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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 Road Forum.

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

BEIJING (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Wednesday said Pakistan was committed to working with China and other regional partners in achieving the ideals of an open global economy and promoting connectivity on a trans-continental scale. "With shared responsibility and by embracing the vision 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 Road Forum (BRF) on "Connectivity in an Open Global Economy".

The two-day forum, 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 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

with the bonds that unite us together, rather than the forces that divide us," he said. 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 prosperity. 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

and railway infrastructure, but also to create linkages among civilizations and nations," he said. He mentioned that the world faced a number of challenges including post-pandemic effects, the divide between the developed and the impoverished, peace, and food security. Kakar highlighted that BRI's flagship project China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) played a crucial role in generating new economic opportunities in Pakistan. Underscoring its sa-

lience for Pakistan's robust economic development, he endorsed the Chinese proposal for developing CPEC as a corridor of growth, innovation, livelihood, green economy, openness, and inclusiveness. The prime minister underlined the need for a united global response to address complex transnational challenges faced by humankind and to prevent backsliding on the gains achieved under the UN Sustainable Development Goals and 2030 Agenda.

Pakistan calls for setting up humanitarian corridors for Gaza

ISLAMABAD (INP): At urgent meeting of Organisation of Islamic Countries (OIC), Pakistan on Wednesday asserted that Israel must bring an immediate end to its campaign of terror with an immediate ceasefire, calling for establishing humanitarian corridors for relief supplies to Gaza. Caretaker Foreign Minister Jilani Abbas Jilani made these remarks, who is leading the Pakistan delegation to the urgent opened Ministerial Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) being held in Jeddah. The meeting was co-

convened by Pakistan and Saudi Arabia to discuss the crisis in Gaza and the humanitarian situation of the besieged civilians there. Speaking on the occasion, Jilani Abbas Jilani denounced the Israeli aggression and inhuman blockade of Gaza that resulted in death, destruction and displacement. He also condemned 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 indiscriminate and disproportionate use of force

amounted to war crimes and crimes against humanity, he added. The foreign minister called on the international community to hold Israel accountable for its crimes. 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. He 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 in the non-implementation of the two-state solution.



BEIJING: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar meets Secretary General of United Nations Antonio Guterres on the sidelines of 3rd Belt and Road Forum, Beijing.

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

KARACHI (INP): Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Wednesday asserted that the general elections 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. "Today, the country's Consti-

tution, election, and democracy were halted due to one person's return," he said. Without naming anyone, the former foreign minister 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 schedule." 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 said that he wants to end

the politics of divide and abuse, adding that if politicians keep fighting amongst themselves, the country will not progress. "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), Bilawal 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): The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Wednesday 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

court had already acquitted co-accused Maryam Nawaz and her husband Capt. (ret'd) Muhammad Saifdar Awan in the Avenfield property case but his (Nawaz's) appeal was dismissed due to absence. 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 against 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 missed 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 wanted to surrender before it.

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 Secretary-General Antonio Guterres to play a role in stopping Israel's violence against Palestinians. "The prime minister and the UN's top diplomat met in Beijing on the sidelines of the Third Belt and Road Forum. "We demand an end to this indiscriminate targeting 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 Gaza, causing immense civilian casualties.



RAWALPINDI: Pakistan conducted successful test of Ababeel Weapon System, the test flight was aimed at re-validating various design, technical parameters and performance evaluation of different sub-systems of the weapon system.

Pakistan conducts successful flight test of Ababeel Weapon System

RAWALPINDI (APP): Pakistan 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. "The missile system is aimed at strengthening deterrence and enhancing strategic stability in the region through the operationalization of Full Spectrum Deterrence in the overall construct of Credible Minimum Deterrence," an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release said. The test flight launch 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 appreciated the technical prowess, dedication and commitment of all those who contributed towards the successful test. The President, Prime Minister and Services Chiefs also congratulated all members of the Strategic Forces on the achievement.

Caretaker Govt to ensure fair elections in country: Solangi

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi Wednesday said that fundamental responsibility of the caretaker government was to provide a conducive environment for elections and monitor the electoral process. This was stated by him, during separate meetings with Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz) leader Mussadiq Malik and Pakistan People's Party leader Syed Akhunzada Chhattan. During the meetings, issues of mutual interest including upcoming general elections were discussed. Murtaza Solangi said that peaceful transfer of power was topmost priority of the caretaker dispensation. The minister assured both the leaders that caretaker government would ensure that elections were conducted in fair, transparent and impartial elections.

Caretaker Interior Minister condemns Israeli bombing 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 act. He said hospitals and medical staff are protected under international humanitarian law and targeting civilian populations and property 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

President condemns Israel attack on Gaza hospital; calls for immediate ceasefire

ISLAMABAD (APP): 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 immediate halt to the Israeli bombardment and the ongoing siege of Gaza. According to media reports, 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 areas. Inside story of PTI leaders meeting with president: Imran ready to talk to everyone including establishment

ISLAMABAD (Online): Inside story of PTI leaders meeting with president Arif Alvi has come to open. PTI information secretary Rauf Hassan and lawyer Umair Niazi conveyed important message of PTI chairman Imran Khan to the president. Former Prime Minister (PM) is ready to talk to everyone including establishment. President Arif Alvi has been given the task of holding talks with political parties and establishment. Sources said chairman PTI has shown willingness to walk alongside all. Former PM wants role of president on the matter of participation of PTI in general election freely and independently. Chairman PTI has directed 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.

CEC vows to utilize all resources for transparent, peaceful election

QUETTA (APP): Chief Election Commissioner Sikandar Sultan Raja on Wednesday 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 members 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.

REPATRIATION OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

12 DAYS REMAINING

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Governor Punjab says

Youth should play role in driving country to knowledge based economy

Independent Report 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...

in the modern era, those who have access to technology are ahead while those who don't have the access to technology are lagging behind. Governor Punjab said the distribution of laptop among students would bring them at par with the modern world, adding he said that the laptops are being distributed on merit to encourage students and equip them with IT skills...



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 University.

BISE Larkana announces results of HSC Part-II (Pre-Medical) exams-2023

LARKANA (APP): 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...

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 Road in the provincial metropolis...

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...

Naqvi lays foundation stone of FIEDMC management office

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...



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.

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...

problems. "The uses of tobacco, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes, and obesity are a few main causes of heart disease. We must promote awareness and prefer timely diagnosis and treatment approach..."

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...

to come to the vote on Tuesday evening, diplomats said. Russia's UN ambassador, Vasily Nebenzia, said despite the failure, the resolution had spurred the council to action...



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 other, in Gaza City.

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

Monitoring Desk MOSCOW: Russia's parliament moved swiftly to fulfill 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...

EU leaders vow tighter borders, more repatriations after Brussels attack

Monitoring Desk BRUSSELS: The leaders of 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...



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.

UK university suspends students over Gaza rally

Monitoring Desk LONDON: 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"...

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

Monitoring Desk TOKYO: 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...

Hamans says top commander killed in Israeli strike

Monitoring Desk GAZA CITY: Hamas said on Tuesday one of its top leaders was killed during an Israeli 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"...



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...

Lebanon-Israel border clashes escalate, five Hezbollah fighters killed

Monitoring Desk KIRYAT SHMONA: Israeli 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 nearby basis with Hezbollah and Palestinian fighters in Lebanon...

