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Chief of the Army Staff, General Asim Munir addressing participant of a meeting held to review the preparations regarding the ministerial meeting of the United Nations peacekeeping mission.

COAS urges peaceful resolution of Kashmir dispute aligned with UNSC resolutions

Gen Munir says Pakistan aspires to create region where peace prevails

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chief of the Army Staff General Asim Munir has urged the United Nations to enable Peacekeeping Missions to be more effective in addressing the complex threats while assuring the safety and security of the Peacekeepers.

He was addressing a preparatory meet as the chief guest, held as a precursor to the UN Peacekeeping Ministerial Meet here from August 30-31. Co-hosted by Paki-

stan and Japan on the theme of the Safety and Security of Peacekeepers the meet was attended by delegates from different countries, senior officials from UN and members of the diplomatic community in Islamabad.

In his remarks, the army chief commended the role of the United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and highlighted increasing challenges and unprecedented levels of

threats being faced by Peacekeepers.

The army chief further highlighted that Pakistan aspired to create a region where peace prevailed and investment generated prosperity for all the states of south, West and Central Asia.

He also called on Security Council and the UN Secretary General for peaceful resolution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute in accordance with the Security Council

Resolutions and the wishes of Kashmiri people.

Earlier, Under Secretary General for Department of Peace Operations thanked Pakistan for hosting the conference and making invaluable contributions for global peace.

Addressing the participants, Interim Foreign Minister Jalil Abbas Jilani recalled Pakistan's longstanding commitment to UN peacekeeping, spanning over six decades,

as a tangible manifestation of its contribution to the maintenance of international peace and security.

He paid tributes to the brave men and women who sacrificed their lives in the noble cause of peacekeeping, including 171 Pakistanis.

He underscored the need to ensure a safe and secure environment for UN peacekeepers who tirelessly safeguard peace around the globe.

PM Kakar says: SIFC to attract around \$70b foreign investment in 3-5 years

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar Friday said that an estimated foreign investment of US\$60 to \$70 billion was expected in the next three to five years under the government's new initiative of Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC).

Besides, he said the government had also received pledges and promises of another similar amount of investment.

"Now, we have to design and submit our projects as there is a huge appetite to invest in the country", he said while talking to senior journalists and news anchors here.

Replying to a ques-

tion, the prime minister said the government was considering various options to provide relief to the people.

Citing the example of the \$700 billion worth of Reko Dik gold and copper reserves, the prime minister said the country had huge potential of natural resources that would change the fate of the people of Pakistan.

"We took the initiative of SIFC to realize this potential and we are going towards the right direction so far as the scientific methods and financial models are concerned," he remarked.

He said the SIFC was the whole of the govern-

ment project and there was no hidden in it.

"This is a transparent intervention that has already been initiated and has the overall potential of \$5 to \$6 trillion.

The prime minister highlighted that Pakistan had huge land that could be used for agriculture purpose and could serve half of the Asian population's food requirements.

He added that the country had also enough water to irrigate the barren land across the country. Likewise, he said IT, tourism and defence production had also huge potential that would be tapped for socio-economic development of the country.

President approves reconstitution of NEC

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Dr Arif Alvi on Friday approved reconstitution of the National Economic Council (NEC)-a constitutional entity responsible for evaluating the country's economic condition and devising strategies to promote equitable development and regional balance.

The president approved the reconstitution of the 13-member body by exercising Article 156 of the Constitution.

The Council would be led by Prime Minister with chief ministers of all the provinces and representatives of caretaker government of the federal government and the provincial governments as its members. According to a statement issued by the President House press wing,

caretaker minister for power, industry, commerce and investment S.M. Tanvir would be the member of the Council from Punjab province, minister for finance, revenue, planning and development Muhammad Yunus Dhangha would be member of NEC from Sindh province.

Similarly minister for finance, excise, taxation and narcotics Ahmed Rasool Bangash would be member of the Council from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and minister for finance and revenue Amjad Rasheed from Balochistan.

Federal minister for planning, development and special initiatives, minister for communication, railway and maritime affairs, and federal minister for power and petroleum would also be part of the NEC.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar chairs a meeting regarding smuggling control at border areas.

Evidence collected through int'l legal help remained not acceptable after NAB amendment: CJP

ISLAMABAD (Online): Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Umar Ata Bandial has remarked evidence collected through international legal help remained not acceptable after NAB amendment.

CJP gave these remarks while presiding over 3-member bench of Supreme Court (SC) during hearing of Chairman PTI petition against NAB amendment Friday.

Justice Ijaz ul Ahsan and Justice Mansoor Ali Shah are the part of this bench.

During the hearing of the case CJP asked Haris that he wanted to ask Makhdom Ali Khan a question.

He observed we saw a thing in amendment law a

day before. The status of evidence collected through Mutual Legal Co operation (MLC) had been eliminated. Now NAB itself will have to seek legal services which will cost dearly.

CJP remarked you had said a day before that reports of properties have come from foreign countries in addition to MLA. The evidence received through this source are not acceptable as per law. You were to fight on these things in parliament but you left and went away.

Justice Mansoor Ali Shah while addressing PTI counsel remarked, were you to resign from seat you would have vacated it for some one else.

Khawaja Haris said re-

sign was given from seat which was not accepted. The clause related to assets is there in section 9 of NAB. It has been defined as corruption in section 9.

The CJP remarked what was the value of any asset in the past. This can be speculated. Some property dealer can say this property carried what value some years before. NAB should bring some concrete evidence. The real value of assets has not come before.

Khawaja Haris argued amnesty scheme was not protecting the property acquired through unfair means. NAB amendment had protected the assets accumulated through illegal means.



KARACHI: Caretaker Federal Minister for Interior Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti distributing awards during the passing out ceremony of Basic Recruit Course of Pakistan Coast Guard.

Interior Minister reiterates resolve for elimination of terrorism from country

KARACHI (APP): Caretaker Interior Minister Senator Sarfraz Bugti Friday while reiterating the resolve for the elimination of terrorism from the country said that all possible measures would be taken for maintaining peace to achieve the goals of development and prosperity of the nation.

The minister, while addressing the passing out Ceremony of Pakistan Coast Guard's 43rd Basic Recruit Training Course here, said that valiant nations face difficult situations gallantly and Pakistani nation's unwavering resolve against violence and terrorism could not be shattered.

"Terrorists wanted to impose their extremist ideology on 240 million people of Pakistan by violence and acts of intimidation but we will not surrender and we will counter all forms and manifestations of violence with courage and unity," he vowed and urged that the

entire nation should demonstrate unity in the war against terrorism and bust the nefarious designs of anti-Pakistan forces.

Sarfraz Bugti expressing condolence to the families of Jawans of the Pakistan Army who embraced martyrdom in the line of duty said, "The entire nation is proud of unmatched sacrifices of valiant armed forces and law enforcement agencies for the safe, secure, and prosperous future of Pakistan."

"Sacrifices rendered by the Pakistan Army, para-military forces, Police, Levies, and people of Pakistan in the war against terrorism will be remembered forever," he maintained. The interior minister said, "The government envisions Balochistan as the future of Pakistan and a peaceful Balochistan is a beacon of hope for strong Pakistan as this vast province was bestowed with precious natural resources and could attain the status of the jugular vein in the economy of the country."

Countdown to Elections: ECP advances delimitation deadline to November 30

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) has moved up the deadline for final release of constituency delimitation from December 14 to November 30, with the aim of expediting the scheduling of general elections.

The ECP spokesperson stated that the time needed for constituency delimitation had been shortened to expedite this crucial task.

Parvez Elahi rearrested under 3-MPO Monitoring Desk

LAHORE/ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf President and former Punjab chief minister Parvez Elahi was rearrested under 3-MPO (Maintenance of Public Order) by the Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) police shortly after being released by the National Accountability Bureau (NAB), according to sources.

The seasoned politician would be put under house arrest in Adiala jail for the next 15 days, the sources privy to the matter added.

Earlier on Friday the Lahore High Court (LHC) ordered the anti-graft watchdog to release Elahi. The former provincial chief executive had filed a petition against NAB's move to arrest him in a corruption case. LHC Justice Amjad Rafiq announced the verdict after Elahi was presented before the court.

Caretaker govt bound to respect law & judiciary, Murtaza Solangi

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi on Friday said the caretaker government was duty-bound to respect the law and the judiciary, which functioned freely in the country.

"As a responsible government, it is our duty to respect the judiciary and the law. The matter of Pervez Elahi's arrest falls within the jurisdiction of law enforcement agencies (LEAs) and the judiciary," the minister said while talking to a private channel.

The LEAs obeyed the law, he said, adding the media and the judiciary worked independently in the country.

He said every citizen had freedom of speech and a right to criticize that could not be taken away, but at the same time "we also have the right to present the facts without any fear".

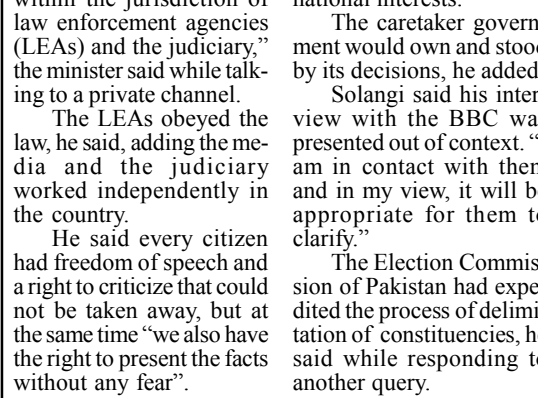
To a query, the minister said efforts were underway to provide relief to the masses in electricity bills and its details would be announced in the shape of decisions.

"Our limited tenure and the Constitution and law allow us to take decisions in the best interest of the country," he said, vowing that best decisions would be made keeping in view the national interests.

The caretaker government would own and stood by its decisions, he added.

Solangi said his interview with the BBC was presented out of context. "I am in contact with them and in my view, it will be appropriate for them to clarify."

The Election Commission of Pakistan had expedited the process of delimitation of constituencies, he said while responding to another query.



ISLAMABAD: Who Representative in Pakistan Dr. Palitha Mahi Pala called on Federal Health Minister Dr. Nadeem in his office.

WHO Country head calls on Health Minister

ISLAMABAD (APP): World Health Organization's (WHO) Representative in Pakistan Dr. Palitha Mahipala called on caretaker Federal Minister for Health Dr. Nadeem Jan on Friday and discussed measures taken for the improvement of health sector.

WHO Chief congratulated the Minister for Health on assuming this important responsibility.

The appointment of a world-renowned public health expert is a welcome development for the health sector, Dr Palitha said.

WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus and Dr. Ahmed

Al Mandhari, WHO Regional Director for the Eastern Mediterranean have expressed their happiness about your appointment, he said WHO has stood by Pakistan in every difficult hour. The services of the World Health Organization in dealing with the outbreak of Coronavirus are commendable. "We appreciate WHO's support in polio eradication efforts," Dr. Nadeem Jan said. "My mission is to ensure massive reforms in the health sector in the short term. Without the development of health and education, social development cannot be attained," said the Health Minister.

Cipher missing case: IK allowed to meet lawyers

ISLAMABAD (Online): Islamabad's lawyer team has been allowed to meet former Prime Minister (PM) Imran Khan, who was arrested in cipher missing case.

Judge Abu Al Hasnat Muhammad Zulqarnain heard requests for meeting with Chairman PTI in Jail in special court of Official Secret Act.

According to details, court has allowed a team of lawyers to meet Chairman PTI. Salman Safdar, Ali Ejaz Battar, Naeem Panjota, Intizar Panjota and Umair Niazi have been allowed to meet Imran Khan.

Court said that health, dignity and security of Chairman PTI are being considered. I would allow everyone but we have to consider his security as well.

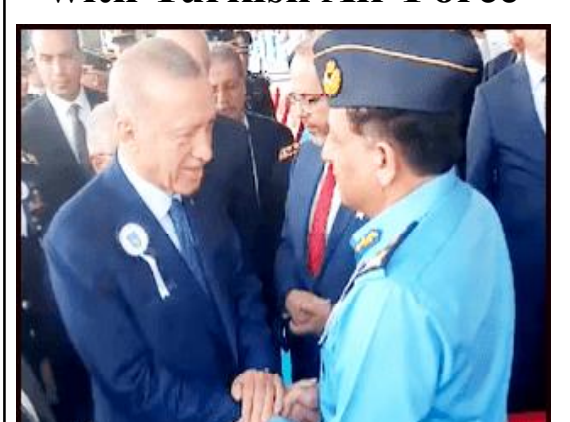
PS to President Waqar Ahmad relinquishes charge

ISLAMABAD (Online): Principal secretary to president Waqar Ahmad has relinquished charge of his office in Aiwan-e-Sadr.

He has reported to establishment division for his next responsibility.

President Arif Alvi had requested the federal government that federal secretary Humaira Ahmad be appointed as principal secretary in place of Waqar Ahmad. But she had refused to serve as principal secretary in Aiwan-e-Sadr.

Air Chief reaffirms PAF's commitment to fostering robust partnership with Turkish Air Force



ISLAMABAD (APP): Chief of Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu on Friday expressed his gratitude to the Turkish President, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, for extending a warm invitation to attend Graduation and Flag Detachment Ceremony and reaffirmed Pakistan Air Force's commitment to fostering a robust partnership with the Turkish Air Force.

Consequent to a special invitation by the Turkish Presidency, Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu made a landmark visit to Turkey to attend the prestigious Graduation and Flag Detachment Ceremony, as Guest of Honour, which was held at Turkish Air Force Academy, a Pakistan Air Force (PAF) news release said.

The ceremony was also attended by Minister of State for Defence & Deputy Prime Minister of the State of Qatar, Dr Khalid Bin Mohammad Al-

Attiyah and Minister of Defence of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Colonel General Zakir Hasanov along with senior military commanders and high level state officials from across the world.

The Graduation and Flag Detachment Ceremony, held at the Turkish Air Force Academy, is a moment of immense pride and accomplishment for the graduating cadets, as they mark the culmination of their rigorous training and embark on their journey as officers of the Turkish Air Force.

The presence of Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu as the Guest of Honour adds to the significance of this event and underscores the deep-rooted camaraderie between the two air forces.

During the event, the chief of the air staff interacted with various high-level dignitaries including General Ziya Cemal KADIOGLU, Commander of Turkish Air Force.



LAHORE: Former Chief Minister Punjab and Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) President, Chaudhary Pervaiz Ishaq leaving after court case hearing, at High Court in Lahore.

Punjab Governor says: VCs should take strict measures to prevent the use of drugs in universities

Independent Report
LAHORE: Chancellor/Governor Punjab; Muhammad Balighur Rehman chaired a meeting regarding Consortium on Drugs and Narcotics here at Governor House Lahore today. The proceedings of the previous meetings of the consortium and recommendations for the future were finalized in the meeting. He directed vice-chancellors/rectors of public and private sector universities to take steps in light of the decisions taken in the meeting and implement the final recommendations of the consortium in letter and spirit for prevention of drug abuse in the premises of the universities.

He said that it is very important to provide a favourable educational environment to the young generation. He said that vice-chancellors should take strict measures to prevent the use of drugs in universities. He said that the Vice Chancellors should strive to create an environment for their students, staff, and faculty that is free from drug use. He said that the Vice Chancellors should take measures to provide a safe, healthy and conducive academic environment to the students, teachers and other employees of the University. Governor Punjab directed that vice chancellors should ensure the establishment of anti-drug and tobacco committee under Drug and

Narcotics Consortium in universities. The Punjab Governor said that the university security staff should maintain close liaison with the law enforcement agencies to prevent the supply of drugs in the universities. Governor Punjab emphasized that the World Anti-Drugs and Narcotics Days, which highlight the harmful effects of drugs and tobacco, should be observed in all the universities. He said awareness campaigns should be launched on social media through organizing and undertaking various activities such as dramas, documentaries, competitions, and short films. He also directed to establish student counselling centres for the students at the campuses of the universities.



LAHORE: Chancellor/Governor Punjab; Muhammad Balighur Rehman chaired a meeting regarding Consortium on Drugs and Narcotics here at Governor House.

GDA urges suspension of Sindh LGs for transparent elections

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Grand Democratic Alliance (GDA) delegation, during their meeting with the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) on Friday, pressed for the suspension of Sindh Local Governments (LG) and the installation of administrators to ensure transparency in the upcoming general elections.

Commissioner's letters to the Caretaker Chief Ministers, the transfers have not been carried out. They also proposed the appointment of unbiased Returning Officers, and if feasible, District Election Commissioners and Officers from Federal Services could assume the role of Returning Officers. After completing all these arrangements, the Election Schedule should be announced.

The delegation expressed unwavering support for the Election Commission's fresh delimitation plan, emphasizing that a transparent election process hinges on proper delimitation. Consequently, the delimitation should align with the latest census data, and elections should follow the updated boundaries. They also recommended revising the electoral rolls to guarantee accurate and up-to-date voter information.

During a consultative meeting chaired by Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Sikandar Sultan Raja, the delegation urged the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) to suspend Sindh Local Governments (LG) and appoint administrators to ensure transparency in the upcoming general elections.

The GDA delegation emphasized the importance of adhering to the Election Commission's directives for transferring and appointing provincial officers. They noted that despite the Chief Election



GILGIT: Famous Cyclist and traveler Saqib Rehman presenting National flag and shield to Governor Gilgit-Baltistan Syed Mehdi Shah at Governor House.

Lady Reading hospital stands with KP people in all testing times

PESHAWAR (APP): Standing with the people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in all testing times, Lady Reading Hospital (LRH) Peshawar is a unique healthcare facility providing best healthcare services to all patients despite limited financial resources, laboratories and manpower.

devastating earthquake, 2010 floods or cases of terrorism, the LRH's doctors, nurses and paramedics rose to the occasion by treating hundreds of thousands of patients since its establishment in 1927. Besides treating patients of many ailments including kidney, liver, chest, heart, acute medical and surgical diseases, the colonial era hospital had entertained an influx of coronavirus patients while several of its doctors, nurses and paramedics laid down lives in line of duty. Named after wife of British Viceroy Lord Reading in 1927, the hospital has a golden history visited by former Presidents.

Transgender wounded in armed attack

PESHAWAR (APP): Some unknown assailants on Friday injured a transgender with a gun shot in jurisdiction of Faqirabad police station, said the police. As soon as the information was received, the local police immediately arrived at the scene, collected important evidence and rushed the injured transgender identified as Tahir alias Kaljay resident of Mardan to Lady Reading Hospital (LRH) where his condition was stated stable. In order to track down the accused involved in the incident, the CCTV footage installed in the surrounding area was obtained.



PESHAWAR: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Haji Ghulam Ali chairs meeting on various aspects including commercialization of universities, making links with industries and imparting education to students equipped with modern technology.

KP educational institutions increases fee to meet their expenses

PESHAWAR (APP): The educational institutions across Khyber Pakhtunkhwa have increased the fees to meet the expenses of universities, documents reveal here on Friday.

Looking at the documents of the several universities in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, they have increased their fees. The fees of Islamia College University Peshawar, Jamia Peshawar, KMU and Agricultural University have been increased.

The Islamia College administration has also increased the hostel fees by Rs. 3000, the document revealed. The pre-medical fee has been increased from Rs. 45000 to Rs. 49465 on open merit in Islamia College.

13000 on self-finance, the fee has been increased from Rs. 98000 to Rs. 1,11000. After the increase of Rs. 5000 in pre-engineering, the fee has become Rs. 47000, the increase of Rs. 5000 per semester in the 4-year BS program also, says the document available to this agency.

The fee for MPhil has been increased by Rs. 5,000 and the fee for Ph.D. has been increased by Rs. 7,000 per semester.

University of Peshawar has also increased the fees of BS, Masters, MPhil and PhD by 10 to 13 percent. A 10% additional fee was also charged from the students admitted to the University of Agriculture and Khyber Medical University has also issued a declaration by increasing the examination fees as well.

Flood relief activities continue: PDMA

LAHORE (APP): Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) Director General Imran Qureshi on Friday said that relief measures were going on in the flood affected areas of the province. In a statement, he said more than 595 villages were evacuated completely or partially during August 17 to 31, while more than 1,000 rescue personnel participated in round-the-clock relief operations.

that more than 3,000 life jackets were distributed in the affected districts and 108 medical camps were set up to provide medical facilities to the affected. Around 16 ambulances were alerted in the affected areas for emergency response, he added and said that more than 42,000 patients were provided treatment facilities in the medical camps. Apart from medical, 181 relief camps were also established in the affected districts.

The DG elaborated

Ending financial problems of universities my first priority: Governor

PESHAWAR (APP): The meeting under the Chairmanship of the Governor regarding the financial resources of the universities of the province, research commercialization and getting the universities out of financial deficit was held here on Friday.

These difficulties and move towards improvement and most of the responsibility falls on the vice chancellors and management of the university to minimize the costs and increase the resources," he added.

In the meeting, various aspects including commercialization of universities, making links with industries and imparting education to students equipped with modern technology were discussed in detail.

Ending the financial problems of the universities is their first priority, the Governor said. It is very sad to see the current financial situation of the universities, despite the government assistance, all the government universities of the province are suffering from a financial deficit, Haji Ghulam Ali said.

Universities will have to pay special attention to modern and market-based research to face future challenges, the Governor said.

Find alternative ways to create links with industries and commercialize research so that universities can stand on their own feet, while addressing a meeting held regarding financial resources of universities, research commercialization and bringing universities out of financial deficit.

The Vice-Chancellor should try to include the

jointly play a role to get the universities out of

BRT service temporarily suspended in Peshawar

PESHAWAR (Online): BRT service has been suspended in Peshawar temporarily. According to spokesperson of BRT Trans Peshawar, IT system of BRT is being updated while repair work is being done in the corridor. Due to which all BRT services will remain closed on corridor and all feeder routes. According to spokesperson, the service will be restored once the repair work is completed.

in Peshawar



BHITTSHAH: Sindh Caretaker Minister for Culture and Tourism, Syed Dr. Junaid Shah and Muhammad Umar Soomro, Sindh Caretaker Minister for Religious Affairs are witnessing performance of folk artists during a ceremony on the occasion of 280th Urs Celebration of Shah Abdul Latif Bhittai in Bhittshah.

JUI popularity graph witnesses upward trend: Mayor

PESHAWAR (APP): Mayor Peshawar, Haji Zubair Ali, has said that the popularity graph of the Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (JUI) was witnessing an upward trend with each passing day and the trust people imposed in our services would never be shattered.

He said open courts were being conducted on a daily basis to address people's grievances.

Talking to a gathering at Tablighi Markaz, Samdo Garhi, and Bashir Abad here wherein 57 families from various political parties announced joining JUI, he said the problems of the masses would be addressed

at their doorstep. He said on the occasion, JUI leaders Maulana Abdul Jalil Jan, Siddiqi Rehman Paracha, Saadat Afridi, Mufti Ameen, Chairman Zahid Ullah, and representatives of various union councils were also present.



RATODERO: Students of Government Boys Primary School are studying under open sky, as the only one classroom built for 200 more students, which is in the worst condition in the school, they are demanding to build more classrooms in the school, they also demanded basic facilities including furniture, fans, electricity, and cold water, at Pir Bahar Shah village in Ratodero.

Pervez says: PML-N is responsible for current inflation

LAHORE (Online): Former Chief Minister and President of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chaudhary Pervez Elahi has blamed PML-N for the recent wave of inflation in the country. Talking to the media in the courtroom, Pervez Elahi said that PML-N leadership fled to London after sinking the country's fleet. Whenever the PML-N has come they have increased the inflation. Chaudhary Pervez Elahi further said that now IMF has also said that elections should be held.



HYDERABAD: Members of Sindh Awami Forum are holding protest demonstration for demanding justice for 10-years old housemaid Fatima Fariro, at Hyderabad press club.

CS inaugurates Roberts Club building

LAHORE (APP): Chief Secretary (CS) Punjab Zahid Akhtar Zaman on Friday visited the Punjab Police Special Branch Headquarters (Roberts Club) and unveiled the plaque of the Cannon Block restored to its original historic form.

Inspector General (IG) of Police Punjab Dr. Usman Anwar and Additional IG Special Branch Zulfikar Hameed welcomed the Chief Secretary.

He said that all possible resources are being provided to enhance the efficiency of departments. He remarked that the IG Punjab and Additional IG Special Branch deserve accolades for the restoration and conservation of the historic building of Roberts Club.

The Chief Secretary mentioned that the Special Branch is the eyes and ears of the Punjab government and the police for ensuring good governance and reining in organized crime. He further said that the role of the Special Branch is very important in maintaining law and order.

PM directs authorities to curb smuggling of sugar, petroleum products

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar Friday directed the customs authorities and law enforcement agencies to strictly curb the smuggling of sugar, petroleum products, urea, agricultural products and other items.

He was chairing a high level meeting for stopping smuggling in Pakistan.

During the meeting, he was briefed on the situation of smuggling of different items across the country, especially in the border areas, and about the steps taken for stopping the menace.

The meeting was told that 10 additional check posts of law enforcement agencies were notified to curb smuggling in Balochistan.

The prime minister instructed that an inter

agency report should be prepared about the officers involved in smuggling in the province.

He directed strong departmental action against the officers involved in smuggling in Balochistan and award of exemplary punishment to them.

He said the smuggling of petroleum products was reducing revenue and putting pressure on the country's foreign exchange reserves.

He said he would chair a weekly meeting to review the performance of institutions and to curb the menace of smuggling.

He ordered that the border markets with Iran should be made more viable so that trade could be done with proper documents.

He said smuggling was causing a loss of billions of rupees to the national

economy and it was critical to end the problem of smuggling.

The PM was told that smuggling was reduced by 40 percent due to the untiring efforts of law enforcement institutions. He was apprised of the strategy of the law enforcement departments against smuggling.

Caretaker Federal Minister for Trade Gohar Ejaz, Minister for Interior Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti, Minister for Petroleum Muhammad Ali, Advisor to the PM Ahmed Cheema, federal secretaries, Federal Board of Revenue chairman and high level officers of law enforcement agencies attended the meeting. Provincial chief secretaries of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan and Inspector General of Police attended the meeting through video link.



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Iran, Reza Amiri Moghaddam, Ambassador of the European Union Dr. Riina Kionka and British High Commissioner Jane Marriott separately meeting with caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar.

Senate body expresses serious concerns over hike in electricity prices

ISLAMABAD (INP): Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Cabinet Secretariat Senator Rana Maqbool Ahmad on Friday taking the notice of the hike in electricity prices said that this a National crisis and many cases of suicide on it has been reported lately in the country.

While addressing the chairman NEPRA, the Senate Committee submit proposal to withdraw all taxes on electricity bills, in particular of the under privileged class.

The committee chair also sought briefing by the Chairman NEPRA on the mechanisms through which rapid increase in electricity rates are applied and send recommendations for its reconsideration. The committee also sought details on the owners of the IPP. The committee was of the view that it is National dilemma and the people of Pakistan are critically suffering due

NPMC Reviews Prices of Essential Commodities

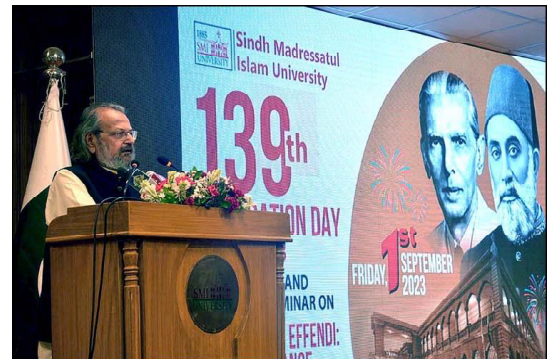
ISLAMABAD (Online): The National Price Monitoring Committee (NPMC) reviewed the prices of essential commodities on Friday and directed the relevant stakeholders to maintain food prices to provide relief to the common man.

The NPMC meeting was chaired by the Caretaker Minister for Planning, Development & Special Initiatives, Muhammad Sami Saeed. Chief Economist, Dr Nadeem Javaid moderated the meeting. Meeting was attended by the Chief Statistician from

the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS), representatives from all provinces, the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR), Ministry of Food Security & Industries, and other relevant stakeholders.

Since the interim government came into power, the Prime Minister has focused on providing maximum relief to the common man. In this regard, several steps are being taken. The meeting observed that the prices of a few commodities increased last week, leading to the decision to

hold NPMC meetings on a weekly basis to monitor prices and provide relief to the masses. "Immediate measures need to be taken to control abnormal gaps in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and wholesale price index (WPI)," remarked the Caretaker Planning Minister, Sami Saeed, during the NPMC meeting. During the meeting, PBS officials presented the price and inflation data, while representatives from Punjab, KP, Sindh, and Balochistan apprised the forum on the current production.



KARACHI: Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training Madad Ali Sindhi addressing the Seminar on 139th Foundation Day of Sindh Madressatul Islam University.

Sanjrani leads productive meeting on IPC's future

ISLAMABAD (INP): Chairman Senate and President International Parliamentarians Congress (IPC) Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani on Friday presided over an important held here to chart the course of IPC's future, saw discussions on several crucial matters that are set to shape the organization's trajectory.

Key among the topics deliberated were:

Enhancing IPC's Efficiency: The meeting included an update on discussions between IPC Secretary General Sitara Ayaz and IPU President Mr. Duarte Pacheco regarding measures to streamline

IPC's operations and efficiency.

Election of the President IPC: The future election process for the President of IPC was a central point of discussion, along with the definition of roles and responsibilities for the executive positions.

Construction of the building of IPC Permanent Headquarter: Plans and funding for the construction of a permanent IPC Headquarter were discussed, marking a significant step towards the organization's continued growth.

Proposed Organogram and Structure:

GDA assures full support to ECP's delimitation plan

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Grand Democratic Alliance (GDA) has assured of extending full support to the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) in its new delimitation plan and highlighted that delimitation is the foundation of transparent elections. The assurance was made during a consultation meeting of GDA delegation with the Election Commission chaired by Chief Election Commissioner Sikandar Sultan Raja. Members Election Commission, Secretary ECP and other senior officers also attended the meeting. From the Grand Democratic Alliance (GDA), Ms. Fehmida Marza, Dr. Saifur Ali Abbasi.

PTI's Aon announces to quit party, politics

MULTAN (INP): Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Senator Aon Abbas Buppi denouncing the May 09 incidents has announced to quit party and politics.

In a video message released on Friday, May 9 would be remembered as black day in history of the country when enraged PTI activist attack public properties and military installations.

The PTI South Punjab President said that Pakistan's military and people can't be separated through any conspiracy.

Aon Abbas Buppi had served as the managing director of the Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal.

Islamabad police to use body cams during checking

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: Islamabad Capital Police have distributed body cameras among personnel of Dolphin Squads to ensure the secure recording of all interactions between cops and the public.

In a significant move directed by Islamabad Capital City Police Officer (ICCP) Dr Akbar Nasir Khan, the SSP Safe City has distributed body cameras to Dolphin Squad officials. During the distribution, officials were thoroughly briefed on the proper usage of these devices. Police said the primary objective behind introducing body cams is to ensure the secure recording of all interactions between police officials and the public. This initiative aims to reduce crime rates and enhance vigilance over suspicious individuals and activities.



LONDON: Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori meeting with former Prime Minister Mian Nawaz Sharif.

Aneeq deliberates on new measures introduced for pilgrims' convenience

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony, Aneeq Ahmed has deliberated upon various new initiatives aimed at enhancing the experience of pilgrims, including tracking through QR codes, the introduction of a short Hajj package, and provision of internet data services.

He, in a 'Hajj Debriefing Session' the other day, said, "Today, we are gathered here to ensure the best possible facilities for our honorable pilgrims. While I don't make grand claims, I

Kakar pays tribute to Giani

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Friday paid tribute to the Kashmiri leader Syed Ali Geelani for his life-long struggle for freedom and justice. "My respects to iconic Kashmiri leader, Syed Ali Shah Geelani, on his second death anniversary, the prime minister said on his social media account on X (formerly known as twitter).

"In the face of persecution and hardship, his commitment to the Kashmir Cause was unparalleled.

Five killed over old enmity in Attock

ATTOCK (APP): Five persons were gunned down over old enmity in Jatiyal village in Hazro town of Attock district on Friday, police and hospital sources said.

Police while quoting the family of the victims said that the victims were coming back to their native town after watching a cricket match. The deceased were identified as 28-year-old Afraz Khan, 32-year-old Afzal Sheraz, 26-year-old Liaquat and 28-year-old Ishfaq Sultan.

DC Islamabad chairs review meeting on anti dengue campaign

ISLAMABAD (APP): Deputy Commissioner Islamabad Irfan Nawaz Memon on Friday chaired a review meeting on the anti-dengue campaign in the city. The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioners, District Health Officer, Assistant Commissioners, Magistrates, and other stakeholders. The DC said that dengue was not a dangerous disease, but it was important to take precautionary measures to prevent it. He directed the authorities to improve sanitation arrangements in different areas of the city and ensure that garbage is not collected at any place, including workshops and tire shops.

Tourists throng to Murree to beat heat

ISLAMABAD (APP): A large number of tourists from twin cities Islamabad and Rawalpindi on Friday thronged to Murree and other hilly resorts to enjoy cold weather and beat the scorching heat that has gripped various parts of the country. Talking to APP, Anita Ahsan, a resident of G-11, said that the intensive heat wave forced people of twin cities to visit hilly areas including Pathriyatta, Nathia Gali, Ayubia and other places.



Chief of the Army Staff, General Asim Munir visiting CMH Bannu to inquire about the health and well-being of the injured soldiers.

COAS visits CMH Bannu, ISPR

RAWALPINDI (Online): While interacting with General Syed Asim Munir, COAS visited CMH Bannu to inquire about the health and well-being of the injured soldiers on Friday.

Where nine brave soldiers embraced Shahadat yesterday when a suicide bomber blasted himself near military convoy in Jani Khel area.

Chief of Army Staff was briefed on the ongoing operations and overall security situation.

COAS appreciated the high morale and unflinching resolve of the troops. "Pakistan Army will continue to act as a bulwark against terrorism to safeguard the nation from this scourge" COAS emphasized.

He further said, "We have fought for long and will continue to fight the menace of Terrorism till the end. The Nation pays rich tribute to those who have laid their lives and their sacrifices will forever be honoured."

Earlier on arrival, COAS was received by Commander Peshawar Corps.



ISLAMABAD: Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Human Rights, Mushaal Husseyn Mullick addressing a seminar on 2nd Martyrdom Anniversary Syed Ali Shah Gillani at Kashmir House.

Mushaal Mullick says Geelani's thoughts will continue to serve as beacon of hope for Kashmiris

ISLAMABAD (APP): Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Human Rights and Women Empowerment Mushaal Husseyn Mullick on Friday paid glowing tributes to veteran Hurriyat leader Syed Ali Geelani, calling him a role model for the future generations. Addressing three different seminars in connection with the second death anniversary of great Hurriyat leader, Mullick said the late Geelani dedicated his entire life and sacrificed everything for the sacred cause of Kashmir freedom struggle without budging an inch from his principled position till he breathed his last. The SAPM stated that history testified that those who influenced human thoughts, their life was dedicated to some cause and they rendered sacrifices for freedom, always remained alive.

Therefore, she said, personalities like Hazrat Baba Bulleh Shah and Syed Ali Geelani did not die and they just disappeared physically.

Leopard spotted in QAU, varsity warns students, faculty to be watchful

ISLAMABAD (APP): A common Asian Leopard the apex predator of the Margalla Hills National Park (MHNP) on Friday was spotted near the Earth Sciences Department building early in the morning that rang the alarm bells for the varsity administration that advised its students and faculty to remain watchful.

The Board official informed that the University's security staff at 0830 hours observed the movement of the wildcat near the Earth Sciences Building.

A team of the Board paid a visit to the QAU to confirm the presence of the wildcat.

An IWMB official told APP that the leopard might have descended from the hills of the national park to drink water and probably returned to its natural environment afterwards.

New U.S. CG assumes charge in Peshawar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Senior Foreign Service Officer, Shante Moore has assumed responsibility as the Consul General at the United States Consulate General in Peshawar. "I am delighted to welcome Shante Moore as our new Consul General in Peshawar," said U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan Donald Blome.

He said "We have a dynamic relationship with the people and government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Consul General Moore brings to Peshawar the experience needed to broaden and deepen our partnerships, and advance our shared efforts to build for the future and ensure sustainable economic growth that benefits all members of society" said a news release of the US embassy.



ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani and President International Parliamentarians Congress (IPC) presiding over a meeting regarding Course of IPCs Future held at Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services (PIPS) in Islamabad.