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BEIJING: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar and Chinese Premier Li Qiang met on the sidelines of 3rd Belt and

PM Kakar says

Pakistan committed to work with China, regional partners on goals of open global economy, connectivity

Pakistan, China agree to further strengthen high-level engagement, deepen multiple ties

Haq Kakar on Wednesday Global Economy'. said Pakistan was commitand other regional partners in achieving the ideals of an open global economy and promoting connectivity on a trans-continental scale.

'With shared responsivision of working together, we can create a brighter, peaceful, and sustainable future for ourselves and for our generations," he said in his address at the high-level event of the Third Belt and

The two-day forum, said. ted to working with China which marked the 10 years of the multi-billion dollar cross-regional Belt and Road Initiative, kicked off in China's capital Beijing with representatives from 140 countries in attendance.

PM Kakar said Pakistan bility and by embracing the endorsed China's vision of global connectivity and also looked forward to joining hands with other partners across borders and regions to materialize the projects.

"I am hopeful that together we can shape a world

PM urges UN Secy General

to ask Israel to stop violence

against Palestinians

BEIJING (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-

Haq Kakar on Wednesday urged the United Nations Sec-retary-General Antonio Guterres to play a role in stop-

Beijing on the sidelines of the Third Belt and Road Forum.

and urge the international community to act swiftly to stop

the violence and hold those responsible accountable," the

prime minister posted on social media platform X after

his meeting with Guterres. PM Kakar strongly condemned

the Israeli attack on Al-Ahly Al-Mamadany Hospital in

The prime minister and the UN's top diplomat met in

We demand an end to this indiscriminate targeting

ping Israel's violence against Palestinians.

Gaza, causing immense civilian casualties.

The prime minister congratulated President Xi Jinping for his revolutionary idea of the Belt and Road Initiative launched 10 years ago that proved instrumental in bringing common development and shared pros-

He termed enhanced connectivity a profound factor in development and progress in the modern age of globalization. The BRI's concept of shared future for mankind is not about road

Caretaker Govt

to ensure fair

elections in

country: Solangi

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Caretaker Federal Minister

for Information and Broad-

casting Murtaza Solangi

Wednesday said that fun-

damental responsibility of

the caretaker government

was to provide a conducive

environment for elections

and monitor the electoral

during separate meetings

with Pakistan Muslim

League (Nawaz) leader

Mussadiq Malik and Paki-

stan People's Party leader

Syed Akĥunzada Čhattan.

issues of mutual interest

including upcoming general

elections were discussed.

During the meetings

Murtaza Solangi said

This was stated by him.

process

new economic opportuni-Underscoring its sa-

world faced a number of

challenges including post-

pandemic effects, the di-

vide between the devel-

oped and the impover-

ished, peace, and food se-

China-Pakistan Economic

Corridor (CPEC) played a

crucial role in generating

BEIJING (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Wednesday Global Economy'.

Road Forum (BRF) on 'Connectivity in an Open Global Economy'.

with the bonds that unite us together, rather than the forces that divide us," he of the forces that divide us, he forces that divide us, he forces that divide us, he of the control among civilizations and nations," he said.

He mentioned that the posal for developing CPEC as a corridor of growth, innovation, livelihood, green economy,

openness, and inclusive-

The prime minister underlined the need for a united global response to Kakar highlighted that
BRI's flagship project address complex transnational challenges faced by humankind and to prevent backsliding on the gains achieved under the UN Sustainable Development Goals and 2030 Agenda.

President condemns Israel attack on Gaza hospital; calls for immediate ceasefire ISLAMABAD (APP): diate halt to the Israeli bom-

President Dr Arif Alvi on Wednesday strongly condemning the brutal Israeli attack on Al-Ahly Al-Mamadany Hospital in Gaza, called upon the international community to hold Israel accountable for its war crimes.

He also urged the world community to take urgent measures to bring an immeareas.

ports, hundreds of Palestinians were killed on Tuesday when Israel carried out air strikes on a hospital and a refugee camp in Gaza, where people had sought shelter to escape the relentless bombing on residential

bardment and the ongoing

According to media re-

siege of Gaza.

Inside story of PTI leaders meeting with president:

Imran ready to talk to everyone including establishment

ISLAMABAD (Online): of president on the matter Inside story of PTI leaders of participation of PTI in meeting with president Arif

talk to everyone including

establishment. President

Arif Alvi has been given the

task of holding talks with

political parties and estab-

PTI has shown willingness

to walk alongside all.

Sources said chairman

Former PM wants role

lishment

that peaceful transfer of Alvi has come to open. power was topmost priority of the caretaker dispentary Rauf Hassan and lawyer Umair Niazi conveyed The minister assured important message of PTI both the leaders that carechairman Imran Khan to the taker government would president. Former Prime ensure that elections were Minister (PM) is ready to conducted in fair, transpar-

Caretaker Interior Minister condemns Israeli bombing

ent and impartial elections.

on Hospital in Gaza ISLAMABAD (APP): Interim Minister for Interior Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti on Wednesday strongly condemned Israel's barbaric bombing of a hospital in Gaza killing hundreds of innocent Palestinians.

The minister expressed deep sorrow and regret over more than 500 martyrs in the attack and said that such barbaric attacks on wounded, patients and refugees in hospital is inhuman

He said hospitals and medical staff are protected under international humanitarian law and targeting civilian populations and coperty is a violation of international law and a war crime. The entire Pakistani nation is praying for Muslim Palestinian brothers and sisters and their hearts beat with the oppressed Palestinians, said the Interior Minister

He urged the international community to take immediate steps to end the Israeli bombardment and siege on Gaza and asked for immediate permission to supply food and medicine to Gaza. ' He termed the recent Israeli airstrikes as a genocide of Palestinians

general election freely and independently. Chairman PTI has di-PTI information secrerected President to meet

and convey his message to military leadership.

Sources further said proposal was given to constitute high level team for talks under president Arif Alvi. Former PM is ready to review his stance with reference to May 9 incidents.

President Arif Alvi informed the delegation in details about his meetings with former minister Muhammad Ali Durrani.

Pakistan calls for setting up humanitarian corridors for Gaza

AMABAD (INP): At convened by Pakistan and amounted to war crimes urgent meeting of Saudi Arabia to discuss and crimes against human-Organisation of Islamic the crisis in Gaza and the Countries (OIC). Paki- humanitarian situation of stan on Wednesday asserted that Israel must there. Speaking on the oc- community to hold Israel bring an immediate end to casion, Jalil Abbas Jilani accountable for its crimes. its campaign of terror with denounced the Israeli agan immediate ceasefire, calling for establishing humanitarian corridors for sulted in death, destrucrelief supplies to Gaza.

Caretaker Foreign also made these remarks, who is leading the Pakistan delegation to the urgent openended Ministerial Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) being held in Jeddah

gression and inhumane blockade of Gaza that retion and displacement. He

condemned Minister Jalil Abbas Jilani Tuesday's massacre of innocent civilians in the vicious Israeli attack on a hospital in Gaza. He underscored that the Israeli occupation forces were in clear violation of international humanitarian and human rights law. Their in-

ity, he added.

The foreign minister the besieged civilians called on the international

Jilani emphasised that Israel must bring an immediate end to its campaign of terror with an immediate ceasefire, and rescinding forced evacuation of Palestinians from their homes. e also underlined the urgency of humanitarian corridors for rapid, secure and unrestricted humanitarian and relief supplies to Gaza. He underlined that the root cause of the recent conflagration lay discriminate and dispro- in the non-implementation The meeting was co- portionate use of force of the two-state solution.



BEIJING: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar meets Secretary General of United Nations António Guterres on the sidelines of 3rd Belt

Elections in Pakistan halted for 'one person's return': Bilawal

Zardari on Wednesday astions in Pakistan were halted for 'one person's return' - in an apparent reference to PML-N supremo Nawaz Sharif.

"The delay in general elections is not vote ki izzat (respect of vote) but vote ki beizzati (disrespect of vote)," the PPP Chairman said while addressing a public gathering related to the 16th anniversary of Karsaz tragedy in Karachi.

Bilawal Bhutto noted that the 16-month tenure of coalition government taught that Pakistan cannot be run from London. "To-

day, the country's Consti-**Abdul Hameed** Mengal assumes

charge of **Chairman IRSA**

ISLAMABAD (APP): Member Balochistan Abdul Hameed Mengal assumed the charge of Chairman Indus River System Authority (IRSA) here Wednesday for period of one year. "In accordance with Chapter-II, Section 4 Clauses (2) & (3) of IRSA Act XXII of 1992, Abdul Hameed Mengal, Member IRSA (Balochistan) has assumed the charge of the of-

KARACHI (INP): Paki- tution, election, and democ- the politics of divide and stan People's Party (PPP) racy were halted due to one abuse, adding that if politi-Chairman Bilawal Bhutto person's return," he said. cians keep fighting amongst Without naming any- themselves, the country

erted that the general elec- one, the former foreign min- will not progress ister said: "We hope that his return to the country would be big, and also that ECP [Election Commission of Pakistan] would soon announce the election sched-

He expressed the urgent need for all political parties to support the demand for the immediate announcement of election schedule by election commission, saying that Pakistan can be brought back on the path of progress only via elections.

Bilawal Bhutto also

"We have to leave politics of abuses and divide behind. We need new leadership, which is not stuck in the past but thinks about the future. We don't want 90s' Pakistan or 2017's Pakistan. We want today's Pakistan," he added.

The PPP chairman also announced that his party was kick-starting their mass contact campaign, which will demand the ECP issue election's date. "Let the people exercise their right to vote; they will have to accept the demand of the people," Bilawal added.



KARACHI: Chairman Pakistan People's Party (PPP), Bilwal Bhutto Zardari and Aseefa Bhutto Zardari wave to crowds at a rally organised on the occasion of anniversary of Karsaz tragedy.

IHC seeks NAB's comments on Nawaz's bail petition

ISLAMABAD (APP): court had already acquit-The Islamabad High Court ted co-accused Maryam (IHC) on Wednesday Nawaz and her husband sought comments from the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) on a petition of PML-N chief Muhammad Nawaz Sharif seeking protective bail.

The former prime minister, in his petition, stated that he would be reaching in Islamabad from abroad on October 21, and prayed the court to stop his arrest on arrival as he wanted to surrender before the court.

He said that on July 6, 2018, the accountability court had announced his imprisonment sentence in the Avenfield property case in his absence as he was in London due to his wife's illness who was under treatment in London there. He had prayed the accountability court to delay the judgment but his

request was not accepted. He returned back to the country face the jail and filed appeals against the judgment, Nawaz Sharif added.

He stated that the

Capt. (retd) Muhammad Safdar Awan in the Avenfield property case but his (Nawaz's) appeal was dismissed due to ab-

The court had stated in its order that he could file the appeal again when he surrendered or was arrested, he added.

Nawaz further said that the joint investigation team (JIT) in the Panama Papers case could not provide any proof of corruption or receiving kickbacks gainst him.

He said that he could not appear before the court due to medical reasons, and his medical report had been submitted to Lahore High Court (LHC)

He added that he had not misused his bail.

Nawaz said that he would reach Islamabad at 1 a.m. on October 21, and prayed the court to grant protective bail as he vanted to surrender before



at re-validating various design, technical parameters and performance evaluation of different subsystems of the weapon system.

Pakistan conducts successful flight test of Ababeel Weapon System The test flight launch

kistan on Wednesday conducted a successful flight test of Ababeel Weapon System aimed at re-validating various design, technical parameters and performance evaluation of different sub-systems of the weapon system.

aimed at strengthening deterrence and enhancing strategic stability in the region through operationalization of Full Spectrum Deterrence in the overall construct of Credible Minimum Deterrence,"

Relations (ISPR) news re-

The missile system is

was witnessed by Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCSC) General Sahir Shamshad Mirza and senior officers from Strategic Plans Division and Strategic Forces Command. Scientists and Engineers of Strategic Organizations. The CJCSC appreci-

ated the technical prowess, dedication and commitment of all those who contributed towards the successful test.

The President, Prime Minister and Services Chiefs also congratulated an Inter Services Public all members of the Strategic Forces on the achieve-

REPATRIATION OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

CEC vows to utilize all resources for transparent, peaceful election QUETTA (APP): Chief Election Commissioner Sikandar Sultan Raja on Wednes

day stressed the importance of utilizing all available resources to conduct a transparent and peaceful election in the country. Chairing a meeting at the Civil Secretariat Quetta to assess the preparations for the upcoming general elections, Raja emphasized the importance of close collaboration between the caretaker government and the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP).

He cautioned that stringent measures will be taken against officials and staff mem bers who demonstrate negligence in the election process. Furthermore, he emphasized



that ensuring free, fair, and impartial elections is pivotal for enhancing democracy. He stated that the Election Commission is fully committed to assisting the Interim provincial government to the best of its abilities. Additionally, the Chief Election Commissioner emphasized a strict stance against any instances of political bias among government employees, ensuring swift action will be taken upon the identification of such complaints.

Daily doice of Masse Independent

Israel's Extreme barbarism in Gaza

The Israel's naked aggression and barbarism in form of airstrike on a hospital of Gaza is nothing but heartbreaking for the humanity especially the Muslims all over the globe. It has shaken the nerves of every one leaving them in a state of shock. The people even the conscious ones in the so-called civilized developed west are grieved over the extreme brutality demonstrated and being demonstrated by Israel's inhuman leadership towards the Palestinians for last several days. As a result of the brutality and cruelty unleashed by Israel and its forces, thousands have so been martyred and thousand others wounded.

And now what's extreme happened is the airstrike of the Israeli forces in Gaza and that targeted a hospital there martyring over 800 people and wounding several others.

The media reports suggested that the Al-Ahli Hospital located in the central Gaza Strip was bombed without any prior warning, causing severe destruction which would prevent the hospital from continuing and providing medical services for thousands of people. There are "hundreds of victims" under the rubble of a Gaza hospital compound that was hit by Israeli bombing, said the Health Ministry in the besieged coastal enclave.

The incident stands as the bloodiest single occurrence in Gaza since Israel initiated a relentless bombing campaign in retaliation for a deadly cross-border Hamas assault on southern Israeli communities earlier in October.

Needless to mention those martyred were included injured during the shelling and bombing by Israel in Gaza and other adjacent areas. What's agony and pitiful is that the martyred also include doctors and health workers serving in the Hospital.

Seeing the worst on-ground situation, one thing is very much clear that humanity has just ended on part of Israel. One can term the huge massacre occurred in a Gaza hospital a holocaust. It is an Israeli state-sponsored massacre of the innocent people in Gaza and other Palestinian

Earlier, a UN-run school in central Gaza where 4,000 people are sheltering was hit during an Israeli airstrike. killing at least six people. Entire neighbourhoods have been razed and survivors are left with dwindling supplies of food, water and fuel. "The situation is catastrophic beyond what I could have imagined," said Jamil Abdullah, A Palestinian-Swede, hoping to flee the blockaded enclave, said. "There are corpses in the streets. Buildings are crashing down on their inhabitants. Blood is everywhere. The smell of the dead is everywhere." "Enough!" cried Mohamed Abu Zaid, counting about 20 family members killed in one strike. "How long will this continue for?"

The UN agency for Palestinian refugees says more than one million Palestinians—almost half of Gaza's population of 2.4 million—have fled their homes. World Health Organization regional director Ahmed Al-Mandhari told AFP that Gaza was barrelling towards "real catastrophe". Since Israel's evacuation order in north Gaza, entire families, young children and the elderly have gathered belongings and fled to southern Gaza, bedding down in any available space, indoors and out.

In this catastrophic situation in Gaza and adjoining areas, the west media is just exposed as it is not reporting exactly what's going on in Gaza and with innocent Pales-

However, following the attack, Russia and the UAE requested an urgent meeting of the United Nations Security Council over the Gaza hospital strike.

The heat is on

and avalanches.

temperatures, some ex-

ceeding beyond 10 per

temperature increases

was seen in the Turkish

capital of Ankara whose

temperature was reported

to have increased by 18.2

per cent since 2019. The

average temperature in

that city has increased

from 22.4°C to 26.4°C.

Temperatures in Athens

and Seoul have similarly

witnessed significant in-

are forbidding and fright-

ening. Not only do they

show that the climate ca-

tastrophe is truly en-

trenched, but they also

reveal another dark truth:

the fact that governments

in places such Seoul or

Ankara or in any of the

other much hotter cities

have been completely in-

effectual in pushing any

proposal that can receive

even a basic level of glo-

means that the world is

quite literally turning into

a hot and messy hellscape

and those who could stop

it have utterly failed to do

so. Considered against

the backdrop of this situ-

ation, the entire series of

COP summits seems a ri-

diculous waste of time. To

the extent that countries

are willing to commit to re-

ducing emissions — in

whatever way they prom-

ise — it is obviously too

tinue to increase by 1°C

or more above the current

levels, billions of people

largely in the Middle East

and South Asia will find

themselves living in areas

where the temperature will

be too high for humans to

If temperatures con-

late and not enough

Translated,

bal acceptance.

The numbers overall

One of the highest



Rafia Zakaria

It was a hot one. In fact, climate scientists who study Earth's temperature have found that September 2023 was perhaps the hottest September ever recorded.

According to The Washington Post, the scientists' early analysis revealed that global temperatures surged last month by over half a degree Celsius. While scientists have long known and forecast Earth's rising temperature, the fact that it rose so much in just one month suggests what most of us are already aware of: that the various governments

ransnational organisations pretending to grapple with climate change will not be able to stop it. Given this most recent rise, Earth is now 1.7°C to 1.8°C warmer than it was prior to the Indus-Revolution. trial

Copernicus — the European Union's Earth Observation Programme — is predicting that the average temperature this year will ultimately be 1.4°C warmer than before industrialisation, shattering records that are thousands of years old.

In addition to global warming by the rampant and unchecked use of fossil fuels, the El Niño weather system is also putting pressure on the climate. The Post points out that besides global warming induced by the greenhouse effect, El Niño s adding to the temperature increase.

It is difficult not to feel a sense of gloom and foreboding over this worsening state of affairs that has already unleashed catastrophic

events all over the world. According to Pakistan is still reeling from study published in the the after-effects of the journal of the National floods that devastated the Academy of Sciences, there is already plenty of country last year, while evidence of heatwaves other states are dealing with hurricanes, storms, lasting longer, being more intense and causing diffi-Major cities around cult health conditions the world have experieven among the young enced sharp increases in

and healthy. The hot September of 2023 has already produced temperatures that exceed the Paris Agreement target of keeping the increase below 1.5°C. This has much to do with emissions continuing their wild unchecked trajectory. If this goes on, the outcome will be unlivable bands of extreme heat in North and South America.

Times like these encourage dark thoughts and predictions of the end of days. The most frightening thing about these is that some of the people who peddle them seem actually invested in hastening a calamitous 'Day of Judgement'. Evangelical Chris-

tians from the US have been gleefully watching the cataclysm in Gaza because they believe it to be a sign of the end times. Proponents of this idea include none other than former US vice president Mike Pence. This dangerous lot is so confident of this idea of the end times that rabid wars and the transformation of Earth into a living hell seem to them par for the course. The sheer excess of the catastrophe that prevails across the world makes our present an eerie and unpredictable moment. One cannot help but stop and wonder whether our parents or grandparents ever saw such an excess of chaos and tumult. Surely, we cannot be the first ones to stand frozen before the collapse all around us. Science seems to suggest

that we very well might be

the first, and by dint of that

truth are, very unfortu-

nately, cursed. -- Courtesy Dawn

The dispossessed



Mahir Ali

Last Saturday, a majority of Australian voters decided to disallow the descendants of their continent's original inhabitants constitutional recognition via a 'voice to parliament'. The result of the referendum was not a sur-Opinion polls had

predicted the result, though perhaps not the proportions of the defeat of a relatively straightforward proposition. It entailed the recognition of the historical status of indigenous Australians whose ancestors had dwelt on the land for some 60,000 years before Europeans 'discovered' it and the British colonised it and setting up a representative body to advise parliament and the executive government on matters af-

fecting Aboriginal people. Their disadvantages in metrics ranging from health and education to housing, life expectancy and juvenile incarceration rates are appalling, and usually recognised. What could be done about this remains controversial. The proposal for indigenous Australians having a say in relevant policymaking came from the 2017 Uluru Statement from the Heart, based on extended community consultations, and was initially rejected by the broader political class.

When the Labor Party embraced it ahead of last year's election and then proposed a referendum after gaining power, the majority appeared to back the idea. But the support rapidly went south once the main opposition parties launched a campaign against the notion that embraced the rejectionism

leashed a flood of misin- amid sporadic attempts and abuse that reflected the Brexit and Trump phenomena. Inevitably, a lot of latent racist scum surfaced during a lopsided national debate in which much of the media knowingly contributed to the confusion.

Indigenous Australians comprise less than four per cent of the population and their 'voice' would hardly have affected anyone else. Even this minor concession proved too hard to swallow, mainly for the older, poorer and less well-educated segments. Small wonder, then, that forces of conservatism everywhere, directly or otherwise, disequate mass education, which would deprive them

of their constituency. Given this state of the world, it's no surprise that Australia's retrogressive own goal barely registered as a blip on the international radar. But the dispossession that underlies this saga is not completely at variance with the settlercolonialism that relegates Palestinians to the status of a people who are, just about, to be tolerated provided they obediently behave themselves and turn

the other cheek to every

Obviously, there are vast differences of time and scale, yet there is a common history of dispossession and extermination campaigns. Raz Segal, an professor of Holocaust and genocide studies in the US, has referred to the catastrophe unfolding in Gaza as a textbook case of 'intent to commit genocide", amid "shameful use" of the grotesque history of the Holocaust that includes comparing the

to "justify, rationalise, distort [and] disavow mass violence against Palestinians" The West's reaction to the Middle Eastern ex-

plosion has unqualified

victims to Nazis in order

of the far right and un- support for the oppressor, formation, disinformation from Europe and the US to Australia — to shut down public expressions of support for the oppressed. It's not just appropriate but essential to condemn the atrocities that Hamas committed on Oct 7. And it's thoroughly hypocritical not to apply the same standards when Israel — which purports to be a nation-state rather terrorist than organisation — perpetrates similar violence by different somewhat means.

The US has been rushing weapons to a nuclear-armed state with one of the biggest arsenals of conventional arms miss the concept of ad- and supposedly the region's most efficient military force. That wasn't enough, so a couple of aircraft carriers named after ex-presidents Ford and Eisenhower are muddying the waters nearby to guard their biggest asset in the Middle East. And yet another old (but not ex) president, Joe Biden, will arrive in Israel today as a symbol of US support. He has lately advised Israel against pre-2005-style reoccupation of the Gaza Strip. It's hardly a secret, though, that among its dedicated circle of friends, Israel tends to get away with murder.

Even mass murder, which will no doubt intensify with the imminent ground invasion of Gaza. The rest of the world paid Israeli and an associate no attention as the "ethnic cleansing" in the West Bank intensified in the past week. Barring some of Australia's neighbours, it will also likely turn a blind eye to the deplorable but much less alarming turn of events in what has (not entirely accurately) been tagged as "the Pacific Israel".

It must be hoped that Hezbollah and Îran don't step into the Mideast cauldron, but don't expect Israel to desist from stirring the pot. --Courtesy Dawn

Commerce News

PM Kakar says Pakistan as initial beneficiary appreciates, supports BRI

BEIJING (APP): Pakistan third Belt and Road departments, was eagerly has consistently expressed great appreciation and strong support for the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) proposed by Chinese embodied in the BRI, President Xi Jinping and was willing to learn from peace and prosperity China's development experience, Caretaker Prime Minister, Anwaarul-Haq Kakar said talking to the Chinese media.

invited to attend the

Forum for International Cooperation in Beijing, said that the Pakistanis valued the great vision which advocated bringing through economic

development. delegation, comprising top-Kakar, who was economic, industrial, and other security,

anticipating bilateral discussions with Chinese officials during the visit, engaging in dialogue and interaction with Chinese think tanks and media as well, he said.

Emphasizing the significant Pakistani accomplishments of the China-Pakistan Economic level officials from the Corridor (CPEC), an BRI, Kakar said the CPEC

brought development and bright prospects hometown of southwest Balochistan province.

Launched in 2013, the CPEC was a corridor linking the Gwadar port in southwestern Pakistan with Kashgar in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, which highlights energy, exemplary project of the transport and industrial



Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar and Caretaker Minister for Energy Muhammad Ali witnessing the signing ceremony of MoU between United Energy Group of China and Pakistan Refinery Limited for investment in the petroleum sector of Pakistan, Beijing.

DUBAI: Caretaker Federal Minister for IT and Telecommunication Dr. Umar Saif in a group photo after meeting with Regional GM of Cisco at GITEX

Direct air flights between Pakistan, Nigeria can enhance trade: High Commissioner

FAISALABAD (APP): High Commissioner of hours. Nigeria in Pakistan Mr. Mohammad Bello Abiove socio-economic sectors. He said, "Textile has said that direct air importance of Faisalabad flights between Pakistan and said that textile is an and Nigeria can play a key role in enhancing bilateral

trade. Addressing business community in Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FCCI), he said that he has taken various measures to ensure exchange of B2B information. meetings and simple visa policy to facilitate the serious entrepreneurs. He said that during the last vears visa applications are being investing in Nigeria and

iconic representation of have surplus cotton." this city at the global level. He said that he has business community and 'we are exploiting this sector. friendship to promote bilateral trade'. He also termed Nigeria as a land of opportunities and said that the Pakistani business

from this facility. Malaysia are emerged as textile capital

processed within 48 Pakistan should also explore new opportunities He acknowledged the for investment in various owners should also set up their units in Nigeria as we

Responding to a question, he said that the developed friendly Pakistani businessmen relations with the could also invest in the cashew-nut processing

Earlier President FCCI Dr. Khurram Tariq welcomed the guests and said that Faisalabad is designed on the pattern of community should avail Union Jack in 1898. "It tremendous made He said that China progress and now it has

of the Pakistan'

Wednesday said that the government government was taking encouraging the private business-friendly and pro- sector and providing a investment initiatives to conducive atmosphere to bring about the economic enable it play an effective role for country's economic development in the country development.

PM highlights govt's

business friendly,

pro-investment initiatives

The prime minister. in a meeting with a delegation of East Sea Group led by Chairman Fang Yulong, highlighted pro-business policies of the government.

Caretaker Prime Minister here.

Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on

The meeting took

interest in increasing their place on the sidelines of the investment in the country PSX sheds 99 more points as profit-taking continues

Belt and Road Forum held

Fang Yulong told the prime minister that East

Sea Group was making

investments in Gwadar

Free Zone and refinery

sector and that the Chinese

firms were taking keen

taking continued at the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) for the second straight session on Wednesday, with the benchmark KSE-100 Index losing 99.54 points (-0.20 percent) to close at 49,431.47 points. The market opened on a slight positive note but took a dip soon. The dip proved short-lived and the indices turned towards the green territory green. The benchmark index later hit the day's high and remained

in the positive during the

KARACHI (INP): Profit- first half of the session. However, selling pressure took the indices in the red territory again where it stayed till the end of the session. However, good corporate results of some companies eroded some of the losses of the day. A sharp decline in rupee's value for the second straight day after making gains for 28 consecutive sessions also acted as a catalyst for profit-taking. The benchmark index briefly crossed the 50,000 points level for the first time since

January 2017

yielding varieties resilient to climate change in order to increase productivity and ensure food security. He stated this while

FAISALABAD: Punjab Caretaker Chief Minister

Syed Mohsin Raza Naqvi

has said that agricultural

prerequisite for the

country's uplift, for which

agricultural scientists

should develop high-

development

addressing the scientists of University Agriculture Faisalabad (UAF). Punjab Agriculture Minister ŠM

Gold rates up by Rs.6,400 to Rs.206,500 per tola

ISLAMABAD (APP): The per tola price of 24 karat gold increased by Rs.6,400 and was sold at Rs. 206,500 on Wednesday compared to its sale at Rs. 200,100 the previous day of trading.

The price of 10 grams of 24 karat gold also increased by Rs.5,487 to Rs.177,040 Rs.171,553 whereas the price of 10 gram 22 karat gold went up to Rs.162.287 from Rs. 157,257, the All Sindh Sarafa Jewellers Association reported

UAF Vice Chancellor Prof Dr. Iqrar Ahmad Khan gave a briefing about the

Agricultural development is prerequisite

Secretary Punjab Nadir

Development Punjab

Chairman Iftikhar Ali Sahu,

IG Punjab Usman Anwar

and others attended the

history of the university, ongoing educational and research projects and agricultural issues. Chief Minister

for country's uplift: CM Naqvi Secretary Punjab Nadir Chattha, Planning and University, developed new high yielding varieties of wheat which are in testing phase for the second year. It is a hallmark step, he said, adding that after fulfilling the requirement, it would reach to the farmers' fields

> He said that India had been producing soybean for the last fifteen years. But unfortunately no sufficient Punjab Syed Mohsin Raza work has been done so far Naqvi while appreciating the role of UAF said that cultivation.

by next year.

KP Govt decides to develop fruits, vegetable processing sector

Independent Report PESHAWAR: KP Caretaker Minister for Industries, Commerce and Technical Education, Dr Aamir Abdullah has said that the provincial government has decided the processing of fruits, vegetables, and other agricultural products on

> edibles and its development as a profitable business sector. He made this announcement while presiding over a meeting here in the Committee Room of Industries,

Commerce and Technical

international standards as

Education Department here in the Civil Secretariat on Wednesday. Besides, Secretary, of Industries, Commerce and

Technical Education, Syed Zulfikar Ali Shah and authorities of all subsidiary sectors, the head of Agriculture Business and Training Institute, Saleem Abne Fazil also attended the meeting. The caretaker minister directed the concerned authorities to take practical steps to focus on these sectors, besides the traditional attractive sectors of investment

Governor Punjab says

Youth should play role in driving country to knowledge based economy

LAHORE: Governor Punjab/Chancellor Punjab University Muhammad Balighur Rehman said that the youth should play their role in driving the country to knowledge

based economy. He stated this while addressing the laptop distribution ceremony Youth Programme Scheme Phase 3 at Punjab University. Governor He said that Punjab Punjab said that the future of Pakistan is connected merit transparency. He said that

lagging behind.

Governor Punjab said the distribution of lap top modern world, adding he said that the laptops are to encourage students and equip them with IT skills. University is a prestigious institution, and it is a great honour to study in it.

The Governor Punjab said that when the lap top

increasing, and the talent of apps was getting recognition in the world.

Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rahman, while stressing the importance of logic and research said that educated people decide on logic and

in the modern era, those scheme was initially facts. He said that a who have access to started and laptops were disappointed nation can technology are ahead while distributed among brilliant never develop. We must those who don't have the students on merit, it avoid those who spread access to technology are contributed towards the despair, he added. He said development of the that we have to get the country in IT sector. He nation out of despair. further stated that Pakistan Therefore, the positive among students would was fast moving among the aspects should be bring them at par with the e-lancing countries, highlighted. He said that modern world, adding he software exports were also respecting the opinion of respecting the opinion of others is also very under Prime Minister being distributed on merit Pakistani youth in gaming important in a pluralistic society. Governor Punjab said that teachers should also focus on character

building of students. He said that our religion has taught us not to believe without verifying the facts.



LAHORE: Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman in a group photo with students during laptop distribution ceremony under Prime Minister Youth Programme Scheme Phase 3 at Punjab

digital divide is increasing **BISE Larkana announces** results of HSC Part-II (Pre-Medical) exams-2023

LARKANA (APP): The sults announced here the Controller of Examinations, Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education (BISE) Larkana Raja Nadeem Soomro on Wednesday evening announced the results of Annual Examinations-2023 of Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) Part-II Pre-Medical Group.

The BISE Larkana covered Larkana, Kamber-Shahdadkot, Shikarpur, Jacobabad and Kashmore-Kandhkot districts and two talukas of Dadu District that is Taluka Khairpur Nathan Shah and Taluka

positions are as under:-Boys Positions:-Abdul Rauf S/o Akhtar

Ali Wassan, Seat No. 155393, of Cadet College Larkana stood first by obtaining 987 marks with Grade-A-1.

Muhammad Mahad Qureshi S/o Adnan Wahab Qureshi, Seat No. 150722 of The City School Larkana second position with 986 marks with Grade-A-1.

Ibrar Ali Shah S/c Munwar Ali Shah Syed, Seat No. 156209 of Government Degree College Larkana obtained 985 marks and stood third position with grade-A-1.



LARKANA: Members of Social Ittehad Youth Wing are holding protest demonstration against Israeli cruel and inhumane acts and express unity with the innocent people of Palestine, at Jinnah Bagh in Larkana.

PFA discards 220 litre fake carbonated drinks. **Independent Report**

LAHORE: The Punjab Food Authority (PFA) has unearthed a fake beverages manufacturing unit producing carbonated drinks of different popular brands on Mustafabad

metropolis. authority The discarded 220 litres of spurious carbonated drinks; prohibited chemicals, sweeteners and hazardous artificial flavours. Further, PFA confiscated 1,000 empty bottles, 65 crates, four

Road in the provincial

cylinders, five blue nonfood grade drums, five filling machines, labels, stoves, RO and filtration plants. This was informed by PFA Director General Raja Jahangir Anwar. He said that the authority also filed an FIR against the factory owners on account of adulteration and forgery.

He said that the authority took action against the factory owner for violating the Punjab Pure Food Regulations. He said that fabricated fizzy drinks were being prepared with loose colours hazardous chemicals, artificial sweeteners and unclean tap water.

Thalassemia affected children visits **Governor House**

Independent Report PESHAWAR: As many as fifty thalassemia-affected children and their parents on Wednesday visited Governor House Peshawar on Wednesday on the invitation of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor, Haji Ghulam Ali.

The children were accompanied by the Founder of Hamza Foundation, Hamza Ejaz, Professor Abaseen Yousafzai and Khaild Khan. KP Governor intermingled with children and distributed snacks and juice among them. Talking to the media, on the occasion, he said that these children deserve our special attention, love and help owing to their sufferings. He said that these children have confronted

many difficulties in their life and we should provide them hope, assistance and kindness enabling them to overcome hardships and lead a normal life.

"I am honoured to arrange a luncheon for them, and would always strive to give them happiness and hope", he

Naqvi lays foundation stone of FIEDMC management office under construction Provincial Ministers,

Independent Report LAHORE: Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi along with the cabinet members laid the foundation stone of FIEDMC management office at Faisalabad Industrial Estate and Management Company. Acting Consul General of China Cao Ke welcomed CM Mohsin Naqvi on reaching FIEDMC. Mohsin Naqvi was given a detailed briefing about FIEDMC

management office. He after planting a

hospital for ten years at Chief Secretary and the FIEDMC. Mohsin Naqvi whole team members are and the cabinet members endeavouring to set up also visited VIVO Mobile one window operation Factory. Provincial centre. Ministers, Chief Secretary, IG Police, Chairman Commissioner Faisalabad and other officials were also present on the

Later, CM Mohsin Naqvi while addressing a ceremony being organized at Faisalabad Industrial Estate and Management Company said that a club will be established for the FIEDMC will be sampling formally will be established for the inaugurated the plantation campaign. CM visited the working in FIEDMC. will be completed in coming few weeks.

Hopefully window operation centre will become functional by January. Chinese investors will be provided NOCs by different departments under a single roof. One window pilot project will be launched simultaneously at Lahore and FIEDMC The under construction ten- bedded hospital in

CVDs, major cause of mortality worldwide: Dr Rehan Omar

KARACHI (APP): Cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) are the leading cause of death worldwide as during Covid-19 from 2019 to 2022 around three million people died but as per estimates shared by the World Health Organization, the CVDs killed around 20.6 million people every year across the globe, and around

ceased were from low and middle-income countries

80 percent of these de-

diologist, National Medical Centre, United Hospital Karachi, Dr Rehan Omar on Wednesday.

He was addressing a seminar on 'healthy heart, healthy nation' arranged by the Medical Center of the University of Karachi. The event was held at the auditorium of the old pharmacy building. He expressed that in

2020, an estimated 523 million people had some form These views were of CVDs of which approxishared by Consultant Car- mately 19 million deaths sion due to socio-economic agers were facing obesity at effect.

were attributable to the problems.

utes one person died of heart disease.

mated 783 million people would be affected by diabetes by 2045.

Dr Rehan while referring to a report published in the year 2018 said that 1.13 billion people were

"The uses of tobacco, He informed the audience that every two min-

obesity are a few main causes of heart disease. We Sharing another report, he said that an estiand prefer timely diagnosis must promote awareness and treatment approach," he added.

Meanwhile, the Consultant Cardiologist at the National Medical Center Dr Mansoor Ahmed said that this was so alarming suffering from hyperten- that our children and teen-

problems due to which they were suffering from diabetes and heart diseases.

He termed that one of the main reasons for the issue was consuming junk foods.

"It is not possible to eliminate junk food from society because more money is spent on its marketing than health," Dr Mansoor Ahmed stressed that the trend of rapid increase in smoking needs to be stopped with immedi-

International News

UN Security Council rejects Russian resolution on Middle East

Monitoring Desk

UNITED NATIONS: The UN Security Council on Monday rejected a Russian resolution condemning spiraling violence in the Middle East, with delegates refusing to back a motion that did not single out Hamas for its surprise raid on Israel.

Just four countries voted with Russia on its proposed text. Four others - including the US voted against, while six ab-

A second text proposed by Brazil with unequivocal language condemning the group appeared to have broader support, and was expected

day evening, diplomats

Russia's UN ambassador, Vassily Nebenzia, said lution had spurred the council to action. "It has contributed to

launching a substantive discussion in the Security Council on this topic. Without our encouragement, everything would probably have been limited to empty discussions," he said.

The United Kingdom, which joined the US in voting down the Russian proposal, criticised Moscow's lack of consultation, and accused Russia of not making a serious attempt to find

Israel's Gilad Erdan said the Security Council, which has not adopted a resolution on despite the failure, the reso- the situation in Israel and the Palestinian territories since 2016, stood at "one of its most pivotal crossroads" since its founding in the aftermath `World War II.

Palestinian ambassador Riyad Mansour said the council had a moral duty to act in a bid to restrain an Israeli assault on the Gaza Strip he said was claiming 12 lives every hour. "Don't send the signal that the Palestinian lives don't matter," he



Ukrainian students, who lost relatives due to the Russia-Ukrainian war set flags in their memory on the memorial of fallen Ukrainian soldiers, while attending the reconstruction of a student-led protest campaign "Revolution on Granite" on Independence square in Kyiv, Ukraine.

Lebanon-Israel border clashes escalate, five Hezbollah fighters killed

Monitoring Desk KIRYAT SHMONA: Is-

raeli troops killed at least four fighters attempting to breach the border from Lebanon on Tuesday, the army said, as tensions run high on the border between the two countries. Since Oct 8, Israel

has traded fire on a near-Hezbollah and Palestinian fighters in Lebanon.

The Israeli army said its forces opened fire on fighters when they attempted to cross the northern border with Lebanon on Tuesday morning. Hezbollah said five of its fighters had been killed "performing jihad". It was not clear it these were the same ones who Israel had accused of trying to infiltrate the

ONDON: Students from the Palestine Society at SOAS (School of Oriental and African Studies) on Tuesday said the university had "suspended students following a rally in solidarity with Gaza". The SOAS Palestine Society posted to X saying, "URGENT: @SOAS University of London, renowned for its so called progressive politics, has officially begun taking steps suspending its own students following a rally in solidarity with Gaza. This is a clear act of political repression. Please

read on and share widely." The tweet said that on Oct 9, the Palestine Society and its student community held a rally in solidarity with the people of Gaza and that hundreds of students joined the demonstration. On October 13 and 14, the statement said "students were suspended and given warnings through disciplinarians by the university" and said the action by the university demonstrated "a targeted act of political repression.



People inspect the area of Al-Ahli hospital, where hundreds of Palestinians were killed in a blast that Israeli and Palestinian officials blamed on each

Russian Duma passes law to revoke ratification of nuclear test ban treaty

Monitoring Desk MOSCOW: Russia's parliament moved swiftly to fulfil

the wish of President Vladimir Putin by completing the passage of a bill that shifts Moscow's legal stance on nuclear testing at a time of acute tension with the West. The lower house, the State Duma, on Wednesday passed the second and third readings of a bill that revokes Russia's ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty. Both were passed unanimously by 415

votes to zero. Putin urged the Duma on Oct. 5 to make the change in order to "mirror" the position of the United States, which has signed but never ratified the 1996 treaty. "We understand our responsibility to our citizens, we are protecting our country. What is happening in the world today is the exclusive fault of the United States," parliament speaker Vyacheslav Volodin said. Russia says it will not resume testing unless Washington does, but arms control experts are concerned it may be inching towards a test that the West would perceive as a Russian nuclear escalation amid the

Ukraine war. They say a test by either Russia or the United States could prompt the other to do the same, and China, India and Pakistan might then follow, trigger-

ing a new global arms race. All are currently observing test moratoriums, and only North Korea has conducted a test involving a nuclear explosion this century.

Russia originally ratified the CTBT in 2000. While it is revoking that step. it has so far said it will remain a signatory to the treaty and continue to supply data to the global monitoring sys tem which alerts the world to any nuclear test.

But when he introduced the bill on Tuesday, parliament speaker Volodin raised the possibility Moscow might withdraw altogether, and said it would keep Washington guessing about its intentions

Saudi Arabia, Japan agree to cooperate to ease Middle East tensions strike

Monitoring Desk

OKYO: Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida agreed in a call with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman on Wednesday to work together to improve humanitarian conditions in Gaza and help ease tensions in the Israel-Hamas conflict, the Japanese government said. The two leaders con-

curred on maintaining close cooperation between the two countries and working on the improvement of the humanitarian situation and calming down the situation," a Japanese government statement said on their phone call. Japan, this year's chair of the Group of Seven (G7) advanced economies, on Tuesday, announced its plan to extend \$10 million

Hamas says top commander killed in Israeli **Monitoring Desk**

GAZA CITY: Hamas said on Tuesday one of its top lead-

ers was killed during an Is-

raeli strike in the Gaza Strip. 'Ayman Nofal, 'Abu Ahmad', a member of the general military council and commander of the central command in Al-Qassam Brigades, was killed" in an Israeli strike on the central Gaza Strip, Hamas said in a statement

EU leaders vow tighter borders, more repatriations after Brussels attack Monitoring Desk deemed not to have the right

Belgium and Sweden and the European Union's chief executive promised on Wednesday to tighten border security and step up repatriations after a failed asylum seeker from Tunisia shot dead two Swedish football fans in Brussels.

They spoke after paying tribute to the victims of Monday's attack in the Belgian capital, home to the EU institutions, and condemning what they branded a brutal terrorist attack.

The shooting has highlighted the EU's persistent difficulties in managing asylum and migration, including security gaps and failures to return people

to stay in the 27-nation bloc. Sweden's Prime Min-

ister Ulf Kristersson said Europe's open-border Schengen zone would not survive unless the EU's external frontiers were better protected from unwanted nmigration.

If we are not able to protect our common borders, we will not be able to uphold free movement within Europe," he said. Belgian Prime Minis

ter Alexander De Croo said the EU also needed a more effective system of returning unauthorised immigrants. "This is something we need to tackle and can only do that in a coordinated way," he said.



British Ambassador to the United Nations Barbara Woodward and US Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield vote against the resolution.

Russia's Lavrov arrives in North Korea as cooperation deepens

Monitoring Desk SEOUL: Russian Foreign

Minister Sergei Lavrov arrived in Pyongyang on Wednesday for meetings seen as setting the stage for a visit by President Vladimir Putin, who has stepped up cooperation with politically isolated North Korea.

Lavrov's two-day visit comes a month after North Korean leader Kim Jong Un made a rare trip to Russia, during which he invited Putin to Pyongyang and discussed military cooperation, including over North Korea's satellite program and the war in Ukraine. Putin's foreign min-

ister, who last visited North Korea in 2018, will hold talks with his North Korean counterpart, according to the Interfax news agency. Russia's TASS news agency reported that Lavrov may brief the North Koreans on the results of Putin's visit to China, as well as discussing Putin's potential visit.

Calling each other "comrade", Putin and Kim toasted their friendship last month with Russian wine.

Courting Kim allows Putin, who says Moscow is locked in an existential battle with the West over Ukraine, to needle Washington and its

President for early diagnosis, detection of breast cancer

Social stigmas in Pakistan deter women from seeking early breast cancer diagnosis: First Lady

ISLAMABAD (APP): was the most common type President Dr Arif Alvi has said that since Pakistan has limited breast cancer screening and treatment facilities, they can address the grave issue by ensuring its timely detection in women and providing treatment in

early stages.
"There is a 98% possibility of a permanent cure from breast cancer, if diagnosed at early stages," he said in a message on the occasion of the International Day Against Breast Cancer, being observed on Octo-

The president said today, they observed the International Day Against Breast Cancer to raise awareness about breast cancer, and promote women's access to its timely diagnosis and treatment.

of cancer among women throughout the world, and most of the deaths due to the deadly disease occurred in low and middle-income

In Pakistan too, he observed that almost 100,000 breast cancer cases occurred annually, out of which 40,000 women die.

of the highest mortality rates due to breast cancer in Asia. This is indeed an alarming situation," he added. To overcome this chal-

lenge, the president said, they had been raising awareness for the past five years to encourage women to perform self-examination every

He also appreciated that the media had played an instrumental role in educating women about the dis-

Meanwhile First Lady Begum Samina Alvi has said that in the country, breast cancer was the most common type of cancer as almost 44% of cancer cases in women were those of breast cancer, and there was a 98% chance of a complete recovery from it if diagnosed in

"Pakistan also has one cial stigmas in Pakistan often deterred women from seeking early diagnosis, resulting in an almost 50%

> ing awareness about its early diagnosis to reduce the high mortality rate in

Nawaz Sharif

files protective

bail pleas

in IHC

SLAMABAD (Online)

Former Prime Minister

(PM) Nawaz Sharifhas filed

protective bail pleas in

slamabad High Court

IHC) to avoid arrest on his

n the petition Nawaz

Sharif wiÎl reach Pakistan on

October 21 by special

Stance has been taken

Nawaz Sharif wants to

He prayed the court to

IHC Registrar office

Registrar office has al-

surrender before court and

accept his protective bail so

that he could initiate legal process in his defence and

did not raise any objection

otted number 2023/3333

and 2023/3334 to Nawaz

Ambassador

Amna expresses

solidarity with

Palestinians

SLAMABAD (APP): Pa-

kistan Ambassador to Bel-

gium, Luxembourg and the

European Union Amna

Baloch on Wednesday met

Ambassador of Palestine to

Belgium and EU Abdel

Rahim Al-Farra to express

solidarity and offer condo-

lences on the loss of inno-

Pakistan's unwavering sup-port for the people of Pal-

estine," Pakistan Embassy in Belgium posted on X.

IIUI sports

gala starts

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Sports Gala 2023 of

International Islamic Uni-

versity Islamabad (IIUI)

kicked-off on Wednesday

at male Campus. It was in-

augurated by President

IIUI Dr. Hathal Homoud

emony, students demon-strated a colorful flag

march at the hard ball

cricket ground of the male

number of events such as

first-aid race, sack race,

three-leg race and a 100-

metre race were held in

which the Pakistani and in-

ternational students of

more than 30 countries

being organized by the

sports section of the Di-

rectorate of Students' Af-

fairs. As many as 1000 stu-

dents from 11 faculties of

universities are participat-

The games include

The Sports Gala is

On the occasion, a

In the opening cer-

Alotaibi.

campus.

participated.

conveyed

cent lives in Gaza.

'She

Sharif petitions.

on both of the petitions.

face cases against him.

get relief.

return to Pakistan.



ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's Ambassador-designate to Morocco, Mr Muhammad Sami-ur-Rehman, calls on President Dr Arif Alvi, at Aiwan-e-Sadr

President Alvi for enhancing trade, economic cooperation with Morocco

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Dr Arif Alvi on Wednesday called for increasing cooperation with Morocco in the fields of trade, investment and economy

The president, in a meeting with Pakistan's Ambassador-designate to Morocco Muhammad Sami-ur-Rehman, who called on him, asked him to work for enhancing Pakistani exports to Morocco.

Talking to the ambassador, he said that relations business friendly environbetween Pakistan and Mo-

rocco were marked by common history and shared in-

terests. He said the two sides needed to increase the exchange of high-level visits to further strengthen bilateral cooperation.

President Alvi said that the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) had been constituted to provide a single platform to facilitate and attract investment and Morocco could benefit of Pakistan's

DC cracks down on overcharging vehicles

ISLAMABAD (APP): Authority, all Assistant Deputy Commissioner Islamabad Irfan Nawaz Memon, accompanied by Secretary Transport Authority Islamabad, has been checking on the reduction of fares at various places in the city

In light of the notification issued reducing fares by 10 per cent, all magistrates have been inspecting various transport routes and bus stands to ensure that the reduction is being implemented in letter and spirit. The DC has directed the Secretary of Transport Commissioners, and Magistrates to continue inspecting various routes and bus stands on a daily basis.

Since yesterday, Assistant Commissioners and Magistrates have seized and taken action against 62 vehicles for overcharging the notified rates of the District Administration. while others have been issued warnings

This crackdown on overcharging vehicles is a welcome move by the Islamabad District Administration.



DUBAI: Caretaker Federal Minister for IT and Telecommunication Dr. Umar Saif in a meeting with Dr. Mohamed Al Kuwaiti, Head of UAE Cyber Security, at GITEX Global 2023.

NCHR, IOM Pakistan sign MoU to protect human rights of migrants

ISLAMABAD (APP): The National Commission for Human Rights (NCHR) and the International Organization for Migration (1OM) Pakistan have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen cooperation and collaboration on initiatives relating to the promotion and protection of the human rights of migrants, especially those in vulnerable situa-

The MoU signifies the commitment of both organizations to prioritize the well-being and human rights of migrants, recognizing that while migration in the context of globaliza- take in their desire to seek tion brings significant op-

portunities, it is critical to facilitate the safe, orderly, and regular movement of people. Under the MoU. NCHR and IOM Pakistan will engage in joint activities aimed at generating evi-

research, improving awareness and outreach, and providing policy advice, in line with the priorities of the Government of Pakistan.

ing in it that will conclude Rabiya Javeri Agha, on October, 25. Chairperson NCHR, highlighted the lack of rights for competitions of tug of war, migrants and the dangerous table tennis, badminton, journeys they undertake volleyball, basketball stated, "The Greek cricket, football, hockey, migrant's boat disaster chess and competitions of was a heart-wrenching reathletics. Sports were necminder of the risks people essary to keep a society healthy, said Dr. Hathal a better future. Homoud Alotaibi

its early stages. However, she said, so

In a message on the occasion of International Day against Breast Cancer being observed on October 19, she said that today, they were observing the Day to highlight the critical issue with the aim of creat-

Deputy Head of Mission Embassy of Palestine, Nader Alturk Wednesday said that it is double-standards of the West, coupled with a callous policy that is bleeding a dispossessed nation in search of a homeland for the last many de-

Addressing a Distinguished Lecture Series at Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI) titled 'Situation in Palestine amidst the recent upheavals in the Middle East", the Palestinian envoy thanked for the overwhelming support from Pakistan, and hoped that social media and countries across the world should rally for a nation at the verge of obliteration.

We are looking for peace, justice and a solution to our territorial dispute

with Israel which it has oc-ISLAMABAD (APP): cupied forcefully," Alturk said and added that the apartheid at work is pushing Palestinians in a death

participating in the 3rd Belt and Road Forum, Beijing

Nader Alturk says

Double-standards of West,

coupled with callous policy

bleeding Palestinian nation

He lamented the British colonial power for handing over 58 percent of the Palestinian lands to the Jews, and regretted that even the remaining 43 percent too has been encroached upon.

He displayed the map of Palestine that showed stages of occupation in four stages since 1948.

He criticised former US President Donald Trump for initiating a biased diplomacy wherein Israel is being given legitimacy by the Arab states under the Abraham Accord, and no solution is being found for the pestering dispute of Palestinian state.

Pakistan, US extend **Science and Technology** Cooperation agreement

WASHINGTON (APP): Pakistan and the United States Tuesday signed a five-year extension of the U.S.-Pakistan Science and Technology Cooperation Agreement to expand relations between the two countries' scientific and technological communities.

The accord is also designed to promote scientific and technological cooperation for peaceful purposes.

Pakistan's Ambassador to the US, Masood Khan, and Jason Donovan, Director Office of Science and Technology Cooperation in Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs (OES/STC) at the US Stat Department of State, witnessed the sign-

Muhammad Saad Ahmed, on behalf of the Govern-



ment of Pakistan, and Michelle Sheckells, representing the U.S. State Department, exchanged the documents.

Under the terms of the agreement, the two sides will cooperate through the exchange of scientific and technical information; exchange of scientists and technical experts; convening of joint seminars and meetings; training of scientists and technical experts; conduct of joint research projects; educational exchanges related to science, technology and engineering; establishment of science-based public-private partnerships; and other forms of scientific and technological cooperation. Signed on June 25, 2003, the agreement has been

extended after every five years.

ICP initiates legal proceedings against violators of traffic laws

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: According to details, under the special directives of the Islamabad Capital City Police Officer (ICCPO), Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan, Islamabad Capital Police, measures have been taken to ensure the safety of citizens from accidents and the enforcement of road safety laws, a public relations officer said.

He said that Islamabad Capital Police has intensified legal actions against those who violate traffic laws and special teams have been formed to enforce legal actions against traffic law violators including prominent government officials and federal authorities.

During the past year, 7,00,000 traffic violation

tickets were issued including violations such as riding a motorcycle without a helmet, wrong-way driving, lane discipline violations, failure to use seat belts, speeding violations, using a mobile phone while driving, jaywalking violations, tinted glasses, and driving unregistered vehicles, among

violators more stringent and effective under their supervision. They are also providing citizens with special

tions against traffic law

awareness regarding the dangers and consequences of traffic law violations on a daily basis, he added.



ISLAMABAD: The Government of Palestine announced three-day mourning after Israel bombing on a hospital more than 700 martyrs, the flag of Palestine half mast on the embassy of Palestine.

Ashrafi calls for global support for Palestine, unity among Muslims

He called on the Orga-

kistan Ulema Council Chairman, Muhammad Mahmood Ashrafi on Wednesday unequivocally expressed support for Palestine and called on the global community to acknowl-

BEIJING: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar in a group photo with President Xi Jinping and world leaders

solidarity with Palestinian people under the auspicious of Pakistan Ulema Council here, he raised questions about the alleged military aggression in Syria and Lebanon and said Pakistan stood with Lebanon, Iraq, Iran, and Syria, in case of any aggression from Is-

President PPP **Balochistan** Chapter calls on Sanjrani

ISLAMABAD (APP): Provincial President of Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP), Balochistan Chapter Mir Changez Khan Jamali Wednesday called on the Chairman Senate, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani at Parliament House.

The deliberations delved into a diverse array of vital issues that currently impact the province of Balochistan, said a news

discussion touched upon pivotal subjects, including the prevailing political landscape, the state of law and order, and the intricate economic framework

Mir Changez Khan Jamali offered invaluable insights and perspectives on these multifaceted matters.

The exchange not only fostered a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by the province but also underscored the collaborative efforts between the provincial leadership and the Senate in addressing and resolving these critical issues.

Hanif Abbasi acquitted in ephedrine case LAHORE (Online): Lahore

High Court (LHC) has acquitted PML-N leader Hanif Abbasi in Ephedrine

Appeal against life imprisonment of Hanif Abbasi has been accepted. LHC nullified trial

court decision regarding conviction of Hanif Abbasi

A two members bench presided over by Justice Alia Neelum had reserved judgment on appeal filed by Hanif Abbasi against his conviction in 500 kilogram ephedrine case.

The state counsel took the plea ephedrine was received in the company owned by Hanif Abbassi. Nothing could become known about use of137 ki-The ICCPO has islogram ephedrine and nor sued directives to all zone 137 kilogram ephedrine has officers to make legal ac-

JI Emir urges for an international fund to help people of Gaza ISLAMABAD (INP)

Jamaat-e-Islami Emir Sirajul Haq has asserted that the Israeli government is engaged in war crimes, specifically targeting hospitals and schools in Gaza

Speaking at a workers' convention on Wednesday, he emphasized that the visit of the US president to Israel, during a time when occupying forces were ruthlessly taking the lives of innocent civilians in Palestine, stood as a stark challenge to the civilized world, aiming at conveying to the Muslim nation that no one could hold Israeli accountable for her actions. Highlighting the significance of unity within the Muslim Ummah, he emphasized its necessity in liberating the holy land from the unlaw-

Ashrafi hinted that if

this war continued, it would not be confined to Egypt and Lebanon, it would ultimately engulf the entire edge the rights of the Pales-

nization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) to provide a tinian people.

Addressing a conference organized to express roadmap for the Palestinian cause urging everyone to break their silence, warning that "if Palestinian children are targeted today, it may be children from other regions tomorrow." With the Presidency of the OIC now in the hands of Saudi Arabia, he expressed hope that it would take concrete steps to support Palestine.

He said this conference announced to observe 'Martyrs of Palestine Day' across the nation on Friday.

as a mark of support for the Palestinian brethren.

He mentioned that Chief of Army Staff General Syed Asim Munir reiterated Pakistan's position in the Corps Commander Conference the other day, reemphasizing their unwavering support for Pales-

Highlighting the enduring blockade of Gaza, he said it had been a prison for sixteen years raising questions about the incident on October 7, which he attributed to the denial of Palestinian due rights.
Ashrafi called for in-

ternational human rights organizations to investigate the hospital attack in Gaza, stressing that the suffering of Muslim children remained unseen



ISLAMABAD: Chairman, Pakistan Ulema Council, Hafiz Muhammad Tahir Mahmood Ashrafi addressing to media during the Palestine Conference at a local hotel.

Japan, Pakistan sign grant agreement for flood affectees in Sindh

Wednesday signed a grant agreement for reconstruction of educational facilities in the flood-affected areas of Sindh.

A signing ceremony for the Exchange of Notes and Grant Agreement between the Governments of Pakistan and Japan regarding "The Programme for Reconstruction of Educational Facilities in Flood Affected Areas in Sindh" was held at the Economic Affairs Division, said a press release issued by EAD here.

tended grant assistance worth JPY 794 million (Approx US\$ 5.3 million) to Pakistan through JICA. This grant is aimed at

The Japan has ex-

addressing the educational infrastructure challenges caused by floods-2022 and heavy monsoon rains in Sindh. A total of nine (09) (JICA).

During the meeting, ISLAMABAD (APP): Ja- fully damaged School buildpan and Pakistan on ings will be reconstructed in six (06) districts of the province.

Under this grant, the reconstruction of damaged buildings of schools wil help to ensure a safe and conducive learning environment for students, with a special focus on enhancing the access of girls to educa-

The notes of the project were signed and exchanged by Dr. Kazim Niaz, Secretary, of the Economic Affairs Division (EAD), and Ambassador of Japan Pakistan, WADA Mitsuhiro, on behalf of their respective govern-

The Grant Agreement was signed by Saeed Ashraf Siddiqi, Joint Secretary EAD and Yasutimsu Kinoshita, Chief Representative of Japan International Cooperation Agency



ISLAMABAD: The Notes of the project "The Programme for Reconstruction of Educational Facilities in Flood affected Areas in Sindh" were signed and exchanged by Dr. Kazim Niaz, Secretary EAD and HWADA Mitsuhiro, Ambassador of Japan to Pakistan at EAD.

Two killed, 3 injured over land dispute in Swat On Wednesday, as a

By Haroon Siraj

SWAT: Two people were killed and three police personnel were wounded in firing between rival groups over a property dispute in Chinar Colony amankot saidu sharif area here on Wednesday.

According to police, there was a long-standing dispute over the land exchange between Muhammad Ali, Amin Khan, and Badshah Hussain resident of chinar colony and Ijaz, Akbar Khan and sabir khan resident amankot saidu

result of firing between the two groups over the said dispute, badshah Hussain and Amin Khan, from Muhammad Ali group was killed while while ijaz group suspects managed to make good their escape. An FIR has been registered and investigation of the incident is underway. A police spokesperson said that DPO Swat Shafiullah Khan Gandapur took notice of the incident and directed to SP lower Swat and SDPO saidu sharif to arrest the accused immediately, he said.