

# Independent

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## SIFC Apex Committee reviews major macro-economic issues

ISLAMABAD (APP): The apex committee of Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) on Wednesday reviewed major macro-economic issues affecting the investment climate including inordinate delays in restructuring / privatisation of cash bleeding state owned enterprises (SOEs).

The committee also resolved with consensus on fast-tracking the privatisation process and hence, in the larger interest of the country, reduce

recurring losses to the national exchequer.

The SIFC convened 6th meeting of its apex committee to review various initiatives being spearheaded through the SIFC forum.

The meeting was chaired by Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar and was attended by Chief of Army Staff General Syed Asim Munir, members of the cabinet, provincial chief ministers and the high level government officials,

PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

The ministries apprised the forum about the practical steps undertaken during the last one month to improve business and investment environment in the country.

The committee expressed overall satisfaction regarding the ongoing negotiations with foreign and domestic investors for timely realisation of various investment projects.

The prime minister appreciated the good work put forth by various ministries and departments and directed to continue with the 'Whole of the Government' approach to overcome economic challenges being faced by Pakistan.

The chief of army staff assured unflinching resolve of Pakistan army to support the government's endeavours for a sustainable path towards economic recovery.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar chairing 6th meeting of the Apex Committee of Special Investment Facilitation Council



ISLAMABAD: Federal Health Minister Dr Nadeem Jan inaugurating federal sehat sahulat programme's mobile App.

## Health Minister launches health card mobile App

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister for Health Dr. Nadeem Jan on Wednesday launched the health card mobile App "Meera Sehat Card".

Addressing the ceremony, the minister said that "Sehat Sahulat Program" has been a pioneer in the adoption of digitalization in healthcare since its inception.

He said that now "Meera Sehat Card" is available on Android play store and Apple App store.

He said that currently "Meera Sehat Card" is for permanent resident family (as per NADRA records) of Islamabad, Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Gilgit-Baltistan and District Tharparkar (Sindh).

The minister said that soon "Meera Sehat Card"

will be available for all citizens of Pakistan.

Dr. Nadeem Jan said that the App gives a comprehensive list of family members.

The digital records will empower families to manage their health needs effectively.

He said that the App will also provide a record of effective medical treatment history.

The App ensures that medical caregivers have access to accurate information, he added.

He said that citizens will now have access to a transparent list of available treatments through the App.

Dr. Nadeem Jan said that the government has formulated an integrated strategy to ensure the provision of modern facilities in the health sector.

He said that reforms are being made to improve the health sector.

## ECP, political parties' consultative meeting on next Wed

ISLAMABAD (APP): The consultative meeting between the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) and several political parties, initially scheduled for today, (Wednesday, October 4), has already been rescheduled to the upcoming Wednesday due to the unavailability of specific members, said an ECP spokesperson.

Contradicting a news report currently being aired on various TV channels, the ECP spokesperson in a statement clarified that the meeting is set for the next Wednesday, October 11th, at 2 PM, at the same location, the Election Commission Secretariat, Islamabad.

## Illegal immigrants have 27 days to leave Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (APP): Foreigners residing illegally in Pakistan have only 27 days left to leave the country and face deportation.

Foreigners living illegally must leave Pakistan by October 31 or law enforcement agencies will ensure their arrest and deportation.

It should be noted that in the meeting of the Apex Committee of the National Action Plan, it had been decided to take strict action against the illegal immigrants living in Pakistan and the trade and properties of illegal immigrants.

## Terror attack at Kulachi police station foiled

DERA ISMAIL KHAN (APP): The Dera police foiled a terror attack at the Kulachi police station on Wednesday, forcing terrorists to flee.

According to police officials, 8 to 10 armed assailants attacked the Kulachi police station around 11:00 a.m. The terrorists fired two rocket launchers and then opened indiscriminate fire at the police station. However, the police were on high alert and retaliated forcefully.

Immediately after the attack, a heavy contingent of police and security forces reached the site and cordoned off the area. No police loss was reported in the attack.

## COAS, US defence secretary discuss security issues

RAWALPINDI (INP): Chief of the Army Staff General Asim Munir discussed a string of issues with special focus on security matters during a phone call with US Defence Secretary Lloyd J Austin on Wednesday.

The US Department of Defence said that Secretary Lloyd Austin discussed areas of mutual interest and recent regional developments in a phone call with Pakistan's Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Asim Munir.

Brig-General Patrick

Ryder, the Pentagon Press Secretary, confirmed the telephonic conversation between the top officials.

This was the second high-level interaction between US defence secretary and Pakistan Army Chief since the latter took over as the army chief last year in November.

In December 2022, US Central Command (Centcom) Chief General Michael Erik Kurilla had visited Pakistan and held a meeting with the army chief.

## Bilawal to kick-start election campaign on Karsaz bombing anniversary

KARACHI (INP): Pakistan People's Party (PPP) will kick-start party election activities on October 18 in memory of Karsaz bombing tragedy.

PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari will address nationwide video link on October 18 to public gatherings to be arranged at the district level.

The PPP high ups asked party leaders to ensure mandatory participation of party organizations, wings, ticket holders and party workers in public gatherings across the nation.

Sources claimed Bilawal Bhutto Zardari will

also announce the election strategy in the address to the workers.

Earlier, the Central Executive Committee (CEC) of the Pakistan Peoples' Party (PPP) convened a two-day meeting in Lahore, led by the "King of Reconciliation" Asif Zardari.

During this meeting, Asif Zardari urged PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari and other party members to avoid confrontational policies regarding the prevailing political landscape, including interactions with the PML-N and other allies.

## Two innocent Pakistanis martyred by Afghan sentry's fire at Chaman Border crossing

RAWALPINDI (APP): Two innocent Pakistani citizens on Wednesday embraced martyrdom after an Afghan sentry employed the Friend Ship Gate of Chaman Border Crossing along the Pakistan-Afghanistan Border in Balochistan Province opened unprovoked and indiscriminate firing at pedestrians moving from Pakistan to Afghanistan.

According to the Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR), the incident occurred at the outbound gate, at 1600 hours, located on the zero line.

The two innocents who embraced martyr-

dom included a 12-year-old child, while another child was injured.

The Pakistan Army troops exercised extreme restraint and avoided any exchange of fire in the presence of innocent passengers to avoid collateral damage.

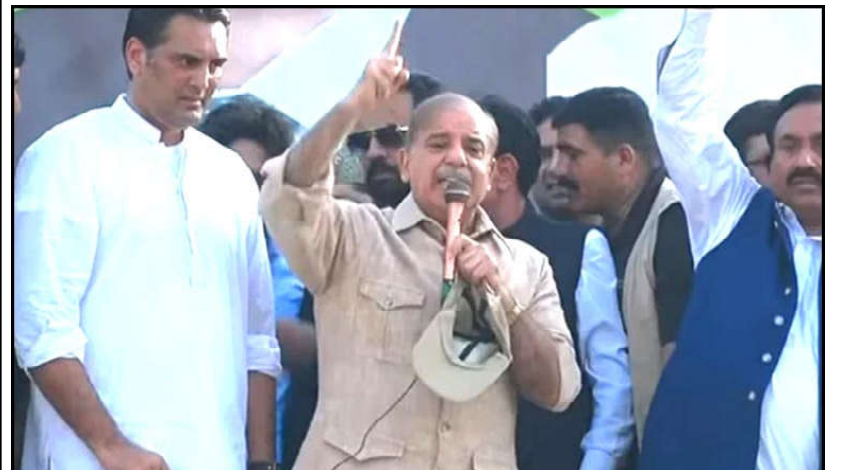
However, the dead bodies of the deceased were shifted to DHQ Hospital Chaman, and the injured child, who was immediately evacuated by security forces, was under treatment.

The Afghan authorities have been approached to inquire the reason for such irresponsible and reckless acts,

apprehend and hand over the culprit to Pakistani authorities, it added.

"IAG (Interim Afghan Government) is also expected to exercise control over its troops and impart discipline to act responsibly in order to avoid the recurrence of such incidents in the future.

Pakistan remains committed to contributing towards peace, prosperity, and development through positive and constructive bilateral relations, however, such unpleasant occurrences have the potential to harm the sincere intent and purpose," the ISPR said.



LAHORE: PML-N President Shehbaz Sharif addressing political gathering

## PML-N, Maulana Fazal treading on wrong path, Khurshid

ISLAMABAD (Online): PPP senior leader Syed Khurshid Shah has criticized the former allies and said that Maulana Fazal-ur-Rehman is treading on wrong path.

In a statement here Wednesday, Khurshid Shah addressed the PML-N supremo Nawaz Sharif and said that Mian Sahn, don't be afraid, hold elections even if you go to jail, you will go there as a hero too. If there is punishment then there is an appeal against it. There is a way too and you will find it.

## Taliban govt urges Pak to 'reconsider' drive to expel illegal Afghan immigrants

KABUL: Taliban administration in Kabul on Wednesday said that they strongly condemn Pakistan's threat to forcibly expel illegal Afghan immigrants saying "Afghan refugees are not involved in Pakistan's security problems."

Pakistan's caretaker government had set a November 1 deadline for approximately 1.73 million Afghan immigrants residing in the country without legal status to leave or face forced expulsion, citing security concerns.

Zabihullah Mujahid, the spokesman for the Taliban administration in Kabul, expressed their disapproval on the social media platform X (formerly known as Twitter).

He emphasised that Afghans should not be held responsible for Pakistan's security issues.

Pakistan's Interior Minister Sarfraz Bugti had alleged that Afghan nation-

als were responsible for 14 out of 24 suicide bombings in Pakistan this year, using this as a justification for the crackdown.

However, the Taliban spokesman rebuffed this claim, asserting, "The Pakistani side should reconsider its plan. Afghan refugees are not involved in Pakistan's security problems. As long as they leave Pakistan voluntarily, that country should tolerate them."

The ultimatum issued by Pakistan to Afghan immigrants, many of whom have been living in the country for years, followed a meeting of civil and military leaders to assess the law and order situation, prompted by two suicide bombings that claimed the lives of at least 57 people.

Bugti alleged that one of the suicide bombers was an Afghan national and also accused India's intelligence agency of involvement.

## Anti-State Youtuber Adil Raja's call with RAW-operative leaked

ISLAMABAD: As per details, Youtuber Adil Raja can be heard in the alleged audio leak talking to RAW operative Rohit Sharma, asking him to malign Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI).

It was revealed that Adil Raja hired people connected with the Indian intelligence agency RAW for his legal and other matters



The YouTuber also asked Rohit Sharma for contact numbers of Raw agents Lord Remi Rangers in the UK for 2.5 Lac pounds to dismiss case against him. The audio call proves the anti-state Youtuber's contact with the Raw operatives.

Rohit is also instructing him to accuse that person who launched FIR against Raja, for propagating against India and spreading terrorism in India. If he'll be able to launch fir against him raw will make sure that person remains behind the bars.

Raja was also booked in several cases in Pakistan related to inciting Pakistanis to rebel against the state. In his anti-state acts PTI followers intentionally and unintentionally was helping him.

## PTI chief imprisoned due to his own misdeeds: Sharjeel

PESHAWAR (APP): Former Information Minister Sindh and Head of PPP Social Media Sherjeel Inam Memon has said that the chairman of PTI Imran Khan is imprisoned due to his own misdeeds.

Talking to media here at the residence of the Secretary Information PPP KP, Amjad Khan Afridi on Wednesday, he said that Imran Khan has sold gifts received from international dignitaries and orchestrated attacks on national institutions and public properties on May 9th and 10th.

Former provincial presidents of PPP KP, Hamayun Khan, Amjad Khan Afrid, Hajj Farzand Ali and Gohar Afridi flanked him on the occasion.

he Sindh-based PPP leader called for an investigation into the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Peshawar and Billion Tree Tsunami projects.

He said that the track record of PPP shows that it had always faced challenges with bravery and was capable of steering the country out of all crises. He said that in the current situation, PPP co-chairman Asif Ali Zardari has once again emerged as the only leader capable of taking all institutions and stakeholders on board to put the country on track for progress and development. To a question, he said that PPP is fully prepared for general elections and will oppose any delay in this regard.

## Aleema Khan says: Imran disappointed with president as he could not play his constitutional role

LAHORE (Online): Aleema Khan sister of chairman PTI has said party chairman is disappointed with president Arif Alvi for his failure in playing his constitutional role.

She said this while talking to media men here Wednesday. She stated weight of chairman PTI has reduced but his spirit is high. He has no place for exercise and walk. A petition in this regard has been filed. Aleema Khan further told chairman PTI has said preparations are underway to award long punishment to him. No one has come to talk to him. Aleema Khan remarked chairman PTI is disappointed with the president as he could not play his constitutional role.



KARACHI: Relatives of Shabir Baloch are holding protest demonstration against enforced disappearance, at Karachi press club

## Daily Voice of Masses Independent

### Anti-smuggling drive

That caretaker Interior Minister Sarfraz Bugti openly admitted on Monday that security personnel are involved in large-scale smuggling of currency, oil, and other commodities across Pakistan's borders with Iran and Afghanistan should be appreciated.

Mr Bugti not only acknowledged that security officials played a role in the illegal cross-border movement of currency and commodities but also indicated that the army chief had warned his men that those involved in the practice would face court-martial and jail. The clampdown on smugglers and hoarders was launched last month after the army chief's back-to-back meetings with the business community in Lahore and Karachi where he pledged to crack down on illegal activities "to rid Pakistan of the substantial losses it continues to suffer due to pilferage".

The next several weeks will be a test of the civil and military authorities' resolve to expose and punish the elements involved in this illicit cross-border trade as the government intensifies a nationwide crackdown to curb the smuggling out of dollars and commodities such as wheat and sugar, and the influx of cheap petroleum and other items from Iran and Afghanistan. However, our porous borders along Balochistan and KP are not the only routes being used by smugglers to conduct their illegal trade. Indeed, these routes are used to 'import' and 'export' commodities such as sugar, oil, tyres, urea and even vehicles in big numbers.

But high-value products such as branded perfumes, expensive watches and designer purses are mostly being brought from Dubai and other Gulf nations into the country by khepiyas through major airports and seaports in connivance with Customs officials and personnel of other agencies. These items are mostly smuggled in without the payment of taxes or are hugely under-invoiced. Similarly, it is easier to take dollars out of the country via an airport than any other way. No wonder Peshawar's proverbial Bara bazaar, which used to be the only source of smuggled foreign goods for affluent middle-class families until the late 1980s, has spread across the length and breadth of the country.

The shelves of most shops are stacked with such products because no one asks the powerful trader community to provide documentary proof that taxes were paid on the 'import' of such items.

No anti-smuggling drive can deliver complete success without making it difficult for the traders to display and sell smuggled and under-invoiced goods, in addition to dismantling the nexus between traders and civil and security officials posted along the borders and ports.

Smuggling is eating into the economy, weakening it and imposing enormous costs on the manufacturing industry, jobs and public well-being. We can only hope that the current mobilisation against illegal cross-border trade will not be called off midway as has been the case in the past.

## De-risking climate



Aisha Khan

The IPCC A6 Synthesis Report, which draws together the scientific body's work over the past eight years, stresses that even under a very low greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions scenario, global warming is likely to exceed 1.5 degrees Celsius this century, increasing the risk of food insecurity, extreme weather and conflict. At current warming levels, communities are already experiencing landslides, flash floods, storm surges, wildfires, droughts and the drying up of springs among other disruptions caused by climate change.

The conversations and meetings this year leading up to COP28 so far have not injected new hope for either a fair or safe world. From the Bonn talks in May to the UNGA Climate Summit in September, the emphasis has remained on the need to do more, without any concrete action to achieve the elusive target of decarbonising the economy through deep, rapid and immediate cuts in emissions.

Environmental ministers from G20 nations, representing countries that account for 80pc of GHG emissions failed to agree on ways to curb emissions and address other crucial matters at the Delhi Summit. The lack of consensus after a year filled with climate-induced disasters and repeated calls for action sends a strong signal of what to expect from the critical COP negotiations.

The second meeting of the High-level Political Forum under the auspices of the UNGA of the re-

cently concluded SDG Summit marks the midpoint of the goals set for 2030. The mismatch between actions and transformative shifts needed to avert the climate crisis and absence of some of the big emitters does not lend hope of any momentum in the accelerator agenda. The SDG theme of peace and security for the year has failed to reignite optimism, deepening misgivings about multilateral processes and fair outcomes.

The recently published first global stocktake synthesis report, which is a culmination of two years of data collection from scientists, technocrats and business people, recognises the role of the Paris Agreement in driving near-universal climate actions, but falls short of projecting the grim reality. It urges the need for prioritising the phasing out of fossil fuels and working with all levels of government to scale up tried and tested solutions while investing in new, innovative technologies.

All eyes will now be on Dubai to see how the presidency leverages the stocktake to course correct and transition to a safer trajectory with a rapid response plan. As always, finance will dominate the negotiations, and the issues of drastic cuts in emission, doubling adaptation finance and operationalising the loss and damage fund alongside the need for reform in the global financial architecture will be key determinants in setting the future agenda.

So far, all the climate reports have one thing in common. All serve as a wake-up call for moving past statements, advisories and prose that use climate as a glossary to list thematic areas or highlight threats that are already being experienced by people, but fail to provide timely solutions.

The pivot shift from

Paris to Dubai comes at a time when much has changed since the 2015 Paris Agreement. The need for keeping temperatures below 1.5°C, capping peak emissions by 2025, reducing GHGs by 2030 to stay within the safe threshold of planetary boundaries, higher costs for mitigation and adaptation, the war in Ukraine and the changing geopolitical landscape are all new elements that have added greater urgency to finding solutions.

While the cost of making transformative changes may be high, the price of inaction will come with a greater cost to human life, plunging millions into poverty and deepening inequality.

The stocktake 2023 is not merely about assessing where countries stand on Nationally Determined Contributions, it is also about using current trends to anticipate threats to human security and making a call on how we see humanity. If all lives matter, then negotiators need to redefine the battle lines and engage with the intent of de-risking climate security. This will require all countries to engage on climate at the international and regional level, putting other differences and disputes aside and working together with a single-point agenda that pivots around human security. It is time to move beyond power, politics, policy and profit to look at the human angle of the unfolding tragedy and remember the moral compact that served as the backbone of the Paris Agreement to bring parties together. With the clock ticking, it is time to cut to the chase and decide if all lives are equal or other considerations play a role in the human security calculus. The bar on expectation is diminishing fast, pushing some nations closer to the edge. It is time for an honest reset. — Courtesy Dawn

## Open-ended conflict



Mahir Ali

Early last month, Nato Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg offered an extraordinary revelation at a meeting with European parliamentary committees. "The background," he said, "was that President Putin declared in the autumn of 2021, and actually sent a draft treaty that they wanted Nato to sign, to promise no more Nato enlargement."

"That was what he sent us. And [it] was a precondition for not [invading] Ukraine. Of course, we didn't sign that."

Until then, any Western politician who hinted at any kind of provocation behind Russia's military overreach risked being labelled an apologist for Vladimir Putin. The unreasonably hawkish Stoltenberg obviously does not fall in that category, and he went on to remind his audience about how Moscow's venture had backfired, with Nato spreading its wings to Finland and, potentially, Sweden, apart from fast-tracking eventual Ukrainian membership.

Western diplomats, including the more enlightened minds at the US State Department, have been aware since at least the 1990s that Nato's eastward expansion was a red line for Moscow. Mikhail Gorbachev was verbally promised it wouldn't occur, and regretted not insisting on a written assurance. Even Boris Yeltsin, effectively a US puppet, bristled at Nato's ambitions. By the time Putin replaced him in 1999-2000, key Eastern European states had already switched their satellite sta-

tus from ex-Soviet to American via Nato membership, and the Baltic republics followed.

Putin seemed willing to accept this as a fait accompli, but Nato's membership offers to Georgia and Ukraine seemed like overkill. From Moscow's vantage point this wasn't all that different to how Washington would feel - or react - if any future Sino-Russian military alliance sought to woo Canada or Mexico.

In his discourse, Stoltenberg proudly framed Nato's rejection of Putin's overture as a suitable riposte to a belligerent dictator. The idea of a more diplomatic response that might have averted a bloody war appears not to have troubled his conscience.

None of this detracts from the fact that Russia was the aggressor in February 2022, and Ukraine the victim. The provocation that Stoltenberg has belatedly acknowledged by no means adds up to any justification for Putin's "special military oppression", which has consumed tens of thousands of lives and heaped untold misery on Ukrainians in the regions bordering Russia. Nor should anyone ignore Putin's contentious and often ridiculous excuses for pretending that the mediaeval origins of the Russian empire in the Kyiv region somehow sanctify his ambitions. However, it's not altogether absurd to perceive Ukraine as simultaneously a victim of Nato's unreconstructed preoccupations. Once its raison d'être disappeared with the demise of the Soviet Union and its hegemonic arena of influence, a new enemy had to be found. Al Qaeda and its offshoots offered a convenient distraction for a few years, but once that petered out, Russia and a changing China under Xi Jinping conveniently resurfaced as the leading adversaries.

Pakistan played a starring role in the so-called war on terror (arguably as a sidekick to both the hero and the villain), and it is even said to have had a cameo in the latest conflict. It has lately been claimed (though denied by the FO) that it has been supplying weapons to Ukraine since last year, and that this was crucial for its access to the latest tranche of IMF funds, apart from the usual "structural adjustment". That is by no means implausible, given Pakistan's pre-existing defence trade ties with Ukraine — it has even been suggested that many of the weapons sent back originated from Ukraine. What sounds dodgier is the claim that the notorious "cipher" was part of a US plan to oust Imran Khan just so that Pakistani shells and missiles could be delivered to Ukraine. The diplomatic missive was received well after the no-confidence motion was in train. The de-thronement was manipulated as much as the enthronement, but most probably not at Uncle Sam's behest. It was just another failed military experiment, and the future is unwritten. The only potential solution — a decisive army exit from politics — is unlikely to be on the cards anytime soon.

Anyhow, the Western alliance is likely to be more bothered about the emerging signs from Poland, which has pulled back from its crucial support for Ukraine's war effort over a spat about grain imports, and Slovakia, where a pro-Russian politician is in pole position to form the next government. Add to that the US congressional fiasco whereby aid for Ukraine was stripped of the deal that averted a government shutdown. Facilitating some kind of peace rather than egging on the dogs of war would be the best bet for all concerned parties, but don't expect Stoltenberg to acknowledge that until it's too late. — Courtesy Dawn

## Commerce News

### Minister spells out govt strategy to meet energy needs

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Minister for Energy Muhammad Ali has spelled out the government strategy to meet the future oil and gas needs in an efficient manner by stepping up hydrocarbon exploration activities in potential areas across the country.

"We are coming up with a policy for tight gas, policy for shale gas, we have already announced bids for onshore exploration and in December for offshore exploration," he said in an interview with the Emirates News Agency (WAM) on sidelines of the ADIPEC Conference at Abu Dhabi.

He said Pakistan has

a strong presence at ADIPEC this year, with around 10 companies from the exploration, oil marketing, and related sectors. "Indeed, it's a promising start, and on the very first day, we have seen a remarkable response. All our companies are actively engaged, and there's substantial interest in their offerings. The presence here is off to an excellent beginning," he said.

Muhammad Ali laid emphasis on decarbonisation and electrification, saying that they were critical components of Pakistan's energy strategy for the future. "While these aspects may not have received sufficient

attention in the past, there is now a strong focus on them.

Initiatives include energy conservation, electrification efforts, and the re-purposing of natural gas for power generation to electrify appliances and vehicles," he said. He said that on the decarbonisation front, the Climate Ministry was actively engaged in setting up carbon fund while the Energy Ministry was developing a comprehensive carbon policy.

The ultimate goal is to unite all stakeholders and maximize the potential of these initiatives," he added.

He outlined three key priorities for the energy sector.



PESHAWAR: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Haji Ghulam Ali cutting ribbon to inaugurate Mega International Livestock & Fisheries Expo organized by the provincial livestock department.

### Cao Ke for knowledge sharing, technology transfer between China and LCCI

LAHORE (APP): Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry on Wednesday celebrated the 74th founding anniversary of the People's Republic of China.

The ceremony was attended by Acting Consul General of China Cao Ke and LCCI President Kashif Anwar spoke on the occasion while Senior Vice President Zafar Mahmood Chaudhry, Vice President Adnan Khalid Butt, Vice President Pakistan (China) Shandong Chamber of Commerce Chen Qianjiang, Vice President Pakistan Chinese Federation He

Yubing, Vice President Pakistan Chinese Chamber Chen Qianjiang, President Pakistan Tax Bar Association Rana Munir Hussain and LCCI Executive Committee members were also present.

Acting Consul General of China, Cao Ke, emphasized the significance of Lahore as a pivotal city and lauded the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry for its commendable efforts in promoting trade and industry. He expressed a strong desire for knowledge sharing and

technology transfer between China and LCCI, highlighting the importance of mutual learning. Furthermore, Cao Ke noted that this year marks the 10th anniversary of both the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and the Belt and Road Initiative, along with the 74th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. He underscored CPEC's transformative impact on Pakistan's economy, with a substantial \$24.4 billion investment, and said that the ML1 Project will be launched soon.

### Governor inaugurates Mega International Livestock Expo

PESHAWAR (APP): Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Haji Ghulam Ali here on Wednesday inaugurated Mega International Livestock Expo that was organized by the provincial livestock department.

The event attracted a significant turnout of farmers, landowners, stakeholders and representatives from various government and non-government organizations

besides private companies. The two-day International Livestock Expo featured over 60 diverse stalls showcasing agricultural machinery, fertilizers, seeds, dairy equipment, livestock and crop disease prevention solutions, vaccines, modern farming technologies, dairy products, livestock aqua feed, medicines, seeds and more.

### 125 pc more cotton bales expected this year: ACS

MULTAN (APP): Additional Chief Secretary (ACS) South Punjab Saqib Zafar said the government hoped to get 125 per cent more bales of cotton this year as compared to last year. He said, that in view of the food security, the target of wheat production in Punjab has been set at 50 million tons this year. He was talking to farmers after inspecting the cotton crop in Samina Sadat village in DG Khan.

### Stage-II of Kurram Tangi dam project to generate 65 MW

ISLAMABAD (APP): Stage-II of Kurram Tangi Dam Project will generate low-cost 65 megawatt (MW) electricity besides storing 1.2 million acre feet (MAF) water for agriculture purpose.

The proposed project would be constructed on Kurram River in North Waziristan District of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, about 14 Km upstream of Kurram Garhi Headworks and 32 Km North of Bannu City, sources told APP here Wednesday.

They said the project would irrigate 38,000 acres of new land in addition to supplementing 278,000 acres of existing land.

Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA) has already signed an agreement worth Rs.776.3 million to a joint venture for consultancy services for Stage-II of Kurram Tangi Dam Project.

The joint venture is comprised of four firms — one from Turkey and three from Pakistan — with DOLSAAR as the lead firm. The contract comprises of consultancy services for detailed engineering design, preparation of updated PC-1, PC-1 for land acquisition and resettlement plan, and tender documents of the project.



LAHORE: Zubair Motiwala Chief Executive Officer TDAP addressing the 39th Pakistan International Handloom Carpet Exhibition 2023 seminar at PC Hotel.

### SNGPL conducts raids against gas theft, other violation cases

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Task Force of Sui Northern Gas Pipeline Limited (SNGPL) on Wednesday conducted raids against gas theft and other violation cases in various localities of the federal capital including Murree, Fateh Jang, Attock, and Wah Cantt. During the ongoing campaign FIRs against number of individuals involved in tampering with commercial meters were registered besides the imposition of heavy fines on the violators, said a press release.

The spokesman of SNGPL told that a fine of over Rs 0.5 million was imposed on commercial consumers in a single raid. The spokesman revealed that under the Gas Theft Control and Recovery Act 2016, stringent penalties are being enforced against those causing damage to Sui Gas pipelines or related installations and those involved in gas theft. Under this Act, individuals involved in damaging gas pipelines can face up to 14 years in prison and a fine of Rs 10 million.

The spokesman revealed that under the Gas Theft Control and Recovery Act 2016, stringent penalties are being enforced against those causing damage to Sui Gas pipelines or related installations and those involved in gas theft. Under this Act, individuals involved in damaging gas pipelines can face up to 14 years in prison and a fine of Rs 10 million.



MULTAN: A large number of women standing in a queue waiting their turn outside Utility Store to purchase grocery items at Rasheedabad.

### SCCI says: Traders' role is vital in economic progress and prosperity of the country

PESHAWAR (Online): President of the Sarhad Chamber of Commerce and Industry Fuad Ishaq said businessmen are the backbone of the economy and a leading contributor to the economic progress and prosperity of the country.

The SCCI chief recalled the business community of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa had rendered incalculable sacrifices in

war against terrorism, which are exemplary and their no precedence in any part of the world.

He said the business community required proper patronage of the government and relief to mitigate hardships of the crisis and war-hit traders' in KP province and to continue their share in economic prosperity and development.

## Naqvi lays foundation stone of RCCI's women entrepreneurs display centre

**Independent Report**  
RAWALPINDI: Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi and cabinet members conducted a visit to the Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) and laid the foundation stone of the business women, small and medium enterprises and cottage industries display centre by digging the soil with a shovel at the project site. In his address, the chief minister proposed to take charge of a government hospital and manage it independently.

Describing the cabinet meeting in Rawalpindi as a distinctive honour, the CM underscored the collaborative efforts of the government to bring relief to the people. Emphasizing the importance of teamwork, CM stated, "Positive results can only be achieved when the team works together. We are dedicated to providing relief to the public by making full use of the time available." On the occasion, he announced the expansion of the Central Business District Authority from Lahore to Rawalpindi. Naqvi also highlighted the inclusion of business communities in various boards on merit and assured that this inclusion would extend to other boards as well.

The CM anticipated a boost in economic activities in Rawalpindi with the initiation of the Central Business District within a month, addressing several concerns of the business community. Calling on the businessmen to contribute to the improvement of hospitals, the chief

minister mentioned the transformation of the Urology Hospital into a PKLI, significantly enhancing its standards. He commended the Provincial Minister for Industries SM Tanveer and the Chief Secretary Punjab for their dedicated work on the one-window operation. Highlighting the study of the one-window operation model in China, the CM announced its implementation by establishing a one-window operation facility in alignment with the recommendations of the six major chambers of commerce and industries in Punjab. "The finalization of this operation is expected in the coming days, facilitating seamless interaction between the business community and 36 departments."



LAHORE: Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi and others offering Dua after laying foundation stone of the business women, small and medium enterprises and cottage industries display centre.

## BISP chairman emphasis equipping beneficiaries with technical education

NEWSHERA (APP): Dr Muhammad Amjad Saqib, Chairman of the Benazir Income Support Program (BISP) here Wednesday said that equipping children of the beneficiaries with technical education and vocational training was imperative for their economic empowerment, poverty alleviation and social change in society. He said all initiatives of BISP were aimed at providing much-needed financial support to

disadvantaged people and enabled them to make easy access to essential resources and opportunities for socioeconomic and education development besides nourishment of their children. He said BISP's Kafalat, Taleemi Wazaif, children Naushuma and other programs were launched by the government to alleviate poverty and ensure the dignity and self-respect of

the downtrodden. Chairman BISP expressed these views while talking to beneficiaries and media during his visit to BISP centres at Raisalpur and Nowshera here. Director General BISP KP, Zohra Aslam and other senior officials briefed him about various initiatives, the process of registration, institutional reforms and the disbursement of payment procedure.

## Learning about China's socio-economic growth is need of hour: Minister

**Independent Report**  
PESHAWAR: Pakistan has prioritized enhancing cooperation in Energy, Mining, Information Technology, and Agriculture, as emphasized by the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Minister of IT Dr. Najeeb Ullah during the 74<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event organized by the Pakistan China Friendship Association (PCFA) & China Study Centre (CSC) at the University of Peshawar on Wednesday. Dr. Najeeb Ullah, Minister for Science and Technology, IT, Sports, and Youth Affairs, thanked the PCFA & CSC for

organizing the event and bringing both countries close to each other. Speaking at the occasion, Dr. Najeeb Ullah congratulated the Chinese people on their national day and advised students to pay attention to understanding Chinese culture, history, and civilization. He also said that we have to learn a lot of things from China's expertise. He highlighted different aspects where Pakistan needs to improve and can learn from China. Science and technology are one of the sectors where we need a lot of improvements.



NEWSHERA: Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), Dr. Muhammad Amjad Saqib visited Point of Sale (POS) retailers in Raisalpur, He also interacted with women beneficiaries.

## Teacher holds protest rally

By Aijaz Mughal

UMER KOT: Kunri Protesting in front of the rally press club against the alleged abuses of the biometric department by the teachers, demanding to take notice from the authorities.

According to the details, dozens of teachers took out a rally from Qazi Sultan Main Primary School Kunri and



protested in front of the press club Kunri against the alleged abuses of the biometric department Umer Kot under the leadership of Nazir Arain and Akbar chandio under the government teachers organization PT ALF. He said while talking abuses are on the rise by the newly appointed staff in the Biometric Department, despite appearing on duty, they are not mentioned in the records. He accused that they are performing their duties honestly, but the biometrics people are demanding bribes from them and they are being charged for not paying the bribe money and the officers who are giving them are in their homes. Sitting and having fun while receiving salaries, he demanded to take notice from the authorities and warned that otherwise the scope of the protest will be widened.

## ANF recovers 39 kg drugs in five operations

RAWALPINDI (APP): Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) while conducting five operations across the country managed to recover 39 kg drugs and arrested nine accused including an Afghan national and three women, said an ANF Headquarters spokesman here on Wednesday. He informed that in an operation conducted near Motorway Toll Plaza Islamabad, ANF recovered five kg charras from a car and netted two accused including a woman.

In second operation, four suspects including two women residents of Bhakkar were arrested at Multan International Airport while a total of 1650 grams Ice drug was recovered from the bags of the accused, going to Saudi Arabia by flight number PA-870. In third operation, an Afghan citizen and a resident of Peshawar were arrested near Kot Abdul Malik Toll Plaza.

## Nation-wide polio eradication drive continues in AJK

MIRPUR (AJK) (APP): The nationwide 5-day polio-eradication drive continued for the third successive day across Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK). A total of 720172 Children under 05 years of being targeted to be immunized during the 5-day national polio-eradication drive throughout AJK launched on Monday, State health authorities told APP here on Wednesday. The State Health Services Department set the target of immunizing over 7.20 lakh children

under five years of age with the Polio vaccine and vitamin 'A' drops in all 10 districts in the liberated territory. The sources said only in AJK's capital district of Muzaffarabad, over 1.17 lakh children would be administered Polio vaccines and vitamin 'A' drops during the drive till Oct 6 without any pause. At least 3995 mobile teams of paramedical staff have been constituted to visit door to door to administer the polio vaccine and vitamin 'A' drops during the campaign where a total of 448 fixed centers.

## CM Punjab announces financial aid for injured police worker

LAHORE (APP): Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi announced financial assistance for the injured police worker who was shot accidentally during duty in Khushab. The CM stated that the Punjab government would provide Rs 2 million in financial aid to the injured police worker, Shahnaz Abdul Hameed. The decision was made during the 28<sup>th</sup> cabinet meeting held in Rawalpindi.

## SFA, SSWMB to start project for recycling of left over food items

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Food Authority (SFA) in collaboration with Sindh Solid Waste Management Board (SSWMB) will start collection of leftover food items from Burns Road Food Street for their recycling into fertilizers. Director General Sindh Food Authority Agha Fakhar Hussain informed during a visit to Burns Road Food Street on Wednesday. He was accompanied by Managing Director Solid Waste Management Board Imtiaz Shah and other officials of

SFA and SSWMB, said a statement issued here. Heads of SFA and SSWMB discussed in detail the matters relating to collection of waste material including leftover food items from the food street and their recycling with office bearers of Burns Road Food Street Association. Speaking on the occasion Agha Fakhar Hussain said Sindh Food Authority intended to make Burns Road Food Street a model food street.

# International News

## Turkiye says Ankara attack assailants trained in Syria

**Monitoring Desk**  
ANKARA: Turkiye said on Wednesday that two suspected Kurdish militants who died while staging a weekend attack in Ankara had been trained in Syria. Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan said Turkiye now reserved the right to strike a broader range of Kurdish targets in both Syria and Iraq in retaliation for Sunday's attack. Turkish police shot dead one of the assailants while the other died in an apparent suicide blast outside Turkiye's interior ministry. Two policemen were injured in the incident. "As a result of the

work of our security forces, it has become clear that the two terrorists came from Syria and were trained there," Fidan said in televised comments. "From now on, all infrastructure, large facilities and energy facilities belonging to (armed Kurdish groups) in Iraq and Syria are legitimate targets for our security forces." A branch of the Kurdish PKK militia — listed as a terror group by Turkiye and its Western allies — claimed responsibility for Sunday's attack, the first in Ankara since 2016. Turkiye conducted air raids against PKK targets in Iraq hours later. Fidan's com-

ments suggest that Turkiye could expand its air strikes to include war-torn Syria. Syria's Kurds have carved out a semi-autonomous area in the country's north and east. US-supported Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) — the Kurds' de facto army in the area — led the battle that dislodged Islamic State group fighters from the last scraps of their Syrian territory in 2019. But Turkiye views the Kurdish People's Protection Units (YPG) that dominate the SDF as an offshoot of the PKK. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has repeatedly threatened to expand attacks against the YPG.



Firefighters and rescue personnel work near a coach after it crashed off an overpass near Venice, in Mestres, Italy.

## First Amendment protects Khalistan Referendum campaign, says US

**Monitoring Desk**  
LONDON: The State Department on Tuesday said that the global Khalistan Referendum campaign run by pro-Khalistan Sikhs For Justice (SFJ) advocacy group is protected under the First Amendment of the US Constitution. During a media briefing at the State Department, a spokesperson was asked to comment on the fact that there were tens of thousands of Sikhs living in US and there was a US-based advocacy group "Sikhs For Justice" managing the Khalistan

Referendum in several Western democracies and what was Washington's stand on this as India has decided the campaign. The spokesperson said he would not comment on the specifics but "broadly across the board" campaigns like Khalistan Referendum are protected under US laws. He added: "Individuals have the right to freedom of speech, the right to peacefully assemble in the United States all of which are in line with our First Amendment protections and adherence.

## US moves to reunite Afghan children

**Monitoring Desk**  
WASHINGTON: The United States assured Afghans on Tuesday that the reunification of Afghan children who remain separated from their parents abroad remained a top priority for the Biden administration. On Sept 25, the US Department of State released an updated version of the Family Reunification Form, which allows Afghan parolees under the age of 18, who entered the United States without their parents, to apply for relocation of their parents and eligible siblings still living overseas. "The United States has an enduring commitment to the people of Afghanistan," US State Department Spokesperson Matthew Miller said. The United States, he said, would also continue its efforts to provide information and tools to those individuals seeking to reunite with their family members. "Family reunification remains an extremely high priority for Afghans themselves and for the communities who care about them," the US official added.



This year's Nobel Prize is awarded in 2023 to Moungi G. Bawendi, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge USA, Louis E. Brus, Columbia University, New York USA and Alexei I. Ekimov, Nanocrystals Technology Inc., New York USA, for discovery and synthesis of quantum dots. On the left Professor Johan Agqvist and on the right Heiner Linke, Nobel Committee for Chemistry, Royal The Academy of Sciences.

## Nobel Chemistry prize awarded for discovery of quantum dots used in LED lights

**Monitoring Desk**  
NEW YORK: Scientists Moungi Bawendi, Louis Brus and Alexei Ekimov won the 2023 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for "the discovery and synthesis of quantum dots", which illuminate computer monitors and television screens and are used by doctors to map tumours. "The Nobel Laureates... have succeeded in producing particles so small that their properties are determined by quantum

phenomena. The particles, which are called quantum dots, are now of great importance in nanotechnology," the Nobel Committee for Chemistry said in a statement. "Researchers believe that in the future they could contribute to flexible electronics, tiny sensors, thinner solar cells and encrypted quantum communication." Nanoparticles and quantum dots are used

in LED lights and can also be used to guide surgeons while removing cancer tissue. The more than century-old prize is awarded by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences and is worth 11 million Swedish crowns (\$97,959). Earlier on Wednesday, the academy appeared to have inadvertently published the names of the three scientists it said had won this year's Nobel Prize in chemistry.

## Venice mourns after 21 killed in bus accident

**Monitoring Desk**  
MESTRE: Flags flew at half-mast over Venice on Wednesday after 21 people including a toddler were killed when a bus careered off an overpass and caught fire. "The bus flipped upside down. The impact was terrible because it fell from over 10 metres (32 feet)" landing next to railway tracks below, said Mauro Luongo, Venice's fire brigade commander. The dead are thought to be mostly tourists returned from Venice's historic centre to a camping site on Tuesday evening. Fifteen others were injured in what Venice

Mayor Luigi Brugnaro described as "an apocalyptic scene". Firefighters said the bus was electric, despite the Italian interior minister earlier saying it ran on methane. They spent hours extracting bodies from the charred remains of the bus, which was finally removed from the site in the early hours of Wednesday. "Among the difficulties was the fact that the bus was electric so it had batteries. Unfortunately, they caught fire on impact," said Luongo. "That's why operations took a little longer to remove the vehicle."



BANGKOK: This handout photo from the Royal Thai Police shows the arrest of a 14-year-old shooting suspect at the Siam Paragon shopping centre.

## Azerbaijan's Aliyev to skip EU talks with Armenia, angry with France - state media

**Monitoring Desk**  
BAKU: Azerbaijan's President Ilham Aliyev has decided against attending an EU-brokered event in Spain where he could have held talks with Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan, Azerbaijani state media reported on Wednesday. Aliyev had been considering taking part in a five-way meeting in Granada, Spain, on Thursday with the leaders of France, Germany, Armenia and EU Council President Charles Michel. The five were due to discuss the future of the Nagorno-Karabakh region after Baku took back full control in a 24-hour mili-

tary operation launched on Sept. 19, and to review the progress of long-running but troubled peace talks between Azerbaijan and Armenia. Azerbaijan's state-run APA news agency, citing unnamed sources, said Aliyev had decided against attending however. There was no official confirmation that Aliyev would not go. APA said Aliyev had wanted Turkey to be represented at the meeting, but that France and Germany had objected, and said that Baku felt "an anti-Azerbaijani atmosphere" had developed among the meeting's potential participants.

## At least 23 Indian soldiers missing in flash flood

**Monitoring Desk**  
NEW DELHI: The Indian army said on Wednesday that 23 soldiers were missing after a powerful flash flood caused by intense rainfall tore through a remote valley in the mountainous northeast Sikkim state. "Due to sudden cloud burst over Lhonak Lake in North Sikkim, a flash flood occurred in the Teesta River... 23 personnel have been reported missing and some vehicles are reported sub-

merged under the slush," the army said in a statement. "Search operations are underway." The remote area lies close to India's border with Nepal, and Lhonak Lake sits at the base of a glacier in the snowy peaks that surround Kangchenjunga, the world's third-highest mountain. The army said water released upstream from the Chungthang dam meant the river was already more than 4.5 metres (15 feet) higher than usual.

## Foreign troops must leave Maldives, president-elect Muizzu says

**Monitoring Desk**  
NEW DELHI: Foreign military forces cannot stay in the Maldives, president-elect Mohamed Muizzu told a rally celebrating his victory in closely watched weekend presidential elections that are expected to redraw ties with India and China. Muizzu, who beat incumbent President Ibrahim Solih in a second-round runoff on Saturday, is backed by a coalition known to be close to China, and championed an "India Out" campaign a few years ago.



President Dr Arif Alvi addressing an event themed 'Rising Women 2023', organized by Women's Business Network (WBN), at Aiwan-e-Sadr, Islamabad.



## President says: Pakistan needs more women in entrepreneurship for sustainable economy

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Dr Arif Alvi on Wednesday stressed the need for gender-responsive policies to ensure women's empowerment and said integration of the country's fifty percent population into entrepreneurship was important for a sustainable economy. "Women need to be given equal opportunities in education, employment, and political domains to help them secure adequate space in mainstream entrepreneurship," he said at an event themed 'Rising Women 2023', organized by Women's Business Network (WBN). President Alvi called for devising demand-driven policies including a supportive institutional environment and a workplace free from harassment to encourage women to pursue their businesses. The president highlighted making the information about entrepreneurship more accessible to women and pointed out that only five percent of women availed of the reserved quota of business loans from the State Bank due to a lack of guidance. He stressed the implementation of family-friendly policies for women, such as opportunities for doing business from home and providing them a welcoming environment when they rejoin work after maternity leave. The president emphasized providing household women with contemporary skills such as the usage of internet to meet the current trends of the world. "We need to train these women to adopt innovative entrepreneurial modes through the use of information technology to help them earn from their homes," he said. He mentioned that women could be turned into a productive workforce if provided with equal opportunities in all fields of life. He said the religion Islam and the country's constitution ensured equal rights for women and supported their progress. Despite this, he regretted that absurd cultural norms prevailed in the country where women were denied the right to inheritance. Ambassador of Austria in Pakistan Andrea Wicke spoke about the need to end gender discrimination and under-valuation of women's work. She said equal pay, financial literacy, and legal protection were significant for women's economic empowerment. Italy's ambassador Andreas Ferrarese expressed his country's shared commitment with Pakistan in achieving the goals of gender equality.

## CJCSC terms NASTP project of national, strategic importance

ISLAMABAD (APP): During his visit, the Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCSC), General Sahir Shamsah Mirza on Tuesday, paid a momentous visit to the National Aerospace Science and Technology Park (NASTP), a strategic project led by Pakistan Air Force (PAF). The visit was aimed at highlighting the significance of this cutting-edge initiative and its potential to revolutionize the national landscape in the fields of aerospace, cyber and computing. On his arrival at the National Aerospace Science and Technology Park, the distinguished guest was warmly received by Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Zabeer Ahmed Baber Sidhu. Principal Staff Officers along with high level civil and military officials were also present at the occasion, a PAF news release said.

## Rs 69 bln money-laundering identified in 5 years

ISLAMABAD (APP): The customs authorities Wednesday informed the Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Revenue that inspection teams had identified Rs 69.5 billion money-laundering committed by 63 individuals during last five years. Member Customs, Zeba Hai Azhar briefed the committee in a meeting, chaired by Senator Saleem Mandviwala, almost seven accused attached with the solar equipment import-business were among those who smuggled billions of rupees to different countries.

The senate body took up various reports on the massive money-laundering by solar panel/equipment importers was also apprised that two accused had deposited Rs 26 billion in cash for import of solar panels.

## Usman Dar says PTI chief masterminded May 9 events to force army chief's resignation

Announces quitting PTI and politics; alleges "two mindsets" emerged within the party after its govt was ousted.

LAHORE: PTI leader Usman Dar, who had allegedly gone missing according to his party, resurfaced on Wednesday and opined that the May 9 attacks were aimed at "removing the army chief". "Of course, the incident was orchestrated to thwart the appointment [of the army chief]. I believe that Imran also had information from within the institution suggesting that the long march could potentially influence either the appointment or the removal of Gen Asim Munir," he said. Dar also announced

quitting the PTI and politics, noting that he initiated his political journey with the Imran-led party and was now concluding it at the very same starting point. Last month, the PTI had claimed that Dar was "abducted" in Karachi's Malir Cantt by "unknown persons" and taken to an undisclosed location. The local police had denied arresting the PTI leader.

Dar's mother had also released a video message claiming her son had been abducted and that the 'abductors' were denying the whereabouts of her son.

## PM wishes success to Namira Salim ahead of her space journey

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar Wednesday expressed his good wishes to astronaut Namira Salim who was set to start her space journey from October 6.

"Good Luck Namira Salim. I wish you success when you're ready to make history on 6 October by becoming the 1st Pakistani woman to travel to space in the Galactic 04," he wrote on social media platform X.

He said that by proving their mettle as trailblazers in multiple fields, the Pakistani women were making the whole nation proud. Earlier, Namira Salim, in a statement said she along with other astronauts were undergoing a training.

## 'Free, fair' polls to bring political, economic stability: Sharmila

ISLAMABAD (APP): The "free and fair" elections in the country would eventually bring political and economic stability to the country, said Senior leader of Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Sharmila Farooqi on Wednesday, urging the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP), to announce the final date for the next polls at the earliest.

"People are facing multiple issues due to price hikes of essential products. A democratic and political government could address the genuine grievances of the common man," said Sharmila while talking to the state news channel. Commenting on the political role of the last coalition government, she said coalition partners had made the best decisions in a short

period of time and saved the country from falling into the category of economic default line. In reply to a question about the election drive, she said, it is the responsibility of ECP to announce the exact schedule for general elections so that workers could start the campaign in a proper manner.

About the performance of PPP, she said PPP is constructing shelters for homeless people who have been displaced due to floods in Sindh areas. She said that the PPP had launched the Benazir Income Support Program to help poor families.

Besides this, she said, we had initiated the lady health worker program to upgrade the lifestyle of poor women.



KARACHI: Teacher busy in work in class room as world celebrates International Teachers' Day on 5 Oct 2023. World Teacher Day is an annual event that pays tribute to the educators who play a pivotal role in shaping our future.

## IHC orders for holding hearing of bail plea of Imran in open court

ISLAMABAD (Online): Islamabad High Court (IHC) while accepting plea against the in-camera hearing of bail petition of chairman PTI Imran Khan has ordered to hold hearing in open court in cipher case.

The hearing of bail plea will now be held in open court on October 09. It has been said in court's decision what information or documents will be pointed out as sensitive by the lawyers, the arguments on these documents will be heard in camera.

Chief Justice (CJ) IHC Aamir Farooq expressed remarks on Wednesday he had never held hearing in camera during the 9 years. May be I have conducted in-camera hearing one or two times in missing persons case.

CJ IHC Aamir Farooq while announcing the reserved judgment wrapped up FIA plea for in-camera hearing.

IHC said in its decision the hearing can be made in-camera on point of sensitive information.

The hearing of bail plea of Imran Khan will be held in open court. The hearing will be made in-camera on coming the sensitive information or documents on record.

It may be mentioned that IHC had reserved judgment on plea of making in-camera hearing of Imran Khan bail plea two days before in cipher case.

IHC CJ Aamir Farooq had heard the FIA petition seeking in-camera hearing of bail plea of Imran Khan



HYDERABAD: Additional Secretary IG Finance Department Sinda Ghulam Murtaza is listening to the issues from Sheikh Saliian Open month Shabbaz Hall.

## Youth killed, four injured in Hyderabad road mishap

HYDERABAD (INP): A youth was killed and four others injured when an over speeding passenger bus hit a motorcycle loader in Hyderabad, police said.

According to details, a reckless driven passenger bus ramed into a motorcycle loader, killing a youth identified as Altaf Solani in the accident while four other sustained serious wounds. Bus driver fled the scene.

## Four facilitators of criminals arrested from Kashmir

KARACHI (APP): The Pakistan Rangers Sindh and Police in a joint intelligence based operation in village Mubarak Bhayo of district Kashmir arrested four alleged facilitators of Bhayo gang and other criminals.

Arrested were identified as Saddarudin, Bilawal Khan, Allah Dino and Muhammad Salman, according to spokesman for Rangers on Wednesday. The Rangers recovered 2 SMGs, a pistol, three 12 bore double barrels, a 12 bore single barrel, 94 different types of ammunition, a binocular, mobile phone and cash from the possession of arrested.

## Commissioner reviews ongoing anti polio campaign in Nawabshah

HYDERABAD (APP): Commissioner Shaheed Benazirabad Division, Syed Muhammad Sajjad Haider visited different areas of the division to review the ongoing National Anti-Polio Campaign. Commissioner during the visit of Taluka Nawabshah visited mobile, transit and fix points of Polio teams and EPI Center and inspected the performance of polio teams. He also collected information from area residents about the arrival of polio teams at their points. Instructing the officials of the health department and Union Council medical officers, the Commissioner said that apart from administering polio drops to all children up to the age of five years they must be given a supplement of vitamin A.

He said that during evening meetings regarding the polio campaign, the problems discussed shall be resolved to take proper measures to make the campaign successful. He appealed to parents for cooperation with polio teams visiting house to house for vaccination of children in order to prevent them from lifelong disability. District Health Officer Dr. Asadullah Dahri, Area Coordinator World Health Organization Dr. Jehangir Korai and other officials were present on the occasion.



HYDERABAD: A view of closed Rajputana Hospital by administration.

## Karachi 12<sup>th</sup> class result to be announced on October 13

KARACHI (INP): Karachi 12<sup>th</sup> class result to be announced on October 13.

In a first, Karachi Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education (BISE) announced to release all groups' results of 12 class altogether.

It has been announced to release the inter results on 13 October. Pre-medical, pre-engineering, commerce results will be declared on the same day. But it was also announced media would not be invited to the annual results ceremony and only results copies will be sent to all media offices. The Karachi BISE will invite only position holders to annual results ceremony wherein BISE chairman will distribute the prizes.

## SSP vows to maintain law & order across Sukkur

SUKKUR (APP): SSP Sukkur Irfan Ali Samo has said that the protection of lives and properties of the people and maintenance of law and order through the better provision of service delivery and courteous behavior across the district were among the top priorities of the police.

He expressed these views while addressing the police officers during presiding over the meeting at his office here on Wednesday.

He said that all officers and officials filled with zeal for public service should enhance the respect and prestige of the department by offering their services with diligence and honesty.

The SSP said the basic purpose of police reforms was to ensure the positive behavioral change of the force in order to assimilate them with smart modern policing parameters for better public service.

## Bike rider youth killed in road mishap

KARACHI (INP): A youth was killed after an over speeding vehicle hit a motorcycle near Gulbairi Bridge in the metropolis on Wednesday, rescue sources said. According to details, a reckless driven vehicle knocked down a motorcycle carrying a youth.

As a result of accident, bike rider identified as Israr was killed on the spot. The body was shifted to hospital for postmortem and police after registering a case into the incident started an investigation.

## At UN, Pakistan pushes for defeating terrorism by settling disputes like Kashmir

UNITED NATIONS (APP): Pakistan has called for addressing the unresolved conflicts, foreign occupation and denial of right to self-determination, especially in Kashmir and Palestine, in order to completely wipe out terrorism that has spread across the world.

"To comprehensively defeat terrorism, we must address not only its symptoms but also its root causes," Ambassador Munir Akram told the General Assembly Legal (sixth) Committee during a debate on 'Measures to eliminate International Terrorism' on Tuesday.

## OIC strongly condemns storming of Al-Aqsa Mosque, closure of Al-Ibrahimi Mosque

ISLAMABAD (APP): The General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Wednesday strongly condemned the storming of the Blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque by the Israeli occupation forces and the blatant assault on worshippers as well as the arrest of a number of them.

The Muslim world body, in a statement, also



HYDERABAD: DSP Waheed Mallah Latifabad speaking at a press conference at police station Latifabad.

## 14% children in Pak die from Pneumonia

ISLAMABAD (APP): Health experts on Wednesday said that around 14% of children die due to pneumonia in Pakistan.

They were addressing the launching of research 'Breathing for Tomorrow; Exhibiting Advances in Respiratory Health with Focus on Under Five Pneumonia'. They said that Pneumonia continues to be one of the leading killers of children under five globally, with one child dying of the disease every 30 seconds. District Health Officer (DHO) Islamabad, Dr Zaem Zia said that doctors had an important role to play in strengthening the health care system.

He said that doctors should follow medical ethics in hospitals to properly serve the patients. Director Research, Neoventive Solutions, Dr. Hana Mahmood said that with over a decade of experience conducting high quality research in childhood pneumonia, Neoventive Solutions is helping to address this issue as part of the NIHR Global Health Research Unit on Respiratory Health (RESPIRE). She said that Neoventive Solutions in collaboration with the Ministry of National Health Services and with support of International Research Force conducted research in Pakistan to generate evidence.