, any attack on a place of worship is a grave injustice."

Reflecting on recent events such as the incident in Jaranwala, the minister stated that such incidents should never have occurred. However, he pointed out

that there had been even worse atrocities against various communities in neighboring India.

"Those who lost their lives in India among the Christian brethren are not just Christians but also our brothers," he passionately expressed.

He further reiterated that Pakistan was not merely a "State," but an Islamic Republic. "We are the People of the Book, and we are supplicants of the One God," he proclaimed.

Aneeq extended his message of inclusivity by highlighting the divine nature of all scriptures, including Torah, Psalms, Bible, and the Holy Quran. "These are all divine revelations, the final one being the Quran," he affirmed.

Turning his attention

to the tragic incident in Manipur, India, where over 150 Christians lost their lives, the minister clarified that no Christian had been harmed in Pakistan. "We believe that what happened in Jaranwala should never have happened," he stated emphatically.

He applauded the collective stance of the nation alongside their Christian brethren in the face of the Jaranwala tragedy. "We are a resilient nation, and our protest speaks volumes," he declared.

In his closing remarks, Aneeq urged that while any incident should be prevented, it must be handled through legal means. "We must not take the law into our own hands," he emphasized, leaving the audience inspired and reflective.



ISLAMABAD: Turkish Ambassador to Pakistan Dr Mehmet Pacaci, Lt Gen Muhammad Ali and others cutting the cake during ceremony of 101st Anniversary of the great Victory Day of Turkey, at a local hotel in Federal Capital.

## PM invites Enertech Holding Kuwait for further investment in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (Online): Caretaker Prime Minister (PM) Anwar ul Haq Kakar has invited Kuwaiti companies for investment in Pakistan.

Head of Emerging Markets Enertech Holding Kuwait, Yasir Malik called on caretaker Prime Minister Anwar ul Haq Kakar in Islamabad.

He informed PM about Enertech's investment in Pakistan. It has been told that PM appreciated

Enertech's work in Pakistan hoping it will further enhance its investment in Pakistan due to business friendly policies of government. It is told that armed forces of Pakistan and Kuwait have signed an agreement in the headquarters of defence ministry of Kuwait. This agreement is aimed at bolstering and expanding the bilateral cooperation in military and defence fields between the two countries.



KARACHI: Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM) Senior Deputy Convener, Dr. Farooq Sattar along with leaders of traders community addresses to media persons during press conference regarding the highly inflated electricity bills, held at Pakistan House in Karachi

## IBA, AAA Associates come together to establish a Scholarship Endowment

KARACHI: AAA Associates, a leading real estate organization of Pakistan, and the Institute of Business Administration (IBA), Karachi, country's prestigious higher education institution have partnered to establish a Scholarship Endowment fund.

With an aim to advance the institute's financial assistance program for its deserving students, the AAA Associates Scholarship Endowment will benefit deserving students in perpetuity.



Executive Director, IBA Karachi, Dr. S Akbar Zaidi and Managing Director, AAA Associates, Mr. Shahzad Ali Kiani signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) at the Institute of Business Administration in Karachi. Under this MOU, the latter will provide financial support to set up an endowment fund which will benefit students in posterity. Other members gracing the event included Mr. Wajid Riaz, General Manager, AAA Associates, Ms. Malahat Awan, Director Alumni Affairs and Resource Mobilization, IBA Karachi, and Mr. Moeid Sultan, Director Finance, IBA Karachi.

Mr. Shahzad shared AAA Associates' resolve towards building a brighter future for our country by investing in education. Dr. S Akbar Zaidi appreciated AAA Associates for its initiative and for supporting IBA Karachi in its mission of providing quality education to all the students regardless of their financial backgrounds.

To ensure inclusivity, the IBA, through its financial assistance program supports approximately 30% of its student body every year.

## Newly appointed Iranian envoy calls on minister

ISLAMABAD (APP): Newly appointed Iranian ambassador to Pakistan Reza Amiri-Moghaddam paid a courtesy visit to Caretaker Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Sami Saeed here on Wednesday.

Chief Economist Dr Nadeem Javaid and Senior Joint Secretary Muazzam Ali also attended the meeting, a news release said.

During the meeting, the both sides discussed various avenues of collaboration between the two nations including bilateral trade, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), cooperation in energy and economic sectors.

## Sukkur traders announces shutter down strike

SUKKUR (APP): The business community of Sukkur on Wednesday announced to observe a shutter-down strike on (September 2) against the inflated electricity bills and rising inflation.

According to a release issued here, President Sukkur Small Traders, Haji Javed Memon said that markets across Sukkur would remain closed on Saturday in protest against inflated electricity bills and rising inflation.

Other trade unions also backed the decision, saying that all markets of Karachi would observe a shutter down strike on September 2.

Moreover, protest demonstrations were held in Sukkur, Khairpur, Shikarpur and Ghotki districts. Masses carrying banners and placards along with their women were criticized for making their lives miserable. The enraged people also set their electricity bills on fire.

## Lyari gang commander arrested by Rangers

KARACHI (APP): The Pakistan Rangers Sindh and Police in a joint intelligence based operation in Lyari area on Wednesday arrested an alleged commander of a Lyari Gang and recovered a hand grenade and arms, ammunition from his possession.

Arrested was identified as Muhammad Saleem alias Mullah Sohail, a most wanted gangster of Lyari, according to a news release.

The accused joined Uzair Baloch group in 2003 and in 2009 joined People's Aman Committee.

## Türkiye embassy celebrates Turkish Victory Day

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Turkish Embassy in Pakistan here on Wednesday celebrated the Turkish Victory Day. The event was attended by the political leaders, diplomats of various countries, media men and others in large numbers.

The Ambassador of Türkiye in Pakistan Dr. Mehmet Pacaci, on the occasion, readout the message of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

The president in his message said, "We reach the 101st anniversary of the Great Victory, I would like to congratulate the August 30 Victory Day of our honourable nation, of the Turkish Cypriots, and of more than 7 million Turkish citizens living all across the world."

The August 30 Battle

of the Commander-in-Chief is one of the most critical milestones in our nation's centuries-long struggle for survival, he added.

The president said, in the words of Ghazi Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, the Great Victory is "a great achievement that once again exemplified in history the enormous might and heroism of the Turkish Army, Turkish Officers and Command Staff".

The president in his message said, "With this victory, which is the "immortal monument of the Turkish Nation's idea of freedom and independence", our nation declared to the whole world that it would not let its will be subjugated and its independence and future compromised."

## Crack down on illegal, unlicensed fertilizer shop owners decided

Independent Report  
MIRPURKHAS: Deputy Commissioner Mirpurkhas Noor Mustafa Laghari, tak-

Assistant commissioners should take action with the help of the police at the exits points of their taluka



ing notice of the shortage of fertilizer and illegal profiteering, presided over a meeting in his office with farmers, Sindh Abadgaras Board, fertilizer dealers and owners of fertilizer companies.

Detailed consideration was given to meet the requirement of fertilizer in the district to stop sale of fertilizer in Black. FIR should be lodged against them and their shops should be sealed and fined and directed that all concerned

to stop the movement of fertilizer out of the district. On the occasion, it has been decided to take action against the illegal fertilizer shops across the district.

In the meeting, the officers of the agriculture department informed that that 10 lac 17 thousand 863 fertilizer bags are needed in the whole district and said that 1 lac 95 thousand 423 bags of fertilizer have been supplied to 30 landowners of the district.

## Hindus celebrate 'Raksha Bandhan'

SUKKUR (APP): The Hindu community observed their brotherhood festival commonly known as 'Raksha Bandhan' at the main Sadhu Bela Temple here on Wednesday.

Wearing colorful clothes, the participants observed their religious festival by tying the knot of protection and distributed

sweets. They said that they used to observe the festival every year in this month, adding that Hindus celebrated the festival on sighting full moon in the lunar calendar's Savan or Sravana month, during which Hindu women used to tie a thread of Rakhi around their brothers' wrist and pray for their safety.



KARACHI: Activists of Pakistan Commission for Human Rights hold placards and banner during protest on the eve of International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances, at Frere Hall in Provincial Capital.

## ANF seizes over 464kg narcotics, arrests four suspects

KARACHI (INP): Anti Narcotics Force (ANF) has reportedly conducted various operations and arrested four suspects after seizing a substantial amount of narcotics from their possession, reported on Wednesday.


ANF has initiated a crackdown against drugs smuggling bids across the country, and during six separate operations, a total of 464 kilograms of narcotics were seized, leading to the arrest of four individuals.

According to an ANF spokesperson, at the Motorway Toll Plaza Sheikhpura, 62 kilograms of heroin, along with three kilograms of opium, were recovered from a vehicle, leading to the arrest of three suspects from Okara during the operation.

The narcotic officers at Allama Iqbal Airport, seized heroin from a parcel sent from Kuwait. On the other hand, in a raid on an unoccupied building in Qila Abdullah, 380 kilograms of ice and 158 liters of prohibited chemicals were confiscated.

The ANF spokesperson mentioned that 2000 liters of prohibited chemicals were disposed of on the spot. Meanwhile, at Bacha Khan Airport, one kilogram and 667 grams of ice were recovered from a passenger's bag who were attempting to travel Jeddah.

CONDOLENCE




APNS expresses profound grief over the sad demise of

Mr. Hafeez Ulfat

Publisher and Chief Editor

Daily Sarhad Peshawar

May Allah the Almighty rest his soul in eternal peace and grant courage to the family to bear the loss.



All Pakistan Newspapers Society