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dailyindisb@gmail.com Chief Editor: Syed Farooq Shah www.dailyindependent.com.pk Gwadar

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PM Kakar calls for countering all terrorists including Hindutva inspired extremists

Says Kashmir key to India-Pakistan peace, urges UN resolutions' implementation; underscores preservation of UN Charter of equality for global peace; Vows to ensure rapid economic recovery by mobilizing FDI, expanding domestic revenues; Pakistan shares women's rights concerns about Afghanistan, advocates humanitarian aid: Pakistan to continue working to strengthen multilateral institutions

UNITED NATIONS (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar Friday called on the UN Security Council (UNSC) to secure the implementation of its resolutions on Kashmir, which, he said, was the key to peace between Pakistan and India.

"India has evaded implementation of the Security Council's resolutions which call for the 'final disposition' of Jammu and Kashmir to be decided by its people through UN-supervised plebiscite," he told the UN General Assembly in its iconic hall with several world leaders, top diplomats and officials in the audience.

In his maiden address to the 193-member Assembly's high-level session, PM Kakar also focused on a range of issues, including the cross-border terrorist attacks against Pakistan by Afghanistan-based TTP; the Palestine



tragedy; the threat posed by far-right groups like Hindutva-inspired extremists; Islamophobia; global economic crises stemming from Covid, conflict and climate change; Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Pakistan's efforts to recover from its economic challenges, and the UNSC reform.

"Development depends on peace," the prime minister said, adding, "Pakistan desires peaceful and

productive relations with all our neighbours, including India."

Since August 5, 2019, PM Kakar said India, with 900,000 troops in the occupied Kashmir, imposed extended lockdowns and curfews; jailed all the genuine Kashmir leaders; violently suppressed peaceful protests; resorted to extrajudicial killings of innocent Kashmiris in fake "encounters" and so-called "cordon and search operations"; and

imposed collective punishments, destroying entire villages.

"Access to occupied Kashmir, demanded by the UN High Commission for Human Rights and over a dozen Special Reporteurs, has been denied by New Delhi," he told delegates from around the world.

In this regard, the prime minister called for the reformation of the UN Military Observer Group for India and Pakistan

(UNMOGIP), stressing that global powers should convince New Delhi to accept Pakistan's offer of mutual restraint on strategic and conventional weapons.

Pakistan, he said, shared the concerns of international community with respect to Afghanistan, its first priority being to prevent and counter all terrorism from and within that neighbouring country.

"Yet," the prime minister said, "we advocate continued humanitarian assistance to a destitute Afghan population in which Afghan girls and women are the most vulnerable; as well as revival of the Afghan economy and implementation of the connectivity projects with Central Asia."

"Pakistan condemns the cross-border terrorist attacks against Pakistan by the TTP, Da'esh and other groups operating from Afghanistan," the prime minister said.



QUETTA: Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki presiding over a meeting to review affairs regarding Provincial Disaster Management Authority

Caretaker CM stresses need to utilize resources to manage emergencies, natural disasters

Independent Report

QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki has stated that there is a key role Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) in any emergent situation including the natural disasters, what's needed is to utilize the resources in better and organized manner and ensure advance arrangements well before any emergent situation. The caretaker Chief Minister was addressing a review meeting about the departmental matters of PDMA here on Friday.

Addressing the meeting, Chief Minister said that any relief activity is quite difficult task in the province which has vast area with scattered population.

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Int'l financial institutions optimistic about Pakistan's economic stability: PM

NEW YORK (INP): Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar says the International Monetary Fund has appreciated Pakistan's crackdown against illegal currency trade, which helped address artificial instability of currency.

In an interview with PTV News in New York, he said government's reform agenda includes increasing tax net, privatization as well as power sector reforms.

He said this has developed confidence in international financial institutions and they are now optimistic about Pakistan's economic stability.

The Prime Minister said Pakistan and the IMF are on the same page vis a vis grant of subsidies to the underprivileged segments of the society.

To a question regarding aid pledges to Pakistan, Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar said pledges of almost ten bil-

lion dollars were made in the aftermath of floods in the country. It will be ensured that these are converted into tangible resources to be used for rehabilitation and reconstruction of flood affected areas.

Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar said Pakistan has deep rooted relations with China. He said Pakistan has also diversified its relations with the United States and other western countries. He said the West should know that India which sits in its strategic lap to leverage against China, has trade ties with Beijing as well so it will be very unrealistic expectation from Pakistan to have its relations with one country at the cost of the other.

The Prime Minister categorically stated that Pakistan will develop, design and exhibit its foreign relations in independent spheres.



QUETTA: Caretaker Information Minister Jan Achakzai talking with Dr. Tahir Rasheed during his visit to Balochistan Rural Support Programme (BRSP)

Jan Achakzai rejects propaganda against Prime Minister Kakar's UNGA visit

Independent Report

QUETTA: The caretaker Provincial Minister for Information, Jan Achakzai, has rejected the propaganda against Prime Minister Anwarul Haq Kakar's recent visit to the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), terming it a conspiracy against the interests of Pakistan by India and its proxies.

In a statement issued on Friday, Jan Achakzai said that Prime Minister Kakar's visit to the UNGA was a success, and that it helped to improve Pakistan's image on the international stage. He said that the negative propaganda against Pakistan at international events is a joint effort by Indian intelligence agencies and misguided political groups in Pakistan.

Achakzai said that India has been exposed in every international forum, including the G20, for its state terrorism and its in-

volvement in the killings of Canadian citizens in Canada. He said that the misguided political elements in Pakistan are committing treason by playing into the hands of RAW.

Achakzai said that Prime Minister Kakar's meetings with world leaders at the UNGA are proof of the success of his visit. He said that the Prime Minister's engagements with world leaders helped to strengthen Pakistan's ties with other countries and to promote Pakistan's interests on the global stage.

"The propaganda against Prime Minister Kakar's UNGA visit is baseless and unfounded," Achakzai said. "It is an attempt by India and its proxies to undermine Pakistan's standing in the world. The people of Pakistan should reject this propaganda and support the Prime Minister in his efforts to build a better Pakistan."

Solangi says Govt. to create conducive environment for elections

KARACHI (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi said on Friday that the government will create a conducive environment for general elections.

During a meeting with Caretaker Chief Minister Sindh Justice (Retd) Maqbool Baqir, he said the caretaker dispensation will perform its duties according to the constitution and no one will be discriminated.

In the meeting, they discussed important issues including conducting free, fair, and transparent elections and providing facilities to the media during the election process.

The minister said that conducting free, fair, and transparent elections was the common responsibility of the relevant institutions.

Mirwaiz Umar Farooq released after 4-year house arrest

NEW DELHI: Top Hurriyat leader Mirwaiz Umar Farooq has been released from his four-year-long house arrest in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK).

This significant development follows his detention in 2019 when India revoked Kashmir's special status, plunging the region into political turmoil.

After his release, Mirwaiz was allowed to lead Friday prayers in Srinagar, the principal city of the disputed territory.

Mirwaiz, aged 50, was visibly emotional as he addressed the congregation from the pulpit of a historic mosque in Srinagar. His return to public life was met with tears of joy from numerous supporters who had awaited his release.

Police constable injured in grenade attack

QUETTA (INP): A police constable was injured in a firing and grenade attack on a police vehicle in Kuchlak town on Friday, police said.

Unidentified assailants attacked the patrolling vehicle as it was passing through the area. A crossfire took place between the two sides, and the constable was shot in the leg.

The injured cop, identified as Constable Ali Khan, was taken to Civil Hospital where his condition is said to be stable.

Police have launched an investigation into the attack, but no arrests have been made so far.



RAWALPINDI: Chief of General Staff of Armed Forces of Saudi Arabia, General Fayyadh Bin Hamed Al Ruwaili, meeting with Chief of Army Staff General Syed Asim Munir

COAS, Saudi Chief of General Staff discuss bilateral ties

RAWALPINDI (APP): A high powered military delegation led by Chief of General Staff of Armed Forces of Saudi Arabia, General Fayyadh Bin Hamed Al Ruwaili, called on Chief of Army Staff General Syed Asim Munir in Rawalpindi on Friday.

During the meeting, both sides deliberated upon various areas of mutual interest, bilateral cooperation including defence and security matters.

Earlier, the Saudi military delegation also called on Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee, General Sahir Shamshad Mirza at Joint Staff Headquarters.

Anti-polio drive due to begin from October 2: Govt committed to eradicate polio from Balochistan, says Chief Secretary

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Chief Secretary Balochistan, Shakeel Qadir Khan has categorically stated that it is firm commitment and resolve of the provincial government to eradicate polio virus from the province and country.

However, ulemas, civil society, media and every individual of the society would have to play their wholehearted for eradication of polio virus.

He said that responsibility of the safe future of our children rests with all of us.

The Chief Secretary was chairing a high level meeting on the endeavours of government for eradication of polio in the province, here on Friday.

The Coordinator of Emergency Operation Center (EOC) for polio eradication briefed the Chief Secretary about the measures being taken for eradication of the crippling disease from the province besides the up-

coming anti-polio campaign in the province.

He informed that the anti-polio campaign is being launched in the province from October 2, 2023. During the campaign, over 2.6 million children below five years of age would be administered anti-polio vaccine in the province.

Addressing the meeting, Chief Secretary said that it is national obligation to eradicate the polio virus from the province and country. He stressed that we have to implement the steps for eradication of polio with sincerity. He also stressed that all concerned institutions and district administration would have to play their effective role for complete eradication of polio.

The Chief Secretary said that although we are endeavouring to save the children from the disease in an organized manner, still we need to expedite these endeavours so that no kid suffers from the virus.



QUETTA: Chief Secretary Balochistan Shakeel Qadir Khan presiding over a high level meeting regarding anti polio campaign

Caretaker CM meets general public, issues orders on certain applications

Independent Report

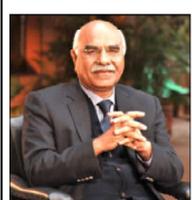
QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan met a large number of people coming from different areas of the province here at the CM's secretariat on Friday.

The people belonging to different walks of life apprised the Chief Minister about their issues and requested him to resolve them.

The Chief Minister gave patient hearing to the issues raised by the people. He also issued on the spot directives on certain applications submitted on the occasion.

He also ordered the concerned authorities and departments to resolve the collective nature problems being confronted by the people.

President appoints Dr Amjad Saqib as Chairman BISP



ISLAMABAD (APP): President Dr. Arif Alvi has approved the appointment of Dr. Amjad Saqib as the Chairman of Benazir Income Support Program.

The President approved the appointment under Section 5(III) of the Benazir Income Support Program Act, 2010.

Governor greets Pashtoon nation on Pashtoon Culture day being observed today

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar has greeted the whole Pashtoon nation on the Pashtoon culture day being observed today (Saturday).

In a felicitation statement issued here on Friday, the Governor Balochistan said that strong relationship exists between the Pashtoon and their culture. He said that the culture is the name of colourful and beauty of the social life in a specific geography.

He also said that the culture is actually the name of leading collective way of life, and it is a collection of longstanding traditions and brilliant values,



QUETTA: Chief Executive Officer PPAF Nadir Gul Bareech meeting with Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar

Sami asks ministries, divisions to expedite work on CPEC projects

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Muhammad Sami Saeed on Friday asked all the ministries and divisions to expedite work on the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) projects. The minister said this while chairing a meeting to review the progress made over the CPEC projects, a news release said. The meeting was attended by the Chief Economist of Pakistan and representatives of the various ministries and divisions.

During the meeting, the minister was apprised about the progress of the CPEC projects particularly after the 12th Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) meeting held in July 2023. The CPEC agreement was signed between Pakistan and China on July 5, 2013. The representatives of various ministries and divisions gave a detailed briefing on the implementation status of their respective projects

In the early harvest projects of CPEC, as many as six mega infrastructure projects were completed including the Havelian-Thakot section of KKH, Multan-Sukkur (M-5) Motorway, Hakla-D.I.Khan Motorway, Optical Fiber Cable, Eastbay Expressway and Orange Line Metro Train. Furthermore, on the western alignment of CPEC, work on different sections is under implementation which would be completed by 2024. Since most of these highways pass through the far-flung areas of Pakistan, it has opened those areas for business which would bring prosperity. During the meeting, it was further informed that the meeting of Joint Working Groups (JWGs) on (Infrastructure) will be held next week to review the projects.

Daily Voice of Masses Independent

Lawless city

A grim milestone has just been passed in Karachi. The recent death of a teenage robbery victim brings the number of people killed in street crime incidents in the city between January and September 2023 to 100. To put things in perspective, the total number of people to have died in incidents of terrorism across Sindh during the first six months of the current year is 19. This once again underscores the unsettling fact that Karachi is a deadly city for its people, where armed killers have complete freedom to take citizens' lives. From posh neighbourhoods to teeming slums, no area of this forsaken metropolis is safe. Muggers strike whenever they can and are ready to kill their victims at the slightest resistance. Figures compiled by the Citizens-Police Liaison Committee illustrate just how large the epidemic of street crime is. According to the CPLC, over the past nine months, some 60,000 incidents of street crime have taken place in Karachi. The figure for all of 2022 was 85,000. Police say between 50 to 60 gangs are active in this deadly business, while mobile-snatching and motorbike-lifting top the list of crimes.

Various factors are fuelling high street crime rates, including inflation, joblessness, and the lure of easy money. People often resist parting with their hard-earned cash or valuables, with the result that they end up paying with their lives. However, addressing the underlying factors behind crime is a long-term project; the immediate need is to quell the deadly wave of killings. Here, the Sindh government has failed miserably. The PPP, which has been ruling the province since 2008, has much to answer for where law and order goes. The caretaker government can only do so much, and it is hoped that the next elected government that takes power in Sindh has solid proposals to beat crime. Otherwise, precious lives will continue to be snuffed out by trigger-happy criminals.

Double standards



Javid Husain

The US-led West does not tire of telling the rest of the world to abide by the so-called rules-based world order. But while doing so, Western countries conveniently omit explaining that this order was established in the aftermath of World War II primarily for legitimising and maintaining their own global hegemony. The architecture of the political, security and economic institutions established under the UN or under the Bretton Woods system to regulate the post-World War II international security and economic system was, in the ultimate analysis, aimed at securing this overarching goal of the West. This is particularly true about the UN Security Council as well as the IMF and World Bank where no decision can be taken without the approval of the US and its Western allies.

Before World War II, there were numerous examples of Western countries blatantly flouting recognised principles of international law, or interpreting them to suit their convenience. This was particularly true during the colonial era, which witnessed the cruel subjugation of the people of occupied lands and the ruthless exploitation of their resources.

Even the establishment of the post-World War II global order did not prevent predatory Western nations from violating the recognised rules of interstate conduct to impose their will on the weaker nations. The invasion of Egypt by Great Britain and

France in 1956 in league with Israel, and the US invasion of Iraq in 2003 were clear examples of the violation of the UN Charter.

In the sphere of international economic, commercial, and financial exchanges, the US-led West has exploited its powerful positions in such institutions as the IMF and World Bank to impose its own choices and preferences on economically weaker nations. It is also ironic that the US, which used to champion the cause of free trade, has now started imposing economic and technological sanctions against China to slow down the latter's economic and technological progress, especially in such fields as semiconductors, AI, and quantum computing. But this is nothing new. As pointed out by Kishore Mahbubani in his book, *Has China won?*, in the face of the tough competition given by the Japanese automakers to their American counterparts, "President Ronald Reagan had to twist the arms of the Japanese to agree to a voluntary export restraint."

The double standards of the Western countries are also exposed by their positions on such subjects as the situation in Hong Kong, Palestine, occupied Kashmir and Taiwan. When Hong Kong was being governed by the UK, Western concerns about democratic values in the territory were non-existent even though colonial rule is the very anti-thesis of a truly representative form of government. But this issue became a major source of concern for the West once Hong Kong reverted to Chinese sovereignty. Since Israel is a virtual Western outpost in the Middle East, its excesses against the national rights of the Palestinian people in viola-

tion of UN resolutions are generally ignored by the US-led West.

The same conclusion applies to the treatment of the UN-recognised right of self-determination of the Kashmiri people by the Western countries because of their desire to cultivate India as an emerging Great Power and build it up as a bulwark against China. Taiwan is recognised by the international community, including even the US, as part of China. But that has not prevented Washington from offering political and military support to Taiwan's administration to encourage separatist tendencies in the territory, even though it is internationally recognised as an integral part of China. Repeated calls by the US-led West on China and others to abide by the rules of the global order established by it in the aftermath of World War II are aimed at protecting its own security and economic interests. Therefore, whenever these rules come into conflict with the Western countries' own narrow national interests, they have no hesitation in ignoring them. Logically, China and other emerging major powers can be expected to insist on re-writing these rules to make them equitable for global security and economic progress, rather than solely promoting Western interests.

In light of the foregoing, the coming decades will witness growing tensions between the established and the emerging major powers. Pakistan and other countries of the Global South need to navigate carefully in the unfolding turbulent global scenario. This scenario is marked by multipolarity and by the primacy of national power over recognised principles of interstate conduct. -- Courtesy Dawn

Going strong at 160



Zubeida Mustafa

Earlier this year, the St Joseph's Convent School, Karachi, celebrated 160 years of its glorious existence. Those of us who had some kind of connection with this institution — mainly as students — felt a proud sense of ownership for our alma mater on this august occasion. I don't think any other girls' school in Pakistan can claim equal longevity combined with excellence.

I attended the alumni event held recently which became a poignant journey down memory lane. I have a double connection with SJC. Both my daughters also studied there and it was a pleasure meeting their teachers — Nilofer Minhas and Faiza Kazi — to whom I will be eternally grateful for providing my girls that extra love and support the children of working mothers need. This link, as well as my own childhood school experience, makes SJC special to me.

Though SJC's sturdy stone Italian architecture and its playgrounds stretching over a vast expanse made a profound impression on my mind when I came here first as a child, an institution needs more than brick and mortar to establish its greatness. It needs teachers of substance who impart knowledge, moral strength and integrity to their students. For SJC, this came from the nuns clad in their white habit. They were the builders of the SJC value system.

Times have changed, as has the apparel of the nuns, the academic environments of the school and the political status of the

country where the founders — a batch of five Belgian nuns from the Daughters of the Cross Institute, Liege — landed. It was Kurrachee that played host to them and where the SJC was founded in 1862. What has remained unchanged is the tradition of "relentless service to humanity", "sustained educational pursuits", "arduous struggles", "modest courtesy" and a "sense of duty". Above all, the aim of education as spelt out by the founders has been further strengthened. In a nutshell, it seeks to develop the full potential of every student while inculcating in them the judgement to distinguish between right and wrong and fostering the desire to become lifelong learners.

The magnitude of the school's achievements as expressed by the principal (now designated as the head of St Joseph's College) is enormous. Sister Elizabeth Niemet, succinctly described the role of SJC as the pioneer of quality education for the girl child. It turned out "refined and headstrong young ladies who have shown amazing aptitudes in various fields". Today, Josephines — thousands of them — are spread all over the world. There are 2,200 students on the school rolls. In 1862, there were 10.

I marvel at the nuns and staff at St Joseph's. I admire their dedication to the cause of education — a thankless task in a country where neither state nor society really values a child's education or considers it important for human development and the country's own progress. Had this been the case, the largest non-Muslim community, that is, the Christians, would have received more appreciation for its services — not just in the education but also the health sector.

Worse is the failure of the state to give protection to Christians, and

also other non-Muslim communities, when they have the same right to life and liberty as anyone else under the Constitution. In fact, Islam, which we claim underpins Pakistan's political-legal structure, enjoins treating non-Muslims with compassion and giving due respect to their beliefs. Had that principle been followed, would Jaranwala have taken place? It is shameful that the Pakistani state could not, in spite of its military might, prevent this heinous incident from occurring.

More importantly, this failure is not restricted to a single incident. Our trajectory is replete with similarly shameful crimes committed against the Christian community. Remember Shanti Nagar (1997), Sangla Hill (2005), Gojra (2009), Joseph Colony (2013), the Peshawar church attack (2013) and the attack on Quetta churches (2017)? Even Muslim religious leaders in the country have not stood up in defence of those they should protect; they have not exhorted their followers to be respectful of other religious communities. The Christian community has suffered discrimination in all walks of life and the possibility of unverified blasphemy accusations against them continues to hang over their heads like the sword of Damocles. One has to recall the Aasiya Bibi case. The poor woman was on death row for years before she was acquitted and smuggled out of Pakistan to another country, even before the judgement was made public. In spite of this hatred displayed by those who hold extremist and bigoted views, the community, in light of their religious beliefs, continues to demonstrate the values of forgiveness, compassion and kindness. This should offer some food for thought to a section of the Muslim community that prefers obscurantism. -- Courtesy Dawn

Commerce News



KARACHI: Caretaker Federal Minister for Commerce Industries & Production Dr. Gohar Ejaz is being presented with memento during his visit to Karachi Chamber of Commerce & Industries KCCI.

Minister says: Work on Pak-Iran gas pipeline initiated

LAHORE (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister for Energy, Power and Petroleum Muhammad Ali said on Friday that work on Pak-Iran gas pipeline has been initiated. He was talking to the media after inaugurating Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Limited (SNGPL) first Model Customer Service Centre here at its Regional Office on Gurmungat Road. The minister said that 20 per cent natural gas has been decreased as compared to last year, while the government would try to manage gas load-shedding in winter; however, he added the government could not provide gas on

cheaper rates, after purchasing at higher rates. People would have to use the natural fuel wisely, he added. Muhammad Ali, responding to a query about Russian oil, said that only one cargo had arrived on trial basis, but the problem was to refine it.

Only the Pakistan Oil Refinery was refining 46,000 tons of oil monthly, while demand was many times higher. The government was trying to engage private refineries to meet the demand, he added.

The government is working on importing more Russian oil, resolving the refinery issues, and making efforts to provide

maximum relief to people. The minister said that taxpayers are feeding only 9 per cent of GDP of Pakistan, which is one of the lowest in the world; people would get relief only if tax collection improves.

As many as 14 counters have been set up at the Model Customer Service Centre, which included applications for new connection, change of ownership, re-connection, business development counter, billing counter, violation checking counter, billing office counter, accounts-treasury counter, business development process counter.

APPA urges Governor State Bank to timely conduct biometrics

ISLAMABAD (APP): All Pakistan Pensioners Association (APPA) General Secretary Aurangzeb Tanuli Friday appealed to the Governor State Bank of Pakistan to oblige the management of all banks to conduct timely biometrics of all pensioners in March and September as per the policy.

In a statement here, the Association General Secretary said it was not possible for pensioners to submit biometrics along with life and no marriage certificate together, which

was against the policy. Tanuli said blocking the pension account of a pensioner on this basis was illegal and this issue should be resolved immediately so that the problems of the pensioners could be resolved.

The general secretary pointed out the important issue and said that there were clear orders from the State Bank and the Finance Minister that all pensioners were required to get their biometrics done in March and September every year.

LESCO receives Rs 61.31m on 10th day of recovery campaign

LAHORE (APP): The Lahore Electric Supply Company (LESCO), in collaboration with Tehsildars (Recovery), has recovered Rs 61.31 million from 1,126 chronic defaulters in all its circles on the tenth day of its recovery campaign.

A spokesman told the media here on Friday that Chief Engineer O&M (T&G) Zafar Iqbal, with the support of Tehsildar City Mujahid Zia and Tehsildar Shalimar Noreez Humayun, recovered

outstanding dues of Rs 4.29 million from 129 defaulters in Northern Circle and Rs 35.62 million from 117 defaulters in Eastern Circle, respectively. Similarly, LESCO Manager (Material Disposal) Engineer Anwar Wattoo, along with Tehsildar Model Town Rana Arsal and Tehsildar Cantt Sajjad Qureshi, recovered Rs 3.75 million from 129 defaulters in Central Circle and Rs 1.64 million from 68 defaulters in South Circle.

Finance Minister suggests listing of govt debt securities at PSX

ISLAMABAD (APP): Dr. Shamshad Akhtar, the Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue on Friday said that the securities market can play a vital role in the development of debt market through the listing of Government debt securities on Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX).

Speaking at the inauguration ceremony of the Centralized Gateway Portal, Dr Akhtar said that the issuance securities through public auctions at PSX will facilitate retail participation, provide greater transparency, channelize savings and promote debt market in Pakistan, said a press release issued by SECP here. The SECP, PSX and other stakeholders need to extend

concerted efforts to enable efficient implementation of these reforms.

The Minister formally inaugurated the Centralized Gateway Portal, a unique financial initiative simultaneously onboard investors and customers in the securities market, the NBFC sector, and the insurance industry.

The CGP also offers standardized, one-time KYC requirements across different asset classes. The SECP Chairman, Akif Saeed and Badiuddin Akber, Chief Executive Officer at CDC also spoke to the launching ceremony.

She highlighted that one of the key issues undermining the growth of capital markets is the lack of liquidity which is

directly attributable to the small number of investors. She believes that the Centralized Gateway Portal can provide the impetus for the much-needed growth of our investor base.

Dr Shamshad appreciated that the CGP provide immense opportunities to investors and great convenience to market intermediaries by removing duplications and streamlining the customer onboarding process.

She appreciated SECP for its efforts and constructive reforms for facilitating investors' onboarding, with having the potential of transforming the landscape of Pakistan's capital markets.

Rupee gains Rs1.01 against US Dollar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistani Rupee on Friday witnessed the 14th consecutive recovery session as it gained Rs 1.01 against the US dollar in the interbank trading and closed at Rs291.76 against the previous day's closing of Rs292.77.

However, according to the Forex Association of Pakistan (FAP), the buying and selling rates of the dollar in the open market stood at Rs 292.1 and Rs 295 respectively.

The price of the Euro decreased by Rs1.37 to close at Rs 310.61 against the last day's closing of Rs 311.98, according to the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP).

The Japanese Yen came down by 01 paisa to close at Rs1.96, whereas a decrease of Rs2.31 was witnessed in the exchange rate of the British Pound, which traded at Rs 357.92 as compared to the last closing of Rs 360.23.

The exchange rates of the Emirates Dirham and the Saudi Riyal declined by 28 and 27 paisa to close at Rs79.43 and Rs77.78 respectively.



LAHORE: Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Pakistan Dr Reza Amiri Moghaddam attends the session of Chamber of Commerce and Industry at LCCT in Provincial Capital.

SBP launches 'Diamond' category of Sohni Dharti Remittance Program

KARACHI (APP): In a bid to further encourage remittances through formal channels, the State Bank of Pakistan, Friday, launched a new 'Diamond' category of the Sohni Dharti Remittance Program (SDRP) that offers enhanced points and additional benefits to remitters.

The category will be effective from September 22, 2023, in addition to existing three- Green, Gold and Platinum-categories of SDRP that is a point-based loyalty program in which

remitters accumulate reward points by sending remittances through formal channels, said a statement issued here. Former Finance Minister Ishaq Dar in his budget speech for FY24 had announced the addition of Diamond category with enhanced reward points and provision of other benefits like arms license of non-prohibited bore, preferential treatment at Pakistan embassies and airports and gratis passport to the Diamond Category holders.

PASSCO declared public body under RTI Act, 2017

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Pakistan Information Commission (PIC) has ruled that Pakistan Agriculture Storage and Service Corporation (PASSCO) is a public body under the Right of Access to Information Act, 2017. According to the press release, this decision emphasizes the dedication to transparency and the fundamental right of citizens to access essential information. The ruling

comes in response to an appeal titled 'Naeem Sadiq Vs Pakistan Agriculture Storage and Service Corporation,' which led to the Commission issuing a comprehensive judgment.

The Commission's order clarifies that PASSCO, even though it holds the status of a corporate commercial entity as a Public Limited Company with 75% of its capital held by commercial banks and 25%

SECP notifies amendments to NBFC Rules 2003

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP), with the approval of the federal government, has notified amendments to the Non-Banking Finance Companies (Establishment and Regulations) Rules, 2003. The amendments, which have been introduced after a comprehensive stakeholder consultation process.

Guru Nanak's life teaches world to live with peace & prosperity. Khalil George

KARTARPUR (Online): There is an urgent need to follow the teachings of Guru Nanak Devji. Guru Nanak's life teaches us how to live with peace and prosperity. These views were expressed by the Caretaker Federal Minister for Human Rights Khalil George during his visit to Kartarpur on the occasion of Guru Nanak Devji's death anniversary.

The Federal Minister visited the shrine of Guru Nanak Devji, Guru Nanak Ji, the founder of Sikhism, always taught peace and harmony to the world. In today's violent society, there is an urgent need to

create relationships of mutual respect and love among all communities. Which he always taught in his teachings. We all have to work for peace in our personal and public life.

The Caretaker Federal Minister further said that today's leaders who are involved in petty power politics and self-interest need to pay attention to the message of peace. We need leaders who can be role models for our youth.

Meanwhile, Federal Minister for Human Rights Khalil George commended the Kot Lakhpat jail administration during his visit to jail on Friday.



FAISALABAD: Religious Scholar Allah Wasaya addressing during the 16th Khatme Nabuwat conference along the Satyana road in city.

PPP for specific date for general elections in country

DI KHAN (INP): Central Information Secretary of Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Faisal Karim Kundi has underlined the need for the Election Commission to announce a cut-off date for general elections to put a permanent end to the uncertainty surrounding the electoral process in the country.

He expressed these views while talking to the media at Kundi Model Farm here Friday.

He said that the formal announcement of election schedule and its date was a part of the constitutional procedure, but the ECP had neither given any schedule for the election nor announced its date. Merely announcing

the month of January for the election is not enough, he added.

Faisal Karim Kundi said that the People's Party had always adopted a principled position that elections should be held in accordance with the Constitution and this crucial requirement should be fulfilled by the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP).

He said that the party had also expressed its willingness about the election to be held in 60 days and while respecting the wishes and consultation of the coalition parties, we agreed to hold the election within 90 days.



KARACHI: Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori presiding over a meeting of Ulema at Governor House.

AJK PM for quality cell phone service, improved network coverage in remote areas

MIRPUR (INP): Vice President Telenor Pakistan, Raza Zulfiqar Naqvi was called on by AJK Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwaar ul Haq at Jammu and Kashmir House here Friday and discussed the issues of mutual interest with special reference to the cellular phone services operated by the Telenor company in the State.

Speaking on the occasion, Chaudhry Anwaar ul Haq said that Telenor should improve its

service quality to the satisfaction of its customers in AJK.

He said that the company should take immediate measures to improve the network coverage in remote areas.

He said that the world had now become a global village and cellular companies had played an important role in this regard.

The PM said that the Easy Paisa facility offered by Telenor was also very

important for the benefit of the people. He also stressed the need for providing the Easy Paisa facility to get the Zakat money delivered to the people of Azad Kashmir. The PM said that the cellular companies, which have been earning huge revenue from Azad Kashmir, should also spend money on CSR projects for the citizens of Azad Kashmir.

Raza Zulfiqar Naqvi gave a detailed briefing to the prime minister regarding the service-quality of Telenor network in Azad Kashmir and the provision of facilities offered to the customers by the company.

He said that Telenor, being one of the largest mobile networks, has been providing quality service to its customers living in remote areas. He said that Telenor has installed 450 towers in Azad Kashmir to provide quality services to customers.

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I do not feel good due to Jail food, Parvez Elahi

LAHORE (Online): Former Punjab Chief Minister Chaudhary Parvez Elahi said that Jail food is being given which is not good for health. Earlier there was a doctor's facility but now they have created problems in it too.

While talking informally to journalists in Anti-terrorism Court (ATC), former Chief Minister said that Nawaz Sharif and Shehbaz Sharif are both brothers who are responsible for high cost of electricity. Today, middle class has also affected due to inflation. The system has stopped due to not holding general elections.

Minister vows action on human rights issues

Independent Report
PESHAWAR: A meeting was convened at the office of Mr. Syed Arshad Husain Shah, the caretaker minister for Law, Parliamentary Affairs, and Human Rights in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the state of human rights in the province and the necessary measures needed to enhance and fortify the human rights framework within the region. Present at the meeting were representatives from the Directorate General of Law and Human Rights.

During the meeting, the Minister was given a detailed presentation on the current

human rights situation in the province and the difficulties faced by the Directorate General in carrying out its human rights-related responsibilities. The team emphasized the urgent need to establish regional divisions within the Directorate General to ensure the protection of fundamental rights at the local level. The Minister assured that this matter would be promptly addressed with the relevant authorities. Furthermore, the Minister stated his intention to convene a meeting with the Police and Revenue departments as soon as possible to enhance coordination between departments when investigating human rights violations.

Railways to shut down Shalimar Express

LAHORE (INP): Pakistan Railways has decided to shut down Shalimar Express once again due to financial crunch.

According to media reports, the railway's administration was facing a loss of about Rs2 million daily. The Shalimar Express plies between Lahore to Karachi.

In May 2023, the Pakistan Railways had revived the high-speed Shalimar Express passenger train after eight months. To enhance the facilities for the high-speed train, its 19 coaches had been reconditioned at Mughalpora Workshop.

CM visits Ningxia Medical University

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Caretaker Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi visited Ningxia Medical University in Yangchuan capital of Ningxia province of China where he was briefed about the education and research facilities by the vice chancellor at the vice faculty members.

During the visit, the CM visited different sections including research and development facilities and held meetings with faculty members as well as the Pakistani students enrolled in the university, said a handout issued here on Friday.

The CM appreciated the innovative approach with regard to medical

education, saying that innovation is need of the hour.

A wonderful work was being done with regard to medical research and the Punjab government would also raise the standard of medical education in the province in partnership with Ningxia Medical University, he added. Visiting China is not a routine visit but the bilateral cooperation would be exploited to better serve the people, he said.

Chief Secretary Zahid Akhtar Zaman, Pakistan embassy officials and senior officials of the Ningxia government were also present.



LAHORE: Pakistan Messiah Millat Party Chairman Aslam Pervez Sahotra addressing press conference along with others at press club in Provincial Capital.

Crackdown against counterfeit drugs leads to significant seizures

Independent Report
PESHAWAR: The Director General of Drugs and Pharmacy Services, Dr. Abbas, has announced a significant crackdown on counterfeit and fraudulent medicines in the province. This operation has led to substantial seizures and actions taken against those responsible.

Dr. Abbas disclosed that, based on confidential information, the Drug Control Peshawar successfully intercepted a large quantity of counterfeit drugs being transported via Daewoo Cargo. These illegal medications were

enroute from Karachi to Peshawar through Daewoo cargo services. The seized contraband includes a staggering 37,000 counterfeit tablets and medicines, supposedly procured by the Sindh government. Investigations are underway to trace the origin of these fake drugs within Peshawar. In the Namak Mandi area, numerous drug supplier stores underwent rigorous inspections. During these checks, samples of suspected fraudulent drugs were collected and sent to the drug lab for thorough analysis.

International News

Leaders of Syria and China announce strategic partnership as part of Asian Games diplomacy

Monitoring Desk
BEIJING: China and Syria announced the formation of a strategic partnership on Friday as Chinese leader Xi Jinping kicked off a series of diplomatic meetings ahead of the upcoming Asian Games. Xi met Syrian President Bashar Assad in the southern Chinese city of Hangzhou, which is hosting the 15-day sports competition.

"In the face of the unstable and uncertain international situation, China is willing to work with Syria to firmly support each other ... and jointly safeguard international fairness and justice," Xi said in a video clip posted online by

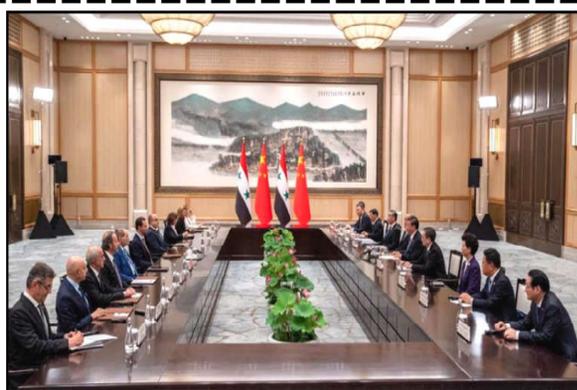
state broadcaster CCTV. Assad's visit parallels in some ways that of Russian President Vladimir Putin last year for the opening ceremony of the Beijing Winter Olympics. Both leaders are virtual pariahs in the West but welcomed by China as it tries to expand its global influence and promote an alternative to the U.S.-led international order.

The Syrian leader will attend the Asian Games opening ceremony on Saturday night along with the king of Cambodia, the crown prince of Kuwait and the prime ministers of Nepal, East Timor and South Korea, China's Foreign Ministry has said.

Xi also met Kuwaiti Crown Prince Sheikh Meshal Al Ahmed Al Jaber Al Sabah on Friday and said he would work with him to take bilateral relations to a new level, CCTV reported.

Both meetings took place at a state guest house at West Lake, a scenic tourist destination in Hangzhou that has inspired Chinese painters for centuries.

Cambodian King Norodom Sihamoni arrived Friday at the airport in Hangzhou. CCTV video posted online showed him walking down the stairs from his plane to the tarmac for a red carpet welcome that included the Asian Games mascots.



Chinese President Xi Jinping meets with Syria's President Bashar al-Assad and other officials in eastern Hangzhou city, China.

Zelenskyy asks Congress for more Ukraine aid. Vance says he didn't attend 'farce' meeting

Monitoring Desk
WASHINGTON: Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on Thursday made his second visit to Capitol Hill in another pitch to U.S. lawmakers to continue supporting his embattled nation's war effort against Russia's invasion.

But on the surface, his appearance looks to have done little to change the hearts and minds of lawmakers skeptical of providing additional assistance to Ukraine.

Zelenskyy's stop in Washington, which included a bipartisan meeting with a

group of House lawmakers and an all-senators meeting, noticeably lacked the fanfare he saw when he addressed a joint meeting of Congress last December.

President Joe Biden in August requested lawmakers to approve another \$24 billion in additional aid related to Ukraine.

House Speaker Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., who has expressed reluctance to include Ukraine aid in a spending package to fund the government, declined to commit to putting Biden's ask on the House floor on Thursday.

"I think a lot of this

doubt lies on President Biden.

He hasn't made the case to the American public, what is victory? What does it take to be able to win?" McCarthy said. "But I believe when we're looking at where we're going right now, Zelenskyy has answered a lot of questions for me."

Ahead of Zelenskyy's visit, a coalition of 28 GOP lawmakers from the Senate and House signed a letter opposing Biden's request, arguing the White House has not done enough to persuade Congress on the war's progress.

Saudi ties with Israel will betray Palestinians, fears Raisi

Monitoring Desk
UNITED NATIONS: Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi has accused regional rival Saudi Arabia of betraying the Palestinians by seeking to normalise relations with Israel.

"We believe that a relationship between regional countries and the Zionist regime would be a stab in the back of the Palestinian people and of the resistance of the Palestinians," he said.

"The initiation of a relationship between the Zionist regime and any country in the region, if it is with the aim to bring security for the Zionist regime, will certainly not do so," Raisi told

a news conference on Wednesday as he attended the UN General Assembly. Saudi Arabia and Israel have bonded in part over shared hostility to Iran's clerical state, although Riyadh has moved to ease tensions with Tehran through talks brokered by China. US President Joe Biden is hoping to transform the Middle East — and score an election-year diplomatic victory — by securing recognition of the Jewish state by Saudi Arabia. On Wednesday, Biden met Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in New York on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly.



Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and his wife Olena Zelenska, left, meet with Governor General Mary Simon and her husband Whit Fraser in Ottawa.

Sudan's military leader warns the war in his country could spread beyond its borders

Monitoring Desk
ABUJA: The war in Sudan could spread beyond the northeast African country's borders if it is not stopped, Sudan's army chief told the United Nations General Assembly, while urging world leaders to designate the rival paramilitary force as a terrorist group.

"The nature of this war is now a threat to regional and international peace and security. ... This is like the spark of war, a war that will spill over to other countries in the region," Sudan army chief

Gen. Abdel Fattah Burhan told world leaders late Thursday. Sudan plunged into conflict in April when long-simmering tensions escalated between the military, led by Burhan, and the rival Rapid Support Forces, commanded by Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo. They had joined forces in 2021 to seize power in a coup that cast aside Sudan's pro-democracy movement.

The conflict has killed at least 5,000 people and wounded 12,000 others, according to Volker Perthes, the U.N. envoy in the country.

US pledges new aid for Haiti

Monitoring Desk
NEW YORK: The United States on Friday unveiled \$65 million more in help for Haiti's police and urged the U.N. Security Council to formally back the deployment of a multinational security mission to help the Caribbean country battle crippling gang violence.

Speaking at a meeting in New York to address the security situation in Haiti, U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said the mission, led by Kenya, could deploy "within months." "We really have no time to lose," Blinken said.

Haiti last year asked for help to combat violent gangs that have largely overrun the capital Port-au-Prince. The council could vote as soon as next week, diplomats said, on a U.S.-drafted resolution supporting a multinational police deployment.

While not providing any troops, Blinken said the Biden administration will work with the U.S. Congress to provide \$100 million to back the multinational mission with logistical and financial assistance. This could include intelligence support, airlift, communications and medical support, he said.

Russia says Ukraine missile hits Black Sea navy HQ

Monitoring Desk
MOSCOW: At least one Ukrainian missile struck the headquarters of Russia's Black Sea navy in the Crimean port of Sevastopol on Friday, and a major cyberattack interrupted internet services on the peninsula, Russian-installed officials said. Russia's defence ministry said one serviceman was missing after the attack, revising its earlier statement that the serviceman had been killed. Air defences had downed a total of five missiles, the ministry said.

More than 50 arrested in latest Italy raid

Monitoring Desk
MILAN: Over 50 people have been arrested in a new police raid against the 'Ndrangheta mafia in Italy, Carabinieri police said in a statement on Friday.

North Korea's Kim sets forth steps to boost Russia ties as US & Seoul warn about weapons deals

Monitoring Desk
SEOUL: North Korean leader Kim Jong Un ordered unspecified steps to further develop relations with Russia after his recent visit to the country as his foreign rivals warn that any cooperation on military weapons would be dangerous and bring consequences.

North Korea's Kim sets forth steps to boost Russia ties as US & Seoul warn about weapons deals

Experts speculated North Korea and Russia likely discussed banned arms transfer deals and other cooperation measures during Kim's six-day trip last week.

North Korea's Kim sets forth steps to boost Russia ties as US & Seoul warn about weapons deals

They say the two countries are serious about sharply boosting their ties while they are engaged in separate confrontations with the West.

During a Politburo meeting on Wednesday, Kim arranged for work to be done on further developing bilateral ties at "a new high level at the practical stage" to consolidate "the success" of his Russia trip, the official Korean Central News Agency said Friday.

Kim underscored the need to expand bilateral cooperation in every field, making a substantial contribution to the promotion of the well-being of the people of the two countries, KCNA said.



ISLAMABAD: Chief of General Staff of the Saudi armed forces, General Fayyadh bin Hamed Al-Ruwaili along with members of his delegation meeting with President Dr. Arif Alvi at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

Alvi for enhanced Pak-Saudi coop. in economic, defence sectors

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Dr Arif Alvi on Friday said Pakistan highly valued its relations with Saudi Arabia and was committed to enhancing bilateral economic, investment and defence ties.

Talking to the visiting Chief of General Staff of the Saudi Armed Forces General Fayyadh bin Hamed Al-Ruwaili, who led a delegation here at the Aiwan-e-Sadr, he said Pakistan was looking for investment from Saudi Arabia and other countries in diverse fields.

President Alvi mentioned that Pakistan had huge potential in four key sectors including agricul-

ture, information technology, energy and mining.

In this regard, a Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) has been set up to serve as a one-window platform to fast-track decision-making and facilitate foreign direct investment.

Expressing satisfaction at the existing level of Pak-Saudi bilateral cooperation, the president said that the high-level exchanges of military leadership of the two countries would further boost defence cooperation. Alvi said he was highly impressed by the vision of Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman that led to the

normalisation of relations between the Kingdom and Iran, which he said, was essential to bring peace and prosperity to the region.

He said Saudi Arabia always supported Pakistan at difficult times and emphasized that the brotherly countries enjoyed excellent relations in various fields and had commonality of views on various regional and international issues.

He thanked the Saudi leadership for providing financial support to Pakistan to help it deal with its economic challenges.

The president lauded the role of Saudi Arabia on the platform of the Organization of the Islamic Coop-

eration (OIC) in highlighting the plight of the Muslims in Palestine, Kashmir and Afghanistan. He asked General Fayyadh bin Hamed to convey his warm regards to Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.

General Fayyadh bin Hamed Al-Ruwaili said that Pakistan and Saudi Arabia enjoyed close ties in various fields since the beginning and called for further improvement in their bilateral ties. He said the Kingdom's vision 2030 would bring prosperity to the neighbouring countries and to the Islamic world.

Saudi Ambassador to Pakistan Nawaf Bin Saeed Al-Malki attended the meeting.

New Urology Block inaugurated at BINUQ: International standard kidney transplant started at local level, says caretaker Chief Minister

Ali Mardan Domki says dialysis units to be established at district level to facilitate patients

Independent Report
QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki inaugurated the newly built Urology Block in the Balochistan Institute of Nephro-Urology Quetta (BINUQ) here on Friday.

Also present on the occasion were the caretaker Provincial Minister for Health, Dr. Amir Muhammad Khan Jogtezi, Secretary Health, Asfandyar Khan Kakar, Chief Executive of BINUQ, Professor Dr. Karim Zarkoon besides other senior doctors, experts and

staff of the BINUQ. Speaking on the occasion, the caretaker Chief Minister expressed satisfaction over the functioning of BINUQ and noted with contentment that the international standard kidney transplant has been started at local level in Balochistan.

He said that 60 operations of kidney transplants have been conducted at BINUQ successfully.

The caretaker Chief Minister on the occasion announced to establish dialysis units in all districts of the province.

He said that the training of local technicians has been started at BINUQ to run the dialysis units at the district level.

Mir Ali Mardan Domki also referred to the commitment made by the President of Istehkam-e-Pakistan Party and former senior Minister Punjab, Aleem Khan and said that he has already made commitment to establish a modern dialysis unit in Quetta.

He said that he would also request him (Aleem Khan) for the dialysis units at the district level.



ISLAMABAD: Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi along with Admiral Lisa M. Franchetti, US Chief of Naval Operation during the 25th International Seapower Symposium held in USA.

Naval Chief attends Int'l Seapower Symposium in USA

ISLAMABAD (PR): Twenty fifth International Seapower Symposium-2023 (ISS-25) was held at US Naval War College Newport in Rhode Island.

The event involved panel discussions on issues related to common maritime challenges and opportunities to enhance international maritime security cooperation.

A large number of Heads of World Navies or their senior representatives attended ISS-25.

During ISS, Naval Chief Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi held bi-

lateral meetings and interactions with senior International Naval dignitaries from Spain, Azerbaijan, Egypt, Netherlands, and Saudi Arabia.

Amjad Khan Niazi briefed the participants on Maritime Perspective of Pakistan with special focus on its contributions to regional maritime security.

He said Pakistan Navy's initiative of Regional Maritime Security Patrol, which is aimed to shoulder international obligations for safe and secure maritime environment in the region.

Ambassador of Ethiopia, Chairman Senate discuss strengthening bilateral ties

ISLAMABAD (Online): Ambassador of Ethiopia to Pakistan, Jamal Beker Abdula called on Chairman Senate Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani here at the Parliament House today.

The meeting focused on reinforcing the longstanding and friendly relationship between Pakistan and Ethiopia, concentrating on enhancing trade, parliamentary cooperation, and matters of mutual interest.

Chairman Sanjrani emphasized the importance of the existing strong bond between the two nations, rooted in shared history, common interests, and mutual support at international platforms. He stressed the need to foster trade and economic ties, highlighting the facilitation and improvement of contacts between Pakistani and Ethiopian businessmen.

In the discussion, both sides accentuated the augmentation of bilateral trade volume and applauded the resumption of flights between Pakistan and Ethiopia.

Chairman Sanjrani lauded the initiative, stating that it would enhance connectivity not only within Africa but also with Pakistan. He further stressed the significance of increasing cooperation and public relations in the field of education and addressing global challenges such as Islamophobia through interfaith harmony and mutual respect.

Ambassador Jamal Beker Abdula reaffirmed Ethiopia's importance under Pakistan's Engage Africa policy and invited Chairman Sanjrani to visit Ethiopia on behalf of the Ethiopian Parliament's leadership.



QUETTA: Chief of National Party Dr. Abdul Malik Baloch addressing a protest against inflation and increase in electricity and gas prices.

Pakistan looks forward to fulfillment of COP28 climate change commitments: PM

UNITED NATIONS (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwar-ul-Haq Kakar on Friday said that Pakistan looked forward to the fulfillment of the climate change commitments made at COP28 by the developed world including the provision of over \$100 billion in annual climate finance.

The prime minister, in his address at the 78th session of the United Nations General Assembly, said the developed countries had committed to allocate at least half of climate finance for adaptation in developing countries, besides operationalising the Fund

and funding arrangements for Loss and Damage.

He said the developed world had also pledged to accelerate their carbon emission mitigation targets to "keep alive" the goal of restricting global warming to 1.5 degrees centigrade.

The prime minister called for resisting the attempts to selectively provide such funds on the basis of geo-political considerations. He told the world leaders that Pakistan's triple food, fuel and finance challenge was a prime illustration of the impacts of COVID-19, conflicts and climate on developing countries.

Amjad visits Turkish Aerospace Industries

Independent Report
QUETTA: The caretaker Provincial Minister for Finance, Amjad Rasheed visited the Turkish Aerospace Industries Pakistan office in Islamabad on Friday.

During the visit, Amjad Rasheed discussed with the representative of Turkish Aerospace industries in Pakistan, Sohail Sajid the matters of mutual interests.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister Finance said that the Turkish Aerospace Industries is the biggest defense production industry

of Turkey, which has shown interest in working in the related sectors with mutual partnership. He described the process of initial talks with the concerned people in Turkish Aerospace Industries Islamabad office as pleasant, saying that we can do a lot for Pakistan and Balochistan. Amjad Rasheed also said that he has to move ahead together with the world in the progress based on the innovation. In addition to this, we also have to make struggle for moving forward by adopting the collective approach.



QUETTA: A view of rally in connection with Eid Milad un Nabi (SAWW).

Buleda's talented artist prepares portrait of caretaker CM, presents him

Independent Report
QUETTA: The talented artist belonging to Buleda area of Kech prepared the hand made portrait of the caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Domki and presented the same to him here on Friday.

The artist Sharif Qazi came all the way from Buleda to present the gift of portrait to the Chief Minister

CJ Qazi Faez participates in QAU syndicate meeting

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Quaid-e-Azam University convened its Syndicate meeting yesterday, bringing together all members, including the distinguished presence of Chief Justice of Pakistan, Qazi Faez Isa. The meeting, chaired by University's Vice Chancellor, Dr. Niaz Akhtar, said a press release on Friday.

During the meeting, Vice Chancellor Dr. Niaz Akhtar presented a detailed overview of the university's key achievements and ongoing challenges. Among the challenges discussed were

pending issues related to land grabbing, which have been a source of concern for the university. Chief Justice Qazi Faez Isa showed deep concern for the longstanding land issues plaguing Quaid-i-Azam University. Recognizing the gravity of the situation, he has instructed to prioritize and expedite the resolution of these land-related challenges.

The agenda also encompassed deliberations on the recommendations put forth by the Selection Board.

ANP leaders reiterate demand of forming judicial commission to probe into killing of Arbab Kasi

Independent Report
QUETTA: The provincial President of Awami National Party (ANP), Asghar Khan Achakzai and other leaders of different parties have reiterated the demand for forming a judicial commission to probe into what it termed targeted killing of ANP's leader, Arbab Ghulam Muhammad Kasi.

While addressing a public meeting in Chaman on Friday, the ANP provincial president and other leaders said that the target killing of Arbab Ghulam Advocate is the outcome of ongoing wave of terrorism and extremism imposed on the Pashtoonkhw land.

They said that Arbab Ghulam Muhammad Kasi was not only a senior ideological leader of the party, but he was also a thorough

gentleman and a passionate lawyer. They termed his martyrdom an irreparable loss to the national movement of the ANP. They also said that the services of late Arbab Ghulam Muhammad Kasi would always be remembered.

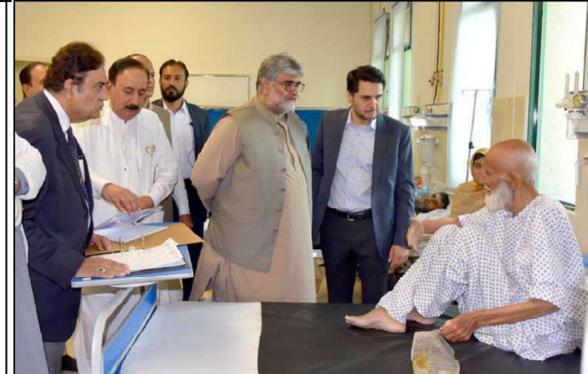
The ANP leaders on the occasion appealed to the Chief Justice of Pakistan, Mr. Justice Qazi Faez Isa to ensure implementation of the inquiry report of the 8th August's civil hospital tragedy.

They said the ANP would continue to raise forceful voice for resolving the issues of Pashtoons and other oppressed people.

Others who addressed the meeting were included the provincial General Secretary of ANP, Mabat Kakar, Salahuddin

Watanyar, Asghar Ali Tareen, leader of Pashtoonkhw Milli Awami Party, Hayat Khan Achakzai, leader of National Democratic Party, Javed Afgha, ANP's Abdul Khaliq Haqmal and others.

They strongly condemned the assassination of ANP's leader and demanded that the characters behind it should be exposed. They also condemned the insulting behavior meted out with the Pashtoons in different cities of the country. Moreover, they criticized the economic policies of the rulers terming it the economic massacre of Baloch and Pashtoons. They said that the economic life of the labourers and other people is being made miserable under the garb of anti-smuggling activities.



QUETTA: Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki talking with a patient during his visit to BINUQ.

Caretaker CM visits PTV Quetta center

Independent Report
QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki visited the Pakistan Television Quetta center on Friday.

On reaching PTV Quetta center, the caretaker Chief Minister was welcomed by the General Manager, Syed Fahim Shah and his team.

Mr. Domki visited different sections of the PTV and assured that the caretaker Federal Minister Information would be invited to resolve the issues being faced by the PTV Quetta center.

Meanwhile, the caretaker Chief Minister also recorded his interview for a programme to be telecast at the PTV.

Kashmir issue should be resolved as per UN resolutions

NEW YORK (Online): Caretaker Foreign Minister (FM) Jilil Abbas Jilani has said Kashmir is very vital issue and it should be resolved as per UN resolutions.

"All the outstanding issues between Pakistan and India can come to end only if Kashmir issue is resolved, he said in an interview to Al-Jazeera TV here.

He went on to say resolving Kashmir issue as per UN resolutions is very important.

Over 7 lac Indian armed troops are there in Occupied Kashmir. While Indian security forces are involved in brazen violations of human rights therein.

He reiterated Pakistan will continue to support Kashmiris at every forum.

Palestine issue should also be addressed on priority basis for establishment of peace in Middle East.

Emergency nor martial law can be imposed, Khurshheed

ISLAMABAD (Online): Senior Leader of PPP Syed Khurshheed Shah said that Election Commission (EC) should have given only a date for elections. Neither Emergency nor martial law can be imposed in current situation.

While talking to media PPP Leader Syed Khurshheed Shah said that when the last week of January was given then one of the 6 days of last week should have been given. This is constitutional matter where constitution is being violated. The responsibility of judiciary is there.

PPP Leader further said that it does not matter how many years the caretaker governments plan. We have become affiliated with a decease which can only be cured in a democratic and parliamentary system. If they don't hold elections then what will they do when senate is over?

All political parties to be provided level-playing field for elections: Solangi

KARACHI (APP): Caretaker Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi Friday reiterated the caretaker government's commitment for providing a level-playing field to all registered political parties during the general elections.

Addressing a news conference alongside Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori, the minister assured impartial treatment to any political group during the election campaign.

Solangi said the caretaker government's tenure was extended a little bit due to the approval of fresh census results by the Council of Common Interest.

He pointed to Article 51 (5) of the Constitution, stating that elections would be held in line with the recently approved census after delimitation of the constituencies.

The minister disclosed that the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) was actively engaged in the delimitation process and announced that preliminary results of the process would be announced on November 27, with the final results set for release on November 30.

In accordance with the Election Act, he said the ECP would have to give 54 days to political parties for their election campaign.

Solangi welcomed the announcement by the ECP that elections would take place in the first week of January, which ended propaganda against the caretaker government.

As regards the criticisms of Fawad Hassan Fawad, who served in the civil service for over 35 years, the minister highlighted that Fawad had worked with various governments.

He stressed that civil servants had no power over choosing their assignments, and that unfounded criticism of someone who had been unjustly imprisoned was unfair.

Solangi also clarified that Fawad Hassan Fawad had no political affiliations.

Responding to a query, the minister expressed his commitment to pursuing justice in the Jan Muhammad Mahar murder case, noting that he had personally raised the matter with the interim chief minister of Sindh.

Solangi said the caretaker government had nothing to do with Nawaz Sharif's matter.

Ali Hassan Zehri says ECP should have announced the final date of elections

Independent Report
HUB: Senior leader of Pakistan Peoples Party and president Hub district, Mir Ali Hassan Zehri has expressed his reaction to the Election Commission's decision to hold the upcoming elections in the last week of January, calling the announcement unconstitutional and undemocratic. He expressed his regret for not announcing the final date on behalf of the Election Commission and said that Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari had demanded the final date of the elections before and he still stands by this demand.

He said that The People's Party rejects any such unconstitutional action that may harm democracy. Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has also expressed his reservations on the Election Commission's announcement and the future action plan with the party's consultation on his return to Pakistan. He said that no one will be allowed to steal the mandate of the People's Party and the party workers of Pakistan People's Party are fully prepared for the elections. He further said that we have always demanded timely, transparent and fair elections. In our view, fair and impartial elections are the cause of political and economic stability in the country.

Mir Ali Hassan Zehri made it clear that if the elections are delayed or the action of 2018 election is repeated, then strong resistance will have to be faced due to which the country has to face an irreparable economic and political crisis. He demanded that the final date of the upcoming elections should be announced and the election commission officer of each district should be given the powers of the returning officer so that the transparency of the election is not questioned.