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Member APNS & CPNE

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www.dailyindependent.com.pk

Ph: 2841470/2841473 REG: No. BC-116 B/ID-445 Vd: XXV No. 13, Safar 16, 1445 AH Sunday September 03, 2023 Pages 12, Price Rs.15

## Shutter down strike observed against increase in electricity tariffs, highest inflation in Quetta, other parts

Independent Report QUETTA: Shutter down strike was observed against the record increase in tariffs of electricity and overall inflation in Quetta and different other parts of the

province on Saturday. The call for shutter down was given by the Jama'at-e-Islami, which was also endorsed by the traders organizations, different lawyers bodies and bar councils besides social

The shops and business concerns remained closed on Jinnah road, Liaquat bazaar, Shahrah-e-Iqbal, Majid road, Abdul Sattar road and different parts of the provincial me-

tropolis. The flow of traf- petrol and diesel. fic also remained below the

The Jama'at-e-Islami leaders and the traders organizations expressed deep concern over the increasing tariffs of electricity and rates of petrol and petroleum prices. They said that the increase in the electricity tariffs and price of the petrol and diesel have been causing inflation in the country while the government and its concerned departments have miserably failed

They demanded of the government to immediately reduce the tariffs of electricity and rate of other daily

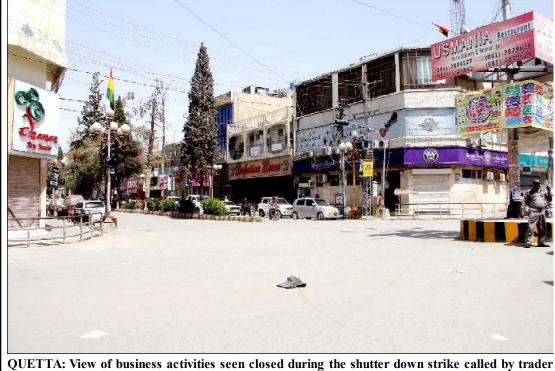
ISLAMABAD: The public took to the streets while thousands of traders across the country shuttered their shops on Saturday to register protests against soaring energy and fuel bills stirring widespread discontent ahead of national The recent hike in elec-

tricity bills further frustrated the consumers and traders who are already, heavily burdened by the soaring inflation in the country. Despite the protests and refusal of the public to pay hiked bills, caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar has ruled out used items particularly the any possibility of immedi-

ate relief. He has, instead. said there is no option for consumers but to pay their bills, while the interim government tries to negotiate with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on the issue.

"The electricity bills will need to be paid and IMF conditions will be

implemented," Kakar said. Meanwhile, the public and traders have joined the Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) in supporting its call for a shutter-down strike during which small and large commercial shops and businesses have been closed in cities including Karachi, Peshawar, Sargodha and Sheikhupura, among others.



community against inflation price hiking and the highly inflated electricity bills

### Murtaza Solangi calls on Caretaker PM; briefs over functioning of his ministry

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi on Saturday called on Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar.

and Broadcasting Zahoor Ahmed and Principal Information Officer Muhammad Asim Khichi were also present during the meeting, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

The minister apprised the prime minister of the matters related to his min-

During the meeting, they also deliberated upon the proposed strategy for the effective presentation of Pakistan's positive narrative at the upcoming United Nations General Assembly (UNG-78) ses-

Meanwhile Caretaker Secretary Information Minister for National Heritage and Culture Jamal Shah on Saturday called on Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar. During the meeting, the

minister apprised the prime minister of the matters per taining to his ministry, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

Proposed measures to promote Pakistani art and culture were also discussed during the meeting

Death anniversary of Sardar Attaullah Mengal observed:

## Akhtar Mengal calls for running movement for recovery of missing persons in democratic manner

Political leaders pay rich tributes to Sardar Attaullah Mengal

#### **Independent Report**

QUETTA: The President Balochistan National Party (BNP), Sardar Akhtar Mengal has emphasized that all political parties of Balochistan would have to run a campaign on single point for recovery of the missing persons. The campaign would have to be launched for recovery of the missing persons in democratic manner.

Sardar Akhtar Mengal stressed this while addressing public gathering orgasaid that he is asked that nized by BNP to mark 2nd death anniversary of Sardar Akhtar Mengal, at the Railway Hockey Ground on Saturday.

The political leaders of different other parties besides the leadership of BNP also participated in the pub-

lic gathering and addressed. They also paid rich tributes to the veteran Baloch nationalist leader on his political and democratic struggle in the country.

Sardar Akhtar Mengal

why he does talk about the missing persons, then he asked them that about whom he may talk then, if not about the missing per-

He said that how is it possible that the loved ones of some are disappeared, and we would not speak about them

The BNP chief alleged that our people don't get

Continued on page 2

#### FM Jalil Abbas, foreign envoys discuss issues of mutual interest

were also present during the meeting

Caretaker Foreign Minister Jalil Abbas Jilani was called on by Turkive Ambassador Dr Mehmet Paçaci and Abdulrahman Almutairi and discussed with him matters of mutual interest.

the caretaker foreign minister reviewed Pakistan-Turkiye ties and reaffirmed commitment to further the Middle Eastern counstrengthen cooperation in tries to maintain better all areas of mutual interest relations with the Mus-

(INP): tion at the convergence of views on all major regional and global issues.

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Minister for Information & Broadcasting Murtaza

Solangi called on caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar. Federal

Secretary Information & Broadcasting and Principal Information Officer

Meanwhile, during his meeting with Ambassador Kuwait Ambassador Nassar Nassar, the interim foreign minister took up salient as pects of bilateral cooperation to further strengthen Taking to Dr Mehmet. relations between Pakistan and Kuwait.

> He aims to improve the country's relations with

#### He expressed satisfac- lim world. Caretaker CM inquires about health Sarfraz Domki in Dubai

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir



cousin and former Minister, Sardar Sarfraz Khan Domki admitted in a private hospital of Dubai.

Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki inquired about his health condition and prayed for his early complete recovery

It may be mentioned here that caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan reached Dubai the other day.

#### Meeting chaired by Commissioner decides: Comprehensive plan to be prepared for cleanliness, encroachments, price control & tree plantation

Independent Report removal of encroachments, cleanliness, control of the prices and tree plantation in Quetta city.

fect was made during a mitigated, it was decided meeting chaired by the Commissioner Quetta, Muhammad Hamza Shafqaat here on Saturday.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Commissioner Quetta, Saad Bin Administrator Quetta Metropolitan Corporation, Abdul Jabbar Baloch and officers of other concerned departments.

The meeting reviewed

the situation of encroach-QUETTA: A comprehenments, price control and sive plan would be pre- tree plantation in Quetta pared by district adminis- city. It was also decided to tration and Metropolitan take effective steps by the Corporation for ensuring concerned departments with mutual understanding and cooperation to resolve the civic issues.

In this regard, the pub-The decision to this ef- lic hardships would also be

The general public was also urged to inform the administration to inform about the issues of cleanliness through social media.

Speaking on the occasion, the Commissioner sought cooperation of all stakeholders for improvement of Quetta city and restoration of its traditional

#### PM to pay three-day official visit to Kenya from Monday

ISLAMABAD (Online) Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar will pay a threeday official visit to Nairobi. Kenya from Monday to participate in the Africa Climate Summit.

According to Foreign Spokesperson Office Mumtaz Zahra Baloch, Foreign Minister Jalil Abbas Jilani will accompany the Prime Minister in the visit. The visit is taking place at the invitation of President William Samoei Ruto of Kenva. At the Summit the Prime Minister will articulate Pakistan's perspective on the global climate crisis and highlight our national efforts to rebuild in a climate-resilient manner after last year's devastating floods.

#### PTI chief's bail plea in cipher case adiourned till Sept 4 ISLAMABAD (INP): The

hearing on PTI chairman's bail application in the cipher case was adjourned till Sep-

Judge of the court established under Special Secrets Act Abul Hasnaat Zulqarnain conducted hearing on PTI chairman's bail application in the cipher case.

According to sources Babar Awan and Salman Safdar, the lawyers of PTI chairman, advanced arguments on the bail application. Salman Safdar said the lawyers of PTI chairman should not be obstructed in Attock Jail.

Lawyers had to walk one and a half kilometers every time they went to Attock Jail. A petition has been filed against the trial in Attock Jail. During the hearing, Shah

Mahmood Qureshi's Tawyer Ali Bukhari also appeared in the court and said that he would like to present arguments on his client's bail application today.

veteran politician and founder of BNP Sardar Attaullah Mengal Move to link US aid to Pakistan with democracy

WASHINGTON (Online): A Republican lawmaker has introduced an amendment to the House of Representatives' annual appropriations legislation that would cut off funds to Pakistan to discourage the "crackdown on political dissent". Republicans are a majority in the House. The amendment, pro-

posed by Tennessee Republican Andy Ogles, would bar the US Department of Defence from providing assistance to Pakistan in the wake of an ongoing crackdown by the country's military establishment and its civilian allies. The Intercept, a news site that last month published a report about a cipher that led to the ouster of the PTI government, noted in its report on the amendment that "military cooperation between Pakistan and the US has increased again since Imran Khan's ouster, with the Pakistani military now emerging, by European accounts, as a significant supplier of

military aid to Ukraine" The report described the proposed amendment as "an extreme long shot", but

pointed out that "its introduction reflects increasing concerns about democratic backsliding in Pakistan across party lines.'

OUETTA: President of Balochistan National Party (BNP) Sardar Akhtar Jan

Mengal addressing a public gathering on eve of 2nd death anniversary of

the National Defence Authorisation Act earlier this summer, Democratic Rep. Greg Casar of Texas pushed an amendment that would direct the State Department to study backsliding of democracy in Pakistan, but it wasn't ruled in order for a vote on the floor of the House.

The annual appropriations legislation allows the continuation of foreign military financing for Pakistan to support counterterrorism, counterinsurgency capabilities in the country as well as bilateral economic assistance but prior to the obligation of funds, the US Secretary of State shall submit a report to congressional committees detailing the amount of financing and other support, by the government of Pakistan to schools supported by, affiliated with, or run by the Taliban or any domestic or foreign terrorist organisation in Pakistan.

Senate, Ex-CJP **Independent Report** QUETTA: The caretaker Provincial Minister for Law. Parliamentary Affairs During the debate over and

Amanullah Kanrani called on the Chairman Senate. Muhammad Sadiq Sanirani in Islamabad on Saturday. During the course of meeting, they discussed matters about Balochistan and of national importance.

Amanullah Later, Kanrani also had meeting with the former Chief Justice of Pakistan, Mr. Justice (Retd) Iftikhar Muhammad Chaudhary Pick up-truck

Amanullah

Kanrani meets

Chairman

Prosecution.

#### collision claims 5 lives in Thatta THATTA (Online): As

many as 5 persons were killed and 3 injured in collision between pick up and truck on Keenjhar Lake high

According to media re-ports, the dead bodies and iniured were shifted to civil hospital by the locals

### Inflation driven by food prices hikes to 27.83% in August

flation in Pakistan mainly driven by food prices 0.54% spiked to 27.83% in the on Saturday.

The rate of inflation is continuously on the rise in Pakistan. According to the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, inflation increased by 1.72% in the month of Au-

Inflation rose to 27.38% during a period from July to August. During this period, prices of tomatoes increased by 75.3%, spices by 16.9%, eggs by 16.2%, and sugar by 9%. In a week, the rate of sugar has increased by Rs11.54 per kg. The maximum price of sugar has increased to Rs 190 per kg.

In August, the prices of Daal Mash and dry milk increased by 5.5%, wheat products by 5%, potatoes by 4.3%, rice by 2.6%, liquid fuel by 14.6%, motor fuel by 8.2%, electricity charges by 1.37%, transport fares by 22%, and postal charges by 20%.

According to the PBS, the Sensitive Price Index for

ISLAMABAD (INP): In- the week ended on 31st August, 2023 increased by

> Major increase is observed in the prices of food items, sugar (7.17%), Gur (2.11%), pulse Masoor (1.50%), and pulse Mash (1.39%).

> On the other hand, a decrease is observed in the prices of tomatoes (3.36%), bananas (2.49%), onions (2.01%), chicken (1.23%), garlic (0.58%), vegetable Ghee 2.5 kg (0.31%), vegetable Ghee 1 Kg (0.19%) and mustard oil (0.04%).

> During the week, out of 51 items, prices of 20 (39.22%) items increased, 08 (15.68%) items decreased and 23 (45.10%) items remained stable.

The year-on-year trend depicts an increase of 24.39%, wheat flour (126.26%), gas charges for Q1 (108.38%), cigarettes (101.29%), sugar (94.06%), tea Lipton (93.94%), rice basmati broken (89.04%), chilies powder (86.05%), rice Irri-6/9 (81.82%), gur (67.02%), gents sponge chappal (58.05%).



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Provincial Minister for Law Amanullah Kanrani meeting with former Chief Justice of Balochistan Iftikhar Ahmed

#### 8 terrorists killed in exchange of firing with CTD

many as 8 terrorists were killed in an operation by the Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) in district Vashak Balochistan.

According to CTD, operation was conducted in Basima areas on a secret information.

CTD conducted raid on house on the information of presence of terrorists therein. The terrorists opened firing.

As per CTD spokesperson 8 terrorists were way

killed in an exchange of firing while other accomplices of terrorists escaped.

During search of the house, CTD recovered weapons and ammunition in huge quantity.  $\bar{Spoke}sperson$  further

said one Abu Bakar was recovered from hideout of the terrorists who was abducted one month before.

The process of identification of killed terrorists and search of their escaping accomplices is under



QUETTA: Secretary Local Government briefed Chief Secretary Balochistan Shakeel Qadir Khan about departmental affairs

Asia Cup:

## Pakistan qualify for Super Four after rain washes out India match

Pakistan, India share points as rain plays spoilsport; Shaheen Shah spearheads Pakistan bowling department by bagging four wickets

**Sports Desk**KANDY: The Pakistan and India match was washed out due to rain at the Pallekele International Cricket Stadium, Sri Lanka, on Saturday.

Both teams have been awarded one point each as the match ended in draw. After achieving the one point, Pakistan have become the first team to qualify for the Super Four round.

Earlier Hardik Pandya's scintillating 90-ball 87 and Ishan Kishan scintillating 81-ball 82 powered India to 266 in the third match of the

Asia Cup at the Pallekele the placid track. On the other International Cricket Stadium on Saturday.

When the thriller between the two teams begin. the rain had interrupted the match. But Pakistan were dominating India with the bowl. India four down at one stage. Shaheen Shah Afridi applied coup de grace against the Indian heavyweights - Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli and Shubman

But, Kishan and Pandya showed great resilience and help their side to post a challenging total for Pakistan at side, Shaheen Shah Afridi, Naseem Shah and Haris Rauf were absolutely lethal with the leather and bundled out India for 266, with seven balls to spare.

Pandya and Kishan racked up 138-run partner-ship off just 141 to rebound their team.

For India, Rohit Sharma (11), Shubman Gill (10), Virat Kohli (4), Shreyas Iyer (14), Ravindra Jadeja (14), Shardul Thakur (3), Kuldeep Yadav (4) and Jasprit Bumrah (16) failed to show any significant resistance with the bat.

Pakistan bowling department was ably spearheaded by Shaheen Shah Afridi (4-35), who gave the Indian batters no room whatsoever and bagged four wick-

Naseem Shah (3-36) and Haris Rauf (3-58) picked up three wickets apiece.

There was nothing special for the spinners as none of them managed to picked up a wicket. Shadab Khan (0-57),Mohammad Nawaz (0-55) and Agha Salman (0-21) remained wicketless.



#### Speakers praise Syed Ali Gilani's stance on Kashmir dispute

ISLAMABAD While addressing a seminar organized by the Azad Jammu and Kashmir Jamaat-e-Islami to mark the second martyrdom anniversary of veteran APHC leader and icon of Kashmir freedom movement, Syed Ali Gilani, speakers described him as real hero of the Kashmir freedom movement for his undaunted resistance against the Indian illegal occupation and injustice throughout his life. The speakers in a semi-

nar in Islamabad on the JI-AJK Islamabad office including Ameer JI-AJK, Dr Mushtaq Ahmad; APHC-AJK Convener, Mahmood Ahmad Saghar; senior APHC-AJK leader, Ghulam Muhammad Safi; APHC-AJK General Secretary, Sheikh Abdul Mateen; and AJK leader Abdul Rasheed Turabi said Syed Ali Gilani fought throughout his life to free the Kashmiri people from Indian subjugation and his unprecedented struggle and spirit of resistance will continue to inspire the coming

generations of Kashmiris. They said that Syed Ali Gilani, who entered the politics of Kashmir in the 1950s, waged a peaceful political struggle for 37 years for the settlement of the Kashmir dispute, but

Stadium, on a screen in Islamabad.

Punjab chief minister

Chaudhry Parvez Elahi has

challenged his arrest under

the MPO. Elahi filed a pe-

tition in the Islamabad High

Court through his lawyer

sought to annul the arrest

under the MPO on Friday

shortly after the court

granted him bail and di-

rected the authorities

against arresting him in any

other case. The petition fur-ther stated that the PTI

president was being tar-

geted for taking revenge on

political grounds.

The MPO order of

September 1 is illegal,

should be declared null and

void and Parvez Elahi or-

dered to be released, the

petition has requested. On

the other hand, Parvez

The petition has

Abdul Raziq.

**Ex-CM Parvez Elahi** 

challenges re-arrest

under MPO

Islamabad (INP): Former the DIG operations, DIG

(INP): ultimately he realized tha India, the claimant of the world's largest democracy will not grant the Kashmiris their inalienable right to self-determination through democratic means.

Despite all the difficulties and sufferings, Syed Ali Gilani demonstrated unprecedented determination and courage and never compromised on his principled stand, the speakers said. He was a true Pakistani who believed in attaching the political destiny of Kashmiris with Pakistan as per the two Nation Theory and he remained committed to this ideology till the last breath of his life, they as-

serted. The speakers said that Syed Ali Gilani coined the slogan "We are Pakistanis and Pakistan is ours" under the bayonets of the Indian army, proving that he was a true Pakistani. They maintained that the success of the freedom movement remained the sole objective of Syed Ali Gilani's life-long struggle despite spending a large part of his life injails and concentration cells where he was subjected to physical and mental torture. Despite all cruelties and tyranny he never compromised on the demand for self-determina-

tion for his enslaved people

ISLAMABAD: Cricket fans watch the Asia Cup 2023 one-day international

(ODI) match between Pakistan and India at Pallekele International Cricket

investigation and SP high

court security parties in the

petition. The petition was

filed on behalf of the former

chief minister's wife

Qaisara Elahi. She has re-

quested the chief justice of

the Lahore High Court to

schedule the petition for

der, Parvez Elahi was not

shifted home safely by the

police officers deputed for

the purpose, the petitioner said. She has urged the

court to initiate contempt

proceedings against the

DIG operations and DIG

former chief minister, who

was rearrested shortly af-

ter the release order from

the Lahore High Court in a

The PTI president and

Despite the court's or-

hearing to day.

investigation.

#### LO, Labour **Federation for joint** efforts to secure life, health of miners

ISLAMABAD Supported by the International Labour Organization (ILO), a consultative workshop in Quetta concluded that the ratification of ILO Safety and Health in mines Convention will ensure the rights of Pakistan's 300,000 mine workers.

During the consultation organized by the All-Pakistan Labour Foundation (APLF) and Pakistan Central Mines Labour Federation (PCLMF) on Saturday, the representatives of government departments. workers and employers organizations, examined ways to promote occupa-tional safety and health in mines. The participants

agreed to intensify the campaign for the ratification of ILO Convention No. 176. to ensure workplace safety and social security coverage for Pakistan's mine workers. 34 countries have so far ratified Convention 176 which came into force in 1995, but not Pakistan. "The ratification of

Convention 176 is central to achieving decent work in a sector that is particularly prone to accidents and injuries. It is an essential tool for resolving the challenge of occupational safety and health in Pakistan's mining industry,' said Geir Tonstol, Country Director of ILO in Pakistan.

## Without education, dream of development will not be fulfilled: Nail

**Independent Report** 

QUETTA: Without education, the dream of development will not be fulfilled.

Nation that pay special attention to education. Societies determine the path of development. Former member of the Provincial Assembly, Qadir Nail, expressed these thoughts in Government Girls High School Hazara Town, recycling and scientific. On the occasion of the event organized regarding the exhibition. Special Secretary Education Noman Shah District Education Officer Masood Rind and DOE female Samina Salim participated in the event.

The participants addressed the event and said that education with skills is very important. Students should pay full attention to education and respect teachers. The education department will provide all possible facilities to the schools and students.



The young generation is the capital of the country and the architects of the future. The role of teachers is important in the formation of a better society and the development of the country.

A grand reception was given and the students presented bouquets of flowers. On this occasion, the honored guests saw the various scientific models made by the students in the recycling and scientific exhibition and appreciated the performance of the students. The students also presented various charts to the classrooms.

The efforts of science teacher Zara Ibrahim in organizing the scientific exhibition are commendable. Prizes were distributed among the first, second and third position students. All the guests appreciated the performance of all the teachers including the headmistress. Appreciation. In the end, the headmistress Kinez Zahra thanked the guest for participating in the event and encouraging

#### Cristiano Ronaldo named in Portugal squad for Euro 2024 qualifiers

Ronaldo was named in Portugal's squad on Friday for the upcoming Euro 2024 qualifiers against Slovakia and Luxembourg. Former European champions Portugal sit top of Group J in qualifying for next year's finals in Ger-

many They face Slovakia in Bratislava next Friday before hosting Luxembourg three days later. "A player with 200 appearances, that's something unique,' said Portugal coach Roberto Martinez of Ronald0o, who has scored five goals in four qualifying games so far.

"I can tell you I'm very happy to have Cristiano Ronaldo in my team." The 38-year-old Ronaldo, who now plies his trade in Saudi Arabia, celebrated his 200th international appearance with the winner in a 1-0 victory over Iceland last time out for Portugal in June.

Martinez also in-Saudi-based cluded midfielders Otavio and Ruben Neves in his squad

PARIS (INP): Cristiano Portugal squad for Euro 2024 Qualifiers:

Goalkeepers: Diogo Costa (Porto/POR), Jose Sa (Wolves/ENG), Rui Patricio (Roma/ITA) Defenders: Diogo Dalot (Manchester United/ ENG), Nelson Semedo (Wolves/ENG), Joao Cancelo (Manchester City/ ENG), Danilo Pereira Saint-Germain/ (Paris FRA), Ruben Dias (Manchester City/ENG), Antonio Silva (Benfica), Goncalo Inacio (Sporting Lisbon), Toti (Wolves/

Midfielders (6): Joao Palhinha (Fulham/ENG), Ruben Neves (Al-Hilal/ KSA), Bruno Fernandes (Manchester United/ENG), Otavio (Al-Nassr/KSA), Vitinha (Paris Saint-Germain/FRA), Bernardo Silva (Manchester City/

Forwards (7): Ricardo Horta (Braga), Rafael Leao (AC Milan/ITA), Joao Felix (Atletico Madrid/ESP), Cristiano Ronaldo (Al-Nassr/KSA), Pedro Neto (Wolves/ENG), Goncalo Ramos (Paris Saint-Germain/FRA), Diogo Jota



LAHORE: Workers of Jamat-e-Islami holds protest at Mall road against the surge in electricity and fuel prices and unbearable Inflation across

#### GB govt decides to deploy Pak Army to ensure lives, properties of GB people GILGIT (APP): The Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) Government has decided to deploy the Paki-

QUETTA: A representative delegation of Musakhail led by Malik Haji Fateh

Muhammad Buzdar meeting with Secretary Education Abdul Rauf Baloch

stan Army to ensure the protection of the lives and the properties of the people of the

A high-level meeting, chaired by the Chief Minister, reviewed the current situation in GB. They also decided to deploy Rangers, GB Scouts, and FC personnel in major

cities of these northern areas. The meeting was attended by the Chief Minister of GB, Minister of Home, Minister of Law, Chief Secretary, Secretary of Home, police officials, and officials from other law

enforcement agencies (LEAs). The Home Department has immediately imposed Section 144 to prohibit illegal gatherings and road blockades.

The meeting also decided to take stern action against those who insult the beliefs and holy persons of any religion in public gatherings. The meeting decided to take all necessary measures to maintain law and order and ensure the continuity of business and tourism activities in all circumstances.

The meeting appealed to the public to support the government by demonstrating

## Pakistan's top service enterprises participate in CIFTIS in Beijing

Pakistan's prominent ser- nies which briefed visiting have also set up their stalls vice-oriented enterprises enterprises about the in- at the pavilion and disshowcased their accom- centives and investment- played their products plishments at the 2023 China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS) opened here on Saturday.

Pakistani firms including Special Technology Zone Authority (STZA), Pakistan International Airlines (PIA), NETSOL, ISBEI, National Bank of Pakistan, National Logistic Corporation (NLC), Fb Enterprises and others set up their booths at Pakistan Pavilion to attract Chinese investors.

Pakistan Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haque officially inaugurated the pavilion. The representatives of the companies attended the inaugural ceremony.

'For the first time, we have a meaningful participation of Pakistan's top

(APP): service-oriented compa- the traders of handicrafts friendly environment in Pakistan," Commercial which attracted a lot of customers. Counselor, Pakistan Embassy, Beijing, Ghulam Qadir told APP.

He said that the response of the people was phenomenal and wonderful as they thronged to the Pakistani pavilion and were briefed by the representatives of the companies specializing in IT, tele communications, logistics and traveling, and financial ser-

"It is beginning and hoped that more services companies would come to China and attend in the similar events in China and build business relations with the Chinese counterparts, he added.

Ghulam Qadir said that

He expressed confi-

dence that the participation of Pakistani companies would help enhance trade between the two countries and increase the regional connectivity. Themed

"openness leads development, cooperation creates a win-win future," the fair takes place in the Chinese capital from September 2 to 6.

As the world's sole state-level and comprehensive fair with international reach dedicated to trade in services, the event has attracted more than 2,400 enterprises to participate in its offline exhibition, including over 500 global top 500 and industry-leading



QUETTA: Players of Turbat Football Academy photographed with Inspector General Police Balochistan Abdul Khaliq Sheikh

#### Akhtar Mengal calls for running....

Continued from page 1 economic situation saying alities living in Balochistan to create the spirit of rendering sacrifices like our elders did.

He also criticized the arrest rulers. of Eman Mazari and Ali Wazir questioning that what's their sin?

The BNP also pointed out that it was just informed that shelling has been started in Wadh again. He said that our elders have shed their blood for this land, and so we are loyal to

Sardar Akhtar Mengal also criticized the country's

even. He said that it is re- that such is the state of sponsibility of all nation- economy that no one is ready to give alms even what to talk about the financial aid.

He said that the coun-He said that we have to try has been isolated due to fight all cruelties together. the wrong policies of the

> About his father and eminent Baloch nationalist leader. Sardar Akhtar Mengal said that Sardar Attaullah Mengal rendered great sacrifices for the land and its people.

Earlier, the provincial President of Awami National Party, Asghar Khan Achakzai, BNP leader, Agha Hasan Baloch and others also addressed the gathering and paid rich tributes to late Sardar Attaullah Mengal

Some resolutions were also adopted in the public gathering condemning reduction of 7 million population of Balochistan in the meeting of CCI, running cases of civilians in the Army trial court, besides demanding recovery of missing persons, release of Eman Mazari and Ali

The resolution also demanded conduct of elections withint 90 days crease easiness in the border trade, withdraw increase in the rates of petroleum products and electric-

corruption case, was shifted to Attock Jail later Elahi's wife has filed a contempt of court petition in the Lahore High Court for on Friday. The Islamabad police arrested Elahi on not shifting her husband Lahore's Canal Road when he was heading towards his home safely despite court home following his release The petition has made by the court.

#### Pakistan outplay Bhutan in opening match of SAFF U16 C'ship

kistan downed Bhutan by 2-1 in the opening match of South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) U16 Championship 2023 at Bhutan on Saturday.

According to details, Pakistani Skipper Obaidullah Khan scored the first goal in the 17th minute

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pa- while the second goal was scored by Subhan Karim in the 30th minute.

Bhutan's lone scores was Tandan Phantshu who scored the goal in the 13th minute of the game.

Pakistan team would play their next match against Maldives on Sep

#### CTD arrests five woman terrorists

of Daesh

LAHORE (APP): The Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) arrested five women terrorists of Daesh from Lahore Sheikhupura on Sat-

urday.

According to the CTD spokesperson, the terrorists were arrested in Intelligence Based Operations (IBOs) and Lahore Sheikhupura. Three women were arrested from Lahore while two were arrested from Sheikhupura Banned literature,

cash, weapons and mobile phones were

# Journalists pledged to work with govt closely to ensure Polio-free Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (APP): held in the backdrop of has pledged to work with the government to ensure a polio-free Pakistan at a local hotel of Muree, the

The assurance came at a workshop organized by the Directorate General Public Relations (DGPR) in collaboration with the Punjab Emergency Operations Centre, themed 'Last Mole, Reaching Last

Officials of international partners of Pakistan in polio eradication belonging to WHO and Unicef participated in the workshop. Journalists from key organizations were also in attendance.

The workshop was

positive environmental samples reported in Lahore and Rawalpindi

The journalists were informed that two environmental samples had been reported positive from Rawalpindi and three from Lahore this year.

Although, no polio case had been reported in Punjab for more than three years now but presence of the virus in polio samples was indicative of persistent virus risk to the children.

Dr Nauman, the polio focal person of a Rawalpindi tehsil, disclosed that environmental samples are taken from 31 sites across 19 districts of

ISLAMABAD: Activists of Civil Society holds cycle rally at Jinnah Avenue

"The international

community needs to come

forward in a big way and

hold New Delhi accountable

for its war crimes and

crimes against humanity in

the occupied territory," she

that it was high time the

Modi-led government re-

leased all the political pris-

oners instantly and let the

Kashmiri people decide the

pealed to the United Na-

tions (UN), Organisation of

Islamic Cooperation (OIC),

rights organizations to take

world human rights organi-

zations to raise their voice

against the Indian atrocities

in IIOJK. Meanwhile, the

APHC leaders including

Saleem Zargar, Abdul Samad Inqilabi, Maulana

Musaib Nadvi, Israr Ahmad

Muhamamd Fayaz in their

statements in Srinagar, said

India is employing terror-

ism as a state policy to in-

timidate the Kashmiris into

submission. They said that

Indian troops were perpe-

trating grave human rights

violations in occupied

Kashmir and 8 Kashmiris

fell to the Indian bullets in

The APHC leaders

the last month of August.

said that atrocities by In-

Noor

Malik

dian state terrorism.

Mushaal Mallick ap-

fate of their free will.

She also demanded

India using range of

brutal, inhuman tactics

to silence Kashmiris

in IIOJK: Mushaal

for decades but it has failed and international human

laws are being used in violations by India in Kash-

IIOJK to silence the voice mir and take immediate and

of Kashmiri youth and jour- concrete steps to stop In-

<u>Masarrat Aalam says:</u>

World's silence

emboldened India to

continue its repression

ISLAMABAD (APP): Illegally detained Chairman legally detained Chairman

of All Parties Hurriyat force the Kashmiri people

Conference (APHC), to give up their just de-

Masarrat Aalam Butt, has mand. He appealed to the

and

ported. The APHC Chair- dian troops, paramilitary

man said the Kashmiris and police personnel dur-

have been facing the Indian ing cordon and search op-

brutalities for the last severations had become a rou-

She said, "Draconian cognizance of human rights

(APP):

ISLAMABAD

Prime Minister's Special

Assistant on Human Rights

and Women Empowerment

Mushaal Hussein Mullick

Saturday said that India was

trying to change the demog-

raphy of Indian Illegally

Occupied Jammu and Kash-

mir (IIOJK) by settling

non-Kashmiri people in the

valley and using a range of

inhuman tactics to silence

news channel, she said,

"Kashmiri people have

been facing atrocities at the

hands of occupying forces

deplored that world's crimi-

nal silence has emboldened India to continue its repres-

sion in the Indian illegally

occupied Jammu and Kash-

mir (IIOJK). Masarrat

Aalam Butt, in a message

from New Delhi's Tihar

Jail, said that the Narendra

Modi-led Indian govern-

ment was using its military

might to suppress the

Kashmiris' struggle for the

right to self-determination

but would never succeed in

its nefarious designs. He

pointed out that India had

waged a war on the unarmed

people of occupied Jammu

and Kashmir and the Indian

atrocities witnessed an up-

surge after 5 August 2019,

Kashmir Media Service re-

to suppress the truth."

Talking to the PTV

Kashmiris.

Rawalpindi is linked to the cluster YB3A which is active in Afghanistan. While the virus found in Lahore is linked with Kandahar", he

"It is a matter of satis faction that no indigenous circulation has been found in Punjab. This means Punjab is at risk of importation", he explained.

Referring to the steps taken to prevent virus reintroduction in Punjab, Dr Nauman underlined that a mass campaign with a component of community engagement had been rolled

The tehsil focal person assured that all communities were being registered so that the child "Virus found in would remain unvaccinated

AC Rural

takes action

against illegal

polythene

bag usage,

seals store

ISLAMABAD (APP): As-

sistant Commissioner (AC)

Rural here on Saturday paid

a surprise visit to several

areas of the Rural Sub-Di-

vision on the advice of

Deputy Commissioner

Islamabad Irfan Nawaz

Memon to address public

AC Rural inspected the il-

legal usage of polythene

bags and checked the prices

of essential commodities to

make sure they adhered to

for violating the price list

owner, who was later re-

that he would not tolerate

any violations of the law

and that he would take

strict action against those

**IHC orders** 

not to arrest

Shireen in

any case

ISLAMABAD (Online)

Islamabad High Court

(IHC) has ordered not to

ter of Shireen Mazari in any

Hassan Aurangzeb has is-

sued 2-page written order

on the petition of Imaan

in the written order that in-

terior secretary, IG Police

and DG FIA would not ar-

rest Imaan Mazari. Interior

secretary, police and FIA

It has been said in the

would not assist in any

written order Imaan Mazari

be not taken outside

Islamabad limits. Secretary

interior should provide de-

tails of the cases against

erations 3 cases are regis-

in Islamabad.

The court maintained

Miangul

arrest Imaan Mazari daugh-

Justice

Mazaari.

case.

who break the rules.

He also sealed a store

During the visit, the

complaints.

official rates.

leased on bail.



ernment of Switzerland in collaboration with the Higher Education Commission (HEC) has announced an "Excellence Scholarship Programme" for Pakistani students for the upcoming academic year 2024-25. Higher Education Commission (HEC) local

chapter sources told APP that one-year post-master's research, three-year postmaster's, PhD and one-year Post-Doctoral Programmes (PDP) have been announced for the aspiring candidates. The last date for submission of applications with the Swiss embassy is September 30. More details are available on the official website, the HEC local sources



ISLAMABAD: A view of the closed shops and Markets at Karachi Company area during a nationwide strike by traders against the surge in electricity and fuel prices and unbearable Inflation across the

# NA Speaker inaugurates provision of transportation facilities to women college

Speaker National Assembly Raja Pervez Ashraf on Saturday said that education was an essential factor for women empowerment and providing basic facilities to women would enhance their literacy rate across the country. He added that the provision of transportation facilities to girls students in Gujar Kahn who travel 40 km to reach the college would encourage them to complete their

He expressed these views while addressing a public gathering in connection with the provision of transport services to Gov-

ernment Associate College

It is pertinent to mention here that Speaker National Assembly Raja Pervez Ashraf visited Government Associate College for Girls Manghot on 30th May 2023. During the visit, the students and fac-

ulty members raised the issue of transport problems to girls students

The Speaker, on the occasion, assured them provision of transport fa-

The provision of these buses will resolve the traveling difficulties faced by the students coming from far-flanged areas. Now, they will be able to participate in their educational activities more enthusiastically.

#### **Eunuchs besiege IESCO** office to voice protest against hike in electricity bills

RAWALPINDI (Online): Eunuchs have held protest demonstration against unprecedented hike in electricity bills here and besieged IESCO office in Mareer chowk. The protesters are holding banners in their hands.

Heavy contingent of police is deployed outside IESCO office on this occa-

#### Shahida Kausar for urgent change of habits to resolve current crises in country ISLAMABAD (APP): Re- Prime Minister Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani as the

nowned social worker Shahida Kausar Farooq has said the solution to the current crises lies in adopting austerity measures and the change in our habits. Responding to the severe inflation in the country and the alarming increase in elec-tricity bills, Shahida Kausar Farooq said that we as a nation urgently need to change our habits by adopting conservation practices such as saving water.

She said that in most areas of Pakistan, there was abundant sunlight throughout the year and we should take advantage of it to switch over to renewable energy as a long-term solution to our perennial energy issues. She said that the Caretaker Prime Minister had though of becoming the Prime Minister for a short period of time, however, by taking steps for the betterment of the country, he could write his name in the history forever, said a press release issued here Saturday.

Mrs. Farooq, who is actively involved in the environment friendly activities, said that 18th August was approved by then

National Plantation Day, but unfortunately, it was limited to announcements and the importance of this day was never understood and implemented at scale. In this regard, she said that the caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar should announce the National Tree Plantation Day and ensure that every citizen of the country plants at least one sapling and protect it so that the country can get rid of the effects of climate change.

Mrs. Farooq said that one of the main reasons for Pakistan's economic problems was the increase in population and insufficient resources.

The government should take effective measures to control the growing population in the country. We are increasing the problems for ourselves by increasing the population immensely, she added. She stated that most of the areas of Pakistan were facing water shortage and very soon the same situation was going to happen in other cities and villages of the



ISLAMABAD: Core Member of Jamaat-e-islami Pakistan Mian Muhammad Aslam talking to media persons at Karachi Company in Federal Capital.

## Govt plans multiple initiatives to promote 'culture literacy activities'

ISLAMABAD Federal Minister for Naand detained the store Jamal Shah Saturday said tively promote cultural and planned multiple initia-tives to promote 'culture' cal, national, and interna-tional levels. literacy activities' for youngsters to enable them to be future leaders and effective contributors for

> is essential for teachers and creative and constructive educators to effectively work with students from diverse cultural backgrounds", he said while talking to a private news chan-

He said that the country could make progress if every citizen realized and performed its responsibili-

Minister further emtional Heritage and Culture phasized the need to effecthat government has tourism activities at the lo-

Replying to a question, he said the current government is determined to highlight the heritage, civilization, language, art and "Cultural competence culture of the province in a He said that the gov-

ernment has also planned to introduce state-of-art museums in elsewhere in the country and as the initiative spans out, we expect every city will soon have its own archaeological museum.



ISLAMABAD: CDA staff intalling trash containers along the roadside.

ISLAMABAD: People are filing the drinking water from Water Filtration plant at Sadigabad area of the City.

## Parents demand revised grades to Cambridge students

ISLAMABAD (APP): The parents of Cambridge students have demanded revised grades instead of retaking exams which according to them is the solution to all problems.

The parents have requested the Cambridge International to reschedule the May 9-11 canceled exams at a later date but they

the Cambridge Interna-

Pakistan by what they called the "unjust grading not agreeing. and assessed grades'

Showing disagreement with the suggestion that the students sit for retakes, they asked, "Why didn't they listen to the parents earlier when they requested to reschedule the canceled exams"

Parents pointed out They complained that that the government has

tional failed the students in pay 80 percent for the rechecks to which they are

> Nearly 45000 Pakistani students have been affected by the unjust grading by Cambridge International" a mother of a student said.

She said that the exams components that were canceled had been marked Us and Es and those not

canceled had been marked proposed the schools to the same way too.

of Vietnamese officers and

servicemen have been dis-

patched to UN peacekeep-

ing missions in Africa. In

various international issues

of significance, Vietnam's

voice, initiative and solu-

tions – being both sensible

and full of human kindness,

in the spirit of equality,

amity, tolerance and hu-

manism - have received

agreement and support

from the international

community. Thanks to this

contribution, Vietnam's

status and prestige in the

international arena are on

that with all the above-men-

achievements, we are opti-

mistic that the country will

tioned foundations and

The Ambass ador said

# 78th 'I-Day' brings economic development, prosperity to Vietnam: Envoy

Imaan Mazari till Monday. ISLAMABAD (APP): According to SSP op-Ambassador of Vietnam to Pakistan Nguyen Tien tered against the petitioner Phong on Friday acknowledged that this year's 78th According to police 'Independence Day' of Vietnam has brought economic development and prosperity to Vietnam.

The ambassador said this in his special message on the occasion of the 78th, National Day of Vietnam

He said that under the visionary leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam, "Vietnam today is on the path of development and prosperity, which was possible due to the economic reforms of our leader ship" On the occasion he

mentioned, "I would like to quote the affirmation of the General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam, Prof. Dr. Nguyen Phu Trong at 13th Party's Congress in Jan 2021: "With all humility, we can still say that: Our country has never

enjoyed such fortunes, potentials, international status and prestige as they are today. All this combined constitutes a pride, a driving force, an important resource, and a conviction for our entire Party, people and armed forces to overcome whatever difficulties and challenges, continue with firm steps on the road of comprehensive and concerted renewal; and develop the country expeditiously

He said the achievements of 35 years' implementation of the renewal process have continued affirming our Party's renewal line as judicious and cre-Vietnamese envoy

and sustainably

said such great achievements of historic significance crystallize the creativeness of our Party and people, and assert that our country's road to socialism is suitable with Vietnam's reality and the times' development trend, and confirm

leadership represents the primary determinant of the Vietnamese revolution's success"

The Ambass ador said that after 37 years (1986-2023) of reforms/renovations/renewal/ Doi Moi (in Vietnamese), Vietnam's spectacular economic development is crucially and decidedly attributed to the Communist Party's successful leadership. He said that nowa-

days, Vietnam has become a socialist-oriented market economy enjoying an immense breadth and depth of economic connectivity, having acceded to 17 Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), including three next-generation FTAs of very high standards, and participating in an extensive network of economic linkages with major economies in the

While only 30 years ago we only had economic and trade ties with some 30

that the Party's judicious countries and territories, the number today is 230 countries and territories.

Nguyen Tien Phong said the foreign policy planning, implementation and orientation of "Vietnam's Bamboo Diplomacy" play a pioneering role in maintaining an environment of peace and stability, contributing in an important way to the steadfast defense of national independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity; in promoting socio-economic development, and at the same time contributing to the maintenance of peace and stability in the

He said that Vietnam's international status and prestige in the region and the world are constantly on the rise, and we make active and very responsible tecting the country. contributions to the maintenance of peace and cooperation for development and progress in the world. He said that hundreds

obtain more and more success and achievements in its cause of building and pro-

the rise.

"We will strive for ours to become by the mid-21 st century a socialist-oriented developed country", he said.



# Daily Soice of Masse Independent

Sunday September 03, 2023

#### ECP's mantra

Just because the chief election commissioner keeps insisting on it, and the government keeps repeating it, does not make it an incontestable fact: determining when a general election is to be held is themselves from mostly arguably not the ECP's 'sole agriculture-driven to modprerogative', whether one goes by the Constitution or even by the updated statute books the watchdog has been

This questionable assertion continues to be repeated the ad nauseam, but it does not country's GDP has a very change the fact that the Elections Act, just like other laws, remains subject and subservient to the Constitution, which is rather clear regarding how long the election watchdog has to hold elections in case any assembly is dissolved before its tenure is up (Article 2242), and the president's responsibility to appoint a date for a general election when the assembly in question has been dissolved by his hand (Article

The ECP has recently been assuring political parties that it intends to hold general elections in the country by late January or mid-February 2024; once constituencies cess isn't only measured in have been delimited afresh the runs scored or the wickunder the census notified by ets taken but also in national pride. the PDM and its allies shortly before the National Assembly was dissolved. Regrettably, only a handful of political actors appear concerned that this will necessarily entail yet another violation of the Con-

It may be recalled that, earlier this year, the ECP had refused to hold elections for the and chai stalls/cafes were Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and screens telecasting the that will live on in the col-Punjab assemblies within the mandatory 90-day period. It did so in direct defiance of the Constitution as well as the Supreme Court's orders.

At the time, the ECP had offered to hold the due elections at a later date — Oct 8, to be precise. However, it clearly seems to be in no mood to stick to that timeline now.

It is also worth recalling that, as recently as July, the ECP had ruled out any delay in the general elections, promising it was ready to hold polls within 60 or 90 days, depending on whenever the histori-cally, civil soci-National Assembly was dis-

In a July 20 press conference, addressed by ECP Secretary Omar Hamid Khan and Special Secretary Zafar Igbal Hussain, the latter had also ruled out the possibility of surge was driven by the fresh delimitations, saying expansion of the middle that elections would be held by foreign inflows from under the previous census and delimitation. Within a month, the ECP abruptly changed its stance.

Its volte-face was immediately protested by the PPP, which later revealed that it had been assured that the notification of the census would have no bearing on election dates. Given these precedents, how can the ECP be trusted? As long as it continues to believe that no law or court order HRCP as an example. can compel it to do its constitutional duty within stipulated of the population, with time frames, it may find it more convenient to continue delaying the exercise on one pretext or the other.

# Economic transformation



Riaz Riazuddin

Before we dwell on Pakistan's 76-year economic transformation, it is important to review what it means in the context of countries that transformed ern industrialised nations.

Nobel laureate Simon Kuznets described this long-term, complex structural transformation in terms of three simple shares of GDP of any country: agriculture, industry and services.

At the beginning of transformation, a large share of agriculture. As the country starts to develop, the share of industry begins to rise, that of agriculture to fall, and the share of services increases slowly. As the country share continues to increase, peaking when the country highly becomes industrialised. During this time, the share of services continues to rise, and, in advanced economies, becomes very high as the share of industry starts to go down. During this transformation, the share of agricul-

In the US, for example, this transformation is at a very advanced stage. The share of agriculture in GDP fell from 35 per cent in 1850 to 7pc in 1950 to only 0.9pc in 2016, while that of industry rose from 25pc in 1850, peaking in 1942 at

ture continues to go down,

Since then, it fell to 33.7pc in 1950 and 17.3pc in 2016. In contrast, the share of services continued to rise from 35pc in 1850 to 59.9pc in 1950 to 81.9pc in 2016.

In other words, during the process of structural transformation, which is synonymous with the reallocation of resources within the broad sectors of America's GDP, the share are highly productive and of agriculture continued to have the potential to absorb fall and that of services to a lot of labour and reduce moves toward greater rise, while the share of in- unemployment.

industrialisation, industry's dustry rose first, reached its peak, and then started to fall, showing a humped curve in the graph. This behaviour of structural change is common to all advanced economies.

> Why does the share of agriculture fall in the industrialisation process? The reason is that there is an ample surplus of labour (unemployed or underemployed) available in this sector. Since wages (and productivity) in agriculture are lower than industry, labour moves towards industry to expand its contribution to GDP. Reduction in labour's

> share improves its own productivity, as well as that of the economy overall. It also induces modernisation of agriculture. As farmers adopt newer modes of production, agricultural output continues to increase, while its share of GDP decreases.

> contrast, if In industry's share begins to stagnate or fall in the initial stages of industrialisation, it is a bad omen for the economy because industrial and manufacturing activities

Let us now review the structural change of our economy which, of course, is incomplete, as we are still a developing country. The share of agriculture in Pakistan's GDP was 53.2pc in FY50. Halfway through

its history, it fell to 26.3pc in FY87, representing a reduction of 26.9 percentage points. During the next half of our 76 years, it reduced by only 2.3 percentage points to 24pc in FY23. This is an indication that the rate of structural transformation in our economy has slowed down considerably. The share of the ser-

vices sector has increased from 37.2pc in FY50 to 49.7pc in FY87. While it continued to increase in the next 38 years, its pace of increase went down, as it gained only 4.6 percentage points on reaching 54.3pc in FY23.

What is alarming is the behaviour of long-term change in the share of industry. It increased from 9.6pc in 1950 to 24pc in FY87, an increase of 14.4 percentage points during the first 38 years of our history. Since then, instead of registering an increase, it has gone down by 2.3

21.7 pc in FY23. This seems like premature deindustrialisation of our economy, contrary to the experience of nations who are developing success-

and dynamic subsector within industry is the large-scale manufacturing sector in our economy. The long-term trend in the share of manufacturing activities in GDP gives a bleak picture of our industrial transformation. The share of LSM in GDP was only 2.2pc in 1950 and touched its highest value 13.1 pc in FY71. Since then, it has first stagnated around 12pc till FY08, de-

clining to 11pc in FY23. The process of economic and industrial transformation is not an automatic one; it is driven by economic policies and innovation. Good macroe conomic policies fuel this process, and bad policies retard or slow it down undermining the process of economic de velopment. Our industrial policies of nationalisation in the early 1970s played such havoc that we have still not come out of the subsequent re-

manufacturing's share in

Bad industrial policies combined with imprudent fiscal, monetary and exchange rate policies have not only produced finan-The most important cial and balance-of-payments crises, they have also constrained our overall GDP from rising faster. affecting all its subsectors. The manufacturing sector acts as the engine of growth because of its high productivity compared to agriculture and services. Bad policies have taken all the steam propelling growth out of the manufacturing sector.

We need to adopt policies that expand the share of industry in GDP. We should remove inequities in taxation among three broad sectors of GDP. The relative level of taxation is much higher in industry compared to agriculture and the services sector. This does not mean that we reduce taxation in industry. Rather, we should impose direct taxes in agriculture and reduce tax avoidance in services Prolonging the existing tax regime will continue to retard our economic transformapercentage points to tardation and decline in tion. -- Courtesy Dawn

#### to cricket eave it



Muhammad **Abdul Basit** 

If nothing else, people in Pakistan and India love a collaboration in the sphere of sports - mainly cricket. It's a rivalry that stirs up intense feelings, where suc-

Cricket lovers wait desperately for their teams to play one-on-one. Unfortunately, that happens only once or twice a year now, or hardly even that. A few decades ago, people were able to watch the hostile yet enjoyable rivalry, sometimes a series every year, when the Pakistan cricket team used

to visit India and vice versa. Emotions used to be at a high in every match. Even in small towns, barbershops matches live. The ball-byball commentary and the cheeringroars by cricket fanatics watching the swings uprooting the stumps and the ball bouncing to the boundaries used to be a sight of joy. Why has this been taken away from cricket enthusiasts? The sport has become hostage to politics. In the tempestuous

arena of international sports, hardly any rivalry burns as fiercely as that between India and Pakistan on the pitch. It's a rivalry steeped in history, drenched in passion, and embedded in the very hearts of tens of millions. Yet, beneath the thunderous roars of the fans and the thrill of each boundary and wicket lies a complex tapestry woven with threads of politics and power. As bat meets ball in these high-stakes contests. politics invariably steps to the crease, affecting the game in ways as intricate as he sport itself.

The rivalry between these two cricketing behemoths has been nothing short of legendary since their first encounter in 1952. Their cricket history is full of thrilling last-over finishes, historic under-pressure overcrowded with TV battles and fiery moments

lective memory of specta-

The cricketing crucible between India and Pakistan has its own epic storyline, where the echoes of rivalry resonate through the annals of history, much as the sunkissed grounds of Lords and the immaculate cricket venues of Sydney bear witness to the fabled chronicle of the Ashes. Unlike Ashes, the sport gets hooked up by the flames of politics in the case

of Pakistan-India matches.

The Ashes represent a

contentious yet sportsmanlike exchange between England and Australia. There is sanctity within sport, a realm where political fervour should, ideally, remain at bay. The pitch should be a place where sports rivalry reigns supreme, free from the influence of political unrest. Sports should act as a symbol of unification, where conflicts are decided with balls and bouncers rather than under the weight of geopolitical obligations. Because when politics is put aside for the sake of the game of cricket, it is at those times that nations come closer in the name of sports, praising the game's beauty free from the noise of political strife

Conventional (Test) cricket is nearly extinct between the two neighbours. Since December 2007, there have been no Test matches between them. The revered history of Test cricket stands as a beacon of endurance and a monument to the sport's origins as the cricketing world hastily moved towards shorter forms with scorching boundaries and high-octane showdowns. However, there is a noticeable gap when we focus on the long-standing ri-

valry between India and Pa-

kistan, a gap that be moans the lack of Test matches be-

tween these two cricket

archrivals. A poignant representation of the volatile relationship between the two countries is the lack of Test matches in this longrunning rivalry, which is apparently caused by political concerns. The spirit of Test cricket, with its emphasis on perseverance and patience, may just be the bridge needed to span the gap and usher in a new era of enduring cricketing competition between these two powerhouses. Neither Pakistan nor India has tried lately to fix

the mutual political issues

environment where even the

Indian Premier League (IPL) excludes the cricket stars of a nation based on political tussles, hardly any good can be expected in the short run.

On the Pakistan side, the problems are even deeper, not merely limited to international politics but domestic politics too. Even the appointment of the chairman of Pakistan Cricket Board is based on political affiliation. A good example would be how, because of the tussle between political parties within the country, the PCB excluded cricket legend Imran Khan from its August 14 video that paid tribute to Pakistan's cricket stars, and included him only after facing a strong criticism. Politicizing cricket has never been good for the If cricket were to come

in contact with politics at any cost, it should ideally have been for a constructive role. At its heart lies cricket diplomacy – not a very powerful tool but one certainly able to play a pivotal role in de-escalating tensions. There have been notable examples of cricket acting as a bridge for peace throughout India and Pakistan's history, which pertaining to cricket. In an has been characterized by sporadic outbreaks of an-

tagonism. A thaw in ties was brought about in 1987 simply by state leaders attending a cricket match between the two countries in Jaipur.

Cricket diplomacy has a special chance to improve the tense political ties between India and Pakistan. Within the confines of the cricket arena, national boundaries blur, and the spirit of competition is laced with an underlying desire for harmony. It turns into a venue where citizens from the two countries may interact, not as foes but as fans with similar interests.

More importantly, cricket diplomacy serves as an example of interpersonal interaction whereby spectators and athletes can develop bonds and hostility can give way to empathy.

Political leaders must understand the power of this phenomenon because, in the world of cricket diplomacy, they have a powerful tool at their disposal to mend tense ties. Leaders may pave the path for not just runs and wickets, but also peace and goodwill to blossom between these neighbouring nations whose competition on the fields is arguably the greatest of all sports rivalries. -- Courtesy The News

# Dilemma for liberal and left



**Nadir Cheema** 

the past few

months, some segments of the liberal and left factions in Pakistan have noticeably remained silent or indifferent towards the treatment of the PTI by ety, predominantly from the liberal and left circles, has been the torchbearer of democratic rights and civil liberties in Pakistan. A significant surge in civil society activism was evident during Musharraf's era, most notably during the lawyers' movement. Some contend that the class, possibly influenced events like the Afghan war, rather than by economic growth in sectors such as manufacturing.

This silence from the previously outspoken liberal-left has been puzzling to many. PTI's leadership often derided them, catering to its rightwing base. Some within the liberal and left segments fault civil society for the quietness of their international 'partners', believing these partners follow the lead of their local counterparts. Some also point to the mild

In Pakistan, liberals represent a tiny fraction the term 'liberal' even carrying negative connotations for many. This contrasts with India, where intellectuals like Amartya Sen and schol-

JNU proudly identify as liberals. While these Indian liberals actively resist the challenges posed by Modi's regime, their Pakistani counterparts have long championed democratic rights and civil liberties. Yet, their recent inactivity will likely become a point of contention when documenting this era's political history.

Questions also arise regarding the commitment of Western liberal democracies to freedom and democracy. Linking the silence of these nations to their respective 'partners' in Pakistan might be an oversimplification. Their commitment wavers, as seen in events like the democratically elected Muslim Brotherhood's removal in Egypt in 2013, or the hindered victory of the Islamic Salvation Front in Algeria in 1991. Unlike previous incidents, the PTI's ousting came through a vote of noconfidence process. However, there are concerns regarding coalition partners departing from the PTI-led coalition.

Some interpret these recent developments as the unravelling of the establishment's decadelong hybrid project. On the contrary, the recent legislations have effectively given legal protection to the hybrid model, which civil society strongly opposed. Others contend that the PTI lacks a democratic ethos and draw some parallels with a Trump-like following. They argue that, while undermining democracy is condemnable, it's not worth staunchly supporting a group that doesn't adhere to fundamental democratic prin-

The Western countries' reticence in condemning the PTI's treatment might stem from broader geopolitical considerations. For instance,

ciples

withdrawal from Afghanistan, the US's displeasure with Pakistan was palpable, especially with Imran Khan's perceived pro-Taliban stance. This sentiment might illuminate the West's inconsistency on democratic principles, as observed in Egypt and Algeria.

By this logic, Western support seems contingent upon whether the party or group in question upholds or opposes radical religious beliefs. This might also hint at the Pakistani liberal-left's apathy. The underlying rationale that radical groups contradict democratic values and thus don't deserve support needs more in-depth ex-

amination In this landscape Pakistan's liberal-left civil society has much to reflect on. A deeper exploration of what liberalism means in the Pakistani context is crucial, particularly as debates on democratic freedoms are rampant, but discussions on economic liberal policies remain conspicuously absent. Concepts like the charter of economy, which many see as align-

newspaper over recent

years can serve as a case

study to elucidate liberal-

ism in the Pakistani con-

text. -- Courtesy Dawn

with programmes, could potentially provide some clarity on liberal economic policies. The discussion on economic policies will sharply delineate the differences between the liberals and the left. Defining liberalism is intricate globally. Its discourse primarily emerged from an intellectual tradition rather than a political movement. In Pakistan, liberalism is often misinterpreted, and there is a dearth of representative liberal models to foster discourse. Possibly, the editorial policy of this

# Fractured identity

## Laraib Niaz

The recent dastardly attack on a minority religious community in Jaranwala, based on alleged disrespect to the majority faith, reinforces the dual role religion plays in Pakistan: it fosters the national identity of its citizens and delineates citizenship status based on religious affiliation. The unabashed display of violence and fanaticism, in the event of the misuse of religion, is not an isolated phenomenon; it raises pertinent questions about identity politics, faith, and communal vigilantism. It is difficult not to draw parallels with increasingly common cow lynchings and anti-love jihad raids in neighbouring India. So, what can be said about the common thread of religious beliefs in caus-

ing violent vigilantism? Violent vigilantism is often triggered due to behaviour that violates certain social and moral values that people consider fundamental to their group identities. Threatened group identities can arouse strong emotions, such as fear, anger, and a desire for supposedly restorative justice. In Pakistan, mob-driven violence is fuelled by a threat to not just religious identities but also national identities, which perhaps makes individuals feel compelled to act (violently) to uphold the sanctity of faith.

National identity is a citizen's sense of belonging with the state, which is predominantly constructed through education and is based on shared values and symbols. In Pakistan, religion has provided a shared

value to unite the population and justify the existence of the country. Education has served to reinforce this shared value, often by reiterating the ideology of Pakistan and justifying its existence.

During my fieldwork in Grade 7 public and private school classrooms in Lahore. I would often witness a defensive and inward-looking nationalism purported by teachers, who would speak about the injustices experienced and sacrifices made by Muslims during Partition, and the constant need to protect Pakistan from outside

While it is important for students to learn about traumas and injustices of the past — unlike, for instance, the omission/ revision of colonial horrors from mainstream education in the UK — constant trepidation over the possible dismantling of the nation is also harmful. It can make students feel resentful towards supposed outsiders and wary of their nation's identity, which is constantly in flux. Does the threat to identity make communal vigilantism more likely? Perhaps.

Further, teachers would also relate nat-i-o-nal identity to religious identity: ('we are a Muslim nation, we are the Pakistani nat-ion'). Yet, such a focus on religion challen-g-es the existence of religious plurality in the country — and this is where identity bec-omes fragmented. If religion is the uniting factor, then how can citizens understand religious diversity? Importantly, how does education reconcile a fragmented identity?

Identity that is fragmented requires recognition and normalisation of diversity (religious, ethnic, gender) in educational discourses. To this end, the subject of 'Ikhlaqiat' (Ethics) is offered in lieu of Islamiat to non-Muslim students, and the new

lum also works on greater sensitisation towards religious communities. The focus on curriculum and textbooks, however, is reductionist. The foremost elements in classrooms are the teacher and the student, who come with their own socialisations and worldviews.

During my fieldwork, a Muslim student mistakenly assumed I was Christian, and immediately infor-m-ed the teacher that she could not speak to me as her parents had instru-cted her to not interact with Chr-istians. The tea-cher reassured the student that I was indeed a Muslim, and I was left wondering why the teacher could not contest the notion that Muslims should not be interacting with Christiansand what impact would this conversation have had on a Christian classmate. Teachers, however, are part of the system and require training in gender and religionsensitive pedagogy, which is the state's duty.

What is also the state's duty is the use of education in dismantling fe ar of annihilation by reconciling wounds and traumas of the past. In its 76th year of independence, does Pakistan still need incessant hammering of the justification for its creation and threats to its existence? For identity only becomes an issue when it is in a crisis, when the assumption that it is fixed is displaced by the experience of uncertainty. It is also important to

inculcate values of peace and citizenship in education that acknowledge and respect the rights of all citizens of the country. It is only respect for rule of an d acknowledgement of equal citizenship, regardless of religious affiliation, that can help curb rising acts of violent vigilantism. -- Cour-

# Governor chairs meeting to discuss construction work in historic schools of city

Governor Pakht unkhwa. Ghulam Ali here on Saturday chaired a meeting to review ongoing work in historic schools of the city including Hasnain Shaheed

(APP): attended by District School with an estimated Khyber Education Officers and cost of Rs 14 million.

Haji representatives of the It was said that 80 planning and archaeology department

The meeting was told that work is underway in including Hasnain Shaheed Hasnain Shaheed City High School City 1, Usama School 2 with an estimated Zafar Shaheed City 2 and cost of Rs 36 million while Lady Griffith High School. construction work is

It was said that 80 percent of renovation work in these historic schools have been completed and the remaining work would construction be completed in the next month.

The Archaeology Department is also

historic status of these buildings

Speaking on the occasion, the Governor stressed to complete the renovation work according to the historic significance of these educational institutions and assured his cooperation.

Govt aware of

people's problems,

Baqar reacts to strike

Caretaker Chief Minister the people. Sindh Justice (Retd.) He sai

Maqbool Baqir while reacting to the strike, has

said that the federal and

well aware of the people's

understand that the people

were very worried because

of inflation.

PESHAWAR

Tourism Barrister Feroz

Jamal Shah Saturday said

that the people of Khyber

Pakhtunkhwa (KP) had

welcomed millions of

domestic as well as foreign

number of foreign tourists

has decreased this year,

probably due to financial

crunch being faced by

people across the world,

however, the number of

domestic tourists has

increased this year," the

data compiled by Police,

Lives Officials, Official of

the District Administration

foreigners visited various

tourist places all across

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and

last year 2947 foreigners

visited KP tourist places. This year 9.7 million

people from all over the

country visited KP and in

the year 2022, the number

year 2546

revealed.

This

"Unlike last year, the

tourists this year.

Caretaker

provincial governments are others.

said

(APP): together to provide relief to

and property.

Baqar said that the administration should take

federal and provincial all necessary steps to make

BHITSHAH: Folk artists going back after visiting

the shrine of Shah Abdul Latif Bhitai on the

People of KP welcome

millions of foreign, local

tourists this year: Minister

Minister

(APP): recorded as 88,59636.

occasion of 280th urs celebration

governments were working the protest peaceful.

He said that protest

The Interim Chief

He directed that the

was everyone's democratic

right but it should not

cause inconvenience to

Minister said that the

protesting people must

take care of people's lives



PESHAWAR: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Haji Ghulam Ali chairs a meeting to review ongoing work in historic schools of the city including Hasnain Shaheed High School City 1, Usama Zafar Shaheed City 2 and Lady Griffith High School.



Caretaker Federal Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony Aneeq Ahmed Khan meeting with Allama Razi Jaffar Naqvi and other Shia Ulama & Mashaikh at Karachi.

## Caretaker minister promises better health facilities

Provincial Health Minister Dr. Javed Akram has said that the Punjab government is making sincere efforts to provide better health facilities to people.

He was addressing an aware ne ss seminar, organised by the CCL Pharmaceuticals on Gut-Brain connection at a local hotel on Saturday. Dr. Javed Akram

appreciated the CCL and other stakeholders for holding an awareness seminar on a very important topic. "We have to adopt a healthy lifestyle to lead a healthy life," he

The minister said that Pakistan's Society of Internal Medicine is going to hold an international conference from Sept 22 to 24 at PC Bhorban in which experts from all-over the world would participate. will have to provide better health facilities to people in the same ratio.

Every 50-year-old person in Pakistan is suffering from high blood pressure. "To protect people of Pakistan from various dangerous and deadly diseases and epidemics, we will have to resort to modern technology," he said. The minister distributed commemorative shields among speakers at the end

of the seminar. Prof. Dr. Aftab hsin, Prof. Dr. Mohsin, Mohsin, Prof. Dr.
Muhammad Imran from
King Edward Medical
University, Dr. Junaid
Rasool, Prof. Dr. Khalid
Mehmood Khan from
Allama Iqbal Medical
College, Prof. Dr. Tariq
Wasim Associate Prof Dr Wasim, Associate Prof. Dr. Somia Iqtdar from King Edward University, Assistant Professor Dr. Wafa Qaiser He said: "Population of the from Gulab Devi Hospital

#### country is growing by and a large number of every passing hour so we doctors participated. **ANF recovers 1619** liters chemicals, 21 kg drugs in six operations

six operations across the country, managed to recover 1619 liters of heroin and 200 grams Ice prohibited chemicals, 21 kg of drugs and arrested six accused, said an ANF Headquarters spokesman here on Saturday.

He informed that in intoxicated accused, resident of various types.

The Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) while conducting a raid at a house in Murad Memon Goth area, Karachi and ANF recovered 1.9 kg drug from a vehicle.

In the third operation, two bikers were netted from Godhpur Chowk in Sialkot and ANF seized 1.2 kg hashish. In the fourth an operation in Bahria operation, ANF raided at a Town Rawalpindi, 100 house in uninhabited area tablets of Fort Abdullah and (Ecstasy) were recovered recovered 1619 liters of from the possession of an prohibited chemicals of

## **DC** Lahore inspects dengue measures

LAHORE (APP): The measures. anti-dengue drive initiated district administration is in full house of a dengue patient swing under which at DHA-EME Housing surveillance is being carried Society and reviewed the out at various points in the case response in the house

Haider on Saturday visited teams' response. Union Council ÚC-119, where she inspected antidengue arrangements and commercial markets of the informed house owners area and assessed dengue

empt y plots

commissioner visited the Lahore Deputy inquired about the heath of the patient. Rafia the patient and the field

She inspected houses,



PESHAWAR: Members of Peshawar Bar Association are holding protest demonstration against massive unemployment, increasing price of daily use products, inflation price hiking and the highly inflated electricity bills, held nearby Provincial Assembly building in Peshawar

#### CM saddened over loss of lives in accident

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Caretaker Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi has expressed a deep sense of sorrow and grief over the loss of precious human lives in a traffic accident at Sargodha-Lahore Road.

In his message, the CM expressed his heartfelt sympathy and condolences with the heirs of the deceased.

The caretaker chief minister directed the administration to provide best treatment facilities to those injured in the traffic acc ident.

Mohsin Naqvi sought a report about the sorrowful incident and ordered a legal action against the driver responsible for the

#### 11 die in Punjab road accidents in 24 hours

LAHORE (APP): At least eleven persons were killed and 1,154 injured in 1,139 road accidents in all 37 districts of Punjab during the last 24 hours.

Out of these, 557 people with serious injuries were shifted to hospitals, while 597 victims with minor injuries were treated on the spot by rescue medical teams thus reducing the burden of hospitals

Furthermore, analysis showed that 608 drivers, 34 underage drivers, 163 pedestrians and 394 passengers were among the victims of the crashes. The statistics show that 271 accidents were reported in Lahore which affected 281 persons placing the provincial capital at top of the list followed by 66 in Multan with 59 victims and at third Gujranwala with 62 accidents and 55 victims.

#### Punjab forensic report in respect of Tareen issued

LAHORE (Online) Punjab forensic report has been received in connection with suicide of Alamgia Tareen brother of Jahangir Tareen, founder Istehkam Pakistan Party (IPP).

As per report the death of Alamgir Tareen is apparently a suicidal death and no other reason has come to light related

#### international organization's report, he revealed alarming figures a staggering 280 million individuals worldwide had succumbed to drug use by 2022, with almost 7 million Pakistan alone, predominantly comprising

by teachers, civil society activists, students and people from different walks of life. D e p u Commissioner Lodhi addressing the seminar,

emphasized the peril of drug addiction on future generations. He stated that people from all walks of life must unite in the battle against drugs, not only to monitor their children but also to shield them from the

and Kaghan and Naran. Special measures are being taken for the security of domestic and foreign tourists," said Caretaker Minister Tourism Barrister Feroz Jamal Shah. 'A special bus service

"Local and foreign

tourists visited Galiyat,

Dir Upper, Malam Jabba, Chitral, Upper and Lower

has also been started for convenience of touri "Initially bus service

has been started for Khanpur Dam, Takhtbhai Ruins and Peshawar, Barrister Feroz Jamal Shah said. There is a plan to extend the bus service to more tourist spots, Barrister Feroz Jamal Shah told APP.

Giving complete data, he said 208 foreign tourists visited Dir Upper and Dir Lower, and 847, 5730 local tourists recorded in Dir Lower and Dir Upper Malam Jabba 323 foreign



KARACHI: Disinfected spray being carried out by District Health Office (DHO) officials at Karachi

## Critical vigilance imperative to safeguard youth from clutches of ice, drug addiction

MUZAFFARGARH influences that lead to (APP): In a concerted addiction. Quoting a effort to combat the reference from an escalating threat of drug addiction among the youth, the police department and Sardar Koray Khan School jointly organized a seminar, here on Saturday. The event chaired Commissioner Salman Khan Lodhi and attended

> e p u t y Commissioner Lodhi urged collective involvement to counter this crisis and revealed the establishment of a dedicated center for drug addicts at DHQ Hospital, equipped with four expert doctors.

DPO Syed Has nain Haider also addressed the audience, underscoring the police force's pivotal role in the anti-drug campaign.

# Naqvi pays tribute to bravery of martyred Major and Sepoy

**Independent Report** LAHORE: Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi has paid tribute to the bravery of martyred Major Amir Aziz and Sepoy Muhammad Arif for fighting in an operation against the terrorists at Miran Shah. CM Mohsin Naqvi remarked that the martyred Major Amir Aziz and the martyred Sepoy Muhammad Arif by laying down their precious lives foiled nefarious designs of

the terrorists. Mohsin acknowledged that we salute the brave sons for sacrificing their precious

lives for the sake of peace Father kills son over domestic

dispute ATTOCK (APP): A man has shot dead his son over domestic dispute in Kachha more area near Burhan interchange in the limits of Hassanabdal Police station on Saturday, police and hospital sources

Quoting the family of the victim, police said that Usman Shah was trashing his mother over some domestic dispute in his house. When his father Shabbir Shah entered the house, he saw his wife in distress and took out his pistol and fired multiple bullets on his son. As a result, his son died on the spot. Shbbair managed to escape from the scene successfully after killing his son.

lauded that the martyred Major Amir Aziz and martyred Muhammad sacrificed their today for the better tomorrow of the nation.

remarked that the whole nation holds in high esteem the immortal sacrifices of the martyred and the sacrifices of the martyred cannot be forgotten. CM Mohsin Naqvi has expressed his heartfelt sympathy and accident. CM Mohsin condolence with the Naqvi by seeking a report heirs of the martyred about the sorrowful Major Amir Aziz and incident has ordered a legal

Meanwhile, Caretaker the negligence

homeland. Mohsin Naqvi Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi has expressed his deep sense of sorrow and grief over the loss of precious human lives in a traffic accident at Sargodha-Lahore Road. nation. Mohsin Naqvi has CM Mohsin Naqvi expressed his heartfelt sympathy and condolence with the heirs of the

deceased. CM Mohsin Naqvi directed the administration to provide best treatment facilities to those getting injured in the traffic accident. CM Mohsin martyred Sepoy action against the driver Muhammad Arif.

## Wife of Ch Pervaiz Elahi files contempt of court plea on arrest of former CM

of Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi has filed habeas corpus and contempt of court petition in Lahore High Court (LHC) on arrest of her former Chief Minister (CM) Punjab and president

Care taker government Punjab, chief secretary, IG Police Punjab and others have been made respondents in the petition. Wife of PTI president has taken plea in the petition that Pervaiz Elahi was arrested illegally.

It has been said in the petition high court had stopped from arresting the order of district Pervaiz Elahi and ordered magistrate

LAHORE (Online): Wife DIG operations and SP Security to take former CM Punjab Pervaiz Elahi safely to his home. Arresting Pervaiz Elahi despite court's order is contempt of court.

The petitioner requested the court to order to initiate contempt of court proceedings against the responsible persons.It is pertinent to mention here Islamabad Police had arrested Pervaiz Elahi from Lahore under 3

Islamabad police said that Pervaiz Elahi has been arrested under 3MPO on



KARACHI: The care taker Minister of Home and Prison, Bring (rtd) Haris Nawazina group photo with Indonesian Consul General in Karachi Kuncoro Hadiningrat during the event Diplomatic Reception organized by the Consulate General of Indonesia at Pearl Continental Hotel."

#### OWP announces schedule for holding intra party election

PESHAWAR (APP): Chief Election Commissioner of Qaumi Watan Party (QWP) Muhammad Jamil Advocate on Saturday announced the schedule for holding the intra-party election.

He also extended the party membership drive to September 10 to facilitate those who joined the party recently and received their party membership card. He added that the

ongoing membership drive would continue while the existing members' cards would be valid for four years.

#### **Smoky vehicles** to face action SIALKOT

Transport (RTA) Regional Authority Secretary Muzaffar Hayat has said that smoky public transport will not be allowed on roads. He directed all

transport owners, drivers and staff of the general bus stand to get their vehicles tuned, change engine oil on time and use quality fuel so that their vehicles do not emit smoke.

He said that an antismog squad had been formed on the direction of the Punjab transport secretary, which is inspecting the engine of vehicles at different bus

## **Edhi Foundation provided** free treatment to 10,395 patients last month

Edhi Foundation provided medical aid and medicines to 10,395 patients at its free dispensary in August. According to a kesperson, 9,655 spoke sperson,

patients and bodies were

shifted to their homes by Edhi ambulances. Forty-four people,

who died in accidents in different areas of the city, were shifted to different places free of charge by patients were shifted from emergency number 115.

LAHORE (APP): The homes to hospitals and from hospitals to homes. Over 1438 bodies were shifted from hospitals to homes. About 356 people were admitted to Bilqis Edhi Home Gulberg in which 194 were shifted to their homes by Edhi ambulances. Foundation buried 87 unidentified bodies. The foundation provided onetime meal to 11501 people at Edhi Free Lunger. The Edhi ambulances. Some Edhi spokesperson has 273 people, who were appealed to the public injured, were shifted to to report any hospitals while 8,217 emergency on Edhi

## **Lahore CCPO visits** police stations

CCPO Bilal Siddique Kamyana visited Barki and Hadyara police stations last night.During his visit, the CCPO reviewed the sanitation and other administrative aspects of both police stations and issued directives to improve their conditions.

During inspection, police officers provided the CCPO with crime situation and public order. Kamyana also various scrutinized departments, including the with the rules.

LAHORE (APP): Lahore front desk, daily register, and warehouse.He closely monitored the progress of citizen applications at the front desk and emphasized prompt action on the applications. The CCPO, while issuing instructions, urged all divisional officers to regularly visit police stations within their respective divisions.

He stressed that there should be no pending insights into the prevailing application at any police station and SHOs should complaints in accordance

## **Masood Khan urges boost** in trade ties between Pakistan and US State of New Mexico

WASHINGTON (APP): complex last year. The Pakistan's Ambassador to the United States Masood Khan Friday underscored year-old Afghan origin the need for people-topeople relations and stepped up trade with the U.S. state of New Mexico when he met Mayor Tim Keller of Albuquerque, the state's largest city.

During the meeting, he proposed a sister city relationship with citing Albuquerque, Punjab-California and Sindh-Georgia sisterprovince relations as well Karachi-Houston sister cities ties already in place.

The ambassador also thanked the mayor for the swift arrest of the culprit involved in the murder of Pakistani-American

individual, later named as Muhammad Syed, a 51man, had also carried out three other killings of a sectarian nature.

"Your support, the message by the President of the United States and the diligence shown by Albuquerque administration helped restoring the confidence of Pakistani community," Masood Khan told Mayor Keller, according to a press release issued by the Pakistani embassy.

Welcoming Mayor Ambas sador, Keller said the killings were tragic and such violent actions had no place in Albuquerque. expressed appreciation for the contributions of

The Police Chief of Albuquerque Homicide Department added that the swift apprehension of the

culprit was the result of joint efforts of the police and community. The Ambass ador said that the two sides could also explore the untapped potential of cooperation in mining, agriculture,

telemedicine

pharmaceuticals, and other

important sectors that were a priority for Pakistan. Referring to the existing trade volume between New Mexico and Pakistan currently standing at about \$4 million, Masood Khan termed it far

below the actual potential. Masood Khan also invited Mayor Keller to



ISLAMABAD: A large number people in a long queue in front of Utility store to purchese groceries on subsidised rate.

## MoU signed to establish state-of-the-art Expo **Centre in Capital**

Employee's Housing Cooperative Society (IBECHS) on Jacurday signed Memorandum Understand:

President ICCI Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari and Secretary IBECHS Shujaat Ullah Oureshi signed the a local hotel here.

Speaking on the President occasion, IBECHS Tariq Mehmood said that by establishing an Expo Center in the Federal Capital, we would be discharging an important national responsibility. He said that the Expo Centre is the backbone of an economy and a joint venture between ICCI and tourism in Pakistan.

The Islamabad Chamber of project would go a long Commerce & Industry way in improving the (ICCI) and the Intelligence economy. He said that this project would make the region a hub of business activities. He stressed the Memorandum of to boost exports and revive the establishment of a state-of-the-art Expo Centre in the Federal Capital.

a value addition of products to boost exports and revive the economy. He thanked ICCI for signing a MoU with IBECHS for this key project and assured that his organization is ready to start more projects with ICCI on a joint venture

President ICCI Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari said that concerned organizations joint venture between ICCI during a ceremony held in and IBECHS is a step in the right direction to improve the economy as the Expo Centre would showcase the exportable products of Pakistan and boost exports. He said that China and Turkey have increased their exports and tourism by organizing expos and hoped that this expo center would also help enhance exports and



BHITSHAH: A vendor displaying urs related stuff to attract the devotees at the shrine of Shah Abdul Latif Bhitai on the occasion of 280th urs

#### Mian nominates chairman **MWMC**

MULTAN (APP): Punjab government has nominated independent members of board of directors of eight management waste companies across the province including Multan management waste company as President MCCI Mian Rashid Iqbal appointed MWMC. chairman

The BoD members of companies were appointed under section 165 (3) of the companies act,2017 for the term of three years. The President Multan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) Mian Rashid Iqbal was nominated as the chairman of Multan waste management company while its other four independent members included Sheikh Hassan Tariq, Dr Zehra Waheed, Muhammad Sammie Ullah Khan and Muhammad Khawaja Usman.

#### Tokvo stocks extend winning streak to 5<sup>th</sup> straight day

TOKYO (APP): Tokyo stocks closed higher on Friday, extending its winning streak to a fifth day, while the market awaited the key U.S. employment data to be released later in the day.

Japan's benchmark Nikkei stock index, the 225-issue Nikkei Stock Average, hit its one-month high by adding 91.28 points, or 0.28 percent, from Thursday to close the

day at 32,710.62 The broader Topix index, meanwhile.

#### Large number of people of Chitral stages a protest against illegal mining

CHITRAL (APP): Besti such mining. Valley is a beautiful are a on one side, on the other side, nature has also hidden a treasure of precious stones mountains, from where kinds of traffic. precious stones worth out, but despite this, the people of the area are poor. The people of the area

staged a protest rally for their legitimate rights and demanded the authorities to give them their legitimate rights.

According to the details, the area of Chitral is very beautiful because of natural treasure of extraction of emerald are still very poor and have no employment or any sort of benefit from even employ local youths

The people of Basti held a protest rally against the injustice of the nonlocal leaseholder and like emeralds in these blocked the roads for all

Addressing billions of rupees come protest rally, the speakers "A non-local said. leaseholder has taken a lease in the name of some cheap mineral in the mountains of Besti Valley, but the emerald precious stone comes out from here and so far they have extracted an emerald worth a hundred billion rupees.'

They said that the its natural beauty, on the leaseholder had initially other hand, there is also a entered into a written agreement with them that precious stones in these they would pay them mountains, but despite the royalty and service charges as well as repair roads and stones worth billions of bridges in the area damaged rupees from this mountain, by their trucks, but now the people of Basti valley they will go back on their word. The speakers said, "The leaseholders do not

and because of the nonlocal workers, our Chadar and the Wall are also affected because often our women take the cattle to the fields."

"The They said. the leaseholders in these mountains do gunpowder blasting, due to which the wildlife from this area also migrated to Afghanistan and the glaciers that have been in our area for hundreds of years are also melting rapidly, which is having a very negative impact on climate change.'

The speakers alleged that the contractor had taken the lease in the name of common and cheap minerals, but emeralds and other precious stones were being extracted from there. They suspected that the collusion of the leaseholder with a few officers and people of the institution might be causing damage to the national treasurv



PESHAWAR: Members of Traders Community are holding protest demonstration against massive unemployment, increasing price of daily use products, inflation price hiking and the highly inflated electricity bills, held at Saddar road in Peshawar.

# Pakistan possess monumental potential in organic cotton production

country's top agriculture scientists, academics, and joined brainstorming sessions at an online conference acknowledging the big potential Pakistan possesses in organic cotton and the way forward to translate it into action and best practices sharing toward growth excellence and it attracted a diverse and bring foreign exchange

earnings home. The event was organized by Sawie, a climate-smart agriculture digital platform providing real-time advisories, and the country's ace cotton research body Pakistan fostering a holistic Central Cotton Committee approach.

(PCCC) on Aug 31 at Central Cotton Research Institute (CCRI) Multan, CCRI spokes man said on Saturday. 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual The

SAWiE Conference on Organic Cotton Pakistan was themed around knowledge dissemination audi e nc e including policymakers, industry experts, farmers, and researchers.

It sought to bridge gaps and promote collaboration across the organic cotton value chain,

from SAWIE and Prof Dr Rana Iqrar Khan, Vice Chancellor University of Agriculture Faisalabad opened the conference and emphasized the need to improve soil health through

improving organic matter.
Dr Yusuf Zafar, the former Chairman of PARC and CABI, highlighted Pakistan's potential in the organic cotton sector.

Citing the findings of a Textile Exchange report, he said, "Pakistan has the capacity to achieve a staggering 405% growth in organic production."

## Protest against current inflation, leveling of huge taxes in electricity bills

DIR LOWER (APP): A local leaders in Tehsil protest demonstration Chowk Chakdara against against current inflation, exorbitant increase in electricity bills and taxes organized by Anjuman Tajran Bazar in Chakdara Tehsil with hundreds and thousands of marchers chanting slogans and carrying banners.

President Anjuman-e-Tajran Bazar Chakdara, Khawaja Faizul Ghafoor led the protest with other Group, Ali Bacha

the current inflation in the country, the brutal increase in electricity bills, taxes and the exorbitant increase in the prices of petroleum products in which hundreds of protesters participated.

Among protestors were Bahadur Zeb, leader of Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam Shiran

#### Younus Dagha says: Sindh interim govt to promote IT sector as much as possible KARACHI (ÎNP): Sindh

Caretaker Minister for Finance, Revenue and Planning & Development Muhammad Younus government promote 41 Dagha has said that the much as possible.

This was stated by

him while speaking after inaugurating the 23<sup>rd</sup> ITCN Asia Summit at Expo Centre, here Saturday.



ISLAMABAD: Vendor are arranging Sugar Canes to prepare for bidding at Fruit and Vegetables Market in Federal Capital.

## PBF terms strike against inflated power bills, inflation as successful

Business Forum (PBF) has reason of soaring energy said the countrywide strike against the inflated and excessive electricity bills which is unbearable now on the pocket of the common man remained successful. Traders participated properly and markets were shut down in all cities. Talking to media

persons on Saturday, PBF Spokesperson Zainab Jatoi said the purpose was not to further destabilize government but to call upon stake holders in order to find solution.

Although it's against PBF policy but we had to intervene as the collapse of the businesses is at verge;

LAHORE (INP): Pakistan briefed that the main the basic tariff of IPPs in cost is the power purchase agreements signed with the power producers.

She observed that the rising interest rates, the uncertain rupee value, soaring fuel prices, higher gas and power tariffs, and unabated food inflation were extremely serious issues that needed to be addressed by government on a priority basis. She said that since the arrival of the caretaker government, dollar has gone out of control now.

The new finance minister should call on the real stakeholders to finalise

PBF Spokesperson stressed

rupee instead of US dollars as this change would save billions of rupees of the national exchequer and provide electricity at affordable cost to the trade and industry, making exports competitive in the international market.

Right now business community with compete international market in the current price of electricity. It is impossible to do business in the current conditions and businesses are closing down, in this regard the government should focus on alternative sources of energy to provide cheap electricity, create a conducive investment environment



QUETTA: Vendor sells grapes to earn his livelihood for support his family, on his pushcart at a roadside in Quetta

## Pak Pavilion inaugurated at CIFTIS, top Pakistani service enterprise participated

Ambas sador of Pakistan to China Moin ul Haque officially inaugurated the Pakistan Pavilion at the China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS) here Saturday. The pavilion showcases the diverse range of service-oriented enterprises from Pakistan, highlighting the country's commitment to fostering international trade

partnerships. Representatives from top Pakistani serviceoriented enterprises participated in the event, oriented including companies specializing in IT, telecommunications, logistics and traveling and financial services.

Pakistan Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haque international organizations said that the Pakistan Pavilion at provided a platform for exhibiting companies", he Pakistani businesses to added.

(APP): showcase their capabilities and explore new avenues for trade and investment. He said this initiative reflects dedication to strengthening economic ties with China and other countries by further positioning the country as a hub for service-oriented enterprises in the region, China Economic Net (CEN) reported.
"This exhibition will

support Pakistan in increasing services exports, especially in IT, ecommerce, finance and logistics. It will also help promote connectivity with the presence of NLC and PIA in the exhibition. This year, 75 countries and are participating in the CIFTIS CIFTIS with almost 1,868



QUETTA: Unemployed labors are sitting worried at a roadside as they are waiting for their employment, located on Bacha Khan Chowk in Quetta.

## **American Business Council celebrates first ESG Excellence Awards**

KARACHI (APP): The US-backed, American Business Council (ABC) in Pakistan announced the 1st Annual Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Awards ceremony to commemorate companies that have made the strides in sustainability and social impact.

The winners included Coca Cola Pakistan and climate change (Environment - Nature Saviour). (Environment - Response to Climate Change), PMI (Social), KFC (Social) and McDonald's (Environment), said a news release on Saturday

member companies that are a one institution job."

network contributes about \$1 billion in taxes annually and employs over 1 million Pakistanis.

This event was attended by 100+ of leading multinational CEOs, business leaders. government officers, experts. Pepsico Fawzia Arshad was the chief guest. She said, "The alarming rise of climate disasters in our country can only be mitigated if the private use on Saturday. sector and the public sector With more than 60 work together. This is not

## Stable market to leave positive impact on cotton supply chain

LAHORE (APP): Punjab this month. Agriculture Secretary Iftikhar Ali Sahoo has said that the current year is "the year of revival of cotton".

He said this while residing over the meeting neld in Multan and Bahawalpur to monitor the current situation of cotton and floods in South Punjab, according to a press release issued here on Saturday.

It is encouraging that the cotton market remains stable this year as it would have a positive impact on the cotton supply chain, he added. He further said that there was a need to pay special attention to nutritional management in of the cotton crop during advanced chemistry.

Iftikhar Ali Sahoo said that measures should continue on a priority basis for cotton surveillance, monitoring and prevention of harmful insects.

The secretary was told that the overall condition of cotton was satisfactory in the province and priority measures were being taken for better care of the crop.

However, in some areas the attack of whitefly, millybug and pink bollworm has been observed. On receiving the report, extension and pest warning teams are spraying order to get full production agricultural poison with



MULTAN: Shepherds guiding their herd of goats heading towards the grazing field.

## Minister links progress to livestock, agriculture uplift

AHORE (APP): Caretaker Punjab Minister for Livestock Ibrahim Murad has said that revolutionary changes will be made in the Livestock and Dairy Department.

He said this during a meeting with a delegation of the Veterinary Doctors Association Punjab which met him here on Saturday. The minister also took notice of pending cases of promotion of veterinary necessary to ensure the provision of rights to

people who work hard and perform their duties with commitment."He said that the Livestock Department would play its role in stabilizing the country's economy by using latest technology implementing modern farming methods. "Initially our target is to lift the country's export from 5 million dollars to 15 billion dollars," he added.He said it was important to focus doctors. He said, "It is on projects which could yield maximum results in a short period of time.

missile, capable of carrying multiple

nuclear warheads, is

intended to replace

the R-36 ICBMs that

are known by the

NATO reporting

portedly has a short

initial launch phase,

allowing little time

for surveillance sys-

two months after

sending troops into

Ukraine, Putin said

the Sarmat would

"reliably ensure the

security of Russia

from external threats

and make those who,

in the heat of aggres-

sive rhetoric, try to

In 2022, about

tems to track it.

The Sarmat re-

name of Satan.

Russia deploys ICBM

that Putin says will make

enemies 'think twice'

**Monitoring Desk** 

MOSCOW: The head

Roscosmos space agency said Friday

that the country has

deployed an advanced

intercontinental bal-

listic missile that

President Vladimir

Putin once said will

make Russia's en-emies "think twice."

Borisov said Sarmat

missiles have been

placed on combat

duty, according to

Russian news agen-

cies. Further details

one of several ad-

whose development

The Sarmat is

weapons

2018. The silo-based think twice."

were not reported.

vanced

Agency head Yuri

Russia's

## North Korea fires cruise missiles into the sea after US-South Korean military drills end

**Monitoring Desk** 

SEOUL: North Korea launched several cruise missiles into the sea Saturday, South Korea's military said, extending its weapons testing activities in response to the United States-South Korea summer military drills.

tary detected the launches early Saturday morning off Korea. The North said it the North's west coast, the South's Joint Chiefs of command post exercise Staff said in a statement.

South Korean and U.S. intelligence authorities were analyzing details of the launches. It said South Korea has boosted its surveillance posture and maintains a firm military readiness in close coordination with the United States.

The launches came two days after the U.S. and South Korean militaries wrapped up their 11-day training exercises that said it will make a third at-

rehearsal for invasion. Washington and Seoul officials maintain their drills are defensive.

A day before the U.S.-South Korean training ended, North Korea fired two short-range ballistic missiles into the sea in a launch it said was meant to South Korea's mili- simulate "scorched earth" nuclear strikes on South was separately holding a aimed at rehearsing an oc-The statement said cupation of South Korea's territory in the event of conflict

On Aug. 21, the day when the U.S.-South Korean drills began, North Korea's state media said its leader Kim Jong Un observed cruise missile

North Korea's second attempt to place a military spy satellite in orbit failed Aug. 24, but the country

2022, North Korea has performed more than 100 weapons tests — many of them ballistic launches, which are banned by United Nations Security Council resolutions. North Korea's cruise missile tests aren't prohibited, but they still pose a threat to its rivals because they are designed to fly at a lower altitude to evade radar detection. Analysts say the main missions of North Korean cruise missiles are striking incoming U.S. warships and aircraft carriers in the event

Foreign experts say Kim uses U.S.-South Korean military drills as a pretext to expand his missile and nuclear arsenals to boost leverage in future diplomacy with the United States. They say Kim seeks an international recognition as a legitimate nuclear state to get U.N. sanctions on the North lifted.



WEST BANK: Palestinians inspect a damaged house following an Israeli military raid in the village of Al Âqaba.

## US urges end to deadly clashes in east Syria

**Monitoring Desk** 

BEIRUT: The United States called on Friday for port of regional security and an end to deadly fighting between the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) and Arab armed groups in a region of eastern Syria.

The arrest on Sunday of the head of the Deir Ezzor Military Council, a local Arab armed group affiliated with the US-backed SDF, has triggered clashes which have since left dozens dead. The US embassy for Syria, which is based outside the country, called on "all parties to deescalate and peacefully re-

solve the situation" The violence in east Syria must cease," said the US military's Operation Inherent Resolve. In a statement, it urged a renewed focus on efforts to bring "peace and stability in the threat of Daesh". "We with the Syrian Democratic tary Council.

Forces to ensure the enduring defeat of Daesh, in supstability. Distractions from this critical work create instability and increase the

risk of Daesh resurgence." The SDF spearheaded the offensive that defeated the IS group's self-declared

caliphate in Syria in 2019. The US-backed force controls a semi-autonomous Kurdish zone in Syria's northeast, including large parts of the Deir Ezzor province.

The recent fighting has taken place near the Conoco gas field. The USled coalition maintains bases there as well as in Syria's largest gas field, Al-Omar. The Britain-based monitoring group Syrian Observatory for Human Rights reported on Friday that overnight fighting had northeast Syria, free from claimed the lives of five supporters of the arrested remain focused on working head of the Deir Ezzor Mili-

## Canada shut its land border to asylum seekers. More refugees came anyway

**Monitoring Desk** 

TORONTO: A deal Canada struck this year to stem the flow of asylum seekers entering from the U.S. was, at first glance, a quick success: Within days, the number of people caught at unofficial crossings along the border dwindled to a trickle.

But five months later. the overall number of people filing refugee claims in Canada has risen instead of falling. Many now come by air, while others sneak across the border and hide until they can apply for asylum without fear of being sent back, people working with migrants told Reuters. The numbers show how hard it is for countries to shut the door on desperate people and the challenge unexpected numbers of asylum seekers can pose: In Toronto, hundreds slept on the streets this summer as they struggled to find beds. The basic reality is

that closing a border doesn't

do anything to solve the need for protection," said Shauna Labman, an associate professor and acting director of the Human Rights Program at the University of Winnipeg.

"It only increases the desperation.

Canada prides itself on welcoming immigrants and aims to bring in a record half a million new permanent residents in 2025 to deal with an acute labor shortage. But it has sought to discourage those applying for asylum, chiefly through an agreement with the U.S. under which each country turns back asylum seekers.

Still, last year alone, more than 39,000 asylum seekers entered Canada via unofficial crossings mostly into Quebec via a dirt path off Roxham Road in New York, prompting the province to complain it could not handle the arrivals.

#### Russia's Putin says he will meet China's Xi soon

**Monitoring Desk** MOSCOW: Russian

President Vladimir Putin said on Friday that he expected to meet Chinese President Xi Jinping soon, following earlier reports that he planned to visi China in October.

Russia has turned increasingly to China as its most powerful ally since alienating the West last year with its decision to launch a full-scale invasion of Ukraine, what it calls a "special military opera-

China has declined to blame Moscow for the war and condemned Western sanctions on Russia, even as it has profited by securing discounts for oil and gas that Russia can no longer sell to Europe.

#### Israeli forces kill another **Palestinian** in occupied West Bank **Monitoring Desk**

AL AQABA: Israeli forces on Friday killed a Palestinian in the occupied West Bank, the Palestinian health ministry said, as a surge of deadly violence in the occupied territory shows no signs of abating.

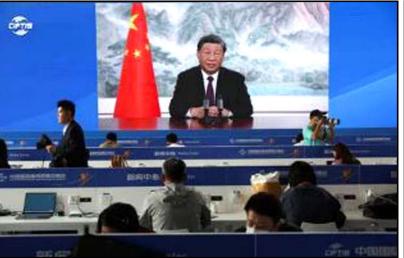
The ministry said Abdul Rahim Fayez Ghannam, 36, was "shot by live occupation (Israeli) fire in the head" in the village of Al-Aqaba in the northern West Bank.

An AFP photographer saw black smoke billowing from a building during the military raid.

The Israeli army said in a statement a firefight broke out between militants and soldiers and "a hit was identified on one of the gunmen" Troops also 'used shoulderfired missiles and grenades' in the violence, and subsequently found improvised explosive devices and other weapons in the building, the statement said. After Israeli forces withdrew, Palestinian residents inspected bullet marks and a gaping hole left in the wall of a house.



People protest in the Syria's southern city of Sweida.



Chinese President Xi Jinping is seen on a screen during a video address for the Global Trade in Services Summit, at the media centre for China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS) in Beijing, China.

## Ukraine says troops breach Russian lines, heavier defences lie ahead

**Monitoring Desk** 

KYIV: Ukraine said on Friday its troops had broken through Russia's first line of defences in several places, though they then encountered even more heavily fortified Russian positions.

Deputy Defence Minister Hanna Maliar said Kyiv's troops, in a muchvaunted counteroffensive against Russian forces, were advancing in the Zaporizhzhia region. Washington also said on Friday that Kviv had made notable progress on the southern front in the last 72 hours. "There is an offensive

certain areas. And in some places, in certain areas, this first line was broken through," Maliar told Ukrainian television. She added, however,

that Kyiv's troops who have been battling to advance through heavily mined areas for almost three months had now run into major defensive Russian fortifications. 'Our armed forces have to overcome a lot of obstacles in order to move forward," she said.

He avy fighting swept the villages around Bakhmut in eastern Ukraine, captured in May

in several directions and in by Russian forces after months of battles, Maliar said but added it was difficult to determine whether any advances had been made.

"In the course of a single day, positions between the two sides can change several times."

The General Staff of Ukraine's Armed Forces in its evening report on Facebook said that Russian forces had made no headway in attempts to advance in five different sectors of the front-from Kupiansk in the northeast to different parts of Donetsk region.

## **Greece rescues 25** migrants from deadly fire

**Monitoring Desk** EVROS: Greece on Friday rescued a group of 25 migrants trapped in a wildfire which has been burning in the north-eastern region of Evros for almost two weeks, authorities

said. The wildfire in Evros, Europe's deadliest this summer, burned for a 14th day after killing at least 20 people, destroying homes and livelihoods and scorching lush for-

All but one of the dead in the Evros fire are believed to have been migrants who crossed over from Turkiye, evading police in the forest. Evros is

the European Union for thousands of migrants and refugees every year.

Aircraft and hundreds of firefighters battled the blaze in the Dadia Forest amid fastchanging winds on Friday. A video showed mi-

grants sitting on a road next to a field, with trees engulfed in thick grey smoke in the background, before authorities drove them away on an openbacked truck.

"While operating between the villages of Giannouli and Dadia, 25 people were found and taken to a safe place by the fire brigade and police," Greek fire brigade spokesperson

#### South African police say 18 suspected robbers killed

Addressing the media from the crime scene in Makhado in South Africa's northernmost province, national police commissioner Fannie Masemola said the suspects were allegedly planning a cash-intransit (CIT) heist and were responsible for similar crimes in other prov-



## Iran FM rebuffs Macron remarks over Lebanon 'interference'

**Monitoring Desk** 

BEIRUT: Iran's foreign minister on Friday rejected accusations from France over Tehran's interference in Lebanon, urging President Emmanuel Macron to focus instead on his own co untry.

Macron had told a conference of French ambassadors earlier this week that a 'key element" to resolve Lebanon's political crisis was "the clarification of regional interference, including that of Iran".

"I advise Mr Macron to focus on the situation inside France instead of paying attention to ques- Lebanon.

tions of interference in other countries," Hossein Amir-Abdollahian said during a visit to Beirut.

economic crisis since 2019 Lebanon has been governed by a caretaker cabinet for more than a year and with out a president since late October. Lebanese lawmakers failed 12 times to elect a successor to former president Michel Aoun amid bitter disputes between the powerful Iran-backed Shiite movement Hezbollah and its opponents. "Iran has always played the most constructive role in helping

#### Sniffer dogs search for clues in ashes of deadly South African fire Monitoring Desk

**Monitoring Desk** OHANNESBURG: Police with sniffer dogs

searched through the gutted remains of a Johannesburg apartment block on Friday, as authorities stepped up investigations into the cause of a fire that killed more than 70 people. Officers used razor

wire to cordon off areas around the run-down fivestorey building that was destroyed in a blaze in the early hours of Thursday in one of South Africa's worst such disasters in living Addressing journalists

while visiting the injured at a hospital, Health Minister Joe Phaahla said the death toll had now risen to 76. Most of the bodies

were burned beyond recognition and investigators would have to rely on DNA samples from relatives to identify them, said Thembalethu Mpahlaza, from Gauteng province's Forensic Pathology Services. Only 12 bodies so far recovered were identifiable by sight, he added. "I am devastated," block resident Wambali Kaunda, who lost

his brother and niece in the fire, told Reuters.

# in shootout **Monitoring Desk**

JOHANNESBŬRG: Eighteen suspected robbers were shot and killed during a shootout with South African police in the Limpopo province, the police said on

Protesters hold a flag depicting Russian President Vladimir Putin during a rally supporting Milorad Dodik, pro-Russian leader in Bosnia, in Lukavica, Bosnia.

#### Nasa spots new crater on Moon **Monitoring Desk** WASHINGTON: Nasa has spotted a small new crater

on the Moon that was likely caused by a Russian probe crash landing on the surface around two weeks ago. The finding was made Mired in a gruelling by the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter (LRO) by comparing before and after images of the estimated impact point, provided by

> Roscosmos. The Luna-25 probe crashed on Aug 19.

> Russian space agency

LRO, which has been in orbit over the Moon since 2009, took its most recent "before" image in June 2022.

#### Nobel Foundation cancels Russia, Belarus, Iran invites to annual prize awards

STOCKHOLM: Nobel Foundation said on Saturday it would not after all invite the ambassadors of Russia, Belarus and Iran to attend the Nobel Prize awards ceremony in Stockholm this year, reversing an earlier decision after widespread criticism.

Last year, the foundation left out the ambassadors of Russia and its ally Belarus because of Moscow's invasion of Ukraine. The foundation said on Thursday it would invite them, and Iran's ambassador, to this year's prize award ceremonies in

## rule that would require more firearms dealers to run background checks

Putin announced in threaten our country,

**Biden administration proposes** 

**Monitoring Desk** 

WASHINGTON: Biden administration is proposing a rule that would require thousands more firearms dealers to run background checks, in an effort to combat rising gun violence nationwide.

The proposal comes after a mandate from President Joe Biden to find ways to strengthen background checks following the passage of bipartisan legislation on guns last year.

People who sell firearms online, at gun shows or other places outside brick-and-mortar stores would be required to be licensed and run background checks on the buyers before the sales under the rule proposed by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms

and Explosives. A firearm-industry trade group swiftly raised concerns about the proposal, though, and said it could face a court challenge if finalized in munity abides," he said.

its current form. The bureau estimates that the rule would affect anywhere from 24,500 to 328,000 sellers. It is aimed at those who are in the business of gun sales, rather than those with personal collec-

Background checks help prevent guns from being sold to people convicted of crimes, teenagers and others who are legally blocked from owning them, said the agency's director, Steve Dettelbach. Federally licensed firearm dealers are also required to keep records and sell guns with serial numbers, both of which help law enforcement trace weapons used in

"Unlicensed dealers sell guns without running background checks, without keeping records, without observing the other crucial public safety requirements by which the (federally licensed firearm dealer) com-

## **United States to send** depleted-uranium munitions to Ukraine

**Monitoring Desk** 

WASHINGTON: The munitions containing depleted uranium to Ukraine, according to a document seen by Reuters and separately confirmed by two US officials.

The rounds, which could help destroy Russian tanks, are part of a new military aid package for Ukraine set to be unveiled in the next week. The munitions can be fired from US Abrams tanks that, according to a person familiar with the matter, are expected be delivered to Ukraine in the coming weeks.

One of the officials said that the coming aid package will be worth between \$240 million and \$375 million depending on what is included.

The value and contents of the package were still being finalized, the of-House did not immediately respond to a request for dust and metal.

Although Britain Biden administration will sent depleted uranium mufor the first time send con- nitions to Ukraine earlier armour-piercing this year this would be the first US shipment of the ammunition and will likely stir controversy. It follows an earlier decision by the Biden administration to provide cluster munitions to Ukraine, despite con-

> The use of depleted uranium munitions has been fiercely debated, with opponents like the International Coalition to Ban Uranium Weapons saying there are dangerous health risks from ingesting or inhaling depleted uranium dust, including cancers and

cerns over the dangers

such weapons pose to ci-

A by-product of uranium enrichment, depleted uranium is used for ammunition because its extreme density gives rounds the ability to easily penetrate ficials said. The White armour plating and self-ignite in a searing cloud of

## Strongest typhoon in decades barrels towards Hong Kong, Shenzhen

**Monitoring Desk** HONG KONG: Tens of millions of people in Hong Kong, Shenzhen and other southern Chinese megacities hunkered down

indoors late on Friday as Super Typhoon Saola threatened to become the strongest storm to hit the region in decades. Over 880,000 people were evacuated across two

Chinese provinces ahead of Saola making landfall, hundreds of flights were cancelled across the region, and trees were uprooted around the rainbattered streets of Hong

Kong.
China's national weather office predicted Saola "may become the strongest typhoon to make landfall in the Pearl River Delta since 1949", referring to a low-lying region that includes Hong Kong, Macau and Guangdong province.

With a direct hit possible, authorities in Hong

level on Friday evening to the city's highest "T10", which had only been issued 16 times since World War II before Saola. "Do not go outside...

Stay away from exposed windows and doors because glass, already under strain from wind pressure, will shatter easily if hit by a flying object," the Hong Obs ervatory warned in a bulletin released after the highest

alert was issued. Hong Kong residents struggled with flailing umbrellas as they ran under the unrelenting rainfall, while people wearing plastic bags on their heads rushed home past sandbags stacked in waterfront areas to prevent flooding.

By 11pm (local time) Saola was 30 kilometres south-southwest of the city, the "closest to Hong Kong at present" and packing sustained wind speeds of 185 kilometres per hour.



ISLAMABAD: Briefing session of Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC), arranged with Ambassadors & Commercial Attaches of Foreign Missions in Pakistan to Illuminate SIFC's Initiative by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

## **PAF JF-17 Thunder participates** in Multi-National Air Exercise "Bright Star 2023" at Egypt

(PAF) contingent will showcase its exceptional capabilities at the Multinational Air Exercise "Bright Star 2023" that kicked off at the Mohammed Naguib Military Base, Egypt alongside its JF-17 Thunder fighter jets, dedicated air and ground crew.

Originally established as a bilateral training event between the United States and Egypt during the Camp David Accord of 1977, Bright Star Exercise has evolved into a significant multi-national endeavor, a PAF news release said on Saturday

Since 1995, nations

in the mega exercise, transforming it into one of the largest and most intricate joint air force exercises glo-

The exercise aimed to promote interoperability among the participating nations, fostering shared learning opportunities.

Designed to simulate realistic aerial warfare scenarios, Exercise Bright Star provides an invaluable opportunity for participating Air Forces to assess their operational readiness in

Over the course of two weeks, the exercise will bring together air, naval, and ground assets of the participating nations in the desert terrain of North-West from around the world have Cairo, Egypt. A total of 34 been invited to participate countries including Paki-

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Minister for National Heritage and Culture Jamal Shah called on care-

Domki lauds performance

of Gwadar player in

**U-16 SAF football** 

Championship's opener

In a statement issued Karim in the SAF Football

Pakistan trounced Minister's secretariat on his

tant role in Pakistan's vic- ented players whole heart-

host Bhutan by 2-1 in the return, Mr. Domki main-

**HUB: Leaders and supporters of Jamat-e-Islami** 

(JI) block road as they are holding protest demon-

stration against massive unemployment, increas-

ing price of daily use products, inflation price hiking and the highly inflated electricity bills.

SBKWU to offer

pharmacy degree

program

QUETTA: The Pharmacy requirements set by the

pharmacy at Sardar hard work of these indi-Bahadur Khan Women's viduals, along with the sup-

Independent Report

Council of Pakistan has ac-

credited the department of

University (SBKWU), Quetta and allowed the in-

stitute to offer a recognized

and accredited pharmacy

the province would be able

to receive a quality pharma

education and contribute to

the healthcare sector in the

country. The achievement

was made possible due to

the unwavering efforts and

great concern for the life-

saving profession by Vice

Chancellor Prof. Dr. Sajjida

Naureen, Pro Vice Chancel-

lor Prof. Dr. Naheed Haq

(Senior Pharmacy Profes-

sor), Registrar Prof. Dr.

Farhat Safdar, HOD Dr.

Irum Javid, all faculty mem-

bers, and administrative

of SBKWU Prof. Dr. Sajjida

Naureen said that all the

The Vice Chancellor

faculty members have bers of the pharmacy coun-

played a crucial role in en- cil towards the accredita-

suring that the department tion of the department.

The female students in

degree programs.

Mir Ali Mardan Khan

Domki said that the play-

ers from Balochistan have

always demonstrated excel-

lent performance in the

field of sports and bright-

ened the name of the prov-

ince and country, the latest

example of which is the

performance of Subhan

would patronize the tal-

edly. He also announced

that Subhan Karim would

be invited in the Chief

met the high standards and

Pharmacy Council of Paki-

stan. The dedication and

port and cooperation of the

faculty members and ad-

ministrative staff, allowed

the department to establish

itself as a reputable institu-

tion in a relatively short

Prof. Dr. Sajjida Naureen said "this accredi-

tation is a testament to their

commitment to providing

quality education and train-

ing in the field of pharmacy

to the women of Balochistan". With the ac-

creditation, the department can now offer recognized

and accredited pharmacy

degree programs, allowing

students to receive a qual-

ity education and contrib-

ute to the healthcare sector

cellor of the university took

in Pakistan. The Vice Chan-

the initiative to acknowl-

edge the significant contri-

butions made by the mem-

period of time, she added.

He assured that we

Independent Report

OUETTA: The caretaker

Chief Minister Balochistan,

Mir Ali Mardan Khan

Domki has praised the tal-

ented footballer Subhan

Karim who scored first in-

ternational goal in the open-

ing match of Under-16 SAF

Football Championship

against Bhutan for Paki-

here on Saturday, the Chief

Karim, who belongs to

Gwadar, played impor-

tory against Bhutan by

scoring first international

Minister said that Subhan tained.

first match played in con- tained.

taker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar.

America, India, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Greece and Qatar will be participating in this prestigious

In light of the complex

security environment and

contemporary strategic challenges, exercises like Bright Star 2023 enable the Pakistan Air Force to enhance its interoperability with friendly nations. Apart from strengthening military relations, this exercise will facilitate the practice of integrated employment of combat and combat support assets. It will also provide an opportunity to formulate and validate tactics against contemporary threats, ensuring preparedness for any future contin-

#### Quetta admin. starts anti encroachment, cleanliness campaign Independent Report

QUETTA: The Quetta disadministration launched anti-encroachment and cleanliness campaign in the provincial metropolis on Saturday.

As part of the campaign, the Assistant Commissioner Quetta Sadar, Flt. Lt. (Retd) Khalid Shams visited different areas of the city including Airport road and Nawan Killi.

He issued warning to the shopkeepers and vendors to remove encroachments and ensure cleanliness at their shops and out-

The district administration warned that the operation against encroachments and poor cleanliness would remain continued in the city.

In this regard, the encroachers have been directed to remove the encroachments voluntarily, otherwise action would be

#### Ashrafi slams PTI chairman for hiring UK lawyer

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Chairman of Pakistan Ulema Council, Maulana Tahir Mehmood Ashrafi, on Saturday strongly objected to Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan's decision to hire the services of Geoffrey Robertson KC, a British lawyer, to represent his case at the global fora

In a short video statement, Maulana Ashrafi said that Robertson had been a counsel for heretical Salman Rushdie who was involved in sacrilegious acts against Islam and Muslims. The Iewish lawyer had been active against Pakistan at different times, he said.

#### **ATC** sends **PTI leaders** Yasmin, Ijaz, Mehmood to jail

LAHORE (Online): Anti Terrorism Court (ATC) Lahore while hearing different cases in connection with May 9 incident has sent PTI leaders Yasmin Rashid, Mehmood ul Rashid and Ijaz Chaudhry to jail. The court has sent the three leaders to jail till September 05. The court said Yasmin Rashid and others have been handed over on remand till September 5. Ijaz Chaudhry and Mehmood ul Rashid too are

on physical remand.

Large numbers of JI workers attended the public rally arranged in connection The participants of the rally chanted slogans against the government and price hike. Addressing the public rally Mushtaq Ahmed said that we do not

He added that we

don't accept the long elec- ity and gas bills will not tricity bill and several taxes.

human rights violations in the region. He lauded the sacrifices rendered by the Kashmiri people and maintained that the day is not far when the people of IIOJK would achieve their cherished goal of liberation of Kashmir from the Indian illegal occupation. He said the Kashmiris living abroad should also play their role in highlighting the freedom movement. The event was organized in the memory of towering Kashmiri Hurriyat leader Syed Ali Gilani. Paying rich tributes to Syed Ali Gilani, he said the veteran leader was fearless advocate of Kashmiris' right to self-determination who devoted his entire life

to Kashmirisj: Sultan said that the BJP-led Indian government was hell bent on changing the demogra-phy of IIOJK by settling Hindus in the territory. He said, by altering the region's demography, the Modi government wants to install a Hindu chief minister in the region in order to lend legitimacy to the actions it took on and after August 5 2019. The AJK President

Jammu and Kashmir's

partition unacceptable

ISLAMABAD (INP): The

President of Azad Jammu

and Kashmir (AJK), Bar-

rister Sultan Mahmood

Chaudhry, while stressing

the need for settling the

Kashmir dispute in accor-

dance with the UN Secu-

rity Council resolutions,

has said the fragmentation

of the erstwhile state of

Jammu and Kashmir was

not acceptable to the

President said, "Let it be

clear that Kashmiris will not

allow the partition of Kash-

mir under any circum-

stances." He said all that

Kashmiris want is imple-

mentation of the UN reso-

lutions that guaranteed the

right to self-determination

to the people of Jammu and

support to the ongoing free-

dom struggle in Indian Ille-

gally Occupied Jammu and

Kashmir and said that the

government and people on

this side of the Line of Con-

trol (LoC) stand in support

and solidarity with their

Kashmiri brethren in their

struggle against the Indian

illegal occupation. He said

that all political parties were

on the same page on the is-

He reaffirmed full

Addressing a function

Islamabad, the AJK

Kashmiri people.

deplored that India's 900,000 forces' personnel deployed in length and breadth of occupied Kashmir were involved in gross Murtaza Solangi says

## Some sections of media misreported PM's recent interaction with journalists

Caretaker Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi on Saturday said some sections of media had misreported the recent interaction of Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar with journalists in Islamabad regarding the electricity bills

Murtaza Solangi, in a news statement, clarified that when the prime minister was asked during the interaction whether the electricity bills had caused chaos or anarchy in the country, he ruled out the anarchy, but did not dismiss the matter as non-is-

He said the prime minister had not stated that the

what were the reasons behind the expensive electric-

The prime minister reaffirmed in the media interaction that the solution would soon be worked out, Solangi added. He said those who

were responsible for the current situation had also been using the issue for political point-scoring in the wake of the upcoming PM Kakar never

said that people's problems were "unjust", he

He said some responsible journalists had also confirmed that the prime minister had not referred to issue of electricity bills was

country had commitments with international organizations, assuring that a solution would be worked out for the people without compromising the promises made to the organiza-

The minister said ironically, it was projected in some sections of media that the prime minister was not concerned about people's difficulties, which was unjust and against journalistic norms.

He appealed to the media to report news according to the facts.

The minister also cited a couplet from Faiz Ahmed Faiz Poetry to comment on the misreporting of the methe matter of electricity bills dia interaction.

#### Jamal Raisani pleased over victorious start in U-16 SAF C'ship

Independent Report QUETTA: The caretaker Provincial Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs, Nawabzada Jamal Raisaní has expressed pleasure over victorious start of the Pakistan team in Under-16 SAF Football Championship in Bhutan.

In a felicitation statement issued here on Saturday, the caretaker Provincial Minister expressed best wishes for more success of the U-16 team in the event.

He praised performance of the young players saying that they demonstrated excellent team work in the match.

#### IHC barred authorities from arresting Imaan in any case (INP): rected the Interior Secretary,

ISLAMABAD Islamabad High Court (IHC) barred authorities from arresting the human rights lawyer Imaan Mazar in any new cases.

The court's order, issued by Justice Mian Gul Hasan Aurangzeb in a twopage written directive, has cast a protective shield around Mazari, preventing her arrest in any new

The court in its written directive ordered the Secretary, Inspector General (IG), and Director General (DG) of the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) not to arrest Mazari after her release. IHC also di-

nor the police or FIA, should provide any assistance in the arrest of

Moreover, the authorities are mandated to ensure that Mazari should not transported the confines of the capital city. Shireen Mazari - the mother of the petitioner raised concerns about the potential re-arrest of her daughter following her release on bail in a third case.

The Interior Secretary has been tasked with coordinating with provincial authorities to assess the various cases registered against Mazari by Monday.



QUETTA: Chief Secretary Balochistan Shakeel Qadir Khan being briefed about departmental affairs of Agriculture department

## Aneeq urges media to luanch awareness drive of Turberculosis

Federal Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmoney Aneeq Ahmed



deploring presense of Tuberculosis in the country, on Saturday, urged the media owners to launch an awareness campaign of Tuberculosis (TB) to get rid of the disease from the country.

He said that unfortunately the disease still existed in Pakistan and Af-While speaking in a

programme on Tuberculosis at a hotel here, the Min-Don't accept long

KARACHI (APP): Interim ister said that the media had a significant role in creating awarenss among the people. He said that the media owners should play their part in this regard.

> Ahmed said that the people should be made aware of the diseases including TB. He said, 'Good social

behavours and attitudes are vital along with prayers'. He said that the coun-

try was facing many challenges and everything had been commercialized in the The Minister said that

the average age of the people around the world was increasing due to the provision of best facilities to them.

He said that Pakistan also could be made that country, where people could breath in neat and

SajjadGhani is the chairman of WAPDA. He argued that

General Sajjad Ghani issued

a notification that installed

his portrait with the por-trait of Quaid-e-Azam

Muhammad Ali Janah in all the WAPDA offices. He

added that he also spoke in

He said that in August

this connection on the floor

of the senate.

electricity bill with

#### Pakistan Navy Flotila visits Iraq during overseas deployment ISLAMABAD (PR): Pakistan Navy Flotilla comprising PN Ships HIMMAT,

DEHSHAT and MUHAFIZ visited Port Umm Qasr, Iraq during Overseas Deployment to Gulf countries.

Upon arrival at the port, PN Ships were received by Commander of Umm Qasr Naval Base Rear Admiral Laith Abdal Satar, senior Iraqi Navy officials and Defence Attaché of Pakistan at Iraq. The Mission Commander along with Commanding Officers of ships called on Commander Iraqi Navy Rear Admiral Mazin Abdul Wahid and senior naval leadership of host Navy. During the interactions, matters of mutual interest were discussed and enhancements of bilateral ties in all spheres were reaffirmed Mission Commander conveyed well wishes from Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi for the people of Iraq in general and Iraqi navy in



hosted by Ambassador of Pakistan to Iraq. Officials of Iraqi Navy and notables from Pakistani community attended the reception.

During port call, various bilateral activities including exchange visits onboard ships, orientation visit of PN personnel to military installations and coordination meetings for exercises at sea were undertaken. Upon completion of port visit, PN ships participated in sea exercise with Iraqi Navy Ship to enhance interoperability.

The port visit to Iraq is expected to further enhance existing close diplomatic ties and cordial relations between the two countries and the navies.

#### Pakistan issues new guidelines for Afghan flights ISLAMABAD (INP): The

Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) on Saturday issued new guidelines for flights originating from Afghani-stan and entering Pakistan's airspace.

Under the new directives, all flights entering Pakistani airspace from Afghanistan are required to provide a minimum of 15 minutes advance notice.

According to the CAA, air traffic services will be available to flights within Pakistan's airspace upon prior notification. This service will be extended through the Karachi, Lahore, and Islamabad Area Control centers

violating LHC orders condemnable: PBC ISLAMABAD (INP): The MPO following an order Pakistan Bar Council (PBC) on Saturday said that the manhandling and re-arrest of PTI President Parvez Elahi against the directives of Lahore High

Re-arrest of Pervez Elahi

Court's (LHC) is condemnable. The LHC on Friday haddirected release of Elahi besides issuing orders restraining his possible arrest by any agency or preventive detention. However, while on

way to his house along with lawyer Sardar Latif Khosa hours after his release, the former chief minister was intercepted by a team of the Islamabad police, assisted by the Punjab police.

The police personnel shifted Elahi into a white car with no licence plate, which drove him to Islamabad. Visuals of the arrest — in which men in plain clothes accompanied by uniformed Punjab policemen can be seen dragging Elahi out of his car — had gone viral on social media. Later, Islamabad police had said in a social media post: "Parvez Elahi has been arrested under 3

passed by a district magistrate. Parvez Elahi is being shifted to jail." In a state-ment, PBC Vice-Chairman Haroonur Rashid and Executive Committee Chairman Hassan Raza Pasha, "strongly condemned the manhandling and the way" in which Elahi was re-arrested, as well as his confinement under Section 3 of the Maintenance of Public Order (MPO). It said the re-arrest was

made "while disregarding and non-complying" the LHC's order wherein it had "categorically ordered not to re-arrest him in any case"

The PBC expressed concerns that the arrest "raised questions about the rule of law and the power dynamics in Pakistan's political landscape". Stressing the necessity to obey and implement court orders and upholding the Constitution, the council stated that the courts "should take care while deciding political matters whether orders passed therein could be imple-

#### several taxes: Senator (Online): He added that General Jamaat-e-Islami provincial chief, Senator Mushtaq Ahmed said that the unit of electricity is Rs 52 in Au-

gust and it will become Rs 90 per unit in the month of September. Our battle is long and decisive against the He expressed these views while addressing a public rally in front of Pesco office at Muqam Chowk.

with the price hike. accept this economic terror-

the general sent an electricity bill with 52 rupee unit and several taxes and in September he will send an elec tricity bill with 90 rupee unit and several taxes. Now he asked the general where they installed his portrait. Mushtaq Ahmed said that now the looting system will not work. The elite Republic of Pakistan will not last. One percent republic will not work. Heavy electric-

QUETTA: Commissioner Quetta Division Hamza Shafqaat presiding over a meeting regarding cleanli-

ness and removal of encroachments

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