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Overseas Pakistanis need to avail investment opportunities in Pakistan: PM Kakar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Monday invited the overseas Pakistanis to take advantage of the opportunities offered by the government for investment in Pa-

During a meeting with a delegation of prominent British Pakistani businessmen which called on him in London, the prime minister invited the diaspora businessmen to invest, especially in Special Economic Zones, to contribute to Pakistan's economic recovery. The prime minister highlighted positive economic indicators resulting from reforms pursued by the interim government, including a strengthening Pak. Rupee, reduced inflation, and expected economic growth

restrictions and efforts to restore the business community's confidence are expected to further boost external accounts, he added. PM Kakar spoke about Pakistan's investment-friendly approach. mentioning incentives and ease-of-business reforms. He introduced the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) to streamline investment in key sectors through a single-window platform.

This initiative aims at enhancing ease of doing business, removing bureaucratic hurdles, and creating a long-term investment roadmap. Moreover, Prime Minister Kakar also shared the government's resolve and commitment to privatize loss-making stateowned enterprises



LONDON: A delegation of prominent British Pakistani businessmen call on the Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar.

Caretaker CM reaches Gwadar:

GoB starts implementation on roadmap of expediting work on dev. projects

Independent Report ister upon his arrival at the QUETTA: The caretaker

Government of Balochistan has started implementation on the roadmap of executing the ongoing development projects and expediting speed of work on them

To review this, the caretaker Chief Minister Mir Ali Mardan khan Domki reached the port city on Monday.

The Commissioner Makran Division, Saeed Ahmed Umrani, Director General Gwadar Development Authority, Mujeeb ur Rehman Qambrani and Deputy Commissioner Gwadar Aurangzeb Badini welcomed the Chief Min-

Gwadar airport He would be briefed about the ongoing development projects and law and

During the visit, caretaker Chief Minister would pay visit to the GDA school, GDA hospital, Gwadar port terminal and Chinese business center.

order situation in Gwadar.

He would also be briefed about the pace of work of different development projects and accelerating the same and expected date of completion.

It may be mentioned here that it is maiden visit of caretaker Chief Minister to Gwadar after assuming



GWADAR: Commissioner Mekran Division Saeed Ahmed Umrani meeting with Caretaker Chief Minister Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki. Caretaker Information Minister Jan Achakzai is also present

WB playing important role in socio-economic dev. of Pakistan: Chief secretary

Independent Report QUETTA: The Chief Secretary Balochistan, Shakeel Qadir Khan has stated that the World Bank is an important partner out of major development partners of Pakistan. The government values the decade long ongoing assistance a lot whic is playing an important role in the socio-economic development of the country.

The Chief Secretary also appreciated the continuous support and resolve of the World Bank for the flood affected areas of the province besides ongoing development projects in Balochistan. The Chief Secretary was speaking to the country director of World Bank, Najy Benhassine, who called on him along with his team here on Monday.

During the course of meeting, the development projects between Pakistan and World Bank were dis-

In addition to this, matters regarding construction of houses for the flood affected people in the province, water supply projects in Quetta city, Balochistan human capital project and assistance for promotion of other activities were also discussed. Moreover, there was consensus on continuing cooperation in development of Human Resources, educational and professional training, employment, water, agriculture, irrigation and

livestock sectors. Also present in the meeting were secretary Irrigation, Hafiz Abdul Majid, secretary Health, Asfandyar kakar, secretary Population welfare, Abdullah Khan, Secretary Education, Abdul Rauf baloch, secretary Public Health Engineering Saleh Muhammad Baloch and secretary Planning Asghar Harifal.



Committee formed for first Cloud Policy 2023 of Balochistan:

Caretaker Balochistan cabinet approves magistrate powers for EPA under **Environmental Protection Act**

Cabinet chaired by caretaker CM Ali Mardan Domki agreed upon to extend assistance to all projects of public nature at the government level; performance of treachery care hospitals to be improved all over province further

Expresses deep respect for Christian community

greater interfaith

harmony in society

RAWALPINDI (APP):

Chief of Army Staff

(COAS), General Syed

Asim Munir Monday ex-

pressed deep respect for

Christian community and

stressed upon the need for

promoting greater inter-

faith harmony in society in

order to follow Quaid's

true vision of a united and

dent Bishops (Church of

Pakistan and Bishop of

Raiwind) Dr. Azad

Marshall along with 13

members' delegation of

Christian Community

called on the Chief of

Army Staff (COAS) here

at General Headquarters, an

Inter Services Public Rela-

tions (ISPR) news release

Moderator and Presi-

progressive Pakistan.

Christian Community in

national development, in-

cluding promotion of qual-

ity education, healthcare

and philanthropic services

and outstanding role

played by them for the

defence of the motherland.

emphasised, "Islam is a re-

ligion of peace and there is

no space for intolerance and

extremism in Islam and so-

ciety. No one can be al-

lowed to take law in his own

hands in a civilised society"

The Christian Community

members acknowledged

Pakistan Army's efforts in

providing secure environ-

ment to the minorities in

They appreciated

the country.

The Army Chief

Independent Report

QUETTA: The caretaker Balochistan cabinet has approved to confer the powers of magistrate to the concerned Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under Section 1 of clause Section 32 of the Balochistan Environmental Protection Act 2012.

The interim cabinet also approved to release funds for the Paeds oncology established with cooperation of Indus Hospital Domki. in the Sheikh Zayed Hospital Quetta.

Syed Asim Munir at General Headquarters

IHC orders to shift

chairman PTI

from Attock jail

to Adiala jail

ISLAMABAD (Online):

Chief Justice (CJ) Islamabad High Court

(IHC) has remarked chair-

man PTI is under trial pris-

oner and under trial prison-

ers are kept in Adiala Jai

and why then Chairman

PTI has been kept in Attock

chairman PTI be shifted to

Adiala jail. Former Prime

Minister (PM) should not

The CJ IHC while or-

be kept deprived of facili-

dering to provide all facili-

ties under jail manual in jail

to chairman PTI arrested in

cipher case has remarked

the status of conviction of

chairman PTI has changed.

Solangi participates

in SCO's Television

Festival 2023 in China

ties under victimization.

The CJ IHC remarked

public nature at the gov- Information Technology. ernment level. In addition to this, the treachery care present the policy in the hospitals would also be next cabinet meeting for improved all over the province further. The decisions were

made during the meeting of interim cabinet Balochistan met with the Chief Minister Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki in the chair on Monday. It was second meeting Planning and Development

of the interim provincial cabinet chaired by Mr.

The cabinet decided to form a committee regard-The cabinet was ing first ever cloud policy agreed upon to extend as- 2023 of Balochistan by the sistance to all projects of department of Science and

for approval after being The committee would vetted from the concerned

approval after thorough consideration. Moreover, the cabinet also approved the amended policy of the establishment of the Project Directors, Project staff and Project management unit

Department. The cabinet also decided to improve the solid waste management system

under the department of

in Ouetta Similarly, it was decided to present the pend- towards good governance

ing rules of all departments in the province. Journalist **Imran Riaz**

> SIALKOT (Online): Journalist Imran Riaz Khan has been recovered and has reached his home.

recovered,

reaches home

Addressing the cabinet

meeting, the caretaker

Chief Minister mentioned

that certain important de-

cisions were made about

the pending matters of dif-

ferent departments as well

as those related to the pub-

lic interests and adminis-

ever time we have would

be utilized for the public

welfare. e said that the ba-

sic objective behind ap-

proval of the important

decisions is a step forward

He pledged that what-

trative affairs.

District police have affixed post about recovery and return to his home on their twitter, face book, instagram tek tok page.

Imran Riaz was arrested after violent demon-RAWALPINDI: Moderator and President Bishops (Church of Pakistan and strations across the coun-Bishop of Raiwind) Dr. Azad Marshall along with 13 members' delegation of try on May 9 following the Christian Community called on the Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General arrest of Imran Khan, chairman PTI.

Imran Riaz Khan was flying to Muscat from Sialkot international airport

COAS calls for promoting when FIA arrested him and handed over him to police. Following his arrest he was taken to police station

cantt and then Sialkot jail. Father of Imran Riaz Khan filed application in Lahore High Court (LHC) that his son was kidnapped. The kidnapping case of Imran Riaz Khan was registered in civil lines police station under the report of

Khawar Maneka arrested while trying to escape to Dubai

his father.

LAHORE (Online): Immigration has arrested Khawar Maneka from Airport.

He was going to Dubai by Emirates Airline.

According to sources, Khawar Maneka was combating terrorism and stopped at Allama Iqbal International Airport because his name was included in Exit Control List. A case is registered

> Anti-Corruption. On the other hand, according to spokesperson of Anti-Corruption Establishment Punjab, Khawar Maneka has been arrested

on the charge of illegal con-

against Khawar Maneka by

struction on government An inquiry is being made on the reference of Deputy Commissioner against Khawar Farid Maneka.

It has been said in DC reference that Khawar Maneka has constructed an illegal marriage hall on

graveyard site. Khawar Maneka has also built 26 illegal shops on land of gravevard.

Date will not be given, only decisions will be made: CJP

ISLAMABAD (Online): that the tendency for get-Chief Justice of Pakistan ting date will not run now. (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa has made it clear on the lawyers that date will not be high. There should be nogiven in the cases now and only decisions will be

The CJP has reprimanded the lawyer as well. A 3-member bench of SC presided over by the SC its all documents are CJP rejected the plea for giving date in land dispute.

The CJP remarked now remove this concept from your mind that they will go to SC and obtain date. This message is for this order adjourned the all of others through you hearing of the case.

The number of pending cases in court is too much tice on one date and arguments on next date here. In other courts it happens so that date is given for presenting any document. When some case comes in

complete. The CJP further remarked give the arguments in one language. Improve your Urdu or English.

The court while giving



QUETTA: Regional Director National University of Modern Languages Quetta Campus Lt. General (Retd) Nisar Ahmed meeting with Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar

PM's speech at GA is reflection of aspiration of Pakistani people: Jan

Cabinet decides to approach caretaker PM for relief and rehabilitation of flood affectees in Balochistan; says special focus is on IT promotion; health,

education and irrigation are priorities

Independent Report
QUETTA: The interim cabinet of Balochistan has fully endorsed the stance taken by the caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) session recently regarding state terrorism of India in the Occupied Kash-

The cabinet described the stance adopted by the PM Kakar at United Nations as very positive, and

as such the cabinet and people of Balochistan are standing by that stance of This and similar other

views were expressed by

the caretaker Provincial Minister for Information, Jan Achakzai while addressing a hurriedly called press conference soon after the cabinet meeting at the CM's secretariat on Monday.

The caretaker Minister Information said that India has been involved in the terrorism in Balochistan, and it is victim of the Indian ter-

The caretaker Prime Minister very forcefully raised the issues and highlighted them effectively, and as such the cabinet fully endorsed his stance in

Continued on page 2



QUETTA: Caretaker Information Minister Jan Achakzai talking with mediamen

For stabilizing country's system:

Financial discipline, transparency & accountability must: Governor Kakar

Independent Report

OUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar has bringing discipline in financial affairs, transparency and accountability in the administrative matters in all national institutions is very necessary for stabilizing the system of country.

The Governor said that the expeditious development of technology and especially its impacts on the accounting and auditing has increased the trend of innovation a lot. Therefore, it is very

necessary to benefit from the modern technology. These views were ex-

pressed by the Governor while speaking to the Accountant General Balochistan, Hasan Saglain, who called on him here at the Governor House on masses.

Speaking to him, the Governor urged the AG and his team to create easiness for all the in service and retired employees regarding their salaries and pensions. He also asked them to

expand their performance and services at the district level. In this regard, the

present government has improved the administrative and financial discipline, he mentioned adding that more steps are required to ensure good governance.

Governor Balochistan said that the national level policies should not only be reflective of the social requirements and present situation, but they should also be the guarantor of sustainable solution to the real issues of the

Army Chief's gesture as an NANJING (APP): Caretaker Minister for Informainspiration for Pakistani During the meeting, tion and Broadcasting matters of mutual interest, minorities to take greater Murtaza Solangi on Monreligious and inter-faith and more active part in naday participated in the harmony were discussed. tion building and in restor-Television Festival 2023 The COAS lauded the coning their faith in a cohesive organized by Shanghai Cotributions of Pakistani and tolerant society. operation Organisation (SCO) in Nanjing, China.

On the occasion Murtaza Solangi met Chinese Minister for National Radio and TV Cao Shumin and thanked her for organizing the festival.

During the meeting, both ministers expressed the resolve to enhance cooperation in the areas of television and radio. They vowed to pro-

mote innovation in media

technology and exchange of journalist delegations.

Balochistan Shakeel Qadir Khan

QUETTA: Country director of World Bank, Najy Benhassine meeting with Chief Secretary

Senate chairman extends

heartfelt felicitations to Saudi

Arabia on its National Day



ISLAMABAD: Chief Guest of the event Chairman Senate Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani performing traditional Arabic Dance along with Ambassador of KSA to Pakistan Nawaf bin Saeed Al-Malkiy and others during the celebrations of the National Day of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, at local hotel in Federal Capital.

Balochistan media delegation visits **Beijing and Qingdao**

QINGDAO (INP): With crops are willing to bridge the support of the Chinese Embassy in Pakistan, an 11-member media delegation from Balochistan, a nese people and contribute province in southwestern to the high-quality develop-Pakistan, embarked on a ment of the China-Pakistan visit to China's capital city, Beijing, and the picturesque coastal city of Qingdao.

The visit aimed to strengthen bilateral ties between Pakistan and China, as well as foster cultural exchanges and explore opportunities for media collaboration, Gwadar Pro reported on Monday.

The delegation, comprising journalists, editors, and media professionals, received a warm welcome from Chinese officials and media representatives upon their arrival in Beijing.

The visit began with a meeting and discussion with Chinese Assistant Foreign Minister Nong Rong at the Chinese Foreign Ministry.

The meeting pointed out the path of development and provided important guidance for deepening cooperation and promoting exchanges between China

Furgan Rao, Incharge, China Desk, Associated Press of Pakistan (APP), Daily and China Central highlighted that the press

the "information gap" between the people of Balochistan and the Chi-

Economic (CPEC). In a meeting with Pakistan's Ambassador to China, H.E. Moin ul Haque, the delegation was briefed on bilateral relations between Pakistan and China, especially the current status of CPEC, which he described as the flagship

project of the BRI and a

strong symbol of Pakistan-

China ties.

The media delegation appreciated China's role in the development of Gwadar and Balochistan and said projects such as Gwadar port, hospitals, schools, and roads have greatly contributed to regional connectivity and generated employment opportunities for local

The Balochistan delegation also had the opportunity to visit various newsrooms and production facilities, gaining valuable insights into China's media landscape at the Economic Television Tower.

US Envoy calls on Planning Minister

ISLAMABAD (Online): US Ambassador to Pakistan Donald Blome on Monday called on the Caretaker Federal Minister for Planning Development & Initiatives, Special Muhammad Sami Saeed and discussed matters of mutual interest between the two countries.

During the meeting, the Planning Minister appreciated the support that Pakistan has received from the United States in the field of development cooperation, bilateral trade and investment promotion.

The two sides also exchanged views on matters of common interest and expressed their resolve to enhance and strengthen bilateral relations.

The Planning Minister highlighted government's efforts for economic revival. The Minister further stated that the government has formed a Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) aimed at attracting foreign investment in various sectors such as Mines and Minerals, Agriculture, Information Technology and Energy and he invited US companies to explore the options to invest in these



QUETTA: A delegation led by Vice Chancellor BUITEMS Prof. Dr. Khalid Hafeez meeting with Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar

Youth, a source of strength for cause of Kashmir: Dr. Pir

WASHINGTON (Online): An eventful function was held in Northern Virginia to express deep gratitude to dozens of local leaders for their commitment and dedication to the freedom of Kashmir and for their willingness to be the true ambassadors of the people of Occupied Kashmir in Washington metropolitan area and beyond. A special tribute was paid to Sardar Zarif Khan for being nominated by the President of Azad Kashmir to be his special Advisor in the Nation's Capital – Washington, D.C. The speakers highlighted the selfless contribution of Sardar Zarif Khan towards Kashmiri and Pakistani American com-

munity. Sardar Zarif Khan has been a role model for Kashmiri American youth, said Dr. Pir Syed Ali Raza Bukhari, a parliamentarian from Azad Kashmir; Chairman, International Sufi Peace Forum and the Chief Guest of the event.

Sardar Zarif Khan thanked the community for their love and affection that they have shown towards him since he landed in Washington area decades ago. We are positioned at one of the most important capitals of the world -Washington, DC, Zarif added. Our youth and students must be motivated to become trendsetters for the cause of Kashmir. They can mobilize social media, organize seminars, symposium. lectures on university campuses and elsewhere.

They can play an exceptional role in educating the American public square about the Kashmir conflict.

Dr. Pir Ali Raza Bukhari emphasized that the deteriorating situation in Indian occupied Kashmir is a challenge to the conscience of the civilized world. The presence of 900,000 Indian soldiers have made it largest military occupation on earth. Today the Valley of Kashmir, once known as paradise, has become the killing fields for its habitants. The people of Azad Kashmir do feel the pain and suffering of the persecuted civilian population of our compatriots but that is not enough. It is our moral and responsibility to be-

come the true ambassadors of the people of occupied Kashmir.

Dr. Pir Ali Raza Bukhari added that India is implementing her nefarious plan which encompasses massacre of innocent civilians and more importantly issuing domicile certificates to millions of Indian citizens to change the demography of Kashmir. The world needs to know that the issue of Kashmir is both a human rights issue and also the issue of right of self-determination which was pledged to the people of Kashmir by the United Nations as early as 1948.

Dr. Pir Ali Raza Bukhari emphasized that Kashmir cause needs professionals and specialists with diplomatic expertise. The people of Indian occu-

pied Kashmir have given unprecedented sacrifices, and the leadership of Azad Kashmir will never let them

Dr. Ghulam Nabi Fai Secretary General of World Kashmir Awareness Forum said that the nation of Kashmir is facing an existential threat and the passivity and inaction of the world powers will unwittingly pave the way for India to execute this evil intent. The most important and poignant aspect of the situation in Kashmir Dr. Fai added, is uncertainty unpredictability, and anxiety of unknown. Thousands have been brutally killed or cling to life in hospitals, in jails, in secret torture cells. These Kashmiris

victims of a reign of terror by India's 900,000 strong military and paramilitary forces.

Yet, despite a faint murmur of protest in international circles and an occasional repot in the world press, India has felt no pressure whatsoever to desist from its genocidal campaign. Dr. Fai told the audience that Indian delegate will be speaking at the United Nations General Assembly on September 26, 2023. Will he tell the world body that Narendra Modi has made Kashmir hell for its people? Will he tell the world body that Kashmir is at the brink of genocide? Will he tell the world body that news media in Kashmir is at the brink of extinction, Dr. Fai asked

Independence of judiciary cannot be tampered:

Senate

Petitioner files reply in SC practice, procedure act case

ISLAMABAD (Online): Replies have been filed in Supreme Court (SC) on court's orders in SC Practice and Procedure Act case.

Khawaja Tariq Rahim counsel for the petitioner Raja Amir Khan has too filed reply.

The petitioner has prayed that practice and procedure act be declared null and void. There can be no tampering in independence of the judiciary. Under practice law, three members committee of judges will reject the plea without hearing it. The interference by the parliament in court's affairs is violation of constitutional distribution of powers. Parliament cannot change the procedure of power of article 184/ 3 through ordinary legisla-

amendment in 1980 rules.

islate to regulate the matters of SC.

Chairman

Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani

on Monday attended the

National Day celebrations

of the Kingdom of Saudi

Arabia and conveyed warm

regards and best wishes on

behalf of the Senate and the

people of Pakistan to King

Salman bin Abdulaziz A

Saud, Royal Family, and

sion as the chief guest, he

expressed his gratitude to

Saudi Ambassador Nawaf

bin Said Al-Malki, for ex-

tending the invitation and

commended the progressive

portrayal of Saudi Arabia on

the event's invitation card,

highlighting its holistic de-

velopment and inclusive vi-

Speaking on the occa-

Saudi nation.

SC full court bench presided over by Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Oazi Faez Isa had directed the respondents to file reply till September 25.

Sources said federal government has filed its reply as well wherein it is stated that no interference has been made in the powers of SC nor has any attempt been made to stifle the independence of the judiciary. The powers of CJP and other judges are there as it is. Attempt has been made to bring transparency in the formation of benches so that benches could be constituted with consultation for people instead of favorite benches. As the CJP has started impletion. Full court can make menting it therefore, it is requested to court to dis-Doubtlessly parliament miss the petitions against s supreme but it cannot leg- SC practice and procedure

Pakistan strongly condemns desecration of the Holy **Quran in Netherlands**

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pa- actively prevent racist and kistan on Monday strongly Islamophobic acts, which condemned the latest incite religious hatred. It is sive act of desecration of the Holy Quran that took place in The Hague, the Netherlands in front of some embassies of OIC member countries including Paki-

It is a deliberately provocative and Islamophobic act that has hurt the sentiments of Muslims around the world

Such acts cannot be condoned under the guise of freedom of expression, opinion and protest, a spokesperson of the minstry of foreign affairs said. Pakistan believes that freedom of expression comes with responsibilities. National governments should the spokesperson added.

Pakistani contingent re-

as they entered the

the opening ceremony of

The enthusiastic wel-

come was seen as a sign of

friendship and respect for

the Pakistani athletes,

who have a long tradition

of sporting excellence at

the Asian Games, Gwadar

Pro reported on Monday.

to China, Moin ul Haque,

noted the warm reception

on the X platform (for-

merly known as Twitter).

saying, "Pakistan Contin-

gent to Asian Games in

Hangzhou entering the

stadium amidst big ap-

plause of Chinese specta-

Pakistan's ambassador

the 2023 Asian Games.

Hangzhou

HANGZHOU (INP): The athletes."

Olympic

ceived a rousing applause Pakistani athletes and of-

Sports Centre Stadium for competing in over 26

tional community to raise voice against Islamophobia and work in concert to promote inter faith harmony.

That was the spirit be hind the resolution passed by the United Nations General Assembly in 2022 to mark 15 March as the International Day to Com-Islamophobia. Pakistan's concerns have been conveyed to the Dutch authorities. We urge them to be mindful of the sentiments of the people of Pakistan and Muslims around the world and take active steps to prevent such hateful and Islamophobic acts,

Pakistani athletes receive

warm welcome in Hangzhou

ficials, including 137 men

and 53 women, will be

ming Team will be partici-

pating from September

24-29, the Hockey Team

from September 24-Octo-

ber 7, and the Tennis Team

Pakistani sports expert in

Hangzhou for the Games,

remarked that the host city

has made superb arrange-

ments for this major

multi-sport competition.

getting a chance to learn

about each other's culture

along with great competi-

tion during the Asian

He added, "Fans are

Shahid Afraz Khan, a

from September 24-30.

sports at the Games.

A contingent of 262

The Pakistan Swim-

bond between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia, founded on shared values, faith, and aspirations. He acknowledged Saudi Arabia's significant support during challenging times and reaffirmed Pakistan's unwavering commitment to reciprocate in diplomatic and security matters, highlighting recent high-level military engagements. Sanjrani remarked that the partnership was fortified by an unwavering commitment to regional peace and stability, underlining both nations' readiness to support each other in diplomatic and security

He emphasized the en-

during and multifaceted

lauded Saudi Arabia's efforts to promote

regional harmony through diplomacy, dialogue, and mutual respect. He expressed confidence that these initiatives would open doors to mutually beneficial opportunities for trade, cultural exchanges, shared initiatives, and collaborative endeavours, contributing to global progress. He underscored the importance of diplomacy, dialogue, and mutual respect in building a foundation for lasting peace and regional prosperity.

The Senate chairman Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's vision, epitomized by the Neom City project and initiatives like the Misk, showcases a holistic approach to modern society while remaining grounded in Saudi Arabia's cultural heri-

tage. Highlighting the close ties between Chagai and Saudi dignitaries, he looked forward to further collaboration with Ma'aden, a rapidly growing Saudi mining company, for mutual development and prosperity in mineral-rich areas. He also emphasized the importance of youth engagement and joint ventures in education, research, technology and innovation as avenues to deepen cooperation between the two nations. In conclusion, Chairman Sanjrani reiterated Pakistan's steadfast reiterated support, admiration, and warm wishes to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, pledging to continue fostering this endur-

ing friendship and brother-



GWADAR: Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki coming out of Gwadar airport

IHC reserves judgment on plea for in-camera hearing of chairman PTI bail petition

ISLAMABAD (Online): Islamabad High Court (IHC) has reserved judgment on the plea of special prosecutors for in camera ĥearing of chairman PTI bail

petition in cipher case. Chief Justice (CJ) IHC remarked decision will be given in this regard after seeing the record of case.

The counsel said the entire nation is fixing its

The CJ IHC said smilingly now live streaming of the courts hearing will be conducted and the entire world will see hearing.

Chairman PTI bail plea in cipher case came up for hearing before CJ IHC Monday

Barrister Suleman Safdar appeared on behalf of the petitioner.

Special prosecutors Shah Khawar and Zulfiqar Abbas Naqvi appeared in the court taking the plea cipher case is being tried under official secret act. Former Prime Minister (PM) and former foreign minister were arrested in the case.

a bridge in promoting har-

fidence that the Pakistani

athletes will perform

strongly at these Games.

noting their warm recep-

tion here underscores the

Their participation

high expectations and sup-

also highlights the close

Pakistan-China ties, in-

cluding in sports. Paki-

stani athletes credited the

Chinese government's as-

sistance in their prepara-

tions and voiced gratitude

Games opened officially

on September 23. Over

12,500 athletes from

across Asia are competing

in 481 events across 40

sports over the next two

port they enjoy.

for the support.

The 19th

Khan expressed con-

China a trusted friend, key global player, need to learn from its experience: Speakers

LAHORE (INP): China is a trusted friend and successful global player, we should learn from the China's experience in various walks of life to strengthen our socio economic development activi-

This was stated by the speakers at a cake cutting ceremony in connection with the 74th National Day of China organized by Paktion (PCFA) Punjab at Lahore Grammar School, Wapda Town, Lahore on

Monday.

The aim of this ceremony was to enhance people to people interaction and appreciate the initiative taken by the Chinese leadership for shared future philosophy which is successfully implemented by the Chinese across the globe for peaceful co-exist-

The PCFA Punjab event was graced by Mr. Du Yue, Head Political Affairs. Consulate General People's Republic of China in Lahore, Madam Chang Xiaonong, Vice President guests and spoke very well.

Chamber of Commerce (PCSCC) at Lahore, Mrs. Zeenat Amir Rokhri, President PCFA Punjab, Mr. Usman Shahjahan, General Secretary PCFA Punjab, Syed Ali Nawaz Gilani, Secretary-General PCFA Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Mr. Amir Bhatti, Director In-

digo Canal. During the ceremony it was also discussed that we should enhance people to people interaction especially exchange visits with sister cities. Historic city of Xian (capital city of Shaanxi province of China) and Lahore (capital city of Puniab province Pakistan) are enjoying sister city relationship since decade.

The Chinese Consulate General in Lahore hosted a well-attended diplomatic reception last afternoon in Lahore, which was attended by who is who in Lahore a part from Governor Punjab, Chief Minister and good number of Federal and Provincial ministers. Acting Council General Mr. Cao Ke warmly received all



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives. Muhammad Sami Saeed exchanging views with Donald Blome, US Ambassador to Pakistan during meeting held in Islamabad.

PM's speech at GA is...

Continued from page 1 the UN, Jan Achakzai main-

tained. Moreover, referring the cabinet meeting and decisions made in it, the Minister Information said that the cabinet decided to approach the caretaker Prime Minister for provision of relief to those who were affected due to the flashfloods in the province, and are still awaiting the government's assistance.

In this regard, the caretaker Chief Minister Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki would approach the caretaker Prime Minister Kakar and sought his cooperation for the relief of flood affected people in the province, he maintained.

In addition to this, the cabinet has also decided to lay much focus on the IT promotion and for the purpose, a policy would be adopted, the Minister Information mentioned adding that Balochistan would no more lag behind the other provinces in the IT sector.

Similarly, the cabinet has also decided to form a committee comprising the Ministers and administrative secretaries to sort out the issues related to IT sec-

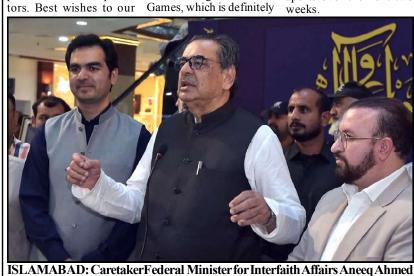
formed that the cabinet has approved release of Rs. 18 crore for the purchase of medicines for cancer ward. The approval has also

Jan Achakzai also in-

been given for preparation of a feasibility report for rehabilitation of the Pasni fish harbour, Mr. Achakzai

The Minister Information said that the interim government has to find the solution to the longstanding issues facing the province.

He particularly referred to the issues related to environment and water and noted with concern that Balochistan has affected the Environment is a challenge facing the province and we have to cope with it, he



addressing during the exhibition of calligraphy artworks in Centaurus Mall.

SAPM says:

Islamabad's Administration establishes designated support desks for overseas Pakistanis

ISLAMABAD (APP): Special Assistant to Prime Minister (SAPM) for Overseas Pakistani Jawad Sohrab Malik on Monday said that Islamabad Capital Territory Administra-tion (ICTA) has established designated support desks for Overseas Pakistanis to provide multiple essential civic facilities with ease through One Window Operation.

On the special instruction of Prime Minister of Pakistan Anwar Ul Haq Kakar the Capital Development Authority's special desk will assist with the transfer of residential plots, approval of building designs, issuance of completion certificates, payment of annual property tax, and quarterly payment of water supply and other mis-

Overseas SAPM said

Jawad Sohrab Malik said that the government has established new support desks for overseas Pa-

The support desks will offer a wide range of services, including assistance with housing, property taxes, and other government services. The goal of the support desks is to make it easier for Overseas Pakistanis to access government services and to increase their trust in the gov-

Jawad Malik further said that the official staff from all relevant agencies including CDA, Revenue Department, Islamabad Police will be present at the support desks to assist and guide stanis, regardless of where

ISLAMABAD: A delegation of daily wagers met the Caretaker Federal Min-

ister for the Ministry of Education and Professional Training Madad Ali

Mushaal Mullick fe-

licitated the people and the government of the Kingdom

of Saudi Arabia (KSA) on

the occasion of its national

heartiest congratulations to

opments and prosperity

Saudi Royal family for Is-

lam and Muslims cannot be

added that Pakistanis con-

sider Saudi Arabia as their

under its leadership.

l a snate of devel

The services of the

Sindhi and thank to him for resolving all of their issue.

Indian forces

commit heinous acts

in IIOJK: Mushaal

dian Prime Minister Justin
Trudeau in his claims
In a message issued here, she extended her

rally in Islamabad on Mon- Prince and the Royal fam-

day against the human ily, saying that Saudi Arabia

urged the participants to overlooked, she stated and

Caretaker Federal Minister for Interior Sarfraz

Ahmad Bugti In a Meeting with Former Deputy

Speaker Punjab Assembly Sardar Sher All

Civil society wants

settlement of Kashmir

dispute through talks

ISLAMABAD (INP): create a peaceful atmo-

sphere and end the poverty

in the two countries, the

ment of the Kashmir dis-

pute is not only in the

interets of the people of

Jammu and Kashmir but it

will also benefit the entire

ing of the money on pur-

chasing weapon and arms

could be used for the devel-

illegal process of changing

Kashmir's territorial sta-

tus against the UN resolu-

tions, and the wishes of

Kashmiris has gains noth-

ing but added miseries to

people of Jammu and

opment of the people.

They said the spend-

The meeting said the

South Asian region.

They said the settle-

Gurchani Sahib In Islamabad.

Civil Society members in

Indian illegally occupied

Jammu and Kashmir have

urged India and Pakistan to

sit together and settle the

Kashmir dispute for peace

and political and economic

stability in the South Asian

Media Service, the Civil So-

ciety members including

Muhammad Ali, Showket

Ahmed, Muhammad Asim,

Muntzir Nabi, Umar Bazaz

and Shaheen Nabi in a meet-

ing in Srinagar said the

Kashmir issue should be

resolved as it will lead to

good neighbourly relations

between India and Pakistan.

between two countries will

The good relationship

Muhammad

According to Kashmir

Shafi,

She was addressing a the Saudi King, Crown

and Kashmir.

(INP):

ISLAMABAD

against India.

Prime Minister's Special

Assistant on Human Rights

and Women Empowerment

Mushaal Hussain Mullick

says Pakistan and its pub-

lic fully support the Canadian Prime Minister Justin

The Special Assistant

said Indian forces are car-

rying out heinous acts with

complete impunity in the

occupied Kashmir. She

raise their voice for the in-

nocent people of Indian Il-

legally Occupied Jammu second home.

Pakistanis, SAPM said that the designated support desks services will be extended to other institutions at the federal and provincial levels that offer services to Overseas Pakistanis.

This means that over-

seas Pakistanis can access a wide range of services at the support desks, from all levels of government. This significant move is expected to increase the trust that Overseas Pakistanis have in the government, adding said it will also help to make it easier for Over seas Pakistanis living to access government services with ease. The support desks are located in ICT's Offices at G-11/4 and CDA's building at G-7/2 Islamabad, which will be open to all Overseas Pakicellaneous payments for Overseas Pakistanis. they live in the world.

Meeting on 12th

convocation

of IIUI held

ISLAMABAD (INP): Vice

President Research & En-

terprise, International Is-

lamic University Islamabad

(IIUI) Prof. Dr. Ahmed

Shuja Syed on Monday

chaired the meeting of the

conveners of the sub-com-

mittee for 12th convocation

of university.
The 12th convocation

of IIU will be held on No-

vember 8th and 9th of this

year. Those attended the

meeting included Prof. Dr.

N.B. Jumani, Vice President

Administration and Fi-

nance, Prof. Dr. Abdur

Rahman, Vice President

Academics, conveners of

the committees and rel-

evant officers including di-

the chair was briefed about

the procedure and plans of

the convocation. Various

recommendations were

made to make it a memo-

rable and exquisite event.

During the meeting,

rectors and in-charges.



chairing a meeting of Central Development Working Party at the Planning

Pak reaffirms commitment to eliminate hepatitis by 2030

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistan's Ambassador to the United States Masood Khan has stated that Pakistan remains steadfast in its dedication to addressing the challenge of hepatitis and achieving the WHO's global elimination targets by

Representing Pakistan at the Second Meeting of the United Nations Group of Friends to Eliminate Hepatitis at the Yale Club in New York, he said our priorities include updating the National Strategic Framework, improving surveillance, expanding hepatitis B birth

ISLAMABAD (INP):

Caretaker Minister for Na-

tional Heritage and Culture

Jamal Shah Monday said

that the ministry was ac-

tively promoting preserva-

tion of Pakistani cultural

heritage at the local, na-

tional, and international lev-

els. "We are trying best to

strengthen our creative

economy, consolidating

our cultural and heritage

resources and mobilizing

our communities", he said

while talking to a Private

News Channel.

ing HCV testing and treatpeople in Pakistan were afment, and engaging community-based organiza-He said that objectives of the Group of Friends aligned perfectly with the overarching theme of UNGA 78, focusing on re-

building trust and rekindling global solidarity to accelerate progress on the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable The meeting was attended by Health Ministers, WHO officials, several ambassadors and representatives of the member

panding hepatitis B birth dose vaccination, increasmates, around 12 million

of the country at global level", he added.

Talking about 12th Conference of Culture Min-

isters of the Organization

of Islamic Cooperation, he

said conference is focusing

on cultural issues with a

view to enhance joint cul-

tural action in the areas of

cultural planning and devel-

opment indicators and ad-

dressing the illicit traffick-

Replying a question,

ing of cultural property.

minister said that promo-

tion of national heritage and

"Pakistani people are culture among the people

hospitable and we need to can only prevent the soci-

Govt plans to preserve

Pakistani cultural

heritage at int'l forums

Development Goals.

C, with 150,000 new cases reported every year. These multifaceted challenges stemmed from unsafe blood transfusions, unhygienic dental treatments and re-Appreciating Coalition for Global Hepatitis

Elimination for launch of National Hepatitis Elimination Profile (N-HEP) Initiative in 2022, the Ambassador noted that Government of Pakistan had set an ambitious target under the initiative, aiming to screen millions of individuals and treat millions affected by hepatitis by 2030.

Illegal Nikah case Islamabad can't be

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Attock Jail authorities have informed a Civil Court in Islamabad that they could not produce former prime minister and PTI Chairman Imran Khan in his illegal

During the previous hearing of the case on September 21, Civil Judge Qudrat Ullah issued a summons for the PTI chairman, directing the jail authorities to present him in court on September 25

Jailer informs court Imran produced



Senator Sardar Muhammad Shafiq Tareen, Chairman Senate standing committee on Science and Technology presiding over a meeting of the Committee at Ministry of Science and Technology, Islamabad.

12 accused involved in immoral activities held Independent Report

SLAMABAD: Islamabad Capital Police Humak po lice team apprehended 12 accused including five women involved in immoral activities and recovered cash from their possession, a public relations officer said.

He said that, following the special directions of Islamabad Capital City Police Officer (ICCPO) Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan, the Islamabad Capital Police has intensified crackdown against the criminal elements in order to eliminate

the crime from the city. During the ongoing crackdown, the Humak police team arrested 12 ac cused including five women involved in immoral activities. Police team also recovered cash, vehicle and motorbike from their possession. Case has been regis tered against the nabbed accused and further inves

tigation is underway. Safety of lives and property of the citizens is the prime responsibility of Islamabad capital police Citizens are also requested to report any suspicious activity to nearest police stations or at emergency helpline "Pucar-15"

being ensured at High Security zone **Independent Report** tablishments, diplomatic missions, and other vital

Foolproof security

ISLAMABAD: Following the special directions of Islamabad Capital City Police Officer (ICCPO), Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan, the Islamabad Capital Police is ceaselessly dedicated to preserving law and order within the federal capital, a public relations officer

He said that, to fortify the security of the high security zone, personnel stationed at Margalla Road naka diligently executing their responsibilities, meticulously verifying the particulars of individuals accessing the high security zone and meticulously documenting vehicle in-

formation. The high security zone encompasses pivotal government and private es-

assets, necessitating an unwavering focus on their safeguarding.

Government personnel entering the high security zone are now mandated to display their departmental identification cards. Additionally, individuals with private business within the high security zone are urged to carry their requisite documentation and extend their full cooperation to on-duty personnel.

Senior officers have directed the personnel on duty to uphold the highest standards of diligence and professionalism, cultivating a positive rapport with citizens. Citizens are also urged to promptly report any perceived suspicious activity or individuals to the helpline "Pucar-15."

Rivers, reservoirs water level report issued

Barrages: Jinnah: Inflows 125000 cusecs and Outflows 117000 cusecs, Chashma: Inflows: 144400 cusecs and Outflows 135000 cusecs, Taunsa: Inflows 138000 cusecs and Outflows 117500 cusecs, Guddu: Inflows 130000 cusecs and Outflows 99100 cusecs Sukkur: Inflows 96700 cusecs and Outflows 44900 cusecs Kotri: Inflows 35500 cusecs and Outflows 400 cusecs Trimmu: Inflows 25700 cusecs and Outflow 13100 cusecs Panjnad: Inflows 34800 cusees and Outflows 17600 cusecs. Reservoirs (Leveland Storage): Tarbela: Minimum operating level 1402 feet, present level 1546.63 feet, maximum conservation level 1550 feet.

ISLAMABAD (INP): The position of the river inflows and outflows at Tarbela, Mangla and Chashma along with the reservoirs levels and the barrages issued on

Monday Rivers: Indus at Tarbela: Inflows 88800 cusecs and Outflows 110000 cusecs, Kabul at Nowshera: Inflows 20700 cusecs and Outflows 20700 cusecs, Khairabad Bridge: Inflows 96800 cusecs and Outflow 96800, Jhelum at Mangla: Inflows 8700 cusecs and Outflows 38000 cusecs, Chenab at Marala: Inflows 30600 cusecs and Outflows 4000 cusecs.

misguide masses for sake of 'publicity'

Kundi says:

Siraj should not

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pa- strengthened if the induskistan Peoples Party (PPP) leader Faisal Karim Kundi on Monday lashed out at Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) Emir Sirajul Haq.

In a reaction to the press talk of Mr Haq, Mr Kundi said: "Sirajul Haq Addressing a press should not misguide the masses for the sake of cheap publicity stunts. Sirajul Haq needs to have information of the negotiations made by the PPP with independent power producers (IPPs).

"If the PPP had not reached an agreement with the IPPs, the country would have been dragged into a quagmire today," Mr Kundi added.

Mr Kundi stated: During the tenure of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), Sirajul Haq was the senior minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP)."

"The country's tional economy would have been (IMF)

trial zones were established," Mr Kundi said.

Éarlier today, JI Emir Sirajul Haq fired a fresh broadside at the Pakistan

conference in Islamabad, Mr Haq asserted: "The Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) leaders had waived their cases. The PTI government had vowed to end poverty and create an opportunity of 50,000 jobs in the country.'

Mr Haq took a jibe at former finance minister Ishaq Dar, saying, "Ishaq Dar had made claims of controlling the rate of the greenback against the ru-

Speaking about the international lender, Mr Haq rued: "The nation has been made slaves of the International Monetary Fund



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Health Minister, Dr. Nadeem Jan talking to media persons during the inauguration of Incinerator ceremony in Community Health Centre Kirpa in Islamabad.

Senate body on Religious Affairs and Inter-Faith Harmony convenes

Independent Report

SLAMABAD: Meeting of Senate Standing Committee on Religious Affairs and Inter-Faith Harmony was held here at Parliament House on Monday with Senator

GhafoorHaideri in Chair. The Senate Committhe number of Haji Operators of Pakistan from 905 to 46. Caretaker Federal Minister for Religious Affairs and Inter-Faith Harmony, Aneeq Ahmed, stated that the Saudi Arabia intends to provide better facilities to Pilgrims, and in this regard, the letter has been sent to all Muslim

The Committee recommended that exception should be provided to Hajj Operators for the year 2024 and the proposed number of operators by the Saudi Government should be increased to 100.

The Senate body was briefed by the ministry on the recent Hajj in 2023. Officials apprised that Hajj quota for the year 2023

was 179,210, divided equally between the government and private sec-

The cost of Hajj for the North region was Rs. 11,75,000 and for the South region, it was Rs.11,65,00. However, an average refund of Rs.97,00 to Rs.132,00 was issued tee deliberated on the recent to each Haji upon their reletter written by Saudi turn from Hajj. Officials Arabia, proposing to reduce further added that around 21,244 complaints relating to food, accomodation and transportation were received during the 2023 Hajj, and fortunately, all the complaints have been resolved

Furthermore, the committee was informed about the ministry preparations for the 2024 Hajj. Caretaker Federal Minister for Religious Affairs stated that the Ministry is aiming to introduce Suitcases with QR code and designed scarves for females for the year 2024, to easily identify Hujjaj from Pakistan. He further added that the ministry with the collaboration of Saudi Government is planning to introduce a Short time period



for the Hajj.

ISLAMABAD: Provincial Interior Minister Shams Lone and Provincial Food Minister Ghulam Muhammad in a meeting with Chief Minister Gilgit-Baltistan Haji Gulbar Khan.

Capital's waste management system to be further improved

ISLAMABAD (APP): resources. Caretaker Federal Minister for Health Dr. Nadeem Jan on Monday said that the government has planned to further improve the waste are going to digitize the management system in the federal capital.

Addressing launching ceremony of environment-friendly incinerator at Karpa, the minister said that the federal capital has 5,000 kg of hospital waste. He said that the country is facing the challenges of climate change.

"Our job is to provide the best health facilities to the people. If the health system is better, the health of the people will be bet-

He said, "We are tryhealth facilities to the

He said that the government will improve facilities at Basic Health Units in the federal capital. "We

He said the country is facing many channels like flood, climate change etc.

He said that the primary health care system

needs to be strengthened. He said that Pakistan is the signatory of Universal Health Coverage and steps are being taken in this

He said that the National Health Card authorities have been asked to have one system for all.

We want to eradicate polio from Pakistan." He ing to provide the best said that three rounds of polio vaccination drive will people with the available be completed by December.



Islamic Calligraphy during "Solo Calligraphy Exhibition" by Wasil Shahid in Federal Capital.

Daily soice of Masse, Independent

Tuesday September 26, 2023

Caretaker PM's landmark address at 78th UNGA

The caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar's address at the 78th session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York on Friday last was really remarkable and landmark.

In his address, the PM called for countering all forms of terrorism, including "Hindutva extremists".

Urging the chair, Kakar emphasized that "Mr. President, we must counter all terrorists without discrimination including the rising threat by far-right and fascist groups such as Hindutva-inspired extremists threatening genocide against India's Muslims and Christians alike."

He also urged opposition against the root causes of terrorism which according to him included poverty, injustice, foreign occupation and distinguishing genuine freedom struggles from terror-

"Pakistan proposes the creation of a committee of the general assembly to oversee the balanced implementation of all four pillars of the global counter-ter-

rorism strategy."
Earlier the PM Kakar had also warned that the "disgusting reality behind Hindu nationalism politics could ensuare the world in "fires of war".

His comments come amid the backdrop of an unprecedented flareup of tensions between India and Canada where the latter has accused the former of killing a Sikh separatist leader on Canadian

During an interview on the sidelines of UNGA, PM Kakar said: "We will raise [the issue] at different forums, not because we want to do any propaganda against India, but because of the disgusting reality hidden behind Hindutva's political agenda in which fascism and chauvinism are very deeply rooted, it is such a dangerous phenomenon that it can ensnare the whole region and the rest of the world in the fires of war.'

He went on to say, "We will continue playing our role in highlighting that major issue ... we will talk about it wherever we get the opportunity."

The premier said Hindutva politics had affected the region, particularly Balochistan, adding that Pakistan had evidence to support its claims, which included the confession of high-ranking Indian military officer Kulbhushar Jadhav.

"We have been suffering this face and side of India but the problem is that this is hitting Western capitals now," PM Kakar said.

Pakistan would not mock Western countries for not paying heed to the warnings but would instead play a role in ensuring that the danger [of Hindutva] was understood and action was taken to

stop it.

The prime minister said the slain Sikh separatist leader was "innocent" and a "martyr", adding that the murder of an innocent person was a "major crime".

At the outset of his UNGA address, the premier said world leaders had gathered today at a "tense and pivotal moment in history", referring to the Russia-Ukraine war and tensions between other global

"We see the rise of old and new military and political blocs ... geopolitics is resurging when geoeconomics should have primacy."

He emphasized that the world could not afford another cold war as there were far greater challenges confronting humans that demanded global cooperation and collective action.

Many countries of the global south have barely managed to stave off defaults, poverty and hunger have grown, reversing development gains of three decades.

The premier lamented that last year's "epic floods" had submerged one-third of the country, killed 1,700 people, displaced over eight million people, destroyed vital infrastructure, destroyed vital infrastructure and caused over \$30 billion in damage to the economy.

Regarding Kashmir issue, the premier stressed that Pakistan desired peaceful relations with all the countries, including India, but at the same time highlighted that the Kashmir issue was key to peace between the two South Asian na-

Acknowledging that the Kashmir dispute was among the oldest issues on the UNSC agenda, he noted that India had professional and unethical evaded implementation of UN resolutions that call for the final disposition of the region through a plebiscite. PM Kakar recalled that since August 2019, India had deployed 900,000 forces in occupied Kashmir, imposed lockdowns and curfews, jailed hundreds of leaders, resorted to extrajudicial killings and destroyed entire villages. The UNSC must secure implementation of its resolution on Kashmir, the UN military observer group should be reinforced and global powers should convince New Delhi to accept Pakistan's offer for mutual restraint on strategic and conventional routes, as the PM rightly emphasized.

Democratic regression



Maleeha Lodhi

Earlier this month, the world marked the International Day of Democracy, celebrated every year on Sept 15. But this hardly masked the reality of democratic backsliding that is pervasive in the world today. Pakistan, too, has seen democratic regression.

Many democracies

across the world are challenged by polarisation, intolerance, and toxic politics. They have also seen an erosion of civil liberties and media freedom and the suppression of dissent. This is happening against a backdrop of economic stress and rising but unmet public expectations. Several reports international organisations and publica-

tions have recorded the global trend of democratic erosion. In its annual Democracy Report 2023, the V-Dem Institute (based in Sweden) finds democracy has deteriorated in many regions, with the level of democracy enjoyed by the average global citizen having dropped to 1986 levels.

Over 35 years of international advances in democracy have been wiped out in the last decade. It found there are more "closed autocracies" than liberal democracies for the first time in over two decades, with the current "wave of autocratisation" sweeping across all regions. It also found 72 per cent of the global population (5.7 billion people) live in autocracies - a substantial increase from 46pc a decade ago. The Economist Intelli-

nual survey of the health of democracy in 167 countries, assessing them across five measures. They are electoral processes and pluralism. political participation, a functioning government acting in the public interest, civil liberties and political culture. Its 2022 report concluded that only 8pc people in the world live in a 'full democracy', with over a third residing in an authori-

flawed democracy and 18pc in a hybrid democracy, which is how it classifies Pakistan.

the Global State of Democracy 2022 report by the Stockholm-based International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA) sees a record number of democracies in decline. It calculates over two-thirds of the global population now live in backsliding democracies, authoritarian or hybrid regimes. It attributes the ongoing wave of democratic erosion to the political consequences of the economic crisis that began with the coronavirus pandemic and economic fallout of the war in Ukraine, especially the cost-of-living gence Unit conducts an ancrisis. The report's list of backsliding countries includes the US, which faces "problems of political polarisation, institutional dysfunction and threats to civil liberties". India and Brazil are listed among the rest. It says authoritarian governments have intensified repression with the previous year being the worst on record.

A more recent assessment by Washington-based tarian regime, 37pc in a Freedom House comes to a

similar conclusion. It says global freedom declined for the 17th consecutive year with civil liberties and political rights being under-The latest edition of mined in several countries. This also involved repression of civil society organisations and worsening of the quality of elections. Forty-seven countries are faced with tighter government censorship of the me-

> What is apparent is that while many countries still maintain an outward façade of democracy and hold elections of some sort — usually manipulated they follow illiberal policies, suppress civil liberties, muzzle the media, undermine the rule of law, perse-

cute minority groups and

undermine any system of

dia while freedom of expres-

sion deteriorated in 35 coun-

tries last year.

checks and balances that hold governments to ac-Often described as illiberal democracies, the recent proliferation of such regimes has much to do with the rise of right-wing populism. Populist leaders in a diverse number of countries

such as India, the US, Hungary, Poland and Austria, have shown a disregard for

democratic institutions and norms, engaged in authoritarian conduct and used hyper-nationalism to rally support, often orchestrating anti-minority sentiment. This has deeply divided and polarised their societies. A thoughtful piece in a

recent edition of The Economist names "paranoid nationalism" among devices used by populist politicians to "prey on their citizens' fears" in the pursuit of power. This kind of scaremongering is deployed as a tool to "dismantle the checks and balances that underpin good governance: a free press, independent courts, NGOs and a loyal opposition'

The global trend of democratic backsliding raises the question of what might be the underlying factors responsible for this as for the rise of anti-pluralist populist leaders. Each country's case is different so there is no uniform set of factors. But some common features can be singled out, although this is not an exhaustive list.

They include the growing disconnect between political elites and people, failure of established political parties and their policies to Courtesy Dawn

meet rising public expectations, poor governance, increasing inequality, lack of response by institutions to public concerns, political polarisation, economic and social discontent spawned by globalisation and the cost-of-living crisis. But the 2018 election

ushered in a period of hybrid rule that continues to this day. The post-2018 period has seen democratic regression and reversals as the hybrid arrangement has entailed the military establishment acquiring an expansive role in politics, governance and even the economy. This has been accompanied by mostly politically motivated corruption cases against opposition leaders, jailing of political figures and activists, media controls, defiance of the rule of law and marginalisation of parliament.

The Pakistan Institute of Legislative Development and Transparency correctly described the phase that ended with parliament's dissolution last month as one of democratic decline, rather than democratic consolidation. The unanswered question is whether the future will be any different. -

about electoral participation



Dr Naazir Mahmood

As elections are likely to be held in January 2024, there is renewed talk about improving electoral participation and making elections credible. On that basis, a discussion paper by Tahir Mehdi holds great value, and must be discussed. Tahir Mehdi is an activist - compiler of stories of ordinary Pakistanis from across Punjab – development professional, electoral analyst, journalist, and a freelance filmmaker and writer. His recent documentary about floods in Sindh and the disaster of the Right Bank Outfall Drain (RBOD) is a marvellous piece of research work, facilitated by the United States Institute of Peace (USIP) facilitated.

Mehdi's latest work is a 100-page paper 'Making Elections Credible: A discussion paper on electoral reforms', which was commis-

sioned by the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP). As HRCP Chairperson Hina Jilani mentions in her foreword, elections in Pakistan have remained a contested subject where the losing side always questions the election's outcome.

Undemocratic forces have attempted with full force to manipulate elections and have mostly been able to achieve their targets with varying degrees of success. These repeated manipulations put the integrity of the whole exercise under question, and though people express their will, elections lack credibility. This has had serious consequences for the country's political stability. Over the last few decades, unelected forces have considered elections just as a tool to fulfil the claims of procedural democracy.

Pakistan's electoral system that require reform. As he puts it in no uncertain terms that establishment's manipulation of the electoral compromising the integrity of the whole exercise and posing a significant hurdle

a society where many law-

yers are seen as having few

qualms about employing

unjust means to obtain re-

lief for their clients, the

lofty notions of fairness do

not dictate the manner in

which the new entrants in

the profession are

treated. The results in the

courtroom are not neces-

sarily procured on the ba-

sis of the cogency of argu-

ments or the strength of

evidence. If they were, even

for the most part, there

people with aptitude and

such need, there are some

brilliant lawyers in Paki-

top. But when they do,

the bookkeeping in-

stincts of many kick in.

allowed to trickle down,

Even without any

is no such need.

Tahir Mehdi has ana-

Charter of Democracy in 2006, the democratic transitions of power in 2008 and 2018, the passage of the 18th constitutional amendment and the Elections Act 2017 have all been dashed by the events of the past five vears.

The second area that he highlights is the delimitation of constituencies that was undertaken after the official notification of the final results of the 2017 population census was announced (2022). The delimitation process failed to address the major problems as it did not follow the principle of equal suffrage and confined widely different populations within the limits of administrative units (districts).

There are no principles and rules for the creation of new districts, and arbitrary carving out of new districts has become an indirect lyzed seven areas in method of influencing constituency boundaries.

Though a recent amendment in the Elections Election Commission of Paprocess is an open secret, kistan (ECP) to equalize constituencies, disregarding district boundaries, the ensuing mismatch in administo strengthening democracy trative and electoral boundin the country. He says: aries, may give rise to new "The hopes raised by the problems.

The third point is about the linking of the right to vote with the possession of national identification cards (NICs) which has converted a basic civic right into the citizen's responsibility the constitution or any other law does not bind the National Database and Reg-

istration

(NADRA) to register every citizen. NADRA issues an NIC to those who apply for it and fulfil certain conditions. This has deprived millions of marginalized people of their right to vote - unfortunately the vast majority of them are women. Millions of

and other women marginalized groups remain underrepresented in electoral rolls, and it may take decades to register every marginalized person as a voter. Tahir Mehdi also dis-

cusses the question of independent candidates who can join a political party political institutions.

Currently, the system allows one person to con- better legal framework for TheNews

test on as many seats as s/ he pleases, and then vacate all but one. This is a mockery of people's mandate and waste of resources while fulfilling just one person's political ambi-

Then there is the question of qualification and disqualification of candi-Authority dates under Article 62 and 63. That has become a major tool in the hands of extra-democratic forces to victimize dissenting poli-

> ticians. From constituency to constituency, the gender gap varies and the law currently stipulates checks against any action that bars women from exercising their right to vote. But there is no mandatory action to encourage or ensure women's participation.
> Tahir Mehdi suggests

that this approach needs revision as in many countries voting is a mandatory duty of all citizens. Poll-

There needs to be a country. -- Courtesy

parties to raise funds centrally and spend more on party campaigns to remove the burden of campaign expenses on their individual candidates.

These candidates also submit their statements but can determine the value of their assets themselves. Usually, this self-assessment is below the current market value, and there is no way to rectify these estimates after any reliable verification. The discussion paper also suggests an independent and thorough audit of general elections to provide a solid ground for discourse on electoral re-

forms. Independent experts must conduct such audits under the supervision of a parliamentary body with representation from across the political spectrum. This will help in the analysis of all documents and records of general elections with the objective of idening agents play a vital role tifying the strengths and Act 2017 has enabled the after defeating the candiin making the polling proweaknesses of election date of the same party. Cesses transparent, but management in the country. Recommendations in basic principles of repre- pacity to perform opti- the discussion paper are all sentation and weakens the mally. They need special worth considering and can development of parties as attention from political help introduce meaningful parties to perform better. electoral reforms in the



Adeel Wahid

The business model of law firms in Pakistan is oppressive. It is exploitative and unfair, and not meant to attract individuals with talent, integrity and ambition.

One of the major criticisms of the legal profession is that it is ironically manned with many who unreservedly resort to any means, even unfair, to get things done. To ensure that they hold on to their clients, lawyers may provide services of bribing court staff, stenographers and sometimes allegedly even the judges, too. And not all bribes are considered the bad kind; some are expressly asked to be paid by the litigants themselves. The snail's pace at which the judiciary can be brought to function requires, at times, greasing palms only to get things

There are many reasons why the lawyers in Pakistan are the way they are: dismal legal education, tribalism and politicisation of bar associations, and unpractices normalised through their pervasive use over the years. Most ironically, however, it is not a profession that the aspiring and diligent high school students in Pakistan usually have their ambitions set on. Most of the time, the upright ones just want

to steer clear. Structurally, the challenges are many. To begin with, employment opportunities in law are few, the graduates many. Pakistan's economy is primarily informal, not governed by established principles and

Fair play rules. Second, the judicial system is badly broken and is highly unpredict- more importantly, who able. The better option for have relatives in the right litigants often is to opt out of the ordeal of an unwieldy system. Third, the ensuring a ready stream state and moneyed inter- of clients and favourable ests, as apparent from re- orders. This cohort also cent events, do not consider themselves bound by any rules. The result: there solely dependent on the is just as much that the law and lawyers can do in Pahanded out.

And who cares if And then there is this any hardworking, ambientrenched status quo of tious and talented potenlawyers, guarding their motial lawyers, not from nopoly with ever watchthose right schools and ful eyes. The 'face value' backgrounds, are comalready exists, the stays pelled to choose other come easy, with no incencareers. Who advised tive to pay even belowthem to do law anyways? minimum wages to fresh The graduate lawyers. It should come as no surprise that in

monopolised by some, with no meagre contribution from judges, requ-ires a reset. And in such a reset, there is guidance to be sought not from any wisdom produced by the legal minds in Pakistan. It may be better to look outside, and askance, towards the culture that pervades the world of venture capital, contained in Sebastian Mallaby's The Power Law: Venture Capital and Making of the New Future.

While the dynamics might have been a need for of Silicon Valley are completely distinct, there is talent. But, it seems there still inspiration to be sought in its original story, which prominently features Arthur Rock and his key insight, that the stan. And most of them most opportune investdeservingly do get to the ment is in the "intellectual book value" where the emphasis has to be "on the people who you Upending the status quo hope will capitalise on might not fit in their caltheir intellect". As Arthur culus. And very little is Rock would put it, it is all about "backing the

and by design. right people" Arthur Rock, "a self-Meanwhile, results from the courts, in many made loner", also fainstances, can be attained mously said, that "I never on the basis of other conwanted to be the richest siderations. In a classcorpse in the cemetery' conscious society, from and that too, in a world the perspective of an em- curated to make money, ployer, it can potentially and not justice. -- Courbe more rewarding to hire tesy Dawn

graduates who went to the right school and, even positions, since that may be a firmer guarantor of comes with the added advantage of not being meagre stipend initially

> India is having its moment in the sun; the economy is booming, it has landed on the South Pole of the moon and New Delhi just hosted the G20, which was a massive coming-out party for Modi. Earlier, Modi had the red carpet rolled out for industry him in Washington where the administration fawned over a man who, up until

Gujarat massacres in which over 1,000 people, mostly Muslims, were killed and countless women raped, often in front of their fami-However, change, and India's burgeoning economy and its value as a hedge against China meant that Modi must be courted and the performative pearl-clutching over the usual Western obsessions with human rights and such was to be dispensed with. That's not

complaint; that's realpo litik. But the thing with having your moment in the sun is that it can go to your head; as Washington was finalising the menu and selecting silverware, an Indian intelligence operation was underway in America's ally Canada. There, a pro-independence Sikh leader and Canadian citizen Hardeep Singh Nijjar, was gunned down outside a gurdwara in Surrey, British Columbia on

Some months later, and conveniently right after the G20 summit had concluded its speeches and photo-ops, came Justin

Trudeau's bombshell where he accused India's intelligence agencies of being behind the attack. What followed were furious, tit-fortat expulsions and exchanges, with the accused mastermind, Pavan Kumar Rai, being compelled to leave Canada. India, in its typical style of accusing others of what it itself is guilty of, warned its citizens to "exercise caution" when visiting Canada due to 'growing anti-India activities and politically condoned hate crimes and criminal violence" there. After this spectacular example of a pot calling the kettle black most hate crimes in Canada are committed against Jews, Muslims and Catholics, in that order — India then suspended the fairly recently, was barred processing of visas for Cafrom entering the US due nadians, which is terrible to his complicity in the news for the millions of Canadians presumably queuing up to visit India. Diplomatic presence is also being cut back by both countries.

> reacting with typical narrow-minded nationalist bravado, with its media thumping its chest over the 'muscular new India' and pointing out the examples of Gen Suleimani and Osama bin Laden while also fervently denying the accusation. Indian social media, in its usual toxic manner, is heaping abuse upon Canada and Trudeau for 'sheltering terrorists' while celebrating the fact that along with yoga, assassination is also one of India's exports. This sells well in the domestic Indian market, where the populace has been fed a daily diet of hate and religious supremacy which often translates into state-condoned violence against Muslims and other minorities.

> Seemingly secure in its Western alliance, India has taken the world's silence as a signal that it can get away with murder abroad, as it has within its own borders and in the region. Unsurprisingly, no

one is questioning the possible fallout for fear of being labelled traitors. So in that scenario, any indications of India projecting its power is appreciated, and certainly the more robust the Indian diplomatic offensive is, the better it'll play in the upcoming Indian polls, especially with the INDIA alliance trying to take the BJP down a peg. For Canada, taking a soft line would be suicidal; home to many diasporas and dissidents due to its liberal immigration policies, allowing an India-ordered assassination to take place without a reaction would mean there would be no stopping other countries with equal or greater capabilities from doing the same. What if, for example, China were to start eliminating Tibetan, Uighur or Falun Gong activists in Canada? So, as India escalates, Canada has started to drip out information and as per a report in the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, Ottawa is in Meanwhile, India is possession of intercepted communications by Indian officials regarding the murder, along with intelligence provided by another member of the Five Eyes network, of which Canada is a part. They have receipts, and will show them in due course.

This places the West in a tight spot, having to balance between India and their old ally Canada. So far, the responses have been muted amid diplomatic calls for the investigation to be completed, but among analysts, think tanks and influential media outlets, the mood seems to be changing amid a realisation that the Indian alliance carries unexpected costs, among which is giving New Delhi the impression that it can do as it likes, and can use the same tactics and policies it uses in the subcontinent, in their own countries as well. While realpolitik will eventually prevail, the mask is well and truly off. -- Cour-

India's overreach

Zarrar Khuhro

Punjab CM inaugurates road built from plastic waste in Lahore

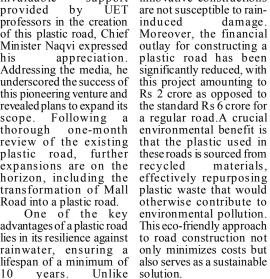
Independent Report LAHORE: In a recordbreaking development for Punjab, Caretaker Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi inaugurated the first-ever plastic road in the province today. The historic inauguration took place on Zafar Ali Plastic Road, stretching from Gymkhana Mall Road to Jail Road. Chief Minister Naqvi meticulously examined the quality and construction of this innovative road, accompanied by a detailed briefing on its utility by the Secretary Communication and Works

and esteemed professors from the University of Engineering Technology Lahore.

technical expertise and conventional roads, these professors in the creation of this plastic road, Chief Minister Naqvi expressed appreciation. Addressing the media, he underscored the success of this pioneering venture and revealed plans to expand its scope. Following a thorough one-month review of the existing plastic road, further expansions are on the recycled horizon, including the transformation of Mall Road into a plastic road. One of the key

advantages of a plastic road lies in its resilience against rainwater, ensuring a years.

environmental pollution





KARACHI: Peoples Party (PPP) Senior Leader and Former Provincial Minister, Saeed Ghani in a group photo along with participants of Ten-day Electronic Media Training Course organized by Women Media Center held

Life of Hazrat Muhammad (SAWW) beacon of light for entire mankind: Baligh

Independent Report Balighur Rehman attended a ceremony on the theme of "Building Islamic Society in the Light of

Punjab Governor Muhammad Balighur Rehman while addressing the ceremony said that the Uswa Hasana of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) is a source of salvation and guidance for us. He said that Allah sent the Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) as a mercy for all mankind.

Love for Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH) is an integral part of our faith, he added. Governor Punjab said that when the Arabs were passing through the age of ignorance, he gave them the message of Allah and enlightened them with the teachings of Islam.

He said that the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) set an example of our problems.

the highest character and forgiveness by forgiving his worst enemies on the occasion of the conquest of Makkah. Governor Punjab said that the problems of the present

(PBUH). downtrodden sections of the society and women in the age of ignorance when daughters were buried alive as soon as they were born. He said that the people should develop the habit of research, adding that our religion has placed great emphasis on research and

critical thinking. Governor Punjab said that many false and unverified things are spread on social media these days.

He said that we should neither believe what we hear nor spread it without confirmation. He emphasized that we need to take guidance from Sirat Tayyaba(SAW) to solve



ABBOTTABAD: Members of Awam Bachao Tehreek are holding protest demonstration against highly inflated electricity bills, outside WAPDA Office in Abbottabad.

DRAP officials raid offices of Avastin distributors in Lahore

LAHORE (INP): The officials of the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) have raided the offices of the distributors of locally made adulterated Avastin injection along with provincial drug inspectors in Lahore.

Sources revealed that the DRAP officials raided the local distributors of injection manufacturer Rawish Pharma – AG & Company – and recovered 110 vials of Avastin injection.

The officials sent the recovered samples of the injection to the Drug Testing Lab in Lahore.

DRAP has stopped the distributors from selling the controversial injection. The DTL will examine the quality of the injection and run a safety

check on it. It has been learned that Genius Advanced

Pharma is selling injections of the same batch illegally. Earlier, the Punjab authorities registered a case against the manufacturers of the spurious eye drug that led to the vision loss among several diabetic patients, including the brother of senior PPP leader

Chaudhry Manzoor Ahmed. Deputy Drug Controller Hafiz Alam Sher of the chief drug controller office of Punjab lodged an FIR against Naveed Abdulllah of Kahna and Bilal Rasheed, alleging that 'controversial drug' on the Saira hospital,

Theatre play "Social Pagal" & "The Father" presented

KARACHI (Online): On the 16th day of the ongoing Pakistan Theatre Festival in Arts Council of Pakistan Karachi, the Theatre plays "Social Pagal" and "The Father" were presented in Urdu language, the writer teachings of Prophet era can be solved by Muhammad SAW" at Governor House Lahore teachings of the Prophet Muhammad House Lahore the Prophet Muhammad Fahad, in the cast of the and director of Theatre UH). play. Sarmad Aftab,
He said that Islam
e rights to the Gulshan Majeed, Hassan Raza, Mishal Chaudhry Zain Qazi, Haris Ahmad

Khan and Mohammad Ghazi Abid, etc. Drama takes viewers through the journey of six psychopaths who confront their demons in prison as they are confined to an obscure realm where life imprisonment

considered the cure for their insanity, a battle of wits ensues and theatre play "The Father" is written by Florian Zeller and directed by Zeeshan Haidar.

The cast of the drama included Ghulam Mohiuddin, Abdul Rehman, Alina Gulzar, Saima, Zobi and Owais The drama depicts an old man grappling with a reality beyond his understanding, daughter's well-intentioned support meets resistance.

Crackdown intensifies as cases of vision loss surge in Punjab

LAHORE (INP): The Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) on Monday launched a crackdown against medicine distributors amid the rising cases of vision loss due to the use of substandard injections in Punjab, says in media reports. Initially, it was reported that the eyesight of over 40 diabetes patients was affected in Punjab after which the provincial caretaker government imposed a two-week ban on Avastin's sales and usage for ophthalmologyrelated treatments. But the number has now increased

by over 70. After the cases were reported, DRAP banned hospitals, pharmacies, and patients across the country from using the injections. DRAP officials said that no hospital, laboratory, or pharmacy in Pakistan has a licence to repack the injection. They revealed that both unregistered and registered injections are available in the market. they manufactured the The officials further advised the people and premises of a private hospitals to not use the imported injections before Memorial Hospital in Faisal Town Lahore. quality check results were obtained.

LAHORE: Punjab Governor Muhammad Baligh-ur-Rehman addressing the ceremony on the eve of Mehfil-e-Milad-un-Nabi (SAWW) at Governor House.

PFA unearths unit producing fabricated milk

Independent Report AHORE: The Punjab Food Authority (PFA) has

lodged a First Information Report (FIIR) against Mujahid Zubair Dairy on account of adulteration in the nearest police station during a raid in Roshan Bhela, Kasur. PFA Director General

Raja Jahangir Anwar said that acting on the tip of, a dairy safety team of PFA Kasur raided a fake milk production unit and caught the adulteration mafia redhanded producing fabricated milk with hazardous chemicals and other ingredients.

He said that the raiding team took milk samples on the spot and found contamination of vegetable oil, whey powder, polluted water and chemicals. The raiding team discarded a huge quantity of substandard milk, 50kg powder and adul 48kg ghee besides said.

confiscating a vehicle, 11 drums, mixing machines and other goods during the raid, he added.

PFA DG appreciated the raiding team for taking timely action against enemies of public health and ruined their unholy ambitions. He said that adulterated milk was to be supplied to different local milk shops in Lahore.

He further said that the use of substandard adulterated milk poses a threat to users' health and causes severe problems like stomach, intestine, food poisoning gastrointestinal complications.

Raja Jahangir said that the Punjab Food Authority is bringing an internationalstyle policy for the supply of pure milk. The PFA was also utilizing all available resources to root out the menace adulteration in Punjab, he

Provincial ministers lead strategic meeting to address anti-smog

Independent Report AHORE: An essential meeting convened at the Civil Secretariat, presided over by Provincial Minister Industries and Commerce SM Tanveer, meticulously assessed the closure and desealing of

factories in relation to antismog efforts. In attendance were Chief Secretary Zaman, Provincial Minister Bilal Afzal, along with the formulating Department, DG of environm Industries, and pertinent thereby

presence of Patron-in-Chief of the Chamber of Industry and Commerce in Sheikhupura, Manzoor Malik, alongside industrialists Mardan Ali, Amjad Khan, and others. Emphasizing the government's duty to

The girl's bail plea was filed in the PHC as she is underage. The court was pleaded to release the furnish a clean environment for its citizens, Provincial 12-year-old on bail, which Minister of Industry and was accepted. It is to be Punjab Zahid Akhtar Commerce SM Tanveer noted that both the parties articulated the need for Standard Secretary and DG of the Operating Procedures each other after the incident.Separately in Environment Protection (SOPs) to mitigate 2021, a judicial magistrate environmental pollution. granted bail to six teenage enhancing



LARKANA: Commissioner Larkana Division, Abdul Waheed Shaikh presiding over a meeting of Divisional Task Force for the Department of Education, Health and Public Health, at his office in Larkana.

Nawabzada Nasarullah 20th anniversary on Sep 26

anniversary of the great politician known as father of democracy, Nawabzada Nasarullah Khan will be marked on September 26 (Tuesday). Nawabzada Nasarullah's relentless 70year-long struggle for the supremacy of the constitution, parliament, and democracy remains an enduring Distinguished religious scholar Moulana Syed Kafeel Ahmed Shah Bukhari will grace the

occasion. He will address the audiences, comprising political and social leaders,

 $\begin{array}{ccc} M\ U\ Z\ A\ F\ F\ A\ R\ G\ A\ R\ H \\ (APP): & The & 20^{th} & from\ various\ sectors\ of \end{array}$

The 20th-anniversary ceremony is set to take place at 5 pm at Marhaba Marriage Hall in his hometown, Khangarh. Moulana Syed Kafeel Ahmad Shah Bukhari, the grandson of Moulana Shah Ahmad Noorani Bukhari will deliver an insightful speech, shedding light on the importance of democracy and unity in the

This event stands as a symbol of unity, bringing together leaders from different political parties

Watchman of house killed mother, son and threw bodies in well

KARACHI (Online): Watchman of house has killed mother and son in Nazimabad.

According to policemen, dead bodies of mother and son have been found from well inside the house in Mujahid Colony, Nazimabad who have been strangled to death.

Police said that when incident investigated, the watchman of the house was found involved in the murder who strangled both of them to death and threw the bodies into the well.



KARACHI: Activists of Jamaat-e-Ahlesunnat Pakistan are holding Jashane-Eid Milad-un-Nabi (SAW) Boats rally in connection of 12th Rabi-ul-Awwal the Birthday Ceremony of Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) coming ahead, at Manora Beach in Karachi.

Justice Baqar directs audit of 'varieties, orders holding of Senate meetings

KARACHI Caretaker Sindh Chief Minister Justice (rtd) Maqbool Bagar has directed the University & Board department and Education Commission (HEC), Sindh to conduct an audit of all

the public sector universities and direct them to establish their pension fund for timely payment of pensions to their retiring or to be retired employees."I am surprised that nine public sector universities have not held their Senate meeting in the last eight to nine years and they must but taken to task and their senate meeting be held at the earliest.

He issued these directives while presiding over a meeting of the Universities and Boards Dept and provincial Higher Education Commission **Court orders**

to release 12

year-old

girl on bail

Peshawar High Court (PHC) on Monday ordered to release 12-year-old girl on bail. The 12-year-old girl is facing murder wharese She is accused of

charges. She is accused of

killing a man named Gohar

Ali while cutting fodder in

Buner, five months ago.

PESHAWAR

meeting was attended by Chief Secretary Dr. Fakhre Alam, Chairman HEC Prof Tariq Raffi, PSCM Hassan Naqvi, Secretary Finance Kazim Jatoi, Secretary U&B Noor Mohammad Samo, and others. HEC: The Chairman

HEC told the interim CM that Sindh HEC was established in 2013 with a mandate to promote and improve higher education, research, and development in the Sindh Province. The provincial HEC mainly focuses on faculty

development; improving access; promoting excellence in learning and research; governance and management; enhancing assessment, monitoring & evaluation, and physical technological infrastructure development

programs of the HEC were the Research Support Program, M.Phil, Ph.D Scholarship Program, Laboratory Strengthening Program, and Smart Classroom program.

To a question, CM was told that there were 27 universities in the public sector in the province, of them nine have not held their Senate meetings in the last eight years. At this, the CM said that the Senate was an Apex body of the universities, and their Senate body passed their budgets. It was also pointed out that most of

public sector universities were running huge losses due to financial management. At this, the CM directed the Secretary U&B to conduct an audit of all the universities through well-reputed.



PESHAWAR: Students are holding protest demonstration against re-conduct of MDCAT, at Peshawar press club.

SHC orders to block passport, identity card of Hammad in Baldia factory case

KARACHI (Online): Sindh High Court (SHC) has ordered to block passport, national identity card and bank accounts of Hammad Siddiaui nominated in Baldia

factory tragedy. The case on the matter of return of absconding accused in 3 cases including Baldia factory tragedy came up for hearing before SHC Monday. Federal interior secretary appeared in the court.During the hearing of the case, the court expressed annoyance over lack of efforts for bringing absconding accused to Pakistan. The court questioned from federal interior secretary what steps were taken for bringing Hammad Siddiqui to Pakistan.

Interior secretary told the court Hammad Siddiqui has left Abu Dhabi

since 2017.

Justice KK Agha remarked Hammad Siddiui had left Abu Dhabi before starting trial of court. Interior secretary said

Hammad Siddiqui had left Pakistan in 2013. The court questioned

were the passport and national identity card of Hammad Siddiqui blocked.

Interior secretary said the period of Hammad Siddiqui passport has expired. The court ordered for blocking passport national identity cards and closing bank accounts of Hammad Siddiqui, Taqi Haider Shah and Khurram Nisar . The court ordered that the details of last landing in Pakistan by Hammad Siddiqui be presented.The court summoned report about absconding accused Taqi Haider and Khurram Nisar

besides details.

MUZAFFERABAD: Employees of MNC Traders holds protest in the favor of their demands at Azadi Chowk in the Capital of Azad Jammu and Kashmir.

Following Prophet (SAWW) teachings key to civilized society: PU VC

LAHORE Following teachings of Faculty of Oriental Holy Prophet Hazarat Learning Prof Dr Ghulam Muhammad (PBUH) is Moeen-ud-Din Nizami, key to create a civilized Chief Librarian Dr society and motive can't be achieved without it.

These views were expressed by Punjab University Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Khalid Mahmood while addressing a seminar organized by Punjab University Library in collaboration with the Punjab University Librarians Organization

(PULO) here on Monday. On this occasion, renowned religious scholar Dr Hafiz Sarfraz Ahmad Khan, Dean Faculty of Islamic Studies Prof Dr life is essential.

(INP): Hammad Lakhvi, Dean Muhammad Haroon Usmani, President PULO Saif-ur-Rehman Atique, faculty Librarians and a large number of students were present. Dr Khalid Mahmood

said that to get out of the crisis situation, everyone including the Ulemas will have to act wisely. He said that the real purpose of a Muslim's life cannot be fulfilled by emotional slogans, but the adoption of the Prophet's (PBUH)

UK investors show keen interest in Pakistan's capital market

meeting with Caretaker Kalrock Capital, and UBL Prime Minister Anwaar-ul- UK. Prime Minister Kakar Haq Kakar on Monday informed the delegation expressed their keen interest in exploring economic landscape, investment opportunities in Pakistan. The leaders of measures for external the notable investment firms who met the prime said that recent minister in included International Limited Wellington

about Pakistan's current account improvement. He London administrative actions Fidelity strengthened the Pakistani rupee against the US dollar, fostering optimism for Management, Ashmore, stability. He said positive Minister Kakar also initiative, led by t Jefferies International, indicators, including highlighted economic minister himself.

LONDON (APP): The investors of the United Kingdom's capital and financial market in a GuarantCo, JP Morgan,

Redwheel Capital, Switex inflows from the World Bank, Asian Development Capital, Bank, and friendly nations, contributed to reduced and upcoming growth in inflation, stabilized reserves, and revival of industrial growth. The trade after removal of prime minister spoke about the potential for foreign direct investment in Pakistan's key sectors and the positive impact of the Stand-By Arrangement (SBA) with the IMF, exceeding expectations and stabilizing the economy and currency. Prime

He mentioned improved restrictions on imports and fiscal measures for monetary support and medium-term inflation targets. The prime minister highlighted Pakistan's proinvestment efforts, introducing the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC). This initiative, led by the prime



LONDON: Senior leaders of London's capital and Financial Market cell on the Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaaar-ul-Haq Kakar.



ISLAMABAD: VC PIDE Dr. Nameemul Haque along with academia from PIDE called the Caretaker Commerce Minister Dr. Goher Ejaz at the Commerce Ministry.

Commerce minister underscores significance of increasing investment

ISLAMABAD (Online): prevailing economic Federal Minister for situation in Pakistan. Dr Commerce Dr Gohar Ejaz on Monday underscored the critical importance of increasing the investment rate in Pakistan. The minister made it funds towards businesses abundantly clear that rather than traditional investing in businesses savings. The Ministry of holds the potential for far Commerce remains greater returns than dedicated to working in

investing in real estate. Pakistan Institute of policies that will drive Development Economics economic growth, foster (PIDE) Dr. Nadeem ul innovation, and enhance while the PKR has also Haque along with academia the nation's regained its value agai from PIDE called on the competitiveness on the the greenback Unmute Commerce, Dr. Gohar meeting, Vice Chancellor Dr in the announcement of Federal Minister for global stage. During the Ejaz, said a press release Nadeem ul Haque new fuel prices for the issued. The meeting was centred around the highlighted the pivotal role that PIDE.

Ejaz expressed the government's commitment to formulating policies that encourage investment, thus diverting collaboration with key Vice Chancellor of the stakeholders to implement

IFC delegation meets Privatization Minister

Caretaker Minister for presentation to the rext fortnight's review as the Pakistani rupee Hassan Fawad on Monday held a meeting with the around the world to help team of the International the government reform Finance Corporation (IFC) electric distribution for the region headed by its utilities with a focus on Country Director Zeeshan improved customer Sheikh. The meeting was services, reduction in attended by the Secretary Privatisation Commission. the Chairman National in detail different reasons Electric Power Regulatory for the failures of Authority, the Additional Authority, the Additional Secretary of the Power successfully undertake litre. Moreover, Rs17.34 Division, and other senior privatisation of electric was jacked up on diesel

to declining agricultural

productivity, exacerbating food insecurity and can aid

recurrent climate disasters"

remarked Dr Abid Qaiyum

Suleri, Executive Director,

SDPI. He was speaking at

a Industry Consultation

event "National Precision

and Adoptability
Pathways" ioisil

organized by Sustainable

Development Policy Institute and NASTAP

ISLAMABAD (APP): meeting, IFC made a losses and an enhanced user base. IFC also highlighted governments

addressed by embarking on

the contemporary digital

revolution has modified the

Agriculture Blueprint making by digitalizing the bureaucratic delays in

Study: Needs Assessment management of the entire project development and

process. "Pakistan is

country and the digitalization of inputs like

application and quality

"Precision Agriculture is resources and the mounting urged

in developing resilience to revolution. This digital partners.

He added that the management as well as

rising population is greenhouse gas automation

exerting profound pressure to reduce the footprint of

the one-window solution per capita burden on

OGRA reacts to reports of speculations

about fuel prices ISLAMABAD (INP): The Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA) on Monday

reacted to the speculations about fuel prices. OGRÅ spokesperson said speculations about increase or decrease in fuel prices should be avoided as the rate of petroleum products is fixed in line with the international market and exchange rate.

The regulator said the rate of crude oil increased in the international market, regained its value against

As there is a week left month of October, speculations should be avoided because they can 'disturb' the supply chain, the OGRA spokesperson said. Last week, Caretaker Minister for Information Murtaza Solangi hinted at reducing the petrol price in gained massively against

the US dollar. On Sept 15, the government made a massive hike in petrol and diesel prices after making tall claims of providing relief to the masses.

A massive hike of Rs26.2 per litre was made on petrol and the new price to would be Rs331.38 per officers of the distribution utilities and the new price would be Rs329.18 per litre.

Was Jacket up off distribution and advises on policy and advises on policy adjustments needed for prices.

Precision agriculture "one-window solution:

to develop climate resilient agriculture

ISLAMABAD (Online): on the country's natural the sector", he added. He Council will promote in consultation with SDPI

academia, industry, private

sector, and development

implementation and

agricultural subsidies to

climate smart subsidies can

resources needed. Furter

addressing the financing

gap, he said that Special

financial

gap, he said that Special Elucidating the Investment Financial blueprint study developed

The reformation of

agricultural land can be pillars of agriculture i.e., to

workflow expanding it academic curricula and

from data analysis to developing specialized

increasing efficiency in courses in consultation

resource consumption like with industry and private

water and aid decision sector, eradicating the

already a water scarce reappropriation

water allows efficient mobilize

urged for the synchronization of the four digitalization of agriculture

Pakistan, Azerbaijan discuss transport, trade cooperation

ISLAMABAD (APP): through railways and road Caretaker Federal Minister networks. The Ambassador for Communications for said the primary goal is to discussed issues of mutual interests and strengthened bilateral ties. The ambassador during a meeting with the minister said the relationship between Pakistan and Azerbaijan is unparalleled in every aspect.

The envoy said,

following the commencement of direct flights between Pakistan and Azerbaijan, both countries aim to connect

Railways Shahid Ashraf boost economic Tarar, and Azerbaijani cooperation and facilitate Ambassador to Pakistan the movement of goods and Khazar Farhadov people. "We are keen on promoting economic cooperation," Ambassador Farhadov said. He further said, "We envision Pakistan becoming a part of international transport networks, connecting with all regional countries." He also highlighted the potential for Pakistani trade to gain access to Europe and Russia through Azerbaijan.

The ambassador said, that to achieve this, the

greater efficiency and

that the Agriculture Policy

Institute should work on a

unified comprehensive

plan for the food supply

chain in consultation with

provinces which would

pave the way for the

control of artificial hike in

prices is the result of a

mismatch in demand and

supply or hoarding due to

frameworks, he said adding

that API should come

forward with a proposal to

activate the Food Security

as a bridge between the

federation and provinces on

he informed that Agriverse

Agriculture cloud has been

designed to offer data

dissemination cloud

technology for Precision

developing complete

resources to efficiently

apply these modern

technologies is critical.

The technology also

National

archiving

The increase in food

regulatory

food prices.

Dr Kausar Malik said

equity in the country.

QUETTA: Accountant General Balochistan

Hassan Saqlain meeting with Balochistan

Minister for strong

regulatory system to

control price hike

the API analyzed the Advisory Council to serve

groups such as consumers, the impact of important

processors, and exporters agricultural policies with

Governor Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar.

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Caretaker Minister for

National Food Security &

Research Dr Kausar

Abdulla Malik on Monday

underscored the need for a

unified supply chain

coupled with a strong

regulatory framework to

discourage artificial hikes in

the prices of food items in

of the Agriculture Policy

Institute and was also

briefed by Director General

Abdul Karimon the

function of the Institute

and its ongoing projects,

said a press release. The

minister was informed that

impact of important

agricultural policies on

transform productivity lands but will

also increase access to

financial and technological

services to small farmers

the promotion in Pakistan.

ecosystem

import

by strengthening the entire Agriculture.

Tauseef Ur offers

NOCs,

Rehman, Project Director, authorization, controlled,

GreenAI, highlighted that and monitored use of

adoption of precision drones, UAS Airspace agriculture holds immense monitoring, flight plan

potential for Pakistan. authorization, private

However, challenges like sector can assist in

operationalization of lifecycle management, he

drones not legalized, and said. However, developing

flight security risks hinder the skills of human

He chaired a meeting

the country.

private sector will play a crucial role in promoting trade and economic growth. Shahid Ashraf Tarar expressed his commitment to the idea, said, "I have instructed the Chairman of Railways to work on connecting rail

routes with Azerbaijan.

"It is time to transform our good relations into accommis relations into economic cooperation," the minister said. Both parties expressed the urgency of finalizing transit trade agreements between Pakistan and Azerbaijan, indicating their willingness to promptly implement these proposals.

SECP imposes pricing caps on digital personal loans

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) imposed pricing caps on digital personal loans by mobile applications.

In a significant move towards promoting responsible lending and consumer safety, the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) issued an allencompassing set of requirements for Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) offering digital personal loans via mobile applications, said a press release issued here on Monday.

The requirements set a maximum limit for the annual profit rate and the total cost that can be charged by a Nano lender to the borrower. The total cost cap for Nano loans encompass all

FPCCI calls for enhanced cooperation with China in agriculture: Irfan Iqbal

Independent Report KARACHI: Mr. Irfan Iqbal Sheikh, President FPCCI, has called for enhanced cooperation between Pakistan and China on the occasion of Anhui – Pakistan International Agricultural Cooperation and Development Forum in China. Agricultural development and modernization of Pakistan should take prominence in CPEC as Pakistan is facing existential threats vis-à-vis

food security for its 240 million populace, he added.

movement of agricultural products; along with technology transfer from China can improve crop yields; modernize irrigation methods and promote sustainable agricultural practices. Additionally, an expanded access to Chinese market for agricultural products through reduced trade barriers and streamlined regulations can facilitate agricultural exports.

Muhammad Suleman maintained that FPCCI wants Pakistan to fully Mr. Irfan Iqbal capitalize on the potential Sheikh added that creation of agricultural development of modern transportation in Pakistan with the help and logistics infrastructure of China and a blueprint to facilitate the efficient needs to chalked out.

Younis Dagha says: **Import substitution** should be integral part of industrial policy

Monitoring Desk

Caretaker Minister for SBP revealed that a few Finance, Revenue, and banks that manage Planning & Development interbank rates have been Mohammad Younus Dagha involved in unfair practices has said that the State
Bank of Pakistan should fix
the exchange rate of the

Balkitter and open market rates are managed by a few foreign exchange dealers. Pakistani rupee from time internationally accepted exchange rate for the local currency.

provincial minister

SLAMABAD. Sindh's inquiries conducted by

Dagha also said at the to time according to the conference that effective import substitution should be an integral part of the country's industrial policy Speaking at a conference in Islamabad organised by the World Bank and PIDE, the conference in Islamabad based imports. He further said small and medium enterprises (SMEs) must be founded on to achieve be focused on to achieve elaborated that the country does not have a perfect market for foreign exchange for effective pricing through competitive addition to agriculture through competitive addition to agriculture, mining and mineral sectors



Federal Minister for National food and security and Research is receiving briefing on Agriculture Policy Institute Islamabad.

Dr. Shamshad says: **Govt creating** level playing field for businesses

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Finance, Revenue and Economic Affairs, Dr. Shamshad Akhtar here on Monday expressed commitment to creating a level playing field for businesses and promoting healthy competition across all sectors of economy. She was talking to Chairman Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP), Dr Kabir Ahmed Sidhu, who called on the federal minister here, finance ministry posted on social media cite X. "The Chairman CCP, Dr Kabir Ahmed Sidhu, called on the Federal Minister for Finance, Revenue, & Affairs Economic @lsakhtar, at Finance Division today....The Minister expressed GoP's commitment to creating a level playing field for

EU commissioner calls for more balanced trade with China

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 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 established rules.

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. The Chinese government has called the investigation protectionist act aimed at distorting the supply chain. Dombrovskis, in his

Tsinghua address, said the

probe would follow well-

Caretaker Federal Minister for privatization Fawad Hasan Fawad held a meeting via zoom with representative of IFC in Islamabad.

Azerbaijani and Turkish leaders hold talks, eye land corridor via Armenia

Monitoring Desk BAKU: Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev hosted talks on Monday with his counterpart Tayyip Erdogan at which he hinted at the prospect of creating a land corridor between their two countries via Armenia, which opposes the idea.

Erdogan pointedly flew into Azerbaijan's autonomous Nakhchivan exclave, a strip of territory nestled between Armenia, Iran and Turkey that Ankara and Baku want to link up with rump Azerbaijan by carving out a land corridor that would run through southern Armenia.

Aliyev in 2021 threatened to create such a corridor - that would create a contiguous land bridge between close allies Turkey and Azerbaijan and deprive Armenia of a land border with Iran - "whether Armenia likes it or not.'

The symbolic choice

of location for Monday's words looked ominous. talks, less than a week after Azerbaijani forces swept into Nagorno-Karabakh to retake control of the breakaway region, is likely to worry the authorities in Armenia, who have in the past rejected such a land corridor while being theoretically open to restoring severed road and rail links.

At a joint news conference at which neither man took any questions, President Aliyev lamented that Soviet-era authorities had deemed part of what he said should have been territory belonging to the Azerbaijani Soviet republic as land belonging to the Armenian Soviet republic.

'The land link between the main part of Azerbaijan and Nakhchivan (the exclave) was thus cut ' complained Aliyev. An influential telegram channel linked to Karabakh Arme-Artsakh" said Aliyev's control of Karabakh.

Jasminka Dzumhur, Erik Mose and Pablo de Greiff, members of the Indepen-

dent International Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine, attend a news confer

with each nation expelling diplomats, and New Delhi suspending visas for Cana-

dians. Jatinder Singh Grewal, a director for Sikh for Justice

in Canada, told Reuters on

Sunday that his organisation

increase public awareness

to expel the India ambassa-

dor,"Grewal said. Represen-

tatives for India's diplomatic

missions in Ottawa and

Toronto were not immediately

available for comment. The

Toronto Police Department

said it was aware of the planned

demonstrations on Monday

but declined to disclose details

of the security preparations or

potential response to any vio-

lent situations that may arise

"Puppet traitor Yoon

Suk Yeol, even at the 78th

U.N. General Assembly,

malignantly slandered the

relations between (North

Korea) and Russia," the

North's official Korean

Central News Agency said

worries about a possible

weapons deal with Russia,

KCNA said it's "quite natu-

ral" and a "legitimate right"

for neighboring countries to

keep close ties with each

other. "It's self-evident that

such a guy with a trash-like

brain cannot understand the

profound and enormous

meaning of the development

of (North Korea)-Russia

friendly relations," KCNA

would lend an ear to the hys-

teric fit of puppet traitor

Yoon Suk Yeol, who is only

wearing disgraceful ill fames

of 'political immature,' 'dip-

lomatic idiot' and 'incompe-

"No one in the world

Without addressing the

in a commentary.

We are asking Canada

about Nijjar's killing.

Canadian Sikh group

urges followers to protest

outside Indian embassies

Minister Justin Trudeau will lead the demonstrations

raised the prospect of New outside the Indian embassies

Delhi's involvement in the and consulates in Toronto,

murder of a Sikh separatist Ottawa and Vancouver to

Monitoring Desk

OTOWA: A Canadian Sikh

group has called on its mem-

bers to protest outside the

Indian diplomatic missions of

main Canadian cities on

Monday, a week after Prime

leader in British Columbia.

Trudeau said last week

Canada was pursuing "cred-

ible allegations" that Indian

government agents may be linked to the killing of

Hardeep Singh Nijjar, who

was shot dead outside a Sikh

temple on June 18 in Surrey,

a Vancouver suburb with a

any role in the killing and

described the allegations as

"absurd". The accusations

have sparked tensions be-

Monitoring Desk

SEOUL: North Korea on

Monday called South Ko-

rean President Yoon Suk

Yeol "a guy with a trash-

like brain" and "a diplomatic

idiot" as it blasted him for

using a U.N. speech to is-

sue a warning over the

North's deepening military

General Assembly last week,

Yoon said South Korea "will

not sit idly by" if North

Korea and Russia agree to

weapons deals that would

pose a threat to the South.

North Korean leader Kim

Jong Un's trip to Russia ear-

lier this month to meet Presi-

dent Vladimir Putin and visit

key military sites raised in-

ternational concern about a

possible push by North Ko-

rea to receive sophisticated

nuclear and weapons tech-

nologies in return for replen-

ishing Russia's conventional

arms inventory depleted by

In a speech at the U.N.

ties with Russia.

India swiftly denied

tween the two countries, during the protest.

North Korea calls South's

leader a 'guy with a trash-like

brain' as it slams his UN speech

high Sikh population.

Azerbaijan and Turkey is Syunik (a province in southern Armenia through which such a corridor would pass). They are already openly declaring it. Active preparations for war are underway," it said.

Erdogan and Aliyev

were due to inspect a newlymodernised military facility in Nakhchivan and to attend a ground-breaking ceremony for a new gas pipeline from Turkey. Russia, which has military facilities in Armenia and a defence pact with Yerevan, is busy prosecuting its own war in Ukraine. It is at odds with Armenia's current prime minister who it deems to be too pro-Western and is keen to further cultivate ties with Baku and Ankara. Erdogan told the U.N. General Assembly on Tuesday last week, the day that Azerbaijan began its nians called "Re:public of military operation to retake

Second Ukraine

wheat shipment

reaches Turkiye

Monitoring Desk

ISTANBUL: A second

shipment of Ukrainian

wheat reached Turkiye via

the Black Sea on Sunday.

according to maritime traf-

fic monitoring sites, despite

Russian threats to attack

boats heading to or from its

bulk carrier Aroyat — laden

with 17,600 tonnes of

wheat — left the port city of Chornomorsk on Friday

bound for Egypt. Ukraine

is testing a new sea route

that avoids using interna-

tional waters and follows

those controlled by Nato

members Bulgaria and Ro-

mania, following Russia's

withdrawal from a UN-

websites Marine Traffic

and Vessel Finder, the

Aroyat was at the south-

ern exit of the Bosphorus Strait at 0300 GMT on

Alligator killed

Sunday.

According to the

backed grain export deal.

The Palau-flagged

neighbour and enemy.



attend a welcoming ceremony in Nakhchivan, Azerbaijan.

Ukraine targets a key Crimean city a day after striking Russia's Black Sea Fleet headquarters

Monitoring Desk KYIV: Ukraine launched another missile attack on Sevastopol on the occupied Crimean Peninsula, a Russian-installed official said, a day after an attack on the headquarters of Russia's Black Sea Fleet that left a serviceman missing and the main building smoldering.

Sevastopol was put under an air raid alert for about an hour after debris from intercepted missiles fell near a pier, Gov. Mikhail Razvozhayev wrote on the messaging app Telegram. been a frequent target for Ukrainian forces since

missile fragment fell in a northern Sevastopol, parts of which had to be cordoned off. Ferry traffic in the area was also halted and later re-Loud blasts were also

heard near Vilne in northern Crimea, followed by rising clouds of smoke, according to a pro-Ukraine Telegram news channel that reports on developments on the peninsula. Crimea, illegally annexed by Russia in 2014, has

Russian Vladimir Putin ordered a full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. Ukraine's intelligence

chief, Kyrylo Budanov, told Voice of America on Saturday that at least nine people were killed and 16 others wounded as a result of Kyiv's attack on the Black Sea Fleet on Friday. He claimed that Alexander Romanchuk, a Russian general commanding forces along the key southeastern front line, was "in a very serious condition" following the attack.

Iran says it defused 30 bombs in Tehran, detained 28 people, Tasnim reports

Monitoring Desk DUBAI: Authorities in Iran have neutralised 30 bombs meant to go off simultaneously in Tehran and detained 28 terrorists linked to Islamic State, Iran's Tasnim news agency reported on Sunday. citing the intelligence ministry.

"Some of the members are of Islamic State (IS) and perpetrators have a history of being affiliated with Takfiri groups in Syria, Afghanistan,

Iraq," Iran's intelligence ministry added in a statement.

group has claimed several attacks in Iran, including deadly twin bombings in 2017 that targeted Iran's parliament and the tomb of the Islamic Republic's founder, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini. More recently, IS

claimed responsibility for an attack on a Shia shrine last October, where 15 people were killed in Pakistan and the the southwestern city Kurdistan region of Shiraz.

Italian PM admits she hoped to do 'better' on migration

Monitoring Desk ROME: Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni has admitted she had hoped to do "better" on controlling irregular migration, which has surged since her far-right party won historic elections a year ago. "Clearly we hoped for better on immigration, where we worked so hard," she said in an interview marking the win, broadcast late on Saturday on the TG1 channel. "The results are not what we hoped to see. It is certainly a very complex problem, but I'm sure we'll get to the bottom of it." Meloni's post-fascist Brothers of Italy party was elected in large part on a promise to



ists after publishing its European Business in China Position Paper,

side at least is opening up

a line of communication to

make sure that if there is a

crisis, we know who we can contact," Saltzman

said, adding that it would

be up to President Joe

Biden and the State De-

partment to take the lead

as the U.S. Space Force

looks into establishing a

branch in Japan, as

China's military ambi-

ties of the Okefenokee and

involve people in a mean-

ingful way, activating the

natural resources economy

by supporting this collec-

tive effort to bring interna-

tional recognition to one of

the world's great natural

wonders, the Okefenokee,3

said Kim Bednarek, execu-

tive director of the

Okefenokee Swamp Park.

World Heritage bid has bi-

partisan congressional sup-

port, and the Park Service

received more than 10,300

public comments in sup-

port of moving forward

with a nomination.

The Okefenokee's

The comments come

on such discussions.

U.S. exploring potential

space force hotline with

China, U.S. commander says

Monitoring Desk

States Space Force has had

internal discussions about

setting up a hotline with

China to prevent crises in

space, U.S. commander

General Chance Saltzman

told Reuters on Monday.

operations said a direct line

of communication be-

tween the Space Force and

its Chinese counterpart

would be valuable in de-

engaged with China to es-

Monitoring Desk

ATLANTA: Following

widespread bipartisan sup-

port, the National Park Ser-

vice announced Friday that

it will nominate the

Okefenokee National Wild-

life Refuge to join the

United Nations Educa-

tional, Scientific and Cul-

tural Organization's World

Heritage List. Inscription

on the World Heritage List

would honor the

Okefenokee's natural and

cultural significance and

solidify the United States'

commitment to protect it.

nity to unite the communi-

"This is an opportu-

talked about on the U.S. warfare.

Okefenokee National

Wildlife Refuge moves

toward World Heritage List

tablish one.

The chief of space

after Florida woman's body found in jaws **Monitoring Desk**

MIAMI: An alligator was killed as it was removed from a creek in the US state of Florida along with a 41year-old woman's body officials said on Saturday.

Police said they had responded to a report of a body seen in the creek in Largo, Florida, and that the 13-foot, 8.5-inch (4-metre) male alligator was "hu manely killed" on Friday.

Officers identified the body on Saturday, but said "the manner and cause of death is pending," and that the investigation was ongo-

Witness Jamarcu Bullard told US media that he saw a big alligator and a body in the creek, and ran to a nearby fire station to

"I threw a rock at the gator, just to see if it was like really a gator," Bullard told WFLA-TV, an NBC News affiliate, on Friday.



Migrants walk along razor wire looking for a place to cross the Rio Grande

river, near the US-Mexico border.

Louisiana man who fled attempted murder trial captured after 32 years on the run **Monitoring Desk**

ARCADIA: A Louisiana man who fled his 1991 trial for attempted murder has been arrested more than three decades later after authorities found him hiding in Mexico, authorities said.

Greg Lawson, 63, was brought back to the United States on Thursday after being located in Mexico, the FBI said. Lawson was accused of shooting a man in 1991 in Bienville Parish.

escalating tensions but tions in the Indo-Pacific that the U.S. had not yet unnverve its neighbours Lawson fled the courtand the war in Ukraine house just as the jury was spotlights the importance headed back into the court-"What we have of space capabilities in room to return a guilty verdict on a charge of attempted murder, KSLA reported. His truck was found a block away from the courthouse at the time.

Pro-EU supporters march for Britain to rejoin bloc

Monitoring Desk LONDON: Hundreds of people waving European Union flags on Saturday rallied in central London calling for Britain to rejoin the bloc. The National Rejoin March (NRM) gathered near Hyde Park and was due to culminate in Parliament Square as supportive motorists beeped their horns. Protesters brandished placards reading "the road to rejoin the EU starts here", and "rejoin, rejoice". The NRM movement backs a return to membership of the EU.

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. The Chinese government has called the investigation a protectionist act aimed at distorting the supply chain. Dombrovskis, in his Tsinghua address, said the probe would follow well-established rules and be done in consultation with Chinese authorities and stakeholders.

Four dead as gunmen battle police in Kosovo monastery siege

Monitoring Desk MITROVICA: Gunmen in armoured vehicles stormed a village in an ethnic Serbian-majority region of Kosovo on Sunday, battling police and barricading themselves in a monastery in a resurgence of violence in the restive north.

Kosovo police said one officer and three of about 30 attackers died in shootouts around the village of Banjska.

Monks and pilgrims were locked in the Serbian Orthodox monastery's temple as the siege raged for hours. Ethnic Albanians form the vast majority of the 1.8 million population of Kosovo, a former province of Serbia. But some 50,000 Serbs form the majority in the north, where clashes in May injured dozens of protesters and Nato alliance peacekeepers.

The Serbs have never accepted Kosovo's 2008 declaration of independence and still see Belgrade as their capital more than two decades after a Kosovo Albanian guerilla uprising against repressive Serbian It was unclear who

was behind Sunday's violence, but Kosovo's Prime Minister Albin Kurti and Interior Minister Xhelal Svecla blamed "Serbiasponsored criminals".

'They are professionals, with military and police background," said Kurti, urging their surrender.

The Serbian Orthodox Church's diocese of Raska-Prizren, which includes Banjska, said men in an armoured vehicle stormed the monastery compound, forcing monks and visiting faithful to lock themselves

President Macron says France will end its military presence in Niger, pull its ambassador after coup

Monitoring Desk nounced Sunday that legitimate. France will end its military presence in Niger and pull its ambassador out of the country as a result of the coup that removed the democratically elected president.

Niger's junta said in response that the announcement signals a "new step towards the sovereignty" of

'Imperialist and neocolonialist forces are no longer welcome on our national territory. The new era of cooperation, based on mutual respect and sovereignty is already under-

way," it said in a statement. The announcement was a significant, if expected, blow to France's policy in Africa, with French troops having had to pull out of neighboring Mali and Burkina Faso in recent years after coups there. France had stationed thousands of troops in the Sahel region at the request of African leaders to fight Islamic extremist groups.

France has maintained some 1,500 troops in Niger since the July coup, and had repeatedly refused an order by the new junta for its will return to France.'

ambassador to leave, say-President ing that France didn't rec-Emmanuel Macron an- ognize the coup leaders as

> But tensions had mounted in recent weeks between France and Niger, a former French colony, and Macron said recently that French diplomats were surviving on military rations as they holed up in the em-

Macron's announcement came after the coup leaders issued a statement earlier Sunday that they were closing Niger's airspace to French planes, commercial and military, so that the new leadership could "retake total control of its skies and its territory.? The decision did not apply to other international aircraft. Ali Sekou Ramadan, an aide to Niger's deposed President Mohamed Bazoum, told The Associ-

ated Press that Bazoum requested that Macron withdraw the French ambassador, Sylvain Itte, "in order to reduce tension." In an interview with the France-2 and TF1 television networks, Macron said he spoke to Bazoum on Sunday and told him that "France has decided to bring back its ambassador, and in the coming hours our ambassador and several diplomats

Texas border town 'at a breaking point' amid jump in migration

Monitoring Desk EL PASO: The dramatic increase in migrants crossing the US border from Mexico has pushed the city of El Paso, Texas, to "a breaking point," with more than 2,000 people per day seeking asylum, exceeding shelter capacity and straining resources, its mayor said on Saturday.

"The city of El Paso only has so many resources and we have come to ... a breaking point right now," Mayor Öscar Leeser said at a news conference.

The arrival of largely Venezuelan asylum seekers is part of a larger swell of immigrants who traveled dangerous routes on buses and cargo trains to Mexican border towns near San Diego, California, and the Texas cities of El Paso and

Migrant numbers had plummeted in recent months, and the recent rise has generated a new wave of political attacks on US President Joe Biden head-

Lesser said El Paso plans to open a new shelter, and on Saturday chartered five buses to take migrants to New York, Chicago and Denver. Republican governors

in Texas and Florida have been criticised for sending migrants to cities perceived as liberal such as New York and Sacramento. But Leeser, a Democrat, said all of the migrants on the ElPaso buses were going voluntarily to the cities of their choice. Leeser said the Biden had been a good partner. But he said the overall US immigration system was broken. Many migrants from Venezuela, he said, lacked transportation to their desired destinations, while El Paso's current shelter houses only 400 people, and must also be available to help the homeless.

As recently as six weeks ago, about 350 to 400 people were crossing into El Paso per day, but the past few days have

PM urges British fashion firm to open buying house in Pakistan

LONDON (APP): Care- supply chain in the countaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Monday, highlighting Pakistan's pro-investment policies and facilities, urged the UK-based Boohoo Group to consider opening buying houses in Pakistan.

The prime minister, in a meeting with leading British businessman and cofounder and Executive Chairman of Boohoo Group Abdullah Kamani, emphasised the advantages of investment in Pakistan and extended an invitation to Boohoo Group to send a buying delegation to Pakistan for enhanced collaboration. In the meeting, Kamani expressed keen interest in establishing longterm buying linkages with Pakistan and the ambition to create a comprehensive

try, encompassing organic cotton to apparel production. They also hoped for improved Pakistan-UK air connectivity to facilitate increased imports from Pakistan. Prime Minister Kakar conveyed Pakistan's commitment to facilitating investment and offered support in establishing manufacturing facilities within the country, particularly within Special Eco nomic Zones (SEZs).

The meeting marked a significant step towards enhancing economic cooperation and trade between Pakistan and the firm. Boohoo Group is a prominent British online fashion retailer with annual sales exceeding one billion pounds, with a wide range of popular brands



Boohoo Group Abdullah Kamani meeting with Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar

EU releases €1 million in humanitarian aid to respond to monsoon floods

The EU has released an additional €1 million in humanitarian aid to respond to the floods that have affected Pakistan in the past weeks, which have directly or indirectly affected some 900,000 people. The funding will help

address the most pressing

needs of vulnerable people in the provinces of Balochistan, Sindh, Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), as the areas hit the hardest, said a news release. Commissioner for Crisis Management, Lenarcic, said: "One year after the tragic floods that caused tremendous suffering in Pakistan, the EU remains committed to helping those most in need. As

ing will help support vulnerable communities as they try to recover their former lives." This allocation will be used to provide multi-sectoral humanitarian assistance to those who remain displaced, as well as those who have returned to their place of origin, given the level of damage to houses and key basic services such as water and sanitation or health. As the winter season approaches, multi-purpose cash assistance, shelter and non-food items will be prioritized.

This new funding comes in addition to the €16.5 million already allocated in humanitarian assistance to Pakistan earlier this year, in order to assist the a new rain season has again most vulnerable population displaced thousands of affected by conflict and clipeople in parts of the coun- mate-induced disasters.



Caretaker Federal Minister for Interior Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti in a meeting with Former Federal Minister Mir Changaiz Khan Jamali in Islamabad. Campaign to start in 6 UCs of Pishin today:

Special anti-polio drive begins in Chaman, Kila Abdulla

Independent Report QUETTA: The special

campaign of polio immunization started in districts of Killa Abdullah and Chaman on Monday.

According to the Emergency Operation Center (EOC), the campaign would remain continued for seven days in the targeted

Over 152,000 children below five years of age would be administered the anti-polio vaccine during the campaign for around mobile ones have been for- campaign.

The health workers and volunteers would visit the areas and administer the anti-polio vaccine to the children.

The extra-ordinary arrangements including security have been made for the

Moreover, the special campaign would start in six union councils of Pishin district from today (Tuesday).

Over 20,000 children below five years of age would be administered in 700 teams including the these six UCs during the

DC Jhal Magsi visits to BHU to improve health facilities for people

QUETTA (APP)- Deputy Commissioner Jhal Magsi Ejaz Sarwar on Monday paid a surprise visit to Basic Health Unit (BHU) Fatehpur area of the district to improve health facilities

for people. On this occasion, he reviewed the availability of medicines, malaria kits and other different departments in the said primary health center and checked the attendance of the doctors and

He also issued instructions to all the staff to ensure their attendance with cleanliness saying that all the doctors and other staff should consider it a sacred duty and be engaged in fulfilling their

He stressed on all the doctors and other staff that emment of Balochistan was to provide free medicines and medical facilities to the poor patients in primary health centers and government hospitals.

For which all resources are being utilized by Balochistan on an emergency basis so that people can benefit fully from these measures of the govern-

He said that for this reason, it was important that doctors and other health-related staff avoid any kind of negligence in fulfilling their duties and spend all their energy to accomplish the responsibility imposed by the government, laziness and negligence will not be toler

the first priority of the gov-

government of ment, he said.



Sami Saeed chairing a meeting of National Price Monitoring Committee to review the prices of essential commodities

Mauritania conference Ashrafi calls for interfaith dialogue to combat blasphemy and promote peace

Muhammad Mahmood Ashrafi invited all faith leaders for interfaith dialogues to remove differences as burgeoning

incidents of blasphemy were promoting an environment of hatred in the comity of nations. Addressing the 36th

annual International Conference on Seerat in Mauritania the other day, he said to overcome the menace of Islamophobia was not only the responsibility of Muslims proposing that all faith leaders should come forward and devise a combined strategy to meet the disgraceful acts being occurred worldwide from time to time.

The conference, attended by delegates from 65 Islamic countries, included the Mauritanian President Mohamed Ould Ghazouani

KP CM

approves

Rs300,000 for

treatment of

journalist

Zafar Wazir

Khyber Pakhtukhwa (KP)

Caretaker Chief Minister

Azam Khan on Monday

gave approval three hun-

dred thousand rupees for

the treatment of ailing jour-

Minister approved the fi-

nancial assistance for the

medical treatment of the

ournalist, hailing from

Wana, on the request of Caretaker Minister for In-

formation and Broadcasting

written a letter to the Chief

Minister for the treatment

of journalist Zafar Wazir.

who has been working with

the national media since

2004 and suffering from

cardiac issue for some time.

PML-N forms

committee for

Nawaz's warm

welcome

LAHORE (INP): Pakistan

Muslim League-Nawaz

(PML-N) to extend warm

welcome to the party

supremo returning by next

month has constituted a

coordination committee.

Chief Organizer of PML-N

Maryam Nawaz has consti-

tuted the party's Punjab

Islamabad, Azad Kashmir

and KP women wings' co-

ordination committees for

welcome of Nawaz Sharif

who has been scheduled to

arrive on October 21. As per

notification senior party

leader Khawaja Saad

Rafique has been given re-

sponsibility for Rawalpindi

division, Malik Ahmed Khan

for Gujranwala, Ahsan Iqbal

for Sargodha, Khurram

Dastagir will head Faisalabad

Murtaza Šolangi had

The Interim Chief

nalist Zafar Wazir.

Murtaza Solangi.

PESHAWAR

and Muslim World League Secretary-General Dr. Mohmmad bin Abdulkarim

Ashrafi who is also the President of International Interfaith Harmony Council categorically stated that the Holy Prophet Muhammad Peace Be upon Him was not only the blessing for Muslim Ummah but also for the entire world.

He said the solution of Palestine and Kashmir issues was in the unity and solidarity of Muslim

He said Pakistan was a nation of various faiths and sects but it was facing extremism and terrorism for a long time. The Pakistani nation

was against all extremist and terrorist elements and standing by its security institutions and armed forces through thick and thin," he

OUETTA: Chief Secretary Balochistan Shakeel

Qadir Khan meeting with Governor Balochistan

CWDP clears 2 development

projects including FIA's

operational improvement

Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Planning Commission (PC)

Deputy Chairman Dr

Mohammad Jehanzeb

Khan on Monday chaired a

velopment Working Party

(CDWP) that cleared two

development projects worth Rs 2.42 billion.

Among others, the meeting

was attended by the Chief

Economist, Members Plan-

ning Commission and rep-

resentatives from the vari-

ous ministries, a news re-

lease said. The forum

cleared Programme for

Flood Response through

Reconstruction of Educa-

tion Facilities in Sindh

worth Rs1,566.628m and

Operational Improvement

of Federal Investigation

Agency in AML/CFT,

Counter Terrorism Wing &

Case Management System

worth Rs 858.577m. Under

the Programme for Flood

Response through Recon-

meeting of the Central De-

gave the lesson of respect to all celestial books expressing his dismay over the indecent drive against the Muslims sacred sanctities and values

He said Islamophobia was endangering the peace of the world urging the international human rights watchdogs to legislate against it to maintain peace and tranquility.

He opined that those who desecrated the Holy Quran in Sweden and Demark and made caricatures of the Holy Prophet Muhammad Peace Be Upon Him must be given exemplary punishment as it would help pave the way to create an enabling environment of interfaith dialogue in the

Ashrafi said the way Muslim World League had given the message of peace in the "Charter of Makkah

struction of Education Fa-

cilities, the Sindh govern-

ment wanted to meet the

need to reduce the dropout

government has planned to

establish at least 500 el-

ementary schools in the

province. The Sindh Educa-

(SELD) has undertaken mul-

tiple initiatives securing de-

velopment partners' assis-

tance for the upgradation. It

brought in 'innovative ap-

proaches' through technical

assistance with a targeted

focus on improving girls'

primary to secondary edu-

conceived, considering that

the number of elementary

schools is much lower than

the primary schools in rural

Sindh. Under the Opera-

tional Improvement of Fed-

eral Investigation Agency

tion and Literacy Department

For this purpose, the

and increase enrollment.

Ashrafi said Islam al Mukkaramah", in the Mashaykh of Pakistan had given a clear-cut religious decree against the extremism and terrorism in the 'Message of Pakistan"

Talking to Arab media after the conference, he said Palestine and Kashmir were the issues of Muslim Ummah and it would like to resolve them with peaceful dialogues. He said the brutalities of Israel in Palestine and India's in Kashmir were not acceptable at

Ashrafi said the Muslim world appreciated productive leadership of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud and Crown Prince Mohmmad bin Salman expressing the hope that they would further play their proactive role in the resolution of Palestine and Kashmir is-

Minister directs NRA to observe month of Rabi ul Awal ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Federal Ministér

for Education and Professional Training Madad Ali Sindhi Monday ordered Rahmatul-lil-Alameen Authority to organize month long continuous events to observe holy month of Rabi He made these direc-

tions while visiting the National Rahmatul-lil-Alameen Authority here. During the visit, h

also met the authority's Chairman Khurshid Ahmad

Madad Ali Sindhi said the authority's mandate was critical for nation

The minister said that the Pakistani nation was facing challenges that could only be addressed by the authority.

He said that intolerance was rampant in our society and the true message of peace and love of Islam needed to be promoted in the country.

Madad said that Islam was a religion of peac, education, girls' retention and stressing the importance of successful transition from the vision of Riyasat – e cation. The project has been

The chairman NRA briefed the minister about the on going activities and mandate of authority.

Siraj calls upon ECP to promptly announce date of national elections

ISLAMABAD (INP) Ameer Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) Siraj-ul-Haq has called upon the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) to promptly announce the date for the national elec-

Addressing a press conference along with JI secretary general Amirul Azim at the residence of the party's former MNA Mian Aslam on Monday, he said the ECP failed to conduct the polls within the stipulated 90 days following the dissolution of the assemblies, hence, it also fell short in meeting the constitutional requirements. However, despite of

that, Sirajul Haq said the JI believed at least now the ECP should remove ambiguity and announce the precise date for the general election. He urged all institutions, particularly the judiciary, the military establishment, and the ECP itself, to maintain an apolitical stance, refrain from inpreciate the swift, inclusive terfering in political matters, and allow the people of Pakistan to exercise their right to elect their representatives in a free and fair manner. The transparent conduct of the elections would serve as a genuine test of the ECP's credibility, he argued

NPMC Meeting: Planning Minister asks provinces to go after hoarders, profiteers

ISLAMABAD (APP): tistics (PBS), representa-Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Muhammad Sami Saeed on Monday chaired a meeting of the National Price Monitoring Committee (NPMC) to review the prices of essential commodities, directing the quarters concerned to maintain food prices and provide relief to the common man.

The minister emphasized zero-tolerance against hoarders and profiteers, directing the provincial govemments to engage their respective Commissions, Deputy Commissioners and Magistrates against the elements involved in hoarders, a news release said.

Among others, the meeting was attended by the Chief Statistician from the Pakistan Bureau of Sta-

tives from all provinces, the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR), Ministry of Food Security & Industries, and other relevant stakeholders. During the meeting, the PBS officials presented the price and inflation data, while representatives from Punjab. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Sindh and Balochistan apprised the forum on the current production and supply of wheat, sugar and other essential commodities, which remained satisfactory. The meeting decided that the PBS would give access to its App

to the provinces so that prices could be monitored and controlled effectively. It also highlighted the importance of minimizing the price difference between wholesale and retail items and directed the relevant stakeholders.



QUETTA: Senator Prince Agha Umar Ahmedzai meeting with Caretaker Chief Minister Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki

Transfer agreement signing of Ex-TARIQ TO FOCI, **UK held in London**

Transfer Agreement Signing Ceremony for the ex-Pakistan Navy Ship TARIQ to Falls of Clyde International (FOCI), UK took place at the Pakistan High Commission in London on Monday.

This ship, formerly decommissioned by the Pakistan Navy on August 4, 2023, has been donated by the Government of Pakistan to FOCI for conversion into a floating museum. It will be displayed at the Clyde Maritime Heritage Center in Glasgow, symbolizing the common naval heritage shared by the Royal Navy and the Pakistan Navy, according to a press release received

Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi NI (M) S Bt, Chief of the Naval Staff of the Pakistan Navy as the Chief Guest, and Admiral Lord

ISLAMABAD (APP): The emony was attended by David O'Neill, Director of FOCI, veterans from the Royal Navy, and representatives of the Pakistani community in the UK.

During his address to the audience, Chief of Naval Staff expressed confidence that the donation of TARIQ to FOCI would further strengthen the bonds of friendship between the UK and Pakistan, with the ship continuing to symbolize the shared maritime history of our respective navies in the years

Speaking on the occasion, Admiral Lord Alan West said "The close relationship between the Navies and Nations of Pa-The Transfer Agree- kistan and the UK are ment Signing Ceremony clearly shown by this hisone ship that fought and represented each country over many years."

The history of ex-PNS TARIQ is notewor-Alan West who was the thy, having served in the Guest of Honour at the event. Besides, the cer-BUSCADE for 18 years.



Muhammad Nassar presiding over a meeting regarding levies and police check posts

QESCO crackdown against electricity pilferers and defaulters continues

Independent Report QUETTA: The Quetta

Electric Supply Company (QESCO) continues its extensive crackdown against those involved in the electricity pilferage and defaulters all over the province including Quetta. According to spokes-

man of QESCÖ, in all 3504 connections have been involved in the power pilferage in the province. while a total of 338 FIRs have been registered against the power

Of them, 65 FIRs have been lodged in Quetta city, 89 each in Sibi and Loralai, 65 in Khuzdar, 25 in Pishin and five in Makran division. The QESCO spokes-

man informed that 123 persons have been arrested on charges of power pilferage in the province. The electricity pilferers have been charged fine

lakh have also been recov-Similarly, Rs. 378 million have also been recovered from 6422 defaulters of the electricity bills, the spokesman mentioned.

of Rs. 9 crore 27 lakh all

over the province, out of

which Rs. 5 crore and 70

The QESCO teams also removed six transformers on non-payment of the bills in different parts of the province. According to the spokesman, the crackdown would remain continued in future. No one would be spared during the crackdown, therefore, all those involved in power pilferage and those defaulters have been asked to do away with the illegal practice.

Otherwise, should be ready to face the consequences of power theft and non-payment of the bills and arrears, the QESCO warned.



QUETTA: Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) Provincial General Secretary and Haq Do Tehreek Chairman, Maulana Hidayat-ur-Rehman Baloch addresses to media persons during press conference.

Minister for PHE Sardar Ejaz Ahmed Khan Jaffar reception committee. Gwadar delegation lauds China's dev. and modernization efforts

QUETTA: Country Representative of UNFPAMr.

Loi Shabane meeting with caretaker Provincial

ISLAMABAD (INP): A September 10, upon invi- Pakistan extends to all eth-10-member delegation from Gwadar recently returned from a visit to China, where they observed the country's development

modernisation efforts. The group expressed appreciation for China's development and its neighborhood diplomacy approach of building friendly ties.

The delegation emphasised that Pakistan's long-standing friendship with China has support across political affiliations and society.

The group, comprising senior academics, researchers, businessmen and administrative officers, was led by Prof. Dr. Abdul Razzaq Sabir, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Gwadar (UG). They embarked on a

tation from the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Af-

In Beijing, the delegates met with Liu Jinsong, Director General of the Asian Affairs Department of the Chinese Foreign Ministry. Liu noted that since

the start of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) a decade ago, collaborative efforts have led to major infrastructure projects in Gwadar, including ports, airports, roads, hospitals and a desalination plant, benefitting the local population.

According to a UG statement, Liu affirmed China's commitment to economic progress in Balochistan and Gwadar.

He said China's

nic groups, with CPEC bringing benefits across regions, tribes and social The delegation ex-

pressed interest in promoting educational partnerships, knowledge exchange and cooperation in trade, technology and infrastruc They are keen to

build a framework for broader bilateral collaboration beyond just educa-People in Gwadar ap-

and mutually beneficial corridor cooperation, the statement said. They look forward to

more people-to-people exchanges and practical cooperation to further boost China-Pakistan friendship

ten-day visit to China on friendly policy towards for generations.