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No specific group will either be opposed or supported in election: Caretaker PM

Delimitation of constituencies is a constitutional demand, and we should abide by this regulation if we believe in supremacy of the constitution; Says slashed government expense, high revenue tops his agenda

ISLAMABAD/LONDON (Online): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar has said he assures election process will be fully fair, transparent and free and no specific group will either be supported or opposed in the election.

In an exclusive interview with foreign media, he said we are entering into the electoral process and the time span, which has been given to the interim government, is according to the law and the constitution.

The Prime Minister said delimitation of constituencies is a constitutional demand, and we should abide by this regulation if we believe in supremacy of the constitution.

To a question about 9th May incidents, he said people have the right to express their sentiments un-

der prescribed law, but we can't allow vandalism in the name of protest or if people are going violent then that kind of situation is not acceptable under any democratic system.

Regarding alleged US involvement in PTI Chief's ousting from the power, he said PTI members have retrieved from that allegation.

He said in some Asian states, political leaders sometimes do such acts for populist reasons. He said as a responsible caretaker government, we ensure that no one can meddle with our domestic affairs. He further said the PTI chief was ousted constitutionally and there was no military coup against him.

Shedding light on the civil-military relations in Pakistan, Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar said Pakistani politi-

cal leaders had political alliance with military for their own political interests and once they are out of the power they start criticizing the institution to shift the focus of their own failure.

He said the only institution that has the organizational capability left with us is military and anyone who is dealing with governance has to rely on it to meet the challenges.

Talking about terrorist attacks and relations with Afghanistan, the Prime Minister said we have been facing such attacks almost for fifteen years and we are trying to counter it by kinetic and non-kinetic measures and we have been successful to manage that to a certain level.

He said we are dealing with different layers of authorities in Afghanistan and some are spoiling the peace.

He said some banned organizations like TTP have training camps in Afghanistan, which is a point of concern for us. He expressed hope that we will engage with Afghans despite some challenges in our relationships as it is in common interest of both the nations.

On domestic politics, the Prime Minister said political differences shouldn't be converted into enmities as this practice leads to the death of the democracy.

Replying to a query about Pakistan-India relations, he said we are quite open for a meaningful dialogue with all our neighbors. The Prime Minister said we do want peace with India but only peace with justice. Anwaar-ul-Haq said being the so called champion of world's biggest democracy,

India should resolve the issue of Kashmir on the basis of UN Resolutions.

APP adds: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Tuesday said that his foremost priority to fix the problems of the country during his tenure in office would be to cut the government's expenditure and increase revenue.

"The economy is extremely pressing right now and these are the problems which are hitting a common man very hard," he told TRT World when asked about his vision during the last four months of the caretaker setup.

Kakar said the International Monetary Fund (IMF) deal was an opportunity for the country to focus on how the economic behaviour was influencing the life of the common man in Pakistan.



Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar visits the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies

Inaugurates Pakistan's first female driving & testing center Writ of state to be maintained at all costs: Sarfraz Bugti

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Interior Minister Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has said writ of the state will be maintained at all costs.

During a visit to Police Line Headquarters in Islamabad on Tuesday, he said martyrs are our valuable asset who sacrificed their today for our tomorrow. The Interior Minister was given a detailed briefing on the law and order situation in the federal capital.

The Islamabad Capital City Police Officer informed the interior minister that crime rate has reduced in Islamabad as compared to previous year and that the police is conducting a vigorous campaign against drugs.

The Interior Minister

said Islamabad Police will be equipped with modern technical capabilities.

Appreciating the performance of Islamabad police, he asked the police personnel to discharge their duties with full devotion and valiance. He said all the officers should be courteous to citizens and solve their problems.

APP adds: The Federal Minister for Interior, Sarfraz Bugti visited the Police Lines Headquarters Islamabad and was warmly welcomed by Secretary Interior, Aftab Akbar Durrani, and Islamabad Capital City Police Officer (ICCP) Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan and other senior police officers and inaugurated the Pakistan first female driving and testing center. ICCPO thanked the Interior Minister for his cooperation with Islamabad Capital Police.

Bugti paid tribute to the martyrs, recited the fatiha and acknowledged their invaluable sacrifices. A smartly contingent of police presented a guard of honor to the Interior Minister. He emphasized that the privilege of martyrdom is bestowed upon the chosen few and commended their selfless dedication. During his visit, the Federal Minister of Interior Sarfraz Bugti met with the Islamabad Capital City Police Officer (ICCP) Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan and other senior police officers and inaugurated the Pakistan first female driving and testing center. ICCPO thanked the Interior Minister for his cooperation with Islamabad Capital Police.

He said that, Federal Minister for Interior Sarfraz

President for enhancing trade, economic, cultural cooperation with Jordan

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Dr Arif Alvi on Tuesday asked Pakistan's Ambassador-designate to Jordan to work for further enhancing bilateral cooperation with the brotherly country in the areas of trade, economy, culture, and people-to-people contacts.

He said that Pakistan cherished its close, friendly and fraternal relations with the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan which were rooted in shared religion, culture and history. Congratulating the Pakistan's Ambassador-designate to Jordan, Major General (r) Muhammad Ajmal Iqbal, the president said that Pakistan highly valued its ties with Jordan

and wanted to further improve bilateral trade, economic, political and cultural relations for the mutual interest of the two countries.

He expressed satisfaction over the current relations between the two countries, which were marked by warmth and commonality of views on both sides, President Secretary Press Wing said in a press release.

The president emphasized the need for regular high-level exchanges, including the exchange of parliamentary delegations, holding of Bilateral Political Consultations and Joint Ministerial Commissions to improve socio-political and economic ties.

Every person is bound to provide information based on facts regarding one's tax payment which needs no scrutiny: SC

ISLAMABAD (Online): Justice Athar Minallah has remarked it is settled law with reference to taxable assets that any person is bound to provide information based on facts regarding his tax payment which needs not to be scrutinized.

He further remarked if the need arises to scrutinize the matters of any person then we should understand that the matter is not according to law. A 3-member bench of Supreme Court (SC) presided over by Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa took up tax related case for hearing Tuesday.

The petitioner told the court which record was sought by the court is not with me completely. The CJP inquired no income tax officer has come with you. The counsel said no

one has come with me. The CJP remarked we have said income tax case can run as long as the man of respective department is with you. Assistance is not provided to the court and then say there is stay of SC in the case valuing million and billion of rupees.

The court remarked we are issuing notice on it to respective authorities that they should present record of all the case in the court. Secondly we are warning other authorities that they should ensure in income tax and other tax matters that we will not hear any case without proper assistance. If any such case comes it will stand dismissed. We will not give any relief in it. It is beyond comprehension that we have said repeatedly that proper assistance be provided to us.

Sanjrani, Chinese envoy discuss bilateral ties

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman Senate Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani and Chinese Ambassador Jiang Zeidang discussed various matters of mutual interest, encompassing bilateral relations, economic collaboration, and coordination.

The determination to enhance bilateral cooperation across diverse sectors was reaffirmed, underlining the mutual benefits for both nations during the meeting, said a news release. Furthermore, the meeting underscored the imperative for joint endeavors aimed at promoting peace, prosperity, and development in the region.

While extending his congratulations to Ambassador Jiang Zeidang on his new role, Chairman Senate Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani expressed optimism that the ambassador's substantial skills would contribute to stabilizing and fortifying the Pakistan-China relationship. He commended China's commitment to regional peace and highlighted the necessity of bolstering cooperation in multilateral domains.

The discussions also encompassed the advancement of collaboration in agriculture and mining sectors.

Imran Khan moved to Adiala jail Monitoring Desk

ISLAMABAD: A day after the Islamabad High Court's (IHC) order, authorities on Tuesday shifted incarcerated Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan to Rawalpindi's Adiala jail from Attock prison following high drama.

The PTI chief was shifted to Adiala jail amid tight security. An 18-vehicle convoy — including 15 vehicles of Islamabad police — two armoured vehicles and an ambulance escorted Khan from Attock to Adiala prison via motorway.

A day earlier, IHC CJ Aamer Farooq expressed his annoyance over keeping an 'under-trial prisoner' in Attock jail instead of Adiala jail and directed the concerned authorities to move Khan — who is currently serving a three-year sentence in the Toshakhana corruption case. — to the Adiala jail.

NAB reference against Dar reopens

ISLAMABAD (Online): NAB reference against former Finance Minister (FM) and PML-N leader Ishaq Dar has been reopened.

Accountability Court (AC) has issued to him call up notice.

The AC had closed case against Ishaq Dar following NAB ordinance. However in consequence of Supreme Court (SC) decision on NAB amendment proceedings on the case has been started in AC and reference against Ishaq Dar has been reopened.

The record of case against Ishaq Dar was available in the court. AC has issued call up notice to Ishaq Dar for October 10.



ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's Ambassador-designate to Jordan, Major General (r) Muhammad Ajmal Iqbal, called on President Dr. Arif Alvi, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

Solangi for starting joint ventures with Russia in mass media

NANJING (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister of Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi on Tuesday emphasized to start joint production and training



programmes with Russia in the field of mass media.

During a meeting with Russian Deputy Minister for Information Bela Cherkosova both reiterated to promote cooperation in the fields of mass media. Murtaza Solangi invited the Russian Deputy Information Minister to visit Pakistan which he accepted.

The Russian Deputy Minister of Information also wished to extend cooperation with Pakistan in other spheres of life besides media. She said that Pakistani television dramas were very popular in Russia. The exchange of plays and other productions between the two countries was also discussed in the meeting.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Health Minister Dr. Nadeem Jan visited BHU Bahara Kahus.

Health minister visits Bhara Kahu BHU

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister for Health Dr Nadeem Jan on Tuesday visited Bhara Kahu Basic Health Center to examine the services being provided to patients. The purpose of the visit was to take stock of the health facilities being provided by the BHU. The minister met the patients and inquired about the treatment facilities. He also

inspected the immunization facilities. Speaking on the occasion, the minister said that improvement in the health sector cannot be made without strengthening the primary healthcare system. All Rural Health Centres and Basic Health Units are being fully operationalized, he said. The burden of patients in federal hospitals is very high.

Mariyam condemns Bugti's statement about PML(N) Supremo

ISLAMABAD (Online): Mr. Sarfraz Bugti should talk according to political stature, PML-N central leader and former Minister Mariyam Aurangzeb while condemning the statement said that talk as

much as you have political stature. here did Nawaz Sharif go from airport? It is neither your problem nor your decision. Use your force and preparation to give security and peace to people."



ISLAMABAD: Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan, Jiang Zaidong calling on Chairman Senate of Pakistan Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani at the Parliament House.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Interior Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti chairing briefing at CPO Office

ECP to release preliminary constituency list today

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) is set to unveil the preliminary roster of new electoral constituencies derived from the digital Census 2023 on Wednesday. Despite the initial release date set for October 10, the commission wrapped up its work 15 days ahead of schedule.

All parties including PTI are free to join polls: Caretaker Govt

ISLAMABAD (APP): The caretaker government on Tuesday said under the constitution and prevalent electoral laws, all political parties had the equal right to participate in the general elections and categorically stated that the remarks of the caretaker prime minister during a recent interview to the foreign wire service Associated Press had been "misunderstood and misreported".

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in its official statement issued the original text from the Associated Press to clarify that Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar was plain speaking to suggest that whereas participating in the elections was a right, but retribution for crimes

was legally warranted. The ministry lamented that the interview had been "twisted by some outlets" to give the impression that someone will not be allowed to take part in the general elections.

The ministry drew attention to the following text of Prime Minister's interview: "We are not pursuing anyone on a personal vendetta," Kakar said. "But yes, we will ensure that the law is appropriate. Anyone, be it Imran Khan or any other politician who violates, in terms of their political behavior, the laws of the country, then the restoration of the law has to be ensured.

We cannot equate that with ... political discrimination."

Court rejects plea for de-sealing Lal Haveli

RAWALPINDI (Online): Lahore High Court (LHC) Rawalpindi bench has rejected the plea for de-sealing Lal Haveli immediately.

Haveli was sealed by the Evacuee Trust Property Board (ETPB).

The case came up for hearing before LHC Rawalpindi bench led by Justice Jawad Hassan Tuesday.

During the hearing of the petition deputy administrator and legal advisor of ETPB appeared in the court while Sardar Abdul Razzaq Khan and his junior lawyer Sardar Shahbaz Khan represented the petitioner Sheikh Siddique. The counsel for ETPB told the court several chances were given to Sheikh Rashid, his brother Sheikh Siddique to file documents but they and their counsel kept on seeking adjournment repeatedly instead of presenting the record.

Daily Voice of Masses Independent

Free and fair?

Is it possible to hold 'free and fair' elections with a widely popular political leader facing disqualification by the courts? Should such an election be morally acceptable? And can a government formed through such an election ever make a legitimate claim on the public's mandate?

In a country as full of internal contradictions as Pakistan, there are no easy answers to these questions.

Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar recently made a statement suggesting that 'free and fair' elections are possible even if former prime minister Imran Khan and other PTI leaders are not allowed to participate.

He argued that all politicians who violate the law must pay for their transgressions. In technical terms, he is correct, and if Pakistan were a country where institutions abided by the law, no one would disagree, since the continuity of the democratic process can never be dependent on the legal status of a handful of its leaders.

However, we are clearly not such a country, and, therefore, the PM's position needs greater debate.

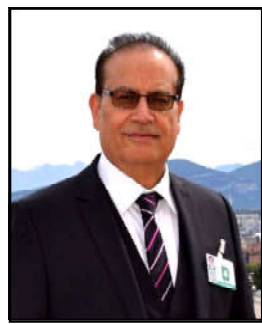
In recent months, the state has applied overwhelming force against Mr Khan, his party, its loyalist leaders, their supporters, and even some supporters' families.

From refusing to obey release orders, to outright disappearing people; from breaking into suspects' homes, to kidnapping their family members to forcing them to surrender — the authorities have ridden roughshod over fundamental rights and legal norms in their effort to cut the PTI to size.

Even the ECP has repeatedly violated the Constitution to deny the party the advantage of having public opinion on its side. This excessive action against the PTI has placed it at a considerable disadvantage compared to other parties.

It is therefore disingenuous, given this context, to suggest that the freeness and fairness of any eventual polling exercise should be considered without regard to all that has preceded it. The lesson that the establishment should have learnt by now from the suppression of the PPP in the Zia era, and PML-N's persecution in the Musharraf and Bajwa eras, is that thwarting the public will by artificial means only creates long-term instability in return for short-lived gains. Banning parties, disqualifying key leaders, forcing politicians to switch allegiances, restricting candidates from campaigning, and queering the pitch in other ways just to secure an electoral outcome that is favourable to a handful of powerful individuals has caused demonstrable and lasting harm to Pakistan's political structure.

One should, therefore, reasonably expect that removing Mr Khan from the political equation now will do as much good as removing Nawaz Sharif did for the country in 2017-18. Pakistan's precarious present condition should be warning enough against repeating these failed past experiments. If this cycle is not broken, we will be doomed to repeat it.



By Qamar Bashir
Former Press Secretary to the President; Former Press Minister to the Embassy of Pakistan to France; Former MD, SRBC

The Election Commission, under the weight of severe public outcry and the collective demand of all political parties (with the exception of PML(N)), has declared that the general elections will take place at the end of January 2024. This announcement, while arriving nearly 90 days later than constitutionally required, has been met with a relatively muted reaction from political parties. It appears that, rather than dwelling on the inordinate delay, political parties are content with the assurance that elections will indeed occur, dispelling earlier predictions of indefinite postponement by political pundits and analysts.

With the elections now just four months away, ideally, political parties will have ample time to refine and reconsider their manifestos, redefine their messaging and focal points, and offer the people of Pakistan a vision of a promising and inspiring future. This newfound clarity on the election date brings an opportunity for political renewal and the chance to inspire hope and dreams of a brighter tomorrow for the citizens of Pakistan.

But far from ideal, the political landscape remains complex and marred with uncertainties. The recent overturning of the amendment to the NAB (National Accountability Bureau) ordinance has dealt a significant

blow to the core objectives of the government formed by the constituent parties of the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM). The leadership of both the PPP (Pakistan Peoples Party) and PML(N) now finds itself once more under the influence of the establishment, with the same formidable threat that PDM parties had previously managed to blunt now looming ominously over their heads.

Furthermore, the recent nullification of the Supreme Court Procedure and Practices Act by the outgoing Chief Justice has shattered the hopes of both Nawaz Sharif and Jehangir Tareen to participate in the 2024 elections. This legal development has created additional complications and uncertainties in an already intricate political landscape.

The PML(N) party appears to be in a weakened state when it comes to public popularity. After being in government for over 16 months, they have faced criticism for their handling of the economy, which has brought the country to the brink of financial collapse. Despite this, they continue to emphasize their efforts to save the country from default, without acknowledging the heavy burden this has placed on the people.

The consequences of their economic policies are evident in the form of hyperinflation, rising prices, a sharp increase in the exchange rate of the dollar, and one of the highest interest rates in the world, all of which have made essential goods and services unaffordable for the poor, middle-class, and even the upper-middle class. Millions of people have fallen below the poverty line, and unemployment rates have surged. As a result, many people are struggling to make ends meet, leading to widespread frustration and discontent among the public.

In this context, PML(N) and its allied parties have lost their narrative against price hikes, as many people view them as a major contributor to the inflation and economic hardships faced by the population.

Indeed, the perceived alignment of PML(N) with the establishment, their willingness to follow orders without question, their embrace of the Army chief's economic and financial revival doctrine aimed at attracting billions of dollars in investment and their support for laws granting unprecedented powers to the caretaker government in terms of entering into strategic agreements with foreign countries, traditionally the prerogative of the elected government, have all contributed to their image as being closely aligned with the military establishment.

Their perceived failure to protect media freedom and prevent media censorship, as well as their apparent inability to safeguard the rule of law and the principles of the constitution, their perceived failure to insulate the courts from external pressures and influence, as well as allegations of using aggressive means to influence judicial decisions, have further eroded public trust in their commitment to democratic principles. Their perceived alignment with the establishment and the actions taken in support of these policies have, in turn, diminished their ability to maintain a popular anti-establishment narrative.

Ultimately, these factors have contributed to a sense of frustration and disillusionment among the public, leading to skepticism about the ability of political parties to govern effectively and address the needs and aspirations of the people.

It is evident that the PTI party and its leadership are contending with substantial challenges, marked by persecution and harassment. A significant number of their leaders find themselves either in hiding or incarcerated. Notably, the Chairman's unwavering resolve and refusal to be deterred by these circumstances stand out. His ability to withstand immense pressure, maintain his determination, and remain resolute in the face of adversity serves as a testament to his unwavering courage and commitment.

The Chairman's steadfastness has the potential to inspire

loyalty among PTI members and supporters, while also becoming a symbol of resilience in the face of perceived political persecution.

In a decade-old interview, Mr. Imran Khan declared that he fears only Allah, cannot be influenced or silenced, and follows his own ideology. His philosophy revolves around obeying Allah's commands and giving back to society what he has received. His vision in government is to establish a welfare state where everyone is treated equally, irrespective of wealth or power, creating conditions for people to lead fulfilling lives in line with Islamic teachings.

He has backed these words with actions, even in the face of adversity, death threats, and assassination attempts. He hasn't sought clemency, freedom, or compromised his principles for a comfortable life abroad. His unwavering character, courage, and determination set him apart from politicians aligned with the establishment.

While in France, I observed several aspects of a welfare state. Citizens with incomes below €900 per month receive state stipends of €900. The state supports families with multiple children, cares for orphans, aids businesses affected by disasters without applications, and offers free quality education and healthcare to those in need.

Notwithstanding the popular support for PTI, in a recent interview with a foreign channel, the caretaker prime minister asserted that free and fair elections could proceed without the PTI leadership participating. He firmly stated that actions and consequences would persist for all individuals, regardless of age, gender, or profession, who were in any way linked to the events of May 9th. The Army leadership, in their recent corps commander meeting, reiterated their commitment to pursuing those involved in the May 9th incident, promising further consequences and repercussions.

The exclusion of PTI from the electoral process

has the potential to unleash a cascade of repercussions, including severe political instability, economic turmoil, and widespread social unrest. PTI supporters have an array of avenues to channel their deep-seated discontent, and the situation demands prudent management to avert a full-blown crisis.

PTI supporters, alongside human rights organizations and legal fraternity, may orchestrate peaceful nationwide protests and demonstrations. Their collective outcry would serve as a resounding condemnation of sidelining the nation's largest and most popular party from the electoral landscape. This wave of public dissent could disrupt normal life, placing businesses, education, and essential services under strain, ushering in a period of social tumult and uncertainty.

The digital sphere, both within and outside Pakistan, stands as a potent realm for political activism. PTI supporters can harness platforms such as Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram to broadcast their grievances far and wide. Trending hashtags and viral campaigns can elevate awareness about their cause, fomenting a groundswell of support that transcends geographical boundaries.

PTI supporters facing exclusion from the electoral process may leverage international channels to garner support and seek intervention. They could engage in diplomatic efforts to rally foreign governments, international bodies, and human rights organizations to condemn this exclusion and demand a fair and transparent election. Additionally, they may explore legal remedies to challenge their exclusion, potentially by filing petitions in the judiciary. Such petitions could assert that their fundamental rights to participate in a democratic process are being infringed upon.

The exclusion of PTI from the electoral process would inflict severe damage on the credibility of the entire election system, threatening to plunge Pakistan into a maelstrom of political in-

stability. Such a move risks stoking polarization and fomenting tensions among various political factions, adding fuel to an already volatile situation. The ensuing political instability, sparked by PTI's exclusion, would cast a dark shadow over investor confidence, imperiling economic stability. Foreign and domestic investments, the lifeblood of economic growth, may wither, thrusting Pakistan into a daunting era of economic hardship.

Moreover, the repercussions may not be confined to Pakistan's borders. Its international relationships, built on trust and cooperation, could be strained as global observers and partners express grave concerns over the perceived injustice and lack of fairness in the electoral process. The ripple effect of such a crisis could resonate far beyond the nation's borders, painting a bleak picture of instability and uncertainty.

Now is the time for all stakeholders, including the government, election commission, judiciary, political parties, and institutions, to set aside personal and institutional vendettas. We must consider every citizen a patriot without casting doubt on their loyalty. Coercion and brute force should be replaced with love and affection to win true loyalty, as intimidation only begets obedience, not love.

The government and institutions should emulate a caring mother, nurturing every citizen without subjecting them to humiliation. Releasing political prisoners is an act of magnanimity that honors the nation and empowers people to choose their true representatives.

The caretaker government, establishment, and election commission should prioritize fairness, transparency, and open dialogue with all political stakeholders. Upholding democratic principles and ensuring a level playing field for all parties is the path to maintaining stability and credibility in the electoral process. It's time to unite and build a stronger, more harmonious nation.

Elections Without PTI...

Commerce News

Jazz, NUST 5G innovation lab hosts Pak first 5G Hackathon

ISLAMABAD (APP): Jazz, Pakistan's largest digital operator is bringing Pakistan's first 5G Innovation Hackathon in close collaboration with the National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST), National Informational Technology Board (NITB), and Code for Pakistan (CFP).

The groundbreaking initiative which will be launched soon, aims to harness the immense potential of 5G technology and other cutting-edge innovations to address critical challenges in Pakistan's key sectors, including health, education, financial services, disaster management and climate

change, agri-tech, and Industry 4.0, said a news release here on Tuesday.

The 5G Innovation Hackathon underscores the critical importance of fostering innovation and talent in the realm of 5G technology. By bringing together bright minds, developers, and entrepreneurs, the hackathon serves as a breeding ground for groundbreaking ideas and solutions that will shape the future of telecommunications in Pakistan.

The event not only empowers local talent but also ensures that Pakistan remains at the forefront of the digital revolution,

paving the way for a more connected and innovative future.

Chief Regulatory Affairs Officer at Jazz Syed Fakhar Ahmed said solutions to the longstanding challenges that face developing countries like Pakistan lie in technology.

"We're proud to have developed the 5G innovation lab in collaboration with NUST, a tech hub that's now hosting the country's first 5G hackathon to help create viable solutions to key challenges while putting Pakistan on the global map of 5G innovation," the press release quoted him as saying.



Dr. Inayat Hussain, Deputy Governor State Bank, Aurangzeb Feroz, Director and Sponsor KT Bank of The City School Group, Rihan Labashar, Director KT Bank, Jameel Ahmed, Governor State Bank of Pakistan, Ali Mukhtar, Sponsor KT Bank and Director Fatima Group, Senator Banker Munir Kamal and Toran Asif, Transaction Lead and nominated CEO KT Bank in a group photo on eve of getting State Bank approval to start digital banking service of KT Bank in Pakistan.

Senate body urges accountability of electricity crisis responsible

Dismayed over absence of Chairman NEPA in meeting

Independent Report
ISLAMABAD: Official of Power Division told Senate Standing Committee on Energy that daily recovery reached 1 billion. If the campaign continues, 150 billion recovery will be made in three months. Electricity theft in Mardan and Mirpurkhas will be reduced to zero by the first week of October.

Chairman Committee said that there is a serious

electricity crisis in the country and the concerned authorities must be held accountable. Meeting of Senate Standing Committee was held under Senator Saifullah Abro.

Members of Committee said that KEPCO has been granted the extension illegally. Senator Bahraman Tangi said that illegal extension of an IPP resulted in a loss of Rs 151 billion.

The Chairman of the

Standing Committee suggested the Power Division to write a letter to the President of the World Bank raising objection to the World Bank validating the Dasu Transmission Project contract.

Meanwhile, the Senate Standing Committee on Power met on Tuesday under the Chairmanship of Senator Saifullah Abro here at Old Pips Hall, Parliament Lodges.

Over 7.886 mln tons wheat available for local consumption

ISLAMABAD (APP): Over 7.886 million metric tons of wheat stocks were available for local consumption as well as for keeping strategic reserves in order to maintain smooth demand and supply to ensure the supply of flour at affordable prices across the country. The carry-forward stocks of the grains in the country by September 25, 2023, were recorded at 1.610 million tons as compared to the

stocks of the same period of last year, said Food Security Commissioner in the Ministry of National Food Security and Research Imtiaz Ali Gopang.

Talking to APP here on Tuesday he said that the government had also procured about 5.889 million metric tons of wheat during the wheat procurement campaign to fulfil the local requirements as well as keep the strategic reserves in the country.

Footwear exports increase by 7.74% in August

ISLAMABAD (APP): The export of footwear products witnessed an increase of 7.74 percent during the Month of August 2023 as compared to the same month of last fiscal year, Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) reported.

Pakistan exported footwear products worth \$16.770 million during August 2023 as compared to the exports of \$15.565 million during August 2022.

CDA urged to resolve problems of businessmen of G-9 Markaz

ISLAMABAD (INP): President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI) Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari has said that G-9 Markaz Karachi Company has grown into one of the largest commercial centres of the federal capital, but due to lack of better development, its traders are facing multiple problems.

He stressed that CDA should start the development works in G-

9 Markaz on priority basis including carpeting of roads, construction of a parking plaza, repair of footpaths, construction of filtration plant & public toilets and restoration of streetlights. He said that the 40 years old sewerage system in G-9 Markaz has deteriorated and is leaking from various places. He urged that the CDA should replace the old sewerage system with a new one.

China-Pak business delegation visits RCCI

RAWALPINDI (APP): A delegation of the China-Pakistan Business Development Council headed by Council President Chen Jian Lu along with Chairman Shafiqur Rehman visited the Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) here on Monday.

They were also accompanied by Wang Xiaosan, Ms. Li Xin and Ms Lee Wong.

President KCCI for complete ban on import of recycled plastic

KARACHI (APP): President Karachi Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Mohammed Tariq Yousuf, on Tuesday, suggested the import of recycled plastic under any description in the negative list or placing a complete ban on the item.

The KCCI president, in a statement issued here, argued that there was no need or logic to import recycled plastic in Pakistan because the country already generates its own massive volumes of plastic waste and scrap which is recycled by many units operating in Pakistan, hence, there was no point in buying other country's garbage.

Tariq Yousuf, in a letter to Federal Minister

for Commerce, Industries and Production Dr. Gohar Ejaz, also suggested carrying out a Forensic Audit of all recent imports of Plastics (Polyethylene) during the last four to six months and the importers should be asked to clarify how and through what channel the payments have been made to foreign suppliers for import from a neighbouring country.

Moreover, a massive volume of smuggled Plastics from neighbouring countries and misdeclaration in terms of value and quantity have caused losses of Rs10 to 12 billion in just three months on account of Customs Duty, Sales Tax, WHT and other levies, he added.



KARACHI: An iron smiths are busy in their work at shop in Eid Gah area in Provincial Capital.

Work on 884-MW SK Hydropower project in full swing: Wang Huihua

ISLAMABAD (APP): Managing Director of China Energy International Group's Pakistan Wang Huihua on Tuesday said the construction work on the 884-megawatt Suki Kinari (SK) Hydropower Project was being carried out at a fast-track basis under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) initiatives.

The run-of-the-Kunhar-river hydropower project would create over 4,250 employment opportunities besides contributing significant electricity to the national

grid, he said while talking to APP.

Wang Huihua expressed confidence the SK hydropower project was expected to complete by the end of the current year or mid of 2024 as its powerhouse and reservoir section were in the final phases of completion.

However, he said the 24-kilometer-long Hades Tunnel was the most challenging part of the project due to difficult terrain, harsh weather conditions during winter and water drainage problems.



HYDERABAD: Hyderabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (HCCI) President, Adeel Siddiqui presenting shield to Tariq Razaq Dharejo, Deputy Inspector General of Police (DIGP) Hyderabad during a ceremony held in HCCI in Hyderabad.

Punjab Governor says: PEC is playing an important role in national development

Independent Report
LAHORE: Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman attended the STEM Ambassador Program under the auspices of Pakistan Engineering Council at Lahore College for Women University as a special guest. Vice Chancellor Lahore College for Women University Dr. Shagufta Naz, Chairman Pakistan Engineering Council Najeeb Haroon, Convener Pakistan

Engineering Council Development Committee Engineer Mir Masood Rashid, Former Member Provincial Assembly Sania Kamran, Deans, academicians and a large number of students were present. Addressing the ceremony, Punjab Governor Muhammad Balighur Rehman said that Pakistan Engineering Council is playing an important role in national

development. He said that the Pakistan Engineering Council's Graduate Internship Program is providing students with quality work experience, which is not only an investment in the future but also a valuable contribution to the development of the engineering sector. The Punjab Governor said that the importance of science and technology is a vital factor in modern world. While appreciating

the STEM initiative of PEC, he said that arranging activities in various educational institutions for the promotion of scientific studies among the youth under STEM is commendable. He said that this program will help universities and schools to work together and impart science education to the children. It will definitely help in increasing the trend of STEM education, he added.



LAHORE: Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman in a group photo with Vice Chancellor and others during a ceremony of Stem Ambassador Program at Lahore College for Women University.



PESHAWAR: Ambassador of Poland in Pakistan Maciej Pisarski meeting with Governor Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa Haji Ghulam Ali.

Minister conveys condolences to Sikh Community

PESHAWAR (Online): Caretaker Provincial Minister for Law and Human Rights, Auqaf, and Minority Affairs, Justice (Retd) Syed Arshad Hussain Shah, alongside Auqaf Secretary Dr. Asad Ali, paid a visit to Gurdwara Bhai Joga Singh Namak Mandi in Peshawar. During this solemn occasion, they expressed their heartfelt sympathy and

condolences to the Sikh community in the wake of Hardeep Singh's tragic killing by India's RAW agency in Canada. The leaders of the Sikh community expressed their gratitude to Justice Retired Syed Arshad Hussain Shah for his visit to the Gurdwara. Speaking to the media during this visit, the caretaker provincial minister extended his condolences to the Sikh community.

Caretaker CM chairs meeting on Foreign Funded Projects

PESHAWAR (Online): An important meeting to discuss and review progress on Foreign Funded Development Projects in the province including newly merged areas was held here on Tuesday with the caretaker Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Muhammad Azam Khan in the chair. Chief Secretary Nadeem Aslam Chaudhary, Additional Chief Secretary Zubair Asghar Quraishi, administrative secretaries of the concerned departments and other high ups attended the meeting. The participants were

given detailed briefing about the progress made so far on the foreign funded development projects and other related matters. It was told that under the foreign funded development portfolio, a total of 66 development projects worth Rs. 849 billion were reflected in the Annual Development Program of the current financial year adding that Rs. 114 billion have been allocated for the aforementioned projects in the current fiscal year, out of which Rs. 10.9 billion have been released so far. Briefing about the details of development

projects in the various sectors, it was informed that five projects were reflected in Agriculture sector, three in Public Health Engineering, four projects in the Elementary & Secondary Education and seven projects in the sector of Power & Energy, three projects in the Health, three projects in Local Government, five in Road Communication, two in Tourism, three projects in Irrigation, one project each in Forests, Home, Industries and Labour whereas nineteen in multi-sectoral development sector.

Anti-corruption seminar at PINS

Moral and professional Dis-honesty is also a form of corruption

Independent Report
LAHORE: Executive Director of Punjab Institute of Neurosciences (PINS) and renowned Neurosurgeon Prof. Asif Bashir has said that collective efforts are required to eliminate corruption and malpractices from the society and for this purpose all the stakeholders should start sincere efforts and a concrete struggle to get rid of this menace. He further said that apart from financial corruption, moral decline and professional negligence have also spread in our society because not

performing one's duties honestly and lack of interest in office hours is also corruption. These views were expressed by ED PINS Prof. Asif Bashir while addressing the corruption awareness seminar organized by National Accountability Bureau (NAB) at Bashir Auditorium "PINS". A large number of Professors, young doctors, nurses and medical staff participated in the seminar. Addressing the seminar, Director NAB Imran Sohail said that the main reason for the economic and financial problems that Pakistan is

facing today are hurdles like corruption, nepotism, bribery and favoritism, due to which a lot of national resources and income have been lost. A large portion is wasted, resulting in Governments looking to external aid and financial institutions to run the country, he added. Imran Sohail further said that Pakistan can move forward only if all the institutions and the people work together to eliminate corruption and make serious efforts. Director NAB said that the National Accountability Bureau is advancing this struggle

according to its mandate and many seminars are being organized in various institutions and Government Departments to raise awareness about corruption while this seminar organized in the Neuro Institute is part of this same struggle. ED PINS Prof. Asif Bashir while appreciating the efforts of NAB officials to eradicate corruption said that this campaign will help to raise awareness among people against corruption and we all should be mentally alert about it. They will be willing to carry out their affairs

according to the rules and regulations, not to fall into any kind of temptation to give undue concessions to anyone, by which someone else's rights will be destroyed, the affairs of the offices will be deteriorating and our national resources are wasted. Prof. Asif Bashir expressed his determination that Punjab Institute of Neurosciences will provide its platform for all the issues included in the national stream and such positive activities will continue to be encouraged in the future as well.

Jan chairs meeting on key infrastructure projects KP

Independent Report
PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Caretaker Minister for Communication & Works and Irrigation Ahmad Jan Khan, recently led a meeting in Peshawar to discuss significant infrastructure projects within the Communication & Works Department. During the meeting, progress on the province's flagship mega projects and their completion timelines were assessed.

Murad presides over an online minerals cadastre portal review meeting

Independent Report
LAHORE: Under the chairmanship of Provincial Minister for Mines and Minerals, Ibrahim Murad, an online Minerals Cadastre Portal review meeting was convened. The meeting was also attended by the Director-General of Mines and Minerals and the Chief Executive Officer of Punjab Board Of Investment and

Trade (PBIT). During the meeting, the Mines and Minerals Department provided a detailed briefing to the Provincial Minister regarding the design and data of the department's web portal. A suggestion from PBIT proposed further translation of the Mines and Minerals Department's website into two additional international languages.

International News

Turkey to ratify Sweden's NATO bid if US approves F-16 sales to Ankara

Monitoring Desk
ANKARA: Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said that the Turkish parliament would ratify Sweden's accession to NATO if the U.S. approves the sale of its F-16 fighter jets to Ankara, Reuters reported on Sept. 26. Erdogan told reporters on his flight back from Azerbaijan that Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan discussed the issue of Sweden's NATO aspirations with U.S. State Secretary Antony Blinken in New York last week. According to the Turkish president, the

Biden administration is linking the F-16 sales to Ankara's approval of the Swedish NATO bid. "If they (the U.S.) keep their promises, our parliament will keep its own promise as well. Turkish parliament will have the final say on Sweden's NATO membership," Erdogan said. Both Sweden and Finland applied to join the Alliance in May 2022 due to Russia's aggression against Ukraine. Turkey initially blocked both of their bids but gave the green light to Helsinki in March. Erdogan seemingly conceded to back Sweden's

bid and forward it to the Turkish parliament on July 10 after meeting NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg and Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson. A day after the announcement, the Biden administration said that it would move forward with the sale of F-16s to Turkey. Ankara requested to buy \$20 billion of F-16 aircraft and nearly 80 modernization kits for its existing warplanes from the U.S. in October 2021. Since then, neither the ratification of Sweden's NATO bid nor the sale of the jets have been finalized.



Belarus Foreign Minister Sergei Aleinik addresses the 78th session of the United Nations General Assembly.

Belarus' top diplomat says he can't imagine his nation entering the war in Ukraine alongside Russia

Monitoring Desk
UNITED NATIONS: The foreign minister of Belarus, which has a strategic partnership with Russia, says he cannot envision a situation where his country would enter the war in Ukraine alongside Russian forces. Sergei Aleinik said in an interview with The Associated Press that he also can't imagine a situation where Russia would order his country to use the tactical nuclear weapons it recently deployed in Belarus. "I don't see such an

option because it is an instrument of defense primarily," he said of the missiles. But if Belarus was invaded, "I will not exclude any instruments to be used to defend the sovereignty and territorial integrity of our country," he said. Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko, who has relied on Russian subsidies and political support to rule the ex-Soviet nation with an iron hand for nearly three decades, allowed the Kremlin to use Belarusian terri-

tory to send troops into Ukraine in February 2022 at the start of the invasion. But Lukashenko has opposed joining the fighting. Aleinik said the stationing of tactical nuclear missiles in Belarus is a response to "the very big militarization" along its western border. The Polish military, for example, is planning to double its armed forces and bring more heavy weapons to the border, backed by a growing presence of U.S. and other NATO forces, he said.

EU commissioner calls for more balanced trade with China & warns that Ukraine could divide them

Monitoring Desk
BEIJING: The European Union's trade commissioner called for a more balanced economic relationship with China on Monday, noting an EU trade deficit of nearly 400 billion euros (\$425 billion), while also warning that China's position on the war in Ukraine could endanger its relationship with Europe. Valdis Dombrovskis, in a speech at China's prestigious Tsinghua University, said that the EU and China face significant political and economic headwinds that could cause them to drift apart. "The strongest, yet

not the only, headwind is Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, and how China positions itself on this issue," he said. Dombrovskis spoke before high-level economic and trade talks with Chinese Vice Premier He Lifeng. EU leaders have expressed concern about the bloc's growing trade deficit with China, which reached 396 billion euros last year. European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen recently announced an investigation into Chinese subsidies to electric vehicle makers, saying a flood of cheaper Chinese cars is distorting the European market.



Kosovo police members of Special Intervention Unit escort one of the arrested Serb gunmen out of the court after the Kosovo shootout in capital Pristina.

Taiwan expects to deploy two new submarines by 2027, security adviser says

Monitoring Desk
TAIPEI: Taiwan hopes to deploy at least two new, domestically developed submarines by 2027, and possibly equip later models with missiles, to strengthen deterrence against the Chinese navy and protect key supply lines, the head of the program said. Taiwan, which China claims as its own territory, has made the indigenous sub program a key part of an ambitious project to modernize its armed forces as Beijing stages almost daily military exercises to assert its sovereignty. President Tsai Ing-

wen, who initiated the programme when she took office in 2016, is expected to launch the first of eight new submarines on Thursday under a plan that has drawn on expertise and technology from several countries - a breakthrough for diplomatically isolated Taiwan. Admiral Huang Shu-kuang, Tsai's security adviser, who is leading the program, said a fleet of 10 submarines - which includes two Dutch-made submarines commissioned in the 1980s - will make it harder for the Chinese navy to project power into the Pacific.



KHANKENDI: In this videograb released by the Russian Defence Ministry, Russian peacekeepers help evacuate refugees from this town, also called Stepanakert.

Taliban weigh using US mass surveillance plan, met with China's Huawei

Monitoring Desk
KABUL: The Taliban are creating a large-scale camera surveillance network for Afghan cities that could involve repurposing a plan crafted by the Americans before their 2021 pull-out, an interior ministry spokesman told Reuters, as authorities seek to supplement thousands of cameras already across the capital, Kabul. The Taliban administration

which has publicly said it is focused on restoring security and clamping down on Islamic State, which has claimed many major attacks in Afghan cities, has also consulted Chinese telecom equipment maker Huawei about potential cooperation, the spokesman said. Preventing attacks by international militant groups - including prominent organisations.

Swedish police open arson case after mosque fire

Monitoring Desk
SWEDEN: Swedish police said on Tuesday that they were investigating whether a fire that reduced a mosque to rubble the previous day in central Sweden was arson. "The investigation into the fire is continuing. Police will question witnesses and verify whether there were security cameras in the area," the police said in a statement on their website. The fire broke out on Monday around noon in Eskilstuna, a town of 108,000 people 150 kilometres (93 miles) west of Stockholm, causing no injuries, a police spokesman told AFP. There are no suspects and no arrests have been made. "The mosque is almost completely destroyed, nothing can be saved," mosque spokesman Anas Deneche told AFP. Deneche said the mosque had been the target of several acts of violence in the past year and his family had been threatened.

Serbia demands that NATO take over policing of northern Kosovo after a deadly shootout

Monitoring Desk
BELGRADE: Serbia's president demanded Tuesday to have a NATO-led peacekeeping force take over for the national law enforcement agency in northern Kosovo after a daylong shootout between armed Serbs and Kosovar police left one officer and three gunmen dead. In one of the worst confrontations since Kosovo declared independence from Serbia in 2008, about 30 masked

men opened fire on a police patrol near the village of Banjska early Sunday then broke down the gates of a Serbian Orthodox monastery and barricaded themselves with the priests and visiting pilgrims. The violence further raised tensions in the Balkan region at a time when European Union and U.S. mediators have been pushing for a deal that would normalize ties between former wartime foes Serbia and Kosovo.

Saudi Arabia plans tougher IAEA checks

Monitoring Desk
VIENNA: Saudi Arabia said on Monday it has decided to end light-touch oversight of its nuclear activities by the UN atomic watchdog and switch to full-blown safeguards, a change the agency has been demanding for years. Saudi Arabia has a nascent nuclear programme that it wants to expand to eventually include activities like proliferation-sensitive uranium enrichment. It is unclear where its ambitions end, since Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman has said for years.

Madad orders FDE to resolve its issues on war footing

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training Madad Ali Sindhi Tuesday directed FDE to resolve its issues on war footing as education is the only way towards progress.

During his visit to Federal Directorate of Education (FDE), he said that there are countries that were decades behind us but now due to better education are miles ahead of us.

He said that Pakistan is our home and we should try to resolve its problems like we resolve our personal issues.

Minister said that there are challenges faced by every institution but we should try to resolve them with complete dedication and hardwork.

The government institutions hold immense importance for the employees as they not only provide salaries but also pensions after retirement, he said adding that in today's age such facility is a blessing.

He said that every employee should keep this into consideration and try to benefit the organization, as it is responsible for the maintenance of several hundred employees.

Madad said that teachers should not hold administrative positions and should solely focus on their duties as teachers. He said that teachers have the most important responsibility of all and should give their hundred percent to this task only.

Minister was briefed

by DG FDE Amjad Ahmed. Minister was told that FDE faces a regular budget deficit. He was informed that the current year deficit is almost PKR 7 billion.

Minister was told that a biometric system has been placed in all institutions of FDE to ensure attendance of teaching and non-teaching staff. Minister was told that almost 24k students are enrolled in all of the FDE institutions.

He was told that 2839 teachers were trained in the last year as well. Furthermore, indoor sports facilities have been established in 391 schools and colleges of FDE in addition with enrolment of 17k out of school children in the last year.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Education, Professional Training, Madad Ali Sindhi is being briefed by DG FDE Amjad Ahmed during his visit to the Federal Directorate of Education.

Senate Body on Housing and Works reviews vital housing project matters

Independent Report
ISLAMABAD: The Senate Standing Committee on Housing and Works, under the chairmanship of Senator Hidayatullah Khan, convened at the Parliament House on Tuesday.

Present at the meeting were senators, including Bahramand Khan Tangi, Saif Ullah Sarwar Khan Nyazee, Fida Muhammad, Khalida Ateeb, Falak Naz, Afnan Ullah Khan, and Saifullah Abro. Also in attendance were key officials including Secretary of the Ministry of Housing and Works, Shehzad Bangash, Additional Secretary of the Ministry of Housing and Works, the Director General of FGEHA (Federal Government Employees Housing Authority), and other pertinent stakeholders.

Commencing the session, the committee raised the issue regarding the Qasr-e-Naz guest house in Karachi, urging the restoration of electricity to the guest house. The members echoed these concerns,

shedding light on the guest house's deteriorating condition due to inadequate maintenance.

The Secretary Ministry of Housing and Works informed that the electricity had been disconnected due to an outstanding amount of Rs. 80 lakh, further noting that K-electric demands full payment of the outstanding sum.

During the course of the meeting, the committee extensively deliberated on the plight of affectees in Sector G-14/1-2-3. The DG FGEHA, in his comprehensive briefing, reported substantial progress with 90% clearance of encroachments in G-14/2 and 99% in G-14/3. In G-14/1, approximately 50% of the area has been successfully cleared.

The DG highlighted ongoing operations against encroachers in G-14/1 and informed about the initiation of tendering processes, paving the way for imminent development work. Additionally, 2000 plots have already been handed over.



ISLAMABAD: A view of the passengers hanging and stand on the sides of the pickup vehicle without any safety at the mountaineer area of the Margala Hills, which may cause any incident any time, needs the attention of concern authority.

Traffic violation fines surge in Islamabad to enhance road safety

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Federal Ministry of Interior has recently enacted a substantial increase in penalties for traffic violations within the capital city of Islamabad with the main objective of maintaining traffic discipline and ensuring a safe road environment in the city.

This significant change in policy has been officially communicated to the public, and its primary objective is to reinforce the enforcement of traffic laws, ultimately leading to safer roads for all citizens, as stated by a spokesperson.

As per the newly issued notification by the Ministry of Interior, the minimum fine for traffic violations has been raised to Rs 500. This adjustment represents part of a broader initiative aimed at ensuring rigorous adherence to traffic regulations, which play a crucial role in

preventing accidents and maintaining road safety.

The updated notification provides specific fines for various violations. Motorcyclists who exceed the speed limit will be charged Rs 1,000, while motor car drivers will face fines of Rs 1,500. Public Service Vehicles (PSVs) and Heavy Transport Vehicles (HTVs) will incur penalties of Rs 2,000 and Rs 2,500, respectively, for the same violation. Signal violations will result in a fine of Rs 2,000, and one-way violations will cost Rs 1,000 for motorcycles, Rs 2,000 for cars, and a substantial Rs 8,000 for PSVs.

Other violations such as illegal parking will now carry a fine of Rs 1,000, while the use of tinted glasses will result in a penalty of Rs 1,500. Reckless driving will incur a Rs 2,000 fine, while under-age driving will cost Rs 2,500.

IB files petition in SC for withdrawing review petition in Faizabad Dharma case

ISLAMABAD (Online): Intelligence Bureau (IB) has filed miscellaneous petition in Supreme Court (SC) for withdrawing review petition in Faizabad Dharma case.

SC will take up Faizabad review case on Thursday.

The one page miscellaneous petition has been filed by deputy director Asad Ullah Khan.

Two points have been discussed in the petition. It has been said that IB wants to withdraw review petition against the decision. The miscellaneous petition has been accepted and permission has been granted to withdraw review petition.

The petition has been filed through advocate on the record Ahmad Nawaz Chaudhry.

It is pertinent to mention here SC has fixed Faizabad Dharma review case on Thursday September 28. Notices have been issued to the respondents in this regard.

47 suspicious individuals shifted to PS during search operation
ISLAMABAD (NNI): Islamabad Capital Police Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) conducted a search and combing operation at Shalimar and Khanna police station jurisdiction, a public relations officer said.

He said that, following the special directives of Islamabad Capital City Police Officer (ICCP) Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan, the search and combing operations are being conducted in different areas of the city, to ensure the safety and security of the Islamabad citizens.

Following these directives, a search and combing operation was conducted in different areas of Shalimar and Khanna police stations by CTD, FC and local police teams. During the search and combing operation 90 suspicious individuals, 30 motorcycles, 27 vehicles and 133 Houses were thoroughly checked, while 06 suspicious individuals and 41 foreigners were shifted to the police station for verification purposes.



ISLAMABAD: Senator Taj Haider Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Parliamentary Affairs presiding over a meeting of the Committee at Parliament House



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Interior Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti inaugurating the First Police Driving School for Women.

Climate related data stressed Strengthening stakeholder collaboration, inclusiveness and digitalized access

ISLAMABAD (Online): "We have failed at the federal level to develop a comprehensive coordination mechanism needed for effective and efficient mobilization of sub-national disaster management authorities" said Ahmed Kamal, Chairman, Federal Flood Commission. He was speaking at a seminar titled "Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Policy Implementation in Pakistan in line with the Sendai Framework" jointly organized by Sustainable Development Policy Institute, Oxfam and partners here today.

The district level re-

sponse is the most crucial and integral component in the implementation of disaster related policies and efforts. However, the bureaucratic design hinders implementation of policies and plans serving as the weak and undermines the welfare and resilience of already vulnerable communities. He further stressed on the need for skilled human resource to build the institutional capacity and develop a sense of competition that can lead to better organizational performance. "There is pressing need to bring all the organizations performing in the

realm of disaster and climate action under the umbrella to reinforce and converge efforts and prevent effort duplication and fiscal efficiency", he added. Elucidating the financing gap, he informed that the financial need for structural on-ground interventions required over Rs 125Billion while only about 25Billion rupees have so far been allocated, which again serves as a roadblock in effective implementation. Shedding light on DRR initiatives, he informed that under the Integrated flood risk management approach nature-based solutions for structural interventions.

Jazz, NUST 5G innovation lab hosts Pakistan's first 5G Hackathon

ISLAMABAD (APP): Jazz, Pakistan's largest digital operator is bringing Pakistan's first 5G Innovation Hackathon in close collaboration with the National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST), National Informational Technology Board (NITB), and Code for Pakistan (CIP).

The groundbreaking initiative which will be launched soon, aims to harness the immense potential of 5G technology and other cutting-edge innovations to address critical challenges in Pakistan's key sectors, including health, education,

financial services, disaster management and climate change, agri-tech, and Industry 4.0, said a news release here on Tuesday.

The 5G Innovation Hackathon underscores the critical importance of fos-

tering innovation and talent in the realm of 5G technology. By bringing together bright minds, developers, and entrepreneurs, the hackathon serves as a breeding ground for groundbreaking ideas and solutions that will shape the future of telecommunications in Pakistan.

The event not only empowers local talent but also ensures that Pakistan remains at the forefront of the digital revolution, paving the way for a more connected and innovative future.

Chief Regulatory Af-

tion lab in collaboration with NUST, a tech hub that's now hosting the country's first 5G hackathon to help create viable solutions to key challenges while putting Pakistan on the global map of 5G innovation," the press release quoted him as saying.

CEO NITB Baber Majid Bhatti said at NITB, they would see the 5G Innovation Hackathon as a catalyst for Pakistan's e-governance evolution. This event will unite technology and governance, paving the way for tailored solutions



airs Officer at Jazz Syed Fakhar Ahmed said solutions to the longstanding challenges that face developing countries like Pakistan lie in technology.

"We're proud to have developed the 5G innova-

tion lab in collaboration with NUST, a tech hub that's now hosting the country's first 5G hackathon to help create viable solutions to key challenges while putting Pakistan on the global map of 5G innovation," the press release quoted him as saying.

By harnessing 5G's potential, he said, they would be nurturing a digitally connected Pakistan, building capacity, and fostering innovation.

DC orders dengue spray, fogging key buildings

ISLAMABAD (APP): Deputy Commissioner Irfan Nawaz Memon, to combat the rising dengue fever cases, has ordered anti-dengue teams to carry out dengue spraying and fogging key areas of the city, including the buildings of Supreme Court, Election Commission, PM Secretariat and NADRA Headquarters.

DC Memon also directed officials to improve sanitation arrangements in different areas of the city to prevent dengue and to launch an awareness campaign among the people about anti-dengue measures. He further emphasized the need to spray dengue in schools and colleges of Islamabad.

In a statement, the ICT spokesman Dr Abdullah Tabasum said that the Deputy Commissioner has assured that all possible resources will be used to control the deadly virus in Islamabad.

He added that the rural area of Islamabad is

among the top priorities of the administration and every possible step will be taken to protect the lives of the citizens.

Deputy Commissioner Islamabad's timely action is a welcome step in the fight against dengue fever. It is important for the public to cooperate with the authorities and take all necessary precautions to protect themselves from this deadly disease.

Talking to APP, medical expert Doctor Attiya Karim Khan said that the dengue fever is a mosquito-borne viral infection that can cause flu-like symptoms, such as fever, headache, muscle and joint pain, and nausea. In severe cases, dengue fever can lead to life-threatening complications, such as hemorrhagic fever and dengue shock syndrome, she added.

Dr Attiya further said that there is no specific treatment for dengue fever, but early diagnosis and supportive care can help to improve the prognosis.

KSA Majlis-e-Shura official visit NA

ISLAMABAD (APP): A group of high-ranking officials from the Majlis-e-Shura of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) here on Tuesday visited National Assembly of Pakistan.

The visit was in line with the roadmap agreed upon by Speaker of the National Assembly, Raja Pervez Ashraf, and , Chairman of Majlis-e-Shura, Dr. Abdullah bin Mohammed bin Ibrahim Al Sheikh during their meeting, aimed at further strengthening cooperation and collaboration between the National Assembly of Pakistan and the Saudi Majlis-e-Shura. The Saudi delegation consisting of official of Majlis-e-Shura was briefed about important initiatives undertaken taken by the national assembly for its complete and comprehensive digitalization. The delegation expressed appreciation about progress of different projects undertaken by National Assembly of Pakistan. Later, the delegates also toured the Parliament House including National Assembly Hall.

The Association views the recent notification of newly inducted PMS/PCS officers into PAS Grade 19 as an attempt to legitimize an unconstitutional service through Statutory Regulatory Orders (SROs), circumventing parliamentary and provincial assembly procedures.

The federal government, through SRO 1046(1)2020 dated 14-10-2020, and a subsequent notification on 12 March 2021, amended the Civil Service of Pakistan (CSP) rules, altering the definition of "Federal government" and "provincial government" to "Prime Minister

PAEC Hospital NORI designated as IAEA "Anchor Centre"

ISLAMABAD (APP): PAEC Hospital NORI, Islamabad is designated as IAEA "Anchor Centre" to Enhance Member States' Capabilities in Cancer Research which is a significant achievement.

At a signing ceremony held in Vienna, organized on the sidelines of the 67th Session of the General Conference of the IAEA, Pakistan's Nuclear Medicine, Oncology and Radiotherapy Institute (NORI) has been designated as an Anchor Centre under the IAEA's "Rays of Hope initiative".

On behalf of Pakistan, the Anchor Centre Agreement was signed by Dr. Raja

ilities which work with the IAEA to support and provide relevant expertise in the respective region.

These centres are part of the IAEA's Rays of Hope (RoH) initiative, which aims to assist Member States in establishing or expanding their capacities in radiotherapy and multimodality medical imaging.

Moreover, the designated Anchor Centres will train fellows, organise training courses for healthcare providers, participate in IAEA Coordinated Research Projects, promote networking, and provide experts and mentorship to other radiotherapy and



Ali Raza Anwar, Chairman, Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC) alongside the Director General of the IAEA, Rafael Mariano Grossi, said a news release, Anchor Centres are designated cancer treatment fa-

medical imaging centres in their region. Along with Pakistan, Anchor Centre Agreements with cancer institutes from Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and Turkiye were also signed during the ceremony.

Non showing Toshakhana gifts by members of assembly:

Court gives last chance to EC counsel to give written reply

LAHORE (Online): Lahore High Court (LHC) has given last chance to counsel for Election Commission (EC) to give written reply on the petition filed against the politicians who have failed to show Toshakhana gifts in EC papers.

The petition filed by the citizen Tanvir Sarwar came up for hearing before single bench of LHC led by Justice Raheel Kamran Sheikh here Tuesday.

The petition was filed through advocate Nadeem Sarwar.

The petitioner has taken the plea EC demonstrated partiality. Action was taken against only one person. EC kept in view its likes and dislikes in Toshakhana case. Proceeding was initiated against Chairman PTI in Toshakhana case and he was disqualified. EC did not register complaint against any other member of assembly.

Equal action should be taken against those members of assembly who have obtained gifts and they have not shown them.

The petitioner requested the court to order the EC to take legal action against those members of assembly who have not shown the gifts taken from Toshakhana by them.

During the hearing of the case the court while reprimanding the counsel for EC remarked you have made mockery of the courts. One month has passed and you have not given reply on this petition. I give decision on this petition today.

The counsel for EC while regretting requested the court to give time to file reply. The EC while giving the last chance to the counsel for giving reply till October 02 adjourned the hearing of the case.

Administrative Federalism rejects PMS induction into PAS

Independent Report

PESHAWAR: In a fervent statement, the Association of Administrative Federalism, Pakistan, led by President Noman Wazir, has vehemently opposed the induction of Provincial Management Services (PMS) into the Pakistan Administrative Service (PAS). The organization is resolute in its position that PAS (Pakistan Administrative Service) and Police Service of Pakistan (PSP) recruitments, promotions, and postings on provincial subjects are unconstitutional.

The Association views the recent notification of newly inducted PMS/PCS officers into PAS Grade 19 as an attempt to legitimize an unconstitutional service through Statutory Regulatory Orders (SROs), circumventing parliamentary and provincial assembly procedures.

The federal government, through SRO 1046(1)2020 dated 14-10-2020, and a subsequent notification on 12 March 2021, amended the Civil Service of Pakistan (CSP) rules, altering the definition of "Federal government" and "provincial government" to "Prime Minister

and the person authorized by him" and "Chief Minister and the person authorized by him," respectively.

Subsequently, the Secretary of the Establishment Division, under this SRO, assumed the role of "the government" and modified the Intra-Provincial Cadre Change (IPCC) formula from percentage-based to fixed numbers. This confidential formula, used since 1993, reserves provincial posts for PAS during caretaker governments, a fact revealed only in 2020.

The induction of Provincial Management Services (PMS) and Provincial Civil Services (PCS) into Pakistan Administrative Service Rules, 2020, via SRO 274(I)/2021, as notified by the Federal Public Service Commission (FPSC), is considered a transgression by the Association. Article 242(1) of the Constitution, which governs the establishment of Public Service Commissions, is cited as the basis for their argument.

The Association further asserts that FPSC has exceeded its jurisdiction, leading to a distortion of the constitution.

MUZAFFERABAD: Activists of Pasban-e-Hurriyat shouting slogans during protest against India outside United Nations, in the Capital of Azad Jammu and Kashmir.