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Anwaarul Haq Kakar named caretaker Prime Minister

President Alvi gives assent to advice sent by PM Shehbaz, opposition leader; Raja Riaz says Kakar to take oath as interim premier tomorrow

ISLAMABAD, (Online): President Dr Arif Alvi has approved the appointment of Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar as caretaker Prime Minister.

The President approved the appointment under Article 224 (1A) of the Constitution.

Senator Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar hails from Qilla Saifullah, Balochistan.

He was elected to the Senate in 2018 and has been a very active politician.

He has worked as chairperson of the Senate Standing Committee on Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development, and as a member of the Business Advisory Committee, Finance and Revenue, Foreign Affairs and Science and Technology.



He also served as the spokesperson of the provincial government prior to his election to the upper house.

Anwar ul Haq Kakar is widely regarded as a great intellectual in the country.

He holds a Master's degree in Political Science, Sociology and is an alumnus of the University of

Balochistan. Earlier Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and Leader of the Opposition Raja Riaz in the dissolved National Assembly on Saturday agreed to nominate Anwaar ul Haq Kakar as the caretaker Prime Minister.

The decision was taken during a consultation meeting held in the PM House. The consultation process for the appointment of the caretaker prime minister was amicably completed, the PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

The prime minister and the leader of the opposition jointly signed the advice for the appointment of the

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ISLAMABAD: Leaders of Balochistan Awami Party, former Chief Minister Balochistan Jam Kamal Khan, Engr. Zamrak Khan Achakzai, Sarfaraz Bugti and others greet Senator Anwarul Haq Kakar on appointment as caretaker Prime Minister

Who is Anwar ul Haq Kakar

ISLAMABAD (Online): Balochistan Awami Party (BAP) leader and member of Pakistan upper house (Senate) is the caretaker prime minister of Pakistan, consensus build up during second meeting of outgoing prime minister Shehbaz shareef and opposition leader Raja Riaz.

Jointly signed summary by Shehbaz Shareef and Raja Riaz sent to president Arif Alvi and he signed it. Anwar ul Haq contested his first election in 2002 on PMLN ticket and failed.

He became spokesperson of the Nawab Sana ullah Zehri government in 2015. Anwar ul Haq was elected as senator in 2018 from Balochistan Awami Party.

Caretaker Prime Minister Nawarul Haq Kakar is a Pakistani politician who has been a member of the Upper House of Pakistan since March 2018. Anwar-ul-Haq Kakar was elected to the upper house of Pakistan as an independent candidate on the general seat from Balochistan in the 2018 Pakistani Senate elections.

He took oath as a senator on March 12, 2018. He formed a new political party Balochistan Awami Party (BAP). Balochistan Awami Party (BAP) is a political party of Balochistan which was founded in March 2018 by Pakistan Muslim League (N) and Pakistan Muslim League (Q). Made by personalities Senator Anwarul Haq Kakar belongs to Balochistan Awami Party (BAP). Anwar Haq Kakar obtained his Master's degree in Political Science and Sociology from the University of Balochistan.

Anwar-ul-Haq Kakar has also been the spokesperson of the Balochistan government. Senator Anwar-ul-Haq Kakar is the Chairman of Senate Standing Committee of Overseas Pakistanis. Senator Anwar-ul-Haq Kakar contested for the National Assembly seat from Quetta on the ticket of Muslim League-Q in 2008. In 2013, Senator Anwar-ul-Haq Kakar was the spokesperson of the Balochistan government



MALAYSIA: Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi exchanging views with Chief of Royal Malaysian Navy Admiral Tan Sri Abdul Rahman bin Ayob during official visit to Malaysia

Naval Chief meets Royal Malaysian Navy leadership during official visit to Malaysia

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi called on Naval Leadership of Royal Malaysian Navy during an official visit to Malaysia.

Upon arrival at the Ministry of Defence, the Chief of the Naval Staff was received by Chief of Royal Malaysian Navy Admiral Tan Sri Abdul Rahman bin Ayob and was presented Guard of Honour, a Pakistan Navy news release said on Saturday.

During the meeting with the Chief of the Royal Malaysian Navy, matters of bilateral naval collaboration and regional maritime security were discussed.

The Naval Chief underscored the contribution

President approves remission for prisoners on Independence Day

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Dr Arif Alvi approved remission of 180 days for prisoners on the occasion of Pakistan's 76th Independence Day, said a statement from the President's House.

The sentences were being reduced under Article 45 of the Constitution.

Sentences of those prisoners would be remitted who were serving life sentences.

"Sentences would be remitted for those male prisoners who are aged 65 or above or those who have served at least 15 years of their sentence. Similarly, women prisoners aged 60 or above or those who have served at least 20 years of their sentence will get remission," said the statement.

Prisoners who were under 18 and had served a third of their sentence would also get remission in sentences.

However, the remission will not apply to those convicted of murder, espionage, terrorism, rape, robbery, theft, kidnapping, financial crimes, anti-state activities and those who caused loss to the national exchequer.

PTI chairman should not be forgiven: Khurshid

SUKKAR (Online): PPP leader Khurshid Shah has said PTI chairman should not be forgiven on May 9 incidents.

"If Sadiq Sanjrani becomes care taker Prime Minister (PM) it will be symbol of future politics. It will become known from whoseover becomes caretaker PM that election will take place when, he said this while talking to media men here Saturday.

He held Shehbaz Sharif and Raja Riaz should try that the matter does not go to Election Commission (EC).

He predicted that future government will be too of allied parties government. "I am not in favor of imposing ban on any one, he added. Commenting on Review act decision he said Supreme Court (SC) decision is based on ill intent which was given on dissolution of National Assembly (NA). They don't know still that Senate which is a part of parliament is there.



ISLAMABAD: President Dr. Arif Alvi signing the summary to approve the appointment of Senator Anwarul Haq Kakar under Article 224 (1A) of the Constitution (Inset) Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif signing nomination of Senator Kakar as caretaker Prime Minister. Opposition leader Raja Riaz is also present

CM bids farewell to Balochistan Assembly: Bizenjo thanks all MPAs, coalition partnership, Opposition members, bureaucracy on firm allegiance

Says we have paved the way for brightened Balochistan, have written history and, would continue construction of a prosperous future

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Abdulquddus Bizenjo has extended heartfelt gratitude to all Members provincial assembly, coalition partners, opposition, bureaucracy and especially his people on their firm allegiance and support to him.

While bidding grateful farewell on dissolution of the provincial assembly of Balochistan in a tweet on Saturday, the Chief Minister

said that we have faced challenges showing the example of real democratic spirit together. We remained firm and strong despite the hurdles in way of the governance and floods, he mentioned adding that we ensured development in every nook and corner of the province despite the economic challenges.

The Chief Minister said that every MPA's constituency got equal representative in the PSPD,

which demonstrates our resolve for unity and development.

He said that we made every possible and successful attempt to promote gender equity, improve and develop the basic infrastructure of the province, care of the health, ensure provision of educational facilities and bring good governance in the province.

In addition to this, we

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QUETTA: A view of Balochistan Assembly decoration with colorful light on the eve on Independence Day celebration.

Terms best choice as caretaker PM: Speaker BA welcomes consensus on name of Kakar as caretaker PM

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Speaker Balochistan Assembly, Mir Jan Muhammad Jamali has described the consensus on the name of Senator Anwarul Haq Kakar for caretaker Prime Minister of Pakistan.

In a statement issued here on Saturday, the Speaker Balochistan Assembly said that the importance and utility of Balochistan Awami Party (BAP) has been recognized by Islamabad, and it is a good omen to be a caretaker Prime Minister from BAP.

Mir Jan Muhammad Jamali said that the BAP has always preferred betterment of country and nation. He said that Anwarul Haq Kakar is a best choice as caretaker Prime Minister of Pakistan.

He also hailed the decision of nominating caretaker Prime Minister from the smallest province of the country. Moreover, the former Advisor to Chief Minister for Information, Mitha Khan Kakar and former Provincial Minister Mir Mujeebur Rehman Muhammad Hassani also termed the decision of nomination of Anwarul Haq Kakar as caretaker Prime Minister historic.

In their separate statement issued here the same day, Mitha Khan Kakar and Mujeebur Rehman Muhammad Hassani said that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Opposition leader, Raja Riaz selected such a personality for the slot of caretaker Prime Minister who is very honest, educated and committed.

PTI hopes Kakar will deliver free, fair, timely elections

Monitoring Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) — who had been demanding immediate elections since the party chairman's ouster as the prime minister in April last year through a no-confidence motion — expressed hope that caretaker Prime Minister-designate Anwar-ul-Haq Kakar will ensure free, fair and transparent election within the constitutional limit of three months in the country.

A spokesperson of

Imran Khan-led party said that a heavy responsibility is imposed on the caretaker premier.

The PTI spokesperson hoped that the caretaker prime minister will not allow any further damage to the constitutional and democratic rights of the people.

One of the prime responsibilities of a caretaker government is to provide equal opportunities to all political parties to run their election campaign, the spokesperson added.

Governor dissolves Balochistan Assembly on advice of CM; Cabinet dissolved also

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar dissolved the Provincial Assembly of Balochistan.

In the order regarding dissolution of provincial assembly bearing the signature of Governor Balochistan, Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar, it was stated that "as advised by Mir Abdulquddus Bizenjo, the Chief Minister of Balochistan and in exercise of the powers conferred upon me Under Article 112 (A) of Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, 1973, I, Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar, Governor Balochistan hereby dissolve the provincial assembly of Balochistan, this 12th day of August, 2023

at 05:00 PM."

Earlier, the Chief Minister Mir Abdulquddus Bizenjo sent a summary of the dissolution of the provincial assembly to the Governor.

Governor signed the summary and with the dissolution of the provincial assembly, the cabinet has also been dissolved, but Mir Abdulquddus Bizenjo would remain the Chief Minister until the caretaker Chief Minister is appointed.

The Chief Minister advised that the Provincial Assembly of Balochistan be dissolved today, on 12th August, 2023, enabling the electoral of Balochistan to take part in forthcoming general elections for the sake

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QUETTA: Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar signing summary for dissolution of Balochistan Assembly sent by Chief Minister Mir Abdulquddus Bizenjo

Proud to be blue eyed of establishment: PM

ISLAMABAD (Online): Prime Minister (PM) Shehbaz Sharif has said he is proud to be blue eyed of establishment since 30 years.

"I take pride in it that my relations with establishment remained good always. I am apple of establishment eye since the last 30 years. Review judgment decision will make no difference for Nawaz Sharif. We will contest next election on the slogan of "vote ko izzat do". The coalition partners have empowered

me in connection with caretaker PM, he said this while talking to senior journalists and anchors here Saturday. He admitted that their vote bank was affected due to inflation. "But we saved state", he added. If state becomes safe then every thing is safe.

I ran government under difficult situation in 16 months, he remarked. Not a scandal of single pie came against us in 16 months.

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Judiciary to protect Constitution and fundamental rights: CJP

ISLAMABAD (INP):

The Chief Justice of Pakistan, Mr. Justice Umar Ata Bandial, chaired the meetings of the National Judicial (Policy Making) Committee (NJPMC), Governing Body of Access to Justice Development Fund (AJDF), and the Law and Justice Commission of Pakistan (LJCP) at the Supreme Court of Pakistan, Islamabad. The meetings were organized by the Secretary of Law and Justice Commission of Pakistan and Commission's Secretary Riffat Inam Butt convened the meetings, said a press release received here today from Law and Justice Commission of Pakistan.

While chairing the meeting, the Chief Justice of Pakistan stated that for protection of fundamental rights the Judiciary is as

relevant as it would be the constitutional requirement. The judiciary has to apply laws and protect the Constitution and fundamental rights of the citizens while the Commission has a vital role in reforming laws. He remarked that the judiciary is committed to provide expeditious justice despite being confronted with challenges. The Chief Justice stressed upon the need to discourage false and frivolous litigation. The Hon'ble Chief Justice of Pakistan stated that ADR is a very important tool to reduce the burden of the courts by amicable settlement of disputes and appreciated the role of ADR Committee and the Commission for taking initiatives to ensure effective implementation of ADR framework in the country.



QUETTA: Participants are holding huge National Flag during a ceremony in connection of Independence Day celebrations under the supervision of Balochistan Parliamentary Secretary Minority Affairs and Human Rights, Khalil George, held outside Jinnah House Ziarat Residency

UNFPA, SoLF and QAU join hands to celebrate Intl Youth Day 2023

ISLAMABAD (Online): A resounding call for youth empowerment and sustainable action echoed through the halls of Quaid-e-Azam University (QAU) as UNFPA Pakistan, School of Leadership Foundation (SoLF) and Quaid-e-Azam University (QAU) joined forces to commemorate International Youth Day 2023. The event aimed to celebrate the potential of the youth, acknowledge their challenges, and inspire innovative approaches towards a greener and more sustainable future.

The event opened with the warm welcome of Ms. Latika Maskey Pradhan, Deputy Representative of UNFPA Pakistan, and Dr Raja Muhammad Qaiser, the esteemed Registrar of Quaid-e-Azam University. Addressing the audience, Ms. Pradhan emphasized the urgency of addressing sustainable development challenges in the current global landscape.

"If we nurture innovation and leadership among young people, we can yield a more conscientious generation that has the power and grit to repair the planet," said Ms. Pradhan. "Together, we can unlock their immense potential, harness their creativity and innovation, and build a world that offers equal opportunities for all."

Recognizing the importance of green skills for youth, the event featured interactive presentations, dialogues, and a theater performance that captured the essence of the day. The collaboration between UNFPA, QAU and SoLF resonated strongly throughout the event, as their joint projects were highlighted as essential steps toward nurturing young leaders for sustainable change. "Theater is a powerful medium for conveying messages of change and empowerment. By including a theater performance in today's event, our aim was to awaken the hearts and minds of our youth, encouraging thoughtful discussions on our collective role in shaping a greener future," remarked Mariyam Irfan, the Managing Director of SoLF.

throughout the event, as their joint projects were highlighted as essential steps toward nurturing young leaders for sustainable change. "Theater is a powerful medium for conveying messages of change and empowerment. By including a theater performance in today's event, our aim was to awaken the hearts and minds of our youth, encouraging thoughtful discussions on our collective role in shaping a greener future," remarked Mariyam Irfan, the Managing Director of SoLF.



ISLAMABAD: Dr. Kabir Ahmed Sidhu, Chairman Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) calling on Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar, Leader of the House in the Senate at Parliament House.



ISLAMABAD: A stunning view of the OGDCL Building illuminated with the colors of National Flags during the celebrations of 14 August in Federal Capital.

Senior professors seek justice in Principals' postings

ISLAMABAD (APP): Senior educators from various colleges of the Capital have raised their voices against what they perceive as an unjust practice of appointing junior colleagues to the positions of principals, bypassing more senior and experienced professors.

The demand for rectification comes in the wake of recent promotions by the Central Selection Board (CSB) and amidst allegations of favoritism and erosion of respect within the teaching community.

Senior educators, expressing their concerns anonymously, have highlighted instances where junior colleagues have been appointed as Principals, overlooking their more senior counterparts.

A female Associate Professor, speaking on condition of anonymity, revealed to APP that several Islamabad Model Colleges for Girls (IMCG), including IMCG Margala (F-7/4),

IMCG G-10/2, IMCG F-10/2, and IMCG F-7/4, have seen appointments of junior Associate Professors as Principals, raising questions about the seniority-based selection process. The post of Professor/Principal (BPS-20) at Islamabad Model Postgraduate College for Girls (Margala) F-7/4 is currently held by a junior associate professor of BPS-19.

Similarly, a BPS-20 professor is working as Principal on a BPS-19 post at Islamabad Model College of Commerce for Girls (F-10/3) and drawing salary from IMCG F-10/2 while her junior associate professor of BPS-19 occupies the BPS-20 (Principal) position at IMCG F-10/2, raising concerns among senior educators.

A male associate professor while talking to APP pointed out that over the past three years, a disheartening trend had emerged where dozens of junior associate professors were

appointed as principals in different boys' colleges, too.

This has not only demoralized senior professors but also impacted the overall morale within the teaching community.

This disheartening situation, where seniors find themselves working under juniors, has become a matter of concern, he added.

The recent elevation of four Associate Professors to the ranks of Professors (BPS-20) by the CSB has ignited hope for rectification of disordered seniority.

Educators are urging a reconsideration of the appointments and a realignment of the hierarchy to reflect seniority and stature. They propose that the newly elevated professors be placed in big colleges, replacing junior principals in institutions such as IMCG F-7/4 (Margala), IMCG G-10/2, IMCG F-10/2, and IMCG F-7/4.

IBCC commemorates 76th I-Day with enthusiastic celebrations

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Inter Boards Coordination Commission (IBCC), under the guidance of the Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training, Government of Pakistan, is all set to celebrate the 76th Independence Day with fervor and enthusiasm. The occasion will be marked by a series of events held at IBCC's Head Office and Regional Offices across the country, said a press release on Saturday.

In honor of this momentous occasion, the buildings of IBCC have been adorned with vibrant decorations that resonate with the spirit of freedom and unity. As a gesture of shared joy, sweets were distributed among the public, symbolizing the sweetness of unity and diversity that defines Pakistan.

The highlight of the celebration is an engaging online quiz competition scheduled for August 13, 2023.

This event, organized in collaboration with PEIRA, FDE, and BISEs of Pakistan, aims to engage

students in an intellectually stimulating activity that reflects the country's rich history and progress.

Additionally, an online session will be hosted to pay tribute to the unsung heroes of Pakistan, individuals whose contributions have shaped the nation's journey towards independence and progress.

This session seeks to not only honor their memory but also inspire future generations to follow in their footsteps.

IBCC will also host a flag-raising ceremony on August 14, 2023, within its offices, demonstrating its commitment to upholding the spirit of patriotism and unity that the national flag represents.

Expressing his gratitude, the Executive Director of IBCC conveyed his appreciation to the Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training for initiating these remarkable celebrations that bring together people from all walks of life in commemorating Pakistan's freedom day.



ISLAMABAD: People purchase national flag displayed along the roadside as the nation celebrates the Independence Day with evangelism across the country.

World Humanitarian Day to be marked on Aug 19

ISLAMABAD (INP): World Humanitarian Day will be marked on August 19 across the globe including Pakistan the day honors all humanitarians who have worked in the promotion of the humanitarian cause, and those who have lost their lives in the cause of duty.

It aims to increase public awareness about humanitarian assistance activities worldwide and the importance of international cooperation.

World Humanitarian Day is a day dedicated to humanitarians worldwide, as well as to increase public understanding of humanitarian assistance activities.



ISLAMABAD: A painter is busy in making traditional art on the body of truck at Pirwadhvi area as the Truck Art of Pakistan is very famous around the World.

Need to empower women: PODA

ISLAMABAD (APP): Potohar Organization for Development Organization (PODA) believes to empower women there was need to ensure their participation in electoral processes, so that they can play a vibrant role in the progress and development of the country. "To strengthen women's voice and agency in electoral processes, it is crucial to ensure women's participation, maximize it and remove hurdles which bar them to play their vibrant role play in the progress and development of the country", said Ms. Sameena Nazir, President-CEO Potohar Organization for Development Organization (PODA) on the occasion of the training of trainers held here on Saturday. One-Day Training of Trainers for Building the Capacity of Rural Women Leaders to Promote

Votes without Violence was organized here in a local hotel which was attended by 15 promising rural women leaders belonging to different tehsils of district Rawalpindi. Imparting knowledge and skills to enhance capacity building of rural women, at the initial stage PODA with the support of NDI aims to empower a batch of 240 women from four provinces across the country.

Ms. Nazir further elaborated that strengthening human rights knowledge of rural women leaders based on our constitutional rights envisioned in the constitution of Pakistan will support them to take on leadership role in politics. "We need to tackle the issue of violence and its alarming severity by enhancing women's capacity to deal with it at all levels to encourage more women to participate in politics."



ISLAMABAD: A view of the banners at World Chowk regarding the Independence Day celebrations in Federal Capital.

Kashmiri diaspora abroad to observe India's I-Day as Black Day

ISLAMABAD (APP): Belgium-based Kashmiri Diaspora community is all set to observe India's independence day on August 15 as Black Day to reiterate Kashmiris' ever-lasting hatred against oppressor India and forced and unlawful Indian occupation of bulk of their motherland for last 76 years.

The scheduled Black Day will be marked with an anti-India mass protest demonstration to be staged on August 15 in front of Indian Embassy in Brussels, said a message issued to the media here on Saturday.

The schedule includes street agitation to mark the Indian Independence Day as Black Day on 15th August 15 (Tuesday) in front of Indian Embassy in Brussels, the capital city of Belgium under the auspices of

the Brussels based Kashmir Council Europe (KC-EU). Kashmiris at both sides of the Line of Control and across the world observe the Indian Independence Day as "Black Day" on Aug 15 every year to express their hatred and dissociation from the forced annexation with India.

The scheduled protest congregation in Brussels would be arranged by Kashmir Council EU with the coordination of several political and social organizations and other sympathizers of the Kashmiris.

Meanwhile, in a statement issued from Brussels on Saturday, Chairman Kashmir Council Europe (KC-EU) Mr Ali Raza Syed said that the purpose of our protest was to raise our voice against Indian atrocities on Kashmiris.

APHC leaders felicitate Pakistanis ahead of Independence Day

ISLAMABAD (APP): The All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC) leaders have felicitated the people and government of Pakistan ahead of their Independence Day to be observed on Monday, August 14.

According to the Kashmir media service report on Saturday, APHC Vice Chairman, Ghulam Ahmed Gulzar, in a statement issued in Srinagar said Pakistan's Independence Day on 14th August is the day of thanksgiving and day of rejoice for the Kashmiris whereas the Indian Independence Day on

15th August is black day for them. He said the Kashmiris consider Pakistan as their benefactor and ambassador whereas they regard India as an oppressor and imperialist state.

Ghulam Ahmed Gulzar maintained that the Kashmiri people were highly grateful to the government and people of Pakistan for their continued moral, political and diplomatic support to their just struggle for right to self-determination. He said the Kashmiri people pray for the stability, prosperity and progress of the country as strong Pakistan is a

guarantee to the success of Kashmir freedom movement. The APHC Vice Chairman said that the Kashmiris' struggle was the continuation of the Pakistan Movement, which would complete only when Jammu and Kashmir gets freedom from the Indian occupation and becomes a part of Pakistan. He pointed out that alongside the supreme sacrifices of valiant Kashmiris, Pakistan's intense diplomatic efforts have highlighted the Kashmir dispute and exposed the India's ugly colonial face before the international community.

FIA officer transferred two times just in two days

ISLAMABAD (INP): An officer of Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) was transferred two times just in two days.

According to the details, FIA's official Ali Murad was first transferred from Deputy Director Immigration to Deputy Director State Bank Circle.

Just moments after his earlier transfer, he was posted as Deputy Director Cyber Crime Karachi.

Meanwhile, Deputy Director Cyber Crime Ayaz Mehar was posted as Deputy Director State Bank Circle. He has also served in this position earlier.

EECP therapy gains momentum as non-surgical Remedy for heart ailments

ISLAMABAD (APP): Enhanced External Counterpulsation (EECP) therapy has emerged as a non-invasive remedy for various cardiac ailments such as hypertension, coronary artery disease, and high lipid levels. Talking to APP here on Saturday, Cardiologist Dr Raja Mehdi Hassan said, "During the EECP therapy, blood is propelled from the lower body and limbs to the upper body that defies the natural flow with gentle pressure."

He said, "EECP therapy is often referred to as 'natural bypass' due to its painless nature and a

free from surgical procedures or interventions.

He said that throughout the hour-long session, the patient's heart rhythm, oxygen saturation, irregularities, and blood pressure are meticulously monitored.

Before starting the treatment, Dr Mehdi said, "A comprehensive diagnosis, encompassing electrocardiograms (ECG), echocardiography, CT angiography, or angiography guides physicians in assessing heart conditions including ejection fraction, heart failure categories, and cardiac damage."



ISLAMABAD: Workers of Anti Encroachment Cell conduct Anti Encroachment Operation at F fruit and Vegetables Market as CDA set a plan to build legal shops for such vendors at Market in Federal Capital.

PSN inaugurates 5th essential clinical workshop at QIH

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Pakistan Society of Nephrology (PSN) inaugurated the 5th Essential Clinical Research Workshop 2023 at Quaid-e-Azam International Hospital (QIH) Islamabad which continued from August 12 to 13 here on Saturday.

The inaugural ceremony took place in the conference room of the Quaid-e-Azam International Hospital.

Chief guest was Dr. Shaukat Ali Bangash, in his speech, highlighted the importance of the workshop, said a news release.

The PSN has been at the forefront of progress and prosperity in the field of Nephrology.

The PSN was trying to provide opportunities for young nephrologists to attend CME activities abroad and also regularly organizes postgraduate courses for budding Nephrologists.

The Biennial International Conference held under its umbrella and the introduction of the Pakistan Journal of Kidney Diseases is a testament to the society's efforts. PSN (Rawalpindi/Islamabad chapter) is also actively involved in continuous medical education by holding quarterly Nephrology meetings in Twin Cities.

Distinguished Nephrologists from Shifa International Hospital, Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS),

AIOU announces results of 46 academic programs

ISLAMABAD (APP): Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) has announced the results of 46 different educational programs, including ODL programs for the Autumn semester of 2022 and Face-to-Face programs for the Spring semester, 2023. According to AIOU, for autumn 2022, results of BS Islamic Studies, Quran and Tafseer, Hadith and Hadith Science, Sharia, Seerat, Deen, Library and Information Sciences, Pakistan Studies, Accounting and Finance, Gender and Women Studies, English Language and Literature, Urdu, Mass Communication and Arabic have been announced.

Results of different face-to-face programs offered in the spring semester, 2023 include 1.5 and 2-year MBA (New Scheme), MSc (Hons) Livestock Management and Rural Development, MSc (Microbiology, Environmental Design, Botany) BS (Botany, Biochemistry, Microbiology, Environmental Science, Computer Science, Mathematics, Statistics, Physics and Chemistry), MS (Community Health and Nutrition, Computer Science Course Code 7201, Management Sciences, Banking and Finance) MPhil (Urdu, Mass Communication, Agriculture Technology, Pakistani Languages, Mathematics, Educational Planning and Management, Teacher Education Course Code 6402, Distance and Non-Formal Education Course Code 6403).

Counsel for former PM Why C class treatment is being meted out to chairman PTI

ISLAMABAD (Online): He said Chairman PTI is too a former PM. Facilities should be provided to him in jail as per law.

He indicated the personal doctor of Nawaz Sharif used to meet him in jail every week. Therefore, Dr Faisal Sultan who is personal doctor of PTI chairman should be allowed to meet former PM.

There will be restrictions on any unfrozen Iranian funds: White House

Monitoring Desk
WASHINGTON: The White House stressed on Friday that there would be restrictions on what Iran could do with any funds unfrozen under an emerging agreement that has led to the release of five Americans from prison to house arrest in Tehran.

White House spokesperson John Kirby told reporters that the United States would have "full visibility" into where any released Iranian funds are directed and used. An estimated \$6 billion in Iranian assets are now held in South Korea.

"Essentially, the funds can only be accessed for food, medicine, medical equipment that would not have a dual military use," he said. "And there will be a rigorous process of due diligence and standards applied with input from the

U.S. Treasury Department."

The five Americans will be allowed to leave Iran after the funds are unfrozen, a source familiar with the matter told Reuters.

While stressing that negotiations are ongoing and "the deal is not done," Kirby said there would be "no impediment" to the transfer of the restricted account from South Korea to Qatar, where Iran would then be able to access the funds.

The potential transfer has drawn Republican criticism that President Joe Biden, a Democrat, is effectively paying a ransom for the U.S. citizens. Moreover, they contend that allowing Iran to use the money for humanitarian goods could free up funds for its nuclear program or to back militias in nations such as Iraq, Lebanon and

Yemen.

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken insisted on Thursday that the deal does not mean that Iran would be getting any sanctions relief.

As a first step in what may be a complex set of maneuvers likely to take weeks, Iran allowed four detained U.S. citizens to move into house arrest from Tehran's Evin prison on Thursday. A fifth was already under home confinement. Under the deal, the United States would release some Iranians from U.S. prisons, Iran's mission to the United Nations said.

On Friday, the Wall Street Journal cited people familiar with the matter as saying Iran has significantly slowed the pace at which it is accumulating near weapons-grade enriched uranium and has diluted some of its stockpile.



UN security staff released in Yemen after 18 months in captivity.

UN announces release of 5 staff members kidnapped by al-Qaida in Yemen 18 months ago

Monitoring Desk
UNITED NATIONS: Five United Nations staff members who were kidnapped in Yemen 18 months ago by an al-Qaida affiliate have walked free, U.N. officials said Friday.

David Gressly, the U.N. humanitarian coordinator in Yemen, said the five men—four Yemenis and one from Bangladesh—were "in good health, good spirits... but they went through a very difficult period of isolation." The five were freed after lengthy negotiations that included officials from Oman, U.N. deputy spokesman Farhan Haq said. Gressly, who spoke to U.N. reporters after flying with

the four Yemenis to the country's southern port city of Aden, said: "I can confirm that the hostages taken were al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula."

Also known as AQAP, the group has been active in southern Yemen for years and is considered one of the global al-Qaida network's most dangerous branches. It has attempted to carry out attacks on the U.S. mainland. "This is a threat that remains here in Yemen—and remains actually an increasing threat," Gressly said of al-Qaida. In February 2022, suspected al-Qaida militants abducted five U.N. staff members in southern Yemen's Abyan province,

Yemeni officials told The Associated Press at the time. In a statement earlier Friday, the U.N.'s Haq named the freed men as Akim Sufail Anam; Mazen Bawazir; Bakeel al-Mahdi; Mohammed al-Muluki; and Khaled Mokhtar Shekh. All worked for the U.N. Department of Security and Safety, he said.

Sufail Anam, a retired Bangladeshi lieutenant colonel who was the department's field coordinator, told a news conference after arriving at Dhaka airport Wednesday that he never thought he'd return home after a "horrifying" experience in Yemen's hills and desert at the hands of "terrorists."

More than 1 million barrels of oil removed from deteriorating tanker moored off Yemen, UN says

Monitoring Desk
UNITED NATIONS: The transfer of more than a million barrels of oil from an aging tanker moored off the coast of war-torn Yemen has been completed, avoiding an environmental disaster, the United Nations said Friday.

In a statement, Farhan Haq, the deputy spokesman for U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, said the operation had prevented a "monumental environmental and humanitarian catastrophe."

An international team began siphoning the oil from the dilapidated vessel known as FSO Safer on July 25. Almost all the oil is now aboard a replacement tanker called MOST Yemen. Before the transfer, the Safer, which Yemen used as a floating storage and offloading facility, held four times as much oil as was spilled in the 1989 Exxon Valdez disaster off Alaska, one of the world's worst ecological catastrophes, according to the U.N.

International organizations and rights groups warned for years of the potential for a spill or an explosion involving the tanker, which had not been maintained and has damaged pipes and seawater in its engine compartment.

"Today, we can say that the United Nations and a remarkably broad group of partners have succeeded in preventing the worst case scenario of a catastrophic oil spill in the Red Sea," David Gressly, the U.N. humanitarian coordinator in Yemen, said.

Attorney general appoints a special counsel in Hunter Biden probe, deepening investigation

Monitoring Desk
WASHINGTON: Attorney General Merrick Garland appointed a special counsel Friday in the Hunter Biden probe, a surprise move that intensifies the investigation into the president's son ahead of the 2024 election.

Garland noted the "extraordinary circumstances" of the matter as he named David Weiss, the U.S. attorney in Delaware who had already been probing Hunter Biden's financial dealings, as special counsel after plea deal talks in the case broke down.

The sudden turn of events raises fresh questions about the case against Hunter Biden on tax evasion and a gun charge, deepening an investigation that was close to resolution just weeks ago. Weiss had asked to be named special counsel, gaining broad authority to investigate and report out his findings.

It comes as the Justice Department has taken the unprecedented step of indicting former President Donald Trump, who's President Joe Biden's chief rival in next year's election, in two separate cases. It also puts questions about Biden's family at the forefront of the 2024 presidential election.

Speaking at the Justice Department, Garland said he expects the special counsel to work expeditiously in an "even-handed and urgent" manner.

Garland said Weiss, who had been appointed by Trump as U.S. attorney, told him this week the investigation had reached a stage in which he should continue as special counsel.

"Upon considering his request, as well as the extraordinary circumstances relating to this matter, I have concluded it is in the public interest to appoint him as special counsel," Garland said.



Burned cars and destroyed buildings are pictured in the aftermath of a wildfire in Lahaina, western Maui, Hawaii.

China state media says developed nations not shunning Belt and Road Forum

Monitoring Desk
BEIJING: Chinese state media on Saturday rejected a Western claim that developed nations were shunning the country's Belt and Road Forum, while saying most of the leaders invited this year were from developing nations.

Critics see the ambitious Belt and Road initiative—billed as recreating the ancient Silk Road to boost global trade infrastructure—as a tool for President Xi Jinping's China to spread its geopolitical and economic influence.

Debate in the West over economic dependence on China has cast a shadow over longer-term trade and investment relations with Beijing. Italy, the sole Group of Seven nation in Belt and Road, said the decision by a previous government to join had been "atrocious."

The Wall Street Jour-

nal reported in July that the leaders of France, Germany, Italy and some other European countries did not plan to attend this year's Belt and Road Forum, to be held in the autumn, adding that the lackluster response suggested a more challenging global landscape for Xi's diplomatic ambitions.

The state-run Global Times disputed that claim on Saturday, citing a source it did not name.

China has not invited the leaders of some developed nations mentioned in Western media reports, so the conclusion that they were "avoiding participation" does not hold, the nationalistist tabloid said.

Beijing remains open to their attendance if they wish to join the summit, it said.

China's foreign ministry did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Israeli forces kill Palestinian in West Bank raid

Monitoring Desk
TULKARM: Israeli forces killed a Palestinian man during a raid in the occupied West Bank, his family said on Friday, as mourners gathered for the funeral.

Mahmoud Jihad Jarad, 23, was shot dead by troops during an overnight raid on Tulikarm refugee camp in the northern West Bank, official Palestinian news agency Wafa reported.

A family member, Iyad Abdulrahim Jarad, confirmed that his relative was shot after the Israeli army entered the camp.

Israel has occupied the West Bank since 1967 and its forces regularly make incursions into Palestinian communities. The military said "suspects blocked routes and fired toward the soldiers, who responded with live fire" during the raid. In a statement, the army said explosive devices, rocks and fireworks were also used against troops.

Russia launches first Moon mission after 50 years

Monitoring Desk
MOSCOW: Russia launched its first probe to the Moon in almost 50 years, a mission designed to give fresh impetus to its long-struggling space sector, which has been also hit by sanctions since the conflict in Ukraine.

The launch of the Luna-25 probe is Moscow's first lunar mission since 1976, when the USSR was a pioneer in the conquest of space.

The rocket with the Luna-25 probe lifted off from the Vostochny Cosmodrome, according to live images broadcast by the Russian space agency Roscosmos.

Roscosmos expects

the probe to enter a "100-kilometre high lunar orbit" on August 16 and land on the Moon north of the Boguslawsky crater on August 21, the agency said in a statement.

"For the first time in history, the landing will take place on the lunar south pole. Until now, everyone has been landing in the equatorial zone," senior Roscosmos official Alexander Blokhin said in a recent interview. The spacecraft, which will remain on the Moon for a year, will be tasked with "taking (samples) and analysing the soil" as well as "conducting long-term scientific research".

26 Syrian soldiers killed

Monitoring Desk
BEIRUT: At least 26 soldiers have been killed in an ambush by the militant Islamic State group in eastern Syria, a monitor said on Friday, the deadliest in a new wave of attacks blamed on the jihadists.

Despite losing their last piece of territory in Syria in 2019, IS has maintained hideouts in the vast Syrian desert from which it has carried out ambushes and hit-and-run attacks.

IS "members targeted a military bus" in Deir Ezzor province on Thursday, said the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights.

"The number of dead has risen to 26" soldiers, it said, calling it the extremists' deadliest attack on government forces this year.



Specialists take part in preparations ahead of the launch of the lunar landing spacecraft Luna-25 mission to search for ice near the south pole of the moon, at the Vostochny Cosmodrome in the Amur region, Russia.

Taiwan vice president to leave for sensitive trip to United States

Monitoring Desk
TAIPEI: Taiwan Vice President William Lai leaves on Saturday for a sensitive trip to the United States, which China has condemned and Taiwanese officials fear could prompt more Chinese military activity around the democratically governed island.

Lai, the front-runner to become Taiwan's president in elections in January, is officially making only transit stops in the United States on his way to and from Paraguay for the swearing in of its president.

Taipei and Washington say such stopovers are routine and no cause for China to take "provocative" actions, but Beijing has reacted with anger at what it sees as a further sign of U.S. support for Taiwan, which it claims as sovereign Chinese territory. China is likely to launch military drills next week near Taiwan, using Lai's stopovers in the United States as a pretext to intimidate voters ahead of a next year's election and make them "fear war", Taiwanese officials say. Beijing particularly dislikes Lai, who has in the past described himself as a "practical worker for Taiwan independence".

Monitoring Desk
WASHINGTON: The peculiar wobble of a subatomic particle called a muon in a US laboratory experiment is making scientists increasingly suspect they are missing something in their understanding of physics — perhaps some unknown particle or force. Researchers on Thursday announced new findings about the muon (pronounced MEW-on), a magnetic and negatively charged particle similar to its cousin the electron but 200 times more massive, in their experiment at the US Energy Department's Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory in Batavia.

Scientists close to discovering new natural force

Monitoring Desk
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Migrant channel crossings top 100,000 since 2018

Monitoring Desk
LONDON: More than 100,000 migrants have crossed the Channel on small boats from France to southeast England since Britain began publicly recording the arrivals in 2018, official figures revealed on Friday.

Some 755 migrants were detected on Thursday on 14 small boats headed for England's southern coast, the UK interior ministry statistics showed, the highest tally on a single day this year. Those boats bring the number of arrivals so far this year to nearly 16,000,

and takes the total since counting the perilous Channel journeys started in 2018 to 100,715. Also on Friday, officials were relocating asylum-seekers from a barge docked off the southwest English coast after Legionella bacteria was found in the water only days after the migrants had been moved aboard.

The interior ministry said none of the 39 who arrived on the vessel this week had shown symptoms of Legionnaires' disease, which is caused by the bacteria but is not contagious.

Archaeologists uncover Europe's oldest stilt village

Monitoring Desk
LIN: Beneath the turquoise waters of Lake Ohrid, the "Pearl of the Balkans", scientists have uncovered what may be one of Europe's earliest sedentary communities, and are trying to solve the mystery of why it sheltered behind a fortress of defensive spikes.

A stretch of the Albanian shore of the lake once hosted a settlement of stilt houses some 8,000 years ago, archaeologists believe, making it the oldest lakeside village in Europe discovered to date.

Radiocarbon dating from the site puts it at between 6000 and 5800 BC.

Hawaii starts probe into wildfire handling, as toll hits 67

Monitoring Desk
MAUI: Hawaii's chief legal officer said on Friday she was opening a probe into the handling of devastating wildfires that killed at least 67 people in the state this week, as criticism grows of the official response.

The announcement came as residents of Lahaina were allowed back into the town for the first time — with most finding their homes had been reduced to ashes, and even the lucky few angry at a sense of abandonment.

"Everything has been coconut wine," said William Harry, referring to a system of rumours. "One person heard, then told another, but it's not official information. They don't come here and explain anything."

Another man, who did not want to be named, told AFP he felt like he had been left to fend for himself.

"Where is the government? Where are they?" he fumed. "This is insane. We can't move freely, we don't get the support, now we've heard about looting."

Hawaii's Attorney General Anne Lopez said her office would be examining "critical decision-making and standing policies leading up to, during and after the wildfires on Maui and Hawaii islands this week."

"My department is committed to understanding the decisions that were made before and during the wildfires and to sharing with the public the results of this review."

Two dead, 16 missing in north China mudslide: state media

Monitoring Desk
BEIJING: Two people died and 16 others are missing after a mudslide triggered by heavy rains occurred near the northern Chinese city of Xi'an, state media reported Saturday.

China has faced deadly floods and historic rainfall in recent weeks, with the death toll from storms in the northern part of the country reaching at least 78 on Friday.

"Affected by short-term local heavy rainfall, at 18:00 on August 11... there was a sudden mountain flash flood and mudslide," reported state broadcaster CCTV.

"A preliminary inspection showed that, at present, two houses in the village have been washed away and infrastructure including roads and bridges.



Wang Dan stands in floodwaters near a damaged corn farm, after rain and floods brought by remnants of Typhoon Doksuri, at a village in Zhuozhou, Hebei province, China.

