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Dream to polio-free Pakistan to be fulfilled at every cost: PM Kakar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Tuesday, vowing to resist the individuals propagating against the polio vaccination, resolved to achieve the dream of a polio-free Pakistan by carrying forward the journey with unshakable commitment. "I can assure that we gonna have it. We will realise this dream. We will never step back, may be an inch, may be a foot or may be a mile. This will always be a forth-going journey," the prime minister said addressing a ceremony to mark the World Polio Day.

The event was organized by the Pakistan Polio Programme to pay homage to the resilience and dedication of frontline workers on the World Polio Day, which is commemorated on October 24 every year.

Federal Health Minister Dr Nadeem Jan, Federal Health Secretary Ifthikhar Ali Shallwani, representatives of polio partners Rotary, World Health Organisation and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and frontline workers and their families were in attendance.

The prime minister said by opposing the polio vaccine, the anti-vaxxers, intentionally or unintentionally, were partnering with the forces of darkness. He emphasised the role of faith leaders and the society to make such people realise that they were actually

partnering with the destroyer of the humans. "This is unacceptable. We will resist this," he resolved.

He expressed his gratitude to the global partners who continued to supporting Pakistan in its endeavour of polio eradication.

Recognising the sacrifices of the polio workers and the security personnel guarding them, the prime minister said they had paid the highest price for the cause.

He said the frontline health workers were the heroes of Pakistan, who were working in challenging environments, facing social barriers and even threats to their safety without ever losing their dedication.

The prime minister recognised the services of three police constables who were martyred while on polio duty and to two vaccinators who were injured.

He also presented appreciation shields to the former coordinator of the Sindh Emergency Operation Cell (EOC) Fayyaz Abbasi and the family of Huma Ashraf, who was severely injured in a train accident while on polio duty in September.

The prime minister also announced to personally visit Huma as a gesture to recognise her services in the mission of a polio-free Pakistan.



ISLAMABAD: The Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar distributes cheques among the families of martyred polio workers and polio workers who got injured in the line of duty.



ISLAMABAD: A delegation of Afghan media meeting with Caretaker Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi

Achazkai asks anti-state elements not to make non-issue of repatriation of illegal immigrants an issue

Jan Achazkai warns anyone made attempt to create hurdle in government's plan to be dealt with strictly; asserts those politicising decision of national interest can't be loyal to State

Independent Report

QUETTA: The caretaker Minister for Information, Jan Muhammad Achazkai has asked the anti-state elements to avoid making non-issue of the repatriation of illegal immigrants an issue.

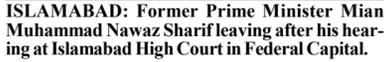
In an official statement issued here on Tuesday, the Minister Information said that the anti-state elements has always made attempts to harm the state.

The state knows how to handle such elements, and if anyone attempted to create hurdles in the government's plan would be dealt with strictly, adding he asserted.

He said that the decision of repatriation of illegal immigrants has been made in the larger national interest.

He said that protection of the national interests is the topmost priority. But, adding he regretfully pointed out that some political parties have been using the initiative of national interest for their vested political interests.

He said that the political parties have many other issues to make their narrative for the political gains in Sindh, Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.



ISLAMABAD: Former Prime Minister Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif leaving after his hearing at Islamabad High Court in Federal Capital.

World Polio Day observed: Polio workers & police awans embraced martyrdom in line of polio duty paid homage

Independent Report

QUETTA: The polio workers and police personnel embraced martyrdom in line of polio duty were honoured and paid homage at a special ceremony organised at the Balochistan University of Information Technology, Engineering and Management Sciences (BUIEMS) here on Tuesday.

The Chief Secretary, Shakeel Qadir Khan was chief guest at the ceremony organized to mark the World Polio Day observed on Tuesday, 24th October every year.

The theme of the ceremony was: make polio history. In all 10 polio workers and police personnel who were martyred during duty.

Effective border management in interest of both Pak, Afghanistan, says Solangi

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi on Tuesday said peace was linked with Pakistan and Afghanistan and effective border management and security was in the interest of the peoples of both countries.

In a meeting with Afghan media delegation, problems of Afghan journalists, visa issues and other important issues were discussed. He said it was the responsibility of the media to identify the enemies of peace so that the state could defeat them.

Murtaza Solangi held out the assurance that the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs would be contacted on the visa issues of Afghan journalists.

As a responsible state, Pakistan will ensure that all foreigners enter the country through legal channels, he added.

The delegation of Afghan journalists thanked the Federal Minister of Information for the assurance to redress their issues.

If security can't be provided to a person, how can elections be held: ECP

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) has summoned the interior secretary for being unable to produce PTI Chairman Imran Khan in the case of defamation of the ECP.

The commission was hearing a defamation case against the PTI chief, Asad Umar and Fawad Chaudhry. A four-member commission headed by Nisar Durrani adjourned the hearing till November 13.

Fawad Chaudhry and Asad Umar appeared before the commission, while Imran Khan was not brought to the election commission from Adiala Jail. PTI lawyer Shoaib Shaheen said the real insult to the election commission has taken place.

The operations assistant inspector general of police (AIG) submitted a report regarding the appearance of Imran Khan. It said Rawalpindi was a densely populated area, which is not without dangers. PTI Chairman Imran Khan has himself said there are threats to his life, the report stated.

Electricity of approved agri. sector tube wells be restored by Friday, Domki directs to QESCO

Independent Report

QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki has directed to the Quetta Electric Supply Company (QESCO) to restore electricity of the approved and legal tube wells of agriculture sector by Friday so that the zamindars may not face any agricultural loss due to power suspension right in season.

While constituting a sub-committee headed by secretary Energy department and Commissioner Quetta Division, the Chief Minister also directed to prepare viable proposals for action against the illegal tube wells as well as settlement of payment of arrears and installation of meters between QESCO and zamindars.

The Chief Minister was chairing an emergent meeting of the officials of QESCO, Finance department and administrative officers here on Tuesday.

Those present in the meeting were included the caretaker Minister Information, Jan Achazkai, Chief Executive of QESCO, Abdul Karim Jamali, Secretary Finance, Zahid Saleem, Commissioner Quetta, Hamza Shafiqat besides other concerned high ups.

Briefing the meeting, the CEO QESCO informed that a total of Rs. 437 billion are outstanding against agricultural consumers while Rs. 32 billion are payable against private consumers in the province.

As a result of which, the QESCO is facing financial crisis, he added.



QUETTA: Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar presiding over a meeting to review performance of federal departments working in the province

Punjab govt suspends sentence of Nawaz Sharif in Al-Azizia reference

LAHORE (Online): Caretaker Punjab government has suspended sentence of former Prime Minister (PM) Nawaz Sharif in Al-Azizia reference.

Nawaz Sharif had requested Punjab government for suspending sentence in the light of Islamabad High Court (IHC) decision.

Upon it Punjab care taker cabinet suspended the sentence in Al-Azizia reference.

Government sources said Punjab care taker cabinet has accorded approval to suspend the sentence under section 401 of criminal procedural code.

The care taker cabinet is authorized to suspend the sentence under section 401 of Criminal Procedural Code (CPC).

In 2019 the sentence of Nawaz Sharif was suspended under section 401 before his departure to London.

Reacting to suspension of sentence of Nawaz Sharif in Al-Azizia reference former Attorney General (AG) Ashtar Ahsan said IHC was resorted to in connection with suspension of sentence of former PM Nawaz Sharif. Former

Chief Justice (CJ) IHC Athar Minallah had offered this judgment. Cabinet has taken this decision under legal advice. How can any one object over this decision.

He said cases against Nawaz Sharif were registered in haste. Legal complications are not in law. They were in procedure. Legal complications don't exist but they are made. There is long list of cases pertaining to previous period. There were matters of Shehbaz Sharif, Hamza Shahbaz and Saad Rafiq during previous period.

Pakistan successfully conducts training launch of Ghauri Weapon System

RAWALPINDI (APP): Pakistan on Tuesday successfully conducted Training Launch of Ghauri Weapon System aimed at testing the operational and technical readiness of Army Strategic Forces Command. The launch was witnessed by Commander Army Strategic Force Command (ASFC), senior officers from the strategic forces, scientists and engineers of strategic organization, an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release said. The Commander ASFC appreciated the standard of training and operational preparedness of Army Strategic Forces, which was reflected by proficient handling of Weapon System in the field and achievement of operational and technical objectives.

He also appreciated the scientists and engineers for their contributions towards enhancement of Pakistan's strategic capability.

The President, Prime Minister of Pakistan, the Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (JCJCS) and Services Chiefs congratulated the participating troops, scientists and engineers on successful conduct of training launch.

Armed Forces of Pakistan adhere to the principles of the United Nations charter: Army Chief

RAWALPINDI (Online): Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) General Syed Asim Munir has reminded the United Nations of its pledge on Kashmir as he expressed his best wishes for the world body on its 78th foundation day on Tuesday. Pakistan's Armed Forces have a distinguished and long history of peacekeeping service with the United Nations. Pakistan joined the United Nations peacekeeping mission on 30 September 1947. In 1969, Pakistan deployed its first contingent to United Nations operations in the Congo.

Pakistan participated in 48 joint missions with more than 230,000 troops in 29 countries around the world. As many as 170 soldiers including 24 officers sacrificed their lives in UN peacekeeping missions.

In his message on this occasion, General Asim Munir expressed his best wishes on the occasion of the 78th foundation day of the United Nations, saying Pakistan has a unique history of serving under the UN flag for a more peaceful, prosperous and sustainable world.

The Army Chief said on this day the international community must not forget the shared responsibility to fulfill the collective

Governor calls for promoting pleasant & useful relations among all institutions

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar has stressed that it is necessary for good governance to promote pleasant and useful relations among all the institutions, based on the mutual respect.

The Governor was presiding over the review meeting of representatives of the federal government departments operating in the province about Pakistan Citizen Portal, here on Tuesday.

The heads of federal government departments and vice chancellors of the public sector universities were also present on the occasion.

The meeting reviewed public complaints regarding performance of federal departments and steps taken for resolving them.

Addressing the heads of federal departments, the Governor said that it is an honour for them to head the institutions but at the same time, heavy responsibility rests on them to perform in befitting manner keeping in view the state of people of the province.

This is necessary to benefit the people from development projects, he added.

The Governor said that it is responsibility of the federal departments to resolve the public complaints and improve their performance.

IHC rejects PTI chairman's plea against jail trial

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Tuesday rejected the plea of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chairman to stop his jail trial in the cipher case.

The IHC bench comprising Justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb and Justice Saman Razaftat Intiaz, which heard the intra-court appeal along with the objections of Registrar Office, observed that it could not grant interim relief to the petitioner as the admissibility of the appeal was yet to be decided.

Justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb remarked that they could give interim relief as after the removal of objections a new bench might be formed for further proceedings.

He said they were removing the objections on the petition.

The PTI chairman's lawyer Salman Akram Raja said that his client had challenged the notification of September 29 for the his jail trial. It was issued by the Federal Government instead of the Commissioner's Office, he added.

The lawyer said that the single bench had declared that the Federal Government had the authority to appoint judges of its own choice.



QUETTA: Balochistan Chief Secretary Shakeel Qadir Khan addressing a ceremony on eve of International Polio Day

Daily Voice of Masses
Independent

'Null and void'

It is a seminal judgement. On Monday, while hearing a set of petitions against the trial of civilians in military courts, a Supreme Court bench ruled that in the aftermath of the May 9 events, civilian trials in such courts were null and void.

Their lordships observed that two sections of the Army Act apparently justifying civilian trials in military courts were unconstitutional, and called for cases of civilians to be conducted in regular criminal courts.

The judgement clearly upholds civilian supremacy and should be seen as permanent endorsement of the constitutional order over non-democratic shortcuts. In ignoring the recent pleas of some of the accused to speed up their military trials, it becomes apparent that their lordships were looking at the long-term consequences of allowing civilians to be tried by military courts.

The petitions against military trials were taken up by former CJP Umar Ata Bandial, but the case was put off "indefinitely" before resuming Monday. There were also reports that the military trials of some among the 102 people taken into custody after the May 9 developments had begun, even though the apex court had said the cases could only be heard after it granted permission.

The last National Assembly, for all its talk of democracy, had endorsed military trials through a controversial resolution, that has, in effect, been rejected by the court in its decision to restore the civilian order.

The state can appeal the decision before the full court. Yet at the heart of the matter is not just the trials of 102 individuals by the military, but also the debate about what sort of governance structure should dominate Pakistan.

Should it be the constitutional order envisioned by the founders of the country, where every citizen is equal under the law, where due process is respected, and where all institutions act within their legal bounds? Or should Pakistan's vision be one of an eternal security state, where justice, lawmaking, foreign policy, the economy, etc, are all militarised?

Thankfully, in the latest judgement, the apex court has demonstrated the vision of the founding fathers.

As a start, the custody of the May 9 accused should be handed over to civilian authorities.

To demand the civilian trial of those involved in the May 9 events is not to condone their acts; it is to say that when civilians are accused of committing crimes, there exists a civilian justice system that should be well-equipped to decide on their guilt and punishment.

And if there are lacunae in the civilian justice system, these need to be addressed, not replaced with militarised justice. It is hoped that Monday's judgement is applied for all times to come, and not just to the May 9 cases.

Conflict and women



Mohammad Ali Babakhel

While conflicts and violence directly and indirectly impact everyone, girls and women are invariably the most vulnerable and worst affected. According to a study, nearly 90 million girls live in conflict zones worldwide, with negative consequences for their education, health, and well-being. From experiencing forced displacement to being denied appropriate healthcare to facing gender-based violence and child marriages, women pay disproportionately for wars started and waged by men.

Traditionally, men are expected to fight in conflicts while women are forced to flee and are usually left with no option but to leave for their native towns. According to UNHCR, out of the 80m people displaced worldwide, half are women and children. Conflicts also destroy a country's health infrastructure; hospitals are bombed, and health workers are overburdened and understaffed. Since women have specific health needs, it is challenging to meet them when they are displaced. This results from limited availability of services and facilities, the stigma attached to sexual and reproductive health, etc. Studies show that displaced pregnant women receive less antenatal care and are "more exposed to violence, malnutrition, poor hygiene conditions" than those who are not.

Many may die from pregnancy and childbirth complications. According to UN Women, 60 per cent of preventable maternal deaths occur globally in "fragile settings where political conflict, displacement, and natural disasters prevail". According to a UNFPA report for 2021, in Yemen, a woman dies in childbirth every two hours, on average, due to poor health facilities. Over 1m pregnant and breastfeeding women there are said to be malnourished.

Sexual violence has long been a war tactic. In 2020, the UN confirmed 2,500 cases of sexual violence in 18 countries, mostly against women. In such situations, women may experience "all three forms of gender-based violence ... psychological, physical, and sexual abuse". Due to growing instability and poverty, and the weakening of the rule of law, conflict situations turn conducive to domestic violence and human trafficking. Displacement increases the risk of women facing GBV, as it separates them from their communities that might otherwise protect them. Displaced girls in camps may also attract the attention of traffickers.

Conflicts disrupt economic progress and often create more poverty and hunger. Such situations encourage child marriages, as families are either desperately looking for additional income or to have one less mouth to feed. According to Save the Children, girls affected by conflicts are 20pc more likely to be married than those living in peaceful areas. Its report says that girls in "East Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, and South Asia face the highest risk of child marriage linked to conflict". West and Central Africa, a region wracked by conflict and poverty, has the highest rates of child marriage globally. In a few conflict-affected countries, like Chad or the Central African Republic, child marriage was shown to be three times higher than the world average.

Women are often left out in peace negotiations; hence, conflict prevention remains male-dominated. Conflict, therefore, not only affects women but denies them opportunities to have a say in matters that directly affect them. After the adoption of Resolution 1325 by the UN Security Council, globally, there has been a growing interest in including women in conflict resolution and peace talks, with representation increasing from 1pc in 1999 to 9pc in 2011. According to UN Women, between 1992 and 2019, women represented, on average, 13pc of all negotiators, 6pc of mediators, and 6pc of signatories in significant peace processes worldwide. However, seven of every 10 peace processes did not include women mediators or signatories. According to UN Women, in 2020, women were represented in only 23pc of the delegations in UN-supported peace processes. "In countries affected by or rebuilding from conflict, women's representation in elected office stood at just 19pc in 2020".

With funds' availability, the issues women face in conflicts can be tackled. Since 2016, the Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund has mobilised over \$100m and financed more than 600 women's CSO's in conflicted-affected areas. Safeguarding the interests of women during conflicts requires "breaking silos between humanitarian, peace, security, and development finance by investing in enhancing women's engagement, leadership, and empowerment across all phases of the crisis". However, such ideals cannot be converted into reality without the international community's collective efforts in this direction. - Courtesy Dawn

Course correction



Jamil Ahmad

All is set for the UN Climate Change Conference (COP28) next month in Dubai. The annual conclave comes in the wake of this year's record-breaking high temperatures, a worsening water crisis, wildfires, and floods in many parts of the world. World leaders, representatives of the financial sector, industry, CSOs, and climate activists are expected to congregate for crucial policy decisions on climate change.

COP28 takes the baton from COP27, aiming to refine policies and augment action in mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation including finance, technology, and capacity building.

An important addition to the agenda is the operationalisation of the Loss and Damages Fund established at last year's COP. A 24-member transitional committee, entrusted with defining the structure and modalities of the Fund, is expected to finalise its proposals.

The first Global Stocktake to assess quantitative progress on achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement has been completed after a consultative process spread over 18 months.

COP28 will consider the Global Stocktake, which offers countries a deep insight into the impact of their individual and collective effort to address climate change, and discuss challenges as well as take fresh measures for course correction and strengthening international cooperation on all the pillars of the Paris Agreement.

A synthesis report released last month notes the progress made towards the Paris goals, but also indicates the need to do much more. In its 17 findings, the report points out "well-known gaps", such as the insufficiency of mitigation ambition to collectively achieve the Paris Agreement, fragmentation, incrementalism and the unequal regional distribution of adaptation efforts, and lack of rigorous accountability of actions by non-party stakeholders. To bridge these gaps, the report calls for a whole-of-society approach, integrated and inclusive policymaking for long-term strategies for carbon-resilient and low-emission development, scaling-up renewable energy, and the unabated phasing out of fossil fuels.

The Global Stocktake report also identifies the need for "increased adaptation action and enhanced efforts to avert, minimise and address loss and damage", for those who are least prepared for change and least able to recover from disasters. On climate finance, the report emphasises the scaled-up mobilisation of support for developing countries, while aligning the current financial flows with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions.

Means of implementation, particularly finance, have now become the central plank of the narrative for securing the Paris Agreement, and the SDGs deliberations on this subject at Dubai will get a boost from the SDG Summit and the Climate Ambition Summit held last month during the UN General Assembly, which urged concrete steps at COP28 for operationalising the Loss and Damage Fund. Another meeting convened in New York by Egypt, the current COP presidency, and the UAE — the incoming COP presidency —

added its voice to calls in favour of early action on the fund. However, there are still differences among governments on the modalities for the new financing mechanism, the criteria for securing and disbursing funds and the qualification of countries to benefit from the facility. After two rounds of talks, the Loss and Damage transitional committee entrusted with providing answers to these questions has a challenging task ahead as it shapes its final recommendations.

Leading the developing countries, Pakistan played a key role at COP27 in forging consensus on the Loss and Damage Fund. At Dubai, developing countries, under Cuba's presidency of the G77, will argue for additional, sufficient, and accessible climate finance and technology transfer.

The EU has signalled a three-pronged strategy, urging governments to triple renewable energy rollout by 2030, improve energy efficiency, and accelerate the phasing out of fossil fuels, with a "residual" role for carbon-abating technologies. UNEP, the UNDP and other UN agencies working with governments on climate policy will also attend the meeting. Ahead of COP28, UNEP will release reports on adaptation gaps and emissions gaps. Against the backdrop of the IPCC's warning that the Paris targets are off-track, including the major goal of limiting the global temperature rise — preferably to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, a major climate course correction is needed now. Countries will have to set more ambitious targets in their upcoming Nationally Determined Contributions to reduce global GHG emissions by 43 per cent by 2030 and reach net zero by 2050. COP28 will be expected to chalk out a credible pathway for meeting this challenge. Failure is not an option. - Courtesy Dawn

Commerce News

PM directs to ensure timely, uninterrupted fertilizer supply for Rabi crop

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Tuesday directed the authorities concerned to ensure the timely and uninterrupted supply of fertilizer to the farmers for Rabi crop.

The prime minister, chairing a review meeting on the provision of Urea for Rabi crop, instructed for the timely arrangement of the fertilizer's buffer stock.

He asked the

respective district administrations to keep strict vigilance on the fertilizer prices.

The meeting was also apprised of the current production of the fertilizer and the expected demand.

The participants were briefed about the decisions of the Economic Coordination Committee for the uninterrupted provision of fertilizer.

The prime minister instructed the relevant

ministries to formulate a comprehensive mechanism for the smooth supply of the fertilizer for Rabi crop.

The meeting was also briefed about the prices of the fertilizer and its raw material, and the demand and supply for the fertilizer factories.

Caretaker ministers Gohar Ejaz, Kausar Abdullah Malik and Muhammad Ali, Advisor to PM Ahad Cheema and relevant senior officers attended the meeting.



Regional Chairman FPCCI Muhammad Nadeem Qureshi presenting FPCCI shield to Pakistan's Ambassador to Spain Aftab Ahmed Khokhar.

Mobilink Bank, BMA Capital Management enter into distribution agreement

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: Mobilink Bank has signed a strategic partnership with BMA Capital Management Limited, one of the oldest and top financial groups in Pakistan.

Mobilink Bank aims to enhance customer journeys through this partnership and help enable sustainable business growth said a news release.

Mobilink Bank is part of the VEON group, a global digital operator that provides

converged connectivity and online services across seven countries.

As part of its digital operator strategy, VEON is transforming people's lives by creating opportunities for increased digital inclusion and by driving economic growth across countries that are home to more than 8% of the world's population.

Mobilink Bank and BMA Capital signed the agreement in Karachi to formalize the mutually

beneficial partnership.

Under this partnership, BMA Capital Management will securely deposit funds within Mobilink Bank, offering multiple incentives to enhance their financial health and service capacity.

For Mobilink Bank, this partnership embodies a commitment to fostering industry-wide synergies to promote mutual growth and ensure the delivery of high-quality services to customers.

Pakistan's geo-strategic location ideal for regional connectivity: Iftikhar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Former President of SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry Iftikhar Ali Malik on Tuesday said Pakistan's geo-strategic location was ideal in providing opportunity for connecting Central Asian countries via sea routes for better and effective regional economic integration besides boosting Multilateral trade. Talking to a delegation of industrialists led by Muslim Khan Bunerai, he said the Central Asian states were landlocked and

Pakistan was located at an ideal location that could provide hassle-free shorter sea access to these countries, a news release said. He said Pakistan could also comfortably facilitate Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) member countries in providing regional connectivity which would promote trade among member countries and beyond. Iftikhar Malik said transport corridors and logistics infrastructure could benefit all member states leading to win-win cooperation.

Gold rates dip by Rs.400 to Rs.209,200 per tola

ISLAMABAD (APP): The per tola price of 24 karat gold decreased by Rs.400 and was sold at Rs.209,200 on Tuesday compared to its sale at Rs.209,600 the previous day of trading. The price of 10 grams of 24 karat gold also decreased by Rs.343 to Rs.179,355 from Rs.179,698 whereas the prices of 10 gram 22 karat gold went down to Rs.164,409 from Rs.164,723, the All Sindh Sarafa Jewellers Association reported.

Pakistan working towards balanced space policy: IT Minister

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister for IT and Telecommunication Dr. Umar Saif on Tuesday said that Pakistan was working towards a balanced space policy.

"The policy will protect our national interests and enable us to benefit from rapid advances in private sector such as Starlink etc" he said while chairing a meeting on Pakistan's National Space Policy. According to a news

release, the meeting discussed in details regarding finalisation of Pakistan's National Space Policy.

Secretary IT Hassan Nasir Jamy was also present at the meeting.

Authorities from SUPARCO, PTA, SIFC and SPD attended the meeting.

Additional Secretary MoITT Ms. Aisha Humera Moriari and senior officers of the Ministry were also present.

PTCL Group partners with Evam for enhanced customer experiences

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: PTCL Group (PTCL & Ufone 4G), Pakistan's leading telecommunications and ICT services provider has partnered with Evam, a leading Martech platform for

empower the Group's business partners to leverage real-time data, along with profiles and AI models to deliver a superior experience.

This will increase customer satisfaction in



creating real-time, cross-channel customer experience. This collaboration underlines the Group's unwavering dedication to provide its customers with the best communication services and driving forward Pakistan's digital transformation said a news release. PTCL Group will be introducing new customer experiences and products with support from Evam's next-gen real-time engine.

This cutting-edge technology will ensure seamless experiences across all digital and telco touchpoints. Evam will

order to boost revenues and enhance customer loyalty.

The project will be delivered through a collaboration between Evam's professional services team and their exclusive partner for Pakistan, Technify. Jafar Khalid, Group Chief Technology and Information Officer for PTCL & Ufone 4G, shared thoughts on the partnership, stating, "This alliance between PTCL Group and Evam enhances our customer engagement strategies, aiming to provide a tailored experience for every customer."



President and CEO Mobilink Bank Ghazanfar Ezaam and Chairman BMA Capital Management Moazzam M. Malik signing a MoU.

SM Tanveer meets PFMA, Karyana Merchant Association's delegations

Independent Report LAHORE: Caretaker Provincial Minister of Industry and Commerce SM Tanveer held separate meetings with delegations of Pakistan Flour Mills Association (PFMA) and Karyana Merchant Association Punjab (Central) here at Civil Secretariat on Tuesday. During the meeting with PFMA delegation led by its Chairman Asim Raza, the issue of wheat release policy and price to flour mills was discussed. Punjab Chief Secretary (CS) Zahid Akhtar Zaman, Secretary Food Dr Wasif Khurshid and Director Food were also present. Provincial Minister

SM Tanveer said that the association's proposals regarding wheat release policy and prices to flour mills would be placed before the cabinet. The caretaker government of Punjab is taking all necessary steps to provide relief to the people. Interests of the consumers and farmers would be safeguarded at all costs, he added. He said that the fruits of significant reduction in the prices of petroleum products should reach to the common man. On this occasion, the CS directed the Food Secretary to prepare wheat procurement policy for next year.

PSX loses 42 points

ISLAMABAD (APP): The 100-index of Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) shed 42.89 points on Tuesday, a nominal negative change of 0.08 per cent, closing at 51,027.94 points against 51,070.83 points the previous day.

A total of 321,403,857 shares valuing Rs 11,091 billion were traded during the day as compared to 364,070,705 shares valuing Rs 15,930 billion the previous day.

As many as 342 companies transacted their shares in the stock market; 143 of them recorded gains and 171 sustained losses, whereas the share price of 28 companies remained unchanged. The three top-trading companies were Pak Refinery with 33,555,439 shares at Rs 18.64 per share, Fauji Foods Ltd with 29,104,963 shares at Rs 6.98 per share and Bankislami Pak with 15,533,332 shares at Rs 19.19 per share.

Sanofi-Aventis witnessed a maximum increase of Rs 56.44 per share price, closing at Rs 808.94, whereas the runner-up was Pak Services with a Rs 47.83 rise in its per share price to Rs 749.83. Raihan Maize witnessed a maximum decrease of Rs 100.00 per share closing.



PESHAWAR: Governor Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa Haji Ghulam addressing a ceremony on eve of International Polio Day at Nishtar Hall.

CM Mohsin Naqvi pushes for expedited completion of Lahore CBD Project

Independent Report
LAHORE: Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi paid a visit to the Lahore Prime Central Business District (CBD) in the Quaid District Project. During his visit, the Chief Minister conducted an extensive inspection of the ongoing road construction from CBD Punjab Quaid District to Walton Road, closely assessing the project's progress.

Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi emphatically directed the commencement of construction on the overhead bridge project spanning the Walton railway track, urging swift execution. He keenly observed the ongoing construction activities

leading up to the bridge site and emphasized expediting the completion of the Walton Overhead Bridge project. Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi remarked that this endeavor would chart a new trajectory for Lahore's development. Once completed, the linkage between Center Point and Walton Road will be traversable in a mere three minutes. He also anticipated an influx of substantial investments, totaling in the billions of rupees, upon the culmination of the entire CBD project.

CEO Imran Amin provided a comprehensive briefing on the progress of the Lahore Prime CBD Punjab Quaid District project. He assured that the

infrastructure work, encompassing road networks, sewerage systems, water supply, electricity grids, and communication networks, would be concluded soon. A dedicated area for green spaces has been incorporated into the Lahore Prime CBD Punjab Quaid District, ensuring a balanced urban environment. The CBD Punjab to Walton Road stretch, spanning 4.2 kilometers, is being constructed using cutting-edge Blue Road technology. Upon completion, CBD Punjab will facilitate uninterrupted travel from Quaid District to Walton Road with three lanes and a strategically positioned flyover.



LARKANA: Residents of Ghulam Hussain Butt village are holding protest demonstration for recovery of missing young boy Ali Haider Butt, who was missing few days ago, at Larkana press club.

Collective efforts stressed to eradicate polio from country

Independent Report
LAHORE: Punjab Caretaker Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi on Tuesday said that every segment of society must play its role in dealing with the challenge of poliovirus.

In a statement on International Polio Day, the CM said that the poliovirus has been defeated globally, but it still exists in Pakistan and Afghanistan, which is a matter of concern. It is the primary duty of every Pakistani to make

Pakistan values its relations with Korea: Governor Punjab

Independent Report
LAHORE: The Ambassador of the Republic of Korea, Park Kijun, called on Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman here on Tuesday at the Governor House Lahore.

In the meeting, promotion of bilateral cooperation in the fields of trade and tourism was discussed. During the meeting, the overall situation of Palestine was also discussed.

Speaking on this occasion, Punjab Governor Muhammad Balighur Rehman said that Israel's bombing of children, women and innocent

civilians in Palestine Gaza is a crime against humanity. He said that the world should raise its voice against the ongoing atrocities on Palestinians and play its role in stopping it. He said that Pakistan values its relations with Korea. He said that Pakistan's government and people are grateful to the Korean government and companies for extending help to the flood victims in Pakistan last year. Governor Punjab said that economic, technological, defense, cultural cooperation and people to people contact between Pakistan and Korea need to be further promoted.

CM stresses collective efforts to eradicate polio

Independent Report
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In a statement on International Polio Day, the CM said that the poliovirus has been defeated globally, but it still exists in Pakistan and Afghanistan, which is a matter of concern. It is the primary duty of every Pakistani to make

the country free of poliovirus, he added and appealed to parents to get polio drops administered to their children to save them from the disease. The CM also saluted the polio workers and organizations working against the poliovirus and said that the virus could be controlled with joint efforts so that future generations could be saved from the disease. We pledged to eradicate this disease, he added.

Governor KP highlights role of women staff in polio eradication

Independent Report
PESHAWAR: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Haji Ghulam Ali on Tuesday highlighted the role of women workers in polio eradication and said that we should liaise to fight polio with the same commitment that helped us to defeat corona.

He was the Chief Guest in a ceremony held in Nishtar Hall to mark World Polio Day. The ceremony was organized by UNICEF, WHO, Rotary International and KP Elimination Program and attended by Director General Health, Dr. Shoukat Ali, Commissioner Peshawar, Muhammad Zubair, Deputy Commissioner, Afaq Wazir, Director EPI Program, Dr. Arif and polio workers.

Addressing the

ceremony, KP Governor underscored the services of media, medical professionals, ulema, teachers and civil society in polio eradication and said that Pakistan and Afghanistan are the focus of the world after the elimination of crippling disease from the rest of the countries situated on the globe. He said that the government is working on a war footing to wipe out polio and we desire that polio should be eliminated from all over the country. Highlighting the sacrifices of polio workers, he said that they should be respected for their efforts rather than targeted for a cause that would impact the future of the next generation.

He also distributed

prizes and certificates among polio workers of D I Khan and other far-flung areas and cash prizes among heirs of polio workers who were killed in the line of duty.

The governor also met with a nine-member delegation of Islamia College senior alumni in the Governor House. The delegation was led by Engineer Muhammad Arif and included Abdullah Khan, Arbab Daud, Naeem Afridi, Syed Bilal and Mateullah. The delegation informed the governor about the condition of Islamia College's historic masjid urging him to take steps for its revamping. Haji Ghulam assured cooperation to the delegation and offered to bear the revamping expense personally.

1,511 smoky vehicles impounded in two months

Independent Report
LAHORE: Punjab Caretaker Minister for Transport Ibrahim Murad said that more than 1,511 vehicles were impounded during the last two months for causing pollution.

In a statement on Tuesday, he said that action was also taken against 4,682 vehicles without fitness certificates. He directed that no exception should be made for polluting transport and they should be seized immediately.

The minister said that he would go to any extent to eliminate smog. Heavy fines will also be imposed on transport causing pollution and smog, he added.

He directed the field staff to be proactive and take strict measures in this regard. "People have to understand their responsibility and fix their vehicle issues causing smog, otherwise the government has power to seized their vehicles and impose hefty fines.

Two-day free medical camp held

By Aijaz Mughal

UMER KOT: A two-day free medical camp was organized by the social organization. Doctors specializing in various diseases provided free medical examination and medicines to more than 2000 patients.



According to the details, a two-day free medical camp was organized by the social organization Share for Care Trust in collaboration with the Nizamuddin Foundation in Umerkot, Dhoronaro and Choor, in which more than forty doctors of various diseases from London-based Pakistan Najat Patriot. Specialist Dr. Muhammad Yunus Bagha, General Surgeon Dr. Syed Amar Hussain, while specialist doctors from Dubai including rheumatologist and general physician Dr. Syed Arshad Hussain, dermatologist Dr. Manzoor Memon and Gynecologist Dr. Nausheen Quadri from Karachi examined more than two thousand patients suffering from various diseases in the free medical camp and provided them with free medicines delivered from foreign countries.

The visiting doctors said that we felt very happy that they have also participated in this good work. It is a pity that even in the modern era of the 21st century, the people here are deprived of basic facilities like health.

International News

24 hours, 320 strikes, 436 dead bodies

Monitoring Desk
GAZA: On a day when Israel's army reported strikes on at least 320 targets within 24 hours, Gaza's health ministry said on Monday that at least 436 people had been killed in bombardments over the past 24 hours, while the overall death toll had climbed above 5,000.

In addition, about a dozen trucks carrying desperately needed aid — the third convoy in three days — arrived inside Gaza from Egypt on Monday through Rafah, even as PM Mohammed Shateyeh accused Western nations of giving Israel a "licence to kill".

"What we hear from the mouth of the occupation (Israeli) leaders on

preparations for a land invasion means more crimes, atrocities and forced displacement," Shtayyeh told the start of a Palestinian Authority government meeting.

"We condemn the statements that constitute a licence to kill and give Israel political cover to commit massacres and spread destruction in Gaza," he added.

On Monday, Hamas also announced the release of two more elderly women prisoners in response to Egyptian-Qatari mediation efforts.

A spokesman for the group said in a statement: "We decided to release them for humanitarian and poor health grounds." An American mother and

daughter, Judith and Natalie Raanan, were earlier released on Friday.

"Hello from Gaza — I'm still alive", it's a message many Palestinians trapped in the besieged and bombed territory send each morning to their loved ones outside the coastal enclave.

With utter destruction around them, solemnity and despair often fill the messages Gazans post on social media to friends, colleagues, and the outside world.

Israel cut the electricity supply to Gaza as part of the "total siege" it launched on October 9, seriously hindering communications between the Palestinian territory and the rest of the world.

US forces targeted in Syria, no casualties

Monitoring Desk
WASHINGTON: American and allied forces in Syria were targeted on Monday in an attack that did not cause casualties, a US official said, after a group claimed to have launched drones at Washington's troops.

"An attack against US and coalition forces occurred early this morning in Syria. There were no injuries or damage," a US defence official said.

The US official did not provide specifics on the attack, but a group calling itself the Islamic Resistance in Iraq said earlier in the day that it had launched drones against American forces at Al-Tanf and Al-Malikiyah in Syria.

The United States has some 900 troops in Syria and 2,500 in Iraq as part of efforts to combat IS, which once held significant territory in both countries but was pushed back by local forces supported by international air strikes. Meanwhile, Iraq on Monday condemned as "unacceptable" attacks against bases on its territory housing US.



Palestinians transport the body of a victim from the rubble after Israeli strikes in Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip.

UN chief warns that the risk of the Gaza war spreading is growing as situation becomes more dire

Monitoring Desk
UNITED NATIONS: The United Nations chief warned at a high-level U.N. meeting Tuesday that the situation in the Middle East is growing more dire by the hour with the risk of the Gaza war spreading through the region increasing as societies splinter and tensions threaten to boil over.

Secretary-General Antonio Guterres called for an immediate humanitarian cease-fire to deliver desperately needed food, water, medicine and fuel. He appealed "to all to pull back from the brink before the violence claims even more lives and spreads even farther."

Guterres told the U.N.

Security Council's monthly meeting on the decades-old Israeli-Palestinian conflict—which has turned into a major event with ministers from the war's key parties and a dozen other countries flying to New York—that the rules of war must be obeyed.

The secretary-general said the grievances of the Palestinian people cannot justify "the horrifying and unprecedented Oct. 7 acts of terror" by Hamas in Israel and demanded the immediate release of all hostages. But Guterres also stressed that "those appalling attacks cannot justify the collective punishment of the Palestinian people."

He expressed deep concern at "the clear violations of international humanitarian law," calling Israel's constant bombardment of Gaza and the level of destruction and civilian casualties "alarming." Protecting civilians "is paramount in any armed conflict," he said. Without naming Hamas, the U.N. chief stressed that "protecting civilians can never mean using them as human shields." Guterres also criticized Israel without naming it, saying "protecting civilians does not mean ordering more than one million people to evacuate to the south, where there is no shelter, no food, no water."

France's Macron says 'fight must be without mercy, but not without rules'

Monitoring Desk
JERUSALEM: French President Emmanuel Macron, speaking after meeting Israel's prime minister on Tuesday, proposed a coalition to fight terror groups in the region "that threaten all of us."

He compared the proposal to the international coalition fighting the Islamic State group in Iraq and Syria. He was referring to the Iranian-backed Hezbollah in Lebanon, Iran itself and the Houthis in

Yemen, among others, saying they must not take the risk of opening a new front.

Macron, on a two-day visit to the region, met with families of hostages held captive in the Gaza Strip by Hamas, and said "we will neglect nothing" to obtain freedom for French citizens. Nine French citizens are being held or have disappeared. Macron said he would visit Ramallah later Tuesday and several regional leaders on Wednesday.

Kremlin rejects speculation that Putin is ill and uses body doubles

Monitoring Desk
MOSCOW: The Kremlin on Tuesday rejected speculation about President Vladimir Putin's health, saying he was fit and well. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov, in a regular call with reporters, also denied suggestions that the president was using body doubles, calling that an "absurd hoax". Reporters asked Peskov about Putin's health following an unreported report by a Russian.

'Enough is enough': Qatar emir takes aim at Israel's backers

Monitoring Desk
DOHA: The Qatari ruler hit out at Israel's backers Tuesday, charging they had given it "free licence to kill" in its war with Hamas and questioning what the conflict would achieve.

Major powers, including the United States, Britain and France, have rallied to support Israel and affirmed its right to defend itself after this month's deadly attack by the Palestinian Islamist group. Hamas fighters stormed into Israel from the Gaza Strip on October 7, killing at least 1,400 people, mostly civilians, and taking 222 hostages, according to Israeli officials. More than 5,000 Palestinians, mainly civilians, have been killed across the Gaza

Strip in relentless Israeli bombardments in retaliation for the attack, according to the territory's Hamas-run health ministry.

"We are saying enough is enough," Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani told a meeting of the Shura Council, Qatar's legislative body, according to a translation released by the royal court. "It is untenable for Israel to be given an unconditional green light and free licence to kill, nor is it tenable to continue ignoring the reality of occupation, siege and settlement." Qatar, a US ally which hosts a large US military base, also hosts an office of Hamas which doubles as the main residence of its self-exiled leader Ismail Haniyeh.



U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken, center, and U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Linda Thomas-Greenfield, left, talk with UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres before a Security Council meeting at United Nations headquarters.

At least 24 dead, including 12 police officers, in southwest Mexico

Monitoring Desk
ACAPULCO: Three separate armed attacks in Mexico on Monday left at least 24 people dead, including a dozen police officers, authorities said about the latest violence to hit regions plagued by drug trafficking.

In the deadliest incident, unidentified attackers targeted a security patrol in Guerrero state's municipality of Coyuca de Benitez, prosecutor Alejandro Hernandez said.

At least 13 people were killed and two others wounded in that attack, the state prosecutor's office said in a statement, with Hernandez earlier having confirmed that at least 11 of those killed were members of the municipal police force.

A senior state security official was traveling in the convoy when it was attacked, authorities said, without confirming media reports that he was murdered along with police bodyguards.



Industrial engineer and former lawmaker Maria Corina Machado reacts to the vote count, after Venezuelans voted in a primary to choose a unity opposition candidate to face Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro in his probable re-election bid in 2024, in Caracas, Venezuela.

Biden and Pope Francis discuss Gaza carnage by Israel in a call

Monitoring Desk
WASHINGTON: US President Joe Biden spoke with Pope Francis and discussed the ongoing conflict in the Middle East between Israel and Palestinian Islamist group Hamas, the White House and the Vatican said in separate statements.

They discussed "the need to prevent escalation in the region and to work toward a durable peace in

the Middle East," the White House said.

The Vatican earlier said the call, which lasted about 20 minutes, "focused on conflict situations in the world and the need to identify paths to peace."

Hamas attacked Israel on Oct. 7, killing over 1,400 people. In retaliation, Israel has killed more than 5,000 Palestinians in Gaza Strip.

Balochistan polio free for last two years: Govt. fully determined to eradicate polio virus, vows caretaker CM

Mir Ali Mardan Domki pays homage to polio workers and security personnel on embracing martyrdom in line of duty; says polio workers are national heroes; routine immunization system being put on modern lines

Independent Report
QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki has reiterated the government's resolve to fully eradicate polio virus from the province.

In a special message on occasion of the World Polio Day observed on Tuesday, the Chief Minister said that the provincial government is mobilizing all available resources for ensuring complete eradication of polio from the province.

Mr. Domki said that

the government is fully determined to polio eradication.

He paid rich tributes to the services of all polio workers on occasion of the World Polio Day.

The Chief Minister also said that we pay homage to the polio workers and security jawans who embraced martyrdom while performing their national obligation.

He said that Balochistan is polio free province for last two years because of the sincere ef-

forts made by the polio workers. He said that the polio workers are real heroes of the nation who remain busy in performing the national obligation even despite of the tough weather conditions.

Mir Ali Mardan Domki said that public health is included in the priorities of the provincial government.

He said that routine immunization system is also being put on the modern lines to ensure complete immunization of the children.



QUETTA: A delegation led by Secretary General Balochistan National Party Jahanzeb Baloch meeting with Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar

AJK President says: India emerging as 'Terrorist State' under Modi's extremist policies

MIRPUR (AJK) (APP): Azad Jammu Kashmir President Barrister Sultan Mehmood Chaudhry has said that, owing to Modi's extremist policies, India was fast emerging as a terrorist state on the global scene.

Addressing the grand ceremony organized on the occasion of the 76th foundation day of Azad Jammu Kashmir government in the state metropolis on Tuesday, the President, while referring to the BJP's divisive policies, said that Modi would prove to be Gorbachev for India.

"The day is not far when India will disintegrate", he said. Lauding Kashmiris' decades' long struggle against India's belligerent occupation, Barrister Chaudhry said that Kashmiris have never accepted Indian rule and its dominance over the territory.

Paying rich tributes to the Kashmiri martyrs, who laid down their precious lives to liberate the territory of Azad Jammu and Kashmir from Dogra rule, the president said, "Our elders struggled hard to liberate the territory from the clutches of Dogra under the leadership of Ghazi Millat Sardar Muhammad Ibrahim Khan".



PESHAWAR: Al-Khidmat Foundation sending humanitarian aid for the affectees of Earthquake in Herat Afghanistan, in Peshawar.

Occupied Palestine, Kashmir striking examples of UN's failure: Amb. Munir

UNITED NATIONS (APP): Despite United Nations' many successes since its creation in 1945, the organization has failed to secure the right to self-determination and liberation from foreign occupation for the peoples of Palestine and Kashmir, Pakistan's UN Ambassador Munir Akram has said.

"The ongoing slaughter of Palestinians in Gaza by the Israeli bombardment and the massive violations of human rights of the people of Indian occupied Jammu and Kashmir are the most visible examples of the UN's failures," he said in a message to the UN community on the world body's 79th anniversary.

In this regard, the Pakistani envoy called for reinforcing the U.N.'s capacity to respond to the old and new threats to international peace and security, to halt and reverse emerging great power tensions and the new nuclear and conventional arms race, to revive equitable and inclusive global eco-

nomie growth, and to avert the existential threat posed by climate change. "Despite the enormity of these challenges, the hopes of most of the world's peoples, especially the youth, remain pinned on the United Nations and on its active and sincere Secretary General."

In the past 78 years, Ambassador Akram pointed out that the UN has played a vital role in preventing another global conflict, resolving numerous disputes, and promoting international peace and security, arms control, economic and social development and human rights around the world, adding that the organization had remained the international community's primary platform for cooperation amongst nation states for peace, progress and prosperity. The UN has adapted its structures considerably in response to emerging challenges and threats, in particular shifting its efforts from decolonization in the early years to equitable development.

CM Naqvi defends his govt decision to suspend Nawaz's sentence

Independent Report
LAHORE: Giving his point of view on the suspension of PML-N supremo Nawaz Sharif's sentence in the Al-Azizia reference by the Punjab government, caretaker Chief Minister Syed Mohsin Raza Naqvi has said that the remission has been granted as per the law.

The Punjab chief minister said that the provincial government received a request and it approved the suspension of former prime minister Nawaz Sharif's sentence under Section 401 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, which deals with suspensions, remissions and commutations of sentences.

ANF Balochistan recovers 665.37 kg of drugs

QUETTA (APP): Anti Narcotics Force (ANF) Balochistan has recovered 665.37 Kg of drugs, 20 kg of suspected material in 9 operations and arrested 6 accused persons in drug smuggling and impounded 4 vehicles.

A handout issued here on Tuesday said that the seized drugs comprised 5 kg opium, 652 kg hashish, 8,340 kg heroin and 30 grams methamphetamine (Ice).

The operation carried out by ANF continued from 9th October till 22nd October 2023, it further said.

IHC extends protective bail of Nawaz Sharif till Oct 26

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Tuesday extended the protective bail of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz Quid Nawaz Sharif till October 26 in the Al-Azizia Steel Mills and Avenfield property references.

The court also sought comments from the National Accountability Court (NAB) about the petitions seeking revival of Nawaz Sharif's appeals against his conviction in the two references.

The two-judge bench comprising Chief Justice Aamer Farooq and Justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb heard the case wherein the former prime minister appeared along with his legal team.



HARNAI: Chairman PkMAP Mahmood Khan Achakzai addressing a public gathering at Killa Zardalu



BEIJING: Chairman Senate of Pakistan, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani on Tuesday delivered a speech at the International Symposium held in Beijing to Commemorate the 10th Anniversary of China's.

BRI brings paradigm shift to concept of development, connectivity, regional integration: Sadiq Sanjrani

BEIJING (APP): Chairman Senate, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani said on Tuesday that Belt and Road Initiative with a worldwide appeal and membership has brought a paradigm shift to the concept of development, connectivity and regional integration.

In these testing times, Chinese President Xi's landmark initiatives of Belt and Road Initiative, Global Development Initiative, Global Security Initiative and Global Civilization Initiative offer us a wholesome and practical solution for international peace and security.

The Chairman Senate made these remarks while addressing the opening ceremony of International Symposium to commemorate the 10th anniversary of China's principles of Amity, Sincerity, Mutual Benefit and Inclusiveness in Neighbourhood Diplomacy

held here.

Director of the Office of the Central Commission of Foreign Affairs and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Wang Yi read the written speech by President Xi and also delivered a speech.

Sadiq Sanjrani said that China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has become a model and exemplary project of BRI having transformed the economic landscape of Pakistan. As an open and inclusive platform, CPEC is now inviting participation from third countries.

The Global Development Initiative has placed development at the core of China's exchanges with the world, accelerating the UN 2030 SDGs Agenda. Pakistan is the first partner country of China under GDI.

"Together, as good neighbours and best friends, we are charting a course of action for socio-economic

development and uplift," he added.

He said that similarly, Global Security and Global Civilization Initiatives are setting a new course by presenting over-arching concepts contributing positively to the global security and civilizational landscapes. These initiatives are also assuming an increasingly central role in our neighbourhood diplomacy and concepts.

Termining Pakistan-China relationship as a practical demonstration of the vision of our founding father, he said it is an all-weather partnership deeply rooted in mutual trust and respect. It is time-tested and timeless, and nurtured over the years by successive generations of our governments and our people.

The chairman said that the unfolding crisis in Gaza has shaken the very soul of humanity.

Resolution of Kashmir, Palestine issues crucial to world peace: NA Speaker

ISLAMABAD (APP): National Assembly Speaker Raja Pervaiz Ashraf on Tuesday said world peace was interlinked with the resolution of the Palestine and Kashmir issue in line with the aspirations of Kashmiri and Palestinian people.

The speaker, in his message on the day of the United Nations Organisation, said the prominent goal for the formation of the UNO was to maintain global peace.

He said that the nefarious and barbaric policies of India and Israel had been exposed with their atrocities on innocent children and women in Kashmir and Palestine.

The right to self-determination of the people of Palestine and Kashmir could

not be suppressed by cruelty and coercion, he added.

He also called upon the UN to play a proactive role to immediately halt the genocide of the oppressed Palestinian and Kashmiri people by Israel and India.

The United Nations should take notice of the violations of basic human rights in Palestine and Kashmir, he stressed.

The speaker said the UN had emerged as a ray of hope for the whole world before Seventy-Eight years and Pakistan was an active member of the UNO since its establishment.

He also underscored the role of Pakistani missions in peace operations around the world that reflected Pakistan's supportive stance for UN.

Railways minister commends 17% rise in passenger, freight revenues

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister of Railways Shahid Ashraf Tarar on Tuesday commended the railway team for their successful efforts in boosting passenger and freight train revenues by 17%.

Chairing a meeting to assess the operational and administrative capabilities of the railways, he said the commercialization of the railway station would be executed incrementally.

The minister announced that the railways' financial performance had been positively impacted by the adoption of Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) within the railway infrastructure.



LORALAI: Caretaker Provincial Minister for Education Prod. Qadir Bakhsh Baloch inaugurating Campus Management System at BRC

PTI chairman cannot be produced in ECP contempt case: Ministry

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Ministry of Interior on Tuesday informed the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) that producing PTI chairman Imran Khan in a contempt case is a "security risk", says in media reports.

Last year in August, the ECP had issued notices to Chaudhry, and others for allegedly using "intemperate" language against Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Sikander Sultan Raja and the electoral body.

A four-member commission headed by Sindh Member Nisar Durrani heard the contempt case against former prime minister Imran Khan, Fawad Chaudhry and Asad Umar. The former federal ministers appeared before the court, while the PTI chair-

man, who is in Adiala Jail was not presented.

The ministry and Islamabad police have informed the ECP in this regard citing that the production of the former premier would be a security risk. The ministry issued an apology to the ECP. AIG operations said the PTI chairman had been expressing concerns about his security.

The Interior Ministry has recommended to ECP to hear the contempt case in the jail. During the hearing, ECP said how the Interior Ministry will hold peaceful elections when it is not able to give security to an individual. The ECP while summoning the secretary Interior Ministry adjourned the further hearing of the case until November 13.

I am part of PML-N, I will not resign from party: Abbasi

KARACHI (Online): Former Prime Minister (PM) Shahid Khaqan Abbasi has said it is his appeal to the present and coming government to abolish NAB as Job of NAB is only keeping the politicians under pressure.

He said this while talking to media men after appearing in Karachi Accountability Court Tuesday.

He held NAB job is connecting and disconnecting the politicians. What is requirement of justice and where justice has gone, is not seen by any one. It is bad luck. What injustice is done here has no parallel in the judicial history.

He went on to say NAB has paralyzed the country. Today is 5th year that this case is running. I come to court repeatedly but nothing is done. Five years have passed but only next date is given.

He demanded cameras be got installed in the courts so that people could see what is done in the court. Several judges have been transferred from the court but our case is where it was.

He remarked if politicians, judiciary and military leadership sit together then the problems facing the country will stand resolved. I am part of PML-N, he said adding I will not resign from party, he underlined.

Special teams formed as crackdown continues: Over 15,000 illegal immigrants deported from all over Balochistan: Jan

Independent Report
QUETTA: The caretaker Provincial Minister for Information, Jan Achakzai has stated that the crackdown is continued against the illegal immigrants all over the province.

He informed that over 15,000 illegal immigrants have so far been deported from all over the province.

Those deported from the province are mostly included in the Afghan nationals.

Jan Achakzai also said that the administration is taking steps for repatriation of the illegal immigrants in the province.

For the purpose, three points have been established in Quetta, Pishin and Killa Abdullah, he added.

He also said that special teams have been formed for repatriation of the illegal immigrants.

In addition to this, the database is also ready for repatriation of the illegal

immigrants in the country, he added.

Jan Achakzai said that we are deeply concerned about involvement of illegal immigrants in the country.

Some of them have been found involved in the murder, dacoities and some in the terrorism acts, he regretfully pointed out.

Meanwhile, Deputy Commissioner Quetta told that in all 52 cases have been registered against the illegal immigrants under the Foreign Act in Quetta.

According to the Deputy Commissioner, the illegal immigrants have been given deadline of October 31 to leave Pakistan.

According to the policy of government, just a week has been left for the illegal immigrants to leave the country.

Otherwise legal action would be taken against them, as already announced by the government.

Rs. 1.4 billion recovered from defaulters: 156 more connections of defaulters suspended as QESCO continues drive

Independent Report
QUETTA: As many as 156 connections of the defaulters of electricity utility bills and arrears were disconnected as the extensive crackdown of Quetta Electric Supply Company (QESCO) is continued all over the province including Quetta.

According to the spokesman of QESCO, the connections of defaulters were suspended in different areas of the province.

Moreover, 27 shunt

and tempered meters were also removed in Jinnah Town and A One City areas of Quetta.

Similarly, six transformers of the defaulters were also removed in Harnai. The QESCO spokesman said that in all 386 FIRs have so far been registered against those involved in the power pilferage.

According to him, over Rs. 1.4 billion have been collected from 47,471 defaulters in the province.



ISLAMABAD: Hockey legend, former Captain of Pakistan National Hockey Team, Islahuddin Siddiqui presenting his book titled "Dash Through My Life" to Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar.

Leadership of Islamic world should get stop genocide of Palestinians Shehbaz Sharif

LAHORE (Online): Former Prime Minister (PM) and PML-N President Shehbaz Sharif said that leadership of Islamic world should get stop the genocide of Palestinians together with International Community.

In his statement, Shehbaz Sharif said that double human tragedy is being created as a result of Israeli oppression, tyranny and cruelty.

Palestine is presenting the scene of Karbala where water and food supply has been suspended.

Innocent children, women and civilians are in the hands of killers, e said that rising apathy and helplessness are pushing the world towards dire consequences. Failure to save human-

ity will be failure of world peace. A moment's delay is leading to martyrdom of innocent people.

Shehbaz Sharif said that not allowing aid convoys for besieged Palestinians is making a mockery of international authority and law.

He added that tears of Palestinian children have shaken the world.

He further said that existence of illegitimate state will not be justified by shedding the blood of oppressed.

He said that if this problem is not resolved soon, there will be irreparable damage. Emergency measures are needed to send aid to Gaza and Palestinian territories affected by Israeli attacks.

Sharif brothers are under delusion if they think to rig the polls: Pervaiz Elahi

ISLAMABAD (Online): Former Chief Minister (CM) Punjab Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi has said Sharif brothers are mistaken if they think to rigging in election. "No one an even think of rig the election", he said this in an informal chat with media in Accountability Court (AC) Tuesday.

Pervaiz Elahi said Nelson Mandela has come. He should now hold his brother Shehbaz Sharif accountable for inflation. Inflation has escalated so much that people are forced to commit suicide.

He underlined people have committed suicide on arrival of Nelson Mandela. Who are doing all this will face its consequences in election, he held.

Constituting bench by Supreme Court regarding election case is better for country. Election date will be announced due

to supreme court. Political reputation of chairman PTI has increased, he said adding no one will hear Sharif brothers as their political shop stands shut.

Nawaz Sharif has returned to Pakistan, Pervaiz Elahi said adding he is flying pigeons. What will you say. Nawaz Sharif is trying to become fake Nelson Mandela. To a question that how long will he side with Imran Khan, he said 5 months have passed. I will side with him in future as well. When date for election is announced then he will come to know what has happened with him.

People are unable to pay gas and electricity bills. People have lost their jobs. They have started beating teachers. Who are doing this they will have to give account of it in election.