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dailyindisb@gmail.com

Chief Editor: Syed Farooq Shah

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Nawaz Sharif not returning under deal, says PM

Government has no soft corner for any political party; Nawaz will have to face legal obstacles to contest polls; Govt finalising required measures for polls with ECP

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Thursday dismissed the impression that the decision of Pakistan Muslim League leader Nawaz Sharif to return to Pakistan was part of any deal with the interim government. "The caretaker government has 'no soft corner' for PML-N or any other political party...How can a caretaker government strike such a deal," he said in an interview with digital media platform, WE (World Echo) News. The prime minister was responding to a question relating to the PML-N chief's homecoming who flew from London to Saudi Arabia yesterday with his announcement to land in Pakistan on October 21. Kakar pointed out that Nawaz Sharif left the country as per the court decision "under the nose of Imran Khan's government, and not the caretaker setup". However, he said that if Nawaz Sharif returns and takes part in politics, he will have to face some legal obstacles. "The answers to these legal questions lie in legal remedies," he said. Kakar said any leader be it Imran Khan, Asif Ali Zardari, or Nawaz Sharif, everyone would have to seek their legal remedy as per their case scenario. He said Pakistan was facing the formation of "regimental camps" and the country had been turned into a fighting ground for political positions. He rejected the notion

that the caretaker setup could be likened to the 90s 'Kakar formula' where both Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and President Ghulam Ishaq Khan were forced to quit on the proposal of then army chief General Waheed Kakar to make way for fresh election. "This comparison is apples and oranges. It is out of context because in our case, the stint of the normal parliament led to its retirement and we are part of the constitutional continuation where leaders of the House and the Opposition agreed upon my name," he said. There has been no interference from any institution in our case, he said. On general polls, he said necessary security and administrative arrangements were in place. He said the caretaker government in collaboration with the Election Commission was in the process of the finalization of the required measures. On the expulsion of Afghan refugees, the prime minister said the action was being taken only against unregistered foreign nationals and over one million illegal aliens. The government's objective, he said, was to regulate the movement of unregistered foreign nationals through proper process. On relations with India, he said the radicalized RSS (Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh) mindset of the ruling Indian party and the Kashmir dispute were the main hurdles in the maintenance of good ties.

"The situation between Pakistan and India needs to be improved, however, realistically at present, there is no such possibility," he said. PM Kakar said the hegemonic designs of India needed to be curtailed as the country was turning into hell for its minorities, including Muslims, Sikhs, and others. Asked about any possibility of recognition of Israel, he said, "There are no such deliberations going on." Pakistan considers Israel an "oppressor" and stands with the rights of Palestinians to their existence and return to their land, he said. On Pakistan's economic stability, he said the country for the first time witnessed a reversal of the value of the dollar with a consistent descent of about Rs 42-45.



ISLAMABAD: Special Envoy of the Secretary General of Organisation of Islamic Cooperation on Jammu and Kashmir H.E. Yousef M. Al Dobeay calls on the Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar.

Caretaker CM directs to restore electricity of approved legal tube wells of agri. sector

Urgent solution of problem of electricity restoration to be found out; Says we want to save zamindars from heavy losses and destruction owing to power suspension during season

Independent Report

QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki has directed the Quetta Electric Supply Company (QESCO) to restore electricity of the approved legal tube wells of the agriculture sector by today (Friday) so that the farmers and growers may not suffer any agriculture loss right during the peak season due to the power suspension. The Chief Minister formed a sub-committee headed by the Secretary Energy department and Commissioner Quetta for preparing viable suggestions for payment of the arrears between the QESCO and agriculturists, installation of meters and taking action against the il-

legal tube wells. The Chief Minister was chairing an emergent meeting of the QESCO, Finance department and administrative officers here at the CM's secretariat on Thursday. Also present in the meeting were the caretaker Provincial Minister Information, Jan Achakzai, Chief Executive Officer QESCO, Abdul Karim Jamali, Secretary Finance, Zahid Saleem, Commissioner Quetta, Muhammad Hamza Shafiq and other concerned high ups. While briefing the meeting, the QESCO CEO informed that QESCO's 437 billion of rupees are outstanding against agriculture consumers in the province. Moreover, Rs. 32 billion are outstanding against the private consumers, as a result the QESCO is facing severe financial crunch, he added. He informed that operation is being started for payment of arrears and suspension of illegal power connections in the "B" areas of province. For the purpose, the Home department has been written a letter to provide services of FC, adding he mentioned. Addressing the meeting, Chief Minister said that the power suspension would cause destruction and heavy loss to the agriculture sector, therefore, QESCO should ensure restoration of power by Friday. He also directed to take concrete steps for prevention of power theft as well as payment of the QESCO arrears in the province.



QUETTA: Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki presiding over a meeting regarding restoration of electricity to agriculture sector and payment of outstanding dues of QESCO

Peace in region to remain elusive till Kashmir dispute resolution: PM

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Thursday calling the Kashmir dispute the root cause of tension in South Asia, said peace in the region would remain elusive till the resolution of the issue. The prime minister in a meeting with OIC Secretary General's Special Envoy for Jammu and Kashmir Yousef M. Al Dobeay, said Pakistan was committed to a just and peaceful resolution of the Kashmir dispute in accordance with the UN Security Council resolutions. He welcomed the visit of the OIC delegation to Pakistan and Azad Jammu & Kashmir. He lauded the sustained efforts of the OIC in support of the Kashmir cause, particularly in the

wake of India's unilateral and illegal actions of August 5, 2019 and stated that the people of Pakistan and Kashmir had high expectations of the OIC. Highlighting the tremendous sacrifices of the people of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir for realization of their inalienable right to self-determination, the prime minister said that the Kashmiris had always looked towards OIC and Ummah for support. Prime Minister Kakar also expressed serious concern over the rise of Islamophobia around the world, particularly in the form of Hindutva. He said this constituted a serious threat to global peace and security and urged to step up efforts to counter these forces.

Students ought to fully concentrate on studies: Development & prosperity possible only through quality education: Governor

Independent Report QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar has emphasized that the dream of development and prosperity can't be materialized without benefiting from modern technology and research. He said that good education happens to be the basis of strong society and development and prosperity is possible by acquiring quality education. The Governor was speaking on occasion of his visit to the Mir Chakar Khan University in Sibi on Thursday. Also accompanied with

the Governor were former caretaker Chief Minister Nawab Ghous Bakhsh Barozai, Vice Chancellor, Lasbela university, Dr Dost Muhammad Baloch, acting vice chancellor of Chakar Khan university, Janosh Balach, commissioner Sibi, Bashir Ahmed Bangulzai. The Governor was briefed about the university. Speaking on the occasion, Governor directed to achieve the academic and administrative targets well in time. He stressed that it is very important to provide opportunities of quality education and appropriate training to the students.



Chief of Qatar Armed Forces Lieutenant General Salem Hamad Eqail Al-Nabet meeting with Army Chief General Syed Asim Munir in Rawalpindi.

Royal system of police, patwari should be abolished: CJP

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chief Justice of Pakistan Qazi Faez Isa on Thursday remarked that the institutions should be respected while the royal system of police and 'patwari' should be abolished. The CJP gave these remarks during hearing of a case pertaining to the 70 tola gold committee. During the hearing of the case, the top court expressed displeasure over the poor investigation into the matter. The chief justice inquired that how much gold the arrested goldsmith had to give through the committee. The court was told that 70 tolas of gold was not

given to the plaintiff. The chief justice noted that no income tax had been paid on one and a half million worth of gold, where does this gold come from? What is its legal status. He said that the real suspect in this case should be the police, adding that the policeman would ask for the gold only for his own benefit. The CJP observed that the committee was formed by the arrested suspect and the police investigated his family members. The Supreme Court, however, approved the bail of the accused arrested in the gold committee against surety bonds worth Rs 200,000.

Caretaker PM bans unnecessary foreign visits of Ministers

ISLAMABAD (Online): Caretaker Prime Minister (PM) Anwar-ul-Haq Kakar has banned the unnecessary foreign visits of caretaker Federal Ministers and senior government officials. New SOPs have also been issued regarding foreign visits of Ministers and government officials. Sources told that a report was submitted to Prime Minister (PM) that some Ministers and Federal Secretaries and others are making unnecessary foreign visits. In which it was said that due to these visits, the work in the federal ministries and the Pakistan Secretariat is being affected.

Second phase of CPEC in full swing: Sami Saeed

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Muhammad Sami Saeed on Thursday said the second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) was in full swing, reiterating the interim government's strong commitment to implementing the development projects in letter and spirit. The minister made these remarks while speak-

ing at a seminar on the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI): "Paving the Path to Shared Prosperity," organized here by the Centre of Excellence, CPEC, Qaid-e-Azam University (QUA). Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong was the chief guest at the conference, which was also attended by the Vice Chancellor, QAU, Project Director, CPEC and hundreds of policymakers and experts.

Jamali visits PDMA office; gets briefing on relief activities

Independent Report QUETTA: The caretaker Provincial Minister for Home, Mir Zubair Jamali visited the office of Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) on Thursday. The Director PDMA, Attullah Mengal and other officers were also present on the occasion. The caretaker Minister was briefed about the relief activities after fire erupted in the forests of Duki. He was also briefed about the relief and rehabilitation activities for the flood affected people. In addition to this, the Minister was also briefed about the devastations caused at large scale in the country. Speaking on the occasion, Mir Zubair Jamali said that Pakistan is included in the countries affected due to the climate change.

'Don't give up, time of trial to end soon': Imran's message to supporters

Monitoring Desk ISLAMABAD: Incarcerated chairman of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), Imran Khan has reiterated his resolve that he would not back down even an inch from the quest of 'Haqueqi Azadi' (real freedom), urging the nation to not give up, as this time of trial will end because whenever the election will be held the only destiny of this "unselected predatory group and their facilitators is defeat". In his message to the "nation" from the jail, the former premier said: "Regardless of what prison they keep me in, whatever conditions they impose

upon me, I will not back down even an inch from the quest of Haqueqi Azadi, for the upholding of the rule of law and the Constitution of Pakistan, at the core of which is free and fair elections." In a statement released by PTI, Khan said: "Those suggesting that I leave the country, know that I will live and die in Pakistan, and I will not leave my land to go anywhere." Talking about the cypher case, the official statement added, Khan stated that the bogus case was designed to protect former army chief General (ret'd) Qamar Javed Bajwa and US diplomat Donald Lu.

Afghan refugees issue Double standards of western countries exposed

Independent Report QUETTA: The West exhibits a stark contrast by urging Pakistan to show compassion to Afghan refugees while failing to grant special visas to nearly 197,000 Afghans who fled the Taliban's rule in 2021. For more than 40 years, Pakistan has welcomed 1.95 million Afghan refugees, with an additional 600,000 finding shelter af-

ter Taliban took over. As of Sep 2023, the US has resettled fewer than 4,000 Afghans, despite promising to provide asylum to Afghans who had worked with the US in Afghanistan through their special visa programs. Similarly, the UK resettled only 3,000 Afghans but halted the program, citing COVID-19 as the reason.



SIBI: Balochistan Governor Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar distributing laptops among students at Mir Chakar Khan Rind University

REPATRIATION OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

DAYS REMAINING

18

In # | @GovtOfficial

CM gives keys of 312 new vehicles, uniforms to PHP Police

Independent Report
LAHORE: Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi gave keys of 312 new vehicles and uniforms to Punjab Highway Patrol (PHP) Police at a ceremony held at his office here on Thursday. Addressing the ceremony, the CM said that the incumbent government had given new vehicles to the Punjab Highway Patrol Police after a hiatus of 19 years. Only 47 vehicles were provided to the patrolling police after 2003-04, he



LAHORE: Police officials restore baton charge and arrest protesters during protest demonstration of Punjab Teachers Union against the ongoing privatization of government schools, amendments to pension regulations and the issue of leave encashment, outside Civil Secretariat in Lahore.

Commissioner for strict action to prevent smog

MULTAN (APP): Environment department to conduct thorough investigation before reporting in the construction plan. Amir Khattak ordered crackdown against those involved in burning of crop residues and waste to prevent smog. He expressed these views while presiding over review meeting on performance of environment department here on Thursday.

He also ordered to seal the factories causing environmental pollution by serving notices and asked DCS to launch anti-smog drive in their districts concerned effectively. He said that the elements involved in spreading environmental pollution would be brought to justice in any case.

He directed



ISLAMABAD: A delegation of Council of Pakistan Newspapers' Editors (CPNE) led by its Senior Vice President Anwar Sajidi, Secretary General Aijazul Haq meeting with Principal Information Officer Dr. Tariq Mehmood Khan.

AJK PM calls for teachers' fair, healthy role to produce quality future architects

MIRPUR (AJK) (APP): Azad Jammu and Kashmir Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq, while acknowledging the overall healthy role of teachers in nation building, has said that teachers were the real heroes and true architects of a healthy society.

While talking to a teachers' delegation that called on him at Jammu Kashmir House in the federal metropolis late Wednesday, the PM said that the responsibility of the refinement of society rests on the shoulders of teachers who serve as key actors in shaping the future of the nation by nurturing young minds, imparting knowledge and unlocking intellectual potential.

Describing teaching as a prophetic profession, he said that teachers must play their proactive role to improve the standard and quality of education in the region.

"Teachers must perform their duties honestly, give hundred percent results, and make sure that the future of children is bright", he said.

He said that the government was cognizant of the problems being faced by the teaching community. He assured the delegation that in addition to teachers' promotions, all their problems would be solved on a priority basis.

"A cabinet committee has been constituted to solve the problems of teachers", the PM said, adding that suspended teachers would be reinstated. The government, he said, would ensure the protection of peoples' rights as per the constitution and law of the land.

"I will continue to fight for the constitutional rights of the people of Azad Kashmir", he said, adding that when we talk about our legitimate rights we must not forget our duties and obligations towards the state. In order to improve the overall performance of government offices and departments, the PM said that biometric attendance has been made compulsory in schools.

PIO assures CPNE's delegation of resolving print media's issues

ISLAMABAD (APP): Principal Information Officer (PIO) Dr. Tariq Mehmood Khan on Thursday assured a delegation of the Council of Pakistan Newspapers' Editors (CPNE) that the issues faced by print media would be resolved on priority.

The delegation led by CPNE's Senior Vice President Anwar Sajidi and Secretary General Aijaz ul Haq, was called on the PIO here at his office, said a news release.

The delegation felicitated the PIO on assuming the new responsibilities and apprised him of the challenges and problems being faced by the print media in the country especially financial issues were discussed in the meeting in details.

The PIO highlighted the importance of print media in present times in the wake of many new media platforms and appreciated their efforts in highlighting the government's policies, programmes and issues of the general public.

He further listened to their issues and assured the delegation to address and resolve the problems on priority.



HYDERABAD: Participants are showering rose petals in Indus River on the eve of World Food Day organized by Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations held in Hyderabad.

PITB monitoring system proving effective in dengue surveillance

LAHORE (APP): The Punjab Information Technology Board (PITB) has been at the forefront of innovative technology solutions to address the public health challenges.

It introduced the Smart Dengue Monitoring System, which has been playing a pivotal role in efficiently measuring the performance of anti-dengue surveillance activities, ultimately aiding in control of the dengue epidemic.

This emerged during a progress review meeting, chaired by PITB Chairman Faisal Yousaf, according to a press release, issued here on Thursday.

The participants in the meeting were apprised that a total of 77,000 Android users were registered on the Dengue Tracking System, actively participating in monitoring and performing anti-dengue activities. On average, 45 million Android-based activities are registered quarterly, with an average of 650,000 daily registrations, showcasing the system's robust capabilities.

Faisal Yousaf said, "The PITB Smart Dengue Monitoring System stands as a remarkable example of how technology can be harnessed to address pressing public health concerns efficiently and effectively."

Biden warns Iran to 'be careful' about actions in region

Monitoring Desk
WASHINGTON: US President Joe Biden on Wednesday issued a stark warning to Iran to "be careful" around its actions in the region following Hamas' attack on Israel. During a roundtable with Jewish community leaders on the administration's efforts to provide support for Israel, Biden stressed the assistance that the US is providing, adding that he's been frequently speaking to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. The US is "surging additional military assistance to the Israeli Defense Force including ammunition, interceptors to replenish the

Iron Dome, we moved the US carrier fleet to the eastern Mediterranean and are sending more fighter jets there, to that region, and made it clear, and made it clear to the Iranians - be careful," Biden said.

Meanwhile, Iran's President Ebrahim Raisi and Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman held their first phone call since both countries renewed diplomatic ties, an Iranian presidential aide said Wednesday.

During the call, both leaders discussed the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, "the need to end war crimes," as well as Islamic unity, Raisi's deputy for political affairs,

Journalists hold protest for arrest of Maher's killers

Independent Report
MIRPUR MATHELO: On the call of Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists to arrest the killers and facilitators of journalist Shaheed Jan Muhammad Maher of Sukkur, the journalists on behalf of Ghotki Union of Journalists led by President Amir Chana, General Secretary Taj Tanwari, in the district headquarters, journalists organized a protest at press club.

While protesting in front of the protest, they raised slogans for the arrest of the killers and facilitators. In the protest, senior vice president of Ghotki Union Hakim Khan Abro, president of DHQ Press Club Saqib Nasir Gadani, president of Jarwar Press Club Ali Gohar Gabol, senior journalists Mumtaz Arain, Riaz Arain, Tanveer Ahmed Soomro, Zaheer Wasir, Muhammad Ali Sheikh, Naveed Chughtai, Ghazi Wasir, Abdul Majeed Shar, Sherbaz Shar, Naem Akram Mashoori, Farid Malik, Asad Ghanio, Rizwan Bhutto and others participated. The protest-

ers said that even after two months have passed since the murder of Shaheed Jan Muhammad Maher, the killers and facilitators have not been arrested, which is an example of the great incompetence of the police and the government.

If the killers of journalist Jan Muhammad Maher and their facilitators are not arrested immediately, a strong and decisive protest will be held in Sindh Bahr on the call of the Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists.

Russia, Kyrgyzstan to create joint air defence system

Monitoring Desk
BISHKEK: Kyrgyzstan's parliament on Wednesday ratified an agreement for a common air defence system with Russia, a day before a planned visit by Russian President Vladimir Putin to the Central Asian country.

The agreement provides that a land plot of 12 acres at the Kant Russian military base in Kyrgyzstan will be used for the joint programme.

"Lawmakers examined and adopted the bill on the ratification of the agreement between the Kyrgyz Republic and the Russian Federation for the creation of a Joint Regional Air Defence System," the Kyrgyz parliament said.

Putin had been scheduled to travel to Kant, but the Kyrgyz presidency said on Wednesday the visit had been cancelled, without providing more details.

The Russian leader is still due to speak with his Kyrgyz counterpart Sadyr Japarov on Thursday, and attend a summit gathering of post-Soviet countries the following day.



Supporters cheer for Ecuadorean presidential candidate Daniel Noboa during his closing campaign, in Quito, Ecuador.

Over 338,000 Palestinians displaced in Gaza: UN agency

Monitoring Desk
GAZA: The United Nations has released a harrowing report on the ongoing Israel-Hamas conflict, revealing that over 338,000 people have been forced to flee their homes in the Gaza Strip. The UN's humanitarian agency, OCHA, described the situation as a "mass displacement" as heavy Israeli bombardments continue to pound the densely populated Palestinian enclave.

The crisis deepened as Israel intensified its attacks on Hamas targets in response to the militants' surprise Saturday assault. Israeli forces reported that approximately 1,200 people, the majority of them civilians, have tragically lost their lives during this devastating onslaught, marking it as one of the most severe in the country's history.

In Gaza, officials reported over 1,000 casualties due to Israel's sustained campaign of air and artillery strikes. OCHA's statement highlighted that nearly 220,000 of the displaced individuals, which make up two-thirds of the total, have sought refuge in schools run by the UN agency that supports Palestinian refugees, UNRWA.

Russian foreign ministry calls for Gaza ceasefire to allow in food and medicine

Monitoring Desk
MOSCOW: Russia's foreign ministry urged Israel on Thursday to agree to a ceasefire in Gaza to allow in food and medicine and said it was unacceptable that what it called the "indiscriminate" bombing of the Gaza Strip was causing so many civilian casualties.

Moscow stated after Deputy Foreign Minister Mikhail Bogdanov spoke to Hussein Al-Sheikh, secretary general of the executive committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), by phone.

Israel said earlier on Thursday there would be no humanitarian exceptions to its siege of the Gaza Strip until all its hostages were freed after the Red Cross pleaded for fuel to be allowed in to prevent overwhelmed hospitals from "turning into morgues".

The Russian foreign ministry said Bogdanov and Al-Sheikh had agreed on the need for a ceasefire and for the opening of human corridors to deliver food and medicine to Gaza's population.

130 countries to take part in Belt and Road Initiative celebrations next week

Monitoring Desk
BEIJING: China announced on Wednesday it will host a gathering of foreign leaders next week to celebrate a decade of its Belt and Road Initiative project, with Russian President Vladimir Putin expected to attend.

The Belt and Road Initiative is a landmark project in President Xi Jinping's bid to expand China's clout overseas, with Beijing saying this week it had now inked over two trillion dollars in contracts across the world. Representatives from over 130 countries are due to take part in the event, scheduled for Oct 17 and 18, with Xi set to deliver an opening speech and hold a welcoming banquet for foreign leaders.

It is the third forum of its kind since China launched the vast investment initiative, with events previously held in 2017 and 2019. Russian President Putin has said he will attend the event, in what will be his first visit to China since the Ukraine war began last year. Top Russian diplomat Sergei Lavrov will also attend and hold talks with Chinese counterpart Wang Yi, Moscow said.

China and Russia describe each other as strategic allies, frequently touting their "no limits" partnership and economic and military cooperation. China has refused to condemn the war, and has tried to position itself as a neutral party, while at the same time offering Moscow a vital diplomatic and financial lifeline. "We welcome countries and partners actively participating in the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) to come to Beijing to discuss cooperation plans and seek common development."

Canadian senate speaker to skip G20 event in New Delhi amid killing row

Monitoring Desk
NEW DELHI: Canada's Senate speaker will not attend a two-day G20 event in New Delhi this week, India said on Thursday, as ties remain frozen after Canada said it is investigating allegations linking Indian agents to the killing of a Sikh separatist leader.

Speaker Raymonde Gagne will not be present at the two-day parliamentary speakers' summit that starts on Friday, as part of India's year-long presidency of the Group of 20 (G20) major economies, which expires in November.

"We invite all members for G20 events. Participation is their decision and subject to a number of factors," said Indian foreign ministry spokesperson Arindam Bagchi.

"I'll have to check whether anybody is actually attending from Canada because the parliament speaker could not attend."

The Canadian senate did not immediately respond to a request for comment from Reuters.



Russian veteran human rights campaigner Oleg Orlov talks to the media after a court hearing in which he was found guilty of discrediting Russia's armed forces, in Moscow, Russia.

Former Hamas chief calls for protests, neighbours to join war against Israel

Monitoring Desk
DOHA: Former Hamas chief Khaled Meshaal called for protests across the Muslim world on Friday in support of the Palestinians and for the peoples of neighbouring countries to join the fight against Israel.

"[We must] head to the squares and streets of the Arab and Islamic world on Friday," Meshaal, who currently heads Hamas's diaspora office, said in a recorded statement sent to Reuters. Meshaal, who is based in Qatar, said the governments and peoples of Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and Egypt have a bigger duty to support the Palestinians.

"Tribes of Jordan, sons of Jordan, brothers and sisters of Jordan... This is a moment of truth and the borders are close to you, you all know your responsibility," Meshaal said. Jordan and Lebanon are home to the largest number of Palestinian refugees.

His rallying call came as Israel vowed to escalate its response to an attack by Hamas with a ground offensive, after Israeli fighter jets struck more than 200 targets in Gaza city overnight. Gaza's health ministry said at least 950 people have been killed and 5,000 injured in the crowded coastal enclave.

Quality education, major requirement for country's development: President

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Dr Arif Alvi on Thursday stressed the universities to provide quality education to the students as it was the foremost requirement for the development of the country.

here, the president said Pakistan was passing through the economic crisis but hoped that the country would rise again soon by ensuring quality education, rule of law and justice.

Referring to the shortage of professionals, especially in the medical field in the country, the president advised the female professional not to sit at home after completing their degree.



QUETTA: A delegation of Zamindar Action Committee meeting with Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki

Highly appreciates BRSP's services: Govt. values assistance & initiatives of NGOs, states caretaker CM

Independent Report QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki has appreciated the services of Balochistan Rural Support Programme (BRSP) in different sectors including education, health besides during the natural disasters.

They would need so. The Chief Minister was speaking to the delegation of BRSP who called on him under leadership of its Chief Executive Officer, Dr Tahir Rasheed, here on Thursday.

Zubair Jamali pays surprise visit to Airport PS

Independent Report QUETTA: The caretaker Provincial Minister for Home, Mir Zubair Jamali paid surprise visit to the Airport Police Station here on Thursday.

Bristow visits Reko Diq site, reviews project progress

QUETTA (APP): Barrick Gold Corporation's president and chief executive Mark Bristow this week arrived at the site of the Reko Diq project to review its progress and engage with stakeholders who live in and around the area.

primary school set up by Reko Diq at the Humai village and inspected the Community Medical Center at Humai with funding from Reko Diq.



ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani exchanging views with Charged Affairs at the embassy of the state of Qatar.

Chinese CG visits APNS office BRF will provide opportunity for progress and development of region and globe: Yang

ISLAMABAD (PR): The Consul General (CG) of the Peoples Republic of China Yang Yundong visited the office of All Pakistan Newspapers Society (APNS).

Road cooperation, together for common development and prosperity will provide an opportunity for progress and development of the region and the globe.

Reshuffle in civil bureaucracy continues in Balochistan

Independent Report QUETTA: The reshuffle of civil bureaucracy is continued in the Balochistan province as several more bureaucrats were transferred and given new responsibilities.

According to an official notification issued here by the Services and General Administration Department (S&GAD) the other day, the senior bureaucrat, Qambar Dashti, awaiting posting order, was posted as the Secretary Communications and Works.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar in a group photo with CPNE delegation.

PM for resolving issues of newspapers on priority

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Thursday directed the ministry of Information and Broadcasting and the finance ministry to resolve all issues of newspapers on priority.

He said he accompanied a very short delegation during his visit to the US where he effectively presented the Pakistan's case of climate change.

transaction of foreign currency. The prime minister said the smuggling of petroleum products also continued to cause serious damage to the country's economy.

PTI submits a 25-point CoD to ECP for holding free, fair polls

ISLAMABAD (INP): A three-member committee of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) consisting of Senator Ali Zafar, Dr. Babar Awan and Barrister Gohar Khan attended the meeting held at Election Commission of Pakistan, presented a 25-point charter of demand and called upon the commission to fulfil the same in order to ensure free, fair and credible elections in the country within the timeframe of 90 days from the dissolution of the National Assembly fixed by the constitution.

Minister and PTI Chairman Imran Khan is currently incarcerated as a Prisoner of Conscience. Our Leaders mentioned in the list of attendees for the ECP meeting have not been allowed to attend.



Hon'ble Mr. Justice Syed Mansoor Ali Shah, Judge Supreme Court of Pakistan, Chairman of the Arbitration Law Review Committee convened the third meeting of the Committee today at the Supreme Court of Pakistan, Islamabad.

Pashtoon nationalist leaders call for forging unity to face challenges

Independent Report QUETTA: The Pashtoon nationalist leaders have stressed that there is a need to forge unity among the Pashtoon nation to face the challenges facing it.

Also present on the occasion were: ANP's provincial General Secretary, Mabat Kaka, secretary of PkMAP, Faqir Khushhal Kasi, central secretary Finance, Yousaf Kakar, Syed Qadir Agha, Engineer Aimal Khan Nasar, besides other leaders.

They said that we can confront the challenges being faced by the Pashtoons just through unity among our ranks. They asserted that attempts are being made to create divisions, but they would not succeed.

Funds for minorities' protection earmarked in budget: Domki

QUETTA (APP): Balochistan Caretaker Chief Minister Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki on Thursday said hefty funds have been allocated in the budget for the protection, construction and repair of the places of worship of the minority community.

Over Rs. 925mln recovered from so far: 288 more connections suspended as QESCO campaign continues against pilferers & defaulters

Independent Report QUETTA: As many as 288 more electricity connections of the defaulters and pilferers were suspended as the extensive campaign against the defaulters and pilferers is continued across the Balochistan province.

of legal action against the power pilferers in Quetta and different other areas of the province. However, 384 FIRs have been registered so far in this regard, the QESCO spokesman added.



NOKUNDI: President and Chief Executive of Barrick Gold Corporation Mark Baristow being receiving by local community upon arrival in village Humay

PANAH organizes seminar to create awareness about unhealthy diets

QUETTA (APP): Pakistan National Heart Association (PANAH) on Thursday organized a seminar on the occasion of International Food Day to raise awareness about unhealthy diets aimed at reducing non-communicable diseases.

He added that unhealthy foods such as ultra-processed foods are one of the major causes of diseases. He said Ulema and the media can play an important role in educating people about unhealthy diets.

He said that he had appreciated the government's move to increase taxes on sugary drinks in the Finance Bill 2023-24. He said that raising taxes is the first and most effective step to reduce the consumption of ultra-processed foods, but to improve the situation much needs to be done.



QUETTA: Balochistan National Party (BNP) Leader, Malik Naser Ahmed Shahwani addresses to media persons during press conference, at Quetta press club.