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Chief Editor: Syed Farooq Shah

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Caretaker PM lauds martyrs' sacrifices for defence of motherland

Says nation stands with armed forces to thwart evil designs

ISLAMABAD (INP): The prime minister also laid flowers at the national monument and also paid homage to the heroes of the freedom struggle.

The prime minister said "this is the moment that appears to be a death but actually it is the moment of meeting with the immortal".

Referring to the moments of martyrdom of the valiant soldiers, the prime minister said "this is the moment that appears to be a death but actually it is the moment of meeting with the immortal".



QUETTA: Caretaker Provincial Minister Prince Ali Ahmed Baloch meeting with Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki

Jan Achakzai welcomes Caretaker PM's crackdown on sugar smuggling

Independent Report QUETTA: The caretaker Provincial Minister for Information, Jan Achakzai has welcomed Prime Minister Anwar Kakar's crackdown on sugar smuggling.

The information minister assured the people of Balochistan that the government will do everything in its power to control the menace of sugar smuggling and ensure that the price of sugar remains affordable.



ISLAMABAD: Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi exchanging views with Admiral Erucment Tatlioglu, Commander Turkish Naval Forces during meeting held at Naval Headquarters in Islamabad.

Cmdr Turkish Naval Force, Naval Chief discuss bilateral naval collaboration

ISLAMABAD (INP): Commander Turkish Naval Forces, Admiral Erucment TATLIO?LU on Wednesday paid visit to Naval Headquarters Islamabad and called on Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi.

He said this during an informal talks with media men in court room on Wednesday.

Jl Balochistan to stage dharna against inflation in front of Governor House on 24th

Independent Report QUETTA: The Jama'at-Islami (JI) Balochistan would stage protest sit-in (dharna) against inflation on September 24 in front of the Governor House, Quetta.

Hashmi while addressing a press conference at the Quetta Press Club on Wednesday. He expressed deep concern over the increasing price hike in the country, which has made the life of common men miserable.

CJCSC, Services Chiefs pay tribute to martyrs, families on 58th Defence Day

RAWALPINDI (INP): The Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCSC), Services Chiefs and Armed Forces of the country paid rich tribute to martyrs, their families and war veterans on the 58th Defence and Martyrs' Day of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi and caretaker Federal Minister for Power Muhammad Ali addressing a press conference.

Govt announces crackdown across country to control electricity theft

Launches crackdown against dollar-smuggling, hoarding

ISLAMABAD (Online): The federal government under the directives of the Prime Minister is going to launch crackdown across the country soon to control electricity theft.

He said under this strategy, technology interventions will be made in the areas where electricity theft is 15 to 30 percent. Secondly, involvement of private sector will be ensured in the management where electricity theft is from 30 to 60 percent while enforcement will be ensured in the areas where power theft is more than 60 percent.

The Minister said the government has planned a comprehensive three-pronged strategy to deal with the issue of power theft.

Giving details about the steps to be taken to stop power theft, Muhammad Ali said there is dire need of introducing reforms in the energy sector. He said the government is reviewing the performance of the Board of Directors of power distribution companies and will bring change in their management.

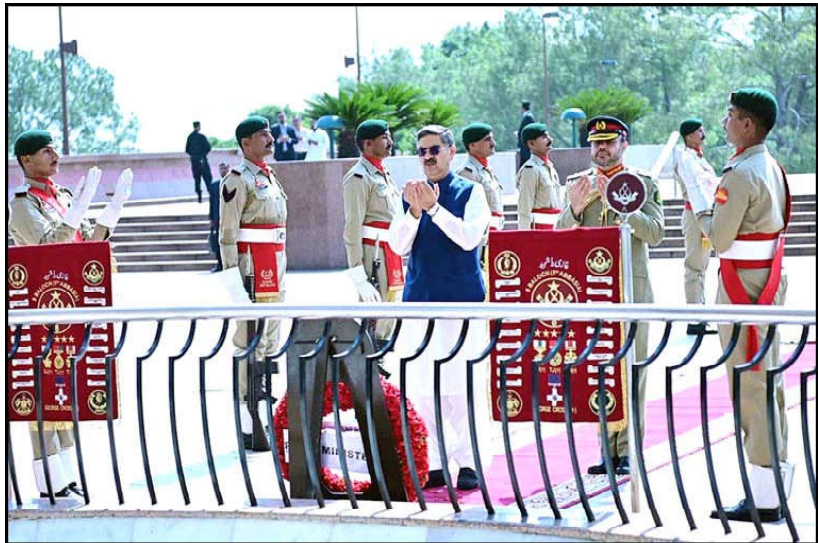


QUETTA: Teachers and Students of Govt Elementary College Jinnah Town Quetta experiencing gunshot at Shooting Range Quetta during their visit on the occasion of Defence Day.

Four soldiers martyred, 12 terrorists killed in heavily armed attack along Pak-Afghan border

RAWALPINDI (APP): Four soldiers of Pakistan Army on Wednesday embraced martyrdom while gallantly thwarting a heavily armed terrorists' attack on two military posts along Pak-Afghan border in Chitral, whereas 12 terrorists were killed and several critically injured amid intense exchange of fire.

threat environment, the Pakistan Army posts were already on high alert. "The valiant soldiers fought bravely and repulsed the attacks inflicting heavy casualties to the terrorists. During the fire exchange, twelve terrorists were sent to hell, while a large number has been critically injured," the ISPR said.



ISLAMABAD: DEFENCE & MARTYRS DAY: To pay homage and tribute to the Martyrs & Ghazis of the 1965 war, Caretaker Prime Minister Anwar-ul-Haq Kakar laying floral wreath and offering Dua at Pakistan Monument.

100 dams project be completed at the earliest: Caretaker CM stresses need to increase capacity of water storage for promotion of agriculture

Independent Report

QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki has directed the concerned authorities to complete the project of construction of 100 dams in province at the earliest.

The Secretary Irrigation Department Hafiz Abdul Majid briefed the meeting about the departmental affairs.

Secretary Finance and other concerned high ups were in attendance at the meeting.

A large group of terrorists equipped with the latest weapons attacked two Pakistani military posts located closer to the Pakistan-Afghanistan border in general area Kalash, District Chitral, an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release said.

The military's media wing said the terrorists' movement and concentration in Gawardesh, Pitagal, Barg-e-Matel and Batash areas of Nuristan and Kunar provinces of Afghanistan had already been picked up and were timely shared with the Interim Afghan Government.

Sanitization of the area was being carried out to eliminate any other terrorists found in the area. "Security forces of Pakistan are determined to eliminate the menace of terrorism and such sacrifices of our soldiers further strengthen our resolve. The brave people of Chitral also stand firmly with the security forces in not allowing the terrorists to ruin the peace of the area," the ISPR said.

Interim Afghan Government was expected to fulfill its obligations and deny the use of Afghan soil by terrorists for perpetuating acts of terrorism against Pakistan, it added.



QUETTA: Caretaker Provincial Finance Minister Amjad Rasheed meeting with Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar

Governor calls for preparing comprehensive strategy to reduce economic sufferings of public

Independent Report QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar has directed the concerned authorities to remove the public complaints about the unsatisfactory situation of health and hygiene as well as the overbilling of gas and electricity consumers and their unannounced load shedding in Quetta city.

different delegations who called on him at Governor House on Wednesday. The members of delegations representing different segments appraised the Governor about their complaints.

He said that the hardships of domestic consumers of gas and electricity have been increased due to the severe price hike.

Therefore, it is necessary to prepare a comprehensive strategy to reduce the economic sufferings of the masses, maintained the Governor while speaking to



QUETTA: Caretaker Provincial Health Minister Dr. Ameer Muhammad Jozgezi meeting with Caretaker Minister for Information Jan Achakzai

Pakistan Defence Day celebrated with zeal in Balochistan

QUETTA (APP): The Defence and Martyrs Day of Pakistan was celebrated with enthusiasm in respective areas of Balochistan on Wednesday.

The day dawned with the recitation of the Holy Quran and special prayers for the prosperity of Pakistan in all mosques throughout the province.

Officers of Pak Army, Frontier Corps, Police and Levies Force while offering Fateha for the fallen heroes of the nation laid floral wreath at different Yadgar-e-Shuhada set up in various districts of the province.

Participants in the ceremonies paying homage to the martyrs and Ghazis highlighted the sacrifices rendered by the Armed Forces. In the programs held in connection with the Defence Day different stalls were set up to portray army's role in defending the motherland and nation building.











LAHORE: President Dr. Arif Alvi in a group photo with a delegation of Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry at Governor House.

## President for 30-35 percent women's participation in business sector

LAHORE (APP): President Dr. Arif Alvi on Wednesday emphasized the importance of women's empowerment and called for increasing their participation in business sector by 30-35 percent for economic revival. He urged the business community to create a conducive and harassment-free environment for women professionals, highlighting the government's efforts in this area and encouraging both the public and private sectors to collaborate.

Commerce & Industry (LCCI) delegation here at Governor House, President Dr. Arif Alvi accompanied by First Lady Samina Alvi discussed the need for tangible surveys, seminars, awareness sessions and other initiatives to promote women's active involvement in various business sectors. He also encouraged the LCCI delegation to take measures for economic revival and social welfare projects, stressing that business community cooperation could attract foreign investment, particularly in

the IT sector. Talking about the issue of education, President Alvi said, more than 25 million Pakistani children still not attending schools despite extraordinary efforts which was a deplorable. He stressed the need for using thousands of schools and Mosques for classes, and extra shifts in schools to address the challenge. Furthermore, President Alvi emphasized the importance of individual efforts in educating domestic workers, and called on the business community to

support people with disabilities, mental illnesses, and breast cancer patients. He commended the Lahore Chamber for achieving its target of providing 25 percent jobs to women. LCCI President Kashif Anwar informed the President Alvi about LABARD (Lahore Businessmen Association for Rehabilitation of the Disabled), a non-profit organization works under the patronage of Lahore Chamber's management, which had provided artificial organs to 100,000 people for rehabilitation.

## PM directs framing of industrial policy to spur economic growth

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar Wednesday directed that a national industrial policy should be formulated as soon as possible to spur economic growth and increase industrial production. He issued the directive during a briefing on the performance and targets of Ministry of Commerce, and Ministry of Industries and Production.

He said Pakistan should be made a hub of trade, transportation and transshipment by taking advantage of its unique geographical location. He instructed that a training programme should be held for the business community and the logistics companies to make them aware about the international road transport system. The PM said the process of privatisation of the loss making state-owned enterprises should be expedited. He was told about the performance of the officers posted abroad for enhancing trade and investment of Pakistan. It was informed that

economic partnership with the Central Asian states would be part of the strategy to increase exports. Consultations were continuing with the stakeholders for the establishment of Land Port Authority. The meeting was also told about the different aspects of the recently approved policy for local manufacturing of mobile handsets. It was informed that in the next two years, four million handsets would be locally manufactured which would reduce the import bill and increase exports. The PM was also apprised of the steps to streamline the exports of gemstone products.

## SIFC urges businessmen to act as its ambassadors to attract investment

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC), in an important meeting with the business community and economic experts of Lahore, urged the businessmen to act as its ambassadors to attract investment for the country. After Karachi, the SIFC had held a special meeting with the business community and economic experts of Lahore on Wednesday, an official source said. The SIFC team gave a comprehensive briefing on a positive outlook on investment. The meeting identified

the best opportunities for investors in Pakistan's key sectors of agriculture, livestock, IT, minerals and energy. Apart from this, efforts at the policy level through the SIFC Forum to improve the overall investment climate were also highlighted. The business community was taken into confidence and reassured of all support and facilitation to fulfill such efforts from private investors. The event concluded with an interactive session, which provided an opportunity for the business community to exchange ideas on investment.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar chairs a briefing by Ministry of Commerce and Ministry of Industries and Production.

## Ambassador Blome highlights benefits of U.S. Private Sector Investment, bilateral relations

ISLAMABAD (APP): U.S. Ambassador Donald Blome visited Lahore September 4-6 to promote U.S.-Pakistan trade and economic ties, broaden and deepen cooperation with the people and government of Punjab.

He also discussed the importance of protecting and respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, said a press release issued here on Wednesday by the U.S. Embassy. During his visit to PepsiCo's FritoLay Snack plant and NetSol Technologies Ltd, Ambassador Blome and Consul General Hawkins reaffirmed the United States' commitment to trade, investment, and development with and through the private sector in Punjab. Ambassador Blome highlighted the benefits of U.S. trade and

investment and showcased the significant role U.S. companies play - creating jobs and giving back to local communities through corporate social responsibility initiatives that promote education, health, disaster relief, women's empowerment, and skills development. "Pakistan has tremendous economic potential. The United States is working every day to help Pakistan make progress on economic reforms that will make it more competitive and better prepared to meet future challenges. That includes our cooperation to build more reliable energy systems, strengthen and improve infrastructure, increase capacity for regional trade, and ensure that Pakistanis have the skills and training needed to compete and succeed in the 21st century," Ambassador Blome said.

While in Lahore, Ambassador Blome and Consul General Hawkins also met with caretaker Punjab Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi. The leaders discussed opportunities to expand U.S.-Pakistan economic ties, the importance of protecting the human rights and fundamental freedoms of religious minorities, and respect for democracy and rule of law. In his meetings with representatives of religious groups, the Ambassador and Consul General Hawkins reiterated U.S. condemnation of recent attacks on Christian churches and homes, emphasized U.S. commitment to protect and promote religious freedom, and underscored the importance of protecting and respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms for all.



ISLAMABAD: Laborers are unloading the sugar sacks from truck at Fruit and Vegetables Market at Sector I-II as traders are expected to see a decrease in sugar prices after receiving such more trucks, to make their business profitable across country.

## PSX witnesses bullish trend, gains 316.09 points

ISLAMABAD (APP): The 100-index of the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) witnessed a bullish trend on Wednesday as it gained 316.09 points and closed at 45,807.57 points against 45,491.48 of the previous trading day, showing an increase of 0.69 per cent. A total of 74,236,686 shares were traded during the day as compared to the last day's 55,028,384, whereas the trading value of shares was recorded at Rs3,943 billion against Rs3,047 billion on the last trading day. As many as 304 companies transacted their shares in the stock market, out of which 181 gained and 99 sustained losses, whereas the share price of 24 companies remained unchanged.

## SBP introduces fundamental reforms in the sector of exchange companies

KARACHI (Online): State Bank of Pakistan has decided to introduce fundamental reforms in the sector of exchange companies. These reforms include that leading banks dealing in foreign exchange will be able to set up proprietary exchange companies to meet the legitimate foreign exchange needs of the public. Also, the various types of existing exchange companies and their franchise branches will be merged into a single category of exchange companies with a defined scope.

Further, the minimum capital requirement for exchange companies has been increased from Rs 200 million to Rs 500 million. The following are offered for conversion of 'B' category exchange companies (EC-B) and franchise branches of exchange companies into full-fledged exchange companies. Category 'B' exchange companies can acquire the status of exchange company after fulfilling all regulatory requirements within three months; Otherwise their licenses will be cancelled.

## PCJCCI suggests promoting tissue-culture labs to increase potatoes export

LAHORE (APP): Pakistan China Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCJCCI) on Wednesday suggested that Pakistan should enhance export of potatoes by establishing and promoting Tissue-Culture Laboratories, as the country is one of the major exporters of potato and also self-sufficient in its domestic use. The joint chamber's President Moazzam Ghurki, while giving his input in a think-tank session held here at PCJCCI Secretariat, mentioned that floods had devastated many kinds of crops in Pakistan, while potato

production soared to 7.937 million tonnes in fiscal year 2022-23 from 5.873 million tonnes in the FY 2021-22, up by 35 percent as floods did not hit Punjab which is a hub of potato production. By contrast, he continued, Pakistan imports 20,000 tons of potato seeds every year and most of the potato seeds in Pakistan highly depend on imports and the initial cost of potato production is high because 35 to 40 percent of the cost goes to seeds, and there is a dire need to make it cost-effective for the low-income farmers.

## RCCI Cairo Business Conference to begin on September, 7

RAWALPINDI (APP): The Pakistan-Egypt Business Opportunities Conference being organized by the Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) will commence in Cairo, Egypt, on Thursday. RCCI President Saqib Rafiq in a statement informed that on the sidelines of the Business Opportunity Conference, Business-to-Business (B2B) meetings would provide an exclusive platform for delegates to establish meaningful connections and nurture potential partnerships. He said that the trade volume between Pakistan and Egypt was close to \$400 million which could be increased to one billion dollars in a couple of years and added that by enhancing trade cooperation with Egypt, Pakistan could get easy access to many African markets including Libya, Morocco, Sudan and Algeria. Saqib Rafiq said that with participation from esteemed Egyptian businessmen, the event was primed to set a new precedent in fostering bilateral economic growth and partnerships.



ISLAMABAD: The Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) in a meeting with High-Level Japanese Delegation at PM Secretariat.

## FDI witnesses increase of 17.3% in August

ISLAMABAD (NNI): Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the country during first month of current financial year (2023-24) was increased by 17.3 percent as compared to the investment of the corresponding month of last year. During July 2023, the FDI reached \$87.7 million against the investment of \$74.8 million in same period of the last year, which was up by 17.3 percent, according to the 'Monthly Economic Update & Outlook August 2023', said in the report released by the Ministry of Finance and Revenue on Wednesday. The FDI received from China during the period under review was recorded at \$18.0 million, Hong Kong \$16.9 million and FDI received from

Netherlands at \$12.1 million and Switzerland \$10.1 million, it added. According to the report, power sector attracted highest FDI of \$45.1 million (51.4 percent of total FDI), Oil & Gas Explorations \$15.2 million (17.3 percent), and communication \$ 8.0 million (9.1 percent). Meanwhile, the foreign private portfolio investment has registered a net inflow of \$16.3 million during the month of July. The Foreign Public Portfolio Investment recorded a net inflow of \$ 6.0 million. The total foreign portfolio investment recorded an inflow of \$ 22.3 million during July FY2024 as against an outflow of 13.9 million last. Total foreign investment during July FY2024 recorded an inflow of \$ 110.0 million as against \$ 60.9 million last year.

## SECP issues Shariah compliance certificate to NBFC

ISLAMABAD (NNI): The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) has issued a Shariah compliance certificate to a licensed non-banking finance company (NBFC) offering Buy Now Pay Later (BNPL) services on the Shariah principle of Musawamah, whereby profit margin is included in the sale price of the commodity. The certificate has been granted to Qist Bazaar (Private) Limited under the Shariah Governance Regulations, 2018. The regulations provide an enabling regulatory framework for the certification of Shariah-compliant companies and Shariah-compliant securities. Qistbazaar (Private) Limited, an NBFC providing investment finance services, has engaged the services of a Shariah advisor to structure their products and services in accordance with Shariah regulations. It is expected that more players in the non-bank financial sector will choose to serve Islamic financial products and services in the country. The first Shariah compliance certificate for a BNPL platform is a significant milestone, promoting Shariah-compliant financial products and enabling new business models for tech-based entrepreneurs.

As 2023 marks the 10th anniversary of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), Pakistani Ambassador to China Moin ul Haque noted that the Government of Pakistan is stepping up to facilitate the exchanges and cooperation between both countries. This year, at the ongoing 2023 China International Fair for Trade in Services (2023 CIFTIS) - one of the world's largest and most comprehensive fairs for trade in services - companies from Pakistan's secondary and tertiary industries such as finance, logistics, aviation and artificial intelligence attracted many visitors. The 2023 CIFTIS witnessed the flourishing business of these Pakistani

## 2023 CIFTIS: Pakistani companies attract large number of visitors

merchants. Many of them attended exhibitions in China for the first time, showcasing Pakistan's service industry to visitors from all over the world. Prestige International, which launched Pakistan's first National Pavilion on JD.com (Jingdong), China's famous e-commerce platform, set up a booth to showcase Pakistani products including tea, biscuits and rice. A manager in charge of international trade told China Economic Net that the products they selected were of good quality and at fair prices. Coupled with the help of boosting e-commerce in China, they are confident about the future of these Made-in-Pakistan products in China. National Logistics Corporation (NLC), one of

## FDI increases by 17.3pc in August

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PESHAWAR: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Haji Ghulam administering oath from newly elected cabinet of All Traders Association Haripur.



