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Terminates NAB amendments

SC orders restoration of corruption cases against public office holders

Former president, former PMs, over 450 MPs, bureaucrats now to face NAB once again

ISLAMABAD (Online): Supreme Court (SC) has annulled amendment to NAB laws declaring several of its clauses in conflict with law and constitution.

of the bench, Justice Mansoor Ali Shah, writing a note of dissent.

10 clauses of the NAB amendments null and void.

Following annulment of opened now. NAB amendment by SC corruption cases abolished against several politicians under amended law stand Gillani, speaker Punjab Asrestored. Toshakhana reference has been restored against Asif Ali Zardari, Nawaz Sharif and Yousuf

LNG reference against former Prime Minister (PM) Shahid Khaqan Abbasi was shifted from Accountability Court (AC). Rental power reference against speaker National Assembly Raja Pervez Ashraf was returned which has now been restored. The cases against former PM Shehbaz Sharif, former PM Shaukat Aziz

Ishaq Dar have been re- ences, investigations, in-

Alamgir, Asma Arbab Alamgir

and Sher Azam Wazir. In the perspective of this decision over 450 former parliamentarians, serving and retired officers and some private business men have come on the ra-

Fawad takes oath

as Caretaker

Federal Minister

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Friday administered oath of

Caretaker Federal Minister

tered him the oath at a cer-

emony here at Aiwan-e-

Torkham border

opened for traffic

and cargo vehicles

after 9 days

Torkham border has been

reopened after 9 days with

Afghanistan assurance that

its territory will not be used

According to sources, 2

rehicles have entered to

Pakistan from Afghanistan.

Traffic has also started

The opening of gates on both sides of Torkham bor-

der has caused a wave of

happiness among people.

that Afghan Foreign Min-

ister Maulvi Amir Khan

Muttaqi has requested to

open the border by assur-

ing that Afghan territory

vould not be used against

Pakistan in a meeting with

Pakistani authorities. In the

backdrop of this assurance

Pakistan considered re-

Security forces

kill three

terrorists

QUETTA (Online): On 14

September 2023, at 1830

hours, terrorists attacked a

post of security forces near

3x terrorists were sent to

hell. Subedar Qaiser

Raheem while fighting val-

iantly embraced shahadat

in the line of duty whereas

1x soldier is seriously in-

jured. Security Forces of

Pakistan will continue to

thwart efforts of the en-

During fire exchange,

Wali Tangi Quetta.

opening the border.

It is pertinent to say

(Online)

KHYBER

against Pakistan.

The president adminis-

to Fawad Hasan Fawad.

resident Dr Arif Alvi on

been reopened in the light

tion cases of Rs 7000 billion, investigation and in-This is to mention that

former president Gen Pervez Musharraf NRO and reopened 8000 corruption

decision has declared Chair-

SC said that the petition is maintainable under article 25,9,14,19, 24 of the constitution. The cases of all public office holders are

SC held 53 hearing on Chairman PTI pe-

A 3-member bench of SC presided over by CJP Umar Ata Bandial had reserved judgment on September 5. CJP Umar Ata Bandial

had said that he would announce the decision of this important case before his

The other two judges of the bench are Justice Ijaz



Says he will not support any unconstitutional step; Zero tolerance for those involved in the smuggling

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwarul Haq Kakar addressing a

Press conference after a meeting. Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan

I don't believe in small or big

Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki is also present

ISLAMABAD (Online): using electricity upto 200 vincial chiefministers, chief Care taker Prime Minister (PM) Anwar ul Haq Kakar has said he does not believe in small or big fish but he believes in the fish of law. "Operation against hoarders and smugglers will continue indiscriminately. No pressure in this regard will be accepted. I am not a Mughal emperor that I will issue a decree of monarch that catch him and leave the other. Whatever is done will be done as per law. Why should we do an illegal work by announcing the date of election. This is mandate of Election Commission (EC). Relief will be

units soon. The installments of the electricity bills will be allowed. Price control committees are being reactivated to rein in infla-

We are reviewing Supreme Court (SC) decision on annulment of NAB amendment. Care taker government will take its decision following the arrival of opinion of ministry of law, he said this while addressing a press conference in PM House Friday.

PM held he has re-

Chairman

secretaries, IGs and other senior authorities have participated in it.

He stated we are working within our prescribed mandate. May be it PIA or any other institution what is our mandate with regard to its privatization is very

We will do nothing if it does not fall in regulation. But all steps will be taken to remove the flaws.

He pointed out that operation is continuing against the power pilferers, viewed the operation hoarders, dollar mafia, against the hoarders, smug-sugar mafia and fertilizer glers, power pilferers dur- mafia all over the country ing the last one week. Pro- and it will continue.



ISLAMABAD: President Dr. Arif Alvi administering the oath of office to Mr. Fawad Hasan Fawad as Caretaker Federal Minister, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

Economy showing signs of recovery: Finance Minister

ISLAMABAD (INP): Caretaker Federal Minister for Finance Dr Shamshad Akhtar said on Friday the country's economy was showing signs of recovery owing to the efforts made

by the interim government. 'If you view the macroeconomic indicators, you may find some betterment. There are some signs of economic recovery. Even if

Dr Akhtar, who also holds the portfolio for Revenue, Economic Affairs and Privatisation, stated, The caretaker setup inherited several challenges and tried to deal with them one by one. Our strategy was to prudently manage these challenges, and make efforts to control the expenditures and enhance the



friends: CJP Umar Ata

ister said while addressing a press conference here.

While deliberating upon the indicators showing positive development, the finance minister said the Consumer Price Index (CPI) had shortly declined from over 38 per cent in May to 27.2 per cent now (in September), adding that this was an important in-Good to see you all my

ISLAMABAD (Online):

"Good to see you all my

friends". This was said by

Chief Justice of Pakistan

(CJP) Umar Ata Bandial

while talking to the law-

yers in his last case in Su-

Bilal said to the CJP When

you heard your first case

in high court then it was I

who appeared before you.

Today there is last case of

vours in SC and I am ap-

pearing before you here

counsel your case has be-

come in-fructuous. But if

you give arguments then

'dil ko khush rakhne ka

laye Ghalib ye khial acha

Bilal said you heard us

with patience always.

The lawyer Mian

The CJP Umar Ata

Bandial remarked it is our on falsehood.

The CJP said to the

The lawyer Mian

preme Court (SC).

had come out of some difficulties, and the situation would improve further as we move forward'

According to the minister, the production sectors witnessed betterment, including the agriculture, which is expected to yield good output in both minor and major crops that will have a positive impact on dicator to show better- the economic growth prospectus of the country.

obligation to hear every one

with patience. Bar has al-

ways extended cooperation

to us and we have got much

by wearing black coat we

consider ourselves part of

bar, Justice Sahir Ali used

to say bar is our mother.

We will meet in bar room

thankful to media friends

who kept me active. We

welcome media criti-

the decisions but it should

judges cannot defend them

in response to media criti-

cism. Before criticizing

judge, it should be seen ei-

ther it is based on truth or

speculations. Criticism on

judges should not be based

not criticize the judges.

He remarked I am

Media must criticize

He observed the

He further remarked

from Bar to learn.

by grace of Allah.

Top court's ruling on NAB amendments

Movement (PDM)-led

government. development, former inte-Sanaullah said that he hasn't read the SC's written verdict yet.

The Supreme Court's controversial bench gave a controversial

The major Supreme Court is about to retire has caused the most harm to the institution of judi-

> Sanaullah said that Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz leaders have faced the inquires in their respective cases.

> registered against the PTI chairman. He should face the inquiries and have a taste of it. Let's see how he [Imran Khan] gets

The politician said that he was of the view that the "unkind" law of NAB should not be abolished because PML-N leaders have borne the brunt of it.

chief may celebrate the old NAB law," he said, adding that the deposed prime minister would have mands and won't even get bail in the cases he is fac-ing. He said that the PTI would not be able to say that they are being "po-

ECP throws out petition against registration of Tareen's party

The Election Commission of Pakistan has dismissed the petition filed by the Istehkam-i-Pakistan Tehreek (IPT) against the registration of Jehangir Khan Tareen's Istehkam-i-Pakistan Party (IPP) on

The IPT has decided to challenge the ECP's de-

Istehkam-i-Pakistan Tehreek's leader Ahmad Kaleem had filed an appli cation in the Election Commission complaining that the two political par ties have similar names and it would create confusion, beseeching the commission

The Election Com istration of the Istehkam-i with the constitution and

ISLAMABAD (INP) Friday.

cision in the superior

to not register the IPP.

mission had reserved its verdict after hearing arguments. According to the verdict, the process of reg-Pakistan Party should be carried out in accordance

Bhutto-Zardari on Friday doubled down on the demand for the immediate tially just a few months announcement of a date away, PPP Chairman and schedule for the general elections, stressing has been engaging in pubthat only polls could lic gatherings and take the country out of organising party meetings

PPP doubles down on

demand for immediate

announcement of poll date

LAHORE (INP): PPP constituencies after every

Concerns on the poll timing have arisen from

the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) ruling out elections this year. The electoral watchdog reasons its decision to push elections beyond 2023 census and Section commission shall delimit country.

Bilawal census is officially published. With elections poten-

Bilawal Bhutto Zardari economic and political as part of the party's electoral preparations of late. One such highly-anticipated meeting of the PPP's Central Executive Committee was held to-

Speaking to the media after the meeting, Bilawal said the announcement of November 9 on the basis an election date and of the notification of re-schedule was the only sults of the new digital way to dispel the "confusion and atmosphere of 17(2) of the Elections instability and insecu-Act, which states: "The rity" prevalent in the



ISLAMABAD: Interim Minister for Energy Mr. Muhammad Ali held a meeting with a team representing Asian Development Bank at Power Division. The bilateral cooperation, energy efficiency and resource management for reforms in the power sector were discussed.

Gwadar Port fully operational: Chinese Charge d'Affairs

Independent Report

ISLAMABAD: Charge d'Affaires of the Chinese Embassy in Pakistan, Ms. Pang Ćhunxue, has stated that the progress of the Gwadar Port is satis factory and that it is now fully operational. She made the remarks during Achakzai welcomed the a meeting with caretaker news of the port's full Information and Public operationalization and ex-Relations Minister of Balochistan, Jan Achakzai on Friday.

Ms. Pang said that the port is nearing full capacity, with work on the free zone in its initial

She added that the vocational training center has

been handed over to the local community, and that the airport is scheduled to be ready by May 2024.

The Gwadar hospital is set to be completed by the end of 2023, while the desalination plant is expected to be finished this year, she added. Mr. pressed his gratitude to the Chinese government for its support. He said that the Gwadar Port will play a major role in the economic development Balochistan and Pakistan, and that it will help to boost trade and investment

in the region.

Communication and Railways Shahid Ashraf Tarar during meeting of Cabinet Sub-Committee on ECL



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Interior Sarfraz Ahmad Bugti and Federal Minister for

A three-member bench of the apex court, headed by Chief Justice Umar Ata Bandial, announced the reserved verdict on PTI chief's petition challenging the amendments to the law. It was the last day of CJP Bandial in office as he is retiring today. The bench announced the verdict by 2-1 majority with third member

SC has declared nine of

Raza Gillani.

and former finance minister

The beneficiaries of NAB amendment are of this decision. Farzana Raja, Yousuf Raza sembly Sabtain Khan, Anwar Majid, close aide to Asif Ali Zardari, son of Anwar Majid, former PM Shaukat Aziz, Zafar Gondal, Sadiq Imrani, Nawab Aslam Raesani, Lashkari Raesani, Asfand Yar Kakar, Arbab

Almost 1800 refer-

Cases of 7 former Prime ministers, 14 chief ministers, 78 ministers, 176 MP

and 114 officers have been reopened due to this deci-SC has ordered to reopen thousands of corrup-

SC like this had abolished

The SC in its Friday

man PTI petition maintain- Mansoor Ali Shah. Govt hikes petrol price

by Rs26, HSD by Rs17 Monitoring Desk

ISLAMABAD: The caretaker government on Friday night pushed through another hike in the prices of petrol by Rs26.02 per litre and high-speed diesel (HSD) by Rs17.34 per litre. The increase brings the price of petrol to Rs331.38 per litre while HSD is Rs329.18 per litre, the Ministry of Finances aid in a post on Y (formerly Twitter) Ministry of Finance said in a post on X (formerly Twitter)

after midnight.

It added that the decision was taken owing to the increasing trend of petroleum prices in the international market. No revision was specified in the rates of kero-

sene or light diesel oil. The price increase comes on the heels of an already massive hike on Sept 1, when the interim government raised fuel prices by up to Rs18 per litre. That jump in petroleum prices had come after similar hikes by the interim government on Aug 15.

The price hike is based on existing tax rates and import parity prices, mainly because of currency fluctuation



LAHORE: PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari talking to media persons

after Central Executive Committee meeting. draws mixed reactions

verdict on Friday on the amendments made to the National Accountability Bureau's (NAB) laws created a stir in political circles as it restored the corruption cases against political bigwigs. A threemember bench — headed by outgoing Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Umar Ata Bandial, and comprising Justice Mansoor Ali Shah and Justice Ijazul Ahsan — in a majority 2-1 verdict approved Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan's petition challenging the passage of NAB amendments by the previous Pakistan Democratic

While reacting to the minister Rana

ISLAMABAD (INP): that the chief justice who

'Nearly 13 cases are

scores of bails," he added.

'Now the PTI and its to undergo 90 days re-

Daily soice of Masse. Independent

Saturday September 16, 2023

Monetary policy

Defying market expectations of a 100-300 bps hike in the interest rates, the State Bank has again left its key policy rate unchanged at 22pc.

In support of its decision, the bank cites a declining trend in inflation from its peak of 38pc in May to 27.4pc last month, despite the recent surge in global oil prices that are being passed on to consumers.

Therefore, it maintains that the "real interest rates continue to remain in positive territory on a forward-looking basis". The bank is also hopeful that "expected ease in supply constraints owing to improved agriculture output" and the pickup in high-frequency indicators like the sale of petroleum products, cement and fertilisers, as well as recent administrative actions against speculative activity in the forex and commodity markets will support the outlook.

The SBP dispels concerns over the recent resurgence of the current account deficit of over \$800m in July, after posting a surplus for the previous four months, saying it is largely in line with the earlier full-year projection that took into account import growth. It underscores continued monitoring of the risks to the inflation outlook, and taking appropriate actions to achieve the objective of price stability if required.

At the same time, it urges the government to maintain a prudent fiscal stance to keep aggregate demand in check, "to bring inflation down on a sustainable basis and to attain the majority as they get down medium-term target of 5-7pc by end of fiscal 2025". Why is the rate to remain unchanged after it was increased in June to meet a key goal for securing IMF funds?

Any other central bank would have raised the interest rates in view of the consistently elevated inflation, continuous exchange rate depreciation, and falling forex reserves over huge debt payments and weakening capital inflows. But the bank's reluctance is understandable. Previous hikes in rates to a multi-decade high of 22pc haven't helped increase savings, or check consumer spending and inflation. The Muhammed Abduh, during price rise is faster than rate hikes; the national savings rate is falling; and the government continues to accumulate debt sess innumerable mosques and madressahs, all supto meet its inelastic expenditure. Monetary policy as an instrument to check the price hike has lost its effectiveness in the current economic structure and existing political uncertainty.

For the last several years, headline prices in Pakistan are being influenced primarily by cost-pushed administered adjustments of domestic fuel and power prices, with the demand pull coming from the government that remains the largest bank borrower.

Expecting a tighter monetary lies, greed, financial corruppolicy to tame soaring prices is useless without a drastic change in the reckless fiscal behaviour of the government.

Only fiscally responsible behaviour by the rulers can make it easier for the SBP to effectively apply monetary policy tools and check other inflation-producing factors for price stability.

How does this make sense?



Faisal Bari

Why do we put so much academic pressure on our children? Why can we not lighten up a bit? We have too many academic subjects that we teach our children right from grade one, and for each subject we have too many learning objectives in our curriculum for each

Too much pressure does not make for happy studying or for happy schooling. Children are always under pressure. Teachers and school systems resort to excessive testing and examinations to keep the pressure on and to make students 'learn'.

Children are always either preparing for or taking tests and examinations: pre-pre-mocks, pre-mocks, mocks, exams, weekly tests, monthly tests, term

tests, and finals. The result added, instead, are art, muis a rather poor schooling system where there is just too much academic pressure and students employ rote learning and do not care about understanding the material or enjoying the experience of learning. So we are doing right now. end up defeating the purpose of education and do not even get good learning

out of it. You must have seen the heavy bags children lug around. They often weigh more than 10 kilograms. How does this make sense? How can students take so much and do justice to all

Why do we have to teach more than English, Urdu and mathematics in the first two to three grades? This is what children need in the initial years. They need to learn numeracy and literacy: to read, speak, listen, and write. We should focus on that. ASER and other surveys and tests tell us that we are doing a poor job of imparting literacy and numeracy

on that rather than adding other subjects like religious studies, general knowledge and so on? What should be

Should we not focus

sic, play and other social/ interactive activities. These will result in a much better and more wholesome development of our children and their mental and physical faculties than by what we

And even in English, Urdu and mathematics, we should go slowly. How do children learn languages? They learn by listening (usually to parents in the initial years), speaking, reading and then writing. Our schooling system privileges writing far too much and far too early in the day. The first two to three grades should be far more oral than written than what they are currently.

And we do not need the other subjects this early. We can use English and Urdu to tell stories and give values if needed. We can also use art, music and singing to open up new opportunities for our children. Children should love their school and their education. They should not be afraid of the material, teachers or the pressure they are put under

As children move up to higher grades we can in-

this still needs to be a selective process and what we teach in each subject should also be curated carefully. This tendency of just adding things because 'children should know all this' does not make for good educa-

It does not matter whether it is 21st-century skills or computer science or even the translation of religious texts. If we need to add something, some-thing else needs to be taken out and there has to be good reasons for addition and deletion, it should not be on the whim of a school or a curriculum council or even a prime minister. Sadly, every revision of the curriculum adds more subjects and more material.

A website of a schooling system in Pakistan mentions that for Grade 6 it teaches eight subjects: English, Urdu, mathematics, science, history, geography, computer science and religious translation. This seems to be quite a lot. There is no mention of arts, music or anything else. And there is no mention of extracurricular activities either. What do we want our grade 6 troduce other subjects, but children to become?

The details of books within each subject mention five books for English, three books for Urdu, two for science and then one book for each of the other five subjects. This is just too much. No wonder student bags are so heavy and students prefer rote learning to understanding. Do students really need this and three major subjects). much? A number of educa-

tion experts have written on this issue of too much and too fast, creating problems with learning and understanding. Teaching is not the same thing as learning or understanding. Teachers often complain that they cannot slow down teaching, help those who take a bit longer to learn, spend more time on topics that need repetition, etc, as they have a syllabus to cover and have lesson plans to stay abreast of. But this is exactly the issue. Is completion of the course and syllabus more important or student learning and understanding? The answer should be obvious. But it is, sadly, not. Finishing the curriculum takes precedence over learning in almost all schools and at all levels.

Universities admit students with three A-levels all over the world but we require students in Pakistan to also sit for examinations in Urdu, Islamiat and Pakistan Studies. In intermediate, we require students to complete seven subjects (English, Urdu,

The same challenge of heavy content confronts us here too. There have been, numerous times, suggestions to add Quran and Secrat studies as additional compulsory subjects. Can these subjects not be taught as part of Islamiat?

It must be kept in mind that the growing burden of subjects on our young people can hamper their development.

The situation reminds me of the Pink Floyd song:

'We don't need no education/ We don't need no thought control/ No dark sarcasm in the classroom/ Teacher leave them kids alone'

Elders, please lighten up and give our children a real chance at learning and enjoying the process of learning as well. -- Cour-

The echoes getting closer and loud



Raoof Hasan

Some among us are sensitive to even the slightest deviation from the course of truth show a penchant to gel with the way currents flow, irrespective of whether such a course would be beneficial to the larger good of the people and the country they inhabit.

For the two to try to find common ground to work together without an inhibiting level of consternation may spell the difficulty that continues to augment divisions within the societal framework. This, in turn, hands over the levers of power to the latter catory who are always in a to making the most of the chances that come their way, be they right or wrong, legal

or illegal, just or unjust.

the constituent assembly, no genuine effort ever went into implementing his vision of the kind of Pakistan he had envisaged. In fact, with the passage of time, we drifted away from that cherished goal of a liberal, progressive, tolerant, and egalitarian Pakistan as our journey since has been marked by plunging deeper into the pit of regression and darkness with not a trace of light showing through now to

guide us into the future. As the gap between the vision and reality continues to grow wider, we seem to be lost in an endless retinue of polemics with each party trying to assert that they were in the right and the others in the wrong. Such filibustering is neither supported by any quantum of logic and reason nor can this modus operandi craft a credible and sustainable way of moving into the future with hope of harvesting healthier dividends.

desperation of the ordinary, impoverished mortals who this sick mindset. The only have suffered the excesses of the state and those who have come to rule it from time to time, garbed in mili-After the August 11 tary and civilian apparels,

on the margins, diminish.

But no one is showing even the slightest sensitivity to their sufferings as billions are doled out to outgoing legislators in the name of development funds which will fatten their coffers with some of the loot invested in winning the next elections to return to skin the state all over again. Further billions are invested each month to ensure that the beneficiary elite continues to enjoy their luxurious living standards at the cost of the state.

As the slide continues,

we have been reduced to a

skeleton of what we used to be when we were referred to as the rising star of Asia. with the fate of some re-Today, we go around with a trademark begging bowl asking for support to survive another day, and then another. Worst of all, we are completely denuded of even a shred of shame to look inward to evaluate why we have reached this low point and whether there is a way Simultaneously, the to extricate ourselves from and become wobbly. Only a substantive investment that shows through has been made in making the state more brutal and barbarous After the August 11 tary and civilian apparels, and driving the justice sysgroundbreaking address of increases as the prospects tem out of the equation that

the Ouaid from the floor of of sustaining their lives, even could still bring some good to the country

Any residual self-respect of the people has been badly badgered through a display of open and blatant affront to the constitution and the laws that flow from it, be they about the freedom of expression, or the right to protest peacefully, or about independence of judiciary and other state institutions which are entrusted with the task of managing the affairs. Today, they operate at the whims of individuals rather than as per the articles contained in the statute book. Anyone who brooks disapproval is packed to the dungeons

maining unknown for prolonged periods of time. In such a vitiating environment, what are the options one can exercise to carve a way forward without bringing down the state edifice which, through decades of merciless misuse and exploitation, has rusted slight push can bring the structure down with a bang, but no one to mourn its selfinflicted fate. It is as if we have been scripting such a denouement with malevolent determination. So, should one give up the chal-

lenge saying that an individual can do little when pitted against the collective will of the corrupt beneficiary elite which always manages to hold sway using its tried and tested tricks?

But the state is a mother to those millions whose fates have been sacrificed at the altar of the benefit of a few. It is their only asset, and their existence is dependent upon its survival and progress. While the bulk of the beneficiary elite have their palatial abodes elsewhere in the world built with the money they laundered from Pakistan, the impoverished millions have nowhere else to turn to. Their desperation is reflected in an ever-larger number of people deciding to leave the country even at the risk of their lives. They see no survival here and their children no hope or future. So, they are forfeiting motherly protection simply to earn their liveli-

cies of life. This is the paradox the country is caught up in with and they have an insatiable no easy solution in sight. The ones in control are inflexible to change their approach and those undergo- off it. Their naked hunger ing frequent trials and tribu- defies description. -- Courlations have few options to tesy The News

hood to survive the exigen-

exercise. Their homes and hearths, their families and businesses, their self-respect and honour – nothing is safe from the excesses being perpetrated upon them. In fact, this whole thing is conveniently falling into a standardized pattern to force people away from a political party. If at all, where will this come to

The mindset at work believes in keeping the powerless subjugated and allowing the ruling elite to continue plundering the stock. They have a surfeit of opportunities. They operate with abandon and with no fear and are cruelly unmindful of who is suffering as an aftermath of their abominable indulgences They saunter merrily as if tomorrow shall not dawn, as if the poor don't exist who they are inflicting pain upon, as if there is no law enforcer to stop them from depriving others of their constitutionally guaranteed rights. It is a kind of illicit appetite. They don't even forget to scratch the skeletons to scrape some meat

'Desirable' Muslims



Nikhat Sattar

"I went to the West and saw Islam, but no Muslims; I got back to the East and saw Muslims, but not Islam." Thus said the great reformist Egyptian scholar, the late 19th century.

This holds so true, more than 150 years later, even though Muslims posposedly imparting religious education. Men wear skullcaps and sport long flowing beards, with above-theankle trousers and long shirts. Women, even girls while still toddlers, don long abayas, hijabs and burqas. Religion overwhelms every aspect of life, quotations from ahadith abound, charity, prayers, fasts, Umrah and Haj dominate Muslim lives. Religious processions are frequent. Shrines are thronged with devotees.

One would then expect religion to be manifest in their habits, attitudes, professional and social dealings, relationships and interactions with each other and the rest of the world. Unfortunately, dishonesty, tion, violence and a lack of concern for God's creations pervades Muslim popula-

If Muslims strive to be close to God, what does God expect from Muslims?

A Muslim is honest and by the same virtue, truthful, even if the truth hurts them and their kin. Honesty with oneself means assessing one's mistakes truthfully and since the Muslim aspires to be loved by God, they strive to improve their character.

Honesty with others covers the whole gambit of financial dealings, giving evidence, never engaging in gossip or abusing others, accepting one's mistakes and abiding by the law. A Muslim is trustwor-

thy and reliable, keeping

promises once made and ensuring all commitments are met in letter and spirit. This ranges from being punctual for even the smallest of tasks, to meeting financial, social, legal and other obligations. With trust and reliability a characteristic of people, courts would dispense justice in time, transport systems would run punctually, national and international agreements would be implemented in their true spirit and a massive wastage of time and money prevented.

Muslims are merciful, kind, thoughtful of others' needs, and avoid harming anyone or anything. They seek peace and harmonious living with others and actively engage in resolving any conflicts that may arise. They possess empathy, good manners, never share another's secrets and never make false accusations. A violence-free, supportive environment would be ensured for all citizens; false cases and false witnesses would not exist, nor would any sort of road rage. People would be free to practise any religion, faith or belief without fear and there would be openness and freedom in society. Everyone would be educated and intellect, creativity and innovation would reign. Humans, animals and the environment would be pro-

tected as far as possible. A Muslim is fair and just. They hone their Godgiven ability to distinguish right from wrong and choose the right path as much as they can. When endowed with power and governance, they provide succour to the wronged and dispense justice without consideration of anyone's status or social standing.

In such a society, if a person is oppressed, whether for their wealth, personal matters or in freedom of speech, the Muslim would always provide quick redress and atonement for any harm endured as well as punishment to the oppressor, even if the latter is the ruler.

A Muslim would make efforts towards enhancing their taqwa (piety). They are humble and always think the better of others. This humility creates a continuous urge to improve one's own spiritual self, avo-iding the love ostentation, show---manship, bragging and living a life of simplic-

ity, al--w-a--ys trying to

do good and repelling evil,

in tho-ught and deed. They

both love and fear God;

love because He is the Creator and fear lest they incur His displeasure. They strive to lead a life with guidance from God and keep a constant watch over their tongue, mind and body. There are over 200 places in the Quran that mention taqwa and its importance. A taqwa-oriented society fears no one but God and is free from display of wealth and pomp. Muslims keep their soul, body and environment clean, are chaste and shun any immoral behaviour. They are decent in attire, simple and softspoken and avoid the company of loud and aggressive people. They discourage immodesty and immorality. Sexual harassment would be minimum and dealt with immediately and harshly, and women and children would enjoy freedom of movement. Garbage produced would be recycled by such Muslims and towns, cities and vil-

lages would be clean. A

Muslim would also be

prompt and focused in

prayers, fasting, giving

alms, performing Umrah

and Haj. Are we Muslims

in any way, except the last?

Aasim Sajjad Akhtar

The 'caretaker' government (read: the security establishment and its lackeys) has embarked on yet another ideological offensive about the incredible benefits of privatisation under the guise of the Special Invest-ment Facilitation Council. Foreign donors, the mainstream intelligentsia and bourgeois parties

are faithfully toeing the line. This is happening even as the painful effects of power-sector privatisation play out in the homes of every working-class family. There are certainly other reasons for the astronomical electricity bills that triggered recent bill-burning protests, including the state's unwillingness to tax the rich. But our rulers' willingness to hand over wholesale power production to the so-called Independent Power Producers (IPPs) at the behest of the World Bank and IMF back in the 1990s is as big a cause of the current crisis as any other single factor.

In short, the state agreed to retain only the power to distribute electricity while allowing private companies — initially foreign and later domestic to produce it, whilst also guaranteeing to pay these companies in dollars ad infinitum. There is now more power capacity in Pakistan than actual demand but loadshedding still takes place because the government cannot make payments to IPPs. It does not have enough dollars to pay them without becoming insolvent. Most IPPs run coal-fired thermal plants,

which not only contribute directly to our already serious climate crisis but also requ-i--re inordinate amounts of imported oil. Who pays for this oil? Not the IPPs but the government, which conveniently passes on this burden to the masses. Where does this leave us? Intellectually and politically, it sho--uld compel us to once again imagine big structural policy changes.

nationalisation.

successes of neoliberal ideology in the world, and that of the Zia military junta in Pakistan especially, that the experience has become accepted as a disaster. The Bhutto-led PPP regime that enfor-ced the nationalisation policy had many failures, and the takeover of numerous private industries by the postcolonial bureaucracy was not beneficial to the working class. But the story is too complex to be decried purely as an abomi-

It is a measure of the

nation that must never be repeated. The Pakistani state invested more in manufacturing industry during the time. Yes, the Ayub dictatorship presided over industrialisation, but this was accompanied by enormous inequality, encapsulated by the regime's own chief economist, Mahbub ul Haq who said that 22 families controlled virtually all of Pakistan's wealth.

In contrast, the 1970s featured the Pakistan Steel Mills' establishment, as well as publicly owned heavy industrial complexes in a few locations across the country. Some experts point to stuttering economic growth rates through that period, attributing them to nationalisation and related policies. But they neglect to mention the enormous impact of the secession of East Pakistan, which was a major driver of economic growth in the 1960s.

For nationalisation More generally, investments in manufacturing industry such as those undertaken in the 1970s do not produce demonstrable effects in the very short term. Indeed, Zia's dictatorship benefited greatly from a number of policies introduced by the previous regime, including public investment in heavy industry and labour migration to the Gulf, which started in 1974 but only bore fruit in the form of remittances by the

The specific impact of

end of the decade.

nationalisation per se -

mostly of rice, ghee and sugar mills — was mixed. The economic impact on nationalisation in the 1970s growth was actually not very substantial and the most significant, long-lasting outcome was political; trader-merchant segments reacted furiously, funding and peopling the Pakistan National Alliance's Nizami-Mustafa movement which led to Bhutto's overthrow by Gen Zia. Industrialist families like the Sharifs developed a visceral hatred for left and workingclass politics, not to mention the Bhutto family. The result was a mandate for the Zia regime to not only de-1970s than at any other nationalise, but also block land reform and crush left progressives, including trade and student unions. The alliance between trader-merchants and the religious right under the military establishment's patronage was permanently inked. And the rest is history. Denationalisation was globally in vogue throughout the 1980s, led by Thatcher-Rea-gan with lieutenants like generals Zia and Pinochet in the Third World. Today, countries like

France are overturning neoliberal orthodoxy and nationalising comm-a-n-ding heights of the economy — most no-tably electricity. It is high time we stop treating the privatisation nationalisation debate as a taboo that cannot be questioned. -- Courtesy Dawn

Governor invites foreign businessmen to invest in KP, tap natural resources potential

Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Ghulam Ali on Friday foreign businessmen to invest in Pakistan and utilize its abundant natural resources that are still untapped due to lack of modern

machinery. He was talking to the famous businessman of the United Arab Emirates, Suhail Muhammad Alzaruni here at Governor House. He said that utilizing KP's potential for natural resources would not only benefit foreign investors but also generate new opportunities for

He said that the lack of modern equipment and needed facilities are reasons

(APP): proper exploration and use in KP and steps have been of these hidden natural resources

Governor Alzaruni also discussed and bringing foreign investment into the country. Alzaruni also lauded the Governor for his the province and inviting foreign investors.

Meanwhile, elders led by Paindamand country. Khan called on Governor Haji Ghulam Ali and highlighted issues confronted by people in his

Speaking on the occasion, the Governor behind the slow pace of problems of people living matters of mutual interest.

taken to resolve them. He also urged the masses to collectively work for the development of their area matters of mutual interests and said that available resources would be utilized to address the problems of pper Dir.

He stressed avoiding keen interest in developing negative thinking and changing of mindset to counter the narrative being propagated by certain delegation of Upper Dir elements against the

A delegation of Bajaur led by former Senator Abdul Rasheed also met with KP Governor and apprised him problems of the people. A five-member delegation led by Sheikh ul assured cooperation to the Hadees, Moulana Ata-urdelegation and said that he Rehman also called on the is not oblivious to the Governor and discussed



FAISALABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Human Rights and Women Empowerment, Khalil George, distributing non food items to the Christian

GB governor demands region's constitutional status, representation in parliament

LAHORE (APP): Gilgit- of PPP Co-Chairman Asif Baltistan Governor Mehdi Shah called for the region's constitutional status and representation in the National Assembly and

During a press Recalling Mohtarma conference outside Bilawal Benazir Bhutto Shaheed's House here on Friday, the governor emphasized the historical significance of Mehdi Shah took pride in Gilgit-Baltistan's being the first Chief accession to Pakistan, Minister of Gilgitunderlining the need for Baltistan. He expressed equal representation in the country's legislative People's Party could lead bodies akin to the four the way in achieving provinces. He expressed concerns that the region's citizens remain uncertain about their parliamentary seats, stressing the o f importance representation.

Shah disclosed that the PPP's Central Executive Committee (CEC) meeting had focused on conducting elections under the Constitution. with unanimous support for elections to be held within 90 days. He commitment to maintaining acknowledged the support strong ties with Pakistan.

Ali Zardari and the progress made in Gilgit-Baltistan but highlighted the disparity in development compared to other provinces.

Recalling Mohtarma optimism that the Pakistan People's Party could lead constitutional province status.He also announced the PPP's intentions to participate in Punjab elections, recognizing Punjab's pivotal role in national politics and the formation of a caretaker government for the

upcoming elections. Despite challenges and external pressures, Shah reaffirmed his 45year-long association with the PPP and unwavering



LAHORE: Acting Consul General of China Mr. Cao Ke meeting with caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi

Dr Javed for ensuring health, well-being of children

Caretaker Health Minister Javed emphasized the critical role parents play in ensuring the health and well-being of children in his significant address at the 8th PPA Pediatric Association) Punjab Annual Symposium as

LAHORE (APP): Punjab's

well as the 13th National Child Rights Conference where experts and professionals were gathered at a local hotel on

Highlighting pressing issue of child development in Pakistan, Dr. Akram commended the organizers for tackling this vital topic. He extended a warm welcome to educators, colleagues, and guests, reflecting on his serving experiences humanity across five countries. Notably, he projected Pakistan's trajectory as it inches towards becoming symposium's aims.

the third most populous nation globally by 2048. Dr. Akram expressed

visionary goal of conducting health screenings for every ninthgrade student in Punjab. He stressed the significance of nurturing the mental health of children and cited his extensive work and research during his tenure as Vice-Chancellor of the University of Health Sciences, aimed at eliminating prevalent diseases from society. The minister also called for a tangible reduction in cases violence against children, citing recent steps taken to rehabilitate individuals like Rizwana and Ayman. The event concluded with distribution commemorative shields to

esteemed guests. Earlier, President PPA Punjab, Dr. Naeem Zafar, elucidated

Baby with

heart out of

chest dies MUZAFFARGARH (APP): The infant who was born last week with his heart out of his thorax died on Friday despite the provision of intensive care at the direction of Caretaker Punjab Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi.

Vice Chancellor Children Hospital Lahore. Dr Masood Sadiq confirmed the death of the infant, Abdullah.

According to the VC, the child fell prey to the rare disease Ectopia cordis in which the baby's heart doesn't have the typical coverage of the breastbone. He said it was not

possible to operate the baby at such a beginning of age. The child was brought to the hospital and admitted to the ICU ward where he suffered from Sepsis disease which caused his death following the intensity of the infection.

D, Commissioner Sukkur reviews arrangements for Eid Milad SAW

SUKKUR (APP): Deputy Commissioner (DC) Sukkur, Fayyaz Hussain Mahesar on Friday chaired a meeting to review the arrangements for the celebrations of Jashn-e-Eid Milad-un-Nabi (SAW).

The meeting was attended by scholars and religious leaders from various schools of thought who discussed the matters relevant to the month of Rabi-ul-Awwal.

Deputy The Commissioner assured the scholars that every matter would be addressed and resolved. He emphasized that no effort would be spared to find solutions to their concerns. He directed the relevant authorities to ensure uninterrupted water supply, minimize gas load shedding, clean routes of Milad-un-Nabi processions and install streetlights on time.

Man shoots dead wife over domestic dispute

HYDERABAD (APP): A man allegedly shot dead his wife at her father's residence in the Babbur Chowk area near Kotri SITE, Jamshoro district, on Friday. According to police, Sajid Solangi barged into the residence of his father-in-law and killed his 25-year-old wife Shabnum Solangi.Quoting her mother Noor Bano, the police said that Sajid used to beat his wife owing to which she often stayed with her parents.

developmental schemes LAHORE (APP): Punjab the cost of Rs 1197.407 Provincial Development Working Party (PDWP), in

> Provision of missing specialties for up-

GILGIT: Chief Minister Gilgit-Baltistan Haji Gulbar Khan chairing a cabinet

earlier in the day.

case. However,

In final arguments, the

petitioner's counsel had pleaded with the court to

order the release of Mansha

Khokhar who was illegally

arrested and confined by

the police. He submitted

that the accused was not

required in any criminal

respondent, Capital City

Police Officer (CCPO)

Lahore, through a report,

submitted that the

accused was arrested on

greenlit

recruitment of WMOs.

These medical officers will

be assigned to Basic Health

Units, Rural Health

Centers, and Tehsil

headquarters hospitals,

with a focus on delivering

quality healthcare services,

especially to women in

Aspiring female candidates with the required qualifications can

submit their applications

online through the Punjab

Service

marginalized areas.

the

Hospital,

million; Rehabilitation/ renovation of hospitals under Specialized Healthcare & Medical Education (SH&ME) Department through health council traditional mode in Lahore and Faisalabad at the cost of Rs 5033.372 million; Program for strategic transformation/ revamping of old blocks of ex-DHQs (Rahim Yar Khan.

forensic division. Gujranwala, here on Friday. Secretary P&D Board Nadir Chattha were present.

Approved schemes are: Privatization of Agriculture Extension Services to enhance the service delivery at the cost.

Provision of missing Agriculture and the cost of Rs 1264.132 million; Program for provision of missing facilities in newly upgraded the forensic machine was service delivery at the cost.

Approved schemes are: Privatization of Agriculture Extension Services to enhance the service delivery at the cost.

Approved schemes are: Privatization of Agriculture Extension Punjab at the cost of Rs 2716.824 million; Program for provision of missing facilities in newly upgraded the forensic machine and whether the update of the forensic machine was 2022.

According to tne details Sohail Khan, a filed a complaint regarding unwarranted delays and lodged a complaint against the Military Pension Controller Lahore, citing delay in receiving his pension since September a notice to NESPAK, sensuring the immediate controller than the cost of Rs 2022. gradation of DHQ Hospital to Teaching Sahiwal. (Revised) at the cost of Rs action against the officer' 9311.161 million.



PESHAWAR: Businessman of UAE Sohail Muhammad Al-Zorani meeting with Governor Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa Haji Ghulam Ali.

Tackling the issue of climate change is the need of hour: Governor

Independent Report AHORE: A delegation led by Dr. Samuel Rizk,

Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Program met Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman here today at the Governor House Lahore. During the meeting, other important issues including climate change were discussed

Speaking on the occasion, Punjab Governor Muhammad Balighur Rehman said that tackling the issue of climate change the United Nation's

its 16th meeting of the current financial year 2023-

24, approved seven developmental schemes of

Agriculture and Special Healthcare and Medical

Education sector with an

estimated cost of Rs

Chairman Iftikhar Ali

service delivery at the cost

of Rs 804.470 million:

Program for strategic

transformation/revamping

of emergency department in tertiary hospitals in

Bahawalpur and Sahiwal at

meeting at CM Secretariat.

petition challenging the

the petition after declaring

it meritless. The court held

that the arrest of Mansha

Ali Khokhar alias Mansha

Bomb by the police was

investigations could not be

Najafi announced the

reserved verdict on a

petition filed by Aamir

Mansha, son of Mansha

LAHORE (APP): Punjab

Minister for Primary and

Secondary Healthcare Dr.

Jamal Nasir announced the

commencement of the

recruitment process for

374 Women Medical Officers (WMO) through

the Punjab Public Service

Commission. The move

aims to bolster healthcare

services in remote and

underdeveloped regions of

the province. During a

recent meeting held here on

Friday, Minister Nasir

revealed that Punjab Chief

Minister Mohsin Naqvi

Justice Ali Baqar

stifled at this stage

The court dismissed

whereas

Ali Khokhar. The court September 14.

Punjab initiates recruitment

of 374 female doctors

had

arrest of a land grabber.

LHC dismisses plea for

release of Mansha Bomb

LAHORE (APP): The had reserved the verdict Lahore High Court (LHC) after hearing detailed on Friday dismissed a arguments of the parties

Board

22026.816 million.

Development

Planning

PDWP approves seven

is the need of the hour. He immediate assistance and said that Pakistan had faced the worst flood last year due to climate change. Governor Punjab said that climate change is also having adverse impact on agriculture. He said that as the

consortium environment. Governor Punjab while appreciating United Nation Development Program's commitment to eradicating

education and health fo which the government is chancellor, he has formed a On this occasion, the poverty and its role in

Resident Representative o UNDP expressed interes in the possibility o collaboration with the Punjab Government in various projects to tackle the challenge of climate

services to the flood

victims during the 2022

flood are commendable.

Governor Punjab further

said that there are many

challenges in the field of

Baqar takes notice of inoperative forensic software

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Caretaker Chief Minister Justice (Retd) Maqbool Baqar on Friday took notice of inoperative forensic software of the The Caretaker Chief

Minister had sought a report from IGP. He asked how bullet shells could be tested if

reported to the government or not.Baqar directed the IGP Sindh to conduct a Controller detailed inquiry to report the matter to him and take incompetence. favor of Sohail Khan, Ombudsman's office.

Caretaker CM reviews anti-narcotics measures

Independent Report LAHORE: In compliance with the direction of the caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi, an organized crackdown has been initiated against the drug peddlers to save the people from this menace.
The CM chaired a

and peddling eradication at his office in for rehabilitating the IG Police Usman
Anwar briefed that 18

kilograms of ice, 180 kilograms of heroin and 7,100 kilograms of charas have been seized during the last three weeks, leading to the arrest of 310 key drug meeting while RPO participated through video dealers and the clearing of 600 hotspots. The police link.

have arrested 7,500 individuals along with handlers of professional

The CM ordered to intensify the crackdown further and called for comprehensive planning to establish rehabilitation centers across Punjab. He meeting about drug expressed the desire to reĥabilitate addicts as useful citizens of society, adding that the number of which it was agreed to collaborate with the NGOs adding that the number of beds in these centers will also be increased.

Provincial Information Minister Amir Mir, chief secretary, Addl IG (Special Branch), CCPO, commissioner, secretaries of health, information, HED & SED



LAHORE: Resident representative of United Nation Development Program (UNDP) Dr. Samuel Rizk meeting with Governor Punjab Muhammad Balilghur Rehman

Federal Ombudsman Regional office ensures justice for government employees

ABBOTTABAD (APP): bringing relief to the retired The Federal Ombudsman army officer. Expressing his Regional Office Abbottabad Friday resolved the pension issues of federal government employees of Pak Army and (National Engineering Services Pakistan) NESPAK who were facing

Federal Ömbudsman Abdul Ghafoor Beg Abbottabad, played a vital role in ensuring compensation for

retired army personnel.

According to the details Sohail Khan, a

pension. Subsequently, an affected amount of 329,470/- expressed rupees was disbursed in towards the Federal

gratitude, Sohail Khan commended the Federal Ombudsman's institution for its unwavering commitment to ensuring justice for ordinary

administrative issues.

Taking immediate Lahore, salaries

(National Englisher of Space Toll Ordinary vices Pakistan) citizens, an appreciation rarely witnessed.

In another case Regional Head of the through the intervention

and decisions of Federal Ombudsman Ijaz Ahmed Qureshi, he facilitated the timely payment of salaries for employees of NESPAK. Faraz Mustafa,

disbursement of salaries action, a notice was issued Subsequently, NESPAK to the Military Pension promptly released the due compelling the prompt complainants. In a gesture release of Sohail Khan's of appreciation, the employee

MoU signed to protect cultural heritage, promotion of arts

SUKKUR (APP): A Memorandum Understanding (MoU) was signed between Sindh Rural Support Organization (SRSO) and Arore University of Arts, Architecture, Design and Heritage Sukkur, here on Friday to protect cultural heritage, promote arts and crafts, provide business support, offer capacity building initiatives, and empower rural women artisans in the region.

Officer Mohammad Dital Kalhoro and AUAADH Vice-Chancellor (VC), Prof. Dr Zahid Hussain Khand formalized the partnership during a ceremony held at SRSO Complex.

The aim of this partnership was to have a positive impact on the cultural and economic development of the communities whose poverty they are working to alleviate. Speaking at the event, SRSO CEO, Muhammad Dital Kalhoro Financial Officer.

said that his organization has been working for two decades to promote the products made by rural artisan women of Sindh to highlight and sell through which all the proceeds go directly to the skilled women, today not only in Pakistan but all over the world the sale of their handmade items is increasing and the demand continues to grow, he added.He said that the expert team of Arore SRSO Chief Executive University and SRSO will together take this work forward in a more modern way as per the requirements of modern times. On this occasion, the Vice Chancellor of Arore University Prof. Dr Zahid Hussain Khand said in his address that the students associated with Arore University will be given internships in this field and in a regular and organized manner, arts and design will be further expanded in collaboration with SRSO SRSO's Chief



SUKKUR: SRSO Chief Executive Officer Mohammad Dital Kalhoro and AUAADH Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr Zahid Hussain Khand formalized a memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between Sindh Rural Support Organization (SRSO) and Arore University of Arts Architecture, Design and Heritage Sukkur.

Building collapse: One killed, two injured in D-ground FAISALABAD (APP): A

double-storey building collapsed due to rain in Dground area which left a person dead and two other injured, here on Friday. According to Rescue

1122, rescue team reached the spot and carried out a search operation, pulled out the people trapped under the debris and shifted them to the Civil Hospital. District Emergency Officer Engineer Ehtesham Wahla and Emergency Officer Faisal Munir also reached the spot.Rescue team said that the building collapsed due to inundation of rain water filled in underconstruction basement adjacent to the building.

The dead was identified as Naveed son of Bashir Ahmad, 55, while Ayesha daughter of Naveed Ahmed, 25, and Ahsan son of Bashir Ahmed, 27, sustained injuries. They were resident of D-ground People's Colony No.1.

Meanwhile, Deputy Commissioner Abdullah Nayyer Sheikh reached the spot immediately after the incident. Additiona Deputy Commissioner Kashif Raza Awan, AC City Uzair Khan, Chief Officer Municipal Corporation.

Govt handed the petition to protect disability rights

ISLAMABAD (APP): the 'Promise in Peril' peti- way point of the 2030 The Government of Pakistan has received a petition with thousands of signatures calling for action to protect disability rights ahead of a major UN summit on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) this month. The petition was handed to Rafiullah Kakar, Member Social Sector, Planning Commission by Munazza Gillani, Country Director Sightsavers. It was signed by thousands of

of life and prominent personalities like Nadia Jamil, TV actress, Shabnam Baloch, Eminent Humanitarian worker, Saqib President Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) and many others.

Community-Based Inclusive Development, National Forum of Women With Disabilities and Sightsavers' Equal World campaign jointly organised

The campaign is calling on world leaders to keep the SDG promise of leaving no one behind and ensure disability is specifically addressed in discussions on the SDGs.

Rafiullah Member Social Sector, Planning Commission endorsed and appreciated Sightsavers' efforts towards ensuring the inclusion of persons with disabilities in the development Signatories include process. The government of Pakistan will join other member states at the SDG Summit in New York on 18-19 September, to make new commitments and assess progress on the global goals. The outcome of the summit will be a political declaration and global and national commitments made by UN member states.

According Munazza Gillani, Country

deadline, progress on the SDGs has derailed – they are completely off-track. People with disabilities are being hit hardest by the lack of progress on poverty and inequality. The promise to leave no one behind is in

The call follows a new UN report which shows that the SDGs cannot be achieved unless urgent action is taken to include marginalised groups, including people with disabilities, but that they are being left furthest behind in global progress. For example, globally people with disabilities are up to twice as likely to be in poverty as those without disabili-

Asim Zafar, Secretary Coordinator of Community Development (CBID-Network) added, 'We're calling on all world leaders to speed up action Director of Sightsavers Pa- on the SDGs and make sure kistan Office, "As the they are inclusive of people



SLAMABAD: The High Commissioner of Malaysia to Pakistan, Mohammad Azhar Mazlan enjoying the Malaysian foods along with others during Malaysian Food Festival entitled "Flavors of Malaysia" at local hotel.

PPP has strong faith in democracy: Zardari

ISLAMABAD (INP): Former President of Pakistan and President Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentarians, Asif Ali Zardari in his message on the occasion of the International Day of Democracy has said that the Pakistan Peoples Party has strong faith in democ-

"The sacrifices made Mohtarma by the leadership and work- Bhutto. ers of the party in the struggle for democracy are unprecedented in the political history of the world," said President Asif Ali Zardari. Every time the sun of democracy has risen in Pakistan, it is because of the martyrs in the grave-yard of Garhi Khuda Bakhsh.

President Zardari said that today is the era of youth and Chairman PPP Bilawal Bhutto Zardari is a young politician. He knows best how to provide opportunities to the youth to advance democracy

and take a dignified place in the society.

The focus of the politics of Chairman PPP is on the downtrodden population of Pakistan. Bilawal has the philosophy of his maternal grandfather, Quaide-Awam Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, and the passion of his mother, Shaheed Benazir | far shifted 57 illegal immi-

Asif Ali Zardari said that a dignified and civilized society is a light that shows | home countries, said the the way to the goals of development.

The leadership and workers of the party sacrificed their lives while accepting the gallows and crossing the landmines in the way to a democratic dispensation in the country. They endured the hardships of the prison and suffered whipping on their bodies but did not back down from the struggle for



ISLAMABAD: Special Assistant to Prime Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development, Mr. Jawad Sohrab Malik in meeting with Japan Ambassador to Pakistan H.E Wada

NUST, S&P Global Pakistan strengthen linkages by signing MoU

ISLAMABAD (APP): The National University of Science and Technology (NUST) Placement Office and S&P Global Pakistan have entered into a strategic partnership to reshape research, industrial connectivity, training, and employment prospects for both institutions.

This groundbreaking partnership between NUST and S&P Global was solidified through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed at the NUST Campus. Pro-Rector NUST Research, Innovation and Commercialization (RIC), Dr Rizwan Riaz and Managing Director S&P Global Pakistan Mujeeb Zahur signed the MoU in a ceremony held

The ceremony was attended by the HR, Marketing and Operations team of S&P Global and the NUST Placement Office team.

Muieeb Zahur emphasized the pivotal role of robust industry-academia alliances in providing students and graduates with invaluable hands-on expe-He not only reiterated

S&P Global's resolute dedication to recruiting highly skilled candidates but also highlighted the additional benefits this collaboration will bring

This includes offering cutting-edge Final Year Project (FYP) opportunities for students thus providing a unique platform for practical application of knowledge.

Furthermore, the partnership will serve as a nurturing ground for identifying and cultivating extraordinary talent, equipping them with essential real-world skills that go beyond conventional academic teach-

Dr Rizwan Riaz not only commended S&P Global's visionary approach but also showcased the exceptional strengths of

25 illegal

immigrants

arrested in

Islamabad

SLAMABAD (APP)

The Capital police on the

directions of caretaker In-

terior Minister Sarfraz

Bugti arrested 25 illegal im-

migrants from different lo-

the 14 Foreign Act have so

grants to Adyala jail and

making all arrangements to

repatriate them to their

press note on Thursday.

cided to take action against

those Pakistanis who sup-

ported illegal immigrants to

stay illegally in Pakistan be-

cause the stay in Pakistan is

only possible in accordance

IHC removes

objection over

Imran petition

seeking dismissal

of cipher case

SLAMABAD (Online): slamabad High Court

(IHC) has removed objec-

tion from PTI chairman

petition seeking dismissal

of cipher case.

The PTI chairman pe-

tition seeking dismissal of

cipher case came up for

nearing before Chief Justice

(CJ) of IHC Justice Aamir

counsel for PTI chairman

delegations

discuss multi

lateral issues

SLAMABAD (INP): The

Pakistanis and Japanese

delegations discussed a

wide range of bilateral

issues at the outset of

the 9th Round of Paki-

stan-Japan Security Dia-

logue held in Tokyo on

Pakistan was led by Mr.

Rathore, Additional

(Asia-Pacific) while

the Japanese side was

led by Mr. Ryo

Nakamura, Director

General, Southeast

Asian Affairs De-

The two sides dis-

The cordial Paki-

ussed a wide range of

bilateral, regional and

multilateral issues of

stan-Japan ties and the

potential for greater co-

operation in the field of

defence were under-

mutual interest.

Ameer

oreign

partment.

The delegation of

Khurram

Secretary

Southwest

Latif Khosa advocate

Farooq Friday.

with the law of the land.

The ministry also de-

The authorities, under

cations in Islamabad.



the globe, marking a significant milestone in its commitment to enhancing its prowess and strengthening international According to Spokesperson of Pakistan Air

Force Friday, the participation includes PAF's J-10 C and JF-17 lead fighter aircraft, Combat Pilots, Air Defence Controllers, and technical ground crew in the Shaheen-X bilateral Air Exercise hosted by the People's Liberation Army Air Force in China, as well as the Bright Star participation in an international exercise in an unprecedented short span of time was a remarkable achieve-

achieved in lines with

modernisation plan of

The feat has been

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's Ambassador-designate to the Russian Federation,

Mr. Muhammad Khalid Jamali calls on President Dr. ArifAlvi, at Aiwan-e-Sadr

PAF carrying out large scale

Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu premised on smart inductions indegenisation.

The participation of these fighter jets in Exercise Shaheen-X marks a significant milestone in PAF's logically advanced and fortries.

The rapid acquisition and operationalisation of these advanced aircraft showcases PAF's dedication to maintaining a cutand defending Pakistan's airspace with utmost pro As the Sino-Pak Joint

Annual Air Exercise Shaheen-X is in full swing in in the Jiuquan and Yinchuan cities of North west China, the excep tional event highlights the dedication and capabili ties of the Pakistan Air Force, demonstrating its commitment to fostering

ATC grants

bail to

ISLAMABAD (Online)

Anti Terrorism Court (ATC) Islamabad granted

bail to former Chief Min-

ister (CM) Punjab Chaudhry Pervez Elahi

in Judicial Complex

Pervaiz Elahi came before

Judge Abul Hasnat Muhammad Zulqarnain of ATC Islamabad Friday. Babar Awan, Sardar

Abdul Razzaq, counsels for Pervaiz Elahi and pros-

ecutor Raja Navid ap-

the court the record will

reach a bit late.

The judge remarked this is not the way.

Court has started pro-

ceedings and record has not

Action against

Sheesha cafés

continues

ISLAMABAD (INP)

Islamabad Capital Police

Shalimar and Bhara Kahu

police teams arrested eight

accused during the crack-

down against illegal Sheesha

cafes and recovered Sheesha, hookah and fla-

vors from their possession,

a public relations officer

said. He said that. Follow-

ing the special directions of

Islamabad Capital City Po-

lice officer (ICCPO) Dr.

Akbar Nasir Khan, the

Islamabad Capital Police had

categorically started a crack-

down against criminal ele-

ments in order to save the

precious lives and property

of citizens.

reached. Start the argu

ments.

The prosecutor told

peared in the court.

The bail petition of

vandalism case.

Solangi terms Namira's upcoming space journey sign of Pak growing presence in space exploration

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi said on Friday that Namira Saleem's upcoming journey to space was a sign of Pakistan's growing presence in space exploration and a major achievement

This he said during a meeting with Pakistan's first female astronaut Namira Saleem who met him here.

Namira Salim briefed the caretaker minister about the preparations for her space journey on October 5 this year.

Namira Saleem expressed her determination to raise the Pakistani flag in space. Solangi congratulated Namira Saleem on behalf of the Government of Pakistan, the Prime Minister and the people for starting the space journey and expressed good

Terming Namira Saleem a role model for all women, Murtaza Solangi said the young generation can raise the name of Pakistan in the world in various fields of life. This effort of Namira Saleem will highlight the positive image of Pakistan as a peace-loving and progressive country," Murtaza Solangi maintained.

Pakhtunkhwa's Establish-

ment Department issued an

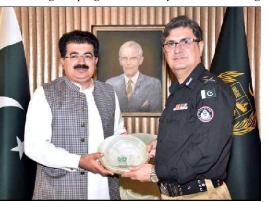
official notification on

Thursday, formally entrusting Muhammad Imran

Khan with the responsibili-

ties of Director General In-

formation & Public Rela-



ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani presenting souvenir to Inspector General Sindh, Riffat Mukhtar Raja at Parliament

Imran assumes charge of **DG Information & PR KPK**

Independent Report

PESHAWAR: Muhammad Imran Khan, a BPS-19 officer within the Directorate General Information & Public Relations, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, has officially taken up the position of Director General Information & Public Relations in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa,

appeared before the court. The CJ IHC directed the staff to mark diary sion of Pakistan, granted his number on the petition filed approval on September 13, for amendment. Pak-Japanese

Pakhtunkhwa. Muhammad Imran Khan brings a wealth of experience and expertise to effective Friday.
The Election Commishis new role, making him well-equipped to lead the Directorate General Information & Public Relations 2023 subsequently, the Government of Khyber and effectiveness.

Farewell ceremony held in honor of DSP **Muhammad Bashir**

Independent Report

ISLAMABAD: A farewell ceremony was held in honor of DSP Muhammad Bashir at CTD Headquarters Islamabad, a public relations officer said.

He said that Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) CTD Yasir Afridi graced the occasion as chief guest. Senior police officers and officials were also present on the occasion.

The SSP CTD conveyed good wishes from Islamabad Capital City Police Officer (ICCPO) Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan to the retiring DSP and said that retirement is part of the service as the one who joins the service has to re-

tire one day. He asked the serving police officials to do their best to earn respect for the department. He was of the view that public servants can earn a good name by serving the citizens with

devotion and dedication. He recognized the services rendered by DSP Muhammad Bashir and added that the officer served at various posts in different divisions of Islamabad Capital Police

and always accomplished his tasks in a responsible manner and ensured effective working. His contribution in the success story of Islamabad Capital police would be re-

membered, SSP CTD added. At the end, he presented a police shield to DSP Muhammad Bashir and also expressed best wishes for his future en-DSP Muhammad

Bashir joined Islamabad Capital Police as constable and earned the rank of Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) through completion of different departmental courses and dedication for the work

ting-edge force, capable of meeting evolving challenges

AJK cabinet decides to reinforce accountability law in true spirit

Kashmir (AJK) cabinet has decided to amend the ineffective accountability law to resume across the board free, fair and strict accountability of the public office holders aimed to curb the rising menace of corruption by the government functionaries, said Minister.

Senior Minister Col (retid) Waqar Noor accompanied with two other ministers Abdul Majid Khan and Ch. Abdul Rasheed announced the decisions of the cabinet taken last night at a press conference here on

The Minister without portfolio Abdul Majid Khan while initiating the press conference said that a cabinet committee was constituted under the chairmanship of senior minister Col Waqar Noor to propose amendments in the accountability law in order to enable the accountability Bureau to proceed against corruption in an effective man-

The accountability process was made ineffective by amendments in the accountability act during the last Pakistan Muslim League (N) government headed by former Prime meeting.

(APP): Azad Jammu and Haider Khan leaving the accountability body to exist but with limited powers to proceed against corruption

Majid Khan claimed that his government was committed towards fairness and accountability process and would reinstate the teeth of accountability watchdog that had been pulled out by the previous government in order to initiate across-the-board free, fair and strict accountabil-

Khan said that Prime Minister Anwar Ul Hac had earlier also activated the defunct anti-corruption department which shows his determination towards fairness and corruption-free governance in the region besides austerity measures taken to overcome the wastage of public money.

The cabinet also lifted the ban on transfer postings besides extending the upper age limit for government jobs up to 40 years for a further 3 years, the minister added saying the ban on contract and ad hoc appointments was also lifted and rules for appointments on discretionary posts were also approved in the



ISLAMABAD: Director General of Islamic Organization for Food Security Yerlan Baidaulet called on caretaker PM Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar.

Solangi says

Govt awaits SC's detailed verdict on NAB amendments

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi on Friday said the caretaker government was waiting for the Supreme Court to issue a detailed judgment on a case related to the amendments in National Accountability Bureau (NAB) laws.

"Law Ministry and legal experts will review the detailed judgment and future course of action will be announce in the light of their onin ion," the minister said while addressing a news conference along with Caretaker Ministers for Finance and Energy Dr. Shamshad Akhtar and Muhammad Ali.

To a query, Solangi reiterated the caretaker government's commitment to assist the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) in holding the general election in the country.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Information Minister of Balochistan Jan Achakzai meeting with Caretaker Information Minister Murtaza Solangi

Islamabad Police strikes on criminals, arrests wanted snatcher gang member

breakthrough, Islamabad Police have arrested a wanted member of a notorious snatcher gang, recovering a cache of valuables and weapons from his possession.

The arrest comes as part of a sustained crackdown against criminal elements in the city, under the direct supervision of Islamabad Capital City Police officer (ICCPO) Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan, a public relations officer said.

The accused, identified as Muhammad Abbas, was apprehended by a team of Koral Police Station on Friday.

He is alleged to be in-

ISLAMABAD (APP): In a volved in numerous snatching incidents in various parts of the city. Police recovered snatched mobile phones, cash, a motorbike, and a weapon from his possession. The accused Abbas has confessed to his involvement in the snatching gang, and further investigas are underway.

ICCPO Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan has directed all senior officials to continue the crackdown against criminal elements and ensure the safety of the lives and property of citizens.

The arrest of hardcore criminal Abbas is a significant development in the fight against crime in



ISLAMABAD: Chief Retail Sales Officer Ufone 4G Noman Fakhar and Group Chief Marketing Officer PTCL Ufone 4G Sved Atif Raza and others attending inaugural ceremony of Ufone 4G 1st Digital Life Style Experience Shop.