

Independent

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Karachi

Ph: 0300-3898091 Vol: 05. No. 275 Rabi-ul-Awwal 17, 1445 AH Wednesday October 04, 2023 Pages 04 Price Rs. 12.00

Gave deadline to illegal foreigners Leave Pakistan by Oct 31st

Apex Committee vows to address all security threats in befitting manner

Interior minister warns deportations will begin after deadline; UNHCR says refugee return should be "voluntary and without any pressure".

ISLAMABAD (Online): Apex Committee of the National Action Plan has vowed to deal possible challenges regarding security situation and ensure implementation of constitution and law as per expectations of the people.

The Committee was chaired by Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar in Islamabad on Tuesday.

Chief of Army Staff, concerned federal ministers, provincial chief ministers and heads of all civil and military agencies were present in the meeting.

The participants

made a comprehensive assessment of the country's internal security situation so that possible challenges can be dealt within a sustainable manner.

The participants of the meeting resolved that despite all difficulties writ of the state will be ensured.

Apex Committee made decisions include, withdrawal of illegal foreign nationals residing in Pakistan, the formalization of border movement procedures in which movement across the border will be permitted only on passports and visas and action against

illegal immigration, crack down on trade and property of illegal foreigners.

Meanwhile, a task force has been formed under the Federal Ministry of Home Affairs to investigate fake identity cards, businesses and properties to deal with illegal identity cards and properties.

The Forum reiterated the need to further enhance and strengthen ongoing operations against growing illegal activities including drug trafficking, hoarding, food and currency smuggling, illegal remittances and power theft.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar chairs a meeting of the Apex Committee on National Action Plan.

Promotion of business activities in peaceful environment top priority

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Caretaker Home Minister Brigadier (Retd.) Haris Nawaz has said that the protection of the business community and the promotion of business activities is his top priority.

He expressed these views while visiting the Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) here on Tuesday.

The Minister discussed with the members of the Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry the security situation of the city and mutual cooperation. He said that the business community had a very important and key role in the development and prosperity of the country.

Nawaz said that the caretaker government wanted a strong partnership with the commercial

Asif Zardari expresses grief over death of ex-PPP MNA

KARACHI (APP): Former President Asif Ali Zardari Tuesday expressed his grief and sorrow over death of former MNA Syed Ameer Ali Shah Jamot.

He said that late Syed Ameer Ali Shah's services for democracy and party were unforgettable.

Asif Zardari offered his condolences to the bereaved family of the deceased. He also prayed for the departed soul.

PTI chief's cipher case to be heard in Adiala Jail

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Ministry of Law on Tuesday issued a notification to hold Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman's trial in Adiala jail in the cipher case.

The notification adds that the law and justice division says it has 'no objection' to the trial being held in jail.

The notification was issued after special court judge Abul Hasnat Zulqarnain wrote a letter to the Ministry of Law, asking it to issue a notification to hold the hearing of the cipher case in the Rawalpindi prison due to security concerns.

Earlier, the FIA submitted challan of the cipher case in a special court constituted under the Official Secrets Act. PTI chairman and Vice Chairman Shah Mahmood Qureshi were indicted in the challan.

Ten terrorists killed amid intense exchange of fire in Pezu IBO

RAWALPINDI (APP): As many as ten terrorists were killed on Tuesday by the security forces during an intelligence based operation (IBO) conducted on reported presence of terrorists in the general area Pezu of District Tank.

During the operation, intense fire exchange took place between the Army troops and terrorists, an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release said. The ISPR added that these terrorists remained actively involved in numerous terrorist activities against the security forces as well as extortion and killing of innocent civilians.

Toshakhana cases Imran challenges dismissal of his bail plea

ISLAMABAD (Online): Chairman PTI has resorted to Islamabad High Court (IHC) against dismissal of his bail plea in Toshakhana 190 million pounds scandal cases being not persuaded.

Chairman PTI has taken the plea in the petition Accountability Court (AC) dismissed the bail in both of the cases being not contested. It is requested that AC August 10, 2023 decision be nullified.

Chairman PTI requested through the petition his interim bail be accepted till the decision of the petition.

Chairman NAB has been made respondent in chairman PTI petition.

SC should admit its past mistakes of endorsing martial laws: CJP

Justice Isa astutely observes when martial law is imposed, the solemn oath taken by judges often fades into oblivion

ISLAMABAD: During the hearing of the Supreme Court Practice and Procedure Act case on Tuesday, Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Justice Qazi Faez Isa made a compelling remark, highlighting the havoc being wrought by individuals wielding unchecked power.

He astutely observed that when martial law is imposed, the solemn oath taken by judges often fades into oblivion. In contrast, when parliament enacts laws, the judiciary swiftly reacts, holding lawmakers accountable to their oath. The CJP boldly asserted that the apex court should acknowledge its past mistakes concerning its endorsement of martial laws.

Critics, particularly lawyers, have historically voiced concerns about the

top court's perceived misuse of its jurisdiction under Article 184 (3) of the Constitution of Pakistan. A full court bench of the Supreme Court is hearing petitions challenging the SC (Practice and Procedure) Act 2023. The bench, headed by CJP Isa and comprising all 15 judges of the Supreme Court, is hearing the pleas.

The highly anticipated case is being broadcast live on state television, as cameras from PTV have been installed inside Courtroom No.1. The hearing commenced at 9:30am today. The full court bench, led by CJP Isa, included Justice Ijazul Ahsan, Justice Syed Mansoor Ali Shah, Justice Munib Akhtar, Justice Yahya Afridi, Justice Aminuddin Khan, Justice Sayeed Mazhar Ali Akbar Naqvi, Justice Jamal Khan Mandokhel.



KARACHI: Grand Democratic Alliance (GDA) General Secretary Dr. Safdar Abbasi along with MQM Pakistan leader Dr. Farooq Sattar, JUI-F leader Maulana Rashid Mehmoor Soomro and others addresses to media persons during press conference after meeting, held at Functional House in Karachi.

PTI writes letters to Caretaker PM, CEC over 'missing' party leaders

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) has raised the issue of enforced disappearances of its party leaders and workers in letters to Caretaker PM and the Chief Election Commissioner. The party's secretary general Omar Ayub in separate letters addressed to the Caretaker PM and the CEC has raised the issue and demanded for recovery of disappeared party leaders.

The PTI has also sent the copies of letters to four caretaker chief ministers.

PTI's Farukh Habib, Sadaqat Abbasi, Usman Dar and Awais Younus have been missing for last several days, the party's official wrote in his letter. "The party's Irfan Saleem, Abdul Karim Khan and Awami Muslim League's Sheikh Rashid have also been missing," Umar Ayub wrote.

Secretary of Works and Services Department visits Umarmkot

By Aijaz Mughal
UMARKOT: Secretary of Works and Services Department, Sindh, made a sudden visit to Umarmkot, the officers ran,



expressing their anger at the incomplete construction work of various development schemes, immediate notice will be taken when complaints are received, Mohammad Nawaz Soho, Secretary, Works and Services Sindh, talking to the media. According to the details, the Secretary of the Department of Works and Services Sindh Muhammad Nawaz Soho suddenly reached Umarmkot on his one-day visit. After taking they suddenly new under-construction district headquarters hospital reached Umarmkot. During the inspection of the building, the Secretary Works and Services Sindh was very angry after seeing the construction work of the hospital building, elevator and stairs incomplete.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Interior, Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti addressing a Press Conference.

ECP believes in an open door policy for international observers

ISLAMABAD (Online): A meeting of the Election Commission was held on 3rd October, 2023 at ECP Secretariat under the Chairmanship of the Chief Election Commissioner to mull over visit of international observers for upcoming general elections.

Election Commission of Pakistan intended to send invitations to international observers/media through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) in

of Section 238 of the Elections Act 2017.

It is also pointed out that ECP believes in an open door policy and welcomes observation missions for the upcoming General Elections at the earliest as required.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs was also requested to provide list of organizations who will observe upcoming general elections in order to streamline the process of observation.

Caretaker Finance Minister calls on PM

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Finance Minister Dr Shamsad Akhtar on Tuesday called on Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar. During the meeting, they discussed matters related to Ministry of Finance, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

Justice Irfan Sadaat takes oath as acting Chief Justice

KARACHI (Online): Justice Irfan Sadaat of Sindh High Court has taken oath as acting Chief Justice of Sindh High Court.

Senior Judge Justice Aqeel Ahmed Abbasi has administered the oath of office as acting Chief Justice of Sindh High Court to Justice Irfan Sadaat.

Justice Irfan Sadaat is the most senior judge of Sindh High Court.

It is pertinent to mention here that Chief Justice of Sindh High Court Ahmed Ali M Shaikh has retired on October 2 after completing his term of office.

Four illegal Afghan immigrants held in Karachi

KARACHI (INP): Four illegal Afghan immigrants were apprehended during a crackdown of district West Police as part of ongoing operation against illegal immigrants.

A spokesman for district West Police said on Tuesday that the illegal immigrants were arrested from the limits of Iqbal Market police station in two separate actions.

The detainees were identified as Abdul Baqi, Qudratullah, Fazal and Fida.

The criminal record of the arrested was being checked while a case had been registered and further investigations were underway.

Commissioner for coordinated efforts to improve law & order, welfare activities

KARACHI (APP): Commissioner Muhammad Salim Rajput on Tuesday said coordinated efforts were needed to improve the law and order situation and other issues of the people of mega city and the establishment of coordination committees at divisional, district and sub-division levels will help in this regard.

He said this while presiding over the first meeting of the CPLC Coordination Committee at his office.

He said that the Saylani Welfare Trust has also decided to cooperate in the efforts for the city's improvement and the services being provided to the citizens.

The CPLC and Saylani Trust are doing a



ISLAMABAD: Azerbaijan Ambassador called on Federal Caretaker health minister Dr. Nadeem Jan in his office.

People of Pakistan suffered tremendously from terrorist attacks: US

WASHINGTON (INP): State Department spokesperson Matthew Miller while briefing the media in Washington said that the Pakistanis have suffered tremendously from terrorist attacks.

Matthew Miller said: "The Pakistanis have suffered tremendously from terrorist attacks. They deserve to practice their faith without fear. We of course offer condolences to families who lost loved ones and a speedy recovery to those who are injured."

He said that we cooperate with Pakistan in a

range of multilateral fora on issues including terrorist designations and global strategies to defeat terrorist groups.

"Earlier this year we held a high-level counterterrorism dialogue to discuss the shared terrorist threats facing our two countries and to work on strategies to cooperate in areas such as border security, terrorist financing – and we will continue to work with Pakistan to ensure that we can better assist Pakistan's effort to counter all forms of violent extremism," he said.

Vice Admiral Naveed Ashraf appointed as new Naval Chief



ISLAMABAD (Online): Vice Admiral Naveed Ashraf has been appointed as the new Naval Chief.

According to the spokesperson of Pakistan Navy, change of command ceremony will be held on Saturday in Islamabad.

Naveed Ashraf got commission in the

Operations Branch of Pakistan Navy in 1989.

He is a graduate of National Defense University Islamabad, US Naval War College and UK's Royal College of Defense Studies.

Vice Admiral Naveed Ashraf has vast experience of working in key command and staff positions.

He is currently serving as the Chief of Staff at the Naval Headquarters.

In recognition of his exceptional professional services and valiance, Naveed Ashraf has also been awarded with Hilal-e-Imtiaz (Military) and Tamgha-i-Basalat.



KARACHI: Health worker administering polio drops to a child at Cantt Station.

Daily Voice of Masses
Independent

Interim Govt's firm resolve against terrorism & smuggling

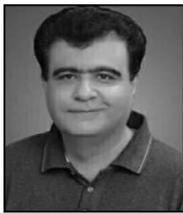
The interim government under leadership of Prime Minister, Anwaarul Haq Kakar has expressed its unwavering resolve against the smuggling and terrorism in the country. At a presser alongside Interim Information Minister Murtaza Solangi in Islamabad the other day, caretaker Interior Minister Sarfaraz Bugti asserted that there is a "zero-tolerance policy" against smuggling and terrorism, adding that crackdowns against smuggling have borne fruit in cooperation with provinces. Bugti detailed the anti-smuggling operations in the country and said that the economy was suffering massive losses before the crackdowns began. He reiterated that Indian intelligence agency RAW is involved in terrorist activities in Balochistan. The Interior Minister said that the government had managed to bring down the value of the dollar and was making more efforts to bring it down to its original value. He said that action had been taken against 168 currency smugglers.

He said that data on food had been gathered from all provinces and sugar smuggling had been clamped down upon using modern technology. At this important press conference, Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti revealed that Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Syed Asim Munir has given very clear instructions to his men that if any of them is found involved in smuggling he will not only be court-martialed but also be sent to jail. He also said that thousands of metric tons of wheat, sugar, urea, and petroleum products had been recovered as a result of successful anti-smuggling and anti-hoarding drive by the government.

While giving details, he said around 22,200 metric tons of wheat, 8,800 metric tons sugar, 4,300 metric tons urea, and petroleum products worth 10,195 metric tons so far recovered during the last one month. Regarding the anti-narcotics drive, the Interior Minister said 43 metric tons of drugs were seized with the registration of 200 cases. Talking about the drive against the smuggling of dollars and illegal money exchange, Sarfaraz Bugti said 168 First Information Reports were lodged against people involved in this illegal activity. Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti went on to say that security officials were involved in cross-border smuggling.

It won't be right if I say straightaway that security forces weren't involved in it, as all this smuggling was being carried out via trucks, not camels. Responding to a question, Sarfaraz Bugti told there are widespread allegations about the involvement of security forces in cross-border smuggling. The remarks of the caretaker minister came amidst the federal government's countrywide crackdown against smugglers involved in the illegal transportation of goods including wheat, sugar and fertilizers and dollars from Pakistan to Afghanistan and petroleum products from Iran to Pakistan. Referring to a meeting, Bugti said that Army Chief had told his people in clear words that those found involved in smuggling would not only be court-martialed but also sent behind the bars. He said that he was part of the meeting. "But their (Army's) process of accountability is not made public and thus doesn't come into our knowledge."

Democracy stalls



Dr Niaz Murtaza

Our democratic journey is like that of a small boat caught in stormy seas. But in a country where the vast majority has not seen the fruits of democracy in real life, it is often hard for many to realise that democracy matters. Even highly educated persons often argue that we need good governance, whether it comes from democracy or autocracy. Such talk reflects the sorry reality that even after 75 years, we have no consensus on democracy, unlike in most Saarc states where democracy is a given and the only debate is on improving it. It also reflects the sordid fact that such people have not done a serious analysis of our own and global trends to realise that only democracy leads to durable good governance. Thus, such talk is reflective of not wisdom but naivete.

Democracy is a form of governance based on participation, tolerance and human rights unlike despotism. But for even many educated people, these are abstract luxuries that we can't afford yet and governance must yield immediate economic progress, infrastructure, utilities and law and order even if via autocracy. A regime that doesn't ensure participation, tolerance and human rights can't give the latter concrete outcomes for too long, as global trends show.

Among the four autocracy types, monarchies are almost all gone, except the Gulf ones which thrive only on oil money. Army regimes today all do poorly in

Myanmar, Sudan, Egypt and West Africa. Theocracy in Iran and Afghanistan is struggling. Among one-party autocracies, only China and Vietnam do well, but most others — as in North Korea, Cambodia, Laos and Central Asia — don't. Also, none of our parties have the strength to be given carte blanche. Against this, dozens of democracies are doing well, even regionally. But democracy takes time to mature and deliver. In India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, it took decades. Yet people there still stuck with it to later pick its tasty fruits.

In Pakistan, even a few years of bad outcomes under a severely controlled democracy grappling with the bad legacies of long autocracy are enough for us to yearn for autocracy despite its decades of poor outcomes notwithstanding absolute powers and lavish US aid. Many blame all our ills on democracy even though we have not had even for one day the unshackled democracy some of our neighbours have had for decades. There were no national polls from 1947 to 1958 and a dubious constitution only lasted two years. Since 1958, our history is simple: we have been ruled directly by the establishment or by three parties (the PPP, PML-N and PTI) whose founders were initially brought into politics by the establishment which later fell foul of all three. Thirteen out of our 15 national polls and referendum since 1958 were seen to be rigged by the establishment and one by civilians (1977). We have obviously invented a fifth autocracy type — hybrid autocracy chairs — where the establishment keeps changing the junior civilian face once it invariably becomes too big for its boots and starts wanting to don the establishment's bigger

and shinier boots, only to be booted out.

Until 1971, the main impetus for autocracy came from the Bengali numerical edge that banded together western civilian and khaki elites against democracy. Since then, the main impetus is the establishment's unwillingness to let civilians rule. All three civilian elite groups — landed, commercial and middle class — have taken turns at forming parties, winning with varying levels of establishment support initially and then trying to tame it. Our problems are not the fruits of democracy but the thorns of autocracy as even our civilian regimes are establishment-controlled.

The five forms of autocracy can't deliver in a huge, diverse and unruly state like ours. The way forward is democracy. Despite all the beating democracy has taken, its pre-fruits quickly sprout whenever the establishment loosens its grip even briefly as in 1972-77 and 2008-2018 in the form of the Constitution, devolution and fair polls. True, governance was still bad as democracy matures slowly. Yet, our situation now is so bad, we can't wait for democracy to yield good governance slowly. We need good governance right after the next polls to avoid doom. But we must not try to get it via a hybrid regime; it must be through fair polls. The media, civil society, the people, donors etc must democratically pressurise the winner to appoint a competent prime minister and cabinet, from its ranks and beyond, which undertakes equitable reforms while the Zardaris, Sharifs and Imran run their parties and support reforms. The next regime may be a make or break one for us. We can't afford another business-as-usual one. If it fails, so may Pakistan. -- Courtesy Dawn

Washed away



Sajjad Hussain Changezi

Calls for protests against inflated electricity bills and increased fuel prices have become common in Pakistan's big cities, but one wonders how poor families in the rural areas are faring in the midst of such hardship. A household survey of 600 families in district Kech in Balochistan, Pakistan's poorest province, gives shocking details.

Survey respondents included families apparently benefiting from the BRACE Programme, an EU-funded poverty reduction initiative implemented by the Balochistan and National Rural Support Programmes. The survey reveals that although average monthly household income has increased by 29 per cent since the baseline in 2018, monthly expenditure has risen by more than 34pc. Despite the best efforts of NRSP and supporting partners, the end result is that poverty in these households has increased, with a net negative saving amount. If the beneficiaries of a poverty-reduction initiative are suffering setbacks, one can only imagine what rural families not covered by any social protection scheme must be going through.

ForeSight Research, a Karachi-based research firm, conducted the baseline in 2018, midline in 2021 and endline in 2023. The surveys also reveal that the lion's share, ie, 72pc of total household expenditure averaging Rs24,720 is spent on food. This was 60pc in 2018 and 66pc in

2021. If three-fourths of a family's budget is taken up by food expenses, there is no room to build assets or invest in personal and professional skills development. This is also evident from the land ownership pattern which has reduced since 2018. A decline of 5pc has been reported. In other words, most households are living at the basic survival level or even struggling to maintain the ownership of their assets.

Another major finding of the survey is that the impact of climate change has made its way from science conferences and university research papers into the common people's lives. Nothing shows that more clearly than when people from two tehsils of a single district complain about two contrasting weather phenomena. In Tump tehsil in Kech district, 45pc of the respondents complained about "excessive rainfall", whereas 50pc of the respondents in Turbat tehsil of the same district cited "lesser rainfall" as the major climate problem. A climate change expert can explain that although the obvious impact may vary from one village to another, droughts and floods are two sides of the same coin, ie, climate change.

The unpredictability of rainfall has made it difficult for rural communities to make arrangements for the safety of their families, crops and livestock. Over the last five years, loss of livestock has reportedly increased from 24pc to 45pc, loss of agricultural output from 15pc to 44pc and damage to personal property from 19pc to 26pc.

Families and communities usually step up in response to external challenges but beyond a certain threshold, they lose their stamina to put up a united front against visible external threats such as climate change. It is a most worrying find-

ing that, after the initial increase in collective efforts to protect the environment, as noted in the midline survey, fewer respondents now say they are continuing tree plantation efforts, preventing deforestation or adapting to extreme weather conditions by means of improved house construction.

Economic hardships beyond a certain threshold also result in social deterioration. This is evident from the fact that the perception of people helping each other in need has decreased from 56pc in 2018 and 30pc in 2021 to 20pc in 2023. Not surprisingly, when surveyors inquired about trust in local representatives, an increased percentage of respondents — 29pc in 2023 compared to 20pc in 2021 and 15pc in 2018 — opted for "no trust".

Balochistan has long suffered from political instability and economic deprivation but now poor families across the country are nosediving into poverty. The middle class is rapidly thinning and millions of families find it hard to keep their hopes alive for economic betterment. The economic situation needs a stable political leadership to plan and implement concrete measures, especially in regions vulnerable to climate change.

As for the international community, these findings should serve as yet another reminder that the regions and communities surveyed, though contributing least to environmental pollution are the ones bearing the brunt of climate change. The European Union has focused on Balochistan but the centre and the provincial government need to lead from the front to support the rural, poor and marginalised communities of Balochistan. -- Courtesy Dawn

Commerce News

ADB report

Political stability following elections to boost business confidence in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Asian Development Bank (ADB) said in its recent report that political stability after upcoming elections in Pakistan could boost business confidence and pave way for new standby arrangement with International Monetary Fund (IMF).

"Political stability following general elections later this year, if achieved, will boost business confidence, as will a new standby arrangement agreed with the International Monetary Fund to support economic

stabilization and rebuild fiscal buffers," says Asian Development Outlook (ADO) for September 2023.

The outlook has slightly revised Pakistan's growth target to 1.9 percent for the fiscal year 2023-24 against its projections of 2 percent made in April 2023.

"In Pakistan, growth is forecast at 1.9% in FY2024, slightly below the April projection, assuming continued implementation of reforms and supportive macroeconomic policies, recovery from flood-

induced supply shocks, and improving external conditions," it added.

The report revised down the country's growth estimate for FY2023 to 0.3% (0.6% forecast in April).

According to report, the revised projection assumes a modest rebound in demand, with private consumption and private investment growing by about 3% and 5%, respectively.

Fiscal and monetary tightening will crimp demand, as will inflation staying in double digits. On

the other hand, implementation of the economic adjustment program and a likely smooth general election should boost confidence, while the easing of import controls should support investment as fiscal tightening restrains public consumption.

On the output side, better weather conditions will enable an increase in the area under cultivation and in yields, supporting recovery in agriculture.

The government's relief package of free seeds, subsidized credit,



Caretaker Federal Minister for National Food Security and Research, Dr. Kausar Abdullah Malik chaired a meeting on Seed System of Pakistan and reviewed its challenges and future prospects at Islamabad.

Shahid Tarar says: PR's existing infrastructure, rolling stock to be improved through private investments

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Railways, Communication, and Maritime Shahid Ashraf Tarar Tuesday said the existing infrastructure, rolling stock, factories, and railway stations will be improved through private sector investments.

He said this while chairing a high-level meeting at the Ministry of Railways to discuss the

self-reliance plan of Pakistan Railways. Shahid Ashraf said that Pakistan Railways is following three pronged strategy to revive and expand railways in the country which include safety, efficiency, and self-reliance.

The minister said that Pakistan Railways has taken several initiatives to cut costs and enhance its revenue.

Chairman HCCI's subcommittee of Traffic, Road management meets SP Traffic

HYDERABAD (APP): On the directives of the Hyderabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry Adeel Siddiqui, Chairman of the Sub-committee of Traffic and Road Management Syed Ali Hassan Laljal along with members Muhammad Adnan Khan and Muhammad Danish met with SP Traffic Ghulam Rasool Sial and discussed the matters related to mutual interest.

SP Traffic Ghulam Rasool Sial said that police constables were per-

forming their duty on busy roads, Schools, Colleges and main commercial markets and also assisting to maintain the smooth flow of vehicles on the roads.

He said that traffic police sergeants and SO were monitoring the traffic system while the quick response force was also working for the restoration of traffic on emergency basis. He said that steps would be taken immediately for the restoration of traffic in those areas which were highlighted by the sub-committee of HCCI.

KCCI, NUTECH ink MoU for establishment of campus in Karachi

KARACHI (APP): The Karachi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) and National University of Technology (NUTECH), on Tuesday, inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for establishment of NUTECH Karachi Campus. President KCCI Iftikhar Ahmed Sheikh and Registrar NUTECH Islamabad Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Moazzam Ejaz, signed the MoU here at KCCI, wherein both institutions have mutually agreed upon

principles for establishment of NUTECH Karachi Campus (NKC), said a statement issued here.

The MoU signing ceremony was attended by Director General Airport Security Force (ASF) Maj. Gen. Adnan Asif Jha, Pro Rector NUTECH Maj. Gen. Khalid Javed, Registrar NUTECH Brigadier Dr. Syed Adnan Qasim, Chairman Businessmen Group (BMG) Zubair Motiwala and other representatives

of business community.

As per MoU, NUTECH and KCCI will jointly develop NKC academics, research and skills system based on export-supported strategies while both the institutions would also collaborate for intellectual, research, academic and professional cooperation to promote creation, development, implementation, transfer and export of indigenous industrial knowledge, technologies and skills.

Chinese policy bank ups loan support for farmland cultivation

BEIJING (APP): The China Development Bank (CDB), one of the country's policy banks, has stepped up loan support for the cultivation of high-standard farmland. By the middle of September, the lender had issued a total of 24.5 billion yuan (about 3.42 billion U.S. dollars) in loans to support farmland cultivation, which is expected to help foster 4.25 million mu (about 283,333 hectares) of high-standard farmland.

Rabi crop cultivation and season starts

Independent Report UMER KOT: Rabi crop cultivation and season has started, Urea pesticide and black marketing continues, farmers and farmers are in trouble and demand to take notice.

According to the details, preparations have started for the cultivation of rabi crops such as wheat, springer, wadaf and others in Umardot district including Kunari taluka. of black marketing. Due to this, the farmers and the farmers are suffering from severe problems, due to which the spring season and wheat

harvest target is affected. Instead of the rate of 11 thousand 591 rupees, it is being sold at 12 thousand 01 rupees.

Even though the rate is higher from 02 hundred to 05 rupees, urea fertilizer is not available in the market. From where they are busy selling urea fertilizer in black at high prices to influential farmers, various fertilizer dealers in their position blamed the ongoing crisis on the fertilizer companies and said that the fertilizer companies did not get the required quantity of urea fertilizer on time.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Railways, Shahid Ashraf Tarar chairing a meeting at Ministry of Railways.

HESCO recovers Rs2.835 billion from consumers, electricity thieves

HYDERABAD (APP): The Hyderabad Electric Supply Company (HESCO) has recovered Rs2.835 billion since September 7 out of Rs169 billion in payable dues over the public and private sector consumers as well as in fines from the electricity thieves.

The company's spokesman Sadiq Kubar informed here on Tuesday that 1075 letters for registration of FIRs against electricity thieves had also been submitted in various police stations during the ongoing crackdown against theft and for the recovery.

According to him, the police had so far lodged 409

FIRs besides arresting 43 suspected thieves.

He said that the power supply from 1,159 pole-mounted transformers had been disconnected so far including the removal of 224 PMTs against which unpaid dues had accrued to Rs365.2 million.

He apprised that the highest recoveries of Rs318.28 million and Rs274.75 million were made on September 18 and September 15, respectively, from the defaulting consumers while the lowest recovery of Rs36.9 million was done on September 12.

Rupee gains Rs 1.04 against US Dollar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistani Rupee on Tuesday witnessed 20th consecutive recovery session as it gained Rs 1.04 against the US dollar in the interbank trading and closed at Rs 285.72 against the previous day's closing of Rs 286.76.

However, according to the Forex Association of Pakistan (FAP), the buying and selling rates of the dollar in the open market stood at Rs 283.5 and Rs 286.3 respectively. The price of the Euro decreased Rs 3.34 to close at Rs 299.56 against the last day's closing of Rs 302.90, according to the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP).

Wars are devastating for humanity Governor Punjab regrets suppression of Kashmiri people by India

Says efforts made by HWPL in world for peace are praise worthy

Independent Report
LAHORE: A delegation of an international peace organization, Heavenly Culture World Peace Restoration Light (HWPL) working for global peace, led by Senator Kamran Michael called on Punjab Governor, Muhammad Balighur Rehman here today at Governor House Lahore.

Speaking on the occasion, Punjab Governor Muhammad Balighur

Rehman said that the efforts made by HWPL in the world for peace since 2014 are praise worthy. He said that wars are devastating for humanity.

He said that the Kashmiris in Occupied Jammu and Kashmir are still deprived of their legitimate right to self-determination. Governor Punjab said that India is trying to suppress the legitimate right of self-determination of

Kashmiris by usurping their basic human rights.

He said that international organizations should ensure the implementation of the UN resolutions to resolve the Kashmir issue.

Governor Punjab said international peace organizations need to be more active and play an effective role in resolving Palestine and Kashmir issues for durable peace in the world.



LAHORE: A delegation of an International Peace Organization, Heavenly Culture World Peace Restoration Light (HWPL) working for global peace, led by Senator Kamran Michael in a group photo with Punjab Governor, Muhammad Balighur Rehman at Governor House Lahore.

CM reviews law & order situation in province

Independent Report
LAHORE: Punjab Caretaker Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi chaired a meeting at his office to review the steps taken for the protection of life and property of the people in the province.

It was decided that stringent action would be taken against those inciting violence in the name of religion and every possible step will be taken to stop the financing of such elements. Additionally, individuals aiding wrongdoers will face intensified scrutiny, with no exceptions for those operating outside the bounds of the law.

Mohsin Naqvi ordered an organised crackdown on miscreants and criminal gangs,

emphasizing that no faction or gang would be permitted to disrupt the peace of the province.

IG police briefed about the law and order situation in the province, along with updates on legal action taken against miscreants. The meeting also paid tribute to the valiant policemen who thwarted a terrorist attack on the Kundal check post in Mianwali. Provincial Information Minister Amir Mir, chief secretary, ACS, secretary law, ACS (Home), Addl IG (Special Branch), CCPO, secretary prosecution, Addl IG (CTD), high officials and representatives from law enforcement agencies attended the meeting while RPOs participated through video link.

CM pins promotional badges to CSO

Independent Report
LAHORE (APP): Hamza Amanullah, Chief Security Officer (CSO) of Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab has been promoted to the rank of Senior SP.

Punjab Caretaker Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi and IG Police Usman Anwar pinned the badges to Hamza Amanullah as Senior SP. Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi felicitated Hamza Amanullah and expressed his best wishes for his continued success in his new role. CCPO Bilal Kamyana was also present.

Follow Quran, Sunnah for peace in society: Nighat

Independent Report
FAISALABAD (APP): Renowned religious scholar Dr. Nighat Hashmi said that application of the Quran and Sunnah to daily life would help reduce intolerance in society and spread the fragrance of love and peace.

She was addressing a seminar arranged by the Career Building Society, Senior Tutor Office, University of Agriculture Faisalabad (UAF) at the Iqbal Auditorium on Tuesday. She stressed following in footsteps of the last Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (Peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and said we have to make efforts to eliminate hatred in society.

Governor KP stresses upon faculty to improve ranking of institution

Independent Report
PESHAWAR (APP): Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Haji Ghulam Ali here Tuesday laid foundation stone of new academic bloc in Edwards College Peshawar and stressed upon faculty members to revive the past fame and educational standard of the institution.

During visit, the governor also planted a sapling on the college premises.

Provincial Caretaker Minister, Hamid Shah,

faculty members and large number of students were also present.

He said that improving educational standard of the college was among his priorities, adding that resources would be utilized to improve its ranking.

"As a resident of Peshawar, it is my responsibility to work for improvement of the institutions that was one for its reputation and standard of education", he said.



LAHORE: Representative of Motorway Police and Administrators of Bus transportation Company participate in the awareness rally about smog and fog, at General Bus stand in Provincial Capital.

05 dead, 1388 injured in 1302 road traffic crashes in Punjab

Independent Report
LAHORE: The Emergency Services Department (ESD) responded to 1302 Road Traffic Crashes (RTCs) in all 37 districts of Punjab during the last 24 hours. In these RTCs, 05 people died, whereas 1388 were injured. Out of these, 687 people with serious injuries were shifted to different hospitals, while 701 victims with minor injuries were treated at the incident site by Rescue Medical Teams thus reducing the burden of Hospitals.

The majority (74%) involved Motorbikes, therefore effective enforcement of traffic laws and lane discipline are essential to reduce the increasing number of road traffic crashes.

Furthermore, the analysis showed those 654

drivers, 44 underage drivers, 188 pedestrians, and 551 passengers were among the victims of road traffic crashes. The statistics show that 343 RTCs were reported in Lahore which affected 345 persons placing the Provincial Capital at top of the list followed by 95 in Multan with 93 victims and at third Faisalabad with 78 RTCs and 82 victims.

The details further reveal that 1388 victims were affected by road traffic crashes including 1130 males & 263 females, while the age group of the victims shows that 191 were under 18 years of age, 770 were between 18 and 40 years and rest of the 432 victims were reported above 40 years of age.



PESHAWAR: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Ghulam Ali along with others cutting cake during a ceremony on the eve of National Day of China, at China Window in Peshawar.

CM aide urges swift progress on Nowshera Mega City Housing project

Independent Report
PESHAWAR: Special Assistant to the Caretaker Chief Minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for Housing and Transport Zafar Ullah Khan Umarzai on Tuesday advocated for expeditious progress in the development of the inaugural phase of the Mega City Nowshera Housing Project.

During the meeting, Umarzai emphasized the importance of expediting the first phase of the Mega City Nowshera housing scheme, urging the Khyber

Pakhtunkhwa Housing Authority (KPHA) officials to complete the initial phase promptly and initiate preparations for the next phase. Dr. Ambar Ali Khan, Secretary of the Housing Department, Javed Ali, Additional Secretary, Roshan Mehsood, Director General of KPHA, Imran Wazir, Additional Director General, and other authority officers were present in the meeting.

The meeting included a comprehensive briefing by the secretary on the Mega City project.

SFA closes kitchen of JSMU for poor hygiene

Independent Report
KARACHI (APP): The Sindh Food Authority (SFA), on Tuesday, temporarily closed the kitchen of Jinnah Sindh Medical University (JSMU) due to poor hygiene conditions while a penalty of Rs.80,000 was also imposed.

An SFA team led by Deputy Director of Canteens Pervaiz Ali Shahani paid a surprise visit to JSMU and inspected the kitchen was found in a very poor hygiene condition, said a statement issued here.

On the occasion, he also directed the university administration to improve cleanliness as per principles of hygiene.

Another team of SFA led by Deputy Director Yasin Sabzoi inspected several restaurants in the district Karachi South on directives of Director General SFA Agha Fakhar Hussain. The team imposed fines amounting to Rs.100000 for poor cleanliness and unsatisfactory hygiene conditions while the kitchen of a restaurant has also been temporarily closed.

Sindh issues alert for Nipah virus

Independent Report
KARACHI (INP): The Sindh Health Department has issued an advisory regarding the potential spread of the dangerous "Nipah" virus, which has affected numerous individuals in India.

In the advisory, the medical superintendents, directors, and livestock departments have been advised to exercise caution in a letter sent by Sindh's director of health to hospi-

itals around the state.

The Nipah virus is known to transmit quickly between and among people and from animals. The warning also lists the virus's symptoms, which can include fever, headaches, body pains, and, in severe cases, coma.

The Nipah virus was first identified in 1998 during an outbreak of illness among pig farmers in Malaysia and Singapore.

International News

EU assures Kyiv of support after first meeting outside bloc's borders

Monitoring Desk
KYIV: The European Union signalled its long-term support for Ukraine on Monday as its foreign ministers convened in Kyiv for a historic first gathering outside the bloc's borders.

The meeting came as disagreements grow among EU members over support for Ukraine and as Kyiv's forces make limited gains in a high-stakes counteroffensive against Russian troops.

"We are convening in a historic meeting of the EU foreign ministers here in Ukraine, candidate country and future member of the EU," the bloc's foreign policy chief Josep Borrell said in a statement.

The purpose of the meeting was to "express

our solidarity and support to the Ukrainian people", he said, acknowledging that the gathering "does not have the aim of reaching concrete conclusions and decisions".

Ukraine's Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba hailed the discussions as an important signal of European support. "For the first time ever the foreign affairs council is going to sit down outside of its current borders — outside the borders of the European Union — but within future borders of the European Union," Kuleba told reporters alongside Borrell.

There are growing fears of cracks appearing within the bloc as concern also rises over the support

of key backer the United States. Hungary, Russia's closest ally in the EU, could now be joined by Slovakia as a potential block to more backing as populist Robert Fico pushes for power in Bratislava after winning elections this weekend.

There have also been tensions between Kyiv and some of its most strident backers on the EU's eastern edge — most notably Poland — over the influx of Ukrainian grain into their markets.

France's top diplomat Catherine Colonna appeared to address the concerns, saying the meeting was a signal to Moscow of the bloc's determination to support Ukraine over the long term.



Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy speaks with European Union Foreign Policy Chief Josep Borrell as they visit the Memory Wall of Fallen Defenders of Ukraine, amid Russia's attack on Ukraine, during the marking of Defenders of Ukraine Day in Kyiv.

Armenia's parliament votes to join the International Criminal Court, straining ties with ally Russia

Monitoring Desk
YEREVAN: Armenia's parliament voted Tuesday to join the International Criminal Court, a move that further strains the country's ties with its old ally Russia after the court issued an arrest warrant for President Vladimir Putin over events in Ukraine.

Moscow last month called Yerevan's effort to join the ICC an "unfriendly step," and the Russian Foreign Ministry summoned Armenia's am-

bassador. Countries that have signed and ratified the Rome Statute that created the ICC are bound to arrest Putin, who was indicted for war crimes connected to the deportation of children from Ukraine, if he sets foot on their soil.

Armenia later sought to assure Russia that Putin would not be arrested if he entered the country.

Still, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov called Tuesday's decision "incorrect," say-

ing it will raise "additional questions" in Moscow, even though Armenia is "our ally, a friendly state, our partner, and a lot unites us with the brotherly Armenian people."

Asked if Putin would have to refrain from traveling to Armenia, he added: "Of course, we wouldn't want the president to have to ever, for whatever reason, refuse a visit to Armenia." A diplomatic solution is needed and will be discussed with Yerevan, he said.

Kremlin says Russia has not abandoned moratorium on nuclear testing

Monitoring Desk
MOSCOW: The Kremlin said on Tuesday that Russia had not abandoned a moratorium on nuclear testing, and dismissed a suggestion by the editor of a state television channel that Moscow should detonate a thermonuclear device in Siberia as a warning to the West.

President Vladimir Putin, who rules the world's biggest nuclear power, has repeatedly cautioned the West that any attack on Russia could provoke a nuclear response.

The Soviet Union's last nuclear test took place in 1990. The United States' last nuclear test took place in 1992 and France and

China conducted their last nuclear tests in 1996, according to the United Nations. The Kremlin said it had not abandoned the moratorium when asked about remarks by Margarita Simonyan, the editor-in-chief of state-funded broadcaster RT, who suggested that Russia should detonate a nuclear bomb over Siberia.

"At present, we have not left the regime of abandoning nuclear tests," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters. "I don't think such discussions are possible now from an official point of view," Peskov said, adding that Simonyan's words did not "always" reflect Moscow's official position.



Armenian lawmakers attend the session of the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia in Yerevan.

At least 10 people are dead after church roof collapsed in northern Mexico during Sunday Mass

Monitoring Desk
CIUDAD MADERO: The roof of a church collapsed during Sunday Mass, killing at least 10 people and injuring around 60, authorities said as searchers probed in the wreckage throughout the night and into Monday morning looking for survivors and more victims.

Approximately 30 parishioners were believed to have been trapped in the rubble when the roof caved in, officials said. Searchers crawled under the roof slabs and officials brought in dogs to help search for possible survivors.

The Tamaulipas state police said about 100 people were in the church at the time of the collapse.

The state security spokesman's office said early Monday that 10 people had been confirmed dead from the collapse, which it described as likely being caused by a structural failure. The office said 23 of the 60 injured remain hospitalized, with two in serious condition.

The Mexican Council of Bishops issued a statement saying that "we join in prayer at the tragic loss of life and those injured."



Members of a rescue team and people work at a site where a church roof collapsed during Sunday mass in Ciudad Madero, in Tamaulipas state, Mexico in this handout picture distributed.

Niger says 29 soldiers killed in attack, rejects Algerian mediation

Monitoring Desk
NIAMEY: At least 29 Niger soldiers were killed in an ambush by insurgents near the country's border with Mali, the defence ministry said, the deadliest attack since the military seized power in a coup in July.

Separately, the Niger junta denied it had accepted an offer by Algeria to act as a mediator to solve its political crisis, even though Algeria had said on Monday it had received official notification of Niger's acceptance.

Niger and its neighbours Mali and Burkina Faso, also run by military governments that seized power in coups, are all battling militants linked to al Qaeda and Islamic State who have killed thousands and displaced over two million people in the Sahel region. They signed a security pact last month promising to defend each other against rebels or aggressors.

The attack in Niger took place as soldiers were returning from operations against the militants.

Nepal hit by two earthquakes, injuring 11 and triggering landslide

Monitoring Desk
KATHMANDU: Two earthquakes rocked western Nepal on Tuesday, injuring 11 people, damaging homes and triggering a landslide that blocked a major highway, authorities said.

The landslide after the quakes of magnitude 6.3 and 5.3 in the district of Bajhang, bordering India, blocked the road to the southern plains, interior ministry official Rama Acharya told Reuters.

The quakes, centred in Talkot and Chainpur, struck at an interval of about 30 minutes.

Police official Bharat Bahadur Shah said 11 people — seven women and four men — were injured and were being treated in hospital.

One woman was missing after being hit by another landslide triggered by the quake, he said.

One of the injured people was hit by a falling object, said Narayan Pandey, the top district official. Some homes in Chainpur, a town in the district, collapsed.

India tells Canada to withdraw 41 diplomats: report

Monitoring Desk
NEW DELHI: India has told Canada that it must repatriate 41 diplomats by October 10, the Financial Times reported on Tuesday. Ties between New Delhi and Ottawa have become seriously strained over Canadian suspicion that Indian government agents had a role in the June murder in Canada of a Sikh separatist leader and Canadian citizen, Hardeep Singh Nijjar, who India had labelled a "terrorist".

Nijjar, 45, was the president of Guru Nanak Sikh

Gurdwara temple in Surrey, British Columbia and advocated for the creation of a Sikh state known as Khalistan. India has dismissed the allegation as absurd. On September 21, Trudeau called on India to cooperate with an investigation into the murder of the separatist leader in British Columbia and said Canada would not release its evidence for their claims.

India suspended new visas for Canadians and asked Ottawa to reduce its diplomatic presence in the country on the same day.

Nine killed after Mexican church roof collapses

Monitoring Desk
MEXICO CITY: A church roof collapsed during Sunday Mass in a northern Mexican city killing at least nine people and injuring 40, authorities said, as rescuers worked into the night, desperately looking for another 30 people believed to be trapped under the rubble. Working under floodlights, military personnel supported emergency services using rescue dogs and earth moving equipment to identify and dig out survivors from the ruins of the church in Ciudad Madero.



ISLAMABAD: President Dr. Arif Alvi addressing the convocation ceremony of the dentistry and nursing departments of the Foundation University School of Health Science (FUSH).

President stresses competitive jobs opportunities for professionals to prevent brain drain

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Dr Arif Alvi on Tuesday said Pakistan was in high need of retaining its skilled professionals including doctors and nurses, and stressed that the present situation necessitates an effective strategy to prevent brain drain.

"Offering competitive job opportunities and creating a favourable work environment is essential to reduce the loss of our precious intellectual elite," he said in his address here at the convocation of the dentistry and nursing departments of the Foundation University School of Health Science (FUSH).

President Alvi said the

country invested its resources in doctors, engineers, and other professionals, while the statistics were 25 percent in India and Bangladesh. The situation needed a strategy to set up more medicine schools to accommodate a greater number of students, he added. The president pointed out that the women doctors who quit their professional fields while in a struggle to balance their family lives was a huge loss to the country. He urged them not to walk away from their professions and contribute towards the betterment of society.

Dr Alvi said only nine percent of students of F.Sc (Faculty of Sciences) Pre-

Medical got admission to medical colleges in Pakistan, while the statistics were 25 percent in India and Bangladesh. The situation needed a strategy to set up more medicine schools to accommodate a greater number of students, he added. The president pointed out that the women doctors who quit their professional fields while in a struggle to balance their family lives was a huge loss to the country. He urged them not to walk away from their professions and contribute towards the betterment of society.

Dr Alvi said only nine percent of students of F.Sc (Faculty of Sciences) Pre-

workplaces and welcoming them to productive circles after their maternity leave was important.

The president advised the medical graduates to adopt the values of empathy and kindness while treating their patients. He highlighted the importance of preventative medicine by educating the masses about communicable diseases and oral hygiene. Director of Foundation University School of Health Sciences, Major General (ret'd) Imran Fazal said the institution was contributing towards the betterment of society.

Also, he said, creating a harassment-free environment for women doctors at patient care and management.

Aneeq emphasizes unity among Muslim nations for global influence

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony, Aneeq Ahmed on Tuesday said the Muslim countries would have to portray a soft image of Ummah with concerted efforts on the globe.

He said this in a meeting with Bahraini Parliament Member and former Speaker Sheikh Adel bin Abdulrahman Almuawda, who called on him here in his office.

Sheikh Almuawda met with Minister Aneeq along with Pakistani scholars including Maulana Abu Turab, Maulana Atiqur Rehman Shah Kashmiri, Professor Sajjad Qamar,

and Maulana Hafiz Maqsood Ahmad.

During their discussions, both leaders emphasized the promotion of unity within the Muslim Ummah, addressing common issues, and combatting Islamophobia.

Minister Aneeq reaffirmed that Pakistan's foundation was rooted in the Quran and Sunnah, and stressed the need for Muslim nations to work collectively to manifest the teachings of Islam.

He highlighted that as Muslims, it was crucial to align their actions with Quranic guidance and promote Islamic values to the world.

Nawaz has vast record of completing development projects: Mushahid

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman Senate Standing Committee for Defense Mushahid Hussain Syed on Tuesday said that Ex Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has vast record of completing development projects in Pakistan.

A large number of people like working style of Nawaz Sharif, he said while talking to a private television channel. Nawaz Sharif, he said had a glorious period of launching China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), and construction of motorways. CPEC is a game changer, he said adding that Pakistan's geographical situation de-

mands to work with regional nations to bring prosperity for the people of this country. We have a high ratio of young talented men and women, he said adding there is an urgent need to utilize the potential of these educated and skilled youngsters for achieving fast growth for Pakistan.

To a question about leadership qualities, he said it was very difficult time for former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif to decide testing nuclear bombs in response of India. "Credit goes to Nawaz Sharif for making Pakistan a nuclear power state on May 28, 1998," he said.

Commissioner Sukkur visits Sachal Library Khairpur

SUKKUR (APP): The Divisional Commissioner Sukkur, Samiuddin Siddiqui along with Deputy Commissioner (DC) Khairpur, Syed Ahmed Fawad Shah and Assistant Commissioner (AC), Syed Muhammad Ali Shah on Tuesday visited the Sachal Sarmast Sindh Government Library Khairpur.

In-charge of Lincoln Corner gave a detailed briefing to the Divisional Commissioner about the academic activities in the library, the preparation of the students for the CSS and

other competitive exams, including the placements of the students.

Commissioner directed the DC Khairpur to arrange a program for the students who show outstanding performance in Khairpur and Sachal Sarmast Sindh Government Library Khairpur.

In order to provision further facilities, he directed the Librarian of Sachal Sarmast Library, that all the details may be submitted to DC Khairpur.



HYDERABAD: Members of Hyderabad Union of Journalists (HUJ) are against killing of Senior Journalist Jan Muhammad Mahar and demanding to arrest his murderers, at Hyderabad press club.

DC constitutes committees for resolving people problems

HYDERABAD (APP): Deputy Commissioner Hyderabad Tariq Qureshi has constituted committees led by Assistant Commissioners on the taluka level for resolving related issues and ensuring the provision of facilities in the Health and Education department.

In this connection a meeting was held under chair Assistant Commissioner Latifabad Faraz Ahmed Siddiqui on Tuesday.

In the meeting Officers of the Health and Edu-

cation Department were directed to submit a list of the required facilities in their respective departments so that efforts could be made for ensuring provision of such facilities. He further said that in order to review the supply of water, drainage and other facilities an inspection will be carried out and a weekly report regarding those issues would be submitted every Monday to the CM Secretariat, Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner offices.

LG by-polls schedule notified

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) has notified the local government (LG) by-polls schedule for four districts of Sindh including Karachi, Khairpur and Hyderabad.

The LG by-polls will be held in Karachi East, Karachi West, Khairpur and Hyderabad districts on November 5.

The by-polls will be held on four seats of the union councils (UCs) in the said districts. The ECP spokesperson said that nominations will be received on October 10.

Last month, the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) unveiled the schedule for Sindh Local Government (LG) by-polls on UC chairmen and vice chairmen seats.

According to the ECP, the Sindh LG by-polls will be held on November 5 to elect the nine Union Council (UC) chairmen and 16 vice chairmen across Sindh.

Gutka factory raided, 14 employees arrested

KARACHI (INP): Police raided a gutka factory in Shrafi Goth Moinabad, Karachi, on Tuesday and arrested 14 employees and also recovered a large quantity of gutka manufacturing and packing machines, and a huge amount of gutka.

According to media reports, the raid was conducted on the information of SSP Malir Tariq Mastoi. SHO Shrafi Goth and SHO Quaidabad along with a heavy contingent of police raided the factory, which was being operated in the name of Rajmi.

Transporters fleece commuters

KARACHI (INP): Karachi citizens are urging authorities to look into the matter of transport fares, which have not been decreased despite the Pakistani currency outperforming the US dollar rate and a Rs8 relief petrol price announced three days ago.

During a survey by a private TV Channel, citizens questioned why transporters haven't decreased the inter-city and intra-city transport fare of buses despite the decrease in petrol price. A number of other citizens expressed their thoughts on the situation and urged authorities to ensure the writ of the government.

The government has not yet announced any measures to address this issue. However, citizens are hopeful that the authorities will take action to provide relief to the public.

Passport delivery schedule revised by govt

KARACHI (INP): The official delivery timing for the issuance of passports in Pakistan has been modified once again.

As per details, the passport department has recently issued a notification outlining the revised passport delivery schedules.

For regular passport applications, the delivery time has been extended to a maximum of 21 working days, compared to the previous 10-day timeframe.

The urgent passport will now be issued within 5 days against an earlier timeframe of 4 days. The fast-track passports will be issued in 2 office days? To streamline the process and better serve citizens, the department has emphasized the importance of adhering to designated office hours.

For regular passport applications, the delivery time has been extended to a maximum of 21 working days, compared to the previous 10-day timeframe.

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At UNGA body Pakistan terms India's occupation of IIOJK 'worst manifestation' of colonialism

UNITED NATIONS (INP): Describing India's occupation of Jammu and Kashmir as the "worst manifestation of modern-day colonialism," Pakistan has called on the U.N. to push for a peaceful settlement of the lingering Kashmir dispute in accordance with the Security Council resolutions and Kashmiri people's wishes.

Noting that since 1946, 80 former colonies have gained independence, Ambassador Munir Akram told the General Assembly's Special Political and Decolonization (Fourth)

Committee that there are still peoples who are denied the right to self-determination, "most prominently the people of occupied Jammu & Kashmir and Palestine."

The right of self-determination of the Kashmiri people, the Pakistani envoy said, was explicitly recognized in UNSC resolution 47 and several subsequent resolutions, which prescribed that the final disposition of the State of Jammu & Kashmir should be decided by its people through a free and fair plebiscite held under UN auspices.

ECC approves first ever telecom infrastructure sharing framework

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) discussed and approved the first ever Telecom Infrastructure sharing framework. Federal Minister for Finance, Revenue, and Economic Affairs Dr. Shamshad Akhtar presided over a meeting of the ECC of the Cabinet, said a press release issued here. The Ministry of Information Technology & Telecommunication submitted a summary for approval of "Telecom Infrastructure sharing Framework."

The ECC also approved another summary for the release of IMT spectrum for improvement of the Next Generation mobile broadband services in Pakistan. The ECC approved

the constitution of an advisory committee for the release of the unsold IMT Spectrum along with its terms of reference.

The meeting discussed and reviewed the performance and trends of key economic indicators including CPI of various essential items presented by Ministry of Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives. The meeting decided to constitute a Core group comprising Secretary Planning, Commerce, Food Security and Industry with the mandate to present concrete proposals for monitoring and advising the ECC on prices of the essential commodities as well as maintaining the stocks of the strategic products.



KARACHI: Police officials show arrested street criminals, robbers and recovered seized weapons and currency to media persons during press conference held at Surjani Town Police Station in Karachi.

Awareness, cautiousness can prevent dengue significantly: Dr. Mushtaq

KARACHI (INP): Deputy Director General of the Vector Borne Diseases Sindh Department of Health, Dr. Mushtaq Ahmed has said that by creating awareness, providing accurate information and cautiousness can help a lot in prevention of spread of dengue fever.

Speaking during a "Dengue Awareness" session held at the Iqra University North Campus on Tuesday, he said that dengue symptoms include fever, headache, joint pain, muscle pain, and a decrease in white blood cells. It is crucial to act on the precautionary measures issued by the Sindh Health Department to effectively control diseases like dengue and prevent their rapid spread.

Director Campus Iqra University North Campus, Professor Syed Ali Raza emphasized the importance of education in public health, promoting awareness, and encouraging students to actively participate in safeguarding the health of the community. He mentioned that the Health Sciences department of Iqra University North Campus would continue to organize awareness sessions, seminars, and workshops in the future to educate young students so that they are well-prepared to face any health challenges in the future.



LARKANA: Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Larkana, Syed Abdul Rahim Shirazi chaired the introduction meeting of newly posted officers and maintain law and order situation in the district held at his office in Larkana.



ISLAMABAD: Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry presenting souvenir to Madad Ali Sindhi, Caretaker Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training during his visit to ICCI. Faad Waheed Senior Vice President ICCI, Adnan Mukhtar, Abrar ul Haq, Aizaz Muhammad, Dr. Usman and others are also in picture.

SHC orders police to file PTI leader Usman Dar's missing case

KARACHI (INP): The Sindh High Court (SHC) on Tuesday ordered the police to register missing case of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Usman Dar.

The high court on a petition ordered the police to file Usman Dar's disappearance case today and report to the court on October 18.

Barrister Ali Tahir earlier told the bench that the high court had ordered the police in a previous hearing for filing the missing case.

The bench expressing its resentment asked the police, why the case was not registered. "The applicant didn't approach the police," SHO told the court.

DC reviews polio vaccination drive

HYDERABAD (APP): The Deputy Commissioner Hyderabad Tariq Qureshi on Tuesday visited various areas of the District to review the ongoing national anti-polio drive in Hyderabad.

According to details DC visited Quetta town and various areas of Tandojam and get information about the polio drive from polio workers assigned there. On this occasion, Kazim Jatoi and other relevant officers were also present.

Members of notorious criminal gang busted

KARACHI (INP): Karachi Police on Tuesday claimed to have successfully apprehended members of the notorious criminal gang known as the "Asif Burger gang."

According to police, this group was involved in a wide range of criminal activities, including car thefts, mobile phone and laptop robberies, online bank heists, and conducted through fraudulent women's identities. The operation resulted in the arrest of multiple suspects from the Sarjani area of Sindh's capital, Karachi.

Leading beverages company introduces new flavour

KARACHI (APP): The Coca-Cola Company has introduced a new flavour, Fanta Red Apple in the country to its diverse beverages portfolio, expanding the range of flavours available in Fanta TM.

Fanta, an internationally renowned brand celebrated for its refreshing bubbly flavours and playful brand personality, is delighted to unveil the arrival of their new apple-flavoured limited-edition pack, said a news release issued here on Tuesday.

Nawaz Sharif to appear before court: Rana

LAHORE (INP): The Pakistan Muslim League-N (PML-N) Punjab President Rana Sanaullah has said that former premier Nawaz Sharif would appear before the court.

Addressing a press conference on Tuesday, he said the entire PML-N and the public is ready to welcome Nawaz Sharif on Oct 21. He said how the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) would attract the voters without hitting the PMLN.

He said the entire Muslim world had celebrated when Pakistan had become the atomic power and it happened under the leadership of Nawaz Sharif.

The entire nation is facing the crisis like situation due to Baba Rehmaty, however, Nawaz Sharif is coming back to Pakistan for the nation. He said we have to improve the situation of the common man and the PMLN head would do it by announcing the party manifesto at a gathering. During the public gathering, he said Nawaz Sharif would also express his view on his narrative and policy as well. Criticizing the chairman PTI, the former interior minister said due to his conducts he is in jail as we had not instituted case against anyone.

No reason, logic behind any delay in general elections: Siraj

LAHORE (INP): Ameer Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) Siraj-ul-Haq has said that there was no reason and logic behind any delay in upcoming general elections, adding the JI was staunchly committed to resisting any unconstitutional actions that might infringe upon the fundamental right of the people to vote.

Talking to media in Mansoorah on Tuesday, he pointed out that the constitution unequivocally stipulates the holding of elections within 90 days following the dissolution of

assemblies. Sirajul Haq stressed that stability was contingent upon upholding the constitution and conducting transparent elections.

He criticized those who advocate for prioritizing economic reforms before elections, asserting that such calls merely echo past slogans, specifically the rhetoric of "accountability before elections." He noted that proponents of these ideas were acutely aware of their dwindling popularity among the masses and were anticipating an impending defeat.



HYDERABAD: Residents of Saddar are blocked road and burn tires as they are holding protest demonstration against prolong electricity load shedding, in Hyderabad.

Police arrests usurer, recovered hundreds of ATM cards of govt employees

By Aijaz Mughal
UMER KOT: Police arrested a usurer and recovered hundreds of ATM cards of government employees from his possession.

He pledges valuable items to himself and gives money on interest and he was busy withdrawing the money to be provided on interest through the bank ATM card of the government employees in his possession at the bank ATM that the police arrested him.

According to the sources, arrangements have been made with the police for the release of interest As of the last report, the arrested person is in the lockup of the usurer and the case could not be registered against him, it should be clear that hundreds of poor people have committed suicide due to usury.