

Independent

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Vol: 05. No. 286 Rabi-ul-Sani 01, 1445 AH Tuesday October 17, 2023

Pages 04 Price Rs. 12.00

PM Kakar says

Pakistan committed to CPEC as 'corridor of socio-economic growth'

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar has expressed the country's commitment to jointly building the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), saying the project has transformed the socio-economic landscape of Pakistan. "The CPEC has transformed the socio-economic landscape of Pakistan, upgrading modern infrastructure, enhancing regional connectivity, ensuring energy security, and creating jobs," the prime minister wrote in his article published in Global Times China.

PM Kakar, who is set to participate in the Third Belt and Road Forum for

International Cooperation in China on October 17-18 which marks the completion of a decade of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), said Pakistan endorses China's vision of CPEC as a corridor of growth.

As the flagship project of the BRI, he said, CPEC marks a milestone in Pakistan-China relations by placing "economic cooperation and connectivity at the very center of the bilateral agenda", making the two countries more interconnected. "We fully endorse China's proposal of developing the CPEC as a corridor of growth, livelihood, innovation, greenness, and openness - representing our two countries' preference

for a human-centric approach, inclusivity, and green development," he said. The prime minister said Pakistan and China as close friends, strategic partners, and iron brothers, are moving forward toward a destiny of shared future.

"The tale of China-Pakistan relations is not an ordinary one. It is an account of brotherhood, friendship, and trust, the foundations of which were laid more than 70 years ago," he said.

Kakar said the timeless Pakistan-China partnership and deep-rooted friendship serve the interests of both countries and remain the cornerstone of Pakistan's foreign policy.



KARACHI: British High Commissioner (HC) to Pakistan Jane Marriot called on Sindh Governor Moahmmed Kamran Khan Tessori at Governor House. Deputy High Commissioner of Britain Sara Mooney also present on the occasion.

British HC calls on Sindh Governor

KARACHI (APP): British High Commissioner (HC) to Pakistan Jane Marriot called on Sindh Governor Moahmmed Kamran Khan Tessori at Governor House on Monday.

They discussed economic relations between Pakistan and Britain, enhanced cooperation in the field of education, investment opportunities in the Sindh province and other issues of mutual interests.

Deputy High Commissioner of Britain Sara

Mooney was also present on the occasion.

The Governor said the province offered good opportunities of investment and British investors could invest in the province.

The High Commissioner visited the site of Bell of Hope and appreciated the Governor's initiative.

The envoy also reviewed the articles, used by Father of the Nation Quaid-i-Azam Mohammed Ali Jinnah.

British HC calls on PPP Chairman

KARACHI (APP): British High Commissioner (HC) to Pakistan Jane Marriot called on Chairman of Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto Zardari at Bilawal House on Monday.

Deputy High Commissioner of Britain Sara Mooney was also present on the occasion.

On the occasion, they discussed the promotion of bilateral relations and other issues of mutual interests.

Minister visits offices of Sub-Registrar

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Caretaker Minister for Revenue, Commerce and Industries Muhammad Younus Dagha visited the Sub-Registrar offices of Shah Faisal, Landhi, Korangi, Malir and Bin Qasim Towns here on Monday.

Sindh Secretary Revenue MB Dharejo, Chief Inspector of Stamps Muhammad Abbas and other officers were also accompanied by him during the visit.

The minister inspected all these offices, checked the pendency of registration documents and met with the registering public.

Transporters refuse to slash fares despite massive cut in petrol, diesel prices

KARACHI (INP): Karachi Transport Union has flatly refused to bring down fares of public transport following the massive reduction in the prices of petrol and diesel.

In this regard, Union President Irshad Bukhari said that the government had earlier raised the price of diesel by Rs40 per litre but now it has slashed its rate by 15 rupees only and in such a situation, fares cannot be reduced. He said that mostly public transport including buses and vans ply on diesel and not on petrol.



BEIJING: Mr. Wang Zhigang, Minister of Science & Technology of China receiving Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar upon his arrival.

Trying to change things in health sector: Health Minister

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Caretaker Minister for Health Dr Saad Khalid Niaz has said that they were trying to change things in the health sector during a short period of time.

He said that they were working on 'Insurance' and he also discussed it when he visited Türkiye.

While addressing the inauguration ceremony of an Operation Theatre (Operating Room) renovated and equipped by the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA) at the National Institute of Child Health (NICH), also attended by Turkish Ambassador to Pakistan Dr. Mehmet Pacaci, Caretaker Minister Dr. Saad Niaz said, "Operation Theatre is a good addition to NICH."

He thanked Türkiye and said that she was a real brother. Dr. Niaz said that Türkiye always stood shoulder to shoulder with Pakistan whenever she was in need of help or in trouble.

The minister said Pakistan and Türkiye had old and strong relations.

He said that NICH was providing health services to children and adolescents free of cost. He also highlighted that there was always room for improvement. Ambassador of the Republic of Türkiye Mehmet Pacaci addressing the ceremony said that Pakistan and Türkiye had a brotherhood more than a friendship. He said that both the countries had people-to-people contacts.

Oman Army commander lauds Pakistan's efforts for regional peace

RAWALPINDI (APP): Commander Royal Army of Oman, Major General Matar bin Salim bin Rashid Al-Balushi called on Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Syed Asim Munir at the General Headquarters (GHQ) on Monday.

The visiting dignitary lauded the Pakistan Army's achievements in the fight against terrorism and continued efforts for regional peace and stability, an Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release said. During the meeting, matters of mutual interest were discussed.

Earlier on arrival at the GHQ, the Commander Royal Army of Oman laid a wreath at the Yadgar-e-Shuhada.



KARACHI: Turkish Ambassador to Pakistan Mehmet Pacaci handing over a memento to Sindh Caretaker Minister for Health Dr. Saad Khalid Niaz during the inauguration ceremony of an Operation Theatre (Operating Room) renovated and equipped by the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA) at NICH.

Caretaker Prime Minister arrives in China to attend 3rd Belt and Road Forum

BEIJING (Online): Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar has arrived in China to participate in the '3rd Belt and Road Forum (BRF) for International Cooperation.'

He was received by Chinese Minister of Science & Technology, Wang Zhigang, Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong and Ambassador of Pakistan to China Moim-ul-Haq.

The Prime Minister is undertaking the visit at the invitation of China's President Xi Jinping. He is accompanied by a high-level delegation including members of the cabinet and senior government officials.

The Prime Minister will attend the Opening Ceremony of the BRF and address the High-Level Forum

titled 'Connectivity in an Open Global Economy' to be held on 18 October 2023.

The Prime Minister will hold bilateral meetings with President Xi Jinping, Premier Li Qiang and Mr. Li Xi, member of the Standing Committee of Politburo of CPC Central Committee.

The leaders will discuss all facets of bilateral relations, with particular focus on strengthening trade and economic cooperation between the two countries. They will exchange views on major regional and global developments. The Prime Minister will also meet with other leaders of countries participating in the BRF.



KARACHI: Inspector General Police (IGP) Sindh, Riffat Mukhtar along with others addresses during the Safety and Security Workshop for Journalists Covering the Elections organized by PPI Training Centre, held at local hotel in Karachi.

IHC rules Imran Khan's trial in cipher case will be held in jail

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Islamabad High Court (IHC) has ruled that the trial of PTI Chairman and former prime minister Imran Khan will be held in prison, disposing of the plea against his cipher case trial inside the jail.

Pronouncing the verdict on Monday, IHC Chief Justice Aamer Farooq wrapped up the case with directions stating that the trial is in favour of the PTI chairman, as he himself had talked about threats to his life.

The decision further stated that the court did not find any malice in the matter of the jail trial.

The PTI chief can approach the trial court if he has reservations about the jail trial, the verdict said.

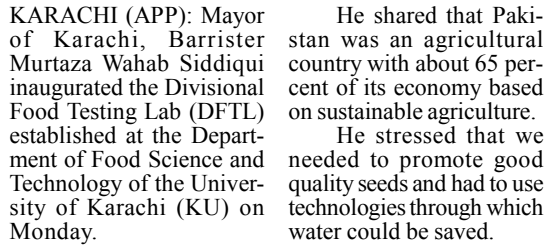
IHC Chief Justice Aamer Farooq reserved the judgment on the former premier's plea on September 12.

The PTI chairman had challenged the notification of the Ministry of Law and Justice that allowed the holding of cipher case trial in jail.

Presenting his arguments during today's hearing, Imran Khan's lawyer Sardar Latif Khosa said that former prime minister and PTI chairman was the Chief Executive of this country and his oath gives authority to the Chief Executive in such a situation.

The Chief Justice inquired of Khosa whether there is a law to declassify documents in Pakistan like America?

Khosa said that this cipher was declassified by the federal cabinet, Liaquat Ali Khan was killed in this country while what happened to Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and Benazir Bhutto is also in front of you.



ISLAMABAD: Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Naveed Ashraf exchanging views with Ambassadors of Saudi Arabia, Nawaf bin Saeed Al-Malik at Naval headquarter.

Mayor inaugurates Divisional Food Testing Lab at KU

KARACHI (APP): Mayor of Karachi, Barrister Murtaza Wahab Siddiqui inaugurated the Divisional Food Testing Lab (DFTL) established at the Department of Food Science and Technology of the University of Karachi (KU) on Monday.

The KU DFST and the Sindh Food Authority have jointly established the DFTL to improve food quality in the province. Murtaza Wahab and the KU Vice Chancellor Professor Dr Khalid Mahmood Iraqi also inaugurated the FST Alumni Conference Hall at the KU DFST. On this occasion, the KU DFST organized a seminar on 'water is life, water is food, leave no one behind', of World Food Day 2023. Addressing the ceremony, the mayor said that food security was the biggest problem in the present era and added that many countries were still facing this problem.

He expressed that steps had to be taken to save minor children from malnutrition and expressed that World Food Day was commemorated all across the globe to inculcate a sense of responsibility in people for the careful use of food resources.



KARACHI: Mayor Karachi, Barrister Murtaza Wahab along with others inaugurates Divisional Food Test Lab during ceremony held at Department of Food Science and Technology University of Karachi, in Karachi.

Whole Karachi knows how big a corrupt party PPP is: MQM-P

KARACHI (INP): The MQM-Pakistan, while taking a dig at the Pakistan Peoples Party, asserted on Monday that its opponent was becoming increasingly frustrated with its political activities, as their dream of capturing Karachi was slowly fading away.

In a statement issued on Monday, a MQM spokesman claimed that their opponents had lost sleep after witnessing a stronger and more organised MQM-P than ever before.

The spokesman went on to assert that the people of Karachi had made it clear that the Muttahida Qaumi Movement-Pakistan was their sole representative party, ridiculing the PPP by stating that the political dwarfs of the PPP couldn't even secure a single UC seat in Karachi anymore.

The spokesman noted that every child in Karachi was familiar with the stories of PPP's corruption, alleging that the PPP had amassed properties by transferring ill-gotten money to Dubai over the past 15 years.

"The entire city of Karachi is aware of the extent of corruption within the PPP."

The spokesman added that the MQM-Pakistan would respond to all of its political opponents, including the PPP, in a political and democratic manner.

Saeed Ghani blames MQM for terrorism in Karachi

KARACHI (INP): Pakistan People Party President Karachi region Saeed Ghani said on Monday that Muttahida Qaumi Movement was responsible for the surge of terrorism in Karachi.

He said MQM was incapable to solve the problems of the city while adding the local elections made

the MQM aware of its fragile political situation.

The PPP Karachi region president mentioned that the MQM wanted to win elections in Karachi again by using rigging as a tool while adding it would fail to win in Karachi as the people have had enough of the fake promises by the party.



Senator Nuzhat Sadiq attending the Virtual Emergency meeting of the Parliamentary Union of OIC member States (PUIC) to discuss serious developments of the situation of Palestine Territories, at Parliament House Islamabad.

REPATRIATION OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

14 DAYS REMAINING

14

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Rogue nation

A recent assassination — the latest in a spate of similar killings from Karachi to Kashmir — has turned the spotlight onto what has seemed, for quite a while, to be an organised campaign overseen by a hostile intelligence agency to murder individuals on Pakistani soil.

In the last two months alone, there have been at least four targeted killings that have, either directly or indirectly, been attributed by police to India's foreign intelligence agency, the Research and Analysis Wing.

In each case, armed assailants tracked, targeted and killed individuals associated in various capacities with different religious outfits.

However, after the most recent incident, in which a former activist of the outlawed Jaish-e-Muhammad was killed, along with two others, in a Daska mosque on Wednesday, police and intelligence agencies were quicker to react. Within 24 hours of the incident, they claimed to have busted a network involved in carrying out a vendetta for a 'rogue nation'. Even if the Punjab police chief, who made the announcement of the arrests, desisted from taking names, it did not take much imagination to conclude that it was India his finger was pointing to.

Indian media have reported that the slain man, Mohammad Shahid Latif, was suspected by New Delhi of having facilitated the attack on an Indian Air Force base in Pathankot in 2016.

However, there seems to be little evidence to substantiate this allegation, and no link was ever made public tying Latif to the Pathankot incident.

Indeed, the murders of Latif and the others before him would seem, on the face of it, to be part of an international campaign that also saw the high-profile killing of Sikh nationalist Hardeep Singh Nijjar in Surrey, Canada, in June this year. The Canadian government has said it has evidence of Indian involvement in the murder; and now Pakistan is claiming the same.

It would seem as if New Delhi wants anyone whom it suspects has played a role in any one of the nationalist movements active within the territories under its control killed. But India cannot go around murdering people in other countries with impunity. There must be severe consequences imposed on it. It is also pertinent to ask our own authorities how they could let so many individuals be murdered on Pakistani soil before a network apparently being run by an enemy power was finally busted. Pre-empting such attacks is a core task for counter-intelligence officials responsible for the nation's security, and as such, it is their responsibility to ensure that Pakistan's enemies do not use its soil to carry out vendetta killings. Nothing can be more embarrassing for them than the enemy managing to infiltrate the country while they are busy dealing with domestic issues they legally and technically have no business being involved in.

All-Weather Friendship: The Evolving Pak-China Relationship

By A.R Ansari

Pakistan and China's relationship is often referred to as an "all-weather friendship" owing to strong political, economic, and military ties. This friendship has evolved over several decades, based on mutual interests and cooperation in the fields of economic development, military and defense, and infrastructure projects, cultural exchanges and people-to-people contacts have also grown, with an increasing number of Pakistani students studying in China and a surge in Chinese expatriates living and working in Pakistan. Despite the strong ties, there have been challenges in the Pakistan-China relationship like concerns about the terms and conditions of Chinese loans and investments under CPEC, owing to Pakistan's growing debt burden and security concerns in the border region.

China has been a staunch ally of Pakistan at international forums, particularly on issues related to Kashmir. China has supported Pakistan's stance on the Kashmir conflict and has shielded Pakistan from diplomatic isolation in the United Nations and other international organizations. China is holding its third Belt and Road forum in Beijing where representatives from over 130 countries are joining to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Belt and Road Initiative.

The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is a massive infrastructure and economic development project initiated by China. It aims to create a network of roads, railways, ports, and other infrastructure that connects China to Europe, Africa, and other parts of Asia. CPEC is a flagship project of the BRI initiative — a collection of infrastructure projects that include the construction of highways, railways, pipelines, and the development of the strategic Gwadar Port. The world has witnessed in 1979, one of the world's highest and most spectacular international road connections

Karakoram Highway as evidence of all-weather friendship, that connects Pakistan and China, making it one of the world's highest and most challenging engineering feats. The Karakoram Highway holds strategic significance, providing China with access to the Arabian Sea via Gwadar, very essential for China's energy and trade interests. The Karakoram Highway stretches for approximately 1,300 kilometers (810 miles) from HasanAbdal near Islamabad to the Chinese city of Kashgar in Xinjiang. The Karakoram highway is subject to harsh weather conditions, especially in the winter, and has faced issues such as landslides and road closures due to natural disasters.

Pakistan's Prime Minister, Anwar-ul-Haq Kakar, visit to China sets the stage for a new era for CPEC projects, particularly in the acceleration of the Thakot-Raikot section — a critical segment of the Karakoram Highway, known for its sharp bends and limitations. It is poised for an overhaul, of state-of-the-art tunnels, for reducing travel time and enhancing safety. The road classification will be advanced from Class 4 to Class 2, signaling an upgrade in its quality and the permitted speed limit will be increased, promising swifter and more efficient travel. This development extends beyond mere travel enhancements. It holds the potential to revolutionize cargo transport, making it more efficient and cost-effective. The improved road network will support heavier cargo loads, streamlining the transportation of goods with greater ease and efficiency. The Karakoram Highway looms as a prominent highlight of this historic partnership. It signifies more than just a road; it's a symbol of friendship, cooperation, and a shared vision for a brighter, more interconnected future.

The Highway Research & Training Centre also stands as one of the pivotal projects, prominently taking center stage as the primary highlight of Prime Minister Kakar's visit. A promising Joint Research Program is envisioned with the Government of China from 2023 to 2027, aiming to foster collaboration and innovation in various domains of highway engineering. A formal memorandum of joint research extension will be finalized and entered into during the PM's visit to China. This program aims to foster collaboration and innovation in various domains of highway engineering. This extension is poised to be a cornerstone of the cooperation in the road infrastructure while the National Highway Authority is a vanguard of such cooperation. It is agreed to construct the Highway Research and Training Center spread over 530 acres by a Chinese Contractor/ Consultant under a Chinese Grant of Rs. 15 billion. It includes infrastructure, a test track, and indoor and outdoor lab equipment which will be handed over to NHA for operation after completion and required training. Various research projects in Reclaimed Asphalt, Bridges and Tunnelling, training and degree courses in China, development of engineering design manuals and standards for Pakistan are some of the key target areas of this project.

Pakistan-China relationship is poised to continue evolving, adapting to the ever-changing global landscape. With a shared commitment to deepening ties and fostering enduring peace, this friendship remains a cornerstone of stability in a rapidly shifting world. Pakistan and China are not just strategic allies but genuine friends, encouraging a legacy of collaboration that continues to shape the future. The Pakistan-China relationship serves as a compelling case study of how nations can accomplish prosperity and progress through resolute partnership, surpassing borders and generating a conduit to a happier future for all.

Beyond 'restraint'



Huma Yusuf

China last week issued a statement on the Israel-Palestine war, calling, noncommittally, for restraint on all sides and an end to hostilities. There was no condemnation of Hamas's atrocities or of Israel's response against Gaza's civilian population. This is the latest example of Chinese non-interference and a manifestation of its Global Civilisation Initiative (GCI), Beijing's latest strategic push that could in the long run have more influence on its allies, including Pakistan, than the much-touted BRI.

China has in the past called for Palestinian statehood, and even in last week's statements evoked the two-state solution as the only way out of the Israel-Palestine quagmire. At the same time, Israel and China have in recent years deepened economic and political ties, with China in 2021-22 replacing the US as Israel's main source of imports. China's role in the diplomatic rapprochement between Iran and Saudi Arabia also had a bearing on Israeli political calculations vis-à-vis Beijing: it had manoeuvred itself into a position to influence Israeli security.

China's forays into the Middle East may have been part of its Global Security Initiative, launched in 2022, in an effort to rebalance the international world order, tipping power away from the US and other Western countries towards China and Russia. But Beijing's choice not to speak out forcefully

against either Hamas or Israel is a reflection of its GCI, introduced in March this year, which privileges state-defined values over those — such as human rights — that have been posited in global governance as universal.

The GCI is a direct critique of Western efforts to implement a world order according to Westernised norms, particularly the absolutism around human rights and democracy. The GCI instead acknowledges "peace, development, equity, justice, democracy and freedom" as "common aspirations" rather than fundamental rights. China argues that these issues and the way they are embedded in states and societies are 'relative', rooted in local history and culture, and cannot be universally mandated. In a dig against the US in particular, which for years tried to impose its values of democracy and human rights — forcefully, if necessary, despite the ironies — the Chinese do not believe in imposing one country's models on another.

Many international observers have understood the GCI as a way for the Chinese government to justify why it won't condemn or attempt to stop bad behaviour, whether that be human rights violations within or beyond its borders or state conduct in conflict scenarios. The idea of relativism offers Beijing a way out: a conceptually and strategically grounded ability to dismiss egregious acts as culturally and contextually rooted, and therefore indigenous and worthy of respect rather than disruption. And so despite the challenges of balancing engagement in the Middle East context, China will try, its GSI and GCI flags waving over its effort.

These initiatives are unlikely to get centre stage at the Third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation taking place in Beijing. This meeting will laud the achievements of the Belt and Road Initiative, of which CPEC was a major pillar, and which is celebrating its 10th anniversary. The gathering is expected to look ahead to a new era for BRI, which is more green, more inclusive, and more sustainable from a debt perspective for recipients of projects.

But many have described this week's BRI forum as a swan song for a project that never reached its lofty ambitions. A 2021 study conducted by research lab AidData found that 35 per cent of BRI projects have been plagued by controversies such as corruption, excessive debt and labour exploitation. The Global South's call for BRI investment has in recent years been replaced with calls for debt forgiveness, as it transpired that the lending terms were burdensome. Many projects, including numerous SEZs planned as part of CPEC, remain unbuilt, incomplete or underutilised.

The petering out of the initiative would not mean that the era of Chinese influence is waning, however. Beijing's current strategies, including the GCI, may have a more lasting impact on Pakistan's state and society than infrastructure investment ever could. While China itself pursues its balancing act in the Middle East, it can reconcile with a Pakistan that supports Gaza, but does not criticise China's treatment of its Uighur population, or in prospect about the plight of its own religious minorities. A new global order that hesitates to challenge states' worst instincts will be equally, if not more, oppressive than the one that came before. — Courtesy Dawn

Commerce News

People welcome relief in POL prices; ask for inflation-ease

ISLAMABAD (APP): People from different walks of life on Monday welcomed the government's decision to substantially reduce petroleum prices, viewing it as a much-needed relief to counter the adverse effects of high inflation on their daily routines.

In the past, they said whenever petroleum prices increased it resulted in a surge in the prices of essential commodities, public transportation fares, and shipping costs, negatively impacting the common man.

Now, with the government's ample reduction of Rs40 per liter in petrol prices and Rs15 in high-speed diesel, people expect this to have a trickle-down effect on the

prices of everyday items, goods transport, and public transportation fares. Khurram Shahzad, a government employee who commutes daily from Qasim Market Rawalpindi to Islamabad, expressed his concern that public transporters had not lowered their fares despite a significant reduction in petroleum prices.

They had increased fares by almost 300 percent over the past six months, which he said should be revised and brought down.

He urged the Regional Transport Authority to revise and regulate the public transport fares to align them with the reduced petroleum prices.

He also called for the display of revised fare

charts in public transport vehicles to provide maximum relief to the common commuters between the twin cities of Rawalpindi and Islamabad.

The business community also commended the government's decision to reduce petroleum prices, considering it a positive step in combating inflation and providing much-needed relief to the common man throughout the country.

They attributed the positive indicators to the government's zero-tolerance policy against the illicit trade and smuggling of essential commodities and the dollar mafia. These measures led to the strengthening of the local currency against the



HYDERABAD: A large number of motorcyclists at petrol pump after the government reduce the petrol prices.

Investment in digital banking, FinTech, AgriTech beneficial for global investors: Dr. Umar

DUBAI (APP): Caretaker Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunication, Dr. Umar Saif said on Monday that international investors could greatly benefit from investing in Pakistan's digital banking, FinTech, AgriTech, and telecom infrastructure sectors.

Speaking at the inaugural session of the Global Information Technology Exhibition in Dubai, he said international investors can

take advantage of various incentives in Pakistan, including tax concessions and a 100% ownership rights regime.

Running from October 16 to 20, the Dubai Global Exhibition features delegates from 170 countries, representing over 6,000 IT companies.

Dr. Saif said that 85% of Pakistan's population does not have bank accounts and prefers to use cash or alternative means

for transactions. This presents an excellent opportunity for offering suitable digital payment solutions.

The minister said Pakistan is an attractive market for payment companies like PayPal due to its potential for generating billions in revenue.

He also pointed out that Pakistan's strength lies in its youthful population, with 65% of its people under the age of 30.



PESHAWAR: Members of Car Showrooms Association Ring Road are holding protest demonstration against high handedness of influential police officials, held at Peshawar press club.

Irfan Iqbal Sheikh says Business community lauds Army Chief's role in economic stabilization

Independent Report KARACHI: Mr. Irfan Iqbal Sheikh, President FPCCI, said that the business community of Pakistan appreciates the effective, timely and crucial role played by the Army Chief in swiftly reducing economic uncertainty; bringing back stability and fostering positive sentiment in the country. Controlling speculative trading of dollar and putting a stop on its smuggling are

the most effective and meaningful steps in the right direction by COAS, he added.

Mr. Irfan Iqbal Sheikh recalled that dollar was trading at 336 on 4th September in the open market and today it has come down to 276. In an export-dependent economy like Pakistan, currency depreciation is the mother of all evils as it fuels inflation, increases cost of production.

Shipping activity at Port Qasim

KARACHI (APP): The movements of ships was reported at the port where five ships namely, MSC Gina, Maersk Chesapeake, Hafnia Prestige, Jal Kalpavriksh and Horin Trader carrying Containers, Gas oil, Coal and Chemicals, berthed at Container Terminal, Oil Terminal, Bulk Terminal and Engro Terminal respectively on Sunday.

Meanwhile four more ships, Onyx-1, Gambella, Xin An Ping and Al-Zubarah scheduled to load/offload Cement, Containers, LNG and Coal also arrived at outer anchorage of the port during last 24 hours.

A total of eight ships were engaged at PQA berths during the last 24 hours, out of them a containership, Maersk Chesapeake left the port on today morning, while two more ships, MSC Gina and Livarden are expected to sail on today afternoon. Cargo volume of 116,892 tonnes, comprising 79,628 tonnes imports cargo and 37,264 tonnes export cargo, including containerized cargo carried in 2,324 Containers (134 TEUs Imports and 2,192 TEUs export) was handled at the port during last 24 hours.

IIUI, I Bank Al-Falah ink MoU

ISLAMABAD (APP): International Islamic University Islamabad (IIUI) and Bank Alfalah Limited Monday joined hands by signing Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for free of cost digital banking.

The MoU is part of the efforts of IIUI President's vision of Students' facilitation, said a press release here.

As per MoU, the Bank Alfalah will provide facility of mobile banking through its app for deposit of dues at IIUI.

Dr. Hathal Homoud Alotaibi, President IIUI and Adnan Nasir, Head Digital Payments Bank Alfalah signed MoU on behalf of their respective institutions. Dr. Hathal said that IIUI was committed to promote education and adopt the latest techniques.

He opined that the student's centric approach was cornerstone of the university's leadership's vision.

Facilities at rural revenue centres reviewed

LAHORE (APP): Senior Member Board of Revenue (SMBR) Nabil Javed here Monday chaired a meeting about the provision of facilities at rural centres.

Punjab Land Revenue Authority (PLRA) Director General Saira Umar apprised the meeting about facilities in rural centres such as e-registration, inheritance and online registration of property for foreign nationals. The SMBR congratulated Saira Umar for her excellent performance. Briefing the meeting, Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) Director Nazia Jabeen.

PSX holds Gong ceremony to announce building of In-House manufacturing facility

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) held a gong ceremony to announce the building of an in-house manufacturing facility for the Panadol portfolio by Haleon Pakistan Limited, a world-leading Consumer Healthcare Company and a listed company on the Pakistan Stock Exchange.

The gong ceremony was attended by British High Commissioner to Pakistan, Jane Marriott, as the Chief Guest, said a press release on Monday.

The team from the British High Commission and Haleon Pakistan Limited were received at the Stock Exchange by the MD & CEO PSX, Farrukh H. Khan and Board

member(s) PSX along with the Exchange's senior management. The gong was struck by the Chief Guest, Jane Marriott, and the CEO of Haleon Pakistan Limited, Farhan M. Haroon, in the presence of MD and CEO PSX, Farrukh Khan, Board member(s) PSX, the team from the British High Commission and senior management of both Haleon Pakistan and PSX.

Speaking on the occasion, the MD & CEO PSX, Farrukh Khan stated, "I warmly welcome the British High Commissioner to Pakistan, Jane Marriott, her team, the CEO of Haleon Pakistan, Farhan Haroon, and the Haleon Pakistan management team, to PSX."



MULTAN: A labourer busy in spreading rice for drying purpose in the field.

PSX continues with bullish trend, gains 237 points

ISLAMABAD (APP): The 100-index of Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) continued with a bullish trend on Monday and gained 237.88 points, a positive change of 0.48 per cent, closing at 49,731.35 points against 49,493.47 points the previous day.

A total of 467,383,787 shares valuing Rs 14,119 billion were traded during the day as compared to 556,389,862 shares valuing Rs 15,450 billion the previous day.

As many as 359 companies transacted their shares in the stock market; 218 of them recorded gains

and 129 sustained losses, whereas the share price of 12 companies remained unchanged.

The three top-trading companies were K-Electric Ltd with 98,168,338 shares at Rs 3.15 per share, PTCL with 22,603,000 shares at Rs 6.95 per share and Pak Int. Bulk with 22,073,500 shares at Rs 4.59 per share. Nestle Pakistan witnessed a maximum increase of Rs 102.00 per share price, closing at Rs 7,300.00, whereas the runner-up was Philip Morris Pak with a Rs 40.50 rise in its per share price to Rs 580.50.

CM Punjab orders reduction in commodity prices and transport fare following petrol price cut

Independent Report
LAHORE: Acting upon the special directives of Punjab's Caretaker Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi, a decision has been made to promptly pass on the benefits of significant reduction in petroleum prices directly to the people of Punjab.

In a pivotal meeting convened at the Chief Minister's Office and presided over by Caretaker Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi, a deadline of 48 hours was set for implementing price reductions. Additionally, the task of reducing transport fares by 10%

was assigned, aligning them proportionally with the special directives of Punjab's Caretaker Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi, a decision has been made to promptly pass on the benefits of significant reduction in petroleum prices directly to the people of Punjab.

In a pivotal meeting convened at the Chief Minister's Office and presided over by Caretaker Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi, a deadline of 48 hours was set for implementing price reductions. Additionally, the task of reducing transport fares by 10%



KARACHI: Turkish Ambassador to Pakistan Mehmet Pacaci called on Sindh Governor Mohammed Kamaran Khan Tessori at Governor House.

CM reviews progress of Band Road controlled access corridor project

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Caretaker Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi conducted a morning inspection of the ongoing Controlled Access Corridor project on Band Road.

He meticulously assessed the progress of this significant endeavor, spanning from Niazi Chowk to Babu Sabu. He underscored the importance of ensuring smooth traffic flow on the closed road throughout the construction phase. He emphasized that the Chief Traffic Officer (CTO) should personally oversee operations and

ANF seizes 108 kg drugs; arrests three

RAWALPINDI (APP): Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) while conducting five operations across the country managed to recover 108 kg drugs and arrested three accused, said an ANF Headquarters spokesman here on Monday.

He informed that 24.8 kg hashish was recovered from an accused, resident of Kohat arrested on Super Highway Karachi. On the pointation of the accused, a co-accused, resident of Karachi was also arrested. In another operation at Jinnah International Airport, Karachi Courier Office, ANF recovered 180 grams.

Governor asks teachers to protest without skipping classes

BAHAWALPUR (APP): Governor Punjab Engineer Muhammad Baligh-ur-Rehman has said that all the right demands of teachers should be heard however, teachers must not skip classes for protests which will hurt students' future.

Talking to APP, he said that teachers are founder of our future and the government will solve their grievances.

He urged teachers to work on recruiting more students at school and help in improving Pakistan's literacy rate.

Responding to a question, he said that Pakistan was heading in the right direction and as a result, Pakistan's economy was improving.

He said that the

recent decrease in petrol prices, dollar, and gold rates were indicators of better economic conditions.

Governor Punjab said that an international cricket stadium would be constructed in Bahawalpur.

He said that sports activities must be promoted among youth and more grounds must be made available for them.

Engr Muhammad Baligh-ur-Rehman said that youth must not indulge in negative ventures and refrain from following anti-state propaganda. He said that political parties must teach their followers respect and acceptance of opposite ideologies.

ICCBS successfully cultivates organic cotton in Karachi

KARACHI (APP): Researchers at the International Center for Chemical and Biological Sciences (ICCBS), University of Karachi (UoK) have successfully cultivated multiple generations of cotton in Karachi with low energy costs in a year.

This is the first time Organic Cotton has been grown in Karachi, and this experimental production can be expanded with the support of the federal and

provincial governments in Sindh and Balochistan. ICCBS research team, working under the supervision of Dr. Shahid Mansoor, at the Biotechnology Wing of the HEJ Research Institute of Chemistry was able to grow multiple generations of cotton in Karachi with low energy costs.

In addition, the ICCBS research team has not found any evidence of cotton leaf curl disease or major cotton pests in the product.

NH&MP sets up free eye camp for drivers

HYDERABAD (APP): The National Highway and Motorway Police (NH&MP) set up a free eye camp for the drivers near the Hyderabad toll plaza on the M9 Motorway in Jamshoro district on Monday.

An official informed that during the day-long camp, it surfaced that the drivers of heavy transport vehicles including the public transport vehicles suffered from eye-sight issues and some other ailments of eyes.

Pakistan needs indigenous knowledge-based, local solutions for enhanced climate resilience: Speakers

KARACHI (APP): The Speakers on Monday at a panel discussion on climate action urged the government and departments concerned to join hands for collating and collaborating indigenous knowledge-based solutions for enhanced resilience of the country against adverse impacts of climate change and environmental degradation.

The Sustainable Development Policy Institute convened a panel discussion at the launch of Four thematic Policy Position Papers with members of the academia, civil society, journalists and business community.

Opening the panel discussion, Deputy Executive Director, SDPI, Dr. Shafiqat Munir Ahmad briefed the participants on the Four Thematic Policy papers discussing the country's position on climate finance, institutional capacities for climate action, policy frameworks and the Loss and Damage that had been created at the global to provide a platform for reparations to the most impacted countries through climate catastrophes.

Dr Shafiqat Munir said the crisis of climate change had no boundaries and it impacted all the nations without any distinction.

However, the country was lagging in terms effective implementation of its convincing policy instruments established to cope with the climate disasters.

He underlined that the country had separate ministries of subjects that were equally impacted due to climate change and demanded an intricate and integrated approach.

"We need to align and develop coherence in existing system and ministries to address climate change. The country will also have to maintain technical climate human resource expert on the subject," he added.

He also pointed out that amid growing vulnerability of the country due to climate change it was needed to revise the national disaster risk reduction (DRR) Policy to set targets and key areas like risk understanding, governance, financing and overall framework for collaboration.

Former VP FPCCI, Member Board of Governors SDPI, Eng MA Jabbar felicitated the institute for successfully compiling the policy papers.

He mentioned that the increase in migration to wards urban centers was burdening the existing capacities of those cities leading to economic impact driving climate and financial crisis.

Climate change affecting tools in the country, he said were the power generation plants that had the capacity of 41,000 megawatts (MW) whereas India got 413,000 megawatts plant installed yesterday.

He compared the India and Pakistan coal to energy potential and mentioned that Pakistan had \$183 billion coal reserves which was one of the highest in the world.



LAHORE: Sikh Yatrees are being welcomed on their arrival at JCP Wagah Border.



LARKANA: Students of Government Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Law College are holding protest demonstration against the examination fee being increased by administration of Shah Abdul Latif University Khairpur held at Jinnah Bagh in Larkana.

International News

Gaza aid stuck as Egypt says Israel not cooperating

Monitoring Desk
ISMAILIA: Egypt said on Monday that Israel was not cooperating with the delivery of aid into Gaza and evacuations of foreign passport holders via the only entry it does not wholly control, leaving hundreds of tonnes of supplies stuck.

Cairo says the Rafah crossing, a potentially vital opening for desperately needed supplies into the besieged Palestinian enclave, is not officially closed but is inoperable due to Israeli air strikes on the Gaza side.

"There is an urgent need to alleviate the suffering of Palestinian civilians in Gaza," Egypt's Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukry told reporters, adding that talks with Israel had not been fruitful.

"Until now the Israeli government has not taken a position on opening the Rafah crossing from the Gaza side to allow the entrance of assistance and exit of citizens of third countries."

More than 2 million Gazans have been under siege since Israel launched an intense bombardment and blockade in retaliation for an assault by the Hamas Islamist militants.

Two Egyptian security sources had told Reuters a ceasefire in southern Gaza to last several hours had been agreed for Monday morning to facilitate aid and evacuations at Rafah.

However, Israel denied that.

"There is currently no truce and humanitarian aid in Gaza in exchange for getting foreigners out," a statement from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office said.

Hamas official Izzat El-Reshiq told Reuters the same.

On the ground at Rafah, one source said that there had been no bombardments on Monday and that the Egyptian side of the crossing was ready.



Palestinians recover a body from under the rubble of a building destroyed in an Israeli airstrike in Khan Yunis in the southern of Gaza Strip.

Russia's Putin speaks to Iran, Israel, Palestinians, Syria and Egypt

Monitoring Desk
MOSCOW: Russian President Vladimir Putin entered the fevered diplomatic fray of the Middle East on Monday, speaking to five of the major players including Iran and leading Arab powers in an attempt to secure a ceasefire in the war between Israel and Hamas.

Russia, which has relationships with Iran, Hamas, major Arab powers as well as with the Palestinians and with Israel, has repeatedly said the United States and the West have ignored the need for an independent Palestinian state within 1967 borders.

Putin spoke to Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi and to Syrian President Bashar al-Assad by telephone, the Kremlin said. He also plans to speak to Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, Abbas and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, it said.

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov told Putin that the situation was escalating, that Israeli army actions were "indiscriminate" and that the risk was that Israel would begin a ground operation against Gaza.

"The threat is high that this whole conflict gets out of control," Ryabkov told Putin at a meeting also attended by Russia's spy chiefs and military leaders.

He said that the United States was ultimately responsible for the crisis due to its failed policy in the Middle East and that Washington was blocking a Russian resolution in the UN Security Council.

Putin, who says the West is seeking to cleave Russia apart by supporting Ukraine, says the current violence in the Middle East shows just how far U.S. policy in the region has failed.

Putin will meet Xi Jinping in China this week in a bid to deepen a partnership forged between the United States' two biggest strategic competitors.

France's Macron holds security meeting amid heightened alert after deadly school stabbing

Monitoring Desk
ARRAS: French President Emmanuel Macron held a special security meeting on Monday amid heightened alert against feared terror threats, as a high school where a teacher was fatally stabbed in an attack last week has been evacuated over a bomb threat. Several hundreds of students and teachers went back into the high school in the northern town of Arras after what appeared to be a false alert.

All French schools held a moment of silence on Monday afternoon in homage to the teacher who was killed in Friday's attack by a former student suspected of Islamic radicalization.

The homage also paid tribute to another teacher, Samuel Paty, killed exactly three years ago near his Paris area school. He was beheaded by a radicalized Chechen later killed by police. Macron cut short travel plans abroad to hold a security meeting at midday with the prime minister and other key government members as well as top military and counterterrorism officials.

He initially planned to attend a summit on the Western Balkans in Tirana, Albania. Speaking at the end of the meeting, Interior Minister Gerald Darmanin said that 102 people have been arrested in relation with antisemitic acts.



Hlas-Social Democracy party chairman Peter Pellegrini, Smer-Social Democracy party chairman Robert Fico and Slovak National Party chairman Andrej Danko sign a coalition agreement to form a new government in Bratislava, Slovakia.



A view of trucks carrying humanitarian aid for Palestinians, as they wait for the re-opening of the Rafah border crossing to enter Gaza, amid the ongoing conflict between Israel and the Palestinian Islamist group Hamas, in the city of Al-Arish, Sinai peninsula, Egypt.

No, Rafael's 'Iron Beam' laser didn't blow up missiles over Israel

Monitoring Desk
WASHINGTON: Videos circulating on social media purporting to show a high-energy laser weapon destroying missiles during the Israel-Hamas war are actually altered clips derived from a military simulation video game. Cropped, low-resolution footage depicting swarms of overhead projectiles being intercepted in front of a tower are sourced from Arma 3, a photorealistic game billed as a "massive military sandbox" by its publisher, Bohemia Interactive.

Multiple prominent accounts on X, formerly Twitter, shared videos over the weekend incorrectly claiming they showed the real-world application of Iron Beam, developed by Israeli company Rafael Advanced Defense Systems.

Czech Republic-based Bohemia Interactive on Oct. 10 warned that its game — set in a futuristic, fictional conflict, and easily modded and recorded by players — was being used to peddle misinformation.

Moscow does not violate UN sanctions against North Korea - Russian diplomat

Monitoring Desk
MOSCOW: Moscow does not violate United Nations sanctions against North Korea, but is categorically against new restrictive measures on Pyongyang, a high-ranking Russian diplomat told the RIA state news agency in remarks published on Sunday.

"Russia, as a responsible member of the world community, strictly adheres to its international obligations towards Pyongyang through the UN Security Council," Russian Ambassador at Large Oleg Burmistrov told RIA in an interview.

"At the same time, we are categorically against the introduction of new restrictive measures."

The White House on Friday said North Korea recently provided Russia with a shipment of weapons, calling it a troubling development and raising concerns about the expanded military relationship between the two countries.

China calls for ceasefire in Israel, suggests mediation at meeting with Russia

Monitoring Desk
BEIJING: China's foreign minister on Monday called for a ceasefire to halt the bloodshed in Israel, suggesting at a meeting with his Russian counterpart that major world powers should work to avoid a humanitarian disaster Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov discussed the conflict between Israel and Hamas with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi in Beijing ahead of a visit by President Vladimir Putin to China.

"The United Nations Security Council must take action, and the major powers should play an active role," Wang told Lavrov, according to a Chinese transcript of the meeting.

"It is imperative that a ceasefire be put in place, that the two sides be brought back to the negotiating table, and that an emergency humanitarian channel be established to prevent a further humanitarian disaster." Russia and China, both permanent members of the United Nations Security Council.

CPEC major milestone in shape of successful projects in several sectors: Solangi

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister for Information Murtaza Solangi said on Monday that China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) was a major milestone in shape of successful projects in Pakistan including road infrastructure, power sector, and industrial zones worth 62 billion dollars.

Delivering his speech at the CPEC Ari Exhibition jointly organised by Behria University and China Media Group here he said he was glad to note that relations between Pakistan and China were getting stronger with every passing day.

The minister said that above all people were the heart and soul of every thing and they were focus of every initiative that the government launched. The minister said it was well established fact that arts and culture had a deeper impact on human lives. He said it was encouraging that in this event not only art

pieces were being exhibited but interactive media was also included in this exhibition.

He hoped that new interactive media would attract more young people and make them aware of the importance of Pakistan-China friendship and how this was reflected through the CPEC projects. He stressed that the present government was vigorously continuing its efforts to facilitate CPEC projects by ensuring the implementation of the policies.

Solangi said that Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq had left for China to represent Pakistan in the Third Belt and Road Forum.

As the 10 year celebrations of CPEC were being observed, there would be good news regarding road infrastructure, green initiative, technology, export processing zones, special economic zones and ML-1, said Murtaza Solangi.

He said it was the pledge of the present caretaker regime to provide relief to the people and steps were being taken for the welfare of the people. "Due to the reduction in the prices of petroleum products, many people are happy today", Murtaza Solangi remarked.

The government, he added had brought the benefit of petroleum products to the masses as the effects of reduction in the prices of petroleum products should be passed on to the people.

He said the caretaker dispensation in collaboration with the provincial governments and district administration was striving to ensure that transport fares were reduced after a cut in petroleum products prices. The minister said it was the commitment of the caretaker government to leave the country in a better state than it was handed over.



KARACHI: Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori laying floral wreath at grave of Shaheed-e-Millat Khan Liaquat Ali Khan on his 72nd death anniversary.

Turkish Ambassador calls on Sindh Governor

KARACHI (APP): Turkish Ambassador to Pakistan Mehmet Pacaci called on Sindh Governor Kamran Khan Tessori at Governor House on Monday.

They discussed Pakistan and Turkey relations, the exchange of delegations in various fields, investment opportunities and other issues of mutual interests. Governor Tessori said

that Pakistan and Turkey were two nations but one soul.

He said that Turkey and Pakistan had brotherly relations, rooted in history. The Turkish Ambassador visited the site of Bell of Hope and appreciated Governor's initiative.

He also witnessed articles, used by Father of the Nation Quaid-i-Azam Mohammed Ali Jinnah.

Gas tariff likely to be increased by 100pc on IMF demand

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistan caretaker government is likely to jack up gas tariff by 100pc on the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) demand, sources said Monday.

According to sources knowing the matter, the IMF demanded an increase in gas tariff from up to 100pc before the next economic review to curtail circular debt in the gas sector.

Sources said the shortfall of Rs185 billion will be added to the circular debt of the gas sector if the gas tariff is not increased. The current circular debt of the gas sector is touching Rs2,700 billion.

They further said from July-September, 2023, the gas companies have added Rs46 billion more to their overall losses.

The summary for the hike has been 'prepared' and is likely to be presented before the next meeting of the Economic Coordination Committee (ECC).

20 criminals of riverine areas surrender before LEAs

KARACHI (APP): As many as 20 criminals of riverine areas surrendered to law enforcement agencies.

According to a spokesman for Pakistan Rangers Sindh on Monday, the criminals belonging to Teghani and Bijarani tribes surrendered in the presence of officers of Rangers and Police.

A number of cases were registered against them. All criminals who surrendered voluntarily have been handed over to police for legal proceedings.

PIA assures PSO of Rs100m daily payment

KARACHI (INP): Pakistan International Airline (PIA) has assured Pakistan State Oil (PSO) of Rs 100 million in daily payment, sources said.

According to sources, PSO has conditioned the fuel supply to the national aircraft carrier with the payment of pending dues.

Sources said that the fuel will be supplied to the national airline upon payment of Rs 100 million daily.

However, PIA will inform the PSO to provide fuel to their aircrafts. The aircrafts will get the fuel after approval from the national airline.

Furthermore, sources revealed that PIA paid Rs 100 million to PSO online during today's meeting.

Earlier sources revealed that the flight operations of Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) are likely to be suspended amid the financial crisis.

Total 1,98,049 cases of malaria reported in Hyderabad division

HYDERABAD (INP): Sindh Health Department on Monday released the official statistics, revealing the rise in the cases of malaria in Sindh, while

Hyderabad division is mostly affected by the mosquito-borne disease.

The Sindh Health Department report stated that, from January to October 15 of the following year, a total of two citizens affected by malaria lost their lives.

"This year a total of 1,98,049 cases of malaria were reported in the Hyderabad division," the Sindh Health Department report stated. As per the Sindh Health Department, Sukkur Division reported a total of 18,412 malaria cases, while Larkana Division is dealing with 84,804 malaria patients.

Pakistan committed for economic uplift, climate resilience: Dr Shamshad

ISLAMABAD (INP): Minister for Finance Dr. Shamshad Akhtar has reinforced Pakistan's commitment to sustainable economic development and climate resilience.

Earlier, the caretaker minister met IMF managing director, senior managing director of the World Bank, officials of Moody's and S&P Global and discussed with them measures taken by the Pakistan government to stabilise economy. The global lenders agreed to cooperate with the government of Pakistan for stability of economy.

International Monetary Fund countries failed to agree on a US-backed plan to boost IMF funding without giving more shares to China and other big emerging markets, but pledged a "meaningful increase" in lending resources by year-end. As IMF and World Bank annual meetings in Morocco closed, a statement from IMF's steering committee chair called for new quota contributions that would "at least maintain the Fund's current resource envelope" as \$185 billion worth of bilateral borrowing arrangements expire.

"Dr. Shamshad Akhtar expressed the commitment of the Government of Pakistan to addressing climate-related financing challenges &



HYDERABAD: Members and supporters of Jamate-Islami (JI Women Wing) are holding protest demonstration against Israeli cruel and inhuman acts and express unity with the innocent people of Palestine, held at Hyderabad press club.

Pakistan, Iran, Egypt agree for steps to prevent Gaza conflict escalation

ISLAMABAD (INP): Minister for Foreign Affairs Jilani Abbas Jilani on Monday telephonically spoke to his counterparts from Iran and Egypt and discussed the crisis in Gaza including the killing of civilians.

The foreign minister, in the conversation with Iranian counterpart Hossien Amir Abdollahian also discussed the large-scale displacement of the Palestinians from their homes.

Both sides agreed that urgent steps were needed to prevent conflict from escalating and the provision of humanitarian assistance.

Commissioner pays surprise visit to Tehsil hospital Sakrand

HYDERABAD (APP): Commissioner Syed Muhammad Sajjad Haider paid a surprise visit to Tehsil Hospital Sakrand on Monday and inspected the sanitation situation and health facilities being provided to patients.

During his visit, patients complained to the Commissioner about the non-availability of medicines. The Commissioner expressed his anger over the hospital administration and directed them to provide all available medicines to admitted and visiting patients at any cost along with all other medical facilities. He

also instructed them to ensure the attendance of doctors and staff at the hospital at all times, especially during the night, to meet any emergency.

The Commissioner further instructed the District Health Officer (DHO) to pay regular visits to Tehsil Hospital Sakrand and other government hospitals in the district to ensure that adequate health facilities are being provided to the public.

DHO Dr Asadullah Dahri and Assistant Commissioner Ghulam Murtaza Ghangro were also present on the occasion.

Hundreds of illegal immigrants living in Jamshoro

HYDERABAD (APP): As many as 633 illegal immigrants mainly of Afghan origin are staying in different parts of Jamshoro district, according to the statistics compiled by the local authorities.

An official informed here on Monday that 565 Afghans, 9 Bengalis and 59 people of different nationalities were living in Jamshoro.

According to him, a majority of them lived in Manjhand taluka which had 328 foreign inhabitants lacking visas for their stay. Likewise, 139 illegal immigrants were living in Shwam and 86 in Thana Bula Khan talukas, he added.

The official said the immigrants had been asked to return to the countries of their origin.



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Indonesia Adam M. Tugio called on Chairman Senate Muhammad Sadiq Sanjran at Parliament House.

Senate Chairman, Indonesian Envoy unite for stronger bilateral relations

ISLAMABAD (APP): Indonesian Ambassador to Pakistan, Adam M. Tugio, met with Chairman Senate, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjran at the Parliament House and discussed matters of mutual interest, culminating in a commitment to strengthen bilateral ties, particularly in the areas of trade and investment.

Chairman Senate expressed his steadfast determination to deepen relations with Indonesia, emphasizing the historical support both nations have provided each other during challenging times.

Naqib Ullah Murder case:

Court expresses annoyance for not filing supplementary challan

KARACHI (Online): The Anti Terrorism Court (ATC) Karachi has expressed annoyance with the investigation officer for not filing supplementary challan of Naqib Ullah murder case.

Naqib Ullah murder case came up for hearing in the court Monday.

The court inquired from investigation officer as to why the challan is not being presented in the court.

The investigation officer told the court that the case has been filed in prosecutor general office. The challan will be presented in the court after its scrutiny. Time be given. The court while directing investigation officer for submitting challan of the case summoned him on next hearing.



KARACHI: View of site after fire eruption in Jinnah Hospital Administration Block due to unknown reasons after a fire broken out incident as the fire brigade officials are busy in extinguishing fire, in Karachi.

World White Cane safety day rally taken out

LARKANA (APP): A rally was organized here on Monday by the Pakistan Association of the Blinds (PAB), Government Special Educate Children and Regional Directorate Special Education Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities and Chandka Special Education Centre for Visually Handicapped Children in connection of the International White Cane Safety Day, to create awareness among the masses about the need and vitality of White Cane for the Visually Handicapped persons and to express commitment, sympathy and support for the special persons in the society.

The walk started from the Sir Shah Nawaz Bhutto memorial Library that

Caretaker federal Minister Madad Ali Sindhi to visit HCCI soon

HYDERABAD (APP): On the directives of President Hyderabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry Adeel Siddiqui, trader delegation led by Senior vice president Najam u din Qureshi attended Latif day ceremony organized by Boys and Girls Public School here Monday.

Traders delegation congratulated Madad Ali Sindhi for assuming the portfolio of caretaker federal Minister for Education, National harmony and youth affairs and invited him to visit the Chamber of Commerce and Industry which he accepted. Senior Vice President Najam u din Qureshi exchanged views on the overall performance of educational institutions and lauded the efforts of Management for ensuring the provision of valuable educational services in the School.

PPP guardian of rights of people of Karachi

KARACHI (APP): Provincial General Secretary Pakistan People's Party Sindh, Senator Waqar Mehdi, on Monday, said that PPP is the guardian of the rights of the people of Karachi and it will return successfully in upcoming general elections from the metropolis. Senator Mehdi, in a statement issued here, said that the provincial government of the PPP during its 15 years of rule has served every area of Karachi without discrimination and completed development projects worth billions of rupees in the metropolis while Muttahida Quami Movement (MQM) despite winning the mayorship of Karachi thrice failed to deliver to the people of Karachi.

Complaint lodge against judge after police officer 'forced to sweep court floor'

KARACHI (INP): Eight officers from Karachi's Surjani police station lodged a complaint against a civil judge's strict actions and insulting behaviour on Monday.

Eight police officers from the Surjani police station wrote a letter to the Senior Superintendent Police (SSP) Investigation to complain about the strict actions and insulting behaviour of the judicial magistrate and civil judge 22 East.

They said that penalising police officers by the civil judge became a new normal which brought their morale down and they were unable to perform their duties properly due to the humiliation.

German Envoy calls on Mayor Karachi

KARACHI (APP): Consul General of Germany Dr. Rudiger Lotz called on the Mayor Karachi Barrister Murtaza Wahab in KMC head office on Monday and discussed matters of mutual interest. Earlier, the mayor welcomed the Consul General of Germany on his arrival.

Talking to Dr. Rudiger, the mayor said that there was a wide scope of cooperation between Pakistan and Germany in various fields. Germany achieved an important position in the provision of urban facilities and the development of science and technology. We had also improved the basic urban infrastructure in Karachi, he said.

Karachi Metropolitan Corporation, District Municipalities and other institutions were working together to provide quality facilities to the citizens, he said.



KARACHI: IBA, JEST and PST passed candidates from Sindh are holding protest demonstration for appointment letters, at Karachi press club.

KCCI welcomes cut in petroleum prices, calls for power tariff reduction

KARACHI (APP): The Karachi Chamber of Commerce Industry (KCCI), while appreciating substantial reduction in the petroleum products' prices on Monday, termed it the right decision in the wake of decline in their prices in the international market and appreciation of the rupee.

"The decision taken by the caretaker government will provide relief to common man and the business community in the ongoing phase of inflation, besides having a positive impact on the economy," Chairman Businessmen Group (BMG) Zubair Motiwala and KCCI President Iftikhar Ahmed Sheikh said in a joint statement.

They said it was the second consecutive cut in petroleum prices which would certainly help in bringing down the inflation to some extent. They urged that an effective price control mechanism and strict implementation of government rates of various household products must be ensured with a view to provide relief to the inflation-stricken poor masses.

Zubair Motiwala lauded the government's decision of passing on the benefits of reduced oil prices in the international market to the people of Pakistan and expressed the hope that the caretaker prime minister would also take measures to reduce the power tariffs and devise effective strategies for dealing with the ongoing gas load shedding and low gas pressure.

Highlighting the issue of gas supply and pressure in all seven industrial town zones of Karachi, Motiwala also stressed on need of urgent steps to ensure 'wheels of industries keep on spinning' for smoothly carrying out production activities and meeting export targets.

He pointed out that Karachi Electric's sales to industries had dropped by 9.5 percent in the last three months since electricity tariff started increasing. He suggested to opt other possibilities like reducing thefts, pilferages and technical line losses etc. along with review of agreements with Independent Power Producers (IPPs) for reducing power tariff as well as burden on power consumers.



KARACHI: United Business Group Chairman (Sindh Zone), Khalid Tawab along with others addresses to media persons during press conference held at Karachi press club.