ABC Certified

Simultaneously published from Quetta, Gwadar, Hub, Karachi, Islamabad

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Member APNS & CPNE

Chief Editor: Syed Farooq Shah

www.dailyindependent.com.pk

Edited with the trial version of **Foxit Advanced PDF Editor**

Ph: 2841470/2841473 REG: No. BC-116 B/ID-445 Vol: XXV No. 19, Safar 22, 1445 AH Saturday September 09, 2023 Pages 12, Price Rs. 15

Audio leaks commission case:

Govt objections on bench tantamount to attack on judiciary independence: SC

Throws out PDM govt's plea challenging bench

ISLAMABAD (Online): Supreme Court (SC) while rejecting PDM government objection to bench hearing audio leaks commission case has termed it an attack on independence of judi-

The former government had constituted a commission into the alleged audio leaks of Chief Justice of Pakistan Umar Atta Bandial's mother in law, wife of Khawaja Tariq Rahim, son of former chief justice Saqib Nisar, Justice Mazahir Naqvi, Abid Zuberi and Parvez Elahi.

The chief justices of Balochistan and Islamabad high courts were included in this commission.

However Abid Zubairi challenged this commis-

Upon it the SC constituted a 5-member bench under the Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Umar Ata Bandial and comprising Justice Ijazul Ahsan, Justice Muneeb Akhtar, Justice Hasan Azhar and Justice Shahid Waheed.

SC bench held two hearings of this case and restrained the audio leaks

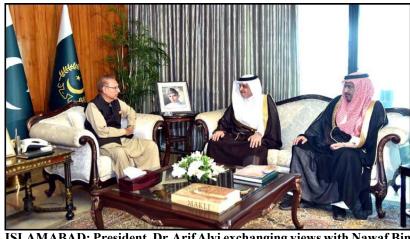
inquiry commission from functioning.

However the former government filed a miscellaneous petition for removal of three judges from this bench on the basis of clash of interests.

The government raised objections on three judges of this bench including CJP Umar Ata Bandial, justice Ijaz ul Ahsan and Justice Muneeb Akhtar.

The court had reserved judgment on June 06 after hearing government petition whereby objection was raised on bench.





ISLAMABAD: President, Dr. Arif Alvi exchanging views with Nawaf Bin Said Al-Malki, Ambassador of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Pakistan and Saad Bin Masoud Al-Harthi, Muslim World League Regional Director in Pakistan during meeting held at Aiwan-e-Sadr in Islamabad.

Governor lays stress on paying heed to means of formal and non-formal education to increase literacy rate

Kakar regretfully points out lakhs of our children aged between 5-15 deprived of education having no access to the schools in Balochistan; stresses need to know how many schools out of total 12,000 functional

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar has stressed the need to pay attention to all means of formal and non-formal education in order to increase the literacy ratio in the province, and in this regard, the importance and benefits of the mother languages can't be denied

doubt, there are over 12,000 schools in the province, but it is necessary to ascertain that how many are functional out of them.

He also stressed that it is quite better to educate the people and learn modern skills instead of giving some alms and charity.

The Governor expressed these and similar



QUETTA: Governor Balochistan, Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar addressing a seminar on the International Literacy Day at a local hotel

Pak expresses concern over availability of modern military equipment in Afghanistan

Asks India to stop human rights violations in IIOJK

ISLAMABAD (Online): cluding on security and Pakistan has expressed concern over availability of modern military equipment in Afghanistan saying leftover military equipment has come into the hands of terrorists.

"Pakistan and its security institutions are being attacked with this state of the art military equipment, this was said by Foreign Office (FO) spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch in weekly press briefing here

Responding to the queries of media persons in Islamabad today regarding the recent terrorist attack on military posts in Chitral, Foreign Office Spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch said Pakistan has communicated its concerns about the latest incident to the interim Afghan authorities.

The spokesperson said Pakistan and the United States have a robust dialogue on multiple areas incounter terrorism matters. She said we have been

communicating with the US and other partners both inside and outside the region about Pakistan's security concerns. She hoped our friends and partners will understand the security compulsions that Pakistan has in this region including the threat of terrorism and the security situation because of the difficult and aggressive posture from our eastern neighbor.

reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to eradicate the menace of ter-

Responding to a question, the spokesperson said we have invited our partners especially in the Gulf to come and invest in Pakistan. She said we are in touch with them in this re-

Reacting to Indian for-

Continued on page 2

The Governor said that other views while addressing a seminar on the International Literacy Day here at a local hotel on Friday morning.

The seminar was arranged by the Literacy and Non-Formal Education directorate in collaboration with different national and international organizations.

Continued on page 2

Gas tariff to be increased on IMF demand ISLAMABAD (INP): Af-

ter the approval of relief to electricity consumption, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) demanded Pakistani government a significant 45-50 percent rise in gas prices.

According to the details, the IMF demanded an increase in gas tariff from 45 to 50 percent in the account of 'Fuel Adjustment Charges' from July 01 while emphasizing a crackdown on electricity and gas theft to improve

It is pertinent to mention here that any alteration in gas tariffs is subject to the approval of the federal cabinet.

Pervaiz Elahi sends to Adiala jail on judicial remand

ISLAMABAD (INP) The Anti-Terrorism Court (ATC), Islamabad, on Friday sent former Punjab chief minister and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) President Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi to Adiala jail on judicial remand.

The PTI president was produced before ATC judge Abul Hasnat Zulqarnain's court after completion of his two-day physical remand in the judicial complex attack case. During the hearing, the police sought another 10day physical remand of former Punjab chief minister which was rejected by the ATC judge. The court rejected the police request and sent PTI President Elahi to Adiala jail on 14

day judicial remand.

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister, Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar chairs the 5th Apex Committee Meeting of Special Investment SIFC Apex Committee focuses on

ways to improve business environment

Ministers brief media over steps discussed in 5th meeting of SIFC's apex committee presided over by PM Kakar; Caretaker govt continues to implement int'l agreements, Consultation with IMF underway for relief in electricity bills - Solangi: Caretaker govt adopts holistic approach to revive economy-Shamshad; -Solangi; IMF will give response on relief plan in a day or two-Power Minister

The fifth meeting of the Special Investment Facilitation Council's (SIFC) Apex Committee held here on Friday with a special focus to improve the overall business and investment environment in the country being imperative for 'economic revival'

The meeting was chaired by Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar and attended by Chief of Army Staff, Federal Cabinet members, provincial chief ministers and high-level government offi-

The ministries con-

Anti-Corruption Establishment

stan Peoples Party (PPP)

Chairman Bilawal Bhutto-

Zardari on Friday reiterated

his demand to hold general

elections in the country

within the constitutionally

mandated period of 90

Bilawal repeated his

party's firm stance on polls

davs after reports emerged

in a section of mainstream

media claiming that the PPP

would "adjust" its position

chairman's statement was

shared on its official handle

X, formerly known as Twit-

DERA ISMAIL Khan

(INP): Police repulsed a ter-

rorist attack on a police sta-

tion in Dera Ismail (DI)

Khan, reported on Friday.

the terrorists attacked with

hand grenades and rocket

launchers on Daraban po-

the media in Karachi.

lice station

According to police

on elections in 90 days. On March 5, the PPP

PPP reiterates demand

for general elections

within 90 days

Bilawal hopes ECP will hold free and fair

elections within 90 days; Says PPP does

people-friendly politics and governance;

KARACHI (INP): Paki- ter: "Chairman [of the] Pa-

Terror attack on DI Khan

police station repulsed

PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari speaks to

cerned presented their asked the ministries to deplans/roadmaps to overcome the macroeconomic challenges, governance related impediments and voids in regulatory mechanisms in a bid to attract both foreign and domestic investment, and stimulate economic growth. The committee deliber-

ated upon various measures to be taken in short, medium and long terms to reap the envisaged dividends. Various practical steps were approved by the prime minister that will be operationalized as soon as

The prime minister

OUETTA: Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Khan

Domki chairing a meeting held to review performance of the Balochistan

kistan Peoples Party

@BBhuttoZardari has

urged that the general elec-

tions should be held accord-

ing to the Constitution, so

that the democratic govern-

ment can solve the prob-

lems of the people."

Referring to the tweet, a local publication claimed

that it was the first time in

recent weeks that the PPP

called for adhering to the

Constitution, without referring to the 90-day dead-

During an interaction

Continued on page 2

Police fired back in re-

A fierce retaliatory at-

taliation, and an intense ex-

change of fire took place

between police and the ter-

tack by police made the ter-

rorists flee away. Police

launched a search operation

rorists for half an hour.

liver optimal results irrespective of the time that was available with the caretaker government and emphasized to lay a strong foundation for the future government. Meanwhile Caretaker

Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi on Friday said the caretaker government respected the international financial agreements and would continue to implement them in true letter and spirit. Addressing a news conference here after the first session of two-day meeting of Special Invest-

Constitutional

term of

President Alvi

completed

ISLAMABAD (INP): The five-year constitutional term of President Dr Arif

Dr Alvi assumed the

He will not vacate the

Under the 1973 Con-

presidency on September 9,

office and will continue to

perform his duties until the

election of a new president.

stitution, a president is

elected by the National As-

sembly, provincial assem-

blies and the senate jointly.

At present, the electoral

college does not exist in the

country as the assemblies

ceased to exist after com-

pleting their constitutional

he held "consultative meet-

ings" last week and agreed

to continue until a new president is elected.

NEPRA

notifies surge

in electricity

tariff

ISLAMABAD (INP): Na-

tional Electric Power Regu-

latory Authority (NEPRA)

on Friday approved the in-

crease in tariff for electric-

ity consumers by Rs 1.46

fication, the power regula-

tory authority approved

the increase in power tariff

under fuel adjustment

charges (FAC) for the

that the surge in power tar-

iff would be applied to the

bills of September, mean-

while, the hike will not be

applicable to Lifeline and K Electric customers.

The notification stated

month of July.

As per the issued noti-

It may be recalled that

term last month.

Alvi has completed.

ment Facilitation Council (SIFC), the minister said deliberations were held on the measures which were essential for reducing the government's expenditures

and circular debt He was flanked by

Caretaker Minister for Finance Dr Shamshad Akhtar, Minister for Energy Muhammad Ali, and Minister for Industry and Production Gohar Ijaz. Solangi

Continued on page 2

Caretaker CM directs to expand circle of investigations against corruption in govt. departments

Mir Ali Mardan Domki says Balochistan can't afford wastage of official resources and corruption

Independent Report QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki has categorically stated that the province can't afford wastage and corruption in the official resources and as such, add-

ing he directed to expand the circle of investigations in the government depart-The caretaker Chief Minister was chairing a meeting held to review performance of the Balochistan

Anti-Corruption Establishment here on Friday.

The Chief Secretary Shakeel Qadir Khan was also present in the meeting. Secretary Services and General Administration Department, Bahar Khan and Director General Anti-Corruption Establishment.

Sohail Anwar Hashmi

briefed the meeting about the related isuses.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Domki made it clear that there would be zero tolerance for corruption in the era of caretaker government. He stressed that the

impression of financial corruption would also have to removed about Balochistan. He issued standing directives to the departments correct the irregularities by improving their financial matters.

He also asserted that the concept of punishment and reward would be ensured in the province. He said that while the good officers would be encouraged, stern action would be taken against those involved in the corruption and corrupt

Continued on page 2



Achakzai, Dr Ameer Muhammad Jogzai and Qadir Bakhsh addressing a press conference.

4,500 bags of sugar, 1,200 of Urea recovered as crackdown against hoarders continues

During the crackdown, a total of 4,500 bags of sugar and 1,200 bags of Urea were recovered from differen godowns located in the Link Badini road,

During the raid, a total of 65 solar panls and 1,000 plastic bags were also seized. The godowns of hoarders were also sealed after the recovery of sugar,

Needless to mention here that the crackdown was started on directives of the Commissioner Quetta, Muhammad Shafqaat.

Meanwhile, the resolve has been expressed by the district administration to continue action against the hoarders and smuggling of sugar and Urea.

The caretaker Provincial Minister for Home, Muhammad Zubair has appreciated the performance of district administration on successful action taken against the hoarders.

QUETTA: Provincial Caretaker Ministers Jan

Independent Report Urea and other items.

QUETŤA: The crackdown against the profiteers and hoarders of sugar and Urea fertilizer remained continued in different parts of the provincial metropolis on

Page Miscellaneous 02

Amid washout scare Pakistan-India Asia Cup match in Colombo gets 'reserve day'

COLOMBO (INP): A reserve day has been intro-duced for the Asia Cup Super Four contest between Pakistan and India in the Asia Cup in Colombo, Sri Lanka on Sunday (September 10) amid the possibility of rains interrupting the match.

Rain washed out the Pakistan-India ODI at the Pallakele Stadium in Sri Lanka on Sep 2 and brought about an anticlimactic end as the Green Shirts were left waiting for their chance to

The Indian side were bowled out for 266 in the 49th over against a superior display of Pakistani pace bowling.

Multiple weather forecasts predicted a high probability of rain on Sunday particularly during match

Resolving masses problems at their doorstep govt's top priority: AJK PM

MIRPUR (AJK) (APP): Azad Jammu and Kashmir Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq has said that resolving people's problems at their doorstep was the top priority of the incumbent government

While talking to a public delegation led by noted social and business personality Haji Mohammad Arshad Ghazi from Bhimbar at Jammu Kashmir House in the federal metropolis on Friday, the PM said that the doors of the Prime Minister's House were open to every-

The basic aim of the government, he said, was to provide basic amenities of life for the people across the state. The PM said that he was fully aware of the problems being faced by

broadcaster releases promo featuring Babar in Fab 5 the people, said a press re-

ICC WC

International Cricket

Sports, unveiled a promo-

tional video, showcasing

Pakistan's captain, Babar

Azam, as part of the pres-

coined by the late New

Zealand cricket legend

Martin Crowe.

This term, originally

tigious 'Fab 5' on Friday.

Sports Desk LAHORE: The inclusion of He said that such policies were being formulated Babar Azam in the Fab 5 by which ordinary citizens not only underscores his would be benefited. He said stellar performances but that the state machinery also reflects his growing inalso needs to work with fluence and impact on the similar passion and dedication. He said that the state provides resources so that Council's official World the average person gets all Cup broadcaster, Star

During the meeting, the visiting delegation briefed the Prime Minister on various problems being faced by the people of their area.

the facilities.

Minister Prime Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq assured the delegation that the government would spare no efforts in resolving their problems. The delegation also praised the PM for presenting the Kashmiris' case effectively at every forum.



KARACHI: Pakistan Navy conducts boat rally at Karachi harbour to commemorate 58th Navy Day.

Rabbani accuses outgoing president of unconstitutional actions

ISLAMABAD (INP): Mian Raza Rabbani, the former Chairman of the Senate, on Friday issued a scathing press statement, highlight-ing a series of alleged unconstitutional actions taken by President Dr Arif Alvi as his term comes to an end.

In his press release, Rabbani accused the outgoing president of failing to uphold the Constitution, 1973, and violating its provisions on multiple occasions.

Rabbani's statement outlined the following key allegations against President Arif

The former Senate chairman accused the president of promulgating ordinances with- mentioned.

with journalists in Karachi

today, Bilawal said: "The

PPP demands that the elec-

tions be held within 90

been the most vocal among

all parties in calling for elec-

tions within three months

should be held at the earli-

est and as per the Consti-

PPP does people-friendly

politics and governance.

'Our contest is with infla-

tion, unemployment and

poverty." Without taking

the name of the establish-

ment, the PPP's top leader

said that he wanted to give

a message to the "puppet

makers" that they should

stop experimenting on the

their decisions," he added.

tion about the drive against

the PPP, the former foreign

minister said that his party

responded to the propa-

ganda and character assas-

sinators with "perfor-

"Let the people make

Responding to a ques-

people of Pakistan.

tution, he added.

demands that elections

Bilawal says that the

The PPP — which had

Continued from page 1 mance".

PPP reiterates demand...

out due consideration, violating Article 89(1) of the Constitution,

Rabbani alleged that President Alvi unlawfully appointed two members of the Election Commission of Pakistan, bypassing established procedures and the Constitution, 1973. The statement pointed to the promulgation of the GIDC Ordinance against the judiciary and without inter-ministerial consultation.

President Alvi's repromulgation of the PMDC Ordinance, which was previously rejected by the Senate under Article 89, Constitution, 1973, is also

Lauding the Election Commission of Pakistan

(ECP), Bilawal said the

electoral watchdog proved

its "standard and credibil-

ity" before the people by

its "performance" during

"The ECP proved its performance in Daska [by

catching rigging]," he added.
According to an inves-

tigation report prepared by

Joint Provincial Election

Commissioner Saeed Gul, the election officials and

other government function-

aries "did not play their

designated role in a requi-

site manner [and] they were

found puppets in the hands

The NA-75 Sialkot-IV

of their unlawful masters"

by-election held in Daska

on February 19 was not

held in a fair, free, and trans-

parent manner, read the in-

quiry report. Later, the ECP

null and void and ordered

would hold free and fair elec-

tions within the Constitu-

tional timeframe of 90

re-election.

davs

declared the Daska by-polls

He hoped that the ECP

the past four years.

'Navy Day' celebrated with traditional fervour courage and absolute aumote maritime security at

dacity during successful

bombardment at Dwarka.

On this day, we acknowl-

edge the sacrifices of our

Shuhadas and Ghazis and

honour their valiant spirit

which vanquished the de-

vious enemy during the

lighted that Pakistan Navy

besides ensuring own

maritime defence also

maintains round the clock

presence in international

waters and engages with

regional navies to foster

interoperability and pro-

The Naval Chief high-

KARACHI (APP): Pakistan Navy Friday celebrated 58th anniversary of 'Navy Day' to honour heroic achievements of Ghazis and Shuhadas who fought gallantly against a much bigger adversary with absolute courage and profound faith in Allah SWT. Navy Day is a glorious reminiscence of daroperation 'SOMNATH', when Pakistan Navy's Warships destroyed important shore installations and in-

flicted irreparable damage to the Indian pride, a Pakistan Navy news release

Submarine reigned and remained unchallenged at sea throughout the war, because of which the complete Indian Navy did not dare to come out in the open sea and challenge the Pakistan Navy Fleet. In his message on the occasion, Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi said that 8th September marks act of bravery of Pakistan Navy's officers and men who demonstrated invincible

Caretaker CM

directs to expand...

Continued from page 1

sary to pinpoint the "black

sheep" in the government

departments. He said that

the corrupt elements are

darkening the future of

cided to make the Anti-Cor-

ruption Establishment

more effective and efficient

besides putting it on mod-

to bring the experts from

other departments on depu-

tation in the Establishment.

The meeting also decided to

tighten the circle against

those minting money

through fake housing

schemes in the province.

Similarly, it was decided

Meanwhile, it was de-

Balochistan.

ern lines

He said that it is neces-

Pakistan Navy lone GHAZI **QUETTA: Caretaker Federal Minister for Human** Rights Khalil George talking to media person on

Governor lays stress on...

Continued from page 1 The

Balochistan Assembly, Mir Jan Muhammad Jamali, Senator Sana Jamali, Fauzia Arshad, Shaheen Khalid Butt, caretaker Provincial Minister for Home, Captain (Retd) Zubair Jamali as well as representatives of different international organizations and provincial government departments

participated in the seminar. Speaking on the occasion, Governor mentioned that the objective behind observance of the International Literacy Day is to steer the society out of darkness of the ignorance at the public level, and spread the

beacon of light. He regretfully pointed out that lakhs of our children aged between 5-15 are deprived of the light of education, and they have no access to the schools.

He expressed sorrow

children remain in search of livelihood in the garages and garbage dens just because of

pose, Pakistan Navy is ac-

quiring state of the art

technologies to meet the

emerging security chal-

lenges at sea while en-

hancing indigenous ca-

pabilities. Admiral un-

derlined that Pakistan

Navy had also embarked

on nation building initia-

tives particularly to uplift

coastal communities and

was making vigorous ef-

forts to invigorate

Blue Economy for eco-

nomic prosperity of the

country.

He said that we are entering into the pen less and paper less era. He said that today's programme gives us the opportunity to ponder of literacy clear in view of the artificial intelligence and

He also stressed to adopt a diverse national education policy regarding modern education. He on the occasion made it clear that the dream of educated Balochistan can't be materialized without the wholehearted support and guidance of the international

He appreciated the organizers for holding the

He also distributed

QUETTA: Activates of BDA employees union hold protest in favor of their demands.

meeting with Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar Pak expresses concern over....

QUETTA: Speaker Balochistan Assembly Mir Jan Muhammad Khan Jamali

Continued from page 1 eign affairs minister statement she said Indian leadership should stop giving statements. The human rights violations are under-

way in occupied Kashmir

under illegal occupation of

The international organizations of human rights have diverted attention of G-20 countries towards ongoing human rights violations in occupied Kash-

International human rights organizations have informed G-20 countries

by writing them letter. der international human rights and humanitarian laws, and bring an end to the egregious human rights violations in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (ÎIOJK).

Addressing the weekly press briefing here, the Foreign Office spokesperson said, "Grave and systematic violations of human rights in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) continue to alarm the world conscience. Several international human rights organizations includ-

letter to invite the attention of the representatives of G-20 member states, specially invited countries and international organizations, towards the serious human rights violations being com-

mitted in IIOJK." She said, "The letter notes the ongoing repressive policies in IIOJK, including restrictions on freedom of expression, peace-ful assembly and association, and intensification of crackdown on independent media and civil society groups. Indian occupation forces are systematically APP adds: Pakistan on using abusive counter ter-Friday asked India to rorism and state security Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) and Jammu and Kashmir Public Safety Act to incapacitate and persecute human rights defend-

She told that Foreign

have addressed a joint open would chair the 10th Commonwealth Youth Ministe rial Meeting (CYMM) to be held from September 12 15, 2023 in London. 'The Commonwealth

high-ranking officials of the

ers and dissenters in HOIK "As India hosts the G-20 Summit and presents itself as an important player on the global stage, it should honour its obligations under international human rights and humanitarian laws and bring an end to the egregious human rights violations in IIOJK," she added.

ing Amnesty International Minister Jalil Abbas Jilani بعدالت بيثل جج انسداد د مشت گردي كورث برنائي ATC كيس نمبر: FIR 06/2023 نمبر: P.S 21/2023 مدر برنائي برم زير دفعه 385, 386, 387, 25-6.K يلي كرام ا يكث سركار بنام:حيات الله وغيره

ہرگاہ ہمارے روبرواس امر کی ناکش ہوئی ہے کہ سمی وزیر خان ولد سفر خان قوم ترین ساکن ہرنائی جرم ہالا کے جکی سرد مذکورہ ہالا دفعات میں مقرر ہے مرتکب ہوا ہے۔ (یاان کے ارتکاب پرشبہ ہے) اوراز روئے کیفیت فیسل واریٹ کر فاری کے جو کہ بطبق اس ناکش کے جاری ہوا تھامعلوم ہوا کہ بالاملزم فرار ہو گیا ہے۔ یااس نے وارنٹ کی قبیل ہے گریز کرنے کے لیےا بیے تین رو پوش کیا ہے۔لہذااشتہار بذاکی روشے تھم دیا جاتا ہے کہ سمی نہ کورہ کولازم ہے کہ وہ بتاریخ 13.09.2023 کو بمقام انسداد دہشت گردی کورٹ ہرنائی ناکش مذکورہ کی قلمبندی کے لیے حاضر

انسداد دہشت گردی کورٹ ہرنائی

PRQ No. 544/ 06-09-2023

🕶 @dpr_gob [dpr.gob 👍 @dgpr. TENDER NOTICE

The DHQ Dera Allah Yar, Jaffarabad invites bids from eligible Bidders for supply of following items. TSE No.232408349191 Note: In All Procurements of GOB Whether Through Electronic or Manual Bid Submission, It is Mandatory For All Bidders to Get Registered At Electronic Public Procurement System of BPPRA GOB. Tender Fee Rs.1000/-

Class of Object **Bid Security** S.No 1 Medicine & related items (Total Item(s) Count: 63)

Changed Area

S.No Step Name

Remarks Note: The Remaing Terms & Conditions shall Remain Same.

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules – 2014. Eliqibility of Bidders: Eliqibility Criteria for bidders may be seen in the Bidding Documents. Procedure Of Procurement: Single Stage Two Envelope Bidding Procedure. Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Deposit at Call of 2% specified above in the name of the undersigned from a scheduled bank. Tender Documents: The bidding documents can be obtained from the office of the under-signed 1,000 PKR Issuance of tender Documents: From the date of publication of NIT to 20 September, 2023 during office hours on working days Last Date of bid submission: The Tenders must be submitted latest by 20 September, 2023 till 10:00 AM . Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day at the office of the under- signed at 11:00 AM The bidders who have downloaded Bidding Document(s) before 05 September, 2023 are required to download the ammended Bidding Document(s). The Other terms and conditions shall remain same. Address: Jaffarabad Phone no: 0838510441

Email: dhqhospitaljaffarabad67@gmail.com

PRQ No.554/08-9-2023 😽 www.dpr.gob.pk. 🔻 @dpr_gob 👩 dpr.gob 👍 @dgpr.balochistan

MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT DISTRICT HEAD QUARTER **HOSPITAL DERA ALLAH YAR** Secretariat is convening the Commonwealth Youth Ministerial Meeting as Pa-

kistan assumes the Chair of the meeting and plays an active part in setting the agenda ahead of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Summit to be held next year in Samoa. The theme of the meeting is 'Aim Higher: Delivering More for Young People in the Commonwealth'. It aligns with the United Nations Sustainable Developdon, the foreign minister is also expected to meet with participating ministers and

Commonwealth." The spokesperson said, "Pakistan's policy on Afghan refugees has not changed. We have opened our hearts and our homes for the people of Afghani stan whenever they were in difficulty. With the first wave of Afghan refugees coming to Pakistan forty years ago, they have been living in Pakistan, have been working in Pakistan, they have been studying in Pa-

kistan." "We would like the Afghan refugees to return to their homeland in honour and dignity for which it is important that conditions are created for their early return. We remain in contact with Afghan authorities as well as with United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to work towards that end."

To a question, she said, 'Pakistan, as you know, has invited its friends and partners, including the Gulf countries, to come and invest in Pakistan. In the context of SIFC, which has recently been established, we are in contact with all our friends and partners for future investment projects."

SIFC Apex Committee focuses....

Continued from page 1 said discussions were also held on working out a schedule for implementing the decisions already taken to carry out privatization of some departments.

He said measures to stop misuse of international agreements, if there is any, also came under discussion. Restructuring of the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR), measures for removing bottlenecks in foreign direct investment, including visa policy reforms, and steps to improve performance of different departments were also part of extensive discussion held on the first day of the SIFC meeting. He said an issue of smuggling of commodities, petroleum products and dollars were discussed at length. At the outset of the press conference, the minister said traditionally, a press release was issued to highlight the decisions and discussions of the SIFC, but from now on-

ward, the public would be ernment as a whole, she informed by the caretaker added.

government through briefings by the relevant ministers. The main objectives of SIFC were to boost foreign direct investment in different sectors including mining, information technology and agriculture, the minister remarked. Caretaker Federal Min-

ister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs and Privatisation Dr Shamshad Akhtar Friday said the caretaker government had adopted a holistic approach to address the pressing issues being faced by the economy and develop a roadmap with an aim to augment the macroeconomic management.

'We will operate really holistically and consistently as a team. This will be an important change that incharges of all segments ment She said the caretaker will work together," she said while addressing a press conference

A principle had been adopted to look at the govDr Shamshad said sub-

committees of the cabinet had already been institutionalized, including Economic Coordination Committee (ECC), Executive Committee of National Economic Council (ECNEC), Cabinet Committee on Privatization (CCoP), and Cabinet Committee on En-

She said they were having intergovernmental discussions with one another and making sincere efforts to define a roadmap for augmenting the macroeconomic management in the country.

She said the government was reinforcing fiscal stability and fiscal coordination with monetary policy as well as external policy, as it an anchor of macroeconomic managesetup wanted to revive economy and for that they were working to "define the steps for economic jump start". Along with that they

were making efforts to enhance social safety net during the period when structural adjustment reforms programme was imple-

"We will try to enhance the social safety net and more importantly financial inclusion will be expedited so that SME (small medium enterprises) and agriculture sectors, and citizens get an opportunity for financial empowerment through digitization." The minister said the

State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs) were facing issues and had burdened the exchequer, so the government would prepare an SOE privatization policy to overcome the problems.

She said a Central Monetary Unit would be established with two basic pillars, including (1) to help various ministries to strengthen the corporate governance of SOEs, and (2) prepare the entities that are ready to take forward for listing them for privatization.

the poverty. robotic technology.

organizations.

event successfully.

commemorative shields and souvenirs among the organizers and participants of over the situation that our the seminar.

TENDER NOTICE The NATURAL CALAMITIES & OTHER DISASTERS (REL invites bids from eligible Bidders for supply of following items. TSE-232409352711

Only electronic bid will be submitted, No physical bid is required. Note: In All Procurements of GOB Whether Through Electronic or Manual Bid Submission, It is Mandatory For All Bidders to

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Class of Object 1 Earth Moving Machinery (Total Item(s) Count: 5) 5% Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules - 2014. Eligibility of Bidders:

Previous3 Turn over of at least 316.800.000 PKR in 3 Subsequent Previous Years Presence in Active Tax Paver List. Sales Tax Certificate. The bidding firm must not be currently blacklisted by any

3 Assignments of Similar Nature and Complexity 50,000,000 in

procuring agency of Pakistan. JV is permissible Submission of the required Bid Security In case Bid Security is

not found as required during financial evaluation the bidding firm shall be declared as in-eligible and non-responsive.

Submission of the required Bidding document Fee bidder must specify the delivery date. Price Reasonability Assurance.

The bidder must have its established office and work shop in Quetta which can be physically verified. The bidder must agree for the after sales services for three years Procedure Of Procurement: Single Stage Two Envelope Bidding

Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Bank Guarantee, Deposit at Call of 5 % specified above in the name of the under-signed from a scheduled bank Tender Documents: The NIT & Bidding Document can be obtained

electronically from www.bppra.gob.pk Issuance of tender Documents: Complete Bidding Document car be viewed at www.bppra.gob.pk

Tender fee Rs.1000/-(Non-refundable) Green Challan which will be deposited Account No. C03870 Treasury Office Quetta. Last Date of bid submission: Bid can only be submitted

electronically latest by 25 September, 2023 till 12:00 PM through Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day at 01:00 PM on EPPS System Address: Grain Silos Sheikh Manda Air

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Page 03

PUC urges

Saudi Crown Prince to champion minorities' rights, Kashmir resolution at G20 Summit

The Pakistan Ulema Council (PUC) on Friday appealed to the leaders of G20 nations, with a particular focus on Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince, Mohammad bin Salman imploring to play a role in addressing the injustices against India's Muslims and minority populations, as well as the long-standing issue of Kashmir, during the upcoming G20 summit in India, emphasizing the importance of self-determination.

The PUC central figures, including Chairman Hafiz Muhammad Tahir Mahmood Ashrafi, Allama Abdul Haq Mujahid, Maulana Muhammad Rafiq Jami, Maulana Asad Zikria Qasmi, Maulana Nauman Hashir, Maulana Muhammad Shafiq Qasmi, Maulana Asadullah Farooq, Maulana Zubair Abid, Maulana Mohammad

Maulana Aziz Akbar Maulana Oasmi, Muhammad

Siddiqui, among others, in a joint statement, called upon G20 member states, particularly Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman, to engage in discussions with Indian leadership during the G20 summit to end the injustices against minorities and seek a resolution for the disputed Kashmir, in accordance with United Nations agreements.

The scholars asserted that the issues of Kashmir and Palestine were fundamental to the Islamic world, and their resolution could contribute significantly to global peace

As Saudi Arabia holds a central position in the Islamic world, they expressed hope that during his visit

Abu Bakr Hameed Sabri, same commitment to global peace that he had shown previously

They believed that his active role in addressing the plight of oppressed Muslims in India, specifically minorities, was of paramount importance.

Furthermore, scholars underlined that there was no doubt that India had become a living hel for minorities, particularly Muslims. In this dire situa tion, Saudi Arabia's role was crucial in extricating them from this predicament, they added. They commended

Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman for his commendable efforts for world peace and stressed that Pakistan and Islamic scholars worldwide would always remember his contributions to peace and security. They expressed their admiration for his past and future endeavors as a leader of peace and security.



Vice Chancellor Allama Iqbal Open University Professor Dr. Nasir Mahmood presented a souvenir to Caretaker Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training, Madad Ali Sindhi on "Literacy day" here in Islamabad.

Agriculture University of China recruiting talent from Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Gwadar Pro that Pakistan research group of Prof. Dr. He Cheng at China Agriculture University (CAU), Beijing is offering PhD and post-doctoral positions to Pakistani candidates in does not contribute to GDP Control of major livestock disease in Pakistan using China-aid technologies of key veterinary vaccines and diagnostic assay".

According to Gwadar Pro, the project aims to develop and promote key vaccines and diagnostic technologies by using cell fermentations and molecular biology techniques, in order to control major livestock diseases and contribute to animal products exported to international markets. A Chinese Professor at College of Veterinary Medicine, CAU told

and China are leading more than 50 collaborative projects in agriculture and animal husbandry. Howwith its full strength and still needs a lot of improvement. He said that this is basically due to the challenges of devastating diseases faced by Pakistan such as Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), Brucellosis, Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR). Avian Influenza, Salmonellosis and currently new emerging

The coordination in mutual trade can only be achieved to develop and implement a feasible technology-based project between the two countries.

Lumpy skin disease (LSD).

NH&MP recovers stolen car from Swabi

ISLAMABAD (INP): The National Highways and Motorway Police (NH&MP) recovered a car stolen from Rawalpindi near Swabi on Friday.

According to the details, Motorway Police was informed about a white Corolla stolen from Saddar Police Station Rawalpindi which started the search for

During search operation, the NH&MP found a vehicle abandoned near Karnel Sher Khan Interchange on Peshawar-Islamabad Motorway, After investigation, it was found that it was the same vehicle that was stolen from Rawalpindi and a fake number plate was installed on the vehicle. The vehicle was taken into possession and the search for the accused was started



ISLAMABAD: Federal Secretary Health Iftikhar Ali Shallwani chaired high level meeting regarding Global Health Security Summit.

Inflow, outflow of rivers, reservoirs level report

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

Rivers: Indus at Tarbela: Inflows 114000 cusecs and Outflows 113200 cusecs, Kabul at Nowshera: Inflows 23700 cusecs and Outflows 23700 cusecs, Khairabad Bridge: Inflows 95000 cusecs and Outflow 95000, Jhelum at Mangla: Inflows 13300 cusecs and Outflows 40000 cusecs, Chenab at Marala: Inflows 36800 cusecs and Outflows 5900 cusecs.

Barrages: Jinnah: Inflows 146800 cusecs and Outflows 138800 cusecs, Chashma: Inflows: 142200 cusecs and Outflows 150000 cusecs, Taunsa: Inflows 127100 cusecs and Outflows 107600 cusecs, Guddu: Inflows 139800 cusecs and Outflows 110800 cusecs Sukkur: Inflows 98400 cusecs and Outflows 45900 cusecs Kotri: Inflows 134700 cusecs and Outflows 93400 cusecs Trimmu: Inflows 21500 cusecs and Outflow 5900 cusecs Panjnad: Inflows 67000 cusecs and

Outflows 50400 cusecs. Reservoirs (Level and Storage): Tarbela: Minimum operating level 1402 feet, present level 1550.00 feet, maximum conservation level 1550 feet, live storage today 5.809 MAF.

Mangla: Minimum operating level 1050 feet, present level 1241.10 feet, maximum conservation level 1242 feet, live storage

today 7.283 MAF. Chashma: Minimum operating level 638.15 feet, present level 648.00 feet, maximum conservation level 649 feet, live storage today 0.227 MAF. The inflows and outflows of River Indus at Tarbela, Jinnah and Chashma, River Kabul at Nowshera

International literacy day

observed

ISLAMABAD (INP): International Literacy Day is observed on September 8 every year to promote literacy and raise awareness of its importance in building more inclusive, peaceful, and sustainable societies. The day's theme for 2023 was "Promoting literacy for a world in transition: Building the foundation for sustainable and

Literacy is the ability to read and write. It is essential for communication. learning, and participating in society. People who are literate are better able to access information, improve their job prospects, and make informed decisions about their lives.

peaceful societies.3

According to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cul-Organization tural (UNESCO), about 774 million adults lack the minimum literacy skills. This means that they cannot read and write a simple sentence about their everyday life.



ISLAMABAD: National Assembly Speaker, Raja Pervez Ashraf witnessing the election process of Parliamentary Reporters Association (PRA) held at Parliament Ĥouse in Islamabad.

Pakistan all set to organize world's first Global Health Security Summit, Shallwani

Pakistan will be the first country in the world to host the Global Health Security Summit later this year. This was shared by Federal Secretary Health Iftikhar Shallwani while chairing a meeting to launch the preparations for the global moot on Thursday. The meeting was attended by senior health officials, leading public health experts and representatives of partner agencies. The Prime Minister has accorded approval to holding the summit later this year which will bring together 500 participants experience of the global

Pakistan is the current chair of Global Health Security Agenda and hosting this conference will enable us to showcase our strong resolve and commitment to

the cause of saving our people and the global community from pandemics, said the Secretary Health while addressing the participants. We are a resilient nation and have together done formidably well in fighting the covid pandemic. There is a great deal that Pakistan can contribute to the knowledge and including around 70 councommunity in the fight

added. Pakistan has most recently faced the ravages of unprecedented floods and the resultant spread of disease, highlighting the urgent need to strengthen disease response and surveillance systems. The recent pandemic has shown that spread of infectious disease in any part of the world is a threat to the entire global community. Therefore it is a shared responsibility, the meeting was told.

The meeting agreed on the thematic areas to be discussed in the summit which

It maintained that the

Kashmiri students had to

bear the brunt of the mili-

tary siege following the

revocation of Article

370. It had been for

months together that the

Kashmiri children were

forced to remain in

homes as IIOJK was vir-

tually cut off from the

Heavy militarization, lingering Kashmir dispute badly impacting education in IIOJK

ISLAMABAD (INP): To- killings of their dear ones day, when the world is marking the International Literacy Day, education, considered one of the basic human rights, has been badly affected in Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir due to heavy militarization and decadeslong unresolved Kashmir

A report released by Kashmir Media Service said how Kashmiri students can pay attention to education when they are witnessing during violent military operations conducted by Indian troops on a daily ba-

The report said Kashmiri children are being harassed and humiliated by Indian troops instead of making it easy for them to achieve education, adding the situation has worsened since 5th August 2019 when the Modi-led Hindutva government of India abrogated the occupied territory's special sta-



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for National Heritage and Culture Jamal Shah chairing a meeting regarding revival plan of cultural and

APHC-AJK pays tributes to Sheikh Tajummal-ul-Islam

Parties Hurriyat Conference Azad Jammu and Kashmir (APHC-AJK) chapter has paid tributes to the renowned intellectual, leading leader of Kashmir freedom movement and former Executive Director of Kashmir Media Service, Islamabad, late Sheikh Tajammul-ul-Islam for his precious and unparalleled

ISLAMABAD (INP): All services to the Kashmir cause.

The APHC-AJK chapter held a condolence reference Friday at its office in Islamabad to remember Sheikh Tajammul-ul-Islam on his second death anniversary. The reference was

presided over by Convener Mahmood Ahmed Saghar while Chairman of Jammu

Hussain was chief guest on the occasion. Mehmood Ahmad Saghar on this occasion said

that Sheikh Tajammul-ul-Islam challenged India's illegal occupation of Jammu and Kashmir, as a result of which he faced Indian an-

Kashmir Self-Determina-

tion Movement Interna-

tional, Raja Najabat

Ministry of OP&HRD increases minimum pension to Rs10,000

kistanis and Human Re-Development (OP&HRD) recognizing the hardships of retired senior citizens in prevailing era of inflation has increased the minimum pension from Rs 8,500 to Rs10,000 per month.

The Overseas Pakistanis Ministry on Friday issued the directions in exercise of the powers conferred by Sub-Section (a) of Section-2 of the Employees Old Age Benefits Act, 1976, increased the minimum pension from Rs 8,500 per month to Rs10,000 per month along with 17 percent increase in formula pension to the existing pensioners that would be in effect from July 1.

It also issued the instructions to implement the order to process the increase in the rate of the existing pensioners and the pending pension.
All pensioners draw-

ing minimum pension of Rs 8500 would be allowed minimum pension Rs 10,000, with effect from July, 2023.

Moreover, the pensioners drawing formula pension as on June 30

ISLAMABAD (INP): The would be allowed 17 per-Ministry of Overseas Pa-cent in their existing rate of cent in their existing rate of pension with effect from July, 2023. It also underlined that the 17 percent increase in rate would be applied only on pensioners awarded pension till June 30, 2023

The formula pension awarded with effect from July, 2023 would not be allowed increase in rate of pension. However, such pensioners would be allowed formula pension as per schedule. It also underlined that the pension allowed from July, 23 would be treated as normal with regards to minimum pension of Rs. 10,000 and formula pension 17 percent increase in rate would be applied only to pensioners who were awarded pension till 2023.

The pensioners drawing reduced pension would be allowed pension reduced by one half per cent for each completed month by which age falls short of 60 years (55 years in case of woman) for minimum pension i.e. Rs.10,000.

Áll reduced formula pensions settled on June 30, 2023 would be allowed 17 percent increase in their existing rate of pension, it



ISLAMABAD: A woman along with children are collecting stems of trees on green belt along the Embassy road as due to the high prices of sui gas and LPG, common people are using woods as fuel in

Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs convenes

The meeting commenced with a comprehensive briefing provided by the Caretaker Foreign Minister, Jalil Abbas Jilani, regarding full membership in BRICS. He delved into the historiof BRICS, highlighting its recent expansion to include member states such as KSA, UAE, Argentina, Egypt, and Ethiopia. He emphasized that BRICS expansion relies on unanimous member consensus. Pakistan is actively exploring the possibility of joining this group due to its goals of reshaping the International Financial Architecture and reducing dependency on the US dollar. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) has initiated a consultation process with relevant stakeholders to streamline Pakistan's entry into BRICS.

During the session. concerns were raised by Senators about potential vetoes from India regarding Pakistan's inclusion in BRICS. Minister Jilani reassured that any member resorting to such a veto jeopardizes its own standing within the group. He also emphasized Pakistan's commitment to not engag-ing in regional power bloc

ISLAMABAD (Online): politics, aiming instead for positive relations with all nations. Responding to questions about Pakistan's relationship with the United States, the Foreign Pakistan's efforts to secure Minister highlighted the global ramifications of conflicts, such as the Russiacal context and objectives Ukraine situation. He underscored Pakistan's policy of maintaining positive relationships with all nations, given the interconnectedness of today's world.

The Committee Chairman inquired about the advantages and disadvantages of joining BRICS. to which the Foreign Minister explained that Pakistan's membership would grant it a voice on a important international forum and facilitate trade and economic relations with member countries.

Addressing a query regarding the recent TTP attack in Chitral and the resulting law and order situation, the Foreign Minister assured that the situation is under control. Pakistan is actively engaged with the Afghan interim government, with our ambassador meeting Afghan officials to address the matter. He expressed Pakistan's commitment to preventing such situations from recurring through continued dialogue with Afghan counterparts.

ine produc All emei ging nicoti must be

ISLAMABAD (INP): Health activists are urgently advocating for a ban on emerging tobacco products in Pakistan due to their highly addictive nature.

The Society for the Protection of the Rights of Child (SPARC) issued a press release highlighting the critical need for a ban on these harmful tobacco and nicotine products. which are gaining popularity among children and young adults in the coun-

Misinformed about the risks associated with these products, children and young people are openly

consuming them, under the false assumption that they are less harmful than traditional cigarettes. It is important to note that this misinformation is actively propagated by the large tobacco industry in an attempt to expand its consumer base across various age groups. Malik Imran Ahmed, Country Head of the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids (ČTFK), emphasized that Pakistan currently lacks comprehensive legislation addressing the promotion, sale, and advertisement of e-cigarettes and similar products. He called

upon the government to

take immediate and decisive action to address this issue. Emerging tobacco products encompass a wide range, including nicotine pouches, heated tobacco products (HTPs), vapes, and various flavored options, all of which are readily available online and in markets. Ahmed highlighted that these products are deliberately designed to entice youth, making it im-

Dr. Ziauddin Islam, former Technical Head at the Tobacco Control Cell in the Ministry of Health and

perative to ban them before

they endanger our nation's

children any further.

focal person for the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC), presented alarming statistics on tobacco-related deaths in Pakistan. In 2018 alone, an estimated 160,100 lives were lost due to tobacco use, and this number has continued to rise since

products have inundated the online market through aggressive advertising, promotions, and sales. He urged the government to take strict measures to regulate online platforms and achieve effective tobacco

Dr. Islam underscored

control goals in Pakistan. Additionally, he noted that these harmful products are conspicuously displayed and easily accessible in local shops, major shopping centers, grocery stores, and malls—a deliberate tactic employed by the tobacco industry to lure children into purchasing them.

Khalil Ahmed, Prothat innovative tobacco gram Manager SPARC, declared that the tobacco industry is waging a war on the health and well-being of Pakistan's vouth and children. By introducing a plethora of enticing flavors for e-cigarettes and offering discounts on purchases



ISLAMABAD: Senator Farooq Hamid Naek, Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs presiding over a meeting of the committee at Parliament House.

OPINION Daily Independent Page 04

Daily Soice of Masse. Independent

Saturday September 09, 2023

Waking up

Six hundred billion rupees is not pocket change; not for a country stumbling from one crisis to another as it tries to keep ahead of a possible default.

responsible government's hands, such a be able to improve our worst sum could be utilised for immense public good, such as funding hospitals, establishing schools, creating roads or, simply, paying off national debt.

Yet, if our caretakers are to be believed, this is the ballpark without this isourest, converse, without this isourest, converse, without this isourest, converse, the ballpark without this isourest, converse, convers figure for annual theft and recovery losses in the country's power sector.

Just the scale of it makes it seem like the ultimate scam: how else does one describe some groups of people being allowed for years to consume electricity worth hundreds of billions for free, while the government subsidised this theft either with public funds or by burdening honest citizens with higher costs to pay for others' misdoings.

As long as the government was picking up most of the tab, few were bothered. Now that the burden has started shifting to the public, the inflationweary are asking difficult questions, which the authorities are them Pakistanis, in the struggling to answer.

The caretaker government took them as uncaring and on Wednesday blamed the "jet- out-of-touch with the preblack integrity" of some offic- drives migrants, legal or illeers in the power distribution gal, to attempt to escape network, as well as the at home. Whether the politicised management of power distribution companies, for facilitating this daylight robbery of public resources.

It was a rather incriminating statement to make. The citi- ally turned from bad to zenry has a right to know why nothing was ever done to bring That frequently brings out such elements to book, espe- a low-level panic about tion numbers in both 2020 cially when hundreds of billions recent iteration, that fear was est since 2006 because of rupees in losses were being recorded.

The government has finally resolved to go after the parasitic elements in the power distribution network, and it is hoped that there will be no further delay in securing results.

Meanwhile, it is also promising a three-pronged strategy to minimise theft and recovery losses, which includes In his highly readable book mobilising the police and administration to launch a crackdown in high-theft areas. All of Khawaja gives an account these look good on paper, but of his oath-taking ceremony in Islamabad in August their efficacy can only be 2015. I reproduce excerpts gauged once there are results own words poignant and to discuss.

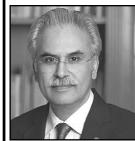
It must be highlighted that views on austerity and ostentation: it will not be easy to overhaul the power sector's recoveries in a short period. The availability of 'free' electricity has likely created significant distortions in local economies where theft and outlandish, ornate robes, a refusal to pay are endemic.

The sudden imposition of high electricity bills in these areas during what is an already fraught economic cli- attire reminded me of the mate will, therefore, cause tended the oath-taking cerconsiderable upheaval, and emonies of the two chief police alone may not be able justices who immediately preceded me. They had to contain the resulting social worn these same robes ... I

However, this cannot be the vility to the pre-indepenreason to keep putting off the exercise. Theft and recovery losses have grown to the hun- trunk with its contents sent dreds of billions because successive governments kept kick- our statute books prescribing a dress code for judges ing the can down the road.

The authorities must now was apparent from this ensure that bill-payers will no incident was the unneceslonger be cheated out of their sary emphasis on ritual and form over substance. The hard-earned money by unscru- pomp, show and extravapulous elements.

In pursuit of quality PHC



Zafar Mirza

My quest for quality primary healthcare (PHC) continues. I see it as a panacea for health development in my country. We will never national health indicators without paying serious, sincere and sustained policy and fiscal attention to PHC. We have abysmal health indicators because we have abysmal PHC.

PHC is the foundation of universal health coverage. Without this footrest, UHC

Somewhere in our minds we have all accepted that PHC means poor healthcare for poor people. And that this poor healthcare can be provided by any untrained health professional. In that sense, poor attention to PHC also reflects the elite nature of our

health sector and society. and Gilgit Baltistan. The elite mindset is pervasive and hence the neglect of PHC is systemic. Governments spend relatively little on PHC; we don't teach PHC to our medical students, nor expose them to its facilities; the discipline of family medicine is not developed enough. In most cases our young doctors have never set foot inside a

PHC facility even after

completing their house jobs.

special assistant to the prime

minister in 2019, I person-

When I took over as a

ally visited BHUs and RHCs —18 of them — in the rural areas of Islamabad Capital Territory. None of them had ever seen a properly appointed doctor and the required staff. Many were deserted or being operated at a very sub-optimal level by whatever staff was available. This was within the radius of a few kilometres from the seat of the federal government. We took some remedial measures. Through PC-Is, the buildings were upgraded and staff was appointed and now the situation is much better. But if this could be the situation in the capital, one can only

In the last two years I have travelled within the country and have visited many kinds of public and private health facilities, health projects and emergency situations. In all this, have been mainly driven

from good practices in PHC.

In the public sector, PHC is developing at a snail's pace and continues to suffer from lack of all kinds of resources. In the commercial private sector, our general practitioners are on their own except for a handful of NGOs working with a few of them on preventive care. Commercial private hospitals, barring a few big ones for the very rich, are out-

right exploiting the patients. Unnecessary prescriptions on the behest of corrupted pharmaceutical marketing, unnecessary and expensive diagnostic tests with set rates of kickbacks for doctors who order them, and even unnecessary and unsafe surgeries are so common in the private health marketplace that it is now considered an accepted norm about which there is no need to even feel guilty!

However, there is a remote parts of Balochistan huge though unquantified matured the art of deliver- developed its system and

not-for-profit sector in health. This sector is unfathomable and comes in all shapes, forms and scale. I have had the privilege of visiting some of them in the last two years. These initiatives are driven by passion fuelled by local and foreign philanthropy and development by my quest to see and learn funds. Most of them are driven so much by a passion for service that they leave behind quality consid-

erations and proper staff

training, as well as give at-

tention to developing sys-

In a recent visit to Karachi en route to Cairo for a WHO expert consultation on PHĈ, I had the privilege to visit two notfor-profit PHC projects and one not-for profit hospital. Visiting these organisations and spending hours in their facilities has given me a great sense of satisfaction and promise and has reinforced my belief that quality PHC can be organised and delivered to poor people in Pakistan, by respecting their dignity and in accordance with their needs.

First, I visited the Sina Health, Education & Welfare Trust which has

ing quality PHC services over the last 25 years. Currently, they are operating 39 PHC centres in the slums of Karachi. All are purpose-built well-designed PHC facilities with a well-trained PHC team and a dedicated facility manager All operations are

managed through an electronic medical record system. There is an in-house pharmacy and diagnostics services are offered. Special emphasis is put on mental health and there are dedicated teams for quality assurance, continuous staff-training, monitoring and research. Two aspects of this operation particularly impressed me: continuous development for improved systems and consciousness of the importance of developing a model of care that is replicable.

Secondly, I visited a similarly high-quality PHC organisation, Shine Humanity, which specialises in delivering quality health services in rural areas. Founded in 2009 by a few Pakistani doctors in the US, the organisation has gradually

currently operates 12 facilities, which include purpose built-fixed facilities, satellite clinics in the more remote rural areas of Sindh and mobile clinics. They also digitally manage the whole operation and have almost all the attributes of the Sina Trust.

Edited with the trial version of

Lastly, I spent half a day at the 200-bedded Koohi Goth Women Hospital in Landhi. It is now much more than a hospital — a sprawling healthcare complex over 14 acres. It is a labour of love. It now houses the largest programme for free midwifery training and a school of nursing. A new 100-bed children's hospital and a medical college are under construction. All health services are completely free and resources are raised through local philanthropists.

Each one of the above examples is so inspiring and promising that they deserve separate articles. Most importantly, I have witnessed quality PHC at work for the underprivileged in Pakistan. How public-sector PHC can incorporate best practices from these PHC models should be the next discussion. -- Courtesy Dawn

Are Pakistanis really leaving?



Dr Ayesha Razzaque

Coming so soon after the tragic news of the sinking of a migrant boat with around 750 souls on board, 350 of Mediterranean Sea off the coast of Greece, people vailing public sentiment that tough economic conditions soundbite was purposefully cut, or the point was inartfully made, it kicked off a public debate on the merits and demerits of emigration in a country like ours.

In the last few years, as the local economy graduworse, more people have been heading for the doors. 'brain drain'. In the most and 2021 were at their low-

underscored by claims of Covid travel restrictions had record emigration in 2023 (never mind the fact that the year is not over yet) and that this time the stream of emigrants is qualitatively differcomprising an unprecedentedly large proportion of educated people.

imagine the situation in the

Fortunately, we do not have to take anyone's word because these are the kinds of claims that can be quantified and for which reasonably authoritative data is available. The Bureau of Emigration and Overseas Employment (BEOE) of the Government of Pakistan maintains and publishes detailed data about emigrants. In the first seven months of this year, 450,000 people have already emigrated. If the current rate holds steady, that is projected to bring the number of emigrants for this year to around 770.000. That would still be significantly less than last year's 832,000. Even if the rate accelerates and the total comes out above that, it would still not be a record. That was in 2015 when

There is also another factor to consider: emigraground all travel, including emigration, to a halt. After travel restrictions were lifted in 2021, the backlog of migrants stuck in the pipeline, which must have been sizable, gradually began working itself out of the system. With oil prices at highs again, post-Covid Gulf economies have been doing very well. Given that more than half of Pakistani migrants move to the Gulf, the 2022 figures should have made a new record. So much for the to-

tal volume of emigrants. But what about the claim that a disproportionate portion of emigrants today are white-collar professionals? Here again, the BEOE distinguishes between five categories: highly qualified, highly skilled, skilled, semi-skilled, and unskilled. In order to not overwhelm the reader, let me collapse the three middle categories into one and call it 'skilled'

What then is the breakup across highly qualified, skilled, and unskilled workers? Among emigrants so far this year, emigrants break across highly qualified, skilled, and unskilled categories 3.0 per cent, 53 per cent, and 44 per cent, respectively. That is almost

the same as 2022's breakup of 2.0 per cent, 55 per cent, and 43 per cent – hardly any difference. It is also very similar to what we saw in 2015, that record-breaking year, when the breakup was 2.0 per cent, 59 per cent, and 39 per cent, respectively. So, counter to public claims, up until July of this year at least, professionals seem to make up the same proportion of emigrants as they have in years past.

Broken down by professions, the largest number by far is contributed by those classified as labourers. followed by drivers, masons, carpenters, technicians, electricians, painters, mechanics, etc. Doctors, engineers, managers, and accountants are almost invisible by comparison. Bottom line: As of July 2023, there is no visible change in the composition of the migrant outflow from Pakistan. Going forward, is it

possible that a lot more people and a lot more whitecollar workers are expressvery well be. Economic conditions right now are the toughest I can remember.

Although white-collar workers continue to make up only a tiny fraction (3.0 tive) will move abroad and Courtesy TheNews

per cent) of all emigrants, this segment has set off fears of brain drain. The IMF's World Economic Outlook puts Pakistan's unemployment rate at 7.0 per cent. A study by the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) put the unemployment rate among Pakistani graduates in 2021 at 16.1, what we can now refer to as the good old times. Another 2022 report by PIDE put the unemployment rate of university graduates among urban

Obviously, the availability and retention of talent is an advantage that opens opportunities. But that advantage by itself is worth nothing if you do not create the right environment to put it to use. A large public university in and other un/undertaxed Islamabad has been making waves on social media bills where they have never ing their wish or intention to emigrate? That might recently for a record number of resignations from its dared to collect them (but continue supply), start the faculty members across departments this year. If

youth at a staggering 31 per

cent. Surely, things have

only gone further downhill

since then, as evidenced by

the rocketing rate of infla-

go on to have successful careers; that has been the trend. This goes to show that it is not a dearth of talent but an unconducive environment that is to

It is not the job of public servants and representatives (caretakers and elected) to encourage or forcibly stop migration. It is also not their job to post streams of pictures of themselves with all the trappings of government. We do not need grand pre-announcements of things about to happen before they have happened. We do not need to see pictures of (usually) men with stern expressions huddling at conference tables until we see some-

thing come from it. If this or any future government is truly concerned about brain drain, it needs to fix the conditions that drive people to leave – tax agriculture, real estate. sectors, collect electricity continue supply), start the long job of fixing public schools and hospitals, etc. we let recent history be our It is time to put its head guide, many of them down and do the unglamorous hard work. --

Crow and the swan



Zubeida Mustafa

Slaughtered Without A Knife, retired chief justice of Pakistan Jawwad S. as readers would find his also appreciate the author's

"[My] oath-taking ceremony was held at the glaringly incongruous Presidential Palace. This was on Aug 17, 2015. A couple of days before that, a steel trunk was delivered to my chamber. It contained pair of shoes with metal as the Seraiki saying goes. The strange, out-of-place occasions when I had atfound the regalia to symbolise obsequious serdence British era which continues to awe us and enchants our imagination ...

"I, therefore, had the back ... there was a law on our statute books prescribmy oath-taking ... [What

showy and pretentious dis-... It was worn by me at plays at the state's expense cannot be justified. A more frugal ceremony would sary emphasis on ritual and gance of the whole ceremony made me think: 'can

this attitude be justified when our governments are approaching all and sundry, with begging bowl in hand? It is a question all public officials, being trustees for the people of Pakistan, need to think about ... "I had gone to the

Presidential Palace for the oath with my friend and driver, Sardar Ali Hasan, in my official car; very functional, though somewhat old. ... For now, after the oath, when I came out of the front entrance of the Presidential Palace, I was surrounded by many fawning officials, but I did not find Sardar.

"I inquired about him and my car, and was shown a large and obviously very expensive one; a top-ofthe-line bullet-proof Mercedes Benz. I was informed that this now was my official vehicle. It was to be accompanied by a convoy of vehicles ... full of security personnel, an ambulance, a vehicle fitted with equipment to detect and disable explosives and a few other vehicles. So, within the two hours or so between my arrival and my departure from the Presidential Palace, I had been transformed from a mortal into a demigod with entitle-

"I told whoever was in charge that I did not want this car and security detail. So, Sardar came with my perfectly functional car in which I returned to the Supreme Court. It is such things as cars, convoys, security details and fawning sycophantic officials, which may help explain how, at times, a perfectly normal and sensible person starts behaving like a megalomaniac. In my view, such

dignified." ostentation Khawaja Sahib writes about continues to be as relevant today as it was back in

have been better and more

2015. Matters are worse given the magnitude of the economic crisis. Egalitarianism remains utopian for those who dream of equal distribution of wealth in society. While the underprivileged starve, their rulers travel with large entourages at state expense in a show of wealth to impress their patrons. But all they manage to do is demonstrate their insensitivity.

Today, when inflation stands at an astounding high of about 30pc, oil is the biggest chunk of Pakistan's impo-rts. Were this to be regulated it would make a profound impact. Are the huge cavalcades as described by the author really necessary? Are the lavish perks (bribe, should we say) that include petrol allowances running into hundreds of litres for senior civil servants essential? My activist friend Naeem Sadiq calculates that the petrol perks to our administrators cost Rs216 billion annually. Is so much petrol needed to transport the high and mi--ghty from one office to another? Obviously this allowance is grossly misused.

More than three decades ago, a prime minister who doesn't figure much in our current political discourse addressed the issue of austerity in official transport. He was Mohammad Khan Junejo who is credited with the words "Mein generals ko bhi Suzuki mein bitha doon ga" ('I'll also seat the generals in Suzukis'). He didn't succeed in his mission and lost his job.

Times have changed and we face an existential crisis today. There must be governments people in our administration who are equally concerned. They must show the moral courage and integrity to emulate Khawaja Sahib. He rejected the luxury offered to him and continued to perform his duties efficiently and honestly, without losing the respect and affection of the people of Pakistan. Courtesy Dawn

Why caretakers?



Syed Saadat

When the PTI government was ousted through a vote of no-confidence. Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari exclaimed: "Welcome to purana Pakistan." Little did we know that the clock would be turned back a little more than desired and we would end up in a very purana Pakistan that closely resembled the Gen Zia era when basic rights were constantly under threat, general elections remained elusive and the will of one man became the law.

Caretaker set-ups are a brainchild of the same era. Gen Zia introduced the idea, which was later endorsed by political governments and passed into law. The reason given then was that a sitting government could manipulate elections in its favour, and therefore, a caretaker government should conduct the elec-

This argument is faulty because a caretaker set-up can be used to engineer elections even more as it is much easier to manipulate hand-picked individuals than elected ones. The fact that by-elections take place without any such setup further highlights the redundancy of caretaker

Ironically, it seems redundant in either case, ie, when an electoral body is fully empowered and independent and when it is not. When the electoral body tasked with conducting the elections is fully empowered, the constitution of the land guarantees enough powers for it to go about its business independently, and when it is not fully ten the case in Pakistan then a caretaker set-up would naturally be under the influence of the same power centre that controls

the election commission.

(maybe deemed unproduc-

Some might argue that if the concept was so useless, why did no elected government get rid of it through appropriate legislation? On the contrary, the recent PDM government enhanced the powers of the caretaker set-up. One can only comment that everything legal is not legitimate and that everything legitimate is not necessarily legal. Also, there is a built-in conflict of interest in politicians empowering the caretaker government, as these set-ups usually allow their lesser politically active relatives to enjoy the perks of being in government if they are hand in glove with the powers that be.

Now let us come to the caretaker alternative, keeping in mind the ground realities of the country. To explore that, we must consider the following questions: who are the people with hands-on experience in running the government? The civil servants obviously. They say bureaucracy is the steel frame of government and composed of unglamorous, boringly dressed individuals who do not have guns or golf courses under their sway but who do make important decisions and keep things from going haywire. Imagine if an empowered bureaucracy had been in place at the time of the IPP agreements; we would not have been crying foul over the botched deals today.

The secretary of a ministry who happens to be a bureaucrat is the person that advises the politically appointed minister in running the ministry. The secretary in turn is advised by his whole team comprising seasoned individuals who have with government affairs in

empowered — which is of- their career. Most of this consultation is written and very well recorded, because that is how the bureaucracy works.

So, in the absence of a political government, like at the end of the term of an elected one, the powers of the minister's office should be delegated to the secretary. Since the individual has a career spanning decades and a reputation to protect, he will not comply with illegal orders. He remains accountable even after his stint is over as he would still be part of the civil service, unlike the selected caretaker ministers who are answerable neither to the public nor to any in-Similarly, the powers

of the chief minister should be delegated to the provincial chief secretary. The highest political offices should remain vacant till the elected representatives of the people occupy them. This arrangement would also ensure the sanctity of the highest office of the government. Just like the army chief or the chief justice of the Supreme Court cannot be selected from a pool of absolutely random individuals, the highest political offices in the country should stay vacant till the representatives of the people are elected. One can argue that any outgoing political government will appoint civil servants of their choice in such positions but since the Election Commission is fully empowered to make transfers and postings, this can be easily reversed.

Lastly, a question for all readers. Who is more likely to make better caregivers, those who actually are selected, trained and groomed for such a role over the course of their careers, or any Tom, Dick and Harry selected on the basis of individual loyalties spent a lot of time dealing and sycophancy? I rest my case. -- Courtesy Dawn

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Universities must allocate 5pc income for scholarships: Baligh

Urges teachers to play their role in developing students abilities as well as making best human beings

Independent Report FAISALABAD: Punjab Governor Muhammad Balighur Rehman has said that universities must allocate 5 percent of their income for scholarships, exclusively for the deserving students in order to utilize their talent for the expeditious growth of Pakistan. He expressed these views while presiding over the 50th meeting of the Senate of University of Agriculture Faisalabad (UAF). In the meeting, the budget of UAF for the financial year 2023-24 worth Rs 20 billion was

approved. Addressing the UAF Senate meeting, the Governor said the youth are valuable assets who have to take up the rein of the future of the country. He said the government economy was taking all possible

steps for ensuring quality education and knowledgebased economy. He said that atmosphere of intolerance in society was increasing for which "we have to promote an environment of tolerance, love and respect for differences of opinion."
He said that in 2008,

the then government allocated a budget of Rs13 billion for education, which was increased to Rs120 billion by 2018. However, in 2019, it was reduced to only Rs61 billion. He said that the

Technology Transfer Fund had been established in 2013-14 to provide indigenous solutions to the industry as well as promote innovation, which was essential towards knowledge-based

UAF Vice Chancellor

said that the university was providing scholarships to more than 7,000 students while teaching assistants, on-hour working and other facilities are also available for those students who were facing financial difficulties.

He said that in UAF no student leaves education due to financial constraint, as ample educational scholarships are available. He said that the UAF was taking all possible measures to find a local solution to the problems of agriculture. He said that the University of Agriculture is working not only at the national level but also with international institutions on education and research issues and running international projects like Center Advanced Studies.

AC approves

of Bhatti

Accountability Court approved the physical remand of Chaudhry

Court has also sought

Judge Naseem Ahmed

investigation report of

Virk, Admin of Lahore

Accountability Court

heard the application of

NAB for physical remand

of Mohammad Khan

Bhatti.NAB Lahore had

requested for physical remand of Mohammad

approved physical remand

of Mohammad Khan

Bhatti till 13th September.

accused to appear before

court again on September

13 and also called

investigation report of the

accused. While talking to

journalists informally in

courtroom Mohammad

Khan Bhatti said that I am

innocent. I have told all

facts to investigating

officers and honorable

court will also do justice

LHC orders

de-sealing

of 10 theatres

The court ordered

Khan

Bhatti.Court

accused on next hearing.



PESHAWAR: MOU signed between SBBWU and Dosti Welfare Organization during the launching ceremony of Dosti Peshawar's Women's Literature Festival 1st Edition at Governor House.

CM praises arrangements for urs, chehlum events

LAHORE (APP): Punjab involved. He further Caretaker Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi extended his commendation to the commissioners, RPOs, provincial ministers, administration, police and associated departments for Punjab in maintaining a excentional arrangements concerning

the chelum of Hazrat Imam Hussain (RA), urs of Hazrat Data Gani Bakhsh (RA) and cricket matches. He specifically lauded

Provincial Minister Azfar Ali Nasir and his team for their remarkable efforts in facilitating devotees during Hazrat Data Ganj Bakhsh

Acknowledging the relentless commitment of Inspector General of Police and his force in ensuring foolproof security, the chief minister also praised commendable performance of the Cabinet Committee for Law and Order, Commissioner of Lahore Division, CCPO, DIG Operations, Deputy

highlighted the round-theefforts clock deputy commissioners, and DPOs throughout peaceful atmosphere.

Mohsin Naqvi noted historic moment, emphasising that Provincial Minister for Augaf Azfar Ali Nasir stayed at Data Darbar for an uninterrupted three days, overseeing the urs arrangements. attributed the peaceful conduct of chehlum

processions congregations, urs celebrations, matches, and Defence commemorations to the grace of Allah Almighty and the wholehearted

government In reflection, Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi expressed the belief that effective coordination and teamwork invariably yield

endeavours of the Punjab



LAHORE: Members Kisan Rabta Committee holds protest in the favor of their demands outside press club in Provincial Capital.

Relief cheque for Jaranwala incident victims handed over to George Ghulam

Executive of Paraplegic Center Peshawar, Dr. Syed Muhammad Ilyas, during a simple but impressive ceremony at Hayatabad Peshawar on Friday, handed over a donation cheque to George Ghulam, priest of the Diocese of Peshawar, for the victims of the Jardanwala tragedy.

These donations were collected employees and volunteers of the Center during a campaign for helping out the affected Christian brethren. A large number of Christian community leaders and center employees participated in

On this occasion, Dr. Ilyas clarified that the purpose of the ceremony was to express solidarity and brotherhood with the grieved on it.

PESHAWAR (APP): Chief Christian community over the tragic incident of Jaranwala, because, he said, as humanity, the hearts of people of both religions beat the same.

He said that the officers, doctors, junior staff and volunteers of the Paraplegic Center collected donations beyond their means to heal the wounds of their Christian sisters and brothers in today's era of extreme inflation, which was a bright example of sacrifice.

Dr. Ilyas said that homes properties of many Christian people were damaged in this incident and the entire Muslim Ummah in general and the Muslims of Pakistan in particular were deeply

PESHAWAR (APP): A that meeting of Galiyat department was making allphysical remand chairmanship of Caretaker Provincial Minister for department should provide Archaeology

Archaeology and the public so that tourists Information & Public could enjoy the facilities of Relations Barrister Feroze the northern region. He said Jamal Shah Kakakhel here that good governance on Friday. During the should be followed and Parvez Elahi's right-hand meeting, the Director proper sanitation man Mohammad Khan General (DG) GDA Wasif campaigns should be made Bhatti till September 13 in Rs100 billion corruption about the performance of a priority for a clean and green Khyber functions. Speaking on this the elimination of the occasion, the minister said culture of nepotism

Development Authority out efforts to provide the (GDA) was held under the best facilities to the Culture, various opportunities to

The governor said investment came to the that if the confidence of the country, the economy would improve. The governor said

He said that if the

industrialists and traders was restored, the economic the dollar will gradually activities would improve.

Come down in the next few

Karachi had been that he had requested the Caretaker Prime Minister to focus on Karachi and he would go to Islamabad for follow-up of assurances on

privatization.

ignored for the last several decades, he said, adding press conference at that the armed forces were Goernor House here, he ready to fight economic Monday. He said that diplomats could be taken into confidence to resolve the problem of IPPs.He terrorism along with border terrorism.

taken to provide relief to community. the people. Tessori said that that
Chief Executive of the PIA was in loss and

FAISALABAD: Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman

presiding over the 50th meeting of the Senate of University of

Dollar to gradually

come down during next

few day: Governor

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Governor Mohammed Authority of Pakistan preparations had been Kamran Khan Tessori on (TDAP) Zubair Motiwala completed for its

was also present on the

occasion

Govt making efforts

to facilitate tourists:

Feroze Jamal

. Agriculture Faisalabad (UAF).

Friday said that the

economic situation was

improving due to the

caretaker government's

He said, 'The value of

While addressing a

said that efforts were being

made to resolve the issues

decisions in the country.

of the business community and measures were being will stand by the business hoped that the caretaker

Prime Minister would give relief up to 300 units. Sadiqabad police arrest two robbers,

street criminals

RAWALPINDI (INP): In an operation against criminal elements, Rawalpindi Police have busted a gang and arrested two robbers and street recovering Rs 520,000 cash, a motorcycle, and other items from their possession.

According to a police spokesman, Sadiqabad Police arrested two accused namely Hamdan and Aqib about the performance of green Khyber Rasheed, who were the authority and its Pakhtunkhwa. He directed allegedly involved in various robberies, and street crime cases



of Bahria College during their visit to Jinanh Naval Base Omara on Commemoration of 58th anniversary of 'Navy Day'

The state counsel

The petitioner has

replied no commission has

taken plea in the court basic

constitutional rights of the

Christians were affected in

Jaranwala incident.

procedure in place.

been constituted so far.

LHC directs CS Punjab to decide within 15 days the application seeking constitution of JC

LAHORE (APP): The LAHORE (Online): On the plea seeking constitution of Judicial Lahore High Court (LHC) on Friday ordered the desealing of ten commercial Commission (JC) to inquire theatres of Lahore division. into Jaranwala incident, The court ordered to Lahore High Court (LHC) de-seal theatres including has directed chief secretary Punjab to take decision

The learned judge

Naz theatre, Mahfil The petition came up adopted for investigation for hearing before single bench of LHC led by Justice Sajid Mehmood Sethi here Friday theatre, Sitara theatre, Virsa theatre, Sangam theatre, Gulistan theatre, Ravi theatre and Nagina theatre. The court also Sethi here Friday.

ordered relevant authorities to decide the application of theatre owners within 7 days while observing that theatres should be opened till decision of relevant authorities and if there were any complaints against them, then action should be taken in

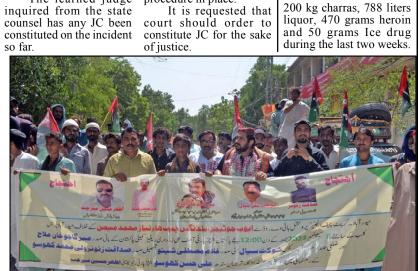
accordance with the law. Justice Raheel Kamran passed the orders on a petition filed by theatre owners challenging the closure of theatres by the provincial government.

It is pertinent to mention here that the Punjab government had sealed the theatres over violation of the Drama Act, in the last week of August. The government had initiated a crackdown against 'vulgarity' in commercial theatres and sealed them over hosting unethical dances.

13 drug peddlers, bootleggers arrested RAWALPINDI (INP):

Rawalpindi police in an action against suspected drug peddlers, bootleggers and other lawbreakers here on Friday arrested 13 accused besides recovering 1620 grams heroin, over eight kg charras, 30 bottles of liquor, a pistol and other from items their possession.

According to a police spokesperson, during the crackdown launched against drug peddlers and bootleggers, Rawalpindi district police arrested 246 expect justice from the accused and recovered over 200 kg charras, 788 liters liquor, 470 grams heroin and 50 grams Ice drug



HYDERABAD: Workers PPP Release Committee hold a protest against officials of Highways Division, in City.

Caretaker CM distributes financial assistance in tribesmen

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Muhammed Azam Khan on Friday distributed financial assistance from his special funds amongst the deserving people of the newly merged districts.

It is pertinent to mention here that certain deserving people had requested the Chief Minister for financial assistance during his weekly meetings with the people of tribal districts, and he had decided to assist the needy people from compassionate grounds.

Talking on the occasion, the chief minister said that he was fully aware of the issues and difficulties being faced by the people of newly merged districts, and the caretaker provincial government was taking all in resolving the problems possible steps to resolve of the tribal districts.

He maintained that progress is being made on resolving the issues pointed out during the weekly meetings adding that all the genuine problems and issues would

be resolved one by one. The tribal people have faced a lot of hardships and multiple challenges for a long time, he remarked and assured that the provincial government is going all out to address the issues of merged areas.

He made it clear that government is committed to continue to support the tribal people as well as to resolve their problems on a sustainable basis adding that no stone would be left unturned to this effect. The tribal people on this occasion thanked the Chief Minister for taking a keen interest



members are joyfully celebrating the Ramakrishna festival on the banks of the Indus River.

Health minister reveals successful completion of prisoners' screening LAHORE (APP): Punjab and to curbing the spread

Minister for Primary and Secondary Healthcare Dr Jamal Nasir has revealed that the department had critical task of blood screening for AIDS, hepatitis, and other diseases for a substantial cohort of 52,000 inmates in 43 prisons throughout the province.

achievement by the Punjab Health Department. This services being provided to effectiveness of existing incarcerated individuals preventive measures.

of infectious diseases institutions. Dr. Nasir also unveiled the upcoming successfully completed the training, which will equip field teams to collect vital data on the social profiles of individuals affected by hepatitis and AIDS. Furthermore, these teams will conduct essential blood tests in selected In an address during districts across Punjab and the inaugural ceremony of Balochistan. Dr. Nasir a seven-day training camp elaborated on a pioneering at the Health Services pilot project underway, Academy here on Friday, aiming to completely he shared the remarkable eliminate hepatitis within Rawalpindi. He emphasised initiative that the survey results reflected the commitment regarding AIDS and hepatitis of the department to patients would serve as a enhancing healthcare litmus test for the

KP IGP inaugurates Command & Control Center in DIKhan

(APP): Inspector General of Police (IGP) Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Akhtar Hayat Khan Friday inaugurated the Command and Control Center established at District Police Officer in Dera Ismail Khan.

Regional Officer Dera Nasir Mehmood Satti gave a detailed briefing to Inspector General of Police KP Akhtar Hayat Khan city, markets

about the Command and control center.

RPO while giving the

briefing said that with the help of 300 cameras equipped with modern technology in the command and control center. A wide network has been established, through which 24-hour sensitive places of Dera city, security of government offices, central jail, police lines, four bazaars in the center of the



KARACHI: A view of traffic jam at Hasan square.

May 9 violence: ATC remands 8 accused in police custody

LAHORE (APP): An anti- He submitted that after terrorism court (ATC) on Friday handed over eight accused, involved in the Askari Tower attack case, to police on 6-day physical

Earlier, the police produced the accused, Irfan Ahmad, Yar Gul, Raja Samiullah, Muhammad Ahmad, Altaf Hussain, Ansari, Muhammad Umar and Mirza Arslan Baig, before ATC Judge Abher Gul Khan on completion of their identification

The investigation officer submitted that the accused were involved in into hiding to avoid arrest. during the May 9 violence.

arrest, the accused were identification, wherein they had been identified. He pleaded with the court to grant physical remand of accused investigations.

At this, the court allowed the plea and handed over the accused to police on 6-day physical remand. The court directed the police for producing the accused on the expiry of the remand term, September

The Gulberg police had registered a case against Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf leaders and workers over the case but they had gone attacking Askari Tower

Page 06

Collective efforts vital to put country in right direction: Aneeq

LAHORE (APP): everyone with help in caretaker Federal Minister for Religious Affairs and caretaker minister said that caretaker mini Commerce and Industry (LCCI), said here on Friday that as a nation, collective efforts were required to put the country in the right

He said, "Pakistanis are peace-loving people and we welcome people with open heart." He said all segments of society felt pain of the Jaranwala incident. He said the Pakistan flag was incomplete if white part To a question, he said that people should love each other, which was a was missing in it.

Aneeq Ahmad said, "Our religious scholars open doors of mosques for progressive religion, it country's economy. welcomes people and tells

He said at present presented souvenir to the them that Islam provides there were 901 Hajj caretaker minister.

Interfaith Harmony Aneeq the country was passing Ahmad, during a visit to through difficult times, and Lahore Chamber of added that nations did face crises and challenges in their lives. There was need to help people get rid of distress, the minister said adding that strategies were being evolved which would yield good results. He said that sincerity and capability were present in society, and just a little bit

> overcome challenges. To a question, he said message of Pakistan for India and its people.

patience was required to

To another query, he said that strengthening of their Christian brothers religious tourism would just to tell that Islam is a yield positive impact on

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Kazakhstan to Pakistan Rezhan Kistafin addressing during the conference entitled "Political and Economic

National Productivity

Organization said that

Productivity training in

SouthEast Asian Nation

(ASEAN) countries had

achieved economic miracles

only by working on industrial productivity.

modern transformation of

Indonesia was possible

only with the productivity

and in 100 years of its

independence, by 1945,

Indonesia will be among

of various trade unions/

trade associations like All

Pakistan Anjuman-e-

Tajiran, Anjuman-e-Tajran

Rawalpindi, Markazi

Anjuman-e-Tajran, and

members of business

community were present

emphasized that the

economic policy that would help the business

community and the investors to make long-term business and

investment plans in Pakistan. He further urged

that all political parties

should present their

economic manifestoes to

give a clear direction to the

business community about

should 10-year

on the occasion.

government

formulate a

Ahsan

from government. Indonesia is a \$1trillion economy today

Abdul Hafid said that

Productivity master

Transformation" at local hotel on 07-08-2023 in Federal Capital.

Indonesian productivity

experts appreciates Pak

productivity drive

productivity drive in Pakistan was a good step

Pakistan as important for which should be continued.

s u s t a i n a b l e trainer Abdul Hafid said

development. The that Association of

Fianto and Yohan Petmata, the 10 largest economies in

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for

Communications, Railways and Maritime Affairs

Shahid Ashraf Tarar meeting with US Ambassador

Charter of Economy needed

to ensure long-term business

policies: President ICCI

who came to Pakistan on the world, he said.

strong

Indonesian productivity

experts on Friday declared

the industrial and economic

good and economic

potential of industrial and

economic development in

Pakistan is high, in which

industrial productivity is

extremely important, and

Pakistan can become

through this, senior official

from Ministry of

Manpower from Indonesia

and Productivity master

trainer Abdul Hafid told

trainers Abdul Hafid, Arif

Productivity master

to Pakistan Donald Blome.

ISLAMABAD (INP): President, Islamabad

President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and

Industry (ICCI) Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari has

stressed that all political

parties should agree to sign

a Charter of Economy in

order to ensure long-term

business and economic

policies that would help

attract local and foreign

investment, facilitate the

growth of trade and

industrial activities, boost

exports and revive the

economy. This was stated by him while addressing a

reception hosted in his

honor by Sardar Yasir Ilyas

Khan, former President

ICCI and CEO Centaurus

Mall, Islamabad on Friday.

The prominent business

leaders of the twin cities

economically

APP here.

the number to 200 for proper management.

Regarding question about hoarding of dollars, Aneeq Ahmad said that country's interest was above personal interests and hoarding was not a good practice at all. He said that 52 topics of different subjects had been prepared which would be discussed during the Juma prayers across country.
Aneeq Ahmad said

that he was happy to visit the LCCI and good facilities were being offered here to the members and their families. He said, "We all are brother and there should be no differences based on sects."

LCCI President

Kashif Anwar also

Pak, Egypt

reiterate

resolve to

boost bilateral

coop. in diverse

sectors

ISLAMABAD (INP)

Pakistan and Egypt have

reiterated their resolve for

further expanding trade ties

and boosting cooperation

The speakers expressed the resolve at a

conference organized by Embassy of Pakistan in

Egypt. in collaboration

with Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Addressing the conference as chief guest,

Minister for Public

Business Sector of Egypt,

expressed desire to boost

cooperation in various

agriculture, energy, housing, tourism, textile and food.He also stressed

the need to create new

Pakistan to Egypt Sajid Bilal highlighted the efforts

of the Government of

Pakistan to attract foreign

investment especially from

the brotherly countries through the formation of

Gold price in

drops for fifth

consecutive day

KARACHI (INP): Gold

price in Pakistan continued its downward spiral for the

fifth consecutive day on

Friday as rupee maintained

dollar. According to All-Pakistan Sarafa Gems and

Jewellers Association

(APSGJA), the domestic

price of the yellow metal

(24 karat) lost Rs4,000 per

tola and Rs3,430 per 10

grams to settle at Rs212,500and Rs182,184,

per tola. In the

international market, the

price of the precious metal increased by \$2 to \$1,923

per ounce. It is pertinent

to mention here that the

Pakistani rupee continued

respectively.

Facilitation Council.

Investment

avenues for investments.

Ambassador

Esmat

including

the two countries.

The

in Cairo.

Mahmoud

agriculture,

sectors

Special



posing for group photo graph along with others after visits Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) in Provincial Capital.

Tarar, Donald discuss matters of mutual interest

had been benefiting from

locomotives provided by

Electric

ISLAMABAD (APP): that the Pakistan Railways Caretaker Federal Minister for Communications, Railways and Maritime Affairs Shahid Ashraf Tarar and United States (US) Ambassador to Pakistan Donald Blome on Friday discussed matters of mutual interest.

In a meeting, the minister said that Pak-US bilateral relations had evolved from security to other fields such as trade railway line had been and investment, science affected by floods at and technology, climate change and sustainable development, health and certain vulnerable points and the US could cooperate with the Pakistan Railways education.

He expressed his profound desire to strengthen the relations

has expressed its keen

interest in strengthening

cooperation with Pakistan

Minister Nikolay Shulginov held a meeting

with Pakistan's outgoing

envoy Shafqat Ali Khan in

connection with his

completion of tenure in

thanked Shafqat Ali Khan

for fruitful cooperation in

the Russian-Pakistani

Intergovernmental

Commission, co-chaired by

our joint work, much has

been done, including thanks

of the specifics of Russian-

"Over the years of

Nikolai Shulginov.

The Russian minister

The Russian Energy

in the energy sector.

the US, and based on their vitality, another order had been placed recently. Similarly, Tarar Similarly, Tarar mentioned, Tarbela and

General

Mangla dams were also symbols of Pakistan-US cooperation He further stated that

the Karachi-Peshawar to reclaim the tracks and secure them from future devastation.

He further apprised based on development that Pakistan had entered cooperation. He affirmed into successful

look forward to a further

productive energy dialogue

between Russia and Pakistan," Nikolai Shulginov was quoted as

saying. The two sides also

discussed key issues of the

current bilateral energy

cooperation. In particular

the Russian minister noted

that it was necessary to

accelerate the creation of a

working group for the

preparation and further

implementation of a

further stressed that

Russia was interested in

holding multilateral

negotiations with the

participation of the

Pakistani side to work out

transport corridor.

Nikolay Shulginov

Russia seeks more productive

energy talks with Pakistan

MOSCOW (INP): Russia Pakistani cooperation. We

the field of energy, as well comprehensive plan for the

as for the work carried out development of the gas

to your deep understanding issues on the international

within the framework of industry in Pakistan.

international agreements in Gwadar and the country was attracting foreign investments from global partners.

Tarar said Pakistan had played a vital role in COP-27, and was striving to comply with the environmental standards issued by the Climate Conference, in all sectors.

The US ambassador said the focus had shifted from Pakistan's bordering and tribal areas to floodaffected areas of Northern Sindh and South Punjab.

Furthermore possibilities were being explored for providing clean drinking water and rehabilitation of damaged infrastructure in those areas, he added.

SBP suspends authorization of Usman Intl

Bank of Pakistan, on Friday, suspended authorization of Usman International Exchange Company-B (Pvt) Limited on charges of serious violations of regulations and instructions of the central bank.

KARACHI (APP): State

authorization of an Exchange Company-B, namely M/s Usman International Exchange Company-B suspended with immediate effect. The B category exchange company, its head office, and all branches have been debarred from undertaking any kind of business activity during the

suspension period, it

Exchange Co

According to a statement issued here,



Friday Flea Market in Ganjmandi area of the City.

Ambassador Haque says: Pakistan to attract tech companies to set up manufacturing units

BEIJING (APP): Pakistan its recovery against the US is committed to its "Digital Pakistan" vision, tapping into its young and enterprising population and have established the Special Technology Zone Authority to attract tech companies to set up research and development centers and manufacturing In five days, gold units in Pakistan, said price in Pakistan has Pakistan Ambassador to plummeted by Rs26,600

China, Moin ul Haque. Under the China Pakistan Corridor (CPEC) framework, we have launched China-Pakistan Digital, Green, and Health Corridors to harness the potential of our two

said while speaking at an International conference titled "China-Pakistan Science, Technology and Innovation Cooperation-Shared Journey to a Digital

The conference was held on the sidelines of 2023 China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS) at China National Convention Center in

Beijing.
"We are establishing our Economic linkages between our academic institutions, research organizations and IT companies for practical implementation of our vision and for going forward on a shared

NTDC endeavour to ensure smooth power supply in winter

MIRPUR (AJK) (APP): National Transmission and Despatch Company Limited (NTDC) head Engr. Dr. Rana Abdul Jabbar Khan has issued directives to the engineers of Asset Management (North) to develop a maintenance plan for transmission lines and grid stations.

"The aim is to enhance the reliability of the system and ensure a smooth power supply during winter and adverse weather conditions", the media wing of NTDC told APP Friday evening.

Managing Director of the organisation Engr. Dr. Rana Abdul Jabbar Khan emphasized that washing, replacement of insulators, and other maintenance work must be completed before the foggy / winter season.The NTDC Chief was addressing a large gathering of engineers from Asset Management North at WAPDA House. In addition, MD NTDC inaugurated the Transmission Line Monitoring System.

APO's role in driving inclusive, innovation-led productivity growth lauded

ISLAMABAD (APP): Senior Vice President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) Faad Waheed here on Friday praised the Asian Productivity Organization's (APO) role Asia-Pacific's development while emphasising the need to renew our commitment to inclusive, innovation-led productivity growth. He said while addressing the closing ceremony of a fiveday training program on "Assessor of the Productivity Specialist Certification Program", welcomed international delegates and expressed gratitude to APO and the National

(NPO) for addressing this crucial topic. National **Productivity Organization** (NPO), in collaboration Asian Productivity Organization Movement.

(APO), in Tokyo, Japan has organized the training program. Faad Waheed highlighted the potential of working together with APO to find solutions to long-standing productivity challenges in Pakistan. The program would help in promoting the cause of producing Certified Productivity Professionals in Pakistan to support and propagate the agenda of creating a productivity improvement culture in Pakistan. He further said the that to meet the current productivity challenges of Pakistan and to achieve sustainable productivity and economic growth, NPO Pakistan is closely working with APO Tokyo.

Productivity Organization Program Officer, APO Japan Zafarullah Khan expressed his gratitude to the government of Pakistan for their sincere efforts to continue the Productivity



SIALKOT: Chairman PGMEA Muhammad Ejaz Ch. presenting a shield to Jeremy Wang-Country Manager Pakistan Alibaba.com from China.

PCJCCI proposes growing disease-free varieties of Chinese potatoes

ISLAMABAD (INP): highlighting that Pakistan is Pakistan-China Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCJCCI) has proposed to grow Chinese varieties of potatoes to enhance disease free production.

PCJCCI leaders during a think-tank session at the PCJCCI Secretariat -Lahore mentioned that Chinese potato varieties were known for their resistance to pests and diseases, making them a aluable resource for Pakistan to enhance its previous fiscal year.

a significant potato exporter and self-sufficient in domestic potato consumption, Gwadar Pro Moazzam Ghurki,

President of the joint chamber, noted that recent floods had caused extensive damage to various crops in Pakistan, but potato production had risen to 7.937 million tonnes in the fiscal year 2022-23, a 35 percent increase from 5.8/3 million tonnes

This growth was They suggested the attributed to the fact that establishment and promotion of Tissue-Culture Laboratories, Punjab, a major potato-producing region, was unaffected by the floods.

Politicians engaged in blame game on sugar crisis: President PEW

President of Pakistan Economy Watch (PEW) Dr. Murtaza Mughal said on Friday that leading politicians from different political parties are trading accusations on the sugar crisis which has engulfed the whole country.

In a statement issued nere, he said, "This blame game is a fixed match as all the stakeholders have penefited from the crisis in which the poor masses lost oillions of rupees."

Dr. Murtaza Mughal said that now the rhetoric the public, which was opportunity.

insufficient to convince the masses struggling amid runaway inflation.

Like all the mafias in the country, the sugar mafia also enjoys influence in the corridors of power, he added.He further stated that they have agents in political, bureaucratic, and all other important circles, and if any action was ever taken against them, they get immediate relief.

For many decades, statements of controlling the sugar mafia have been made frequently, but these rhetorical was being used to deceive politicians give them an



SIALKOT: A vendor arranging and displaying fruits to seek attention of customers at his roadside setup.

Weekly inflation in Pak soars to 26.32 pc: PBS

ISLAMABAD (INP): The report issued by Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) on Friday stated that weekly inflation, measured by the Sensitive Price Indicator (SPI), witnessed an increase of 0.96 percent during the week ended on September 7.

The PBS data stated that the SPI for the week under review in the abovementioned group was recorded at 279.87 points as compared to 277.21 points during the past

During the week, out of 51 items, the prices of 32 items increased, 05 items decreased and 14 items remained stable. As per details, the

items, which recorded a

decrease in their average prices on a week-on-week (WoW) included chicken (3.20%), cooking oil 5 liters (1.03%), vegetable ghee 2.5 kg (0.47%), tea packet (0.43%) and vegetable ghee 1 kg (0.14%). The items which recorded an increase in their average prices on a week-on-week.



of Mango Festival in Urumqi, Xinjiang, China, presiding over a meeting of the Senate Special Committee at Parliament House.

Independent

Saturday September 09, 2023 International News

Page 07

G20 gathers in India with China's President Xi absent

Monitoring Desk NEW DELHI: G20 leaders descended on New Delhi on Friday, with deep divisions between heavyweight members and Chinese President Xi Jinping's noshow calling the bloc's rel-

evance into question.
The G20 was conceived in the throes of the 2008 financial crisis as a way of managing the global

However, finding consensus among members has been increasingly difficult in recent years.

With several leaders already in New Delhi spruced up and partly emptied of people for the occa-- hosts India were scrambling for agreement on pressing issues like the Ukraine war, climate and global governance.

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi has painted the summit as his country's diplomatic coming of age

evidence of New Delhi's clout and prestige on the global stage

But that notion was called into question by rival leader Xi, who pointedly decided to skip the meeting and send his number two, Premier Li Qiang,

No official reason was given for the absence, but Xi has chastised Modi about a deadly China-India border dispute and been open about making US-led groupings like the G20 more amenable to Beijing's interests. As the summit takes place, Xi will host the leaders of Venezuela and Zambia in Beijing.

Modi — sensing an opportunity to burnish his credentials as a statesman ahead of a re-election tilt early next year — has thrust himself front and centre of proceedings. His image adorns countless G20 billboards and posters plas-

A failure of G20 leaders to agree on a joint sum-

tered around Delhi.

mit statement, a usually routine diplomatic affair, could be seen as an embarrassment for India and for Modi's claim of uniting developing and richer mem-Modi looks set to se-

cure at least one concrete step in that direction with several leaders expressing support for expanding the bloc into the "G21" and including the African Union as a permanent member.

elsewhere, But Ukraine appears to be a key sticking point, and who pays for efforts to heal the world's rapidly heating cli-

'Have a little bit of patience," senior Indian diplomat Amitabh Kant said today, insisting that a text would be put to leaders for them to decide



Nations Nikki Haley speaks during a campaign town hall meeting in Claremont, New Hampshire, U.S.

North Korea says new sub has nuclear attack capabilities

Monitoring Desk SEOUL: North Korea launched its first "tactical nuclear attack submarine'

Friday, according to state The diesel-powered submarine, dubbed "Hero Kim Kun Ok" and based on though heavily modified, is the Soviet Romeo class, can based on 1950s Soviet-oricarry nuclear-tipped missiles, crucial to counter the siles, crucial to counter the U.S. Navy in the region, North Korean leader Kim

Jong Un said. 'The submarinelaunching ceremony heralded the beginning of a new chapter for bolstering up the naval force of the DPRK," state media said Friday. It is believed to have 10 missile tubes, four larger than the others, which North Korean media said are capable of firing mis-

Monitoring Desk

SHANGHAI: Microsoft

researchers said on Thurs-

day they found what they

believe is a network of

fake, Chinese-controlled

social media accounts

seeking to influence US voters by using artificial

intelligence.
A Chinese embassy

spokesperson in Washing-

ton said that accusations of

China using AI to create fake

social media accounts were

"full of prejudice and mali-

cious speculation" and that

China advocates for the

port, Microsoft said the

social media accounts were

part of a suspected Chinese

information operation. The

campaign bore similarities

to activity which the US

Department of Justice has

attributed to "an elite group

within (China's) Ministry

of Public Security, Microsoft said.

The researchers did

In a new research re-

safe use of AI.

siles from underwater.

China using AI to sway

US voters, alleges Microsoft

Monitoring Desk shared doubts that the new submarine would significantly bolster North Korea's naval threat, say-

poor and outdated. "This submarine, Nevertheless, in terms of complicating the targeting challenges that the U.S. and its allies will face, the submarine will serve North Korea's purposes," Ankit Panda, an expert with the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, told

ing the Soviet design the

submarine is based on is

The Associated Press. Kim outlined a need to modify the country's existing naval forces to handle nuclear weapons, describing a nuclear-armed navy as Defense analysts an "urgent task."

media platforms were af-

fected, but screenshots in

their report showed posts

from what appeared to be

Facebook and Twitter, now

a fraught social media en-

vironment as Americans

prepare for the 2024

presidential election. The

US government has ac-

cused Russia of meddling

limited examples of the re-

cent activity and did not

explain in detail how re-

searchers attributed the

person said that the

company's researcher used

a "multifaceted attribution

model," which relies on

behavioural evidence and

A Microsoft spokes-

evidence.

influence voters.

posts to China.

'technical

The report highlights

known as X.

White House to **Reduce Aviation** Close Calls

WASHINGTON: The White House will announce on Friday \$26 million in new funding to improve U.S aviation safety after a series of potentially catastrophic

near-miss incidents this year, officials told Reuters. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) will spend \$10 million to improve controller situational awareness and reduce runway close-calls by deploying surface surveillance systems to additional airports.

Last month, there was a near collision in August between a Southwest Airlines (LUV.N) Boeing 737 and a Cessna Citation 560X business jet in San Diego. The National Transportation Safety Board has been investigating seven runway incursion events since January. Officials said the FAA will also spend \$8 million to expand its terminal automation system to prevent incorrect runway landings.

Top French court upholds ban on abaya in schools

Monitoring Desk PARIS: France's top ad-

ministrative court on Thursday upheld a government ban on traditional over-garments worn by some Muslim women in schools and rejected complaints it was discriminatory and could incite hatred

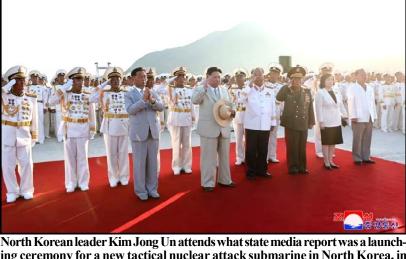
President Emmanuel in the 2016 election with Macron's government ana covert social media campaign and has warned of nounced last month it was banning the abaya in subsequent efforts by schools as it broke the rules China, Russia and Iran to on secularism in education. The report provided

Muslim headscarves have already banned on the ground that they constitute a display of religious affili-

An association repre senting Muslims filed a motion with the State Council France's highest court for complaints against state authorities, for an injunction against the ban on the abaya and the qamis, its equivalent dress for men.



Palestinian fishermen unload their catch from their nighttime fishing trip at the seaport in Gaza City.



ing ceremony for a new tactical nuclear attack submarine in North Korea, in this picture released by North Korea's Korean Central News Agency (KCNA).

G20 leaders can stop climate breakdown, but rules must change, U.N. chief says

Monitoring Desk NEW DELHI: U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said G20 leaders have the power to reset a climate crisis that is "spinning out of control" and urged them to reshape global financial rules which he described as outdated and

The climate crisis is worsening dramatically but the collective response is lacking in ambition, credibility, and ur-

Monitoring Desk

Record numbers of children

are making perilous journeys through Latin America

and the Caribbean, often

alone, and from countries as

far away as Asia and Africa, the U.N. children's agency

said Thursday. UNICEF

said in a Child Alert that in

the past three years the pro-

portion of children moving

along the major migration

routes in Latin America and

the Caribbean has climbed

to a record high of 25%, up

from 19% in 2019. Globally,

children make up 13% of

people on the move and the

numbers in Latin America

NATIONS:

UNICEF says:

on the move through Latin

America and the Caribbean

speech in the Indian capital New Delhi, which is chairing the G20 this weekend.

Guterres asked the G20 to commit to keeping the "1.5 degree goal alive" - referring to the 2015 Paris Agreement goal of limiting the global average temperature rise to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels, and aiming for 1.5°

"I have put forward a Climate Solidarity Pact – in which big emitters make extra efforts to cut emis-

grant population, it said.

tries support emerging economies to achieve this," Guterres said.

The plan urges developed countries to reach netzero as close as possible to 2040, and emerging economies as close as possible to 2050, proposing a phase out of coal by 2030 in OECD countries and 2040 in all others.

"The climate crisis is spiralling out of control. But G20 countries are in control." he said.

Ukraine's A record numbers of children are **Zelenskiy says Putin killed** mercenary boss Prigozhin **Monitoring Desk** Africa where children also

KYIV: Ukrainian President

account for 25% of the mi-Volodymyr Zelenskiy said on Friday Russian leader The driving forces behind child migration are nu-Vladimir Putin was behind the death of mutinous mermerous and complex, encompassing factors such as cenary boss Yevgeny rampant gang violence, the escalating effects of climate Prigozhin, who died in a plane crash with his top lieutenants last month. change, and exacerbated inequalities and poverty, mag-Zelenskiy, who provided no nified by the COVID-19 evidence to back up his aspandemic and subsequent sertion, made the comment lockdowns," Gary Conille, UNICEF's Latin America in passing at a conference in Kyiv as he was asked a quesand Caribbean director, told tion about the Russian presia news conference. Conille dent. "The fact that he killed said children in the region are Prigozhin - at least that's the information we all have, not migrating at an increasingly young age, and UNICEF any other kind - that also speaks to his rationality, and said those under 11 years old about the fact that he is weak," Zelenskiy said.



People walk on a flooded road in Hong Kong.

Hong Kong flooded by heaviest rainfall in 140 years

Monitoring Desk HONG KONG: Hong Kong was flooded by the heaviest rainfall in nearly 140 years on Friday, leaving the city's streets and some subway stations underwater and forcing its

schools to close. Just across the border, authorities in China's tech hub Shenzhen recorded the heaviest rains since records began in 1952.

Climate change has increased the intensity of tropical storms, experts say, with more rain and stronger gusts leading to flash floods and coastal damage.

The heavy rainfall in Hong Kong started on Thursday and in the hour leading up to midnight, the city's weather observatory recorded hourly rainfall of 158.1 millimetres at its headquarters, the highest since records began in 1884.

"It's absolutely shocking," said Jacky, 52 absolutely who lives in the Wong Tai Sin district with his elderly parents. "I don't remember floods ever being this bad in our district," he said. The bottom floor of the mall is completely flooded, the water level is higher than the storefronts ... It's turned our day into chaos.'

As deadly Greek rainstorm ebbs, trail of devastation emerges

Monitoring Desk LARISSA: Hundreds of people were stranded without food or water for a third day in Greece after a devastating rainstorm killed at least seven people and caused billions of euros of

Storm Daniel, which meteorologists said was the worst to hit the country since records began in 1930, has left a trail of ruin across Thessaly in central Greece, and followed a record summer heat wave that touched off huge wildfires.

away by torrents, bridges collapsed, roads were made impassable, power lines fell

Greece's main breadbasker regions wiped out. "I don't think we have realised the magnitude of this disaster yet," Professor Efthymios Lekkas, a disaster management expert, told state broadcaster

and crops in one of

RT on Friday. On Friday, authorities issued evacuation orders for three areas around the central city of Larissa amid concern the river Pineios. the third-longest in Greece, could burst its banks.

Rains flood tourist site in **Turkive**

Monitoring Desk ISTANBUL: Rescuers on

Thursday recovered the body of the last man reported missing in floods that hit Istanbul and northwestern Turkiye this week, bringing the death toll to eight, officials said. Torrential rains hit the

northern stretches of Istanbul and parts of Kirklareli province on Tuesday, sweeping away shops and tourist bungalows.

Two people died in Istanbul. The toll in Kirklareli reached six when rescuers reached the body of the last person reported missing in the disaster.

Former Trump adviser convicted of contempt of Congress **Monitoring Desk**

WASHINGTON: Former US President Donald Trump's trade adviser Peter Navarro was found guilty of contempt of Congress for defying a subpoena from the House of Representatives committee

attack on the Capitol. Separately, a lawyer for Mr Trump said in a court filing that he may seek to move the Georgia criminal case – in which he is accused of conspiring to overturn his 2020 US election loss – from state to federal court, which could potentially be a more favorable venue for the former

president.

that investigated the 2021

Russian attack on Ukrainian port damages grain storage

Monitoring Desk KYIV: Russia carried out its fourth drone attack in five days on Ukrainian port facilities on the Danube River on Thursday, damaging grain silos and other infrastructure on a vital export route for Kyiv, Ukrainian officials said

The attack on Izmail district in southern Odesa region lasted three hours, governor Oleh Kiper said on Telegram messenger. Two truck drivers were hurt and a blast wave damaged several people's homes, the general prosecutor's office

Agricultural companies were also damaged, the military said, without specifying which.

The Ukrainian military reported shooting down 25 of 33 drones it said were launched by Russia

overnight. Most were aimed at the Odesa region but some targeted the northern city of Sumy, it added.

One drone hit a residential area in Sumy, damaging a private house, 20 apartments in a high-rise building and two shops, the regional administration said on Telegram. It reported no

casualties. Russia has stepped up its attacks on Ukraine's grain export infrastructure on the Danube and on the Black Sea port hub of Odesa since July 17, when it quit the UN-brokered deal that had allowed safe exports of Ukrainian grain via the Black Sea.

On Thursday morning, Russia also shelled the village of Odradokamyanka in southern Kherson region, governor Olek-sandr Prokudin said.

US says it disrupts illicit oil shipment by Iran's IRGC, seizes contraband crude

Monitoring Desk HOUSTON: The U.S. on Friday divulged it disrupted in April a multimillion-dollar shipment of crude oil by Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, seizing more than 980,000 barrels of contraband crude oil that violated U.S. sanctions.

In April, Reuters reported that the U.S. confiscated cargo onboard tanker Suez Rajan, which was carrying Iranian oil at sea. The U.S. statement on Friday confirmed and fleshed out details of the story which cited sources.

The "illicit sale and transport of Iranian oil" violated sanctions targeting Iran, the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) said in a statement that for the first time acknowledged its role. A plea agreement between the parties was made pub-

The vessel was unloaded last month after waiting 2-1/2 months off the coast of Texas to dis-

charge.

The Suez Rajan Ltd company pleaded guilty in April and was sentenced by to three years of corporate probation and a fine of almost \$2.5 million, according to legal docu-

Empire Navigation, the operating company of the vessel carrying the contraband cargo, agreed to cooperate and transport the Iranian oil to the United States, the DOJ added, calling it the first criminal resolution to such a sanctionsviolating sale.

Empire Navigation, which also incurred the significant expenses associated with the vessel's voyage to the U.S., did not immediately respond to a request

Nikki Haley's 2024 White House bid charts hazardous path in isolationist Republican Party

Monitoring Desk
MANCHESTER: U.S. her the nominee.
Haley acknowledge.

2024 Republican presidential contender Nikki Haley wants to send special forces to Mexico to wipe out drug cartels, double down on sending weapons to Ukraine and make sure China understands "there will be hell to pay" if it attacks Taiwan. The former U.S. am-

bassador to the United Nations is stubbornly bucking traditional political wisdom that foreign policy does not influence American voters in elections. Despite opinion polls

for the Republican nomination putting Haley in single digits, she is still singularly focused on winning over voters, in large part by pushing her foreign policy vision in a party where iso-lationism has increasingly taken hold.

This is where Haley differs from many of the other nine contestants for the party's presidential nomination. Her vision for a much more assertive U.S. foreign policy is not iust a plank in her cam-

Haley acknowledged in an interview with Reuters this week that she is preaching to a divided party, but said she sees her role as educating voters, rather than showing them that she already shared their views. "If you go to my town halls, you hear me talk about it, and the reason I talk about is because I want Americans to have all the facts," said Haley, who is running fourth among Republicans in most opinion polls.

"When the Americans are given the truth, when they're given all of those facts, then they understand why I'm passionate about it, and why they should care about it as well," said Haley, who served two years as U.N. ambassador under former President Donald Trump. Haley's stance on military aid to Ukraine after Russia's 2022 invasion in particular puts her at odds with much of her party's rank-and-file. Some 52% of Republicans said in a Reuters/Îpsos poll in July that they were less likely to support a candipaign, but a huge part of her pitch to voters to elect military aid to Ukraine. date who favors increased

Australia, Philippines upgrade ties to strategic partnership

Monitoring Desk MANILA: Australia and the Philippines on Friday agreed to hold annual defence ministers' meetings as the two nations upgraded bilateral ties to a strategic partnership amid rising security challenges in the region, including in the South China Sea. Australian Prime Min-

ister Anthony Albanese signed a strategic partnership agreement with Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. during his trip to Manila, the first visit by an Australian leader in 20 years. 'Australia is working with our partners including the Philippines to shape a region where sovereignty is upheld," Albanese said in a joint press conference with Marcos after holding bilat-

Marcos said their countries' close ties were "terribly important". The Philippines last month held military exercises near the South China Sea with Australia, its second-largest partner in de-

fence security. It is also one of only two bilateral partners with whom the Philippines has a Status of Visiting Forces Agreement, which allows two countries to undertake joint exercises, high-level visits, dialogues and exchanges. Australia has dis-

cussed pursuing joint navy patrols in the resource-rich waterway.

Albanese threw his support behind a 2016 arbitral ruling on the South China Sea that invalidated China's expansive claims in the strategic waterway where about \$3 trillion worth of ship-borne trade passes annually. "Australia supports

the 2016 South China Sea arbitral award. That is final and binding. And it is important that it be upheld going forward," Albanese said. The Philippines, Malaysia, Vietnam, Brunei and Taiwan have claims to certain areas of the South China Sea. Most of Australia's trade also goes through the South China Sea.

Ali Mardan Domki calls for more efforts to improve literacy rate

Balochistan Ali Mardan Khan Domki on Friday called for more efforts to improve the literacy rate and to enrol a maximum number of out-of-school children to promote education for a better and prosperous future of the coun-

In a statement on the occasion of International Literacy Day, the chief minister said the nation which wanted to develop, focused on the promotion of educa-

He said the purpose of celebrating this day at the global level was to enlighten

OUETTA (APP): Care- of education and create were unable to get educataker Chief Minister awareness to promote lit-

> Ali Mardan stressed that optimum resources and efforts should be utilized to introduce the modern modes of education besides imparting the best digital training to the students.

He said millions of children are deprived of education every year due to economic, social and other reasons in the country.

He called for collective efforts by all the stakeholders to strengthen non-formal education besides formal one to impart technical education and skills among the youth to overcome the difficulties as many of them

tion to matric level. He said the role of the non-formal education department is also important

to reduce the illiteracy ratio and ensure education for all in the province. The literacy rate in

Balochistan has increased over the past two decades due to educational aware ness among the people.

Ali Mardan said efforts should be taken to reduce the dropout rate from schools and ensure a suitable environment for learn-

He added that according to an estimate, 2.5 million children are deprived of



QUETTA: A representative delegation of Sibi, Babur, Khach led by Mir Hamza Marri meeting with Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan

PML-N ready to enter in Sindh politics

PML-N is ready to enter in politics. Many important personalities of Sindh can also join PML-N.

According to media reports, PML-N vice President and Chief Organizer Maryam Nawaz Sharif also expected to visit Sindh this month. The schedule of visit to Karachi and Hyderabad is also being prepared. According to PML-N, the announcement of new officials of PML-N Sindh is expected during visit of Maryam Nawaz while PML-N Sindh has started to activate workers before expected visit of Maryam Nawaz.

According to sources, The PML-N leadership is also communicating with like-minded political parties regarding Sindh.

Maryam Nawaz is ikely to visit Karachi before leaving for London.

also hold important political meetings during visit to

On the other hand, it is being told that PML-N supremo and former Prime Minister (PM) Mian Nawaz Sharif will reach Pakistan on October 15 from London by normal flight and he will land at Lahore Airport.

According to PML-N sources, supremo Mian Nawaz Sharif has decided to reach Lahore from London by normal flight and his daughter and Chief Organizer of party Maryam Nawaz is busy in preparations to welcome him.

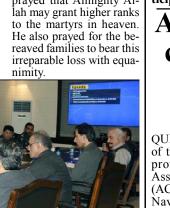
Party sources said that Nawaz Sharif has decided to come to Lahore instead of Islamabad, and his return home will be on a

Party sources said that Nawaz Sharif has given task to central leadership for Maryam Nawaz will reception.

President pays tribute to martyrs of

lives for the sake of the

The President on Fri-Havaldar Muhammad Arif, Havaldar Muhammad Imran, Sepoy Ahmed Ali, Sepoy Muhammad Haseeb Bannu terrorist attack on 31st of August. Dr. Arif Alvi paid homage to Shuhada and prayed that Almighty Alto the martyrs in heaven.



NAB summons

Gandapur in

£190m corruption

prove against

Imran Khan

RAWALPINDI (INP): The

National Accountability

Bureau on Friday sum-

moned former federal min

ister Ali Amin Gandapur to

be involved in the investi-

gation of corruption of 190

million pounds against

former prime minister and PTI Chairman Imran Khan.

Dera Ismail Khan DPO, the

Rawalpindi NAB sent a

call-up notice to Gandapur

to appear before the

bureau's Central Investiga-

tion Team on September 13

Tax, electricity,

gas thieves be

declared

'terrorists': Asif

SIALKOT (INP): Former

Defence Minister Khawaja

Muhammad Asif has stated

that the country is under

debt and bankrupt, and de-

manded that tax, electricity

and gas thieves should be

known as Twitter), the Pa-

kistan Muslim League (N)

leader said currently only

tax cases worth of Rs2.670

billion were pending with

courts. Every year billions

of rupees tax evasion and

theft of electricity and gas

was being committed and

the common man bore the

under debt and bankrupt

and theft of all types of

state resources should be

considered economic terror-

ism. Tax evaders and

thieves of electricity and gas

should be declared terror-

ists, however, such pilfer-

ers were now part of the

He said Pakistan was

brunt of this theft.

Taking to X (formerly

declared terrorists.

Through the office of

QUETTA: Inspector General Police Balochistan Abdul Khaliq Sheikh presiding over a meeting regarding prevention of smuggling in the province.

PTI demands Alvi to announce poll date

kistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) core committee has demanded President Dr Arif Alvi to announce election date without a delay and unanimously passed a reso-

lution during a session. The PTI core committee members said that the country is facing constitutional, political, democratic, administrative and economic crises as the state infrastructure was shaken after the 'unconstitutional move' of April 2022.

The committee said that the Punjab and Khyber 90 days.

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pa- Pakhtunkhwa (KP) assemblies had been dissolved on January 14 and 18 respectively but the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) government did not fulfil its constitutional duty to organise polls in 90 days besides violating the Supreme Court's April 4 order. The political party urged for concrete steps to establish a democratic government to resolve the crisis. The PTI core committee said that Article 48 bounds the president to finalise the election date in

Jirga of notables, elders in Chitral vows to fight along Pakistan security forces

Jirga of notables and elders of Chitral and Swat held on Friday at Darosh fort vowed that the people of Chitral particularly youth were ready to fight along the Pakistan army and security forces. They condemned the terrorism of Tehreek e Taliban Pakistan and ex-

kistan armv. The participants paid tribute to the Shuhada of posts of the army.

pressed solidarity with Pa-

ISLAMABAD (APP):A Chitral Scouts. They assured that the local community will stand by security

They also assured zero tolerance against the social media activists floating negative sentiments. The local population of Chitral had come out in support of Pakistan army and was helping in transporting weapons, ammunition and food to the forward



QUETTA: Director General Public Relations Kamran Asad inaugurating newly constructed **Conference Room at DGPR**

Bannu attack ISLAMABAD (INP) President Dr. Arif Alvi has

paid rich tribute to the martyrs of Bannu terrorist attack who laid down their motherland.

day telephoned the heirs of Naib Subedar Sanoobar Ali, Havaldar Aftab Ahmed, Akbar, Sepoy Zeeshan Nazakat, Abdul Rasheed and Waris Ali, who were martyred in Jani Khel

OUETTA: Caretaker Information Minister Jan Achakzai talking with participants of Social Media Training held at Department of Public Relations **AC** for implementing control price lists of edible items in

QUETTA (APP): In light quently to ensure the of the instructions of the provincial government, Assistant Commissioner (AC) Gwadar Muhammad Naveed Alam chaired a price control committee meeting to ensure the implementation of the control price lists of edible items on Friday.

The meeting was attended by the representatives of Anjuman-e-Tajiran and other relevant officers.

In the meeting, the Price Control Committee reviewed the prices of essential commodities in detail and instructions were also issued to ensure the implementation

of the official price list. Addressing meeting, the AC said that the measures taken fre-

availability and quality of essential Commodities in the

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani witnessing the

election process of Parliamentary Reporters Association (PRA) held at Par-

Energy Minister stresses

oil & gas exploration to

reduce import bill

been lessened while annual

creased with rising circular

debt. "We have to focus on

exploration of oil and gas so

that we can reduce our dependence on the imported

the SIFC discussed ways

and means to control the

cost of electricity generation

and it theft, and save capac-

ity charges payment (to in-

dependent power produc-

dustries such a tariff in in-

cremental supply so that

we don't face losses in ca-

pacity charges payment

even if they use more elec-

Muhammad Ali said

We want to give in-

fuel," he added.

ers) in the winter.

ISLAMABAD (APP): ploration of gas and oil had

ergy, Power and Petroleum import bill to meet their

Muhammad Ali on Friday shortage persistently in-

The minister said tricity as compared to presince 2013 work on the exvious years," the minister

Caretaker Minister for En-

stressed the need of explor-

ing oil and gas reserves in

order to reduce the import

bill. Addressing a news

conference along with Care-

taker Minister for Informa-

tion and Broadcasting

Murtaza Solangi, Caretaker

Minister for Commerce and

Industry Dr Gohar Ejaz and

Caretaker Minister for Fi-

nance, Revenue, Economic

Affairs and Privatization

Dr Shamshad Akhtar, he

said matters related to

power generation and pe-

troleum were also discussed

in the meeting of Special Investment Facilitation

Council (SIFC).

city at fixed rates are providing relief to the people. The price Magistrate should continue the ongoing action against the wholesalers and ensure the sale of grocery items as well as fruits and vegetables as per the rate lists issued by the Market Committee, he said.

AC said that to save people from the current wave of inflation and to ensure the sale of essential items at fixed prices, the Tehsil administration and related institutions should coordinate and manage measures so that people could get relief in this regard.



checking quality of different items

Awareness raising & sensitization sessions on women rights and gender-based violence held

QUETTA: The Ministry of Human Rights organized an awareness-raising and sensitization sessions on women rights & Gender-Based Violence (GBV) for the local communities of Ouetta. The objective of the event was to enhance the understanding of communities regarding the rights of women and GBV, its negative impact on society and wavs in which it can be addressed through community-based measures and the role of Ministry of Hu-

Independent Report

these issues. The event focused on areas like women's rights. pro-women laws institutional, rehabilitation, refer-

man Rights in addressing

vors of GBV. More than 145 participants from various communities including women, students, transgender, civil society representatives, lawyers, education officers, health officials, district administration officers and media par-

ticipated in the session. Ms. Ambreen Gul and Ms. Rubina Zehri from Women Development Department, Quetta said that violence isn't only physical, there are other kinds of Violence as well, like Economic and Psychological violence

Mr Shahzad Ahmad Khan, Director-IC, Ministry of Human Rights explained in detail the laws for protection against GBV, ral & other protective measures in place for the survipunishments. He said that other GBV related issues.

than half of the population of Pakistan. Economic, physical and psychological violence prevents them from joining the formal or informal economy which not only causes harm to the victims and their families but it also hinders the economic progress of the nation as a whole. Ms. Fauzia Shaheen, Balochistan Commission on the Status of Women and Ms. Farkhanda Aurangzeb NCHR, Member Balochistan explained various laws in the province related to women's rights and GBV. Mr Alahuddin Khilji, Resident Director Aurat Foundation explained in detail the facilities/remedies available for women survivors, punish-

Apex Court says:

It is responsibility of govt to respect guarantees given to minorities in constitution

Supreme Court (SC) has remarked it is responsibility of state to respect the guarantees given in the constitution to minorities.

A 3-member bench of SC presided over by Justice Ijaz ul Ahsan took up for hearing the incident of torching church in Jaranwala here

The petition was filed by minority leader Samuel PYARE requesting the court to take notice of Jaranwala incident.

Sardar Bushna Singh chairman Baba Gurunanak welfare society appeared in The court inquired

one issue of target killing was raised in your applica-tion. The OTHER issue you raised that decoration work and repair work in Gurudwaras are not being

added. He said matters re-

lated to governance and

functioning of distribution

companies (discos) and

their privatization also

came under discussion in the

strengthen their governing

boards and management,

which will in turn help stop

power theft and start recov-

the possibility of evolving

a mechanism under which

the power plants could

supply electricity directly to the industry after pay-

ing the wheeling charges, he added. The minister said the

gas sector was also facing

alarmingly high losses."We

have to improve the gas

pricing structure in order to

save the government from

Chairman Senate

commends PRA

election process

ISLAMABAD (Online):

The Chairman Senate, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani

alongwith the members of

the Senate visited the poll-

ing area setup at Parliament

House to observe the elec-

tion process being held to

elect the office bearers of Parliamentary Reporters Association (PRA).

man Senate was impressed

by the organized and effi-

cient manner in which the

PRA elections were con-

ducted. He commended the

democratic values and prin-

ciples upheld during the

election, affirming his belief

in the importance of fair and

open processes in all as-

pects. Furthermore, Chair-

man Senate acknowledged the invaluable role played

by the PRA in providing

comprehensive and accurate

coverage of Parliamentary

proceedings. He praised

their commitment to keep-

ing the public informed and

promoting transparency in

government affairs

During his visit, Chair-

losses.

The SFIC reviewed

meeting.

eries," he said.

"We have to

Bushna Singh said Qabza group sees nothing

ISLAMABAD (Online): may it be mosque, temple or Gurdawar. Augaf department should construct four walls of Gurudwaras and

save them from illegal occupations. The court remarked we are seeking report from all departments. You should give us list of af-

fected gurudwaras. The court issued notice to secretary religious affairs, chairman Augaf, attorney and advocate gener-

The court remarked the state needs to take practical steps to ensure security of Sikh community.

The court sought detailed report from IG KP on recent incidents of target killings.

The court summoned report from advocate general and IG Punjab regarding Jaranwala incident besides seeking report from home department Punjab on the steps taken after the incident.



Sardar Ejaz Ahmed Khan Jaffar meeting with Secretary Finance Zahid Saleem

Pak and China sign MoU for addressing climate change

BEIJING (INP): In a major Pakistan. step to jointly work towards environment protection, Pakistan and China signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) titled "Provision of Goods Under South-South Cooperation for Addressing Clinate Change[†]

Ambassador of Pakistan to China, Moin-ul-Haque, and Zhao Yingmin, Vice-Minister of the Ministry of Ecology and Environment of the People's Republic of China signed the MoU at the China International Fair for Trade in lenge of climate change.

Services (CIFTIS) recently.
Under the MoU, according to Gwadar Pro on Friday, China would support Pakistan through the provision of 5,000 sets of Solar Home Systems; a set of Integrated Meteorologiand a set of Integrated Cloud-based Early Warning Systems.

In addition, China would offer capacity-build-ing programs for the officials of the Government of 2021

The MoU would complement Pakistan's efforts to promote renewable energy and enhance its disaster management capabilities, especially in the areas of early warning, forecasting, monitoring, and disaster preparedness response

While signing the MoU, Ambassador Moinul-Haque thanked the Chinese side and commended the ongoing collaboration between China and Pakistan to tackle the common chal-

In this regard, he highly appreciated the Global Development Initiative (GDI), which aimed to strengthen partnerships between developing countries for the attainment of the 2030 Agenda for Suscal Observation Station; tainable Development, including the efforts to promote climate action. He also recalled the

'timely' Chinese support to Pakistan following the climate-induced floods of



QUETTA: Nawabzada Mir Ziaullah Khan Zehri meeting with Caretaker Provincial Minister for Sports and Culture Nawabzada Jamal Khan Raisani

Operation started against narcotics production and factories in K. Abdullah

Independent Report

QUETTA: The grand operation has been started against production of narcotics and factories in the Killa Abdullah district of Balochistan on Friday. According to official

sources, the Pak army, Frontier Corps, Anti-Narcotics Force, Levies and other law enforcement agencies are taking part in the operation, on directives of the Corps Commander Balochistan. During the operation, a total of 15 factories hav-

ing 938 kilogram charas Gulistan.

were destroyed in the dis-

It may be mentioned here that the plan of operation had been given final shape in a meeting held in the 12 Corps Headquarter on August 28, 2023.

Afterwards, a Jirga was also held under the anti-narcotics campaign in Killa Abdullah on August 30, 2023. The local elders had

demanded action against the narcotics factories and stop its production in the Killa Abdullah and

Special task force formed for crackdown against illegal tubewells

Independent Report QUETTA: A special task force has been formed to launch crackdown against

the illegal tube wells and defaulters of WASA in Quetta city. The task force would comprise the officers of

WASA in light of the decision made in the meeting held under the chair of caretaker Chief Minister, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki.

According to an offi-

here by the WASA on Friday, the task force would assist the district administration in the action nto be taken against the illegal tube wells and defaulters. It would be comprised

cial communique issued

Director Revenue, Sohail Anjum, Deputy Director Coordination, Muhammad Nabi, Assistant Director Coordination, Humayun Khan and Land Acquisition Assistant,