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COAS presides over 259th Corps Commanders' Conference

Top military brass resolves to defend country's sovereignty, territorial integrity

Participants resolve to assist in curbing illegal activities hampering economic growth; Forum pays tribute to sacrifices of the martyrs of armed forces; Emphasis need for speedy development of economic potential of Newly Merged Districts (NMDs) and Border Districts of Balochistan for sustainable peace and growth

RAWALPINDI (Online): General Syed Asim Munir, NI (M), Chief of Army Staff (COAS) presided over the 259th Corps Commanders' Conference (CCC) held at GHO, today (Thursday).

Forum paid rich tribute to the supreme sacrifices of Shuhadas including officers and men of the Armed Forces, Law Enforcement Agencies and Citizens who laid their lives for the safety, security and territorial integrity of the country.

Fateha was offered for the martyrs and it was reiterated that the State of Pakistan and Armed Forces will continue to hold the Shuhadas and their families in highest esteem, ever honoring them with utmost respect and dignity.

QUETTA: Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki

He said that the situa-

tion has improved, now the

State Bank and other eco-

nomic institutions should

use this opportunity to

ister also said that smug-

gling has reduced and the

The Information Min-

presiding over a meeting to review affairs of Food Department

(APP): through black marketing.

boost the system.

Jan lauds efforts of Army Chief

for curbing currency smuggling

He said that the price of sugar has stabilized

Pakistan's Army Chief and in the country. Balochistan

Balochistan Interim Minis-

ter for Information Jan

Achakzai on Thursday

lauded efforts of the

Pakistan's Army Chief for

preventing currency smug-

gling in the country which

termed positive sign for in-

terest of motherland.

Commemoration of Defence and Martyrs Day on 6 September across the country by all segments of the society was appreciated for which the Armed Forces of Pakistan remain ever thankful to our proud

Participants reiterated Pakistan Army's resolve to defend the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Pakistan against all kinds of direct and indirect threats. Forum re-affirmed that inimical propagandists' desperate attempts to cause wedge between the state institutions and public are indicative of their mounting desperation and will only result into more humiliation of

such elements, InshaAllah

Notification

regarding ban

on Rs 5000

currency note

fake: Solangi

ISLAMABAD (APP)

Caretaker Federal Minister

for Information and Broad-

casting Murtaza Solangi

said on Thursday that no-

tification regarding the ban

on Rs 5,000 currency notes

merly Twitter, the minister

said that the government

IMF 'approves'

Rs. 15bn relief

in electricity bills

ISLAMABAD (INP): In a

significant development,

the International Mon-

etary Fund (IMF) has

relief plan of Rs 15 billion

which aimed to give finan-

cial relief to electricity con-

sumers in Pakistan,

sources said on Thursday

ports, matter revealed that

the Federal Board of Rev

enue (FBR) played a piv-

otal role in securing this re-

lief from the IMF, adding

that the FBR has exceeded

expectations by collecting

an impressive amount of

Rs 20 billion in excess

grant the relief of Rs15 bil-

lion – aimed at relieving the

financial burden on elec-

tricity consumers - is a tes-

tament to the commend-

able performance of the

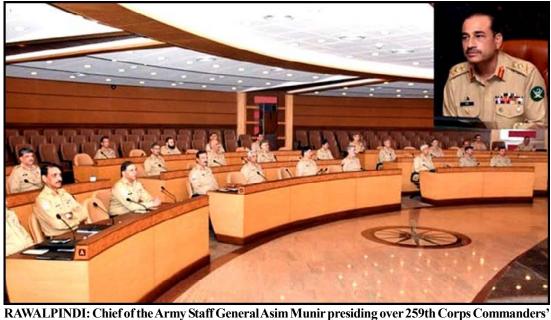
The IMF's decision to

According to media re-

In a post on X, for-

was fake.

Continued on page 2



Conference.

PM emphasizes joint efforts to purge society of intolerance, promote brotherhood

Directs measures to address issues confronting overseas Pakistanis

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Thursday emphasized the need to make joint efforts to purge the society of intolerance and promote brotherhood.

The prime minister, in a meeting with a delegation of Bohra Community headed by Shahzada Hussain Burhanuddin, said interfaith harmony was part Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah's

golden principles which was also the foundation of Pakistan as well as guiding light for the people. Hussain Burhanuddin

conveyed the good wishes of his father and spiritual leader of Bohra Commu-

Saiduddin for the prime minister.

The prime minister appreciated the Bohra Community's role in social welfare, education and economic sectors. Meanwhile Caretaker

Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Thursday directed the authorities concerned to take all-out measures to resolve the problems being faced by the overseas Pakistanis. The prime minister,

talking to his Special Assistant for Overseas Pakistanis Jawad Sohrab present in the meeting. Malik who called on him, said the expatriates were a precious asset for Pa-

CMIT to check quality of purchased wheat: CM directs to bring stability in prices of flour; demand and supply of other edibles

Independent Report OUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki has directed the provincial Food department to bring stability in prices of the flour besides ensuring availability of the wheat and flour in the mar-

The caretaker Chief Minister was chairing a meeting on the affairs of Food Department here on Thursday. The Chief Secretary Balochistan, Shakeel Qadir Khan and other con-cerned high ups were

The Secretary Food, Mujeebur Rehman briefed the meeting about departmental matters of the Food

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Governor

Balochistan, Malik Abdul

Wali Khan Kakar has cat-

egorically stated that the

current political and eco-

nomic circumstances re-

quire us to take wise deci-

sions as a nation, as we can

steer the country and na-

tion out of prevailing po-

litical and economic crisis

Govt announces

closure of

markets at sunset

LAHORE (INP): The care-

taker government has or-

dered measures to conserve

energy, including closing all

malls and markets at sun-

set to mitigate the effects

nounced by the previous

A similar announce-

of energy crisis.

policies and projects.

wheat and flour in the prov-

The caretaker Chief Minister on the occasion also directed to control the prices of other food items along with flour at the district and divisional level.

He asked the concerned high ups to extend the mandate of food department by bringing necessary changes according to the needs in the rule of business.

In addition to this, the balance should be created in the demand and supply of the flour and other edibles according to the market requirements, adding he

Team to check quality of the wheat purchased by the food department.

Moreover, the Food department should also take action against those involved in the smuggling and hoarding of wheat and sugar in collaboration with the district administration, the Chief Minister directed fur-

He said that the interim government wants to give every possible relief to the masses by preventing infla-

tion in the province. He stressed that Food department, concerned departments and district administration would have to take wholehearted action for Mr. Domki also di- bringing stability in the



QUETTA: A delegation of Education Parliamentarians Cuscus of Senate led by Senator Sana Jamali meeting with Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar

Political and economic circumstances

require us to take wise decisions: Governor

Caretaker CM calls for restoring traditional beauty of Quetta, increasing civic facilities

Mir Ali Mardan Domki points out seriousness not demonstrated in resolving issues of city despite being provincial capital; vows to do best to make quite better city in brief tenure

Independent Report

QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki has regretfully pointed out that seriousness was not shown in resolving the issues of Quetta city despite the fact it is a provincial capital. However, adding he firmly stated that it would be our wholehearted endeavor to make Quetta quite better

He said that it is very essential to restore traditional beauty of Quetta city and increase civic facilities.

The caretaker Chief Minister was presiding over a meeting on the issues of Quetta city and their soation here on Thursday. The caretaker Provin-

cial Ministers Sardar Ejaz Khan Jaffar, Sheikh Continued on page 2



ISLAMABAD: Saudi Ambassador to Pakistan Nawaf Saeed Al Malkiy called on the Caretaker Federal Health Minister Dr. Nadeem Jan.

Minister Homes visits routes of procession:

Chehlum of Karbala martyrs observed peacefully

The strict security measures were adopted to en-Ghulam processions taken out from

the morning and ended at the Bahisht-e-Zainab (RA) graveyard the same evening. The procession passed through different routes before its culmination at the ending point. Similarly, the second procession marking the Chehlum was taken out from Aliabad in Hazara Town, which ended at Hazara graveyard the same

ment was also made by the previous Shehbaz government regarding the closure of markets by 8pm across the country under the 'energy conservation plan'. On June 6, the former federal minister made the announcement while talking to journalists after a meeting of National Economic Council (NEC) chaired by then prime minister

Shehbaz Sharif. "The NEC has approved an energy conservation plan under which shops and commercial centres would be closed by 8pm," he had announced, noting that energy has become a huge challenge for Pakistan due to global prices. However, no implementation was made on the measures an-

who called on him under leadership of Senator Sana Jamli here at Governor House on Thursday.

The Governor said that it is a challenge to strength the basic infrastructure all over the province according to the increasing human needs and ever changing circumstances in the province. The Governor said that

with the public friendly there's a very much backwardness in remote areas of In this regard, we have the province, and in view to make serious and bold of this, we have to make all decisions in the present complex situation, the policies and projects in the Governor maintained while best interest of masses. For

speaking to a delegation the purpose, our targets of future can be succeeded with help and support of the international agencies.

He also stressed that it is high time to make serious and daring decisions in the present complex situation, and adopt a national thinking and approach instead of mere personal interests.

In addition to this, we would also have to adopt the policy of taking all along so that we are able to take wholehearted part in the country's development, he



QUETTA: Members of Awami Action Committee are holding protest demonstration against massive unemployment, increasing price of daily use products, inflation price hiking and the highly inflated electricity bills, at Quetta press club.

Five terrorists of banned outfit killed in gun battle with CTD

QUETTA (INP): Five alleged terrorists of the banned Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) were killed during an operation by the Balochistan Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) in the Aghberg area of Quetta, police said on Thursday

According to a statement released by the CTD, an operation was planned over information provided by an alleged TTP terror-

ist, identified as Naseebullah, who was in custody.

The CTD added that during the course of an investigation, he revealed the presence of his associates in Quetta and divulged that they were "in advance planning of carrying out a terrorist activity in Quetta

"An operation was planned and terrorists were Continued on page 2



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Foreign Minister Jalil Abbas Jilani called on caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar.

Funds of Rs. 1.2 billion released for 11 public sector universities of Balochistan: Amiad Rasheed Independent Report

QUETTA: The provincial Finance Department, Government of Balochistan has released the funds for 11 public sectors universities of the province. The funds have been released on special directives of

the caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Domki on Thursday. According to the caretaker Provincial Minister for Finance, Amjad Rasheed, Rs. 1.2 billion have been re-

leased on the request of the universities. Amjad Rasheed said that more funds would be provided to the universities after receiving the same from the

It may be mentioned here that the public sector universities have been facing financial problems due to lack

of funds and resources. On this, the caretaker Chief Minister took notice and directed to release funds to the universities.

Provincial Task Force for anti-smuggling meets: CS directs to continue operation

for prevention of smuggling of sugar & urea across province

Independent Report QUETTA: The Chief Secretary Balochistan, Shakeel Qadir Khan has directed the concerned high ups to continue operation for prevention of smuggling of sugar and Urea fertilizer and take stern action against those involved in smuggling and hoarding of the fertilizer and

sugar in the province. The standing directives were issued by the Chief Secretary while chairing high level meeting of the Provincial Task Force for anti-smuggling here on Thursday.

Those who were in attendance at the meeting Continued on page 2

Levies man among two killed in firing incidents

MASTUNG/NASIRABAD (INP): Two including a Levies man were killed and another injured separate firing incidents here on Thurs-

According to details armed men shot death Levies personnel identified Abdul Zahir and injured a pedestrian at main bus terminal of Mastung city and fled the scene.

In Goth Rasool Supra, jurisdiction of Baba Kot police station district Nasirabad, armed men barged into a house, gunned down Nazir Ahmed and escaped the scene.

Independent Report

QUETTA: The processions taken out marking Chehlum of Hazrat Imam Hussain (RA) and his companions culminated peacefully in the provincial metropolis on Thursday.

sure security and that no untoward incident is occurred during the course of Alamdar road and in Hazara

The main procession started from Shuhada Chowk on Alamdar road in

All the routes of both processions were sealed while the roads and streets leading to the routes were also blocked with hurdles and barricades.



QUETTA: Chief Secretary Balochistan Shakeel Qadir Khan presiding over a meeting of Provincial Task Force for Anti-Smuggling regarding stopping of smuggling of Urea and Sugar in the province

Departmental proceeding can be initiated against a govt employee within two years of retirement: SC

ISLAMABAD (Online): Supreme Court (SC) has remarked departmental proceedings can be initiated against a government employee within two years of retirement.

Detailed decision was written by Justice Musarrat Hilali here Thursday.

It has been said in the decision that Muhammad Afzal Anjum Toor was appointed as executive engineer in Rawal dam division Islamabad. Irrigation department Punjab while initiating departmental proceeding issued show cause notice to the executive engineer after three years of his retirement. the accused was charged with misconduct and corruption.

The investigation team proposed in November 2020 that Rs 55 lakhs be recovered from the pension of ex-

Tribunal while nullifying the departmental order in February 2022 ordered to pay pension and all privileges

The question before the court was this can depart-

mental proceeding be initiated or otherwise against government employee after more than 3 years of retire-Under clause 21 of PEEDA act 2006 departmental

proceedings can be initiated against the employee within two years of retirement. SC has resolved principle in a decision that PEEDA laws are designed for ensuring good governance and

achieving target of self-accountability in government em-The court wrote in its decision this law is related to

departmental proceedings against serving employees and those retired employees against whom proceeding has been launched within one year of their retirement.

The said employee was retired on January 10, 2017 while proceeding was initiated against him on February 24, 2020. Proceedings against the employee is violation of PEEDA Act-2006. Service tribunal gave correct decision as per law. Appeal is rejected. Saudi ambassador calls



caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar.

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for IT and Telecommunication Dr. Umar Saif in a meeting with World Bank delegation.

PTA, TikTok sign MoU to encourage safer digital environment for Pak Youth

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) and TikTok here on Thursday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to promote digital safety in government schools across Pakistan through a multifaceted approach. The program includes comprehensive training programs and guidelines for teachers, parents, and students that will be covered through, workshops, seminars, webinars, awareness videos etc to shed light on the legitimate use of social media, and tackle associated risks, said a news release.

In attendance at this significant event were Chairman PTA, Maj Gen ® Hafeez ur Rehman, Director General (WAD), and Director General (S&D) as well as representatives from MoITT. The Head of Public Policy and Government Relations, Pakistan at TikTok, Fahad Khan Niazi as well as the Head of Public Policy Programs South Asia at TikTok, Zara Basharat Higgs were also

Envoy Masood terms Pakistan's armed forces symbol of strength, security

WASHINGTON (APP): thanked the United States Pakistan's Ambassador to for its support, especially the United States Masood Khan says we are proud of the country, to strengthen our armed forces and the its defence capabilities. entire nation is indebted to the martyrs and their fami-

He made these remarks while addressing a special ceremony to mark Defence and Martyrs' Day of Pakistan, in Washington.

Paying glowing tribute to their valour, courage and resilience, the Ambassador said Pakistan's armed forces are among the strongest de-

fence forces. Referring to county's fight against the menace of terrorism, he said our armed forces and nation have paid a disproportionate and exorbitant price in blood and

treasure. The Ambassador reiterated call for the realization of the right to self-determination of the people of Jammu and Kashmir in accordance with the UN Security Council resolutions and international law. He said this is key to peace and stability in the region. Masood Khan also

man Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee General Sahir Shamshad Mirza NI (M). in his video message, reaffirmed unwavering commitment of the Armed Forces to continue defending the sanctity and territorial integrity of the motherland.

The CJCSC said that Pakistan's Armed Forces were recognized worldwide for their professionalism and unwavering commitment to defend the country against any aggression.

He said Pakistan believes in peaceful coexistence based on the noble objective of peace within and peace without that is peace with our neighbors and peace in the neighbourhood.

The Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee said that Pakistan was one of the largest contributors in the peacekeeping forces for the United Nations.



WASHINGTON DC: Ambassador Masood Khan speaks during a ceremony to mark Defence and Martyr's Day of Pakistan which is observed every year to pay tribute to those valiant sons of the soil who laid down their lives while protecting the sanctity of the motherland against a blatant act of aggression in 1965.

Top military brass resolves to...

Continued from page 1

Participants were briefed on prevalent geostrategic environment, challenges to national security and own strategy in response to evolving threat.

Forum resolved that all terrorists, their facilitators and abettors, working on the behest of hostile forces to destabilise Pakistan will be dealt with full might of the state.

The need for speedy development of economic potential of Newly Merged Districts (NMDs) and Border Districts of Balochistan for sustainable peace and growth was also emphasised.

COAS stressed on maintaining high standards of professionalism and motivation during operations and achieving excellence during training of the for-

He commended the commanders for their constant focus on the wellbeing of their soldiers and maintenance of morale which constituted the foundation of Army's operational readiness.

Forum reiterated to continue full support of ongoing efforts in uplifting the socioeconomic growth under the umbrella of Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) and wholeheartedly assisting the government in curbing all illegal activities which hamper economic stability, growth and investors' confidence.

PM Kakar to address UNGA session on Sept 22

ISLAMABAD (INP) Caretaker Prime Minister (PM) Anwaarul Haq Kakar will address the 78th meeting of the United Nations Assembly (UNGA) on September 22 (Friday), it was learnt on Thursday.

Kakar will also hold meetings with the heads of state of different countries

The PM will also attend the dinner hosted by the US President Joe

The general debate session will begin on September 19. Brazil will declare the session open.

President Biden will be the second head of state, who will address the General Assembly on Septem-

NEPRA okays increase in hydropower tariff

ISLAMABAD (INP): The National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA) on Thursday approved the increase in tariff for hydropower electricity by 29 percent.

As per details, the average tariff for hydropower is set to increase from Rs 3.85 to Rs 4.96 per unit for

Caretaker CM calls... Continued from page 1

Mehmoodul Hasar Mandokhail. Chief Secretary, Shakeel Qadir Khan. Inspector General of Police Abdul Khalique Sheikh and secretaries of different concerned departments.

The Commissioner Ouetta, Muhammad Hamza Shafqaat, Managing Director WASA, Hamio Latif Rana, Administrator Ouetta Metropolitan Corporation, Abdul Jabbar Baloch and Deputy Commissioner Quetta briefed the meeting about the issues of Ouetta and the steps for their resolution.

During briefing, the Commissioner informed that wholehearted campaign has been initiated against encroachments and for cleanliness in the city.

Similarly, four godowns have been sealed during crackdown against hoarding of sugar in the city.

While on the other hand, quality and quantity of petrol pumps is also being checked under the spe cial Municipal laws.

Moreover, the crack down is also continued against illegal tube wells and tanker mafia in collaboration with WASA. A plan has also been chalked out to destroy the vegetables produced using sewer water by Balochistan Food Author ity and district administration, the Commissione

The Chief Minister noted with concern that citizens are facing problems of lack of health and hygiene facilities and environmental pollution

further informed.

He on the occasion di rected to take stern action against those responsible for the problems without any discrimination. He asserted that there's

no political or any kind of pressure on the institutions. therefore, they should mobilize all available resources to improve the situation in Ouetta city.

on Health Minister his integrated agenda for de-ISLAMABAD (APP): velopment of the health

Ambassador of Saudi Arabia, Nawaf Saeed A Al Malkiy called on Federal Minister for Health Dr. Nadeem Jan to discuss issues of mutual interest and further enhancing bilateral cooperation.

The Saudi ambassador congratulated him on assuming portfolio of the Ministry of Health.

The appointment of Global Health Expert is a good omen. "I pray for your success," said the Saudi Ambassador. The minister acknowledged and appreciated Saudi Arabia's deep commitment to Pakistan and the welfare of its people.

Pakistan and Saudi Arabia had historical and religious fraternal relations, he added. In every hour of diffi-

culty, Saudi Arabia has supported Pakistan. The hearts of the people of both the

sector as per the vision of the Caretaker Prime Min-He shared that Paki-

stan was the first country in the world to organize the Global Health Security Summit 'We have formulated

an integrated strategy to increase the export of the pharma industry," he added. Effective measures were being taken to increase

the capacity of pharma in-dustry, the minister said. It was agreed to promote medical tourism in this sector, which has vast

potential for investment. The recently estab-lished Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) is a good initiative. This initiative will promote investment in the country.

The ambassador remarked that his country countries beat in unison. Would benefit from The minister elaborated Pakistan's medical sector. would benefit from

7th Sept, a historic day for preservation of Prophethood: Haqqani

(APP): Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (Sami) Chief Maulana Hamid ul Hag Haggani on Thursday emphasized that 7th September held immense historical significance for Pakistan, Islam, and the preservation of Prophethood.

Addressing a gathering of thousands at the sprawling Darul Hadith of Darul Uloom Haqqania in Akora Khattak, he said, "On this day, we receive a gift from

our national leadership to commemorate this historic

Maulana Haqqani who is also the Deputy Caretaker of Darul Uloom Haqqania said the entire nation was engaged in prayerful ceremonies to honor the founder of Darul Uloom Haqqania Sheikhul-Hadith Maulana Abdul Haq as "today is also the death anniversary of Sheikh-ul-Hadith Maulana Abdul Hag.



LAHORE: Caretaker Federal Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony Aneeq Ahmed along with Ameer Jamaat-e-Islami Sirajul Haque talking to media persons at Jamaat-e-Islami Center Mansoora.

Five terrorists of banned outfit...

Continued from page 1 identified over the information provided by the arrested accused person who was nominated in FIR number 84-2023," the

statement said. Elaborating on the details of the operation, the CTD statement said when police were setting up a security cordon outside the TTP hideout, terrorists opened indiscrimi-

nate fire and tried to es-"Two terrorists tried to escape on a motorcycle but the raiding party took precautionary measures and retaliated," it added. "Additional force was called and

the fleeing terrorists were

contained As a result, the CTD said, four TTP militants were killed, while the "arrested accused person" was severely injured by the firing of his associates.

"He was rushed to the hospital but he succumbed to his injuries," it said, adding that a sizeable quantity of ammunition and explosives were recovered from the crime scene including one suicide jacket, five hand grenades, two pistols, one rifle, two motorcycles, and explosive material.

The statement highlighted that the slain alleged terrorists were involved in the killing of officials of the Eagle Squad and CTD in Kuchlak and Frontier Corps personnel

at the Kuchlak Bypass. "This is a huge success for the CTD and law enforcement agencies as their efforts have prevented terrorists from carrying out another terror activity in Quetta," it further said.

The statement concluded that further investigation was under

On Sep 2, the CTD said it had killed eight TTP and IS members in two intelligence-based operations conducted in Balochistan's Quetta and Washuk districts on Saturday.

The counter-terror police had said the first operation was conducted in a mountainous area near Kurragi village of Basima tehsil in Washuk, a district bordering Iran.

counterterrorism officials cordoned off the area and launched the operation, the armed militants opened fire and lobbed hand grenades, prompting the raiding party to take positions and return fire.

"A heavy gun battle continued for an hour, resulting in the killing of five armed terrorists," the CTD spokesperson had said, adding that the killed militants belonged to the outlawed TTP and had previously launched attacks on forces and citizens.

However, three militants had managed to escape under the cover of

CWDP clears four development projects worth Rs 126.2b designed to provide reliable

The Central Development Working Party (CDWP) has cleared four development projects worth Rs 126.2 billion during its meeting held on Thursday under the Deputy Chairmanship of Planning Commission, Dr Mohammad Jehanzeb Khan. The meeting was attended by Secretary Ministry of Planning Development & Special Initiatives, Chief Economist, Members Planning Commission and representatives from the various ministries.

The forum has recommended Thar Coal Rail Connectivity with existing Railway Network project including last mile connectivity with Port Qasim worth Rs 55.97b to the Executive Committee of the National Economic Coun-

IHC terminates contempt case over Pervaiz Elahi's arrest

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Thursday terminated a contempt petition regarding the again arrest of former chief minister Punjab Chaudhry Pervaiz

Mehmood Jahangiri, hearing the case, remarked that this court had not issued rest of petitioner in any other case.

How the order of this court was violated when the former CM was released, he questioned.

Petitioner's lawyer argued that his client was arrested again after being released on court's direction. Justice Jahangiri remarked that it could be a contempt if the petitioner was not released on court's order. The lawyer said that the Lahore High Court (LHC) had also stopped the arrest of former CM in any other case to which the bench said that then the contempt case should be filed to the same forum.

Justice Jahangiri remarked that the court had ordered to release the petitioner if he was not wanted in any other case. If he had been arrested in any other case then the trial court would view the matter, he said.

cil (ECNEC). The Ministry of Railway is the sponsoring agency of the project. The main objective of the project is to connect Thar Coal mines and Port Qasim with Railway through New Rail Links and is aligned with sectoral objectives of the Vision 2025 by providing bulk transportation facilities according to the requirement of the growing economy. The project envisages construction of 105-Kilometer long new single line Railway Track infrastructure from Thar Coal Mines to New Chhor Station and Construction of 18-kilometre long Double Line Track which includes 4.20kilometre-long loop lines from Bin Qasim to Port

of Thar coal to rationalize fuel cost thus bringing reduction in the cost of production of electricity besides ensuring uplift of local populace of Tharparkar through generation of roy-The project has been alty and job creation.

and efficient railway infra-

structure to break the geo-

graphical barriers of Thar

coal and enable its transpor-

tation across the country

and to provide an environ-

mentally friendly mode of

coal transportation. If

transported through rail-

way, the environmental pollution will be minimal

besides reducing traffic con-

gestion on roads. The

project to enable utilization

of indigenous Thar coal to

bring import bill in line with

the pillar of Pakistan Vision

2025 and enable expansion

ISLAMABAD: Former Senator Sardar Muhammad Yaqoob Khan Nasir calls on the Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar.

CS directs to continue operation...

Continued from page 1

were the Additional Chief Secretary Home, Saleh Muhammad Nasar, Secretary Food, Mujeebur Rehman, Secretary Fisheries, Hafiz Muhammad Tahir, Commissioner Ouetta, Hamza Shafqaat and representatives of different law enforcement agencies.

of Police, Abdul Khaliq Sheikh and Divisional Commissioners participated in the meeting through video The meeting was in-

The Inspector General

formed by the concerned high ups about the steps taken for prevention of smuggling. Addressing the meeting, the Chief Secretary said

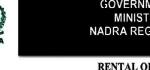
that smuggling is putting negative impacts on economy of the country. The public hardships have also been increased due to increase in prices of daily essential commodities following smuggling.

The Chief Secretary directed to formulate effective system of coordination among all the concerned provincial and federal departments and agencies to curb smuggling from the province He also directed to im-

prove trace and track system for prevention of smuggling of the sugar and fertilizer besides toughening checking at all the check posts across the province. He asserted that the

across border smuggling of essential commodities including sugar and Urea would not be tolerated at all. Moreover, first of all stern action should be taken against those involved in smuggling and their facilitators, adding he directed

further. In this regard, all federal government institutions and provincial government have to work together, he stressed.



GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN MINISTRY OF INTERIOR NADRA REGIONAL HEAD OFFICE QUETTA



RENTAL OFFICE SPACE REQUIRED

FOR NADRA REGISTRATION CENTER TURBAT Official accommodation for NRC at following tehsil/city is required with facilities

requirements mentioned as under:-				
S#	Site Location /NRC	Tehsil	District	Preferred Covered Area
a.	NRC Turbat	Turbat	Kech	3500 to 6000 Sqft

dation should be persisting in the main city Space measuring of covered area preferably from 3500 sqft to 6000 sqft Should be at prominent place having independent entrance. Security wise viable location and easily accessible for general public

Dedicated Electrical Meter/Connecti Proper Outer Door (preferable). mp for wheel chair for disable citizens. Sufficient parking space for staff and general public

Interested parties / owners can purchase the bidding documents on submission of a application at a cost of Rs. 1000/- from below mentioned address between 07:30 ΛM to 3:30 PM (except gazetted holidays). The bids proposal should be submitted duly completed in all respect by 27th Sep. 2023 at 11:30 hours (under Single Stage - Two Envelope Bidding Procedure). The envelopes shall be clearly marked as General and Financial proposals. General Bids / Proposal will be opened by 27th Sep , 2023 a 12:00 hours at Regional Head Office NADRA New Zarghoon Road Quetta in respect of available bidder. Bids / Proposals must include the following documents in addition to any other information that the bidder may find necessary. Moreover, detail terms and conditions, required specification, evaluation criteria are

Attested photocopy of ownership / lease leased property documents.

Attested photocopy of valid approved Site Plan. CNIC, NTN, GST & SST. Completion Certificate of the building (if available). Undertaking / Non Judicial Stamp Paper of Rs. 100/- Certifying that owner building is not temporary / permanently debarred from any Government agency authority / department (without bearing any responsibility on NADRA whatsoever in the contract of the co

this regard).

Bidding documents received after submission of due date/time mentioned above will not be entertained Quoted price shall be inclusive of all taxes, except GST / SST, which shall be mentioned separately. No brokerage / service charges will be paid in case of real estate agent.

Opening date / time of Financial Proposal will be informed to all successful bidder of General Proposal.

NADRA reserves the rights to reject all bids / proposals under PPRA Rules 33 and can cancel the biddir process before acceptance of bid proposal.

Bid can also be reject if owner of selected building fail to produce acceptable required / proper

This advertisement is also available on PPRA website at www.ppra.or

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Daily Soice of Masse Independent

Friday September 08, 2023

'APITAL NEWS

Page 03

'Prioritize capacity, finance for climate governance': Sherry

Senator Sherry Rehman at Institute's roundtable titled 'Financing Climate Action for Pakistan' on Thursday said, "In leveraging options for climate action, especially in the lead-up to COP28, Pakistan needs to prioritize finance, capacity at scale and climate governance." "The intensifying terrain of environmental, climate and pollution challenges in Pakistan needs a reinforcement of priorities for government, civil society and development partners," she added, speaking with a group of leading climate experts and heads of multilateral agencies, a news release said Senator Rehman also

launched the Centigrade Platform at this policy convening, to spur policy discourse, knowledge-based collaborations and resilience advocacy in Pakistan's climate and environment space. She explained that the idea behind Centigrade is to generate science-based climate leadership and communications for amplifying the scale and urgency of the emergencies facing communities, as well as fostering capacity towards emerging and existing crises, both

sectoral and national. Speaking at the event, UN Resident Coordinator, Julien Harneis suggested that there was a need to tally Pakistan's receipt of climate funds against other vulnerable countries and any variance should be examined in terms of absorptive capacity. He also observed that engineers working on Pakistan's large infrastructure projects did not consider the obvious damage that was being caused to the environment. Resident Representative UNDP Pakistan, Samuel Rizk stated that climate finance opportunities for a lower middleincome country (LIMC) like Pakistan were limited, and a finance and investment combination was more likely to be the solution. For development partners like UNDP to assist Pakistan, there were key challenges to consider such as the regulatory environment, deficits in human capital and technical capac-

progress, he added. Country Representative Unicef, Abdullah Fadil observed that the current distribution of climate finance is slanted towards integration, not inclusion. "75% climate-related in-

ity that caused slower

vestments are made in hard infrastructure, as opposed to investments in the resilience of vulnerable communities which help them combat climate stress themselves," he highlighted. There is a great deal of data now available through Unicef's Multi-Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS). which shows that 40% of Pakistani children are suffering from nutritional stunting, which leads to stunted economic contribution and stunted GDP growth. Development needs to be prioritised with inclusion before anything else. Dr Abid Suleri, Executive Director of SDPI. pointed out a dichotomy in the international climate finance regime, whereby vulnerable countries like Pakistan could not leverage the Geneva Pledge unless there was requisite compliance with IMF. While he urged that fiscal prudence was necessary, making crisis adaptation funds dependent on IMF clearance was unnecessary and unfair. He suggested that Debt for Nature Swaps could be explored as an option for climate finance. Agreeing with this ob-

servation, senior climate expert

Ali Tauqeer Sheikh argued that



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Health Service Regulations and Coordination Dr. Nadeem Jan called on caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul-Haq Kakar.

Envoy Junaid says: Belligerence can't defeat peace loving, self respecting nations ISLAMABAD (APP):

Ambassador of Pakistan to Turkiye Dr. Yousaf Junaid said that 16-day 1965 war had left a lesson that peaceloving, brave and self-respecting nations, determined to sacrifice lives for their country could not be defeated by force and belligerence. "Over the last 76 years, three major wars, several skirmishes and numerous rounds of unprovoked clashes have been imposed on Pakistan. India continues its illegal and immoral military occupation of Jammu and Kashmir and deny the right of self-determination to Kashmiris against every norm of international law and the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council," the

ambassador said during Pakistan's Defence and Martyrs Day reception at Pakistan House in Ankara. Turkish Minister of

Trade Prof. Dr Omer Bolat graced the occasion as chief guest and Commander Turkish General Staff (TGS) General Metin Gurak as guest of honour. The event was marked with enthusiasm and patriotism, in which

tribute and homage were paid to the indomitable courage of the armed forces and martyrs who sacrificed their lives in successfully defending the motherland, when Indian forces crossed the international borders with full might in 1965, a press release said on Thurs-

Environmental samples

from Peshawar, Karachi test

positive for wild poliovirus
ISLAMABAD (Online): Health Minister says viruses do

not respect boundaries, urges parents to ensure repeated

polio vaccination and complete routine immunization for

tested positive for wild poliovirus.

Institute of Health said on Wednesday.

lating in Afghanistan.

Four environmental samples collected in August have

The virus was isolated from a sewage sample col-

lected from Shaheen Muslim Town in Peshawar on Au-

gust 17, from two samples collected from two tributaries

of Naray Khuwar in Peshawar on August 22 and from a

sample collected from a site in Karachi Keamari on Au-

gust 17, the Pakistan Polio Laboratory at the National

Reference Lab for poliovirus confirmed that genetic test-

ing has linked the virus in all samples to the cluster circu-

The lab, which also serves as the WHO Regional

High ranking Turkish civil and military officials. ambassadors, members of the diplomatic corps, defence & military attaches, media persons and members of Pakistani community attended the reception.

Ambassador Junaid reiterated that Pakistan was committed to regional peace and security and has contributed significantly to global campaigns against terrorism and peacekeeping missions all over the world.

Pakistan believed in a constructive engagement. resolving issues through dialogue and peaceful coexistence, he stressed and thanked the Turkish nation for standing with Pakistan and Pakistani people through thick and thin.

Tribute paid to Sept 6 martyrs at PHC London ISLAMABAD (APP): Pa-

kistan High Commission, London held a ceremony in connection with the Deconnection with the Defence and Martyrs Day to commemorate the 58th anniversary of Pakistan Defence Day.

The event was attended by distinguished guests, including Dr. Victoria Tuke from the UK's Ministry of Defence, Lords, MPs, Defence Attaches from friendly countries, and members of the commu-

nearing the case, also indicted SP Farooq Buttar and Station House Officer (SHO) of Margalla Police Station Nasir Manzoor in the same case.

Justice Babar Sattar heard the contempt case against deputy commissioner and SSP Operations ICT with regard to abuse of authority in issuance of detention orders against PTI leaders Shehryar Khan Afridi and Shandana Gulzar.

(DC) Irfan Nawaz Memon,

Jameel Zafar and two oth-

ers in a contempt case per-

taining to prolonged deten-

tion of PTI leaders Shehryar

Khan Afridi and Shandana

Gulzar under Maintenance

of Public Order (MPO)

Justice Babar Sattar,

Ordinance.

At the outset of hearing, DC Islamabad Irfan Nawaz Memon and SSP Operations Jameel Zafar submitted their written clarification into the case and extended unconditional

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Thursday indicted apology. Advocate General Ayaz Shaukat also opposed the indicting of the officials Deputy Commissioner and prayed the bench to not indict them as the officers Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP Operations) have extended an uncondi-

IHC indicts DC, SSP

ICT in contempt case

tional apology.

Justice Sattar asked that how can we not indict them, the matter of contempt of court was under way here yet the DC issued another MPO order. Addressing the officials, Justice Sattar said you would be sent to jail if you were convicted. It was a sixmonth sentence wherein you may also live in jail and see how those who you sent to jail live there, he re-

Justice Sattar remarked that the court had fixed this date to frame the charges against the officers. At this, the DC said that the purpose of his order was not to violate the court order at all. He then extended an unconditional apology to the court, which was rejected.

Then the court read out the indictment order against the officers. However, the accused denied the charges against them



Power and Petroleum, Muhammad Ali exchanging views with Kamran Tessori, Governor Sindh dur-

First Lady for global efforts to overcome mental health issues

SLAMABAD (APP): and well-being of people in First Lady Begum Samina Alvi on Thursday called for sustained measures, global contributions and support to overcome the issue of mental health and well-being of people in the conflict

The first lady, in her video message for the 3rd Summit of the First Ladies and Gentlemen in Kviv, Ukraine, urged the need to make efforts to resolve ongoing conflicts in the world.

She said that promoting peace in the world and working together was essential for the mental health. emotional well-being, and peaceful future of the suc-

ceeding generations. The theme of this year's Summit, which was initiated by Ukraine's First Lady Olena Zelenska, was 'Mental Health: Fragility and Resilience of The Future". President Volodymyr Zelensky also delivered a speech at the Summit. The Summit also featured messages from the First Ladies and Gentlemen of Japan. Turkiye, Albania, Germany, Armenia, Macedonia, Poland, Spain, and Sweden among others. In her message for the Summit, Begum Samina Alvi expressed concern about the mental health

conflict zones, besides conveying her sympathies to the families in Ukraine who had to face physical, emotional and mental stresses due to war. "We in Pakistan can feel their pain and empathize with the people of Ukraine. We feel that it is humanity that suffers during crises and conflicts".

Begum Samina Alvi said. She highlighted that Pakistan's own experience of hosting millions of Afghan refugees for over four decades and its long battle against terrorism had taught Pakistan that conflict and war severely affected the mental health of people.

First Lady Samina Alvi highlighted that the brutalities against the Muslims of the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) by India for over seven decades, had badly impacted the mental health of Kashmiris

She referred to a study by Doctors Without Borders and the University of Kashmir which disclosed that nearly 1.8 million Kashmiri adults, almost 45 per cent of the region's adult population, found themselves grappling with varying degrees of mental dis-



ISLAMABAD: Special Assistant to the Prime Minister, Jawad Sohrab Malik, Strengthens Support for Overseas Pakistanis through Engagements with Community Welfare Attaches.

Michael Spindelegger, DG, ICMPD) calls on SAPM, Jawad Malik

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Special Assistant to Prime Minister on Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development, Jawad Sohrab Malik, held a productive meeting here on Thursday with Mr. Michael Spindelegger, the Director General of the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD).

The meeting covered several key areas of collaboration between the Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development (MOPHRD) and ICMPD, according to a press release.

SAPM Jawad Sohrab Malik extended a warm welcome to Mr. Michael Spindelegger, expressing his congratulations on the 30th anniversary of ICMPD.

He highlighted the tending emigrants.

fruitful partnership between MOPHRD and ICMPD since 2016, acknowledging ICMPD's invaluable support in various initiatives.

One notable achievement of this collaboration is the establishment of two Migrant Resource Centers in Islamabad and Lahore, which have proven to be essential hubs for assisting overseas Pakistanis. Furthermore, both sides discussed their work plan for 2023-2026 and expressed eagerness for its effective implementation.

SAPM Jawad Sohrab commended ICMPD's efforts in developing the 'Soft Skills Training Guide' in collaboration with the Overseas Employment Corporation (OEC), which greatly benefits in-



ISLAMABAD: Secretary Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit Baltistan Babar Hayat Tarar chairing a high level meeting to review the preparations to observe Kashmir Black Day on 27th October.

ICCPO reviews diplomatic enclave security

Independent Report measures in place at the diplomatic enclave and discussed strategies for their

enhancement In a meeting held at the Central Police Office, he gave directions to ensure the effective security of residential foreign diplomats. ambassadors, and offices of

international organizations. The meeting was attended by the officers of NLC, Police and CDA. The meeting assessed the complete security of the diplomatic enclave and decided to take measures for its improvement. During the meeting, ongoing construction work in the diplomatic enclave was also reviewed. emphasizing environmentally-friendly construction practices and minimizing damage to natural beauty such as trees and greenery.

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad recommended the construc-Capital City Police Officer tion of protective towers (ICCPO), Dr. Akbar Nasir and barriers to ensure the Khan evaluated the security effective security of residential foreign diplomats ambassadors, and offices of international organizations. Additionally, unnecessary decorations and expenditures were discouraged, said

police source. The ICCPO also ordered to record the video of the movement of entry and exit points of the high-security zone through cameras. He further said that cameras will be installed for diplomatic enclave protection which would be linked with Safe City. Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan emphasized that Islamabad Capital Police is taking multiple initiatives for the effective security of foreigners adding that the officers would regularly review the progress of the ongoing works and person-

nel on duty should be

briefed on daily basis.



gers at Green Line/Blue Line Bus Station outside PIMS Hospital as according to them the quantity of buses are very rare, which needs to be increased by local administration for the ease of the passengers

Netherlands Envoy calls on Caretaker FM

ISLAMABAD (APP) Ambassador of the Netherlands to Pakistan Henny Fokel de Vries on Thursday called on Caretaker Foreign Minister Jalil Abbas Jilani. They discussed important regional and international developments and agreed to further strengthen bilateral cooperation in the areas of agriculture, water management, trade and investment, the Foreign Office Spokesperson posted on social handle X

Ashrafi urges G20 leaders to condemn Indian atrocities in IIOJK, protect minority rights

274,994 doctors registered with **PMDC**

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pa kistan Medical and Dental Council (PMDC) has said that so far 274,994 doctors are registered with the council.

According to an official of PMDC, the Pakistan Medical Council right after assuming the charge and in a very short span of time started working dedicatedly for doctors students and relevant stakeholders and took all

necessary steps to resolve their genuine and relevant He said that the licensing Department of the

council during the last nine months issued more than 41,004 renewals,13,208 provisional registrations to new graduates and 13,888 full registrations to doctors who completed their house jobs success-

PIDE roundtable meeting on fixing the fiscal policy

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDÊ) Macro Policy Lab recently hosted the "Fixing Fiscal Policy" Round Table Conference in Islamabad. The event addressed the persistent challenge of fiscal indiscipline in Pakistan and sought to chart a visionary path for the nation's fiscal policy. Distinguished participants included senior economists, researchers, and fiscal experts from various institutions across the country, such as the Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives, P&D Baluchistan, QAU, Baluchistan, QAU, SZABIST, the US Em-bassy, ADTMA, P&D Punjab, IIUI, NUST, and

In his introductory remarks, Dr. Nasir Iqbal, Associate Prof. and Chief of Macro-Policy Lab, PIDE said that the Round Table Conference, "Fixing Fiscal Policy," aims to unite policymakers and thought leaders to foster collaboration and develop local solutions in the fiscal framework of Pakistan. By bringing together academia and policymakers, we seek to chart a visionary path of fiscal policy in Pakistan for the future, transcending from short-term approaches and firefighting.

In his opening remarks speaking at the occasion Dr. Nadeem ul Haque, VC PIDE said that three things need to be focused on for the fixation of

fiscal policy. Firstly, the role of the government is crucial in ensuring effective fiscal management. Secondly, taxation and expenditure must be carried out in a transparent manner with accountability. This includes how to collect taxes, how to spend them, and where to allocate funds. Lastly, debt management is also an important aspect that requires atten-Dr. Ashfaque Hasan

Khan, Principal of the School of Social Sciences & Humanities, NUST while speaking at the roundtable meeting said that to address economic challenges, it is important to immediately reset the role of the govern ment from being an active player to a facilitator.

Malik conducts series of virtual meetings with CWAs ISLAMABAD (APP): In added During these meet-ings, SAPM Malik reaf-

line with the Prime Minister's commitment to addressing the concerns of overseas Pakistanis, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development Jawad Sohrab Malik recently conducted a series of virtual meetings with Community Welfare Attaches (CWAs) stationed in Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman, JAE and Kingdom of Saudi

University in Federal Capital.

"In these virtual interactions, Malik conducted individual meetings with each CWA, aiming to evaluate their ongoing efforts and the strategies they employ to tackle the challenges faced by Pakistani expatriates in these countries," said a press release here Thurs-

The CWAs provided valuable insights into their roles, shedding light on the obstacles they encountered while providing support to

ing their contributions to the country's develop-Moreover, Malik requested that each CWA submit a progress report within a week to monitor and facilitate the implementation of necessary im-

ISLAMABAD: Indonesian Ambassador to Pakistan Adam M Tugio posing for

a group photo graph along with students after recognition ceremony of a local

firmed the government's

unwavering support for the

CWAs and stressed the im-

portance of adopting a pro-

active approach to resolve

the issues and grievances of

Pakistanis residing in these

CWAs to actively engage

with local companies and

institutions to create more

employment opportuni-

workforce, further enhanc-

He also directed the

Jawad Sohrab Malik has scheduled similar engagements with the remaining CWAs stationed in dif ferent countries in the com



ISLAMABAD: A view of the newly inaugurated "Jungle Track" at Shakarparian area as the track is unsuitable for walking or cycling at all , which is surprising in order to inaugurated by Chairman CDA in Federal Capital.

Toshakhana case Interim bail of Bushra Bibi extended

ISLAMABAD (Online): Interim bail of Bushra Bibi wife of chairman PTI has been extended Toshakhana case.

Toshakhana case against Bushra Bibi came up for hearing before additional sessions judge Tahir Abbas Sipra in district and sessions court Islamabad

Bushra Bibi appeared in the court along with her lawyers Suleman Safdar, Intizar Panjotha and Naeem Panjotha. The investigation of-

ficer gave a statement in the court saying arrest of former first lady is wanted by him.

IHC removes objections from **Imran petition**

ISLAMABAD (Online): Islamabad High Court (IHC) has removed objections from PTI chairman petition seeking court order to restrain authorities from arresting him in other cases besides providing details of cases to him.

Chief Justice (CJ) IHC Aamir Farooq took up chairman PTI petition for hearing with objections Thursday.

The counsel for PTI Suleman Safdar requested the court to restrain FIA, NAB and Police from arresting chairman PTI in other cases. Report regarding the cases and arrests against chairman PTI has not come so far.

OPINION Daily Independent Page 04

Daily soice of Masse. Independent

Friday September 08, 2023

Sugar prices

Sugar prices are a major political economy issue in Pakistan. Any small or large upward change in domestic sugar prices tends to trigger much noise in the media, with the mentareas of the Beas, Ravi government activating its adand Sutlej rivers deep inside
India have flooded ministrative machinery to Pakistan's Punjab province. launch a 'crackdown' against It has become vital for Insugar mill owners and traders to bring down retail rates.

Sometimes the judiciary also intervenes because of the massive public attention sugar prices draw, thanks to the political profile of most mill own- (IWT). Their total water at ers. A 'probe' is ordered, the time amounted to about lengthy reports are prepared the years, India has develand recommendations formulated to 'reform' the sugar trade and keep prices in check. But nothing really changes.

The reason for the recurring 'sugar price crises' is well known: the government's involvement in the sugar economy to protect politically powerful large cane growers and factory owners. The solution is also obvious: withdrawal of the government from the market, and removal of restrictions on free import and export of the sweetener to let demand-and-supply forces take their own course.

However, no government civil or military — has shown enough political will to implement the solution for fear of losing the support of large has to deal with issues of a growers and wealthy millers. Hence, both farmers and factory owners remain deeply invested in this crop because of guaranteed, risk-free profits.

It was, then, not surprising der turbulence. What we when the discourse over should do is to hold elecsugar's rising cost gained mo- cal situation. mentum recently. Many accused the previous PDM gov- state provides a basis of ernment of allowing the export trust and confidence in the of 'surplus stocks' lying with mill system. This taill is weak ening in Pakistan, and that dent George Washington in democratic process. Otherowners earlier this year, blaming it for the current price spike. Others held sugar's unchecked smuggling to Afghanistan, due to the large gap between the domestic and international prices of the commodity, responsible. Punjab's caretaker government has blamed the price surge on an interim Lahore High Court order that stopped it from monitoring the | The launch by India of its commodity's supply chain to ensure implementation of the notified price of Rs 100 per kilo.

Interestingly, the caretaker propelled India into anadministration has done nothing to get the interim order, that separated the men from the boys. was passed in May, vacated, despite consistently rising renations decades to develop.
The commitment to the US tail prices and awareness of lunar mission was ansugar smuggling to Afghanistan nounced by president John F. Kennedy in May 1961. Balochistan. administration's report on the later in July 1969, when Apollo XI sent two astromatter, presented to the nauts - Neil Armstrong Punjab chief minister recently, and Buzz Aldrin—to the moon and returned them to is self-incriminating at best. earth safely, to be wel-Past experience shows that the comed by Kennedy's successor (and nemesis) presiissue will fade away in the next dent Richard Nixon. few days or weeks. The retail rate will also come down to Prime Minister Atal Bihari settle at a level matching the increased official support price for the next harvest. Sugar the beneficiary of forms only a small portion of Vajpayee's farsightedness. household expenses. If the government wants to stabilise the Apollo XI, will scratch the market it should extricate itself from the supply chain. It is in- experiments there. correct to say that the price of ro-cks back to earth. Fragsugar can aggravate or mitigate ments were distributed by economic shocks in poor or hit world. (Incidentally, the middle-income families.

If the authorities want to room of president Yahya help these families, they should Khan's grandson, in focus on reducing the overall cost of living for them — and these futuristic spa-ce not just that of sugar.

The eastern rivers



Ali Taugeer Sheikh

Climate change has made the South Asian monsoon evermore unpredictable. Heavy rains in the catch-

dia and Pakistan to initiate a dialogue on the transboundary impact of climate change, starting with water management between the two countries.

The eastern rivers were awarded to India for its exclusive use under the Indus Waters Treaty 33 million acre feet. Over oped a complex web of dams, supported by link canals and barrages, to utilise its share almost en-

tirely. They include Bhakra Dam on the Sutlej, the Pong and Pandoh dams on the Beas, Thein (Ranjitsagar) on the Ravi, the Beas-Sutlej Link, the Madhapur-Beas Link, and the Indira Gandhi Canal to Rajasthan. They collectively divert about 95 per cent of water flows all in accordance with the

India has additionally planned three projects to bring new areas under irrigation, instead of leaving the balance of about 2MAF for environmental flows. The IWT, though, had not envisioned this, and neither has Pakistan raised it as an option to test the waters. Pakistan has not raised any concerns over India's plans to divert the remaining water of its eastern rivers.

countries are true to the letter of the treaty, they are violative of its spirit: it was not the treaty's intent to disturb the hydrology, ecology, economy, culture or folklore of the birthplace of the Indus Valley Civilisation that probably originated with the city of Harappa and flourished. according to some experts, between 3,500 and 2,700

In doing so, while both

The construction of the Bhakra and Beas dams was, however, conceived decades before the two countries signed the water distribution treaty in 1960. Bhakra Dam was first conceived in 1916 and the preliminary work started in 1946, a year before independence. It was completed in 1963, within two years of the signing of the IWT. This dam has helped India utilise almost all of its share of the eastern rivers. The Pong and Pandoh dams were conceived in 1926. The second phase of construction began in 1961 and was completed in 1974.

completed, the flow of waters to Pakistan decreased to a trickle. In the Sutlej at Suleimanki, the peak of 598,872 cusecs per second in 1955 was reduced to a mere 17,462 cusecs in 2022. In the Ravi, at Ravi Syphon, the flows shrank from a peak of 920,000 to just 63,720 cusecs during the same period. Except for the high floods of 1988, the upstream infrastructure has steadily become watertight, not allowing any downstream leakage.

As these projects were

This has posed monumental challenges to com-

munities living along the Ravi and Sutlej rivers in Pakistan: the recharging of groundwater and flushing of stagnant and polluted waters of dying rivers no longer happens annually. The sedimentation and nutrients that periodic flooding brought to their fields has ceased. Farmers keep up the yield with costly inputs that further degrade the quality of surface water and groundwater.

For illustrative purposes, the Ravi's high floods at Jassar in 1955 crossed 680,000 cusecs, compared to only 71,010 cusecs in 2023. In Sutlej, at Suleimanki, it crossed 598,872 cusecs, compared to 191,053 cusecs during the same period. In other words, the present flooding is nothing when compared to the floods of 1955, in spite of the multiple challenges they posed. Several conclusions

can be drawn from these trends: one, the construction of infrastructure upstream by India, has reduced for Pakistan the risks of frequent floods. Allowances for human error and management practices, however, need to be agreed on with India to mitigate

Pakistan's risks. Two, intense monsoon can still render the existing infrastructure inadequate and unsafe. Pakistan's risks will compound if present thresholds become more frequent.

Three, as India-Pakistan improve their early warning systems and bilateral communication mechanisms, Pakistan will need to undertake a strategic resilience assessment of its infrastructure. A relatively small number of families were recently evacuated to safety. Is it possible to permanently move the settlers in riverbeds to safer locations? In Sindh, this is presently being done under a World Bank project, by granting land ownership documents and extending financial support for floodproof housing. The present floods in the eastern rivers provide an important turning point to leapfrog towards flood-resilient com-

munities and infrastructure. Both the Bhakra and Beas dams are located in Himachal Pradesh, bordering Indian Punjab. The changes in precipitation trends there are, therefore, of paramount interest to Pakistan. According to the Indian Institute of Meteo-

rology, the monsoon season is getting longer there, stretching from June to September, giving 10-15pc more rainfall. Further, because of heat spikes, glacial melt is faster and now contributes between 19 to 24pc of the river flows. This is particularly true for the Sutlej-Beas basin that originates in the western Himalayan region in the Tibetan plateau

Edited with the trial version of

These climatic changes have several implications for the duration and severity of the flooding season in Pakistan as well as for cropping patterns and human settlements that have sprung up in the riverbeds. Yet, the treaty is considered to be one of the most successful water-sharing mechanisms in the world. In fact, it has emerged as a global common good that needs systematic global endeavours to protect it from emerging climatic challenges. Article 7 deals with future cooperation regarding the Indus river system. Pakistan needs to request an extraordinary meeting to discuss climate change under Article 7, as it has the inbuilt flexibility and provisions to address emerging issues. --

et's hold elections



Hassan Baig

History teaches us that no country can ever grow or develop without following a proper system of governance. Only a strong system that works to achieve something great and worthwhile can help nations grow.Pakistan is passing through a critical phase and complex nature, ranging from a possible economic default to political upheavals. A country's political system ideally provides a firm ground for economic growth, but in the case of Pakistan, its politics is untions to get out of this criti-

The social contract between citizens and the system. This faith is weak-

is the real threat to the system. We need to restore the confidence of Pakistanis on the system as per their aspirations in accordance with the provisions of the constitution. Any deviation to the constitution means tearing apart the social contract, which has the potenstructure. Policymakers and the 'big-

wigs' have to understand the system; hyperinflation is already playing havoc with the nation.

Terrorism has once again entered our country, creating a security situation. An inclusive political system can restore the faltering law-and-order situation as well as take care of rising poverty in the country. Developed and progressive countries like China, India, the US and European nations have all followed and practised a rock-solid political system based on their social contract. US policymakers have

always ensured that elec- need to be avoided as we tions in the country are held on the specified day, date, time and year as per the country's constitution since their independence; making on the people of they elected their first presi-

Since policymakers in the US have ensured that people get to vote for their popular leaders and no war or emergency could ever compel them to postpone elections. This is the way forward to gain the status of a great nation and superpower, and tial to destroy the entire earn respect in the international community.

Contrary to this. wrong policy decisions and importance of the electoral mismanagement have marred the political and economic system of Pakistan, disturbing the social fabric of society. Had we practised and protected the electoral system since our independence in 1947, we would have had received the status of an 'Asian Tiger in the real sense of the word. But unfortunately we have been experimenting with multiple political and economic systems that lack coherence and consistency, and this has pushed the country towards a total col-

These adventures cannot afford such drastic decisions any more. But what next, then? The real choice is to leave decision-Pakistan to promote the

wise, the obvious choice is to go for another social contract, which may not be a popular decision.

Currently, the 'caretakers' are doing everything except making arrangements to hold elections. This is strange. Hyperinflation has hit the poor hard, and the caretakers cannot do anything about it except for asking people to wait. But this wait is too long and arduous. And many experts suggest that the ordeal may take an even longer time than expected to end given the situation on ground. The IMF's stopgap arrangement/stand-by agreement is in place. The document contains plenty of hard and strict conditions to correct the economy, which is the most difficult task of the time to deal with.

The Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) is also in the process of establishing a fullfledged secretariat to help explore the avenues of foreign direct investment (FDI) in clear terms or in public-private partnership (PPP) mode. We are yet to see the outcome of this ini-

mission of Pakistan (ECP)

electoral constituencies instead of holding elections in Pakistan. The ECP is also in the process of consultation with political parties to decide on elections, but what about the constitution that bounds it to hold elections within the stipulated time period as given in the constitution of Pakistan. We do not know much about the constitutional requirement regarding consultation with political parties.

If there is any constitutional obligation regarding delimitation on the basis of the new digital census as approved by the Council of Common Interest (CCI), then at least a date for elections could be announced by the ECP. The delay in announcing the exact date for elections in Pakistan is giving rise to undue speculations, which must be avoided to help

collapse hand over the reins of government to elected leaders, who can take long-term decisions for economic re-The Election Com- forms. Economic growth and development needs an is apparently more inter- immediate policy decision TheNews

ested in the delimitation of to settle political disputes. Economic security is a new paradigm to rely upon for ultimate security of the state. Economic power now decides whether a country is a strong state/super power, as the time of chivalry has gone into the dustbin of history. Tech powers or chip and semiconductors producers controlling the supply chains of this critical technology are the new realities of economic powers.

> The new war is an economic war between tech giants – China and the US in an attempt to control this world. The most pressing question to ask is: where does Pakistan lie on this list?

Seventh, the IT sector may be given 'industrial status' to boost e-commerce and export of services. Eighth, education be promoted to get all children enrolled in schools, leaving save the economy from no child behind.

Ninth, we should The economic emer- teach technical skills to our gency requires a speedy young people to enable decision on elections to them to find good job opportunities. Tenth, shortmedium- and long-term plans be devised to get rid of foreign loans to ensure the sustainable growth of the economy. -- Courtesy

Reaching the stars



F.S. Aiiazuddin

Chandrayaan-3 rocket and space probe on Aug 23, 2023, and, a few days later, its Aditya L-1 observation mission to the sun, have other league. They have

Such programmes take The It was fulfilled eight years and 'Buzz' Aldrin — to the

India's Chandrayaan's project was made public by Vajpa-yee in August 2003. Narendra Modi, beca--me

Índia's Chandrayaan-3 mission, like that of surface of the moon and conduct valuable scientific Apollo XI brought moon one sent to us is allegedly on display in the drawing Dubai.)

It is interesting that programmes draw on antiquity for their names -

Apollo, Chandrayaan, and Adit--ya. India's two missions, though, bel-ong to a space age where the horizon is infinity. Chandrayaan-3 is the

first of its kind to land successfully on the moon's South Pole. By comparison, Aditya L-1 is even more daring. It will travel 1.5 million kilometers and take four months to reach Lagrange point 1 — the exact spot "where the gravitational forces of two large objects — such as the sun and the earth — cancel each other out, allowing a spacecraft to hover. Once Aditya-L1 reaches this 'parking spot', it would be able to orbit the sun at the same rate as the earth". It can monitor the sun even during an eclipse.

Although Pakistan will never be the direct beneficiary of the scientific data collected by Chandrayaan-3 and Aditya L-1, it could learn from their development outlay. The cost of the be \$46 million. By contrast, Pakistan's external debt stands at \$125 billion, with no moon or sun rockets to show for it.

I n d i a Chandrayaan-3 is on the moon. Its Aditya L-1 will hover around the sun. It is not inconceivable that India may soon launch a space station that will orbit the earth, with its agreements, including payhardware aimed at sites hidden from the naked eye in neighbouring countries. Hopefully, someone in our National Command Authority responsible for protection of our nuclear assets has anticipated such a possibility.

It should remember, though, US president Ronald Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative of 1983, to provide the US with a space-based shield that would detect and destroy enemy (ie nuclear) ballistic missiles as soon as they were launched.

The then USSR, determined not to be left be-

hind, tried to match the US. It took a new leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, to admit the idiocy that brought the USSR to the brink of insolvency. The USSR collapsed under the weight of pretentious, unaffordable ambitions. It

conceded defeat. In December 1987, the US and the Soviet Union signed the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty, ending the senseless arms race between the two superpow-Its preamble read: "Once the restructuring,

corporatisation and privatisation of Wapda/ KESC's thermal power generation, power transmission and distribution is complete and Nepra is fully operative, all future investment in power generation, transmission and distribution facilities will become market driven and of no direct concern to GOP. Investors will deal with purchasers, the distribution compa-Aditya L-1 is reported to nies; enter into supply contracts with them, develop their projects under Nepra licence and operate under its oversight.'

It continued: "Competitive tariffs will comprise an energy purchase price and a capacity purchase price with adequate provisions for escalation. The GOP will guarantee that the terms of executed ment terms, are main-

The bureaucrats who designed the scheme enjoy protection here or asylum abroad. The beneficiaries of this largesse are still lording it within our country. Meanwhile, our public struggles every month to pay the price for their It takes money and

maturity to understand the fusion of science and poetry inherent in Robert Browning's inspirational lines: "Ah, but a man's reach should exceed his grasp, Or what's a heaven -- Courtesy Dawn

Pride and prejudice



Afiya S. Zia

Halfway into his term as

prime minister, Imran Khan had proudly hyperbolised that, 'I am democracy'. He had praised the military and security agencies for their services and threatened to incarcerate protesting opponents — "not in a VIP jail, but where the poor are sent". Khan may never have 'been' democracy but his fall from elite populist to ordinary victim of state subjugation poises him for a second coming — this time, as a democrat. As prime minister.

Khan spoke with a forked tongue: he condemned Islamophobia internationally but weaponised Muslim pie-ty domestically, tolerated the torment of Ahmedis and other minorities, and his alleged pilferage was justified while rivals were condemned as dacoits. Rather than tackle institutional corruption or regulatory lapses, he perfected trolling as governance, peddled fake news, fumbled with the bureaucracy, blamed women victims for sexual violence and empowered military hubris.

The army leadership's disenchantment with Khan and his subsequent defiance il--lustrates how the clash of egos of state male elites shapes history in Pakistan. Khan's biggest achievement to date has been ins-pired by his deep sulk for being ousted and becoming civilian-patriot versus regimechanging state sellout. This invited the vengean--ce of the guardians of military hegemony

Instead of envy, the 'best revenge' from Khan's opponents should have resolved simultaneously

been more democracy, via and not shrugged aside. Parelections. Instead, the opportunist PDM served a prince whose unforgiving philosophy is that it is far safer to be feared than loved.

The violent events of May 9 could have been a clumsy coup attempt, or a thwarted Haqiqi Azadi Spring, but the images of moral injury that triggered his young, mostly urban middle-class, outraged, weeping supporters, especially defiant women, are compelling. This adulation has only escalated after his incarceration.

The admirable spine shown by some PTI ideologues, in contrast to the rats who jum-ped ship, could help Khan's democratic conversion. The red line challenge may have been gauche and violent but has yielded rewards that come with genuine resistance movements. The leaders of the Lawyers' Movement sensed this a while ago. But what about the rest of civil soci-

coined 'civil society' collective of NGOs, media personalities, rights defenders and public intellectuals have been debating the merits of transition versus transformation; boycotts of elections; and who to blame the most for failing democracy—the military, the parties and praetorians, or the elite that collaborate? The verdicts on these became easier with the signing of the Benazir-Nawaz Charter of Democ-

Despite decades of debates and intellectual engagement through op-eds, donor-funded consultancy reports and WhatsApp clique wisdom, why does civil society get paralysed at times of political crisis? The main calling for activists is to defend democracy through fair and free elections and to uphold citizens' constitutional rights.

Yes, the dissolution of the Punjab and KP assemblies must be scrutinised and

ties can be held accountable and severely criticised for governance failure, but not punished, cancelled or censored. That's the prerogative of voters via ballot.

A moment of cynical vindication is one thing, but punitive state excesses against all political activists must be robustly opposed, irrespective of motive, class, gender, ideology and political affiliation or their alleged offenses. Due process, fair trials, best defence, free speech and presumed innocence must be advocated by human rights activists without prejudice or partisan-

For women's rights groups, there can be no equivocation over some women de--serving more de--fence than others, or passive-aggressive resentment over the entitlement or ingratitude of the PTI. Human rights aren't pardons to be dispensed by high priests, nor are they ear-ned. Democrats are often born Since 2007, the newly out of political crises and personal rites of passage.

Admittedly, any principled or intellectual engagement with PTI activists and apologists has been a futile endeavour. Attempts to frame the mistreatment of PTI members in the gendered and class history of such state excesses has been arrogantly dismissed as 'state collaboration'. Instead of building a common alliance of survivors, the counsels for PTI exceptionalism wanted to stand alone on the moral perch of defending martyrdom. The singular victim-saviour that defines the populist has been perfected by the PTI, but now must be rid of this false pride for a politics of collectivism. Civil society must quit their prejudice, unequivocally oppose the state's excesses and demand immediate elections and, robustly defend the human rights of all party activists, without excep-

tion. -- Courtesy Dawn

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prosecution procedure

after registration of FIR

against power thieves. The

Chief Secretary said that

prevention of electricity

theft is a national cause. He

said that the burden of

electricity theft has to be

borne by the common

consumer, and urged the

citizens to support the

government in the national

campaign against electricity theft. He said

that electricity thieves are

causing direct damage to

the national treasury,

adding that it is necessary

to punish such elements.
The Chief Secretary

said that according to the

data, the line losses are

highest in the areas managed by LESCO and MEPCO in Punjab. He

said that the administration

and police would provide

full support in the

operation against electricity theft while a

committee would be

constituted at the province

campaign

Punjab govt ordered

crackdown on power

thieves in province

CS urges citizens to support national drive against electricity theft

Independent Report

LAHORE: The caretaker

Punjab government, on

instructions to all the

divisional commissioners

and regional police officers

(RPOs) to launch a full-

scale crackdown on

were issued by Chief

Secretary Punjab Zahid

Akhtar Zaman during a

video link meeting held at

the Civil Secretariat. The

Additional Chief Secretary

(Home), secretaries of

department, Additional IG

Special Branch attended

the meeting while all

divisional commissioners,

RPOs and heads of Power

Distribution Companies

participated through video

to take stern action against

employees and officers

patronizing electricity

The meeting decided

government

The instructions

electricity thieves.

industries,

Punjab Governor inaugurates 3-day food technology exhibition

Independent Report LAHORE: Punjab Governor Muhammad Balighur Rehman inaugurated the three-day International Food Technology (IFTEC), Plastics and Pack exhibition at the Expo Centre, here on Thursday.

Addressing audience, he said promotion of industry and trade was very important for prosperity and development of the country, adding promotion of industry leads to s o c i o e c o n o m i c development of the country and also generates e m p l o y m e n t opportunities. He said organisation of such international exhibitions bade well for bolstering the

Appreciating to exchange ideas and cost-

businessmen to society, the Punjab governor said businesspeople were not only contributing to development of the country by paying taxes, but also through their welfare works.

He said that such exhibitions would give an opportunity to people associated with the plastic and packaging industry to expand their businesses. The governor said that such exhibitions would have a positive impact on business development and the country's economy. He said that such event also play an important role in promoting the latest technologies by bringing together diversified exhibitors from all over the world and provide a forum

KARACHI: Caretaker Sindh Chief Minister, Justice (Retd) Maqbool Baqar

talks with media persons during mourning processions in connection of

40th day Chehlum-e-Hazrat Imam Hussain (A.S), grandson of Prophet

It was informed that

transport department to

bring forward the private

sector and in this context,

it was also suggested that

these loans be provided at

guidelines, from the Office

of Director Student Affairs

located at Chellah Campus

initiative aims to ensure

that all students, regardless

of their internet access, can

easily access the necessary

UAJK, spokesperson confirmed

that Prof. Dr. Muhammad

Kaleem Abbasi, the Vice-

Chancellor, has granted

approval for the extension

of admission dates for all

umbrella of the University

of Azad Jammu and

Kashmir, now aligned with

the September 15, 2023

deadline. According to the

revised notification, the

final date for regular

admissions across all

departments within the

the departments under the

Speaking on behalf of

Muzaffarabad.

documentation.

the zero markup rate.

MULTAN: Rescue workers evacuate people from

the villages as water from the Sutlej River

continued to inundate settlements along its banks,

UAJK extends admission

deadline for fall semester

MUZAFFARABAD collect admission forms,

(APP): In a significant along with comprehensive

15k buses needed for

public transport, 1029 buses

plying on roads in the city

revealed that a total of in the light of the report of

15,000 buses are needed the World Bank, around

for the comprehensive 13000 more public

KARACHI (APP): The Thursday.

World Bank report has

operational on city roads

including 240 buses of

People's Bus Service, 100

buses of BRT, and 689 old

buses operated by private

progress on route feasibility for the

procurement of 500 more

provincial minister of

finance, revenue, and

planning and development

in Sindh Muhammad

Younus Dagha was told

these details by the

officers of the Sindh

transport department

during a briefing on

projects at his office in the

Sindh secretariat here, said

spokesperson on

near Multan on Thursday.

University of Azad Jammu

and Kashmir (UAJK),

under its esteemed

patronage, has extended the

regular admission dates for

the upcoming Fall 2023

applies to admission in

various programs, including BS, MSc, MPhil, and PhD,

at the UAJK. The new

deadline for admission

submissions is now set for

UAJK's Public Relations

Department has officially

entrance tests for these

programs are scheduled to

take place on September 20

students seeking admission

to the University of

21.Prospective

In line with this

extension

that

Kashmir are encouraged to Faculty of Sciences.

development,

This

September 15.

announcement,

communicated

buses for the province.

Besides, work is in

caretaker

He said he was happy to see that more than 200 plastic and packaging industry stalls had been set up at the three-day international exhibition and companies from more than 20 countries including Canada, Belgium, Russia, Denmark, France. Germany, America, United Arab Emirates were

participating in the event.
President Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) Kashif Anwar, Managing Director Pegasus Consultancy, Aamer Khanzada, GM Pegasus Projects Consultancy, Kashif Waheed

representatives of various companies related to food processing, plastic and packaging industry were present in large numbers



ribbon to inaugurate the 18th IFTECH and Plastic & Pack exhibitions

Caretaker CM Sindh says: Street crimes in city, kidnapping for ransom in Riverine area being curbed

Caretaker Sindh Chief Minister Justice (Rtd) Maqbool Bagar has said that his government was taking strict measures to curb the menace of street crime in Karachi and kidnapping for ransom in the Riverine area.

"We are establishing the rule of law and nobody would be allowed to take the law in his hands." This he said while

talking to media at M.A Jinnah Road at Sea-breeze where he attended the Chehlum procession. Minister Home Brig (retd)
Haris Nawaz, IG Police

Minister Home Brig (retd)
Haris Nawaz, IG Police

Minister Home Brig (retd)

Minister Home Brig (retd) Raja Riffat Mukhtar, situation and its positive

Khadim Rind, and others. The caretaker CM

said that all the abducted persons, except a few have been recovered. He added that the remaining kidnapees would be recovered shortly. "We have given a clear message to the police that no negligence into the security and safety of the citizens would be tolerated," he

Justice Baqar said that the issue of street crime was being solved. He added that the home minister and

Additional IG Police results would come out shortly.

To a question, the caretaker CM said that the civilian government was taking measures to improve the economic situation of the country. He hoped that people would witness the improvement. Earlier, the chief

minister attended Mailis at Nishtar Park and then went to CPO where he reviewed security arrangements for the procession at the Command & Control center. The chief minister also attended the peaceful culmination of Chehlum procession at M.A Jinnah Road, Sea-breeze.

Oct 14 Conference to have profound impact on KP politics: JUI-F

Maulana Atta-ur-Rehman said that the historic Jan, former Provincial conference in Peshawar on Information Secretary Asif October 14 will have a profound impact on the politics of the province.

He was addressing a meeting of Central Districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa at the residence of the Senator Dilawar Khan in Mardan The spokesperson of the governor confirmed General Secretary Maulana

PESHAWAR (APP): Atta Haque Darwish, Provincial Ameer, JUI-F Maulana Fazal Ali Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Provincial Information Secretary Haji Abdul Jalil Iqbal Daudzai also attended the meeting.

Maulana Amanullah Haqqani JUI District Amir Maulana Muhammad Qasim, District General Secretary Maulana Amanat Shah Haqqani, Senator Haji Dilawar Khan, Maulana Qaiseruddin, Hafiz Akhtar Ali and others also spoke.

Dumper-tractor trolley collision claims 3 lives LAHORE (Online): As

many as 3 persons died and 4 were injured when a dumper collided with a standing tractor trolley at Arayan stop Raiwind road

Those riding tractor trolley were having breakfast when the dumper collided with tractor trolley.

3 persons died on the spot while 4 got injured. On information Rescue teams rushed to the scene and shifted the injured to Indus hospital.



HYDERABAD: Security high alert on the top of building at Koh-e-Noor Chowk during Chehlam of Hazrat Imam Hussain (RA) the grandson of the Holy Prophet Mohammad (PBUH), martyred along with his family members and companions at Karbala.

Chelum of Hazrat Imam Hussain observed in northern Sindh

others part of the country, the Chelum of Hazrat Imam Hussain (RA) was observed at Sukkur, On the occasion Khairpur, Ghotki, Chehlum, the prominent religious spirit, devotion powers. and respect on Thursday. Add

In this connection the Majalis Aza programmes, seminars and conferences were held in the various areas/towns to highlight the sacrifices and the services of Hazrat Imam Hussain (RA) for Islam.

Speakers paid rich tributes to the Hazrat Imam Hussain (RA), and his 72 companions who sacrificed their lives for the holy cause.Hazrat Imam Hussain (RA) was the younger grandson of the Holy Prophet (PBUH), and the younger son of the Hazat Ali (RĂ) and Hazrat Fatima (RA). In all parts

SUKKUR (APP): Like taken out to highlight the importance of the day and pay rich tribute to the Karbala martyrs.

Shikarpur, Jaccababad, speakers said that Azadari K a s h m o r e , is the strongest citadel and Noushehroferoze and other most effective spiritual parts including Rohri, Pano weapon against Aqil, Kot Diji with international colonial

Addressing in Majlise-Aza, the participants, and speakers said Azadari is echoes of Zainab (RA) and Zain-ul Abideen (RA). They said Azadari-e-Imam Hussain (RA) preaches courage and bravery and the lesson of sacrifice with the spirit of sacrifice.

In Khairpur and other districts, speakers said that Nawasa-e-Rasool Al-Saqlain Shahzada-e-Konain Hazrat Imam Hussain (RA) sacrificed his life along with 72 near and dear ones in Karbala for protecting Islamic values, supporting human dignity, and defending of the northern Sindh religion and Shariat mourning processions were rather he took religion.



ABBOTTABAD: A View of the fire eruption in vehicles at workshop of shumalai area of the

PAL organizes seminar on 76 years of KP Literature

PESHAWAR (APP): Mehboob-ur-Rehman said Pakistan Academy of that both prose and poetry Letters (PAL) organized a of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is seminar on 76 Years Literature of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa with Aziz Ijaz and Kalsoom Zeb as chief guests and Dr Mehboob-ur-Rehman as guest of honour.

Addressing the participants of the seminar, the renowned scholar, researcher and poet, Professor Dr Yar Mohammad Maghmoon said that special thing in the beautiful literature of the writers of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is that it reflects the culture, civilization and traditions of the people. He said that natural environment and colour of the society is visible in the literature of the province.In his address

commendable from all aspects as it reflects nationalism, humanity and natural environment of the Pakhtun society. Professor

Mengal, Malik Arshad Hussain and Resident Director PAL Peshawar, Badshah Nusrat shed detailed light on the literary work in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, so the coming generations utilize it to their benefit. They said that the literature of Khyber

Pakhtunkhwa not only consists of sweet stories, lines, phrases and other segments of the literature, rather also contains reality. The seminar was also

followed by a Mushaira in the guest of honour, Dr which Yousaf Ali Dilsooz.

Mohammad (PBUH), at M.A Jinnah road in Karachi. Governor hospitalized due to blood pressure

ABBOTTABAD (APP): Governor KP Haji Ghulam Ali suffered a mild rise in blood pressure during his stay in Nithia Gali on Thursday.

transport system of transport buses were Karachi while currently needed in Karachi to meet is team immediately shifted him to the Ayub During the briefing, Medical Complex in the caretaker provincial Abbottabad earlier this minister Mohammad morning. The Governor Younus Dagha directed that received immediate medical the private sector should treatment at the Ayub be encouraged under Medical Complex while the public-private partnership spokesperson projects to meet the huge also confirmed that gap in public transport for

subsequently, his blood pressure has since returned caretaker to normal. For the last minister was informed that couple of days, Governor a plan to provide easy KP Haji Ghulam Ali was loans to local private in the Hazara division to transporters through the attend several ceremonies establishment of an as chief guest. endowment fund was under consideration by the

CTD arrests banned outfit's militant in Sukkur

SUKKUR (APP): The Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) has arrested a militant associated with a banned outfit wanted in highprofile terrorism cases in

was head of the banned outfit's provincial student wing and he was wanted in high-profile terrorism cases.

8 held during crackdown

Police in different raids on Thursday arrested eight outlaws involved in illegal activities and also recovered narcotics, and liquor from their possession. According to police, during a crackdown, police arrested as many as eight outlaws including two proclaimed offenders wanted in two different cases.Sub-divisional Police Officer said that Wah Saddar Police raided two different drug dens o Danish and Shahbaz.

Maliha Husain says: Sexual harassment ruining society

Maliha Husain, executive director, Mehergarh—a Center for Learning, has said sexual harassment is ruining society as cancer.

"Hence, we all from, parents to teachers, are duty-bound to play a proactive role for rooting out the evil in an effective way," she stressed.

Addressing a seminar on 'Sexual Harassment Act menace," she added. 2010' at the University of Agriculture Faisalabad (UAF), she said sexual harassment was common phenomena. unfortunately, it was not discussed in our society.

"Although the Sexual Harassment Act 2010

FAISALABAD (APP): safeguards lives of people from the societal evil, yet there is a dire need to provide awareness about it at the public level," she

> 'The discussion on sexual harassment in families is considered as a taboo. We should hold conversation in this regard to create awareness so that we can get rid of the

> Maliha Husain said that in our society not only women but also men fell victim to sexual violence. In today's age, friendships through internet and its

> videos, sometimes, lead to



Road, in Provincial Capital.

According to the CTD spokesman on Thursday, the terrorist identified as Farooq Shah seven

The CTD officials said that the name of the arrested terrorist was also included in the Red Book as he was involved in several abduction cases. Spokesman CTD further said one pistol and several bullets have been recovered from the accused and further investigation was underway.

against outlaws in Taxila

WAH CANTT (APP)

KARACHI: Shiite Muslims holds placards against the National Assembly Bill, during Arbaeen procession in Provincial Capital.

Hindus celebrate Thadori across northern Sindh

SUKKUR (APP): Hindus in across the northern Sindh are celebrating festival on Thadri Thursday.

Thadri is a famous traditional festival. celebrated in Siraman/ Saawan month of monsoon season. On this day women decorate the doorways of their houses and do mud plaster to their kitchens. No cooking activities

were done on this day. The sweet roties (mitho lolo) made of pure ghee are offered to Shitla Mata to stay safe from various diseases.Sweet roties are exchanged with relatives and friends, if needed women cook fresh food or tea in the temporary fireplace.

Daily doice of Masseg

Independent Friday September 08, 2023

OMMERCE EWS

Page 06

PM Kakar says: Crackdown on smuggling bringing positive outcomes

Caretaker Prime Minister of business community's Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Thursday said that the crackdown government on smuggling during the last 48 hours brought positive outcomes and was also welcomed by the authorities of neighboring countries.

in a meeting with a delegation of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said that an operation against the smuggling had been for economic development launched across the and provision of job country, particularly in the opportunities.

said consultation underway to promote trade with neighboring countries which had also welcomed government's

problems was among the government's priorities. The prime minister

welcomed the proposals by the delegation and assured implementation of the practicable ones. He told

delegation that after The prime minister, assuming the office, he interacted with the business community and listened to their issues. He appreciated the

> Prime Minister Kakar the said the government was was reforming the taxation through

business community's role

for economic development

digitalisation. He said the economic development was not possible unless the tax Pakistan's diplomatic collection was increased.

He said the government would bring in the economic stability by winning confidence of traders, industrialists and investors.

The reformation process in the power sector was also going on and action was being taken against those involved in the power theft. The prime minister

said that consultation with all the stakeholders was essential for issues resolution and the Commerce Ministry would regularly seek suggestions from the chambers.

He directed the authorities concerned to submit a report on expansion of FBR's Point of Sales system besides improving the performance of commercial attaches in

KARACHI (APP): The

total liquid foreign reserves

of Pakistan stood at US\$

13,126.7 million while

reserves held by the central

bank reached at \$7,779.3

Pakistan, in a statement

issued here on Thursday

informed that SBP3

reserves decreased by \$70

million to \$7,779.3 million

on account of debt

repayments during the

week ended on September

foreign reserves held by

commercial banks stood at

\$5,347.4 million, it added.

In the previous week

ending on August 25, 2023,

total liquid foreign reserves

held by the country was

US\$ 13,171.1 million.

Among them foreign

reserves held by the central

bank were \$ 7,849.3 million

while net foreign reserves

held by commercial banks

Shipping

activity at

Port Qasim

KARACHI (APP): Two

ships namely, Star Crimson

and Ullswater, carrying

59,279 tonnes of Coal and

3,543 tonnes of LPG,

berthed at Bulk Terminal

and Sui Southern Gas

Terminal respectively or

ships, Zoe Schulte and

PVT Elena with Chemicals

are also arrived at outer

were engaged at PQA

berths during the last 24 hours, out of them an edible

oil carrier 'TRF Kirkenes

sailed out to sea on

Thursday, while three

more ships, Fuwairit

Copenhagen Eagle and

TTC Vidyut are expected

to sail on same day.

A total of 06 ships

anchorage of the Por

Qasim on same day.

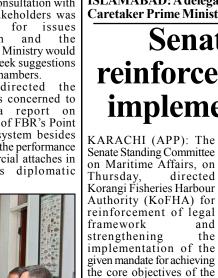
Meanwhile two more

Wednesday.

were \$ 5,321.8 million.

01, 2023

The State Bank of





ISLAMABAD: A delegation of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce called on Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar

Senate committee for reinforcement of framework, implementation by KoFHA

workers set by the federal

government. The meeting of

upper

KARACHI (APP): The of minimum wages of Senate Standing Committee on Maritime Affairs, on Thursday, directed Korangi Fisheries Harbour Authority (KoFHA) for reinforcement of legal framework strengthening implementation of the given mandate for achieving

The chairperson of the standing committee Senator Rubina Khalid meeting, also directed the officials concerned to improve coordination with other relevant agencies working in the sector and ensure the implementation generation, and issues being faced by KoFHA.

Federal

Minister for Power and

Petroleum Muhammad

Ali on Thursday assured

to address the concerns

of Karachi Chambers of

Industries (KCCI) on

Governor Sindh Kamran

Tessori the minister said he

would visit Karachi at the

end of this week and meet

the business community

Commerce

committee was attended by members of the committee Senator Abida Muhammad Azeem, Senator Nisar Ahmed Khuhro, Senator Danesh Kumar, Muhammad Akram and Senator Dost Muhammad Khan as well as Managing Director KoFHA Syed Masood Ahmed Rizvi and while presiding over the other officers of the authority. The committee was briefed on functions, performance, financial status and revenue

with the performance of the authority noted that KoFHA had failed to exert its authority with regard to controlling unlicensed fishing activities in its jurisdiction, starting auctions at the harbour and facilitation of exportbusiness oriented activities. The chairperson proposed the officials to frame a clear plan of action with defined functions and powers i m p l e m e n t a t i o n mechanism for ensuring the

committee members expressing dissatisfaction

licensing of fishing vessels besides utilizing modern technology.

Minister assures **Consumers of** to address concerns of KCCI on priority

KCCI to resolve their service users in Pakistan has significantly increased and reached 126 million by The minister also shared the federal the end of July 2023. government's initiatives

available on the official site of the PTA, the number of active mobile SIMs reached 191 million during the same period.The number of broadband subscribers reached 129 million while broadband penetration was recorded

3G/4G service increased to **126 mln** ISLAMABAD (APP): The number of 3G and 4G

As per the details at 54.18 per cent.



and plans for controlling

power theft and improving

Muhammad

underscored the need to

further harness the

potential of indigenous

resources including renewable energy and

due to the un stable economic and political situation, a lot of such factories shut their production across the country.

Prospect of attracting investments from Gulf states remarkable chance

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman Pakistan Hitech Hybrid Seed Association (PHHSA) Shahzad Ali Malik Thursday said the prospect of attracting substantial investments totaling \$100 billion from Gulf states is a remarkable opportunity for Pakistan.

Talking to a delegation of industrialists, he said that the investment will be instrumental in bolstering various sectors of the can facilitate the exchange including economy, infrastructure, energy, technology, and technology, agriculture, said a press stability.

direct interaction between create jobs and stimulate

business community, as well as the significant investment opportunities from Muslim countries will yield a positive impact and strengthen the national economy, he added.

He said in this context. fostering a direct and open channel of communication between the Army Chief and the business community will be a gamechanger. Such interactions of ideas, concerns, and strategies to enhance economic growth and

The potential for a this injection of funds

LESCO carries out operation against

power thieves Operation against power thieves was carried out in all circles of the Lahore Electric Supply Company as per the direction of

Federal Power Division. According to LESCO sources here on Thursday, 330 connections were found involved in power

Applications for registering FIRs against power thieves had been submitted in relevant police stations while 130

FIRs got registered. As many as 11 accused had been arrested while all connections had been disconnected and 1.037,425 units were charged under detection bill head worth Rs

Pak & Ethiopia have very important place in terms of trade and economy: Envoy

Independent Report

SLAMABAD: Ethiopian Ambassador to Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FPCCI) Capital Office in Islamabad and called on Vice President FPCCI Umar Masood ur Reham, Convenor, Syed Asad Mashadi. They discussed wide-ranging cooperation, investments,

however, my target is to take it to \$300 million by the end of 2023. Pakistani Jemal Beker Abdula visited textiles, medicines, and the Federation of Pakistan other products will have more space in the Ethiopian market. The Ethiopian ambassador, Mr. Jamal Beker Abdula, remarked that the world should not see Pakistan through a Western media lense. Pakistan is a peaceful, trade, industry, and culturally rich, and commercial avenues of diversified country with immensely strong social



and joint ventures, On behalf of the business and trading community. Mr. Jamal Beker Abdula, Ethiopian ambassador, said that a preferential trade between agreement Pakistan and Ethiopia is indispensable for the promotion of mutual trade. (only) to \$78 million; red kidney beans.

potential, he remarked. He stressed the bilateral trade relations, and stated that Ethiopia is an attractive market for Pakistani agricultural, pharmaceutical, and technological products while Ethiopia is critical to Bilateral trade between Pakistan's food security the two countries is in terms of import of minimal and amounts pulses, chickpeas and

US-Pakistan discusses to strengthen bilateral trade economic, trade ties

ISLAMABAD (INP): The United States (US) and Pakistan on Thursday discussed strengthening bilateral trade relations, fostering mutual cooperation to the bilateral

US Ambassador Donald Blome called on the Federal Minister for Commerce, Industries and Production, Dr. Gohar Ejaz in the Ministry of Commerce, said a press release issued here.

highlights of the meeting was the exploration of

Ejaz informed that the Government of Pakistan has formed a Special Investment Facilitation Council aimed at attracting investments in various sectors such as Mines and Minerals, Agriculture, Information Technology, and Energy and he invited that more US companies could explore the options to invest in these sectors

ase issued here. elaborated on the One of the key government's efforts for an economic revival plan with Ambassador potential opportunities for boosting trade in various underscoring the importance of economic sectors, including Textile, growth of Pakistan's future value added Food and appreciated the US products, Fresh Mangoes government for their and Dates, Soybean and continued support.

RCCI organizes Business Opportunity Conference in Egypt

(RCCI) organized the Pakistan-Egypt Business Opportunities Conference in Cairo, Egypt on Thursday. According to an RCCI spokesman, the conference witnessed the convergence of visionary entrepreneurs from both Pakistan and Egypt.

More than 200 delegates from Pakistan and Egypt representing different sectors including Information Technology, Textile, Agriculture, Construction, Pharmaceutical, minerals nurture and Travel and Tours, partnerships.

RAWALPINDI (APP): attended the conference. The Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Additional conference of Public Esmat, Minister of Public Enterprises Sector was the chief guest on the occasion whereas Ambassador Sajid Bilal, Dr. Alaa Ezz Amin, RCCI President Saqib Rafiq, and Executive Committee members of RCCI were also present on the occasion. On the sidelines of the Business Opportunity Conference, Business-to-business (B2B) meetings were held which provided an exclusive platform for delegates to establish meaningful connections and potential



Governor of Sindh called on Dr. Shamshad Akhtar, Caretaker Federal Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs & Privatization at Finance

Easypaisa partners with Esquare to facilitate salary disbursements

ISLAMABAD (APP): easypaisa, Pakistan has partnered with Esquare Services Private Limited to seamlessly facilitate salary disbursements employees through its digital platform.

This integration not only promises efficiency but also empowers employees with timely and convenient access to their earnings. Esquare will now utilize easypaisa's open Application Programming Interface (API) architecture to disburse salaries, advances, and

incentives to its workforce. Shahzad Khan, Head of Productive Lending, Channels & Corporate Business, Microfinance Bank, Omar Aijaz Khan, Head of Corporate Sales & Partnership, easypaisa, and Shayan Ahmed Sheikh, CEO of Esquare Services Private Limited attended the signing ceremony, said a press release.

Commenting on the collaboration, Shahzad Khan, Head of Productive Lending, Channels & Corporate Business.



BEIJING (APP): Pakistani national pavilion, there are graduate student Hussain Azhar has volunteered at the China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS) in Beijing these days, promoting his home country's exhibitors at the fair, which he considers an excellent event for business identifying

opportunities. "I am very proud to be selected as one of the solutions to international volunteers by the Pakistani entrepreneurs to start their Embassy in China to help introduce what we have to offer here to visitors from all over the world," Azhar told Xinhua.

At the five-day fair, from Sept. 2 to 6, Azhar received about 150 visitors per day, on average, at the Pakistani national pavilion.

Azhar is working on his Ph.D. in business at the University of International Business and Economics in Beijing, and views his volunteering stint as a fascinating and eyeopening experience.

five exhibitors: the Special Technology Zones Authority (STZA) of the Pakistani government; the National Logistic Corporation (NLC); the National Bank of Pakistan (NBP); Habib Bank Limited (HBL); and the Pakistan International Airlines (PIA).

"STZA provides business or invest in Pakistan, and NLC, NBP as well as HBL have taken CIFTIS as an opportunity to promote their crossborder services in logistics and financing," said Azhar.

Prior to studying in Beijing, Azhar taught business studies at Preston University in Pakistan for

17 years.
"I can't put into words how excited I am to see so many big-name companies and advanced technologies at the fair. which brought together important companies like



ISLAMABAD: American Ambassador Donald Blome calls on the Caretaker Federal Minister for Commerce, Industries and Production, Dr. Gohar Ejaz in Ministry of Commerce.

CCP remains vigilant in fulfilling its statutory role amid sugar crisis

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) is monitoring the ongoing sugar crisis in the country and will take appropriate enforcement and policy actions if any indications of anticompetitive activities are

It is important to highlight that CCP carried out dawn raids on the Pakistan Sugar Mills Association (PSMA) in 2021 and imposed substantial penalties of Rs 44 billion on PSMA and its member sugar mills for cartelization, said a press release issued here on

However, CCP's decision was appealed against in the High Courts of Sindh and Punjab, and in the Competition Appellate Tribunal (CAT) and the recovery of penalties has been staved

Tribunal is dysfunctional since 14th July 2023 due to the expiry of term of its Chairman whilst cases of sugar mills and similar important cases are

It is important to note that CAT has been dysfunctional for 7.5 years since 2010 leading to a huge backlog of cases.

Government appoints its Chairman, the quicker the Appellate Tribunal can finalise the appeals.

CCP has taken proactive measures against cartelization in the sugar sector, demonstrating its commitment to ensuring fair competition.

acknowledges the due legal processes associated with judicial review, expediting the resolution of cartel cases is crucial for delivering effective relief to consumers

PSX witnesses bearish trend, sheds **50.34 points** ISLAMABÂD (APP):

The 100-index of the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) witnessed a bearish trend on Thursday as it lost 50.34 points and closed The sooner the at 45,757.23 points against 45,807.58 of the previous trading day, showing a decline of 0.11 percent.

A total of 177,062,657 shares were traded during the day as compared to the last day's 139,710,712, whereas the trading value of shares was recorded at Rs7.581 billion against Rs4.813 billion on

the last trading day. As many as 320 companies transacted their shares in the stock market, out of which 139 gained and 159 sustained losses.

Malik says:

He said not only will



QUETTA: People purchase used goods due to price hiking, at makeshift weekly market located on Benazir Flyover road in Quetta

Independent

Friday September 08, 2023

International News

Page 07

Deadly Russian strike on market in Ukraine kills 17

Monitoring Desk KYIV: A Russian strike killed at least 17 people at a market in east Ukraine Wednesday, officials said, in an attack that President Volodymyr Zelensky described as deliberate and

Projectiles through the centre of Kostiantynivka — a town of nearly 70,000 people in the Donetsk region hours after America's top diplomat arrived in Kyiv to announce new wartime

Ukraine's newly appointed defence minister meanwhile vowed to liberate "every centimetre" of territory occupied by Russia in his first comments in

Rescue picked through the debris military units "anywhere and carried some of the wounded for treatment

blast, according to images distributed by officials. 'Seventeen people were killed and 32 injured as a result of the Russian shelling," Interior Minister

nouncing the rescue operation had ended. Minister Prime Denys Shmygal said a child was among those killed in the attack, which took place about 20 kilometres

Igor Klymenko said, an-

"Anyone in the world who is still dealing with anything Russian simply ignores this reality," said Zelensky.

from the front line.

"Heinous evil. Brazen wickedness. Utter in-humanity." He later accused Russia of deliberately targeting civilians and said there were no near" the scene.

The attack came as US

with Washington set to unveil more than \$1 billion in fresh aid to battle Russia.

During a meeting with Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba, Blinken reiterated Washington's support for Kyiv in its fight to liberate territory in the south and

"We want to make sure that Ukraine has what it needs, not only to succeed in the counteroffensive, but has what it needs for the long term, to make sure that it has a strong deterrent," he told Kuleba.

Blinken is expected to announce "more than a billion dollars in new US funding for Ukraine", said a senior State Department official

The Kremlin dismissed Blinken's Kyiv visit, arguing US aid would not "influence the course of



U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris leaves after attending the East Asia Summit at the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Summit in Jakarta, Indonesia.

Varhelyi told report-

ers that he hoped to come

gible and something posi-

tive" for the bloc's leaders

ship has huge potential," he

But Varhelyi noted

EU tells Turkiye to 'address democracy' to join bloc

Monitoring Desk ISTANBUL: The European Union's enlargement up with "something tan-

commissioner told Turkiye on Wednesday to address issues around democracy to discuss at a European and the rule of law if it Council summit in Decemwants to boost its drive to ber. "I think this partnerioin the bloc. Ankara secured a said.

pledge from Brussels to resurrect stalled membership negotiations in exchange for lifting its block- needed action by Turkiye ade of Sweden's drive to on human rights issues to join the Nato military alli-

Turkish President remobilised, there are very Recep Tayyip Erdogan has made mending torn ties with Western allies one of his priorities after winning a difficult election in May.

The EU's enlargement chief Oliver Varhelyi came to Ankara to try and gauge where the sides could find common ground.

Iran journalist says she was assaulted during arrest **Monitoring Desk**

PARIS: An Iranian journal ist who interviewed the father of Mahsa Amini said she was sexually assaulted during her latest arrest and was now on hunger strike in prison, according to an audio message published on Wednesday by several Persian media outlets and rights groups.

that negotiations were cur-23, has been repeatedly rently at a "standstill" and targeted by the Iranian authorities since she published an interview For this to be with Amjad Amini, whose daughter died in clear criteria set out also by custody on Sept 16, 2022, sparking months the European Council that of protests. would need to be ad-

dressed," Varhelyi said. Rights groups have accused the Iranian authori-'And these criteria are ties of stepping up an alrelated to democracy and the rule of law and, for exready intense crackdown to ample, a credible roadmap prevent the upcoming onefor moving forward in these year anniversary of Amini's death being marked by new

Xi visits flood-stricken UK says it will area in northeast China remnants of the super typhoon Doksuri, Xi skipped an Association of Southeast

Monitoring Desk BEIJING: Eschewing facetime with foreign leaders at global summits this week, Chinese President Xi Jinping on Thursday visited the homes of villagers in a rural part of northeast China battered by floods.

In the village of Longwangmiao Heilongjiang province, Xi called on local residents to triumph over their difficulties and work towards returning life to a more normal footing, according to state media reports. He also enquired about their losses and supply of daily necessities. In late July through early August, record rainfall laid waste to vast swathes of northern China, flooding cities and farmlands unused to powerful storms more common in the south, but Xi did not visit any of the disasterhit areas until this week.

Inspecting rice crops and damaged homes in Longwangmiao battered by

Asian Nations summit in Indonesia this week. He will also miss the chance on Saturday and Sunday to meet with U.S. President Joe Biden at a G20 conclave in India. But Xi did attend a meeting in late August with leaders of the BRICS group of major emerging economies - Brazil,

Africa - in South Africa. China has not explained why Xi, who had attended every G20 summit since coming to office over a decade ago, was not leading Beijing's delegation to New Delhi. It has said only that Premier Li Qiang represent China.

Russia, India, China and South

By comparison, Xi China for five overseas visits in 2022 - when the country's borders were effectively closed due to pandemic controls - and a dozen in pre-COVID 2019.

declare Russia's Wagner mercenary group a banned terrorist organization **Monitoring Desk** LONDON: The U.K. an-

nounced Wednesday it will declare Russia's Wagner mercenary group a banned terrorist organization, saying it remains a threat to global security even after the death of leader Yevgeny Prigozhin The government said an order will be introduced in Parliament to proscribe the group under the Terrorism Act. The designation, once approved by lawmakers, will bar membership in or support for Wagner, which has played a major fighting role during Russia's invasion of Ukraine. on Australian imports. It also has operated in Syria and several African nations

The move, expected to take effect within days, puts Wagner in the same category as the Islamic



H-IIA rocket carrying the national space agency's moon lander is launched at Tanegashima Space Center on the southwestern island of Tanegashima Japan in this photo taken by Kyodo.

London and the EU agreed the UK can rejoin the EU's Horizon science

Biden aims to use G20 summit and Vietnam visit to highlight US as trustworthy alternative to China

Monitoring Desk WASHINGTON: President Joe Biden is looking to demonstrate to the world at the Group of 20 summit in India and during a stop in Vietnam that the United States and its like-minded allies are better economic and security partners than White House officials

said Biden, who was set to depart for New Delhi on Thursday evening, will use this year's G20 gathering as an opportunity for the United States to highlight a Jinping plans to skip the

proposition for developing and middle income countries that would increase the lending power of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund by some \$200 billion.

That is an attempt to offer a significant, albeit smaller, alternative to China's massive Belt and Road infrastructure initiative, which the U.S. views as a Trojan horse for Chinaled regional development and military expansion. Chinese President Xi

summit, where Premier Li Qiang will represent the country Afterward the summit, Biden and Vietnamese General Secretary Nguyen Phu Trong will meet in

economic cooperation. Vietnam and China have robust trade relations, but also deep differences. Vietnam, like Malaysia, the Philippines, Taiwan and Brunei, has been in a tense territorial standoff for de-

Hanoi and are expected to

announce plans to tighten

14 die in Greece, Turkiye as storms follow heat

Monitoring Desk VLOS: Storms have killed at least 14 people in Greece, Turkiye and Bulgaria, with a Greek region hit by more rain in 24 hours than it normally sees in a year, officials said on

Wednesday. A period of extreme heat has given way to heavy storms, turning streets in north-western Turkive into rivers and hitting Greece with unprecedented downpours as it recovers from weeks of wildfires.

'Everything saved from the fire we had in July has been destroyed by this bad weather," said Christos Kleftakis, 49, in Nea tribute to flooding

Greek city of Volos. 'This is unprecedented — these severe weather events, the strength of the rain, the

Anchialos, near the central

wind. I've never seen anything like that before," he added. As the world warms, the atmosphere contains more water vapour which increases the risk of heavy precipitation in some parts

of the world, notably in Asia, Western Europe and Latin America. Combined with other such

factors urbanisation and land-use planning, these more intense rainfall events con-

cades with China Moderna says its vaccine fares well against **Covid variant**

Monitoring Desk WASHINGTON: Moderna said on Wednesday its updated fall Covid booster, which is pending approval from the Food and Drug Administration, performed well against the highly mutated BA.2.86 variant. Human trial data showed the shot produced an 8.7-fold increase in neutralising antibodies against the variant, also known as Pirola, which has been designated a variant under monitoring, the US biotech company said. It added it was submitting the results to a peer-reviewed journal and has shared it with regulatory authorities.



ment of the results of an internal national polling which declared Sheinbaum as the presidential candidate, in Mexico City, Mexico.

Australia PM confirms China visit, Li says ready to resume exchanges

JAKARTA: Australia's prime minister confirmed on Thursday he will visit China later this year after talks with China's premier, who said Beijing was ready to resume bilateral exchanges after vears of friction. The announcement by Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese on the sidelines of a Southeast Asia summit in Indonesia came after a vearslong break in relations over political and economic issues including Chinese sanctions

Monitoring Desk

"I... confirmed the in-

ers after talks with Chinese Premier Li Qiang, adding he will visit China later this year at a mutually agreeable time". The trip would be the first to China by an Australian prime minister since 2016. Li told Albanese China was ready to work with Australia to resume exchanges in different areas, Chinese state news agency Xinhua reported, without mentioning specific areas.

He said the Asia-Pacific region was the shared home of both countries and Beijing would work with Australia to safeguard vitation from President peace and stability in the

Xi," Albanese told report- region, according to Xinhua. US envoy visits Chad border with Sudan, vows to **Monitoring Desk** respond to atrocities

Monitoring Desk ADRE: The U.S. envoy to the United Nations met Sudanese refugees fleeing ethnic and sexual violence on Wednesday and said the United States would "do

everything in our power to prevent and respond to mass atrocities" in Sudan's of Adre in Chad on the bor-

On a visit to the town der with Sudan, Linda Thomas-Greenfield, a member of President Joe Biden's cabinet, announced highprofile new sanctions targeting the deputy leader of Sudan's paramilitary Rapid

Support Forces (RSF) - and brother of the RSF commander - over human rights

She also said the United States would give an additional \$163 million in aid and urged others to

step up.
The U.N. says half of Sudan's 49 million people need help and has appealed for \$2.6 billion - so far, it has secured only 26% of this amount.

'That's shameful. And I am calling on the international community to do more and give more," she told reporters in Adre

U.S., South Korea, Japan agree to accelerate missile tracking cooperation **Monitoring Desk**

SEOUL: Defence chiefs from the U.S., South Korea and Japan on Thursday jointly condemned North Korea's recent test of missiles and agreed to accelerate missile tracking cooperation, South Korea's Ministry of National Defence said in a statement.

The ministers from three countries also agreed to hold training in the near future as part of defence measures against Pyongyang's nuclear threats.

UN offers to support Gabon for transition back to civilian rule

LIBREVILLE: A U.N. representative told Gabon's military leader the U.N. institutions stood ready to support the country as it transitions back to constitutional order following a coup that ended the Bongo family's 56 years of dynastic autocracy.

Army officers seized power on Aug. 30, annulling an election minutes after an announcement that President Ali Bongo had won, which they said was not credible.

Bongo, in power since 2009, had succeeded his father Omar Bongo, who ruled for 42 years.

India's Modi calls for climate finance ahead of G20 meet

Monitoring Desk NEW DELHI: Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Thursday that leaders of the G20 summit he is chairing this weekend must support developing nations to tackle climate change with more cash and by sharing technology.

Against a backdrop of record-breaking temperatures and deadly heatwaves across the globe, climate scientists and activists have warned of dire consequences particularly for developing countries — if leaders fail to forge a consensus.

Modi has pitched India as a self-styled leader of the "Global South", a bridge between developed and developing countries. the Global South are at sions.

must be a complementary pursuit," Modi wrote in an editorial carried by several Indian outlets as well as international dailies, including in Britain and Japan. Globally, wealthy nations missed their pledge to provide, by 2020, \$100

various stages of develop-

billion a year in climate finance to poorer nations, eroding trust that polluters will help vulnerable countries least responsible for warming to tackle the challenges of climate The Group of 20, which will meet in New

Delhi this weekend, consists of 19 countries and the European Union, making up about 85 per cent of global GDP, and a similar "Many countries of amount of its carbon emis-

US Vice President Harris calls NKorea-Russia military support "huge mistake"

Monitoring Desk WASHINGTON: U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris said it would be a "huge mistake" for North Korea to exchange military support with Russia for use in its war against Ukraine.

Harris, who is in Jakarta, Indonesia for an ASEAN summit, told CBS News in an interview broadcast on Thursday that it would be a sign of desperation for Russia to seek aid from the reclusive North Korea and it would further isolate both coun-

"I think it would be a huge mistake. The idea that they would be supplying ammunition to that end, is—would be a huge mistake. I also believe very strongly that for both Russia and North Korea, this will further isolate them,"

warned in recent days that arms negotiations between Russia and North Korea are actively advancing, while a report said North Korea's Kim Jong Un plans to travel to Russia this month to meet President Vladimir Putin and discuss supplying Moscow with weapons

for its war effort. "It is very clear that Russia has—clearly they're very desperate. They have already experienced a strategic failure. Just think about it, at the beginning of it all, year and a half ago, the pundits were saying that this would be over in days. Well, the Ukrainians are still fighting," Harris

told CBS. White House national security adviser Jake Sullivan on Tuesday warned Kim that his country would pay a price for supplying Russia with U.S. officials have weapons to use in Ukraine.

China says 90 countries have confirmed attendance for Belt and Road Initiative

Monitoring Desk
BEIJING: China said on signed Belt and Road coop-Thursday that 90 countries have confirmed attendance for its Belt and Road Initiative conference being held in October,

The third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation (BRF) will be held in Beijing in October, the foreign ministry has previously said, with 2023 marking the 10th anniversary of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). Several foreign leaders

are expected to attend, including Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic and Argentine President Alberto Fernandez, state media reported. Russian President

Vladimir Putin also has a scheduled visit to China in October when the country hosts the One Belt One Road forum, Putin's aide Yuri Ushakov said recently, according to Russia's state news agency TASS.
"We have received an

invitation and plan to go to China," Ushakov said, according to a report from the Global Times. China's foreign minis-

eration documents with more than 150 countries and over 30 international organizations, according to Xinhua.

"Over the past decade, Belt and Road cooperation has achieved fruitful outcomes," Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin recently said at a press conference, adding that it has established more than 3,000 cooperation projects and galvanized nearly \$1 trillion of investment, state media reported.

Critics see the ambitious Belt and Road initiative - billed as recreating the ancient Silk Road to boost global trade infrastructure as a tool for President Xi Jinping's China to spread its geopolitical and economic influence.

Debate in the West over economic dependence on China has cast a shadow over longer-term trade and investment relations with Beijing. Italy, the sole Group of Seven nation in Belt and Road, said the decision by a previous government to join had been "atrocious"

Cancer surging among under-50s worldwide, says study

Monitoring Desk PARIS: The number of people under 50 diagnosed with cancer has surged worldwide in the last three decades but it is not fully clear why, a study said on Wednesday. Cases of cancer among people aged 14 to 49 rose by nearly 80 percent, from 1.82 million to 3.26 million, between 1990 to 2019, according to the study published in the journal BMJ Oncology.

While experts cautioned that some of that increase was explained by population growth, previous research has also indicated that cancer is becoming more commonly diagnosed among under-50s.

The international team of researchers behind the new study pointed to poor diet, smoking and alcohol as major risk factors underlying cancer in the age group.

But "the increasing rend of early-onset cancer burden is still unclear," they added. A little over one million people under 50 died

The deadliest cancers were breast, windpipe, lung, bowel and stomach cancers, according to the study. Breast cancer was the most commonly diagnosed over the three decades. But the cancers that rose the fastest were of the nasopharynx, where the back of the nose

meets the top of the throat,

Liver cancer mean-

and prostate.

of cancer in 2019, up 28pc

from 1990, the study said.

while fell by 2.9pc a year. The researchers used data from the 2019 Global Burden of Disease Study, analysing the rates of 29 different cancers in 204 countries. The more developed the country, the more likely it was to have a higher rate of under-50s diagnosed with cancer, the

study said. This could suggest that wealthier countries with better healthcare systems catch cancer earlier, but only a few nations screen for certain cancers in people under 50, the study added.

munications and Railways Shahid Ashraf Tarar wants

to focus on undertaking

new schemes to increase the revenue level of the Na-

tional Highway Authority

(NHA). The minister pre-

sided over the 44th meeting

of the National Highway

Tarar wants new

schemes for NHA

Authority at large. He di-

rected to launch of a comprehensive media campaign

for the implementation of

hiked violation fines on

Motorways and National

Highways across the coun-

try. He further asked to gear

8th Sep marked as Navy Day to pay tributes to valiant sons of soil for bombarding Dwarka: CNS

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi on Thursday said Pakistan Navy celebrated 8th September as the Navy Day to pay tributes to the sacrifices of its Officers and Men who demonstrated self-belief, grit-n- guile and absolute faith in Allah SWT to venture into enemy waters and bombarded coastal town of Dwarka. In his message on the Navy Day, the Naval Chief said that on this day, we acknowledge the sacrifices of our Shuhadas and Ghazis and honour their bravado and valiant spirit which lifted the morale of the nation against a sinister enemy during the 1965 War, a Pakistan Navy (PN) news release said

During Operation Dwarka, codenamed 'Operation SOMNATH', Paki-

warships proceeded on an audacious mission inside enemy territory and destroyed significant shore installations including Indian radar station and a radio beacon at Dwarka. PN Flotilla's attack took the enemy by surprise and dealt a severe blow to the morale of the Indian Navy that not only rattled its defences but paralyzed its response. Furthermore, PN Sub-

marine GHAZI posed an ominous threat to the Indian Navy severely restricting its operations and confining it close to the coast. Pakistan Navy besides ensuring own maritime defence also maintains round the clock presence in the international waters and engages with regional navies to foster interoperability and promotes maritime security at high seas. Therefore, Pakistan Navy is acquiring state of the art capabilities to meet stan Navy's seven major emerging security challenges.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Communications & Railways Mr. Shahid Ashraf Tarar presiding over meeting of National Highway Council - Supreme body of National Highway Authority.

MoIB releases details of payments

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MoIB) on Thursday released details of the payments made to electronic, print and digital media in terms of advertisements during the past

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has conducted media campaigns for different initiatives and events including Kissan Package, the PM's Youth Programme, Benazir

tentment that although the

literacy ratio has increased

due to increase in the con-

sciousness, but we need to

be our basic endeavor to

reduce the drop pout of the

children from schools and

provide proper environ-

ment to them for getting

to expedite the efforts to

promote consciousness and

awareness among the

educate the otherwise mil-

lions of children who are de-

people at every level.

He stressed the need

He also emphasized to

He said that it should

increase further.

education

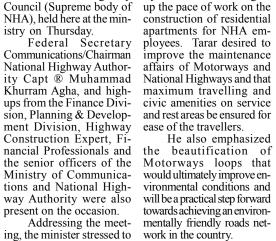
ment government in terms of advertisements issued by the Pakistan Tehreek-e-

From July 2022 to lion in the form of advertisements issued by the

From July 2022 to 2,47,50,53,713 were made during the tenure of the Pa-and departments paid Rs unnerts worth 2,47,50,53,713.

electronic media.

Under the bills re-





Yaqoob Khan Nasir calls on the Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar.

In upcoming low-flow season **Chairman WAPDA** for ensuring completion of diversion scheme

Chairman WAPDA Engr Lt Gen Sajjad Ghani (Retd) has directed the contractor to ensure completion of the diversion system during the up-coming low-flow season for diversion of River Swat. The Chairman visited various construction sites of the project to review the progress achieved

so far, said a press release. He witnessed concrete works on upper stilling basin of the spillway; also observed construction activities at left and right abutments of the dam and various components of the diversion system including the diversion tunnels. GM and PD Mohmand Dam Project, the consultants and the contractors were also present during the visit.

schedule for diversion scheme, resource loaded programme for quarry development, stock piling and dam filling as well as activity-wise resource loaded programme for the whole project were discussed. The Chairman said that achieving the key milestones on time is inevitable for completion of

Mohmand Dam Project in accordance with the schedule. He emphasized upon the project team, the contractors in particular, to make concerted efforts in this regard. WAPDA is construct-

ing Mohmand Dam Project across River Swat in Mohmand District of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. It is the 5th highest concreteface-rock-fill dam in the

Later in a briefing, New Chinese envoy to bolster Sino-Pak friendship

ISLAMABAD (INP): The newly appointed Chinese during strategic cooperation between China and Paki-Ambassador to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong will work for bolstering the robust friendship and enduring strategic cooperation between China and Pakistan

"The recently appointed Chinese ambassador to Pakistan, Jiang Zaidong, arrived in Islamabad on Wednesday to officially assume his role," the Embassy posted

on social media. In the statement, the Embassy emphasized Ambassador Jiang Zaidong's dedication to bolstering the robust friendship and en-

nominated as the new ambassador to Pakistan in



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Commerce, Dr. Gohar Ejaz, and Turkmenistan Ambassador to Pakistan, H.E. Mr. Atadjan Movlamov meet to en-

drifted country to economic quagmire: Maulana Fazl

LAHORE (Online): PDM economic instability was

ment drifted the country to economic quagmire. The government imposed under an agenda in 2018 was aimed at handing over Kashmir to India and recognizing Israel, he said this while addressing Khatme

He held "I am not see-

He underlined the intellectuals see their interest

in recognizing Israel but they don't see the brutalities being perpetrated on Palestinian Muslims. Neither any such pressure is exerted on economy of India, Bangladesh, Afghanistan or Iran which is put on

brought in Pakistan. Then

the country was driven to

political and economic mire

and attempt was made to

pit us against each other.

But we maintained unity.

There is need to keep the

people abreast of all these

made to media for ads during last 2yrs Support kistan Democratic Move-

Programme, national days, and foreign visits, said a The MoIB issued ad-

vertisements in classified and unclassified(display) The Press Information Department played its role in paying the advertis-

ing bills of 437 federal departments and agencies. From July 2021 to

June 2023, the Ministry of Information made payments worth Rs 2.93 bil-

June 2023 which was ten-

ment received bills worth Rs 2,74,11,04,091 from print, electronic, digital media and outdoor media. These bills were received in the form of advertisements issued from July 2021 to

ceived for the period from July 2021 to June 2022. June 2022, payments of Rs ure of the PDM govern- the MoIB made pay-



QUETTA: A delegation of Education Parliamentarians Cuscus of Senate led by Senator Sana Jamali meeting with Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki

World Literacy Day being observed today: **Knowledge only stair to success** and development of nations, emphasizes caretaker CM

Independent Report QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki has emphasized upon the importance and utility of education and termed it only step to success and development of

the nations. In a message issued on the World Literacy Day being observed today (Friday), the caretaker Chief Minister said that the obknowledge and provide is also important, he added. such an environment in

out any hike in the prices

wants increase forthwith in

the prices of over 250 medi-

cines and it is not possible

to increase the prices of

health ministry pharma in-

dustry wants enhancement

in the prices of over 250

medicines but it is next to

taker Minister for Religious

Affairs and Interfaith Har-

mony, Aneeq Ahmed

Kartarpur, and expressed

his appreciation for the

love and respect shown by

the pilgrims, emphasizing

the strong bond of human-

ity that united both na-

ceived by Abu Bakr Aftab

He was warmly re-

According to federal

prices of medicines imme- ernment.

impossible to raise the only by next elected gov-

Religious affairs minister

visits Kartarpur, emphasizes

cross-border harmony

NAROWAL (APP): Care- who briefed the minister on

visited

medicines immediately.

of medicines.

Pharma

part education and ensure good upbringing of the chil-

He noted with concern that millions of children are deprived of education due to poverty and other unavoidable reasons in our country, and most of them can't move ahead from primary and middle level.

He stressed that we would have to pay attention towards the non-forjective behind observance mal education along with of the day at international the formal education. In this level is to introduce the regard, the role of non-forworld to the beacon of mal education department

The caretaker Chief prived of education in the which it is possible to im- Minister noted with con-

dustry except 8 to 10 medi-

ties prices of medicines

were increased from 14 to

20 percent this year. The

decision to hike the prices

of medicines can be made

the project's objectives and

minister toured various key

facilities, including the zero-

line, facilitation counters,

Langar Khana, Gurdwara

Sahib, and the Amrit Jal Fil-

Indian pilgrims, inquiring

about their impressions and

experiences regarding the

tration Plant.

roved developments.

During his visit, the

He also engaged with

According to authori-



ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister QUETTA: Chief Secretary Balochistan Shakeel Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Qadir Khan meeting with Čaretaker Chief Minis-Thursday praised the armed forces for thwarting ter Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki a terrorist attack on military posts near the Pak-Afghan border in Chitral. "Thanks Govt rules out hike in to our alert forces, the terprices of medicines rorist attack on military posts near the Pak-Afghan ISLAMABAD (Online): diately. The authorities said border in Chitral, was re-Federal government rules that the shortage of medipelled with heavy casualties cines is a pretext to preson the terrorist side," he said surize government for hikin his social media post on ing prices of medicines. X, formerly twitter. All the medicines are earning profit to pharma in-

BAEC announces schedule of class 8's annual exam **Independent Report**

OUETŤA: Balochistan Assessment and Examination Commission (BAEC) has announced the schedule of annual examinations of class 8 in the cold areas of the province.

According to an an nouncement made by BAEC on Thursday, the examinations are scheduled to be held from November 6-11, 2023.

All government, private, Balochistan Residential Colleges, Cadet colleges and schools can take part in the examination for Rs. 800 has been fixed for the regular and private students. As per the announces, registration fees can be deposited from September 7-30, 2023.

Saudi envoy calls on **Caretaker Finance** Minister ISLAMABAD (Online): the long-standing historical, religious, and cultural ties

Nawaf Bin Said Al-Malki, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia called on Caretaker Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, and Privatization Dr. Shamshd Akhtar, at the Finance Division, today.

Finance Minister Dr. Shamshad Akhtar warmly welcomed the Ambassador of Saudi Arabia and ex- and reiterated that the long-

between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia. The Minister also apprised the Ambassador of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia of continuation of policies and programmes of the Government to bring economic prosperity in the country. Nawaf Bin Said Al-Malki, Ambassador of Saudi Arabia reciprocated the sentiments



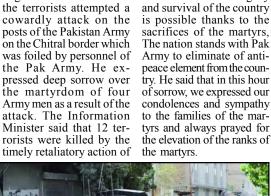
ISLAMABAD: Nawaf Bin Said Al-Malki, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia called on Caretaker Minister for Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, and Privatization Dr. Shamshad Akhtar, at the Finance Division.

Achakzai expresses sorrow on four martyrs in terrorist attack on Chitral border

OUETTA (APP): Balochistan Caretaker Minister for Information Jan Achakzai on Thursday strongly condemned the Chitral border near the Pak-Afghan border. He said that the terrorists attempted a cowardly attack on the posts of the Pakistan Army on the Chitral border which was foiled by personnel of the Pak Army. He expressed deep sorrow over Army men as a result of the attack. The Information Minister said that 12 ter-

Pakistan forces. The soldiers fought the enemy with courage and bravery and made the nation proud.

He said that the blood terrorism incident on the of martyrs will never go in vain and we paid tribute to our heroes. The integrity and survival of the country is possible thanks to the sacrifices of the martyrs The nation stands with Pak Army to eliminate of antipeace element from the country. He said that in this hour condolences and sympathy to the families of the martyrs and always prayed for the elevation of the ranks of the martyrs.





PTA committed to provide support, facilitation to cable industry: Chairman

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan (CAP), the chair-Chairman PTA, Major man emphasized that the General ® Hafeez Ur Rehman Thursday said, that Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) was committed to providing support and facilitation to cable industry within the legal parameters.

During a meeting with a delegation of the Cable Operators Association of

authority was proactively reviewing the current CVAS License (Class Value Added Services) regime through a stakeholder consultation process to address issues related to the provision of internet services, considering the ever-evolving dynamics of the digital market and technological ad-

vancements. The delegation also discussed the matters of mutual interest. The primary focus of the meeting was to deliberate on regulatory matters and concerns regarding provision of internet services by cable operators in Pakistan. The chairman PTA ex-

tended a warm welcome to the delegation and listened to their concerns



Council Nisar Ahmed Baloch meeting with Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar

delegation calls on IT minister ISLAMABAD (APP):

World Bank

World Bank delegation léd by its Country Director for Pakistan, Najy Benhassine called on Caretaker Federal Minister for IT and Telecommunication Dr Umai Saif here on Thursday.

The minister wel-comed the delegation on arrival at Ministry of IT and matters of bilateral interest and 'Digital Economy Enhancement Project' were discussed. Dr. Umar Saif said

that the project will be help-ful in the provision of online services to the masses at one platform. He said during the last few years both federation

and provinces saw great work done regarding digitalization, but all the systems were not linked; now due to this project, all government systems will be linked and digitally-enabled public services delivery to be through one platform. It will be very easy for

citizens to get domicile, NOC, birth certificate, vehicle registration and other online services in smooth and rapid manner, he added.

Caretaker CM flays terrorist attack at Chitral border **Independent Report**

QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki has condemned the terrorists' attack at the Chital border near Pak-Afghan border. In a condemnation is-

sued here on Thursday, the caretaker Chief Minister expressed grief and sorrow over martyrdom of four security personnel in the cowardly attack. He paid tributes to the

Pak army who promptly retaliated and killed 12 terrorists. He said that the killing of terrorists in the retaliation is proof of courage and bravery of Pak He said that the Pak

army made the nation proud by causing heavy loss to the terrorists in retaliation. He said that the sacrifices of martyrs would not go wasted. He also said that the nation is standing by its armed forces

Jiang Zaidong was

July, filling the position that had remained vacant for six months since the previous ambassador, Nong Rong, returned to China. During this interim

period, the Charge d' Affaires of the Chinese Embassy in Pakistan Pang Chunxue had been diligently performing the ambassadorial duties, according to the statement, says a report published by Gwadar Pro on Thursday.



chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman has said the government imposed under an agenda pushed Pakistan to economic quagmire. "Imran Khan govern-

Nabuwat conference here.

ing so that any future government will be able to steer us out of this quagmire. He went on to say first Pakistan.