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Long term policies to steer country out of deep rooted economic challenges: PM

Vows no fear or favor to any political party during electoral process

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Monday stressed upon formulation of the long-term policies to address the deep-rooted economic challenges faced by the country. The prime minister said that economic continuity, privatization, external debts, agriculture, services delivery, production of goods, tax net and private businesses, were some of the key issues upon which the upcoming elected government should focus.

During an interview with the anchorpersons and Vloggers telecast on PTV News, the prime minister said that the caretaker government during its short period, would set priorities and would do 'what is doable' while for the long-term policies, would be leaving behind drafts for the succeeding elected government.

He said contrary to the history of Pakistan, the US governments also took debts to the tune of billions of dollars but they had utilized them for boosting its economy and now they had an economic cycle in which their different sectors were thriving.

The caretaker prime minister said that he himself would vote for that party in the general elections that would have an economic revival plan.

To a question about Palestine issue, he reiterated that Pakistan had a consistent policy under which they always expressed solidarity with the Palestinian people.

The two-nation state plan was regarded as a solution to the issue but still Israel was denying it, he added. The caretaker prime minister stressed for the solution of Palestine and Kashmir issues.

The prime minister further elaborated that the caretaker set up in the shortest period would be demonstrating how to perform and give a model to the upcoming government, adding so far about Rs18 billion recovery was made in the power sector.

He said the additional cost of the power production was diverted to those consumers who were already paying bills and due to the poor administration, the lower segments always borne the brunt.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar interacts with TV anchors and media persons



ISLAMABAD: The newly-appointed Chief of Naval Staff, Admiral Naveed Ashraf, called on President Dr Arif Alvi, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

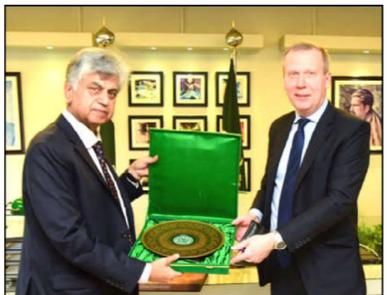
Solangi for boosting cooperation with Russia in diverse fields

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi on Monday underlined the need for boosting cooperation with Russia in various fields including media, drama, films, joint productions and training programmes.

The minister, in a meeting with Russian Ambassador to Pakistan Danila Ganich, also stressed that a formal invitation would be extended to his Russian counterpart for his visit to Pakistan.

During the meeting, cooperation between the two countries in diverse fields including media and the modalities regarding the Russian information minister's visit to Pakistan were also discussed.

Possible signing of agreements between APP and TAAS News Agency, PTV and Russian Television and



Russian Radio and Radio Pakistan during the visit of the Russian Minister also came under discussion during the meeting. Both Solangi and the Russian Ambassador expressed the commitment of the two countries to strengthen relations in various fields including security, economy, education, culture and tourism.

Pakistan valued its relations with Russia and it was desirous to expand cooperation with Moscow in the fields of media, drama, and films, the minister said.

Breaching legal restrictions case: IHC issues notice to Bajwa, Faiz Hameed, journalist Javed Ch

ISLAMABAD (Online): Islamabad High Court (IHC) has issued notice to FIA, former army chief General (Retd) Qamar Javed Bajwa and former DG ISI Gen (Retd) Faiz Hameed for breaching legal restrictions and stating different events in wrong and fabricated way.

The case came up for hearing before IHC led by Chief Justice (CH) IHC Aamir Farooq Monday.

CJ IHC issued written order of hearing the petition filed by a citizen Atif Ali from Rawalpindi.

It has been said in the order according to petitioner FIR was requested repeatedly after filing application for registration of case. PEMRA was also requested, but no action was taken.

The counsel for the petitioner requested the court to order FIA to register case against former army chief Gen (Retd) Qamar Javed Bajwa, Gen (Retd) Faiz Hameed, jour-

nalists Javed Chaudhry and Shahid Maitla and initiate proceedings against them. The citizen took the plea in its petition that Gen (Retd) Bajwa and Gen (Retd) Faiz Hameed crossed the existing legal restrictions in showing different events in wrong and fabricated way after retirement. Therefore, they committed heinous crime. Criminal act was committed due to Qamar Javed Bajwa-Faiz Hameed nexus. FIA should register case and take action.

Petitioner further said that journalists Javed Chaudhry and Shahid Maitla wrote two articles only for the sake of viewership which left negative impact on the society.

I was surprised when I saw articles. Negative picture of the state institution was presented through articles in the guise of journalism to arrest attention. Criminal attitude came to fore in the guise of freedom of expression.

PM saddened by devastating earthquake in Afghanistan

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Monday expressed deep sorrow over the loss of precious lives and property in the devastating earthquake in Herat, Afghanistan.

"Our hearts go out to the affected communities. We stand in solidarity with the Afghans during this difficult time. I have instructed the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) to send maximum support to the affected," he said in a post on X.

He said the Afghanistan government had specifically asked for sending a medical team, a field hospital, 50 tents and 500 blankets.

"On my instructions, in addition to the relief goods, all the requested items are being dispatched in the afternoon today, with more relief goods to follow", he added.

PUC announces to observe Oct 13 as 'Palestine Solidarity Day'

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistan Ulama Council (PUC) Islamabad Chapter on Monday announced to observe October 13 (Friday) as 'Palestine Solidarity Day' and to host a 'Palestine Solidarity Conference' on October 17 to express unwavering support to the Palestinians.

Chairman PUC, Hafiz Muhammad Tahir Mahmood Ashrafi said that he had made a telephonic contact with the Chief Justice of Palestine, Mahmoud Al-Habbash, and discussed the current situation in Palestine.



HYDERABAD: Palestine students holding the protest against Israel outside press club.

President calls for awareness on mental health as 24% Pakistanis under stress

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Dr Arif Alvi highlighting Pakistan's limited capacity to deal with the disease burden, called for creating awareness about mental health and well-being as most mental illnesses, which could be cured in a cost-effective manner if diagnosed and managed at an early stage.

The president, in a message to the nation on World Mental Health Day annually observed on October 10, cited the National Commission of Human Rights of Pakistan saying that 24% of people in Pakistan were under stress which compounded with economic difficulties becomes an alarming situation.

He said the Day was observed with an obvious theme that 'Mental health

was a universal human right'. This is to raise awareness about the importance of mental health, the effects of mental illness on the lives of the people, and the need for support within the family, then recognition of the problem, getting over social taboos to get professional help, he said.

He said unfortunately, Pakistan had limited human and material resources to deal with this disease burden that affects an increasing number of adolescents, young people, and women. The president said the newspapers every day carried a few extreme stories of suicides as well as domestic violence even killings that can be traced back to the national psychiatric burden.

Constitution, law not subject to wishes of chief justice: CJP

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chief Justice of Pakistan Qazi Faez Isa on Monday remarked during the hearing of petitions against the Supreme Court Practice and Procedure Act 2023 that the constitution and law are not subject to the wishes of the chief justice.

We are bound by the constitution and the people, he said, adding that the chief justice should not go beyond the provisions of the constitution and law.

A 15-member full court bench presided by Chief Justice Qazi Faez Isa heard the case. Additional documents were submitted by the lawyers of the parties in the Supreme Court on the occasion.

During the course of the proceeding, President Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) Abid S. Zuberi gave arguments and said that the Parliament

was not authorized to form rules for SC.

The chief justice said that regarding the rules of the Judicial Commission and the Supreme Judicial Council, it is written in the constitution that the constitutional bodies will make the law themselves.

However, when it comes to SC, Article 191 states that the rules of the SC could also be made by law, he said, adding that the point is that the legislators had themselves given the option of law.

The Chief Justice of Pakistan asked how 184/3 was used in Pakistan. Whether the human rights cell had been mentioned in the constitution or the SC rules. If a Chief Justice makes a mistake, whether the Parliament can correct it or not, he questioned.

Addressing Abid Zuberi, the CJP said that

our work will increase by getting the right to appeal. Why you are worried, he asked.

Justice Jamal Mandokhail said that if you want to see the intention of the legislators, then look at Article 175. If the framers of the Constitution had to give complete authority to the Supreme Court, they would have clearly written that any regulation that conflicts with the law or the Constitution would automatically be null and void, he added.

Justice Mazhar Ali Akbar Naqvi said that the Parliament had made a law about SC rules but why it didn't make the same thing for the high courts. Shariat Court Justice Ijaz-ul-Ahsan said that the high courts are empowered to make their own practice and procedures.

Chinese envoy, Planning minister discuss CPEC projects

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong Monday called on Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Muhammad Sami Saeed and discussed projects being executed under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

During the meeting, the two sides discussed the ongoing CPEC projects especially related to energy, infrastructure, industrial zones; agriculture and information technology, a news

Sami Saeed said the Planning Ministry reviewed progress on ongoing projects regularly and Special Economic Zones' work was in full swing.

He said the government was taking all possible measures to further improve the security of the staff working on the projects, being executed under CPEC.

The Chinese envoy appreciated the efforts of the Planning Ministry for its active role in carrying forward CPEC



release said.

Secretary Ministry of Planning Awaiz Manzoor Sumra also attended the meeting.

The minister apprised the visiting envoy, who assumed the office charge last month, that the caretaker government was fully committed to completing the CPEC projects on a fast-track basis.

Jiang Zaidong said the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) was an extremely important forum where Pakistan's participation carried great significance.

He invited the caretaker minister to attend the BRI Forum-2023, scheduled for 17-18th of the current month in Beijing, the capital city of China.

Saudi Health Minister assures full support towards new health initiatives in Pakistan

CAIRO (Online): Federal Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination Dr. Nadeem Jan held a meeting with Minister of Health Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Fahad bin Abdulrahman Al-Jalajel on the sidelines of 70th Session of the WHO's Regional Committee of the Eastern Mediterranean in Cairo today. Senior officials from Saudi Ministry of Health were present during the meeting.

The Federal Minister stated that the Government and people of Pakistan hold the Custodian of the two Holy Mosques in high esteem. Bilateral fraternal relations between Pakistan and KSA are

based on common faith and aspirations, the Minister added.

The Minister for Health Kingdom of Saudi Arabia noted with appreciation that relations with Pakistan in the field of health have touched new level. Dr. Nadeem Jan discussed the possibility of mutual collaboration in the vaccine production capacity. The Saudi Health Minister offered to provide assistance and support in developing vaccine production capacity in Pakistan. Both the Ministers agreed for exchange of expertise through a team of health experts to formalise the transfer of technology.

PM, newly appointed CNS discuss matters of Pak Navy

ISLAMABAD (APP): The newly appointed Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Naveed Ashraf called on Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar here on Monday, the PM Office said. The meeting discussed the administrative and professional matters pertaining to the Pakistan Navy.

The prime minister expressed confidence that under the supervision of the new naval chief, the Pakistan Navy would play an effective role in the defence of the country.

Govt decides to end free electricity facility for officers

ISLAMABAD (Online): The federal government has finalized to end the free electricity facility for the officers of the electricity companies. And recommended to stop providing monthly free units to Grade 17 to Grade 21 officers. The Cabinet Committee on Energy will give final approval on the Power Division's summary tomorrow.

Abolishing the facility of free units will save more than 6 billion rupees annually. It has been recommended to give 15 thousand 858 rupees instead of 450 monthly free units to grade 17 officer,

21 thousand 996 units per month instead of 600 free units to grade 18 officers, 37 thousand 594 rupees to grade 19 officer instead of 880 free units per month, 46 thousand 992 rupees instead of 1100 free units.

REPATRIATION OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

DAYS REMAINING

21

in # | @SindhPakistan

Daily Voice of Masses Independent

Turned away

On Saturday, as UN agencies pressed Islamabad to consider the risks of forcefully repatriating Afghan refugees, a major earthquake in western Afghanistan resulted in over 2,000 deaths, according to the Taliban government, with thousands left injured and homeless. Reports of the devastation caused by the disaster served as a grim backdrop to the concerns raised by humanitarian agencies about the difficulties Pakistani authorities may condemn hundreds of thousands of Afghans to as they go ahead with a controversial plan to evict all 'illegal aliens' by the end of this month. The drive, which has been criticised for seeking to forcibly push those who had fled violence, persecution and impoverishment in Afghanistan back into that troubled country, has been pursued with unseemly eagerness by the caretaker government, with one ministry even running a countdown on X (formerly Twitter) to remind undocumented migrants about the number of days they have remaining in this country.

Meanwhile, reports abound of refugee settlements being shuttered, landlords being told to evict Afghan tenants, and Afghans — both documented and undocumented, men, women and children — being rounded up by police across the country.

The reaction from rights organisations and more hospitable Pakistanis to Islamabad suddenly turning its back on Afghan refugees has, understandably, been one of dismay and concern.

While the Pakistani authorities are well within their rights to demand that migrants and refugee seekers, especially those who are undocumented, return, is this really the right way to go about doing so? Uprooting hundreds of thousands of human beings who have scraped together a life in Pakistan and sending them back to an uncertain future defined by terror and turmoil seems unnecessarily cold, made all the more so by the short deadline given to them to pack up and leave.

The UNHCR and the International Organisation for Migration have both come forward to advocate for the rights of Afghan refugees; they must work proactively with the Pakistani government to find a quick solution to this issue. It appears from reports that the authorities here are unprepared for the task they have taken on.

At the bare minimum, the ongoing effort to deport all foreigners not holding a valid visa and passport requires international oversight to ensure that those being returned are not deprived of what little they possess in the process.

There have been complaints of unscrupulous individuals exploiting vulnerable Afghans by demanding bribes to ensure their safety; the Pakistani authorities have a responsibility to put an immediate end to such reprehensible practices.

Ideally, the entire exercise needs to be reconsidered, but even if the decision is non-negotiable, the returning Afghans need to be treated with compassion. They are owed that.



Arif Hasan

I have written earlier about the Pakistan Quarters when a proposal for its development was made in 2018 under very different political circumstances. At that time, the Sindh government had some control over land in the city. However, today, developers have completely taken over land-use decisions due to the policies of the previous government.

The Pakistan Quarters consist of Martin East, Martin West, and Jahangir Quarters. To avoid the misuse of land in the case of Bahria Town and to avoid creating homelessness and misery as in the case of the KCR-related evictions and the Gujjar nullah, Orangi nullah and Mahmoodabad nullah demolitions, a rehabilitation process should be guaranteed, that will not result in homelessness and hunger or force people to live under the sky without water, electricity, schools, and employment on the rubble of their homes for years.

The Pakistan Quarters on which the government wishes to construct apartments consist of about 335 acres and have a population of around 90,000, or 13,000 households. There are five types of residents in the Quarters: i) there are the original allottees. Most of them are probably dead; ii) there are the children and grandchildren of the allottees; iii) there are those who have rented out their homes to others; iv) there are those who have not paid their dues to the state; v) there are those who have sold their houses and have

left.

All these categories need to be identified, and their numbers worked out so that a just and equitable system of rehousing, relocating, or removal can be worked out. This work could be handled by a Karachi-based academic institution of architecture and planning, as it will lead to a better understanding of design and planning-related problems of rehabilitation for low-income and lower-middle-income settlements for students and their teachers.

All these categories and their needs and numbers should be identified, and their financial status and housing needs worked out so that a just, equitable, and transparent system of re-allotments or removal can be worked out. This, as a survey, is not difficult to do.

So far in Karachi, the 'rehabilitation' processes have been very poor and court judgements have supported the demolition of homes and settlements, saying that rehabilitation should be provided one year after the demolition. The problem of where the residents would live after the demolition of their homes has been ignored. Even then, after more than four years the rehabilitation of demolished homes, there has been no programme for rehabilitation, and the courts have failed to force the government to comply with their judgements.

If a programme of such a large nature as the proposed Pakistan Quarters is undertaken, it can be an asset to the city if it is aesthetically planned and executed. For this, it is necessary that there should be no nepotism in the appointment of the architect. I would even suggest that a national or international competition for the design be held and judged by an international jury.

Martin Quarters also contains the first

residential accommodation that was built for the lower-income government employees in Karachi after partition; therefore, it also has historic importance. Apart from very important cultural importance for the city as a whole, it has also been a part of many political movements, often reactionary.

Knowing the nature of government administrative systems, the management and construction work for the redevelopment of the quarters will probably be given to a developer. This is the trend today. It might even be given to a foreign developer. In both cases, our experience has been terrible. So it is suggested that a committee consisting of well-known and public-spirited citizens be created to oversee the project. Such a committee would also contain a representative of the developer and technical persons appointed by the committee.

It should be understood that over the past 74 years, the residents of Pakistan Quarters have created various communities and strong identities. In the process, they have created sports clubs, religious associations (mosques and imambargahs), libraries, and protected land; for these activities. These should be identified, and spaces for them allocated next to the communities who operate and use them. Funds for their survival should also be allocated. It is hoped that for once we will be able to build something that is of benefit to the poor and lower middle-income groups of Karachi and not create a development that is ugly, unattractive, and exploitative and which provides the market the opportunity to extract maximum value out of land at the cost of the city's built and social environment. -- Courtesy Dawn



Zarrar Khuhro

The Indian Ocean has been a critical trade route but has arguably never been of the same strategic importance as, say, the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. The latter two have been the staging grounds for many a war and superpower rivalry and, by virtue of having the US sandwiched between them, have always loomed large in the public imagination. But the rise of China, and the ongoing efforts to contain that rise, has increasingly made the Indian Ocean a playground for regional strategic rivalries and indeed a centre of gravity in overall strategic terms.

For China, this ocean is the route that critical raw materials and energy supplies take, travelling through the chokepoint of the Malacca strait.

Another equally critical chokepoint is the Strait of Hormuz and then there's the Djibouti strait, which connects the Red Sea to the Indian Ocean. The Indian Ocean region is also home to a rising number of military and naval bases, with the US base on Diego Garcia and the Chinese presence in Djibouti being just two. And then, of course, there are the critical ports that span all the way from Myanmar's Kyaukpadaung port to Sri Lanka's Hambantota to Gwadar in Pakistan, and beyond.

Truly, the developments of the past few years have proven the sagacity of American naval strategist Alfred Thayer Mahan who said over a century ago that "whoever controls the Indian Ocean will dominate Asia; the destiny of the

In the middle

world will be decided on its water". It is in this context, and specifically in the context of the Sino-Indian tug-of-war, that the recent political developments in the Maldives — an island nation of 500,000 souls — must be viewed.

That archipelago state has seasawed between India and China for over a decade now, with former president Abdullah Yameen who ruled the Maldives from 2013 to 2018, tilting towards Beijing. Yameen's tenure saw the Maldives move closer to Beijing's orbit, with investment flowing in from China and India being kept at a relative distance. This changed dramatically when Yameen lost power to Solih in 2018 and championed an India-first policy. While China did continue to try and woo Solih, his inclination towards New Delhi — which has historically had close relations with the Maldives — was pronounced.

But now, Solih has lost to Muhammad Muizzu, a close ally of the former president Yameen, who was jailed on corruption charges late last year. The mayor of Malé, Muizzu took advantage of a split in Solih's Maldivian Democratic Party, to sweep into power and almost immediately announced that he would force all foreign military personnel to leave the Maldives.

That, of course, means India, which maintains a very small military presence on the islands. This presence is linked to the gift of a few reconnaissance aircraft and helicopters by the Indian government to the Maldives, which also included the stationing of 75 or so Indian troops purportedly to assist in the operations of the aircraft. This was adroitly turned into an election issue by Yameen's party, that launched an 'India Out' campaign, playing on nationalistic feelings and the fear of losing sovereignty

to India. But while a small Indian presence may not have been enough of a rallying point, concerns were also raised about India signing a deal with the Maldives to construct and maintain a critical naval facility, a move that was hailed by then Maldivian defence minister as a 'significant milestone' in defence cooperation between the countries.

Now, with Muizzu's victory, the future of this cooperation is in doubt, but this doesn't necessarily translate into a sweeping victory for Beijing. The proximity of India, and its cultural links and diaspora in the Maldives mean that Beijing will always have trouble making inroads beyond infrastructure and possibly defence deals.

In times of crisis, the geographical proximity of India will also prove an advantage; in 2014 when a major water treatment plant in Malé caught fire, leaving the residents of Maldives' capital without drinking water. While India was able to immediately ferry in fresh water, it took China two to three weeks to arrive with aid. So despite Muizzu's election rhetoric, there will be no major cooling off of relations and the Maldives will likely continue to see-saw between the two regional heavyweights.

As for the Indian Ocean, it will become increasingly militarised as India boosts its fleet in an effort to keep China out; the target is to have 175 warships by 2035 along with other military assets such as aircraft, drones and helicopters dedicated to the Indian Ocean region. The rivalry is moving beyond South Asia to Southeast Asia as well, with increased military cooperation between Vietnam and China, along with other states that have a stake in the seas surrounding China. -- Courtesy Dawn

Commerce News

Commerce Minister, Spanish envoy discuss bilateral trade relations

ISLAMABAD (Online): Spanish Ambassador Jose A. de Ory called on the Minister for Commerce and Industry, Dr. Gohar Ejaz at the Commerce Ministry today. The meeting was convened to discuss bilateral trade and investment relations.

Minister Ejaz expressed popularity of football in Pakistan, with a particular interest in La Liga, and support for renowned clubs like Real Madrid and FC Barcelona. He emphasized Pakistan's growing sports industry and importance of Pakistani branded sports goods exports to

Spain. Minister Ejaz appreciated Spain support for EU GSP Plus.

Spanish Ambassador Jose A. de Ory stressed importance of a mindset shift to boost exports, drawing from Spain's own successful experience. He highlighted Spain's support for its businesses to expand abroad, particularly in South America, and emphasized that Pakistan needs to emulate this policy to assist businessmen in going global. Ambassador de Ory proposed facilitating trade by providing Pakistan with a list of essential Spanish imports, allowing Pakistani

businesses to focus on meeting those demands effectively. Minister Ejaz shared Pakistan's interest in collaboration with Spain to establish solar manufacturing facilities in Pakistan, given Spain's leadership in solar technology. Furthermore, the Ambassador encouraged Pakistan to explore renewable energy opportunities, citing Spain's expertise in wind power.

Spanish Ambassador invited Minister Ejaz to lead a business delegation to Spain to further strengthen bilateral trade and economic ties.



ISLAMABAD: Spanish Ambassador H.E. Jose A. de Ory meeting with the Minister for Commerce and Industry, Dr. Gohar Ejaz at the Commerce Ministry to discuss bilateral trade.

Govt's initiatives strengthening rupee against \$US: Atif Akram

KARACHI (INP): President Candidate FPCCI, Atif Ikram Sheikh has said that the efforts of the government are continuously strengthening the rupee against the dollar, which is a great achievement. In a statement issued here on Monday, he said that due to the initiatives of the government, the prices of various commodities were decreasing in the market, which was providing relief to the public and the business community.

Atif Ikram Sheikh, who has also served as VP FPCCI,

Chairman PVMA, and President ICCI lauding the efforts of the government said that the only way to stabilize the rupee on a permanent basis was to increase exports and discourage unnecessary imports. Remittances bring huge foreign exchange to the government, but they also encourage unnecessary consumption, he said.

The business leader said that consumerism has also been on the rise for decades, and investors have been attracted to non-productive sectors.

Federal Committee on Agriculture to meet on Wednesday

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Committee on Agriculture (FCA) will meet on October 11 (Wednesday) to review the output of major and minor crops during the Kharif season and fix the production targets of Rabi crops 2024 for fulfilling the local dietary requirements as well as exports.

The high-powered committee is mandated to oversee strategic measures for ensuring food safety and security in the country and will be held under the chairmanship of the Minister of National Food Security and Research Dr. Kausar Abdullah Malik, said a senior official in the Ministry of National Food Security and Research.

Talking to APP here on Monday, he said that among others, the meeting would also be attended by the senior officials of the provincial food and agriculture departments, State Bank of Pakistan, Zarie Taraqiatie Bank Limited, National Fertilizer Development Center.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Energy Mr. Muhammad Ali calls on the Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar.

NBG says: Electricity should be cheaper for people, industries in winter

ISLAMABAD (INP): Chairman of National Business Group Pakistan, President Pakistan Businessmen and Intellectuals Forum, and All Karachi Industrial Alliance, and former provincial minister Mian Zahid Hussain, said on Monday that the production capacity of electricity in the country is 40 thousand megawatts while consumption is only 10 to 12 thousand megawatts in winter.

Zong launches Z-Verse to transform enterprise communications

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan's leading telecommunication network Zong 4G has launched Z-Verse — an innovative, all-encompassing solution for enterprises to streamline customer interactions, ensure performance elevation, and conquer the market like never before.

Z-Verse offers a diverse range of solutions that seamlessly integrate all your digital platforms, including Meta and X 'Twitter', as well as emails, SMS, and more — all within a user-friendly interface. It empowers businesses to effortlessly

People and businesses are forced to pay even though some industries are shut down in the winter and do not use electricity.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that instead of shutting down the electricity-generating plants during the four or five months of winter, they should be operated, and this electricity should be sold to cover operating costs only.

Speaking to the business community, the veteran business leader

said that cheap electricity should be provided to the public, commercial establishments, and agricultural and industrial sectors to increase economic activity.

Providing cheap power to industries will increase production, employment, and export earnings, improve foreign exchange reserves, and thereby provide additional resources to the government for capacity payments.

Dollar continues to fall

ISLAMABAD (Online): US dollar continued to depreciate against the Pakistani currency in the currency market.

According to currency dealers, the value of dollar in Inter Bank has further reduced to RS 9 on the first day of business week and the price of dollar has become RS 281.80 paisa. It is pertinent to say that during the last business week, the interbank depreciation of the US dollar against the Pakistani rupee was recorded by more than 5 rupees.

The price of dollar has reduced to RS 5.5 paisa in Inter Bank during Business week. US Currency has closed to RS 281.80 paisa in Inter Bank.

Mian Zahid calls for low-cost electricity for people, industries in winter

KARACHI (INP): Chairman of National Business Group Pakistan, President Pakistan Businessmen and Intellectuals Forum, and All Karachi Industrial Alliance, and former provincial minister Mian Zahid Hussain has said that the production capacity of electricity in the country is 40 thousand megawatts while consumption is only 10 to 12 thousand megawatts in winter.

In a statement on Monday, Mian Zahid Hussain said that people and businesses were forced to pay even though some industries were shut down in the winter and do not use electricity.

Instead of shutting down the electricity-generating plants during the four



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Power Muhammad Ali called on Federal Minister for Privatisation Fawad Hasan Fawad.

Railways earn over Rs 6m from saloons

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan Railways has generated revenue worth Rs 6,340,156 million through utilizing its 23 saloons and inspection coaches for commercial purposes, during the last three and half years.

"At present, Pakistan Railways has only 23 saloons and inspection coaches with different dignitaries of the country who are entitled to use these saloons when needed," an official in the Ministry of Railways told APP.

Giving the details, he said, "Two highly luxurious coaches have been allocated for the Prime Minister's

Secretariat while four coaches have been allocated for the Minister for Railways, Secretary/Chairman of Railways, and another senior official in the ministry."

The official said, "Only one saloon has been allocated to the federal government while one each has been allocated to the Governors of Sindh, Balochistan, Punjab, and the provincial governments." In addition, eight saloons had been allocated for the Railway Headquarters Lahore, in which one each would be marked to Chief Executive Officer/General Manager (BS-22).

Role of Christian community in creation of Pakistan unforgettable: Governor

Independent Report
LAHORE: Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman attended a ceremony as a special guest today under the auspices of IMRF (Implementation of Minority Rights Forum) at Governor House Lahore regarding the "S.P Dewan Bahadur Singha Award 2023".

Addressing the ceremony, Punjab Governor Muhammad Balighur Rehman said that the role of the Christian community in the creation of Pakistan is unforgettable. After the establishment of Pakistan, the Christian community rendered valuable services in various fields including health, education and law. He said that Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah had said that the rights of minorities will be protected in Pakistan. He further stated that the minorities have full protection and equal rights as per the vision of Quaid-e-Azam and the Constitution of Pakistan.

He said that among the heroes who played an important role in the establishment of Pakistan, the name of SP Dewan Bahadur Singha is worth mentioning, adding he said that the government of Pakistan had also issued S.P. Dewan Bahadur Singha commemorative stamp in recognition of his services.

Governor Punjab said that minorities have equal rights and opportunities in the country, adding he said that Senator Kamran Michael was the first finance minister belonging to the minority who presented the budget of Punjab. Governor Punjab said that the minority community played a great role in the formation of Pakistan and they are actively participating in the development and prosperity of the beloved country even today. Governor Punjab further said that we have to promote love, tolerance and brotherhood in the society. Chairman IMRF Samuel Payara, Sister Anna Bakshi and many other guests were present in the function.



LAHORE: Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman in a group photo with participants of IMRF (Implementation of Minority Rights Forum) at Governor House regarding the "S.P Dewan Bahadur Singha Award 2023".



HYDERABAD: Students are performing tableau on stage during public gathering meeting arranged by Qaumi Awami Tehreek (QAT) held at Hatari Bypass in Hyderabad.

Dr Jamal calls for stronger ties with Saudia Arabia

Independent Report
RAWALPINDI: Punjab Minister for Primary and Secondary Healthcare, Dr. Jamal Nasir, called on the Saudi Arabian Ambassador to Pakistan Nawaf bin Saeed Al-Maliki, on Monday and discussed issues pertaining to mutual cooperation in the health sector with him.

Dr. Jamal added. Dr. Jamal informed that the Punjab Government has simplified the procedure for getting ex-Pakistan leave for senior nurses for overseas employment and now their applications for proceeding abroad for jobs are being decided within four days only.

The health minister said that the possibility of starting Arabic language courses for medical staff being employed by Arab countries could also be considered for developing their proficiency in Arabic conversation. He said that apart from Pakistani labour, Saudi Arabia could also get the services of professionals in engineering, IT and other areas.

Dr. Jamal informed that the Punjab Government has simplified the procedure for getting ex-Pakistan leave for senior nurses for overseas employment and now their applications for proceeding abroad for jobs are being decided within four days only.

"Saudi Arabia could also get the benefit of services of Pakistani nurses and paramedical staff for this purpose".

Gas cylinder explosion injures 2 in Karachi

Independent Report
ISLAMABAD (APP): At least two persons were critically injured when a gas cylinder exploded in a shop located in Karachi's Maskan Chowrangi on early Monday.

Naqvi visits Govt Pilot School Wahdat Road, inspects condition

As per initial report, police sources said that two cylinders exploded inside a fast-food shop, which was closed. Due to the intensity of the blast, two passersby were injured. Several vehicles, shops and motorcycles were also damaged in the blast, a private news channel reported.

Independent Report
LAHORE: Punjab Caretaker Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi paid a visit to Government Pilot Higher Secondary School Wahdat Road on Monday.

During his visit, he personally inspected the classrooms and engaged with the students. He also made a significant decision, prohibiting teachers from engaging in other duties, including elections, during school hours.

CM Naqvi emphasized that teachers should solely focus on their responsibilities within school hours, ensuring that students receive uninterrupted education.

To a request from the students, the CM announced plans to enhance the school's canteen facility. Additionally, he declared that students would be provided with discounted travel options through the Speedo Bus service.

Mohsin Naqvi issued directives for the enhancement of classroom conditions, as well as improvements to the school grounds and lawn. New appointments were made for teachers responsible for instructing students in the 11th and 12th grades, a move that was met with joy from the student body.

Four killed in road accident in Muzaffargarh

Independent Report
ISLAMABAD (APP): Four persons were killed and two others injured when two motorcycles were hit by a tractor-trolley in Shehar Sultan near Muzaffargarh in the wee hours of Monday.

General polls to be held in mid-February, Nawaz Sharif to lead PML-N: Raja Riaz

A tractor-trolley coming from behind ran over the motorcyclists, killing four of them on the spot and injuring two others, private news channels reported.

Police and rescue teams reached the site and shifted the dead bodies and injured to hospital.

52 smoke emitting factories sealed in one month

Addressing a press conference at his 'Dera' here, he said that he had joined the PML-N after thorough consideration and deliberation because Pakistan was facing multifaceted crises and only the PML-N supremo could drag the country out of prevailing situation.

Independent Report
FAISALABAD (APP): Deputy Director (DD) Environment Muhammad Nawaz Khan said that environment protection laws were fully implemented in the district to control smog and environmental pollution and an environment squad sealed 52 factories in Faisalabad on charge of emitting excessive smoke.

In a statement on Monday, he said that teams of environment protection department had inspected 305 factories during last one month and issued warning to 87 factory owners.

He said that general elections would be held in mid-February and the PML-N was ready to contest it. The PML-N was a pro-people party and it would emerge as victorious with thumping majority during upcoming elections, he added. He said that Pakistan Tehreek-Insaf (PTI) had enjoyed the power for about four years but failed to deliver and if PTI government was not ousted.

Further, he expressed his commitment to transforming the pilot school into a model educational institution. He also took the opportunity to review the implementation of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for managing conjunctivitis.



LAHORE: SAPM on Human rights and Women empowerment Mushaal Hussain Mullick offering Fatcha on the grave of National Poet of Pakistan Allama Muhammad Iqbal.

International News

Israel imposing 'total' Gaza blockade as dozens of Palestinians killed in strikes on refugee camp

Monitoring Desk
GAZA: Israel is escalating measures against the Gaza Strip to a "total blockade" including a ban on admitting food and fuel, Defence Minister Yoav Gallant said on Monday, after Hamas stunned Israel with surprise offensive.

Gaza Strip rose to 560 on Monday, the health ministry in the Palestinian enclave said.

The Hamas-controlled ministry said "570 people were killed and another 2,900 injured" in the fighting that began on Saturday after Hamas fighters fired thousands of rockets in Israel in a surprise dawn offensive. More than 123,000 people have been displaced in the Gaza Strip since fighting began, the United Nations said.

"Over 123,538 people, have been internally displaced in Gaza, mostly due to fear, protection concerns and the destruction of their homes," said the UN's humanitarian agency, OCHA.

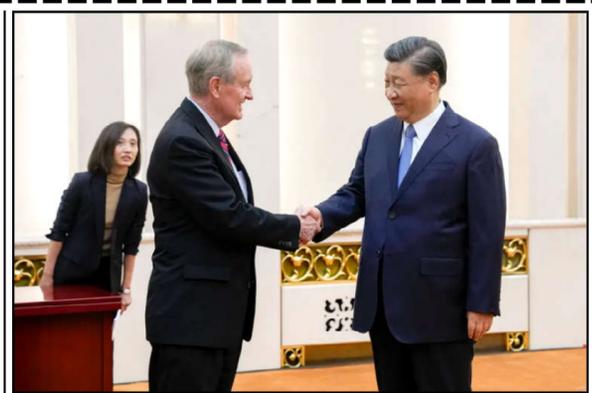


Performers take part in the closing ceremony of the 2022 Asian Games at the Hangzhou Olympic Sports Centre Stadium in Hangzhou in China's eastern Zhejiang province.

Russia eyes return to UN rights body despite Ukraine war

Monitoring Desk
UNITED NATIONS: Russia, which was ousted from the UN Human Rights Council after its forces invaded Ukraine, will attempt a return to the body on Tuesday — an uncertain move that will provide a gauge of its international support. The UN General Assembly will vote that day to elect 15 new members to the Geneva-based UN body, for terms running from 2024 to 2026.

usually pre-selects its own candidates, which the General Assembly then generally approves. But this year two groups have more candidates than available seats: Latin America (candidates from Brazil, Cuba, the Dominican Republic and Peru will contest three seats), and Eastern Europe (Albania, Bulgaria and Russia will vie for two seats). Moscow's candidacy has drawn scepticism, and the vote will come just days after a Russian missile attack on the Ukrainian village of Groza killed more than 50 people in a scene of carnage.



U.S. Sen. Mike Crapo, R-Idaho is greeted by Chinese President Xi Jinping before their bilateral meeting at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.

US Senate Majority Leader Schumer meets Xi and welcomes stronger Chinese statement on Hamas attack

Monitoring Desk
BEIJING: U.S. Senate Majority Leader Schumer said Monday he was grateful for a strengthened statement from China condemning the killing and kidnapping of Israeli and foreign civilians by Hamas, issued during a bipartisan congressional visit to Beijing that included a lengthy meeting with President Xi Jinping.

Schumer led a delegation of six senators to China for talks aimed at stabilizing ties following a sharp deterioration in recent years over trade, U.S. support for self-governing Taiwan, human rights and other issues. The delegation, which included three Democrats and three Republicans, was the first visit by U.S. lawmakers since 2019 and came at a time of growing attacks on China in Congress as America contends with Beijing's rise as a global power. Schumer told Foreign Minister Wang Yi earlier in the day that he had been very disappointed by China's failure to strongly condemn the attack on Israel and show sympathy for the country and its people.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning said later Monday that China is "deeply saddened by the civilian casualties caused by the conflict between Palestine and Israel." "China opposes and condemns acts that harm civilians," along with actions that "expand conflict and undermine regional stability," Mao said, going beyond an initial Foreign Ministry statement on Sunday.

Iran's UN mission says Tehran not involved in Hamas attacks

Monitoring Desk
NEW YORK: Iran's mission to the United Nations said on Sunday that Tehran was not involved in one of the bloodiest attacks in Israel's history when Islamist group Hamas killed 700 Israelis and abducted dozens more.

The group and another Palestinian militant organisation Islamic Jihad. The Hamas assault on Saturday, the biggest incursion into Israel in decades, coincided with U.S.-backed moves to push Saudi Arabia towards normalising ties with Israel in return for a defence deal between Washington and Riyadh, a move that would slam the brakes on the kingdom's rapprochement with Tehran.

"The resolute measures taken by Palestine constitute a wholly legitimate defense against seven decades of oppressive occupation and heinous crimes committed by the illegitimate Zionist regime," Iran's U.N. mission said in statement. Iran has made no secret of its backing for Hamas, funding and arming

"We emphatically stand in unflinching support of Palestine; however, we are not involved in Palestine's response, as it is taken solely by Palestine itself," Iran's U.N. mission said.



A woman and a child struggle with strong winds as Hong Kong issued its second-highest storm warning signal.

Israeli and Palestinian supporters rally across U.S. as Israel declares war after Hamas attack

Monitoring Desk
NEW YORK: Supporters of Israel and backers of the Palestinian cause held competing rallies in several American cities Sunday over the conflict that has killed hundreds and wounded thousands in the Middle East.

community gathering to support Israel at a synagogue in San Francisco. The demonstrations and involvement of American political leaders show the far-reaching ramifications of a conflict that has already prompted the U.S. to order naval forces deployed to the Eastern Mediterranean, ready to assist Israel. Here's what reaction around the country has looked like:

In New York City, a skirmish broke out between opposing demonstrators near the United Nations compound after a large group of Palestinian supporters rallied in Times Square. Palestinian Americans protested outside the Israeli consulates in Atlanta and Chicago. Former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi led a Jewish

Major airlines suspend flights to Israel after heavy fighting
Monitoring Desk
NEW YORK: Major airlines have suspended flights to Israel after the nation declared war following a massive attack by Hamas. American Airlines, United Airlines and Delta Air Lines suspended service as the U.S. State Department issued travel advisories for the region citing potential for terrorism and civil unrest. American suspended service to Tel Aviv through Friday. The airline said that it has issued a travel alert providing additional flexibility.

UK's opposition Labour on course for landslide election victory, poll predicts

Monitoring Desk
LONDON: Britain's opposition Labour Party is on course to win a landslide victory at a national election expected next year, according to an opinion poll published on Saturday.

The Survation poll, carried out for campaign group 38 Degrees and published by the Observer newspaper, questioned more than 11,000 voters between Sept. 11-25 and then used a model to generate constituency-by-constituency results. Its central projection was that Labour would win 420 seats, the Conservatives 149 seats and the Liberal Democrats 23, leaving Labour, who have been out of power since 2010.

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President for regular senates' meetings of universities; filling of vacancies

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Dr Arif Alvi on Monday stressed upon the need of holding of regular meetings of senates of universities for timely decision making.

He also directed for immediate filling of vacant posts of senate members in different universities.

The president chaired 6th meeting of Senate of the COMSATS University Islamabad, at Aiwan-e-Sadr, President Secretariat Press Wing said in a press release.

The meeting was attended by executive director COMSATS, secretaries of ministries of IT and federal education and senate members.

The president further observed that universities should also commence timely process for recruitment on teaching and administrative vacancies, besides establishing new departments while keeping in view needs of the market.

Prior to starting of teaching in new depart-

ments, an inquisitive analysis of the requirements of the markets should be made, he opined, adding that universities should impart education and skills to their students in conformity with the needs of the market.

The president reiterated that while comparing with other countries of the region, the number of students seeking admissions in universities in Pakistan was very low and emphasized upon the universities to uti-

lize online education system for increasing numbers of qualified graduates.

He also advised that universities should explore new avenues for generating their financial resources whereas for the research grants, they should seek assistance from professionals.

During the meeting, the financial, administrative, educational and employees' issues of COMSATS were discussed.



ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi chairing the 6th meeting of the Senate of the COMSATS University Islamabad, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.



ISLAMABAD: Interim Federal Minister of National Heritage & Culture Jamal Shah taking round of a week-long Wildlife Art Exhibition, depicting the living jewels of Pakistan at PNCA.

Private educational institution IHC seeks answer from CDA regarding plot allotment

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Monday served notices to respondents in a case against allotment of 21 kanal land in sector F-11 to a private educational institution.

The court also summoned secretary Ministry of Education and Capital Development Authority (CDA)'s member estate on next hearing with the relevant record.

The court instructed the additional attorney general to raise the matter also to high forum.

Justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb heard the case filed by a leader of teachers' association Fazal e Mola.

At the outset of hearing, addressing additional attorney general, Justice Miangul Hassan remarked that this case should be sent to the National Accountability Bureau (NAB).

He said that the real matter was related to plot which was allotted to favor somebody.

The court sought the original file of the land on next hearing.

Mehfil-e-Milad held at Pakistan House, London

ISLAMABAD (APP): Dr. Sarah Naeem, spouse of Pakistan High Commissioner, has organized Mehfil-e-Milad-un-Nabi at Pakistan House to mark the month of Rabi-ul-Awwal and celebrate birthday of Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

Attended by a diverse gathering of British Pakistani women, the event featured sacred tributes to the Holy Prophet (PBUH), highlighting his virtues of mercy, compassion, and love for humanity, through soul stirring Naat recitals, a press release on Monday said.

Ceremony held for passed-out dept promotion courses officials

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: A ceremony was held in honor of the first Upper Course, 11th Intermediate Course, and 20th Lower Course passed out by officials at Police Lines Headquarters Islamabad, a public relations officer said.

College, AIG Operations, SP Headquarters, DSP Capital Police College, and other staff members.

During the ceremony, the ICCPO Dr Akbar Nasir Khan distributed awards and certificates to the deserving officers and cadets who demonstrated excep-

courses successfully. He urged them to perform their duties with diligence, dedication, and a commitment to serving the community.

ICCPO expressed his delight at being part of the Islamabad Capital Police passing out ceremony and congratulated Capital Police College for providing top-notch training to officers and cadets in record time. He emphasized the significance of public service and encouraged the attendees to uphold the high values of law enforcement.

He said, "You are fortunate to have been given the opportunity by Allah to serve the community. Remember that the true honor comes from serving the people. Upholding the law, ensuring justice, and safeguarding the lives and properties of citizens are our primary responsibilities. Show respect to the public, and there will be no reason left why you should not receive respect in return," he added.



He said that, the ceremony was attended by Islamabad Capital City Police Officer (ICCPO) Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan, while high-ranking officials, including the SSP/Dy. Commandant Capital Police

tional performance during the training courses.

Addressing the ceremony, ICCPO Dr Akbar Nasir Khan praised the dedication and hard work of the officers and cadets who had completed the training

CPEC fully proves its real worth: Mushahid Sayed

BEIJING (APP): The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) as part of the Belt and Road Initiative, has helped build an enabling economic environment in Pakistan with energy, education and the economy being among its key pillars.

China has invested nearly \$26 billion in direct projects in Pakistan, creating 236,000 jobs, generating 8,000 megawatts of electricity, and building 510 kilometres of highways and 886 km of the national electricity grid.

Also, about 28,000 Pakistani students are studying in China and more than 20,000 Pakistanis are learn-

ing Chinese, said the Chairman of the Pakistan-China Institute, and Chairman of the Senate Defence Committee, Mushahid Hussain Sayed in an article published in China Daily on Monday.

The CPEC is not just about bricks and mortar. It is also about people-to-people exchanges, which are at the core of the strategic bond between the two "iron brothers", Pakistan and China.

The CPEC was launched when Pakistan was facing immense challenges from terror groups. It was also facing instability and conflict due to the

US "war on terror" in neighbouring Afghanistan. By launching the CPEC, China gave a vote of confidence to Pakistan and its people and raised Pakistani people's hope for a better future.

The CPEC's successful completion of "early harvest projects" on schedule, with no job cuts even during the COVID-19 pandemic, speaks volumes about the dedication and commitment of both sides to complete these projects.

The Belt and Road Initiative demonstrates the resilience and continuity of a world that is facing turbulence and transformation.

Govt endeavors to promote religious tourism: Aneeq

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony, Dr. Aneeq Ahmed, said on Monday that the government is committed to promoting religious tourism in the country which will ultimately improve the economy.

He highlighted the need for Track-II diplomacy to promote peaceful relations with neighbouring countries that would help promote Pakistan's regional trade and religious tourism.

He said that the Prime Minister has approved the Hajj Policy 2024 that would offer two packages

for payment of Hajj dues including payment in PKR and in US dollars and stressed that the intended members of the business community should make payment of Hajj dues in dollars to help improve the forex reserves of the country. He said that those who would make payment for Hajj in US Dollars would be sent for Hajj without any balloting.

He said that the business community is the backbone of the economy and it should play a more effective role in strengthening the economy by promoting trade and exports.

IHC seeks answer from CDA regarding plot allotment to private educational institution

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ISLAMABAD: Secretary Senate, Mohammad Qasim Samad Khan presenting a shield to Syed Javed Azhar Hasni, Sargeant-at-Arms Senate Secretariat on his retirement from Senate Secretariat at Parliament House.

Mushaal urges world powers to play role in settlement of Kashmir, Palestine disputes

ISLAMABAD (APP): Advisor to the Prime Minister on Human Rights, Mushaal Mullick on Sunday urged the world powers to play their role towards the long-standing Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) and Palestine dispute.

Speaking at the annual event of Darbar Mohra Sharif, Mushaal Mullick

stated that the ongoing conflict in Palestine reflected the same adversities Kashmir faces under Indian subjugation, said a press release here on Monday.

She pointed out that the Indian government is involved in promoting extremism and terrorism in occupied Kashmir, Israel is similarly involved in serious human rights violations in Palestine.

Minister Information emphasizes equal education opportunities for children

PESHAWAR (APP): Caretaker Minister of Information, Culture, and Tourism Barrister Feroze Jamal Shah Kakakhel, addressing a function organized by the Kashmir Orphan Relief Trust (KORT) in Alamabad Swabi on Monday emphasized equal education opportunities for all children for positive progress in society. Drawing inspiration from the Holy Quran and the life of the Holy Prophet (PBUH), he highlighted the importance of caring for orphans, as exemplified by numerous Quranic verses and the compassionate or-

ders of the Prophet (PBUH).

Minister said that after providing education and training to children, it is essential to reward their hard work and ensure they feel that they will be treated fairly in all forums, with their rights respected.

Only through such measures can they take ownership and responsibility for the future of the country he said. He lauded the caretaker government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for its commitment to good governance, with a focus on meritocracy and transparency.

Resilience Day evokes nations firm resolve against all crises, calamities: Speakers

ISLAMABAD (APP): The speakers at 'National Resilience Day 2023' seminar on Monday expressed homage and sincere prayers for survivors and martyrs of the devastating earthquake of 2005 that jolted the entire country and termed the Day reminding the nation's firm resolve against all crises and calamities.

The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) organised one day seminar under the title Towards Disaster Resilient Pakistan here at the National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST).

The seminar commenced with the showcasing of two short documen-

taries highlighting Pakistan's disaster timeline and National Emergencies Operations Centre establishment and development of the first ever National Common Operating Picture for disaster management.

In his opening remarks, Chairman NDMA, Lieutenant General Inam Haider Malik said it was the moment to extend our heartfelt prayers and wishes to all those who braced disasters and also to the martyrs who embraced martyrdom in the disasters from 2005 onwards.

The country, he said had a long history of experiencing natural and man-made disasters, whereas the experiences from those events helped in gathering

information.

He added that the country was in the middle of recovering from the devastation of the floods of 2022. The authority, he said was witnessing the erratic behavior of disasters world over and in the region.

However, keeping in view the account of destruction caused by the 2022 floods, Pakistan could not afford any more of such disasters further. The chairman highlighted the National Vision for Proactive Management for Disaster Management in Pakistan and stated that the Disaster Management System in Pakistan was currently undergoing a transformation, shifting from a reactive to a proactive approach.

Federal Board extends registration date till Oct. 13

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education (FBISE) Islamabad has extended the registration date to 13 October 2023.

According to the details, the last date for submission of registration for SSC level year 2023-2025 was today (Monday) 09 October 2023, which now has been extended by the Federal Board to Friday, October 13, 2023 with the normal fee.

The Federal Board has requested all the concerned institutions to submit the registration by the due date.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Minister for Privatization Fawad Hassan Fawad calls on Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar.

IRSA releases 141,200 cusecs water

ISLAMABAD (APP): Indus River System Authority (IRSA) on Monday released 141,200 cusecs water from various rim stations with inflow of 74,600 cusecs.

According to the data released by IRSA, water level in River Indus at Tarbela Dam was 1530.41 feet and was 1322.41 feet higher than its dead level of 1,398 feet. Water inflow and outflow in the dam was recorded as 41,800 cusecs and 75,000 cusecs respectively.

The water level in River Jhelum at Mangla Dam was 1218.19 feet, which was 168.19 feet higher than its dead level of 1,050 feet. The inflow and outflow of water was recorded 6,600 cusecs and 40,000 cusecs respectively.

BC launches international awards to celebrate UK alumni achievements

ISLAMABAD (APP): The British Council (BC) has announced the tenth year of its Study UK Alumni Awards programme, celebrating the outstanding achievements of UK alumni around the world.

The award winners and finalists are leaders in their fields who have used their experience of studying at a UK university to make a positive contribution to their communities, industries, and countries said a news release.

This year's award categories included science and sustainability, business and innovation, culture and creativity and social action.

The call for applications opened 1 September and closes on 22 October 2023.

All eligible applicants will be put forward for the global Alumni Awards and national Alumni Awards which will be hosted in many countries including Pakistan.

The Deputy Director British in Council Pakistan, Maarya Rehman, said: "I am delighted that UK alumni in Pakistan will have the opportunity to win the awards in these four exciting categories.

Previous awardees have showcased their commitment to applying the knowledge gained from their UK studies to benefit their local communities.

ISLAMABAD (APP): A younger girl sitting on the tank of the bike cover her face with piece of cloth as she is irritating with dust rising with maneuvering of vehicles at under construction Park road.



ISLAMABAD: A younger girl sitting on the tank of the bike cover her face with piece of cloth as she is irritating with dust rising with maneuvering of vehicles at under construction Park road.

Police apprehended wanted member of car lifter gang

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: Islamabad Capital Police's Tarnol station team has arrested a member of a car lifter gang, recovering a stolen vehicle valued at Rs 2.5 million from the suspect.

Acting upon the explicit directives of Islamabad Capital City Police Officer (ICCPO) Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan, law enforcement in the capital city has escalated its efforts to eradicate criminal activities within the metropolis said a public relations officer.

Following these directives, the police team leveraged both technical expertise and human re-

sources, ultimately resulting in the successful arrest of a high-profile car thief and the subsequent recovery of a stolen vehicle.

The suspect has been identified as Muhammad Ali. In the preliminary investigation, Ali confessed to his involvement in a multitude of car thefts spanning various areas in Islamabad, Rawalpindi, and neighbouring districts.

Efforts to detain Ali's accomplices are currently underway, as numerous cases have already been registered against the apprehended individual. A thorough investigation into the matter is ongoing.



ISLAMABAD: Senator Fawzia Arshad, presiding over a meeting of the Senate Standing Committee on Information and Broadcasting at Parliament House.