

Independent

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Vol. XIII No. 259 Reg. mails-B / ID-445 Tuesday September 05, 2023, Safar 18, 1445 A.H. Ph: 2158688, 2158997 Pages 4: Rs. 12

Government to come up with out-of-box solution on power sector for public relief: PM Kakar

Expresses hope that foreign investment projects worth \$25 billion each from Saudi Arabia and the Middle East would realize in a time span of two to five years

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Monday assured that his government was exploring realistic options to come up with out-of-box solutions to provide relief to electricity consumers.

The prime minister, in an interaction with foreign media representatives, said the government would make informed decisions to satisfy the masses on the issue of electricity bills without deviating from the country's commitments with the international financial institutions. Mentioning the issues of circular debt, power theft and taxes, the prime minister said the government would introduce short-term solutions to the issue without undermining the agitating people.

He assured that the

caretaker government was mandated to facilitate holding the general elections as early as possible while observing the constitutional obligations.

He said the Constitution called for carrying out the delimitation of constituencies following the population census.

Prime Minister Kakar said without redesigning the government structure, the interim setup was mainly focused on rearranging the fiscal and monetary policies to build an edifice for economic revival.

Calling the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) a strategy for economic revival, he said it focused on agriculture, mines and minerals, defence production and information technology. However, he also spelled

out the economic reform agenda of his government, saying that the imminent steps included the privatization of two or more power distribution companies.

He said the reforms needed in taxation and power sectors, and his government would leave behind a basis for mid-level reforms.

Kakar said the government was pursuing a policy of doing the doable and providing a strategic direction to economic planning.

To a question, he said all the registered political parties would be provided a level playing field to contest the general elections without any discrimination.

However, he said in certain instances, political behaviour turned into vandalism and the country's

PM orders immediate action against power thieves, defaulters

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Monday ordered immediate action against those involved in power theft in the country and asked relevant authorities to submit reports in this regard on the daily basis.

Chairing a meeting, the prime minister also directed to take swift action against electricity defaulters, saying there should not be any leniency towards electricity thieves and the defaulters.

During the meeting, the prime minister was briefed in detail about all sections of the energy sector.

The meeting was informed about the total installed capacity, actual generation and overall energy supply during various seasons.

The prime minister was also informed about the energy mix in power production.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister, Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar chairs a meeting regarding power sector in Islamabad

IMF rejects Pakistan's power relief plan

ISLAMABAD (INP): The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has turned down Pakistan government's proposal designed to provide relief to the impoverished for exorbitant electricity bills, sources in the Finance Department said Monday.

They said a consensus could not be achieved with the IMF over the relief plan.

In the proposal, the IMF was informed by the Pakistan government that relief provision would have an impact of less than Rs6.5 billion. The IMF, however, put the impact at about Rs15 billion, and dismissed the plan as a result.

The IMF has now reportedly sought a proposal on how Pakistan intends to

cover this fiscal gap of Rs.15 billion.

Once the new plan is shared with the global lender, the Finance Ministry and IMF authorities will head into talks again.

Pakistan has assured the IMF that providing relief for inflated power bills will not result in a budget deficit, sources added.

The IMF was requested to approve a plan seeking payment of electricity bills by consumers in installments over the course of four months.

The interim government devised a strategy to provide relief to power consumers on exorbitant electricity bills, with a reduction of Rs3000 for users consuming 300 units.

Reports suggest that

bills for power consumers using 300 units in September will be decreased by the aforementioned amount.

The government, a few days ago, shared a plan with the IMF seeking relief for the impoverished people in connection with electricity bills.

The government held out an assurance that none of the targets agreed upon by the previous government would be compromised.

Caretaker Minister for Finance Dr Shamshad Akhtar said a team comprising Pakistani authorities met with IMF officials while she was not part of the team, she reiterated Pakistan's commitment to honour the IMF programme.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Law and Justice, Ahmed Irfan Aslam called on President Dr. Arif Alvi at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

Iran, Pakistan have huge potential for cooperation in energy sector: Ali Reza

ISLAMABAD (INP): Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Pakistan Dr. Reza Amiri Moghaddam called on Caretaker Federal Minister for Power and Petroleum Muhammad Ali on Monday in Islamabad. Both sides discussed areas of mutual interest and promotion of brotherly relations between two countries.

The Energy minister welcomed the Iranian ambassador and expressed his resolve for further strengthening the ties. Ambassador extended his good wishes for the minister upon assuming new portfolio.

Muhammad Ali remarked that Iran and Pakistan have huge potential for cooperation in energy sector. "We are keen to explore all options and work together," reiterated the Energy minister. The increasing energy needs of Pakistan present an opportunity of cooperation with neighboring country Iran which is rich in energy reserves. The ambassador appreciated minister's interest in the regional cooperation and affirmed his full support. He presented his good office for any assistance needed by the Pakistani side.



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Pakistan H.E. Dr. Reza Amiri Moghaddam called on Caretaker Federal Minister for Power and Petroleum Muhammad Ali.

Finance Minister chairs ECNEC meeting

ISLAMABAD (Online): Caretaker Federal Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs and Privatisation Dr. Shamshad Akhtar chaired the meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC), today. Mr. Sami Saeed, Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Mr. Shahid Ashraf Tarar, Minister for Communications, Maritime Affairs & Railways, Mr. Muhammad Ali, Minister for Power & Petroleum, Mr. Ahmad Rasool Bangash Minister for Finance, Revenue, and Excise & Taxation KPK, Mr. Muhammad Younas Dhaga Minister for Finance, Revenue Sindh Government, Mr. Amjad Rasheed, Minister for Finance & Revenue Balochistan, Federal

Secretaries and other senior officers from Federal Ministries and Provincial departments participated in the meeting. The ECNEC considered and approved project of Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations & Coordination titled "Emergency Plan for Polio Eradication (3rd revised)" at a cost of USD 1784.93 million including grant from GPEI partners of USD 1197.93 million, Islamic Development Bank loan of USD 552 million and AFD loan of USD 35 million. The project will supply polio eradication vaccines all over Pakistan and will be executed by WHO and UNICEF. The ECNEC after discussion extended the duration of umbrella PC-1 of the project to three years.

Imran Khan, Qureshi's bail pleas unheard as cipher judge goes on leave

ISLAMABAD (INP): The PTI lawyers have reached the court of Judge Raja Jawad Abbas for the bail of PTI Chairman Imran Khan and Vice-Chairman Shah Mehmood Qureshi in the cipher case as the special court judge who conducts hearing of cases registered under the Official Secrets Act has gone on leave.

PTI lawyers Salman Safdar and Babar Awan appeared in Judge Abbas's court on Monday requesting him to conduct a hearing on the bail applications of Imran Khan and Shah Mehmood Qureshi as the special court judge went on week-long leave.

However, Judge Abbas told them that he could hear the anti-terrorism court cases as a duty judge, but he was not authorized to hear cases registered under the Official Secrets Act.

IHC bars authorities from arresting Imaan before informing court

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Monday ordered authorities to inform the court before arresting human rights lawyer Imaan Zainab Mazari-Hazir in any case.

Imaan and former lawmaker Ali Wazir were arrested earlier this month. A pair of first information reports (FIR) were registered against the two at Islamabad's Tarnol police station and Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) police station. The arrests were made two days after a public meeting, organised by the Pashtun Tahaffuz Movement (PTM). Wazir, a PTM member, and Imaan had both addressed the rally, with videos circulating on social media showing speakers criticising the military establishment over enforced disappearances.

On August 28, Imaan had received bail in the sedition case but was re-arrested within hours by the Islamabad police in connection with a freshly filed terror case.

President, PM, others express grief Three Pakistan Navy personnel martyred in Gwadar helicopter crash

ISLAMABAD (INP): Two Pakistan Navy officers and one soldier were martyred on Monday in a helicopter crash in Balochistan's Gwadar, a spokesperson for the navy said.

According to media reports, the spokesperson said that the helicopter crashed during a training flight in Gwadar. "The helicopter crashed during the flight due to a possible technical fault," the spokesperson said. "As a result of the accident, two officers and one jawan of the Pakistan Navy lost their lives," the spokesperson added.

The spokesperson added that an investigation had been launched into the incident.

President Dr Arif Alvi on Monday expressed deep sorrow over the loss of precious lives in a helicopter crash in Gwadar.

He condoled the martyrdom of Pak Navy officers and jawans in the helicopter crash, and prayed for elevation of ranks of their souls in paradise.

He also paid tributes to the services rendered by the martyrs for their motherland.

The president expressed sympathies with the bereaved families and prayed for grant of courage to them to bear this loss with equanimity.

Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Monday expressed deep grief and sorrow over the tragic incident of navy helicopter crash in Gwadar.

Condoling the martyrdom of three personnel of Pakistan Navy, the prime minister prayed to Allah Almighty to grant courage to the bereaved families to bear the loss with equanimity.

Quran to guide human mind until end of time: Aneeq

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony, Aneeq Ahmed on Monday said the Quran would continue to serve as the guiding light for the human mind throughout eternity. In a briefing held at the Ministry's Research and Reference Department, he made a significant announcement and also issued directives regarding the upcoming Seerat Conference.

During the briefing, the minister expressed the belief that Islam was a comprehensive and all-encompassing religion.

He stressed the importance of addressing contemporary issues and modern challenges while remaining firmly rooted in the teachings of Islam. He stated that their love for religion was unwavering, but to provide guidance to the world, they must harness the knowledge found within the Quranic sciences.

Furthermore, Minister Aneeq highlighted the need for greater Muslim involvement in the fields of modern science and ongoing research. He expressed concern that the Quranic perspective on cosmic control seems distant from the Muslim community in today's world.

Four sentenced to death in blasphemy case

RAWALPINDI (APP): The District and Sessions Court Rawalpindi on Monday sentenced four accused to death in a blasphemy case.

Additional District and Sessions Judge Ahsan Mehmood Malik pronounced the verdict after recording evidence from the witnesses and final arguments from both sides.

The convicts Faizan Razaq, Amin Rais, Muhammad Rizwan and Wazir Gul were found guilty of blasphemy under Section 295-C of the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC).

The court also gave seven years of rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs 100,000 to another accused Usman Liaqat under the Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act.



ISLAMABAD: Italian Ambassador to Pakistan, H.E. Andreas Ferrarese called on Dr. Gohar Ejaz, the Caretaker Federal Minister for Commerce and Industries and Production.

Pakistan-KSA joint exercise on counter terrorism concludes



RAWALPINDI (APP): The closing ceremony of Pakistan-KSA Joint Exercise in Counter Terrorism domain, AL BAITAR-I, was held at Cherat on Monday.

The two-week long exercise commenced on August 22 with the participation of Special Forces contingents from two brotherly countries, an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release said.

Ambassador of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) Nawaf Saeed Al Malki along with senior military leadership, witnessed the final day activities of the exercise.

Combat Aviation along with the Special Forces of both countries, displayed their professional excellence. The Exercise concluded with the Fly Past.

The exercise was aimed at further harnessing the historic military-to-military relations between both brotherly countries, including nurturing of joint employment concept against counter-terrorism and identifying areas of mutual interest for future military collaborations.

PPP responsible for exporting sugar: Ahsan

SIALKOT (INP): Former federal minister and senior leader of Muslim League-N Ahsan Iqbal claimed that Pakistan People's Party is responsible for exporting sugar.

Speaking on a private TV program, Iqbal has said that the Ministry of Commerce headed by Naveed Qamar, a leader of the PPP granted permission to export sugar. He said former government of the PDM was a coalition government so the PML-N could not carry the entire responsibility. The PML-N leader said that there is a need to break smuggling, cartelization and mafia in the country.

Sindhi for enhancing Pak-Turkiye cooperation in education, culture

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training, Madad Ali Sindhi Monday emphasized enhancing cooperation between Pakistan and Turkiye in the fields of culture and education. He was speaking during the event titled 'One Hundred Years of Magnitude: Pak-Turk Affinity,' organized by the National Institute for Historical and Cultural Research (NIHCR), Quaid-i-Azam University, and the Yunus Emre Institute, Turkish Cultural Center.

The minister stated that the fraternal relations between Pakistan and Turkiye were an unprecedented manifestation of brotherhood and love, which cannot be compared.

He said that the Muslims of the subcontinent actively participated in the Khilafat Movement and added that the new generation should be aware of their cultural identity.

"We are proud that our region is home to the great civilizations of the world. Thousands of years ago, when the world was plunged into darkness, the civilization of Mohenjo Daro and Harappa were the cradles of knowledge and wisdom" he said.

Caretaker Federal Minister for National Heritage and Culture, Jamal Shah while addressing the event said that a talented and creative mind was the hallmark of any nation. It is through the promotion of literature and art that nations come closer to each other and the intimacy between them increases.

The guest of honor, Ambassador of Turkiye, Prof. Dr. Mehmet Picaci said that Turkiye values and respects the evergreen relationship with Pakistan. In every field of life, both of them have supported each other wholeheartedly. He said, "We should increase cooperation in education, health, tourism, and other matters of mutual interest so that the effectiveness and recognition of this relationship may become deeper and stronger."

Punjab Governor says: Vast opportunities for Pakistani businessmen to export in ASEAN countries

Independent Report

LAHORE: Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman attended the Trade and Tourism Conference on ASEAN at Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry today as a special guest. He said that he warmly welcomes the honourable ambassadors of ASEAN countries present in the conference and expressed hope that this conference will play a significant role in the promotion of trade and tourism relations between Pakistan and ASEAN countries. He said that Pakistan has vast business opportunities for ASEAN countries in various sectors including tourism, agriculture, and export of halal products. He said that Pakistan has a unique position in the world in terms of its natural scenery, cultural heritage, and hospitality. He said that the landscapes of our

country have all the features, adding that investment and proper promotion can make Pakistan the centre of tourism. Punjab Governor emphasized that the expertise of ASEAN countries should be utilized for the development of Pakistan's tourism sector and with their support and guidance, better policies should be formulated to improve basic infrastructure and attract foreign tourists. He further said that new avenues of trade and economic cooperation can be explored within the ASEAN region. He said our presence here today reflects the importance we attach to fostering robust relationship and creating synergies that can pave the way for mutual growth and prosperity.

that the government has taken various measures to provide facilities to foreign investors. ASEAN member countries can benefit from these facilities, he added. He said that he warmly welcomes the honourable ambassadors of ASEAN countries present in the conference and expressed hope that this conference will play a significant role in the promotion of trade and tourism relations between Pakistan and ASEAN countries. He said that Pakistan has vast business opportunities for ASEAN countries in various sectors including tourism, agriculture, and export of halal products. He said that Pakistan has a unique position in the world in terms of its natural scenery, cultural heritage, and hospitality. He said that the landscapes of our

Addressing the conference, Punjab Governor Muhammad Balighur Rehman said that there are vast opportunities for Pakistani businessmen to export in ASEAN countries. Similarly, businessmen from ASEAN countries can invest in Pakistan in various sectors. He said



GILGIT: Chief Minister Gilgit-Baltistan Haji Gulbar Khan Addressing a press conference.

Principal's indecent viral video Minister directs to seal unregistered school

KARACHI (APP): Private Institutions on the directives of the provincial minister, has written a letter to Deputy Commissioner Malir to seal the building of an unregistered private school's principal, has directed to seal and take legal action against the incident in the school.

The district administration has been directed to take legal action on the incident in the unregistered school.

The private school is located in Gulshan e Hadeed area of the city. The Directorate of

Ghazanfar says: IRD launched at regional office of Federal Ombudsman

FAISALABAD (APP): Federal Ombudsman was making strenuous efforts to facilitate the masses and in this connection, the regional office had focused on Informal Resolution of Disputes (IRD) to pass on benefits to the grieved sectors of the economy, said Incharge Regional Secretariat of Federal Ombudsman Faisalabad Syed Ghazanfar Mehdi.

secretariat Faisalabad so that the people could be provided speedy and free justice. He said that regional office had so far received four complaints under IRD. The IRD had no need of fee payment to any pleader or bear the brunt of litigation or face long judicial procedure rather this program helped in resolving the dispute through an arbiter at preliminary stage, he added. He said that Federal Ombudsman had so far resolved more than 2275 disputes under IRD whereas 127 cases were under progress across the country.



SIALKOT: Deputy Commissioner Adnan Mahmood Awan is addressing the convention of District Numberdars titled "Ab Gaon Chamkein Gay".

Special measures being taken to improve cleanliness: Sec LG South

MULTAN (APP): Local Government South Punjab, Amin Owaisi, said that special measures were being taken to improve cleanliness of city of Saints. He expressed these views during visit to Multan Waste Management Company (MWM) office here on Monday.

company's affairs and capacity of the company will also increase. Amin Owaisi directed officials to place containers and dust bins at central places of the city in order to provide pleasant environment to citizens. Company was performing well despite limited resources. He also ordered to fix place for new landfill sites and transfer stations. Earlier, CEO Shahid Yaqub said that merit policy was implemented to improve the performance of the company.

Chief Executive Officer MWM Shahid Yaqub gave briefing on sanitation situation. New board of directors has been formed for the improvement of the



LAHORE: Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman addressing the Trade and Tourism Conference on ASEAN at Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Inspects development projects in city Naqvi directs acceleration of work on Nawaz Sharif interchange underpass project CM Punjab overflies Ring Road Southern Loop-III project for inspection

Independent Report

LAHORE: Punjab Caretaker Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi visited the Shahdara flyovers and the Nawaz Sharif Interchange Bedian Road underpass projects to assess the progress.

construction of protective walls and met with the project workers, urging them to continue their hard work diligently. He expressed satisfaction with the progress and instructed the creation of an alternative service road to facilitate traffic flow from Gujranwala. He emphasized the need to elevate the service road to improve traffic management and provided necessary directives to the Director General Lahore Development Authority (LDA) and the contractor to ensure timely

completion of both projects within the specified time frame. This project would permanently resolve traffic issues at entry and exit points of the provincial metropolis, he noted.

The Shahdara flyovers project is approximately 84 percent complete, while the Nawaz Sharif interchange Bedian Road underpass project has seen about 40 percent of its work finished.

During his visit to the Shahdara flyovers, Mohsin Naqvi closely examined the

Commissioner/ DG LDA Mohammad Ali Randhawa, chief engineer LDA and contractor briefed that work on the Shahdara flyovers projects continues round the clock to achieve timely completion, which will significantly improve daily traffic flow for 300,000 vehicles.

Situation in GB is completely peaceful

GILGIT (APP): The situation in Gilgit-Baltistan is completely peaceful. Business life is going on as normal in commercial centres and bazaars. According to a statement issued by the Information Department of Gilgit-Baltistan, thousands of tourists from home and abroad are coming to enjoy the natural environment of Gilgit-Baltistan.

misleading public opinion through fake news and propaganda. In any places in Gilgit-Baltistan, no shots were fired and no damage was done to private or government property during the peaceful protest against religious and communal response.

According to the statement, anti-national and evil elements are trying to give a negative colour to the peaceful protest by some religious parties in Gilgit-Baltistan on social media and are busy

According to the statement, the Gilgit-Baltistan government is implementing coordinated measures with the cooperation of all stakeholders for the development and development of the region, religious tolerance and co-existence.

Heavy quantity of 'Gutka' seized

FAISALABAD (APP): The Punjab Food Authority (PFA) seized a heavy quantity of 'Gutka' (betel quid) and imposed fine on shopkeepers over violation of the laws. A PFA spokesman said here on Monday that a team conducted checking of a grocery store and cold drinks corner near Novelty Bridge Dijkot Road and found 1,100 packets of prohibited 'Gutka' (Rattan and One2One). Both shopkeepers had stored the prohibited item at secret places of their shops. The PFA team imposed fine on the shopkeepers and warned that they would be sent behind bars.



KARACHI: Women supporters of Jamaat-e-Islami participate in a rally to mark International Hijab Day in Provincial Capital.

CM's aide says: Govt to utilize all resources for supplying clean drinking water

PESHAWAR (APP): Advisor to KP Caretaker Chief Minister on Public Health Engineering (PHE) and Communications & Works, Dr. Syed Sarfaraz Ali Shah Monday said all resources will be utilized for uninterrupted supply of clean drinking water to the people across the province. He expressed these views during a briefing regarding the Public Health Engineering Department here. Besides, Additional Secretary, Deputy Secretary, and Chief Engineers and Executive Engineers of the department were present on the occasion.

The advisor directed the up-gradation and activation of all completed schemes on an emergency basis besides modern training of staff including the timely release of funds and approval of new projects under public-private partnership and practical steps and initiating of practical steps for the achievement of the recovery of the water charges. He also directed for bringing further improvement in the monitoring system of the ongoing development projects and their completion within the stipulated time period.

Latest screening system installed at Lahore airport

LAHORE (APP): In an important development in connection with the start of flights from Pakistan to the UK and the European Union (EU) countries, a state-of-the-art screening system has been installed at Allama Iqbal International Airport.

Director Technical Waseem Marwat while giving a briefing said that there are 7991 water supply schemes in the settled districts of Khyber.

The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) sources told APP on Monday that the system has been installed with the cooperation of the UK government.



KARACHI: Pakistan Navy officials handing over the sized Narcotics to ANF officials.

KP CM, US CG discuss collaboration for regional development

PESHAWAR (APP): Caretaker Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Muhammad Azam Khan, held a meeting on Monday with the newly appointed US Consul General, Shante Moore, in Peshawar.

behind in development for decades. He also highlighted the special need to focus on building basic infrastructure in these war-torn regions and placed particular emphasis on road infrastructure development.

During the meeting, they discussed mutual interests and matters related to cooperation and collaboration between the provincial government and United States' development agencies in various sectors.

He further noted that improving the police infrastructure in the merged districts was essential to ensure peace and security. The promotion of girls' education was among the provincial government's top priorities, the chief minister said.

Muhammad Azam Khan stated that the KP provincial government viewed cooperation with the US government and agencies in different sectors as of great importance.

He expressed the willingness of the KP provincial government to welcome American cooperation in these sectors and provide any necessary assistance. Shante Moore assured that the US government would continue to work closely with the provincial government and the public to carry on the work of public welfare.

He emphasized that the US government would continue to strengthen cooperation with the province.

The chief minister stressed the need for increased cooperation with friendly nations and donor agencies in the tribal areas, which had lagged

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PESHAWAR: US Consul General Mr. Shante Moore meeting with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Haji Ghulam Ali at Governor House.

Minister performs ground breaking of 'Isolation Hospital' at Lahore airport

LAHORE (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination Dr Nadeem Jan said on Monday that integrated strategy had been formulated to protect people from diseases and epidemics.

Pakistan and this was for the first time that this kind of international conference was being arranged in Pakistan in which public health experts from all over the world would participate. He recalled that it was a matter of prestige that Pakistan would host such international conference.

He was addressing the ground-breaking ceremony of the 'Isolation Hospital' at Allama Iqbal International Airport, Lahore.

He was of the view that by organising such international conference in Pakistan, it would pave the way for improvement, modernisation and development in the health sector of the country.

The minister said that the government was determined to strengthen the border health services to deal with any sudden outbreaks as epidemics had no borders limits, adding that surveillance mechanism at international airports of the country were being improved to tackle the situation.

Meanwhile, a delegation of pharma exporters called on Health Minister Dr Nadeem Jan in Lahore and discussed various issues related to pharma sector. The meeting decided to create a comprehensive strategy to increase exports of pharma drugs as Pakistan's pharma sector had lot of potential.

Dr Nadeem Jan said that the government was ensuring implementation of international health recommendations.

The health minister emphasised the need for quality of medicines as per international standards in order to increase exports.



HYDERABAD: Civil society, different political and nationalist parties activists, advocates and people from different walks of life block bypass against kidnapping of Hindu businessmen and children in Kashmir.

KP CS orders IBO against smuggling of essential commodities

PESHAWAR: Chief Secretary Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Nadeem Aslam Chaudhary on Monday directed intelligence-based operations against smuggling and hoarding of essential commodities.

He appraised that sufficient stock of sugar was available in the province, which would last until the start of the sugar crushing season in mid-November, provided that smuggling and hoarding of the commodity was controlled. To stop currency smuggling, scanning and full body searches at airports and border points are standard procedures. It was further informed that 21 provincial joint check posts had been established in border districts, manned by officials of the agriculture and food department, the police, and the district administration. The Chief Secretary stressed upon the authorities to work in close coordination to tackle the sugar crisis.

He gave the instruction while presiding over a meeting of the provincial task force on anti-smuggling and hoarding of essential commodities and other items. The Chief Secretary said that, constituted on the direction of the Prime Minister, the task force would ensure that smuggling and hoarding of essential commodities are halted and strict action is taken against violators as per law. The forum was

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Bordering areas Dr Jamal directs twin cities administration to expedite anti-dengue surveillance

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Provincial Minister for Primary and Secondary Health Dr Jamal Nasir on Monday directed the officials of Rawalpindi/Islamabad administration to conduct anti-dengue activities on bordering areas of twin cities through joint operations three to four days a week. Presiding over a meeting to review anti-dengue arrangements along with Commissioner Rawalpindi/Laiqat Ali Chatta, he said that anti-dengue activities must not be compromised due to Anti-Polio campaign started today.

Dr Jamal said that Rawalpindi's graveyards had been outsourced, adding Director General Rawalpindi Development Authority would not disburse payment to the contractor till the third party validation of the work done on the graveyard and Nullah Lai.

Commissioner Rawalpindi on the occasion said that 19 private hospitals had been mandated to establish dengue wards to deal with the increasing number of patients.

He directed the officials of Health Care Commission to visit the private hospitals and ensure setting up of dengue wards.

Laiqat further directed the officials to expedite anti-dengue surveillance and ensure strict compliance to anti-dengue SOPs.

Station Commander Rawalpindi Cantonment Board, Brigadier Salman while taking part in the meeting directed the officials to ensure the cleanli-



ISLAMABAD: MQM leaders Mustafa Kamal and Anis Qaimkhani called on Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar.

Pakistan's Coastal NCB urges attention to depleting marine resources

ISLAMABAD (APP): The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN-Pakistan) Monday organised the 22nd meeting of the National Coordinating Body (NCB) of the coast to discuss issues and depleting coastal resources, especially in the wake of climatic impacts, calling for the need to create more marine protected areas in Pakistan.

The NCB meeting was a key feature of one of IUCN's long-running Mangroves for the Future Programme that ended in 2018, and has thereafter been supported by IUCN in partnership with organizations such as Engro Foundation, Monaco Foundation and other funding sources, a news release said.

Distinguished experts in the meeting included representatives from the government line departments, coastal agencies, Pakistan Navy, as well as from civil society organizations and academia. Stakeholders emphasized the urgent necessity of designating marine and coastal areas as Protected Areas. "Presently, less than 1% of the coast enjoys protection, and Pakistan, as a dedicated CBD

IHC instructs FIA to arrest policemen involved in illegal arrest of citizens

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Monday instructed the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) to arrest the personnel of Capital Police named in a case pertaining to illegally detaining the citizens in police stations for ransom.

Justice Babar Sattar, who heard the case, was informed by a FIA official that the police personnel were not cooperating for the investigation.

The court asked that whether the arrest warrants of the accused personnel had been issued. The accused must be arrested if they were not joining the investigation process as law was equal for everyone, it added.

Advocate Tahir Kazim, counsel for the Inspector General of Police Islamabad, informed the court that the IGP had suspended four police personnel, including an assistant sub-inspector, who were involved in the raid, and proceedings against them were underway at three forums.

The court, however, noted that the senior officials involved in the matter were not suspended.

The contempt of court proceedings, lodging of an first information report and departmental action could be initiated at the same time, it added.

The court questioned whether the comments had been submitted against the show-cause notice, observing it would hear this matter on next hearing if the answer was not found satisfactory.

The case was then adjourned.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister Jamal Shah chairing 59th meeting of Governing Body of Iqbal Academy Pakistan at National Heritage and Culture Division.

Underprivileged class Zong 4G & Sehat Kahani to offer complimentary medical consultations

ISLAMABAD (APP): Zong 4G, the leading telecom company in Pakistan, and Sehat Kahani, a pioneering digital healthcare platform, have extended their partnership to provide free medical consultations on the Sehat Kahani app to underprivileged people.

The exclusive partnership aims to combine the strength of technology and telecommunications to provide free medical consultations, fostering improved healthcare access across Pakistan, said a news release. Users of the Sehat Kahani retail app and Zong 4G subscribers can avail the free consultations using the promo code 'ZONGSEHAT'. "This is a testament to both organizations' shared commitment to prioritize the health and well-being of Pakistan's citizens."

"Our partnership with Sehat Kahani is a tes-

MQM leaders call on Anwaar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM) leaders Mustafa Kamal and Anis Qaimkhani called on Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Monday and discussed matters relating to mutual interests.

During the meeting, both leaders discussed the problems of Karachi with the prime minister and thanked him for taking steps to resolve those issues, a press release issued by the PM Office Media Wing said.

They said Kashmiri leaders have been illegally arrested and imprisoned for demanding their rights and urged the international community to take notice of the plight of Kashmiri leaders and help in their immediate release. The Hurriyat leaders said the Indian troops have been committing atrocities on the innocent people in occupied Jammu and Kashmir for the past seven decades. It should be raised in the Security Council and the human tragedy happening in occupied Jammu and Kashmir should be stopped, they added.

Concern expressed over Kashmiri detainees' plight in jails

ISLAMABAD (APP): All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC) leaders Khawaja Firdous, Syed Bashir Andrabi and Muhammad Shafi Lone have expressed concern over the plight of illegally detained Hurriyat leader languishing in different jails of India and the territory.

According to Kashmir Media Service, the APHC leaders in a joint statement issued in Srinagar lamented that the Modi's government is using illegal and crude tactics to prevent Kashmiri Hurriyat leaders from the freedom movement.

IHC stops arrest of Imaan Mazari

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Islamabad High Court (IHC) Monday conditioned arrest of Advocate Imaan Mazari with informing the court in any other case.

Justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb heard the case seeking provision of cases detains against Advocate Imaan Mazari.

Additional Attorney General Munwar Dogal said that the details had been sought from the provincial governments on the direction of this court.

He said that the accused should avoid the statement against the state.

AC launch crackdown on price hiking, encroachment, and professional beggars

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Assistant Commissioners of Islamabad have launched a crackdown against price gouging, encroachment, professional beggars and other societal issues in their respective areas.

In a series of operations, they have fined shopkeepers for overcharging, sealed two shops, arrested one person and eight professional beggars, and taken action against illegal clinics and shisha cafes. The ICT spokesman Abdullah Tabasum said on Monday. The crackdown was

OPF establishes OWFDs at all Intl airports of country

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Overseas Pakistanis Foundation (OPF) has established One Window Facilitation Desks (OWFDs) at all International Airports of the country to facilitate Overseas Pakistanis on their arrival from various countries. An official source told APP here on Monday, that OWFDs are located at each terminal (International arrival/departure) for the assistance of Overseas Pakistani passengers round the clock. To a question, he said that courteous and trained officials were deputed at OWFDs to ensure the provision of high-quality facilitation and assistance to overseas Pakistanis. The existing infrastructure at OWFDs has been upgraded by the previous regime to address the problems of expatriates.

Besides additional facilities, the service delivery at facilitation counters at various airports has also been improved with added staff/services. He said that necessary assistance to the overseas Pakistanis has been ensured at the time of arrival and departure. Coordination among various agencies/departments functioning is also ensured at the airport for smooth arrival and departure.



ISLAMABAD: A view of the accidental cars at Srinagar Highway in Federal Capital.

Gulzar thanks Pakistan for observing Gilani's martyrdom anniversary

ISLAMABAD (APP): All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC) senior vice Chairman Ghulam Ahmed Gulzar has said the way Kashmiris observed Syed Ali Gillani's 2nd martyrdom anniversary and paid rich tributes to pioneer of freedom movement time and again proved that he will remain always alive in the hearts and minds of Kashmiri and Pakistani people. Ghulam Ahmed Gulzar in a statement in Srinagar said, "It also demonstrates the love which great leader command because of his sincerely, steadfastness and bravery. Mission of this legendary leader will be accomplished at any cost." While thanking Kashmiris and Pakistanis all over the world for observing the 2nd martyrdom anniversary with solemn commitment, enthusiasm and great passion he said that Gilani will be regarded as protagonist of freedom movement who has championed the cause of Kashmir in every nook and corner with his blood.

He saluted the people of IIOJK, Azad Kashmir, Pakistan and Kashmiri and Pakistani diaspora for arranging different programs on large scale for highlighting the services of veteran leader and exposing Indian hypocrisy.

Sanjrani expresses sorrow over tragic crash of helicopter in Gwadar

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Chairman Senate Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani on Monday expressed deep sorrow on the sad incident of Naval Helicopter crash in Gwadar, which resulted in loss of precious lives.

The chairman Senate in a condolence message extended his heartfelt sympathies to the families of the martyrs and offered prayers that Allah Almighty to elevate the ranks of those who lost their lives in the crash and grants patience to their loved ones.

Sanjrani saluted the courageous sons who laid down their lives while performing their duties.

Police get three days physical remand of Ali Wazir

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Anti-Terrorism Court (ATC) of Islamabad on Monday granted three-day physical remand of former Member of the National Assembly Ali Wazir to police in a case of alleged financing to terrorists.

ATC Judge Raja Jawad Abbas heard the case wherein Ali Wazir was produced before the court.

The prosecution prayed to the court to grant physical remand of Ali Wazir for investigation into the charges against him. He also read out the contents of the first information report (FIR) registered against him.



ISLAMABAD: Women activists from Jamaat-e-Islami take part in a pro-hijab rally on the eve of "International Hijab Day" outside National Press Club in Federal Capital.

Int'l workshop on "Advances in Nuclear Medicine & its Applications" from Sept 19

ISLAMABAD (APP): OIC Ministerial Sanding Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation (COMSTECH) in collaboration with Pakistan Nuclear Society (PNS) and Pakistan Society of Nuclear Medicine (PSNM) has planned to arrange an International Workshop on "Advances in Nuclear Medicine and its Applications" from September 19-20. According to the COMSTECH, the international and local experts of nuclear medicine and its applications will present lectures during the workshop while local faculty and researchers will share their research findings as contributed talks.

The theme of the workshop would be on the changing horizons of Nuclear Medicine, incorporating the translation of basic laboratory research to clinical practice, establishment of clinical and technical standards, and the translation of molecular biological advances in diagnostic and therapeutic nuclear medicine.

Nuclear technology has transformed health sector by advancements in diagnostic and therapeutic modalities for non-communicable pathologies.

Hybrid imaging, especially PET-CT has altogether changed the diagnostic horizon, especially in the management of cancer patients. However, not only Pakistan but most of the OIC countries are still lagging behind in hybrid imaging facilities, especially PET-CT imaging. The indispensable role of PET-CT and hybrid imaging needs to be highlighted for the benefit of various stakeholders and patients. Furthermore, the emergent role of theranostics and advanced radionuclide therapies using alpha and beta emitters has given new insights in cancer treatment paradigms. These rapid advancements in the field of nuclear medicine warrant continual education of referring physicians, oncologists, nuclear physicists, medical physicists and technologists from OIC.

3 killed in a collision between two cars in Gujrat

ISLAMABAD (APP): At least three people including a woman were killed and three others were injured in a collision between two cars near Gujrat Saroki Bridge. According to details, rescue sources said the collision occurred due to over-speeding, a private news channel reported. Police and other rescue workers immediately reached the accident site and recovered the bodies. The accident was so severe that three people died before receiving medical treatment.



ISLAMABAD: End TB Celebrity Ambassador Sania Saeed and Sarmad Khoosat addressing a press conference about Mobilizing Leadership for the UN High Level Meeting on TB.

16 months' performance of Interior Ministry

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan's governance trajectory observed a major shift in the midst of constitutional, political and economic chaos in last five years but yet achieved county's name cleared from Financial Action Task Force (FATF) grey list in October 2022, through effective diplomacy and hard work.

The ministry of interior during 16 months coalition government of Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) also executed many tasks which bore fruit for the country, the exclusive document available with APP disclosed.

The ministry established Foreign Nationals Security Cells (FNSC) with nationwide reach extending down to district levels, Eight Anti Money Laundering (AML) and Counter Financing for Terrorism (CFT) Police stations and ten Counter Terrorism Wing (CTW) Police stations for inquiry, investigation and prosecution of cases.

The ministry also established 4 foreign link offices at Dubai, Spain, UK and Turkey to facilitate immigration process for Pakistani and other nationals and Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, Rwanda, Belarus and Slovakia were added in Business visa list. Ministry's wing National Database Registration Authority (NADRA) issued 49,623 CNICs for disabled persons and 133 CNICs for Transgender during this time period beside 28 new NADRA Registration Centers were made operational. Immigration and Pass-

port office of the ministry started issuing E-Passport initially for official and diplomatic categories and 1064 E-Passports were issued.

The ministry also allowed Chinese nationals to change their visa categories from business to work and vice versa until the end of 2022. For planning and development of the capital city, the ministry started Blue Line, Green Line and Orange Line Metro Bus Services for commuters while procuring Electric Buses for Metro Bus Service.

For smooth flow of traffic, the ministry also completed a project of Traffic management Solution at Rawal Dam Chowk in a record time period while the construction of Flyover on 7 Avenue was also completed.



ISLAMABAD: Senator Professor Sajid Mir, Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit-Baltistan presiding over a meeting of the committee at Parliament House.