Simultaneously published from Quetta, Gwadar, Hub, Karachi, Islamabad

# 

Member APNS & CPNE

Chief Editor: Syed Farooq Shah

www.dailyindependent.com.pk

Ph: 2841470/2841473 REG: No. BC-116 B/ID-445 Vol: XXV No. 43, Rabi-ul-Awwal 17, 1445 AH Wednesday October 04, 2023 Pages 12, Price Rs. 15

# Gave deadline to illegal foreigners Leave Pakistan by Oct 31st **Apex Committee vows to** address all security threats in befitting manner

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

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

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

Chief of Army Staff, concerned federal ministers, provincial chief ministers and heads of all civil and military agencies were which movement across the

addressing a Press Conference.

**Independent Report** 

QUETTA: The caretaker

Provincial Minister for In-

formation, Jan Achakzai

has stated that the relations

of Pakistan with Germany

are strengthening with pas-

need to work for promotion

of culture between the two

caretaker Minister for In-

formation while speaking at

the ceremony organised to

mark the German Unity

Day observed as the na-

However, there is a

This was stated by the

sage of time.

countries.

National Day of Germany observed:

**Pak-German relations** 

strengthening with passage

of time: Jan Achakzai

German Consul General expresses heartfelt

grief over Mastung carnage, visits Trauma

Center to inquire about health of injured

QUETTA: Vice Chancellor BUITEMS Prof. Dr.

Khalid Hafeez presenting shield to Caretaker In-

formation Minister Jan Achakzai

present in the meeting. The participants made a comprehensive assessment of the country's inlenges regarding security ternal security situation so that possible challenges can be dealt within a sustainable manner.

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

Apex Committee made decisions include, withdrawal of illegal foreign nationals residing in Pakistan, the formalization of border movement procedures in

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Interior, Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti

tional day of Germany here

at the local hotel on Tues-

Germany based in Karachi.

Dr Rudiger Lotz, Honorary

Consul General of Germany

in Ouetta, and other digni-

taries from different walks

of the life also participated

ing, the German Consul

General Dr Lotz welcomed

ter of pleasure that the

Germany's national day

was observed in Quetta.

Addressing the gather-

He said that it is a mat-

in the event.

the participants.

The Consul General of

border will be permitted only on passports and visas and action against illegal immigration, crack down on trade and property of illegal foreigners.

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

The Forum reiterated the need to further enhance and strengthen ongoing

Continued on page 2

Caretaker CM

approves to

establish

**Forensic Science** 

lab in Quetta

**Independent Report** 

QUETTA: The caretaker

Chief Minister Mir Ali

Mardan Khan Domki

given approval of the es-

tablishment of forensic

science laboratory in

cial handout issued here,

the Chief Minister given

the approval using his

This laboratory would operate under the

arrangements of Home

**Department, Government** 

of Balochistan immedi-

ately. After establishment

of the aforementioned

laboratory, the necessary

amendments would be

made in the Balochistan

Government Rules of Business 2012.

Caretaker

**Finance** 

**Minister** 

calls on PM

ISLAMABAD (APP)

Caretaker Finance Minister

Dr Shamshad Akhtar on

Tuesday called on Care-

taker Prime Minister

Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar

During the meeting, they

discussed matters related to

Ministry of Finance, PM

Office Media Wing said in

nomic activity reflects the

accumulation of domestic

and external shocks includ-

constitutional powers.

According to an offi-

OF PAKIST



#### Vice Admiral Naveed Ashraf appointed as new Naval Chief

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

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

Naveed Ashraf got commission in the Operations Branch of Pakistan Navy in 1989. He is a graduate of National De-University Islamabad, US Naval War College and UK's Royal College of Defense Studies.

Vice Admiral Naveed Ashraf has vast experience of working in key command and staff positions. He is currently serving as the Tamgha-i-Basalat.



Chief of Staff at the Naval Headquarters.

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

Bright chances of development in Balochistan:

#### Governor emphasizes on adopting modern means to promote trade and commerce activities

amid intense exchange

of fire in Pezu IBO

The ISPR added that try," the new release said.

PTI writes letters to PM, CEC

over 'missing' party leaders

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) has raised the issue of enforced disappearances of its party leaders and workers in letters to Caretaker PM and

the Chief Election Commissioner. The party's secretary

general Omar Ayub in separate letters addressed to the

Caretaker PM and the CEC has raised the issue and de-

taker chief ministers. PTI's Farrukh Habib, Sadaqat Abbasi,

Usman Dar and Awais Younus have been missing for last

The PTI has also sent the copies of letters to four care-

manded for recovery of disappeared party leaders.

Balochistan, Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar has emphasized upon adopting modern means for promotion of trade and commerce activities.

He said that Balochistan is a beautiful place in the whole region and it is the habitat of rare animals and

The dry and fresh fruits produced in the province are

unique as well. Moreover, the beautiful places situated from Hanna-Urak to Harboi and Ziarat can attract the tourists from all over the country.

many as ten terrorists were

killed on Tuesday by the

security forces during an in-

telligence based operation (IBO) conducted on re-

ported presence of terror-

ists in the general area Pezu

intense fire exchange took place between the Army

troops and terrorists, an

Inter Services Public Rela-

tions (ISPR) news release

During the operation,

of District Tank.

Independent Report views were expressed by the QUETTA: The Governor Governor while speaking to different delegations who called on him here at the Governor House on Tues The Governor said that

there are bright chances of development in the prov-He said that we can en-

sure development by utilizing different natural and Human Resources

The Governor also said that importance of modern skills is being increased

actively involved in numer

ous terrorist activities

against the security forces

as well as extortion and kill-

ammunition and explosives

was also recovered during

the operation.
It added that the locals

of the area appreciated the

operation. "Security forces

of Pakistan are determined

to eliminate the menace of

terrorism from the coun

A large cache of arms.

ing of innocent civilians.

#### alongside education. Therefore, it is necessary for our youth to benefit from the modern tech-This and similar other nical skills, he maintained. Ten terrorists killed

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Ministry of Law on Tuesday issued a notification to hold Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman's trial in Adiala jail in the cipher RAWALPINDI (APP): As these terrorists remained

The notification adds that the law and justice di-

vision says it has 'no ob-The notification was

The FIA pleaded to the court for trial and conviction of the Chairman PTI and former foreign minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi.

The first information report (FIR) was registered on August 15 under the

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

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

He astutely observed that when martial law is imposed, the solemn oath taken by judges often fades into oblivion. In contrast, when parliament enacts laws, the judiciary swiftly reacts, holding lawmakers

accountable to their oath.
The CJP boldly asserted that the apex court should acknowledge its past mistakes concerning its endorsement of martial

Critics, particularly lawyers, have historically voiced concerns about the Aminuddin Khan, Justice

top court's perceived mis-use of its jurisdiction under Article 184 (3) of the Constitution of Pakistan. A full court bench of the

Supreme Court is hearing petitions challenging the SC (Practice and Procedure) Act 2023. The bench, headed by CJP Isa and comprising all 15 judges of the Supreme Court, is hearing the pleas.

The highly anticipated

case is being broadcast live on state television, as cameras from PTV have been installed inside Courtroom No.1. The hearing commenced at 9:30am today.

The full court bench, led by CJP Isa, included Justice Sardar Tariq Masood, Justice Ijazul Ahsan, Justice Syed Mansoor Ali Shah. Justice Munib Akhtar, Justice Yahya Afridi, Justice Sayyed Mazahar Ali Akbar Naqvi, Justice Jamal Khan Mandokhel, Muhammad Ali Mazhar, Justice Ayesha A. Malik, Justice Athar Minallah, Justice Syed Hasan Azhar Rizvi, Justice Shahid Waheed, and Justice Musarrat Hilali.

The hearing was adjourned till Monday, Octo-

At the start of today's hearing, the chief justice said the law affected the CJP and the two seniormost judges of the SC. He added that the law would also apply to future chief iustices and senior judges of the apex court. Elaborating further Justice Isa stated that he felt that he should not have been part of the bench, however, as the law affects all judges of the apex court, it was decided that a full court will hear the case



different sections during his visit to Pakistan Television Quetta Center

#### Caretaker CM takes notice of incident of fire in a private academy

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki has taken notice of the incident of fire erupted in a private educational academy located at Pishin stop, Quetta.

According to an official hand out issued here on Tuesday, the Chief Minister directed the concerned authorities to provide best medical treatment facilities to the affected students of

academy. He also directed to submit the report from the concerned authorities besides directing them to ensure better safety measures in all educational academies including this one at the Pishin stop. In this regard, the SOPs

should be implemented in true letter and spirit so that no such untoward incidents are occurred in future, the Chief Minister stressed. Meanwhile, the Medi-

cal Superintendent of Sandeman Provincial Head- fered burn injuries.

quarter Hospital, Dr. Ishaq Panezai said that in all 36 affected girl students were brought in the hospital for

treatment. The affected students are being provided necessary medical assistance, and their condition is out of danger, he submitted report to the Chief Minister.

APP adds: About 36 female students received burn injuries in a fire that erupted in a private academy on Tuesday.

Dr. Muhammad Ishaq Panizai, Medical Superintendent Civil Sandeman Hospital while confirming the incident said a total of thirty-six girls were affected in the incident. However, they are out of danger, he maintained.

Mysterious fire engulfed the renowned Dr Manhoj Academy of the provincial capital. As a result of smoke and gas suffocation, many female students were knocked unconscious and many others suf-

#### ECP believes in an open door policy for international observers

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

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

term of Section 238 of the Elections Act 2017.

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

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

QUETTA: Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar inspecting 36 students affected; condition out of danger:

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

jection' to the trial being held in jail.

issued after special court judge Abul Hasnat Zulgarnain wrote a letter to the Ministry of Law, asking it to issue a notification to hold the hearing of the cipher case in the Rawalpindi prison due to security concerns. Earlier, the FIA submitted challan of the cipher case in a special court constituted under the Official Secrets Act. PTI chairman and Vice Chairman Shah Mahmood Qureshi were indicted in the challan.

Official Secrets Act.



QUETTA: UNAIDs Director for Pakistan and Afghanistan Ms. Yuki Takemoto meeting with Caretaker Health Minister Dr. Amir Muhammad Khan Jogezai

#### Pak needs 'careful' economic management to get macroeconomic stability ISLAMABAD (APP): "The decline in eco-

WB country director says:

The World Bank (WB) on Tuesday suggested Pakistan to undertake the muchneeded fiscal reforms including a reduction in tax exemptions and broadening of tax base, terming them 'critical" for economic stability and sustainable economic growth.

"Careful economic management and deep structural reforms will be required to ensure macroeconomic stability and growth," WB Country Director for Pakistan Najy Benhassine said while launching "Pakistan Development Update (PDU): Restoring

With inflation at record highs, rising electricity prices, severe climate shocks, and insufficient public resources to finance human development investments and climate adaptation, he said "it is imperative that critical reforms are undertaken to build the fiscal space and public means to invest into inclusive, sustainable, and climate-re-

report, Pakistan's economy

slowed sharply in FY23

with real Gross Domestic

Product (GDP) estimated

to have contracted by 0.6

per cent

ing the floods of 2022, government restrictions on imports and capital flows, domestic political uncertainty, surging world commodity prices, and tighter global financing.' silient development.' According to the WB

It said the previous fiscal year ended with significant pressure on domestic prices, fiscal and external accounts and exchange rate, and loss of investors' confidence, adding the difficult economic conditions along with record high energy and Continued on page 2



QUETTA: A delegation led by Software Engineer Hamdullah meeting with Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar

Experts say

# Pakistan can earn millions of dollars by exporting trained allied health professionals

**Independent Report** ISLAMABAD: Pakistan can not only earn millions of dollars by exporting trained and qualified allied health professionals including paramedics and medical technicians but quality of healthcare can also be improved at local health facilities, which are facing a se-

vere shortage of skilled

Khan told the launching ceremony of the new faculty.

Zamurrad Khan, President Allied Health Professionals Council (AHPC), World Health Organization's country representative to Pakistan Dr. Palitha Mahipala, Executive Director of the Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS) and Polyclinic Dr. Rana Imran Sikandar, heads of

Zamurrad Khan assured HSA that registration of courses offered by the health services academy would be registered on fasttrack basis, saying it was a reputable institution which was striving hard to overcome the shortage of healthcare professionals required by the country.



health officials said on

They said induction of around 16 Ph.Ds scholars, mostly foreign-qualified experts who have joined the Faculty of Allied Health and Interdisciplinary Sciences at Health Services Academy (HSA) Islamabad, Pakistan would be able to produce trained and qualified health professionals as per needs and requirements of the local healthcare indus-

"Today a milestone has Health and Interdisciplinary Sciences at Health Services Academy (HSA) Islamabad. With the help of our 16 Ph.D scholars, we would now be able to provide highly educated, qualified and trained workforce in the area of allied health sciences. to the country and also send them abroad to earn valuable foreign exchange for the country". Vice Chancellor HSA Prof. Shahzad Ali terdisciplinary sciences.

leading private health facilities in the capital and other officials were also present on the occasion.

Vice Chancellor HSA

Prof. Dr. Shahzad Ali Khan provided a detailed briefing about the newly established faculty and presented the future vision of Health Services Academy. "Our commitment to excellence and innovation in healthcare education remains unwavering. The Faculty of Allied Health and Interdisciplinary Sciences will empower our been achieved with the students to excel and conhealthcare sector." he maintained e informed that both the Allied Health Professionals Council as well as Higher Education Commission were on board and they had assured the health services academy of their complete support in launching various diploma. certificate as well as Masters and Ph.D courses in the field of allied health and in-

Health and Interdisciplinary Sciences at Health Services Academy is a commendable step towards preparing the generation of healthcare professionals to

meet the evolving healthcare needs of our nation", he added. Dr. Palitha Gunarathna Mahipala, a distinguished guest, com-mended HSA's efforts in introducing the Faculty of Allied Health and Interdis ciplinary Sciences. He highlighted the importance of interdisciplinary education and its potential to drive launch of faculty of Allied tribute significantly to the healthcare advancements and offered his full support to the academy in future endeavours.

The Registrar HSA Prof. Tariq Mahmood Ali welcomed the guests, faculty and students and high lighted the importance of allied health and interdisciplinary sciences, saying this faculty will provide quality education and produce skilled professionals to the country.

on the basis of those fake

ID cards, fake ravel docu-

ments and passports were

basis of these fake ID cards

and documents travel to

foreign countries and in

many cases these people

were found to be involved

in terrorist activities and

those caught were not Pa-

kistani citizens but they

had Pakistani passports

which they got from

appointment of an expert

military officer as Chair

man NADRA is a welcom-

ing step said the minister

adding that those involved

in illegal issuance of iden-

tity cards will also be

brought to justice soon. He

said that NADRA has a

family tree in which it is

possible that any one of us

can enter the family tree

and become a Pakistani citi

In such a situation, the

NADRA.

He said people on the

#### Apex Committee vows to....

Continued from page 1

operations against growing illegal activities including drug trafficking, hoarding, food and currency smuggling, illegal remittances and power theft.

The Apex Committee highlighted that the use of force is sole jurisdiction of the state and no person or group will be allowed to use coercive force.

The Committee made it clear that there is absolutely no place for any political armed group or organization in the country and those involved in such activities will be dealt with iron hands.

It was also highlighted that Islam is a religion of peace and the state will not allow anyone to achieve political goals by interpreting the religion in their own

The Committee said that state will protect the rights of minorities given to them by Islam and constitution.

The forum emphasized that those who campaign for propaganda disinformation should be dealt with strictly under cyber laws.

The Apex Committee reiterated its determination that the principles of faith, unity and discipline will be followed in true sense and tireless efforts will be continued for development of the country.

APP adds: Caretaker Interior Minister Sarfaraz Bugti on Tuesday gave a deadline to all Illegal foreigners in Pakistan to voluntarily leave the country by October 31st or the law enforcement agencies will deport them on November 1st.

Addressing a press conference after the Apex Committee meeting chaired by the Prime Minister Anwarul-Haq Kakar at the Ministry of Interior, Bugti said that no foreigner will be allowed to enter Pakistan on fake documents or no without visa documents. He said, the apex committee meeting decided November 1st as deadline for passport and visa renewal for all foreigners living illegally in Pa-

kistan. There is no country in the world which allows foreigners to enter on any other document then visa but unfortunately, our country is the only one where anyone can come without a passport or visa, said the minster adding that after November 1st, no person, resident of any other country, will be able to enter Pakistan with-

out passport and visa. He said a task force has been constituted in the ministry of interior to dig out the properties of people who illegally entered Pakistan for confiscation and the operation would be started after November 1st.

"Our intelligence agencies and law enforcement agencies will find them and we will confiscate these businesses and properties, and any Pakistani involved in facilitating them will be punished according to Pakistani law" Bugti said. For Afghan residents the minster said that that the government will be issuing e-tazkira to Afghan citizens from October 10 to October 31, to their conve-

This e-Tazkira will be computerized after which paper Tazkira will not work and after the deadline passport and visa policy will be applicable for them too, said the minster.

He said many irregularities were found in the issuance of ID cards and many fake ID card were made and

#### Australia beat Pakistan by 14 runs in warm-up match

strong start as they made

48 and 31, respectively be-

fore the opening pair was dismissed by Usama Mir.

Marnus Labuschagen (40)

tried to maintain the mo-

mentum before their part-

nership was broken apart

by Haris Rauf. After Smith's dismissal, Alex

Carey stayed for a brief

trying to build pressure on

the opponent team but it

was Glenn Maxwell, who

played heroic knock of 77

runs to give push to the to-

tal. After his dismissal,

Cameron Green and Josh

Inglis made 50 and 48, respectively to finish the in-

nings in commanding posi-

toss and elected to bat first

against Pakistan in the ICC

World Cup 2023 warm-up

The mega event will start from Oct 5 in India and

Pakistan will play its first

match against Netherland

In the first warm-up match, the New Zealand

edged out Pakistan by five

wickets in Hyderabad. The

winner side had chased down Pakistan's 345 in

match is being played in

Rajiv Gandhi International

The second warm-up

match.

on Oct 6.

their opener.

Stadium,

Hyderabad.

Australia had won the

Pakistani bowlers were

time on the crease.

Steve Smith (27) and

Sports Desk HYDERABAD: A strong partnership between Babar Azam and Iftikhar Ahmed went in vein as Australia restricted Pakistan to 337, winning the warm-up match of World Cup 2023 by 14 runs at Hyderabad

Wednesday October 04, 2023

Stadium on Tuesday.
Aussies bowled out the team green in 47.4 overs. Chasing a giant target of 352 runs, Pakistan lost quick four wickets of Fakhar Zaman (22), Imamul Haq (16), Abdullah Shafique (12) and Shadab Khan (9), putting the opponent team in commanding position.

At this point, the middle order made a strong comeback as Babar and Iftikhar amassed 83 and 90 runs, respectively. However, Babar retired out at 90 after Iftikhar was dismissed by Marnus Labuschagne. Mohammad Nawaz attempted to maintain the momentum as he made 50 off 42 before dismissal.

It was the major dent for Pakistan as tail order could not hold the nerves to win the game.

Earlier, Australia had set a mammoth target of 352 runs for Pakistan in the warm-up match of the ICC Men's ODI World Cup 2023 at Hyderabad Stadium on Tuesday. David Warner and

Mitcher Marsh took a



**QUETTA: Quetta Metropolitan Corporation** (OMC) Administrator, Jabbar Baloch inspecting the site after fire broke incident, at Dr. Manoj Academy in Quetta.

#### First-ever women's cricket match held in Swat

**Independent Report** SWAT: After enduring several restrictions and roadblocks, girls in Khyber ers. Pakhtunkhwa's Swat finally played the "firstever' women's cricket match in the Kabal tehsil on

Tuesday. Kabal and Mingora tehsils pressed their happiness and participated in the match, which was played in the ground of the Government sport. Girls Higher Secondary School Kabal.

During the 10-over thrilling contest, the tehsil had prevented the Mingora women's cricket team emerged as winners after beating Kabal by seven runs.

The game was attended by a large audience, which included female spectators, Babuzi Assistant Commissioner (AC) Luqman Khan, Kabal AC Junaid Khan, location" for the match.

organiser and taekwondo champion Ayesha Ayaz, coach Ayaz Naik and oth

After the match, trophies, certificates and cash prizes were distributed among the players.

Speaking to newsmen. Women cricketers from the women cricketers exrecalled how they had been barred from playing the

Over the weekend, several clerics and a group of elders in the Charbagh girls from playing cricket. They had called women's participation in sports "im-

After outcry from players and locals, Swat Deputy Commissioner Dr Qasim Ali Khan had instructed officials to find a "suitable

#### CAREER OPPORTUNITY AUDIT OVERSIGHT BOARD

The Audit Oversight Board, an independent audit regulator based in Islamabad, is seeking a qualified and experienced professional for the position of Assistant Manager Finance.

Assistant Manager Finance (01 Position – Merit)	
Qualification	Individuals qualified or part qualified in accountancy from a professional accounting body, recognized by the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC), or MBA
Experience	Three years
Compensation	Market-based
Term	Contractual, selected candidate will be appointed for three (3) years (renewable) contract

The complete job description can be viewed at aob.gov.pk. Applicants meeting the job requirements may submit their resumes through aob.gov.pk/careers within 15 days of the publication of this advertisement. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted

We are an equal opportunity employer. Women and differently abled candidates and those from Balochistan, Ex-FATA districts, Gilgit-Baltistan and Azad Jammu & Kashmir are encouraged to apply.

PID (I) No. 2065/23

# Pakistan envoy in Brussels emphasises empowerment, equal opportunities for women

ISLAMABAD (APP): Ambassador of Pakistan to Belgium, Luxembourg and the European Union Amna Baloch on Tuesday emphasizing the importance of empowering women, called for providing them with equal opportunities in all spheres of life. The ambassador, in her address at Mehfil-e-Milad organized by Pakistani community at Jamia Islamia Molenbeak, Brussels, stated that the Holy Prophet (PBUH)'s entire life was an excel-lent model for all to emulate.

The event was marked by recitations of Holy Quran, Naats and speeches highlighting the different aspects of the life and Sunnah of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). Ambassador Amna Baloch, members of the Pakistani community, religious scholars, students of Jamia and officials of the embassy participated in the

The religious scholars in their remarks dilated upon the various

fered duas for the wellbeing of the Muslim Ummah. Ambassador Amna Baloch said that by following Prophet Muhammad's (PBUH) teachings of tolerance, peace, compassion, perseverance, humility, honesty, and generosity, one could achieve success both in this world and hereaf-

Drawing attention to Bibi Fatima (R.A), the beloved daughter of the Holy Prophet (PBUH), Ambassador Baloch praised her unpassion, and knowledge. She emphasized that Bibi Fatima (R A.) served as an exceptional role model for Muslim women, exemplifying strength, resilience, and devo-tion to family and com-

remarkable life of Hazrat Bibi Aisha (R.A), the wife of the Prophet Muhammad (PBŪH).

aspects of the life (Seerat un Nabi) of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) and of-unparalleled intellect unparalleled intellect and her profound understanding of Islamic teachings continued to inspire generations of Muslims around the world. She stressed that by following these glorious examples, the Muslims could harness the immense potential of women and enable them to contribute fully to society's growth and prosperity.

Ámbassador Baloch

called upon individuals and and communities to promote gender equality, ensure access to quality education, wavering commitment to social justice, com-ment that fosters the advancement women. She expressed optimism that by recognizing the influential role of women in Islam, we can collectively work towards a more equitable and inclusive society. Ambassador distrib́-Ambassador Baloch then shed light on the cates amongst the students who successfully completed courses at Jamia Islamia

Mollenbeak



QUETTA: Tehreek-e-Labbaik (TLP) Leaders, Pir Syed Zaheer-ul-Hassan Shah, Mufti Ghulam Ghous Baghdadi, Mufti Qasim Fakhri and others addressing a press conference, at Quetta press club.

#### Pak needs 'careful' economic management to...

Continued from page 1 ternational Monetary Fund cal deficit will decline only

food prices, lower incomes, and the loss of crops and livestock due to the 2022 cal restraint, the WB said livestock due to the 2022 cal restraint, the WB said level of the conomic outlook was subfloods, have significantly increased poverty.

"The headcount is estimated to have reached 39.4% in FY23, with 12.5 million more Pakistanis falling below the Lower-Middle Income Country poverty threshold (US\$3.65/day 2017 PPP per capita) relative to 34.2% in FY22," the

WB said. Without a sharp fiscal adjustment and decisive implementation of broadbased reforms, it cautioned that Pakistan's economy would remain vulnerable to domestic and external shocks.

Predicated on the robust implementation of the In-

real GDP growth was projected to recover to 1.7 per cent in FY24 and 2.4 per cent in FY25. Economic growth is therefore expected to remain below potential over the medium term with some improvements in investment and exports, it added.

According to the report, limited easing of import restrictions would widen the current account deficit in the near term; and weaker currency and higher domestic energy prices would maintain inflationary pressures.

"While the primary deficit is expected to narrow as fiscal consolidation takes hold, the overall fis-

(IMF) Stand-By Arrange- marginally due to substanject to extremely high down side risks, including liquidity challenges to service debt payments, ongoing political uncertainty, and external shocks. "These macroeconomic

challenges can be addressed

through comprehensive fiscal reforms of tax policy, rationalization of public expenditure, better management of public debt, and stronger inter-government coordination on fiscal issues. The deepening of reform efforts to regain fiscal and debt sustainability are imperative for a longer-term recovery," said Aroub Farooq, Economist at the World Bank, and author of the report.

#### RE-NOTICE INVITING TENDER

**3** The Director Agriculture (Economics & Marketing) Balochistan Quetta invites sealed tender/bid from Eligible Bidders for the Outsourcing of rights of market fee collection for Lasbella District for the period 21st October, 2023 to 30th June, 2024 (8 months & 11 days) based on Highest-Cost Selection Method, from interested contractors/firms for the work listed below. Earnest Money 5%, Tender Fee Rs 3000/- and Time Limit 30.06.2024:

Name of work Base Rate per year (Rs.) Outsourcing of rights of market fee collection for Lasbella

Rs.11,500,000/-District for the period 15th October, 2023 to 30th June, 2024

Eligibility of Bidders: Presence in Active Tax Payer List. The bidding firm must not be blacklisted by any Procuring Agency of Pakistan. Balochistan Revenue Authority Active Registration is required. The bidde must have completed 3 Assignment of similar nature of work in last 3 years. Turnover of bidder/firm should be at least 11.500.000 PKR Amount in 3 subsequent previous years showing financial capacity of the firm Power of Attorney for lead member of consortium (Power of attorney on stamp paper Rs.1000/- dully attested by notary public). Correctness of information (stamp paper of Rs.100/- dully attested by notary public). Complete and colour profile of the firm. PEC Registration Active with up to date renewal. Origina CDR. Green Challan form of an amount of Rs.3000/- (Non-refundable) for said work deposited in the head of account: C03-Miscellaneous Receipt, C031-Economic Services Receipt-Food & Agriculture, C03199-Agriculture Services Others through Govt: Treasury/National Bank of Pakistan Procedure of Procurement: Single Stage Two Envelope Bidding Procedure. (Technical and Financial Proposals). Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Deposit at Call of 5% specified above in the name of the Caretaker Administrator Market Committee Lasbella from a Scheduled Bank. Tender/Bidding Documents: The NIT & Bidding Document can be obtained from the address mentioned below on production of Green Challan form of an amount of Rs.3000/- (Nonrefundable) for said work deposited in the head of account: C03-Miscellaneous Receipt, C031-Economic Services Receipt-Food & Agriculture, C03199-Agriculture Services Others through Govt: Treasury/National Bank of Pakistan during working hours from the date of publication of this invitation in newspapers till one day prior to the last date of submission. The documents if requested by mail will be promptly dispatched by registered mail for which cost of mail will be borne by the applicant however, under no circumstances, the procurement agency will be held responsible for late delivery or loss of the document so mailed. Earnest Money as mentioned above should be submitted in the form of bank guarantee or Deposit at Call from a scheduled bank. Issuance of tender Documents: Complete Bidding Document can be obtained from undersigned office the date of publication of NIT to 18th October, 2023 during office hours on working days Last Date of Bid submission: Bid can only be submitted the Bidding Document (Technical and financial proposals) duly filled, signed and attached with copies of supporting documents in sealed one envelope clearly marked with work title & type of proposal must be delivered by hand or through registered mail to the address mentioned below on or before latest by 18" October, 2023 till 01:00 PM. Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day at 02:00 PM Terms & Conditions: Successful Bidder must deposit 10% advance of bid amount, advance amount equal to two month installments and also provide Bank Guarantee of equal to two month installments to the Market Committee. Successful Bidder must deposit 10% Income Tax as per Government Rules at the time of award of contract into Government Account and receipt may be provided to Market Committee Successful bidder must sign an agreement on judicial stamp paper at the rate of 0.25% of total value of award of contract. Successful Bidder is bound to collect Market Fee as per Schedule of Balochistar Agricultural Produce Market General Rules, 1995 (amended 2023) through established collection centers of Market Committee. The Market Committee is not responsible for any kind of strikes, natural disasters such as flood, earth quick, unfavourable weather and other conditions beyond the human control. The tender committee reserved the rights to reject or accept any offer/bid for its convenience. Address Directorate of Agriculture Economics & Marketing Sariab Road Rani Bagh Quetta Phone No. 081 9211504, Fax No. 081-9211329, Email: dir.agric2004@gmail.com.

PRQ No.693/03-10-2023

Economics & Marketing Balochistan Quetta

📞 www.dpr.gob.pk. 🐷 @dpr\_gob 👩 dpr.gob 🚹 @dgpr.balochistan



guage, called on President Dr. Arif Alvi, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman National Disas-

ter Management Authority

(NDMA), Lieutenant Gen-

eral Inam Haider Malik

Tuesday said the Author-

ity was transitioning from

a reactive to a proactive or-

ganization with a clear fu-

turistic strategy to cope

with emerging challenges in

the disaster management

He was addressing the

# Govt to improve education standard for holistic dev. & economic growth

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training Madad Ali Sindhi Tuesday said the government was working to improve the status of education in the country in order to ensure development and better economic

He said that education was the basic right of every child and an important tool for the progress and development of any nation and human resource development through better education was the central pillar of the government's

such threats earlier, he said. The NDMA, he said

was now in a better posi-

tion to manage the predic-

tion of disasters that had

advanced world projections

of different level monitor-

ing its changing climatic be-

the population growth in-

dex needed to be watched

world over as it was threat

multiplier. The NDMA is

developing a national think

tank and connecting all re-

search conducted in the

past decade that could have

shaped our national disas-

ter response in the present,

He underscored that

policy.

He was addressing the business inter-university business plan competition as chief guest organized by Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industries (ICCI) in collaboration with universities

Madad Ali Sindhi said that the government had formulated the first ever National Technical and Vocational Education and Training Policy, which aimed to cater the needs of industrial sector by adding value to human capital through imparting requisite training and

He lauded the initiative of ICCI for organizing the business plan competition among university students that had provided them a good opportunity to show their innovative business ideas and entrepreneur-

He said that his ministry was ready to collaborate with ICCI in various initiatives to upscale the education sector in order to produce trained and skilled manpower for business and

Zafar Bakhtawari, said that

the purpose of organizing the business plan competition among university students was to provide them a good platform to present their innovative business ideas and get the attention of investors for their commercialization.

He stressed that the government should take solid measures to create a conducive environment for innovators and start-ups and focus on fostering a culture of entrepreneurship in the country in order to turn around the economy President, ICCI Ahsan and achieve sustainable economic growth.

# **ICCPO** lauds officials for effective measures in crime combating

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad Capital City Police Officer (ICCPO) Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan presided over a crime meeting on Tuesday which was held at the Central Police Office, a public relations officer said.

He said that the meeting was attended by CPO Operations, CPO Head-quarters, SSP Operations, SSP Safe City, AIG Operations, all Zonal DPOs, SDPOs, and all incharge police stations.

During the meeting, the ICCPO reviewed the crime situation in the federal capital and commended the performance of the police officials for effective measures in crime combat-

bers, drug dealers, and criminal elements within their jurisdictions.

The ICCPO said that the Safe City Islamabad high-tech cameras are 96% operational and working effectively and continuously monitoring the suspicious elements in the federal capital. To further bolster the surveillance system, an additional 2,500 cameras are being deployed in central areas on a priority basis, he

Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) launchadded. He also directed the ing ceremony of its special officers to prioritize the sereport tiltled "Human Secucurity and protection of citirity through Development" zens' lives and properties. He stated that no unautho-The chairman said the rized religious or political groups would be allowed to engage in illegal activities in Human Security Through



Senator Afnan chairs

**Standing Committee** 

meeting

ICCPO Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan also emphasized the need for continued vigilance and proactive

measures. He directed all

ISLAMABAD (Online):

Senator Afnan Ullah Khan

presided over a meeting of

the Senate Standing Com-

mittee on National Heritage

and Culture. In attendance

were senators including

Mushahid Hussain Saved

Palwasha Mohammad Zai

Khan, Khalida Ateeb,

Fawzia Arshad, Falak Naz,

Keshoo Bai, and Rubina

Khalid. The meeting was

also graced by the presence

of the Secretary of the

Ministry of National Heri-

tage and Culture, along with

the Committee unani-

mously resolved to dismiss

the consideration of the

"The Promotion and Pro-

tection of Gandhara Culture

based on the committee's

consensus that the bill had

been previously rejected in

a prior committee meeting.

Authority Bill, 2023,

During the meeting,

other key officials.

Furthermore, he underscored the commitment to maintain law and order in Islamabad and ensure the safety and security of its citizens. He stated that all Zone DPOs to intensify efforts against land grab- available resources would be utilized to achieve this goal.

The Ministry officials

presented a compliance report on the recommenda-

tions made by the commit-

tee to date. Out of the 40

recommendations received,

also apprised of the

Ministry's initiative to de-

velop indigenous cultural

educational material for chil-

dren in various mother

tongues, including Urdu.

Secretary Ministry of Na-

tional Heritage and Culture

confirmed that steps have

been taken in this direction and

discussions have been initi-

ated with the Ministry of

Federal Education & Professional Training. The Commit-

tee was also informed that a

conference highlighting the

"indigenous cultural educa-

tion material for children in all

Academy of Letters.

The committee was

32 were fully compliant.

#### observed in many urban he added. PBC celebrates silver Pak greets Germany jubilee of FM-101 on annual channel with zeal **Unity Day**

**NDMA** transitioning from

reactive to proactive body with

clear futuristic strategy: Inam

ISSI was an important docu-

ment timely launched by

the Institute, whereas the

authority was to convert

such reports into doable

security should be the main

stake of means of develop-

ment, as there were differ-

ent definitions of disasters

in various societies linked

to the individual capacities

of the nations to respond

to the disasters of multiple

of natural weather patterns

world over were evident

and natural disasters were

The erratic behavior

He added that human

Development Report by centers that did not face

SLAMABAD (APP): Pa-ISLAMABAD (APP): Rakistan on Tuesday extended dio Pakistan has celebrated greetings to the people and Silver Jubilee of FM-101 Government of Germany channel with fervour and as the country celebrated zeal which was simultaannual Unity Day on the neously launched from Islamabad, Lahore and Karachi in 1998.

"On the occasion of German Unity Day of the Being the pioneer in Federal Republic of Gerthe FM industry, the prime many, we extend our focus of this channel was heartiest felicitations to to provide an effective platits people and Governform to the youth, where ment," the Foreign Office they can improve their spokesperson said in a communication skills, and

Pakistan, said a press release issued here Tuesday. After 25 years, its

transmission has been extended to 20 stations with a relaying station at Kallar Kahar. Being the largest FM network in Pakistan, this channel provides coverage to 70 percent area of the country. Besides, transmission of FM-101 is accessed abroad through web streaming with a massive following. Comments and appre-



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

#### **AIOU holds** National Secrat Conference

ISLAMABAD (APP) mother tongues including Urdu" was held in Pakistan Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) is working to spread the teach-Hazrat Muhammad (SAWW) and, in that context, the university is hosting a National Secrat conference in the third week of this month

According to the AIOU, Prof this conference is being organized jointly by the Seerat Chair of the University, the Department of Secrat Studies, AIOU and the Rahmatul-lil-Aalameen Authority, as per the special directives of the Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training, Madad Ali Sindhi.

A large number of Seerat writers, researchers, teachers and students from all over the country will participate in the conference.

Vice-Chancellor. Prof. Dr. Nasir Mehmood, while thanking the Federal Minister of Education, Madad Al Sindhi, for entrusting him with the responsibility of organizing the Seerat Conference, said that the AIOU has always taken the initiative in this national and religious cause, and we have started the preparations for organizing the Seerat Conference with devotion

#### Cipher case Court seeks opinion from law ministry on where next hearing to take place

ISLAMABAD (Online): man PTI to court. Chairman Official Secret Act court has ministry about where the next hearing of cipher case against chairman PTI will take place. Judge Abul Hasnat Zulgarnain of official secret act court has sought opinion by writing a letter to ministry of law.

It has been asked from the law ministry through the letter is there any security threat in bringing chairOctober 4 in cipher case.

PTI is important person sought opinion from law and head of a political party. His security will have to be kept in view. Judge Abul Hasnat Zulgarnain wrote if there are no security threats then the hearing will take place in judicial complex on Wednesday. It is pertinent to mention here judge Abul Hasnat Zulgarnain had ordered to

# Kainat School delegation System students visits Safe City Islamabad

**Independent Report** ISLAMABAD: Following

the special directives of the Islamabad Capital City Police Officer (ICCPO) Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan, the CPO Safe City/Traffic welcomed the delegation of Kainat School System students at the Safe City Islamabad, a public relations officer said.

He said that the delegation visits the command and control center, the data hub unit, modern technology-equipped cameras, and the Police operations center hall. They were fully briefed about the procedures and benefits.

Furthermore, the delegation was informed that Safe City Islamabad is play-

ing a significant role in various departments through modern techniques, including the Police Operations Center, Emergency Control Center, Data Hub Unit, Dispatch Control Center, E-Challan System, and the "Pucar-15" helpline.

He emphasized that the delegation was also apprised of the functionality and benefits of the Safe City cameras in the city. The modern cameras of Safe City are playing a crucial role in ensuring the safety of the city and preventing crimes and safeguarding the lives and property of citizens. 42% of crimes are resolved through the Safe City Command and Control Center.

#### Azerbaijan ambassador NIH diagnoses conjunctivitis meets Health Minister epidemic

ISLAMABAD: Azerbaijan Ambassador called on Federal Caretaker health

ISLAMABAD (APP): The National Institute of Health (NIH) has diagnosed the epidemic of conjunctivitis.

minister Dr. Nadeem Jan in his office.

In a statement, Care-taker Federal Minister for Health Dr. Nadeem Jan said that the National Institute of Health was a scientific

and technical institution. He added that the National Institute of Health was responsible for diagnosis and monitoring of epi-

According to the National Institute of Health, the recent outbreak was caused by Coxsackievirus A24, Dr Nadeem Jan added. He said that due to this virus, there was a me-

dium outbreak in different "People need not

worry and take precaution-ary measures," Dr. Nadeem Jan said. He said that citizens should follow the SOPs issued by the federal and pro-

vincial governments to prevent conjunctivitis. Dr. Nadeem Jan said that the government was ensuring coordinated measures to keep people safe

#### **Petition filed** by Bushra for security of Imran fixed for hearing

from epidemics.

ISLAMABAD (Online): Islamabad High Court (IHC) while removing objections on Bushra Bibi petition regarding security of her husband chairman PTI has fixed it for hearing on October 5.

The petition filed by Bushra Bibi for the security and protection of her husband in jail was heard with objections by a single bench of IHC led by Chief Justice IHC Aamir Farooq Tuesday. Latif Khosa counsel for Bushra Bibi appeared in the court. The CJP IHC inquired from him objection has been raised on the petition. What is request in your petition.

Latif Khosa told the court chairman PTI is facing life threat. He has been attacked in Wazirabad. Petition has been filed for security and protection of rights in jail. The court while removing registrar office objections has ordered for fixing the petition for hearing on October 05.

# ISLAMABAD (APP): transfer for molecular

Ambassador of Azerbaijan to Pakistan Khazar Farhadov on Tuesday held a meeting with caretake Federal Minister for Health Dr Nadeem Jan. During the meeting

matters of mutual interest, including bilateral cooperation in the field of health, were discussed. The minister informed

the ambassador about the healthcare initiatives being undertaken in Pakistan. "We are implementing

concrete measures to protect the public from diseases and epidemics."

The minister highlighted ongoing efforts to medicines and the establishparks in Pakistan.

manufacturing in Pakistan.

The minister informed that Pakistan was hosting first Global Health Security Summit. This summit will bring together top health leaders, officials, and technical experts from around the globe. The Global Health Security Summit and the pharmaceutical park initiatives were lauded

by the ambassador. He said the health leadership of Azerbaijan was expected to reach out Government of Pakistan to discuss these initiatives.

In the field of medicine, both countries will benefit from sharing expeimprove the availability of riences, and there is cooperation in allowing medical ment of pharmaceutical students from both nations to enroll in government-ap-The minister emphasized to utilize technology Ambassador said.

## **IHC restrains police from** arresting Sher Afzal without prior permission of court

ISLAMABAD (Online): the case the court sought Islamabad High Court details of the cases against (IHC) has stopped Islamabad police from arresting Sher Afzal Marwat, member of PTI legal team without prior permission of the court.

The petition filed by Sher Afzal Marwat came up for hearing before IHC

Petitioner Sher Afzal Marwat appeared in the court along with his coun-

sel Qazi Adil advocate.

details of the cases against Sher Afzal Marwat from police and other respon-

The court also asked the officials concerned to apprise if Marwat's name is included in the Exit Control List (ECL). Later justice Arbab Muhammad Tahir while issuing the order for not arresting Sher Afzal Marwat without prior permission of the court adjourned the hearing During the hearing of of the case till Friday.

# Fawad could not be indicted in case of inciting govt employees

ISLAMABAD (Online): motivated case against him Fawad Chaudhry could not be indicted in the case of inciting government em-

Fawad Chaudhry appeared in the court of Additional Sessions Judge tained through challan. Tahir Abbas Sipra Tuesday. Defence counsel

Faisal Chaudhry and prosecutor Khanzada Khan also (EC). appeared in the court. Fawad Chaudhry filed

his acquittal plea in the court through his counsel Faisal Chaudhrv.

acquittal plea politically

has been made. There is neither any evidence in the case nor the clauses imposed in FIR are applicable to him. The evidence of basic nature could not be ob-

He further took the plea plaintiff is employee of Election Commission

The statement of employee has not been included to support the statement. It does not seem from the record that hatred or He took the plea in his provocation has been fomented through the speech.



ISLAMABAD: Chairman NDMA Lieutenant General Inam Haider Malik posing along with DG ISSI Sohail Mahmood and others after Seminar entitled "Human Security Through Development" at Institute of Strategic Studies in Federal Capital.

#### Pearson Pakistan, British **Council hosted informative** Forum for partner-schools ISLAMABAD (APP): onscreen Pearson Pakistan and British Council held the "Principals' Forum" on Tuesday to facilitate Pearson's part-

ner schools and their learners by showcasing their inspirational experiences, their learning journey and delivery of Pearson Edexcel qualifications. This event was an opportunity to dive deeper into knowing and understanding the variety of academic opportunities and resources available to students at these partner schools, a news release said. The forum provided

an insight into the latest Pearson Edexcel news, an exciting preview of onscreen mocks service,

assessment roadmap, 9-1 grading and a closer look at International GCSE and International A Levels modular qualifications, and British Council's valuable contribution as an exam delivery partner facilitating exams across the country. The event was attended by Ms. Kathryn Booth, Director, Pearson School Qualifications Pearson Middle East, North Africa, Pakistan, and Turkey, Harriet Gardner, Regional Exams Director, South Asia, and Amanda Ingram, Exams Director, Pakistan, British Council alongside Pearson Edexcel partner schools' leadership

and Principals.



ISLAMABAD: Children of Kachi abadi busy in study at open to sky park school in F-6 area.

# Daily Aoice of Masse, Independent

Wednesday October 04, 2023

# Interim Govt's firm resolve against terrorism & smuggling

The interim government under leadership of Prime Minister, Anwaarul Haq Kakar has expressed its unwavering resolve against the smuggling and terrorism in the country.

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

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

While giving details, he said around 22,200 metric tons of wheat, 8,8000 metric tons sugar, 4,300 metric tons urea, and petroleum products worth 10,195 metric tons so far by ending the subsidies raj, recovered during the last one ending amnesties, ending month. Regarding the anti-narcot- low or no tax wealth and ics drive, the Interior Minis ter said 43 metric tons of drugs were seized with the registra-tion of 200 cases. makers just have to choose Talking about the drive against the who will feel it. The rich? smuggling of dollars and illegal money ex¬change, Sarfaraz Bugti said 168 First Information Reports were lodged against people involved in this illegal activity. Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti went on to say that security officials were involved in cross-border smuggling.

It won't be right if I say straightaway that security forces weren't involved in it, as all this smuggling was being carried out via trucks, not camels. Responding to a question, Sarfraz Bugti told there are widespread allegations about the involvement of security forces in cross-border smuggling. The remarks of the caretaker minister came amidst the federal government's countrywide crackdown against smugglers involved in the illegal trans-portation of goods includ-ing wheat, sugar and life, it is often hard for many fertilizers and dollars from Pakistan to realise that democracy to Afghanistan and petroleum products from Iran to Pakistan. Referring to a meeting, Bugti said that Army Chief had told his people in from democracy or autocclear words that those found involved racy. Such talk reflects the in smuggling would not only be courtmartialed but also sent behind the bars. He said that he was part of the meeting. "But their (Army's) process of accountability is not made only debate is on improving public and thus doesn't come into our knowledge." According to him, accountability within Army has not only been witnessed in the instant to realise that only democcase but also after May 9 riots. But racy leads to durable good there are weaknesses in the civil- governance. Thus, such talk ian set up and we need to address

What's important to mention is that clear assertation made by the participation, tolerance and caretaker Minister that the government has no soft corner for those involved in illegal practices irrespective of the fact how much influen¬tial anyone was.

It is also a revelation that the Chief Secretary Balochistan is conducting an inquiry into alleged involvement of government officers and politicians in smuggling and any con-

crete finding would be made public. No doubt the firm resolve of the interim government and military high command against smuggling and terrorism is very encouraging, and one can hope that it would yield remarkable results in time to come. only on oil money. Army regimes today all do poorly

# From hero to zero



Arifa Noor

As we obsess about the economy and the past mistakes which led to the economic crisis, the saga of Reko Diq comes up frequently. The story is brought up again and again, and among the lessons we are told to learn is the overreach of the judiciary. But then, the judiciary and its past mistakes are a pet theme, these days. It's the new 'black' so to speak, in our politics.

In order to learn from the past, it is important to remember more than just the events themselves. However, we find it convenient to do the exact opposite. This is just as true of the Reko Diq story and the role played by the judiciary. To do so, is perhaps to miss the wood for the trees. In fact, there is another

way to view the Reko Diq — a perspective in which the Reko Diq agreement became part of the larger story of Pervez Musharraf's rise and fall. It was a story in which Musharraf was first welcomed when he took over the country, but then, over the years, his popularity and acceptability waned, leading to a political crisis. Pakistan frequently

ends up with dictators, but in comparison to many other countries where men on horseback gallop in as saviours and then never dismount, we tire of our uniformed saviours rather quickly. Elsewhere, there are examples of similar leaders having ruled for decades at a stretch. The problem is — and this is universally true — that the men on horseback, once they make

a grand entrance, don't have flavour of those heady an exit plan, especially because they don't believe in quiet retirement. So it was with Musharraf. As a result, a 'little help' is offered, invisibly, and Musharraf was no exception. Pakistan was in turmoil for a good two years to convince him to make up his mind. If it began with the reversal of the Steel Mills privatisation, it

gathered steam with the judiciary movement and then the siege of Lal Masjid. Each such event rocked the entire country and weakened the man in charge. Terrorist attacks picked up pace till Benazir Bhutto was assassinated; and eventually, Musharraf got the message and went home.But in this period, Musharraf was not just weakened but also delegitimised. And everything and everyone in his vicinity was tarnished, including the politicians. For instance, it was during those days that people such as Sher Afgan and Ahmed Reza Kasuri were attacked in public. And when Asif Ali Zardari called the PML-Q, the 'Qatil League', few felt it was perhaps unnecessary. To demonise all that

It was within this larger context, which continued even after elections were held, that news began to trickle out about the big, bad Reko Diq deal which was then overturned (as had been the Steel Mills privatisation). Even the Musharraf-era Gwadar Port deal was put aside.

was Musharraf was the

That there was a price to be paid for all this became evident years later, when Reko Diq ended up in international arbitration. Even the cost of not privatising the Steel Mills back in 2006, as planned, has now become evident to many who highlight the large sums the government continues to sink into this black hole year after year. Hindsight, as the cliché goes,

The point of narrating all this is not simply to impress upon the reader how long I have been rattling on for, watching Pakistani politics from the sidelines, but to point out that when we bemoan our inability to ensure consistency of policy, it is linked to our failure to have a consensus on a political system and the rules for allowing leaders to exit. And while this is true of the men on horseback, it is also true for our political lead-

The former may have no exit plan but even those who are elected are then shunted out through a process which is anything but an election. And once again, this process includes instability and demonisation. The infighting as the

country tumbles from regime to regime and from setup to set-up, and the accompanying polarisation, is so great that it infects everything around it. The LNG deal by the PML-N was a case in point during the transition in 2018 as was the PDM's treatment of the Sehat Insaaf card. Policies are not

shaped or abandoned because of a serious analysis of their costs and benefits but because of the larger political crisis of building up one side and demonising the other. Since the people's choices have to be shaped and moulded, demonisation and glorification have become an essential part of the process; worse still, the men and women are moved from hero to zero to hero again rather quickly

And until this comes to an end, the notion that a charter of economy can fix the larger economic problem is an idea that is bound to fail.

This has now become particularly problematic because our systemic swings from demonising one group and helping another to then pulling a switcheroo are Dawn

now becoming shorter. And along with this, demonisation is now requiring a bigger and bigger effort. This time around, the efforts to dismantle PTI have required a level of effort and repression far greater than what was employed when the PML-N had to be pushed back 2017 onwards. This also raises fears about what the reaction will be like once the current policies are reversed.

This perhaps is the reason for my scepticism about the steps taken by the caretaker government. The issue is not about whether or not the policies are right but the manner in which they are being put in place and by whom. Their continuity might be sacrificed once again at the altar of political expediency, once the swing is set in the opposite direction.

For nothing suggests any change in our inability to agree on transitions political and institutional. And this is the primary issue Pakistan has to address but continues to ignore. -- Courtesy

# Pain is coming



Mosharraf Zaidi

Pakistan's most important decision-makers are now facing a dire and extreme choice. They can either overdue pain on elite rent seekers, or they can choose to inflict even more pain on the already long suffering middle class and the poor.

That is the clear economic choice that now confronts Pakistani decisionmakers. Continue the existing elite consensus of high subsidy-low tax for the rich, and runaway inflation, dysfunctional public services and misery for the asset accumulation. Pain (or rather, more pain) is coming. Pakistan's decision-Or the poor?

Last fiscal year, government expenditure was Rs16.1 trillion, whilst government revenue was Rs9.6 trillion. Some people say that this is an indicator that Pakistan spends too much money. It isn't. It is an indicator that Pakistan does not collect enough money or revenue. It does not have enough revenue because Pakistan is a high subsidy and low tax zone for the rich and super rich. When the most capable in a society refuse to pay into the system, the system gets stretched

Last year, this stretch

was a mean one. Pakistan had to find Rs6.5 trillion from somewhere. It found it through borrowing money mostly from Pakistani banks. Where do the banks get that money? They get it from the State Bank of Pakistan. Where does the State Bank get this money? It just prints it. Khurram Husain estimates that in the past three months alone. somewhere to the tune of Rs10 trillion in new rupees have been added to our rupee to dollar rate would economy. Mostly so that then just straight up double Pakistani elites can continue living in the magical other hundred and the ruthe elite) and low taxes (for to Rs3 to \$1. Last month,

What happens when a country keeps borrowing money without collecting some of that money in the form of taxes? Well, the future of that country becomes more and more bleak with each additional rupee borrowed, especially in a world of high interest rates or markups. More urgently, all this borrowing is taking place not from within a given stock of money, but from a constantly and rapidly expanding stock of money. The printing of money is dangerous. To understand how dangerous this is, we must simplify a

only one hundred dollars out there in the universe. and only one hundred rupees. Then, all other things equal, the rupee to dollar exchange rate in this imaginary world would be Re1 Now imagine that someone goes out and decides to start printing rupees. They go and print an extra hundred rupees. The

to Rs2 to \$1. You print an-

little. Imagine it is the be-

ginning of time, and there is

crossed the Rs300 to \$1 barrier - so you can imagine just how many rupees

have been printed. Of course, in this scenario, we have been a bit unfair. All other things are not equal. The dollar is the most powerful fiat currency on the planet. The Pakistani rupee has had to carry the burdens of wars, poverty, post-colonial baggage, a partition in 1971, constant geopolitical gamesmanship, terrorism and an unrelenting existential adversary. So if you were a Pakistani decision-maker – in charge of directing or governing the economy – the question would be simple. Knowing that all other things are not equal, would you be more careful (red pill) about how many rupees you print and how rapidly you cheapen your currency, or would you be less careful (blue pill) and continue under-

The Pakistani decision-maker has, so far, kept on choosing the blue pill. This is how, broadly, we went from one dollar costing Rs100, then Rs200, and then Rs300. Then, last month, a bunch of phone world of high subsidies (for pee to dollar rate would rise calls were made, people fear of the Lord Almighty welcome. But we should the rupee to dollar rate

mining your currency?

was restored among 'rogue' speculators and 'illegal' hoarding outfits. And 'abracadabra': like magic, our poor old rupee started to stand up to the great US

In a short period of time, the rupee has gained 6.0 per cent against the dollar. And just like that, the sense of panic and urgency for meaningful and serious changes to how the economy is governed has been replaced by a familiar smugness in Islamabad and Rawalpindi: "experts and naysayers are always too pessimistic, but look, Pakistan is back, baby!" Decision-makers are awash in the afterglow of a successful effort to reign in the rate of the rupee to the US dollar. The sycophants and charlatans that whisper economic alchemy waswasa into the ears of decision-makers are buzz-

ing with excitement. Do the remarkable gains of the rupee against the dollar merit mockery? Absolutely not. But they of the rupee – whilst the country's poorest and most vulnerable buckle under in-

Washed away

ask ourselves more about these gains. How were such gains achieved so swiftly?

Ultimately Pakistani decision-makers must realize that the countries they constantly seek bailouts from, like the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the People's Republic of China, have all already gone through this exercise of learning how to collect revenue from their rich and

super rich. Saudi Arabia is an economic juggernaut today in part because it has learnt to have ambitions that are far grander than its oil wealth Non-oil revenue in Saudi Arabia in the second quarter of 2023 surged to 43 per cent of total revenue. Of this non-oil revenue, the vast majority came from taxes on income, profit, capital gains, goods and services. În short, Saudi Arabia has chosen to be a country where the most able carry the biggest burden.

The world awaits Pakistan to make a similar choice. The signals from should not be celebrated ei- Pakistani decision-makers ther. Any gains in the value so far are not encouraging. A rising rupee can delay the dawn of reality for a short while but it cannot evade were threatened, and the flationary pressures – are the inevitable. Pain is coming. -- Courtesy TheNews

# **Democracy stalls**



Dr Niaz Murtaza

Our democratic journey is like that of a small boat caught in stormy seas. But in a country where the vast majority has not seen the fruits of democracy in real matters. Even highly educated persons often argue that we need good governance, whether it comes sorry reality that even after 75 years, we have no consensus on democracy, unlike in most Saarc states where democracy is a given and the it. It also reflects the sorrier fact that such people have not done a serious analysis of our own and global trends is reflective of not wisdom but naivete.

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

Among the four autocracy types, monarchies are almost all gone, except the Gulf ones which thrive

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

its tasty fruits. In Pakistan, even a few years of bad outcomes under a severely controlled democracy grappling with the bad legacies of long autocracy are enough for us to yearn for autocracy despite its decades of poor outcomes notwithstanding fruits quickly sprout absolute powers and lavish US aid. Many blame all our ills on democracy even though we have not had even for one day the unshackled democracy some of our neighbours have had for decades. There were no national polls from 1947 to 1958 and a dubious constitution only lasted two years. Since 1958, our history is simple: we have been ruled directly by the establishment or by three parties (the PPP, PML-N and PTI) whose founders were initially brought into politics by the establishment which later fell foul of all three. Thirteen out of our 15 national polls and referenda since 1958 were

seen to be rigged by the es-

tablishment and one by ci-

vilians (1977). We have du-

biously invented a fifth au-

tocracy type-hybrid musi-

cal chairs — where the es-

tablishment keeps chang-

ing the junior civilian face

once it invariably becomes

too big for its boots and

starts wanting to don the

establishment's bigger and

shinier boots, only to be

long, as global trends show.

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

lishment-controlled. The five forms of autocracy can't deliver in a huge, diverse and unruly state like ours. The way forward is democracy. Despite all the beating democracy has taken, its prewhenever the establishment loosens its grip even briefly as in 1972-77 and 2008-2018 in the form of the Constitution, devolution and fair polls. True, governance was still bad as democracy

Yet, our situation now is so bad, we can't wait for democracy to yield good governance slowly. We need good governance right after the next polls to avoid doom. But we must not try to get it via a hybrid regime; it must be through fair polls. The media, civil society, the people, donors etc must democratically pressurise the winner to appoint a competent prime minister and cabinet, from its ranks and beyond, which undertakes equitable reforms while the Zardaris, Sharifs and Imran run their parties and support reforms. The next regime may be a make or break one for us. We can't afford another business-as-usual one. If it fails, so may Pakistan.

Courtesy Dawn

#### Sajjad Hussain Changezi

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

Survey respondents

included families appar-

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

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

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

Another major finding

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

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

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

2021. If three-fourths of a worrying finding that, after the initial increase in collective efforts to protect the environment, as noted in the midline survey, fewer respondents now say they are continuing tree plantation efforts, preventing deforestation or adapting to extreme weather conditions by means of improved house construction.

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

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

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

# Governor Punjab regrets suppression of Kashmiri people by India

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

an international peace their basic human rights. organization, Heavenly Culture World Peace Restoration Light (HWPL) working for global peace, led by Senator Kamran Michael called on Punjab Governor, Muhammad Balighur Rehman here

Lahore. Speaking on the occasion, Punjab Governor Muhammad Balighur Rehman said that the efforts made by HWPL in the world for peace since 2014 are praise worthy. He

today at Governor House

said that wars are devastating for humanity.

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

Independent Report
LAHORE: A delegation of Kashmiris by usurping Kyung-taek, Kim Young-He said that

international organizations should ensure the implementation of the UN resolutions to resolve the Kashmir issue. Governor Punjab said international peace organizations need to be more active and play an effective role in resolving Palestine and Kasmir issues for durable peace in the world.

Punjab Governor said that currently, most of the officers and soldiers of the armed forces of Pakistan are serving in the United Nations Peace cor Mission.

On this occasion, the Punjab Governor about the aims and objectives of peace organization. Peace Restoration Light.

seung, Jun Young-woo, Lee Seungkyu, Naveed Tahir and Javed Waheed.

Later, Governor ijab Muhammad Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman as Chancellor issued orders to all the vice chancellors to set up alumni and career counseling offices in the universities. In this regard, the Punjab Governor Chancellor issued directions to the Vice Chancellors of all the universities.

The purpose of establishing these offices is develop strong connection between the universities with their alumni, to keep the records delegation informed the of their alumni, to facilitate connections between the alumni and current students so that the alumni can guide Heavenly Culture World the current students in career and various



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

Raees briefed the minister

and social safeguards

aspects of the project.

The project director

highlighted key initiatives

in Peshawar, Mardan, Kohat, Abbottabad, and

#### **KPCIP** to modernize water, sanitation delivery services: LG Minister

Minister for Local Government Election, Rural Development, and Public Health Engineering Departments, Engineer Amir Durrani, has Raees briefed the minister emphasized that the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and social safeguards Cities Improvement Project (KPCIP) was set to revolutionize water and sanitation services delivery in five divisional cities of

the province. 'The rehabilitation and reconstruction of water supply, sewerage, and sanitation systems are aligned with international standards, bringing significant improvements to the health of citizens and the environment of cities," he said during his visit to the KPCIP office

here on Tuesday. He was accompanied by Secretary LGE&RDD Muhammad Dawood Khan. Project Director Mingora city.

hydrants in the city. Alam Khan, Director As many as 10 illegal Technical Mian Muhammad Shakeel, and Director Finance Qazi

operation conducted in Ramzan Goth and Manghopir according to a spokesman for Rangers.

arrested and was handed over to police for further legal proceedings.

KPCIP was funded by the Asian Development Bank and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank. The project was designed to counter climate change, depleting groundwater levels, and increasing health concerns

in mind.
"Under the Swat
greater water supply scheme, water from river Swat will be treated and conclusion. supplied to the residents of

#### SFA closes kitchen of JSMU for

KARACHI (APP): The Sindh Food Authority

Deputy Director of Canteens Pervaiz Ali Shahani paid a surprise visit to JSMU and

led by Deputy Director Yasin Sabzoi- inspected several restaurants in the district Karachi South on directives of Director General SFA Agha Fakhar Hussain. The team imposed fines amounting

cleanliness unsatisfactory hygiene conditions while the kitchen of a restaurant has also been temporarily closed.DG Sindh Food Authority Agha Fakhar Hussain has stressed all the



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

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

Naqvi Mohsin crackdown on miscreants and criminal gangs, RPOs participated through video link.

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

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

# **Promotion of business** activities in peaceful environment top priority

development

wanted

KARACHI (APP): Sindh key role in Caretaker Home Minister Brigadier (Retd.) Haris prosperity of the country. Nawaz has said that the protection of the business community and the promotion of business activities in a peaceful environment is his top priority. He expressed these views while visiting an important role in the the Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and development. Industry (FPCCI) here on

of Pakistan Chamber of agencies. Commerce and Industry the security situation of the city and mutual cooperation. He said that the business community and dealers, land grabbers had a very important and

wanted a strong partnership with the commercial sector and the business community so that the sector could play country's economic

caretaker government

Nawaz said that the

He said that the establishment of law and Independent Report

Syed Zafar Ali Shah,
PESHAWAR: Caretaker
Minister for Local

Directorate KPCIP Amir

Minister for Local

Directorate KPCIP Amir

Minister for Local

Directorate KPCIP Amir

All Minister for Bright for Shah against illegal water against of Religious Chember of Shah and the law enforcement and the l

He further said that strict action was being taken against all criminals

#### CM pins promotional badges to CSO

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

#### Follow Quran, Sunnah for peace in society: Nighat

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

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

She urged participants to act upon the teachings of the Quran and Sunnah in routine life so that they could achieve success not only in this world but also hereafter.

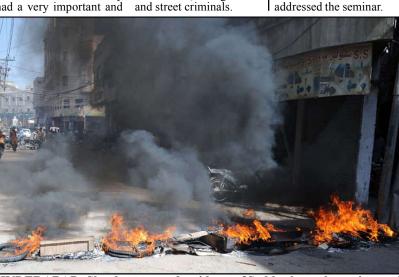
Senior Tutor Dr. Shaukat Ali and others also

# LAHORE (APP): Hamza

Amanullah, Chief Security Officer (CSO) of Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab has been promoted to the rank of Senior SP.

FAISALABAD (APP):

A notification issued Secretary committee.



HYDERABAD: Shopkeepers and residents of Saddar bazar burn tires and crates on Jama Masjid road during a protest against non-supply of electricity from 5 days by HESCO in their locality.

# PDMA for winter contingency plan to minimize disaster risks

Management Authority, under the guidance of the Relief, Rehabilitation and Settlement Department hazard impacts, damages, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, on compensation details, Tuesday commenced the resource mapping, needs process of developing the Winter Contingency Plan coordination efforts." and for 2023-24 in consultation with all relevant stakeholders. The primary the upcoming contingency objectives are to minimize

disaster risks, identify hazards, assess risks, and map available resources to enhance preparedness and ensure a coordinated and prompt response. In this context, a

crucial pre-winter planning and orientation meeting was convened with the Provincial Departments, chaired by PDMA Director General, Janat Gul Afridi. Director General Janat Gul Afridi said, "We have initiated the Winter Contingency Planning process involving all stakeholders, and the plan is expected to be finalized by mid-

November. We have developed data collection tools and

PESHAWAR (APP): The shared them with Provincial Disaster stakeholders, including information on district/ sector-specific hazards, vulnerability profiles,

He added, "Through

plan, our aim is to mitigate potential losses caused by winter-related natural hazards including extreme low temperatures, fog/ smog, snowfall, rainfall landslides, flash floods and seismic activity in the mountainous north and west."The Contingency Plan will categorize districts based on Vulnerability and Risk Assessment, ranging from very high to low vulnerability levels.

Each weather pattern will have its own set of contingencies. The unique geography, terrain, and natural resources of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa expose the province to various climate-related challenges during both summer and winter.

#### **Justice Irfan** Sadaat takes oath as acting **CJ SHC**

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

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

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

#### Malakand division safe for tourists: RPO

PESHAWAR (APP): Regional Police Officer (RPO) Malakand Division, Muhammad Ali Khan has said that complete peace prevails in Malakand Division and tourists can explore the beautiful Swat Valley and other recreational destinations without any fear. He said that the people of Swat have also made great sacrifices for the sake.

# upon faculty to improve ranking of institution (APP): standard of the college was

**Governor KP stresses** 

Governor Pakhtunkhwa, Ghulam Ali here Tuesday laid foundation stone of new academic bloc in Edwards College Peshawar and stressed upon faculty members to revive the past fame and educational standard of the institution.

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

On the occasion, premises.

Provincial Caretaker Minister, Hamid Shah, faculty members and large number of students were also present.

improving educational and support.

Khyber among his priorities, Haji adding that resources Tuesday would be utilized to

improve its ranking.

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

Bishop Manormal Shaw and Principal Edwards College, Dr. Shujat Ali briefed the governor about revamping of the college and expressed gratitude to that him for his cooperation



KARACHI: Leader of Grand Democratic Alliance (GDA) Dr Safdar Ali Abbasi addressing press conference along with others at Muslim League Functional House in Provincial Capital.

# **KP CM** constitutes body to monitor development projects in merged district

PESHAWAR Caretaker Chief Minister Finance, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Azam Khan on Tuesday constituted a steering committee for the merged tribal districts to monitor special measures and various issues for development projects in these areas.

here said that the steering committee would consist of ten members including the Minister for Merged district (MDs) as Chairperson and Special Secretary MDs Home and Tribal Affairs and

The other members would include Special special secretaries Planning

Elementary and Secondary Education, Agriculture departments, Additional secretaries Mines and Mineral, Tourism and Law departments, members board of revenue nominated by SMBR, DIG as nominated by IGP, representative of HQ 11 Corp, Director Centre of Excellence on Countering Violent Extremism, Higher Education department and any other officer or specialist required.

Special honorarium would be provided to the members of the committee while the home department would provide access to its committee room for the secretaries CM Secretariat, purpose of meetings, the notification said.

# **PDMA** initiates winter contingency planning to enhance disaster preparedness

Independent Report Disaster Management Authority

(PDMA), working under the guidance of the Relief, Rehabilitation Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, has launched the process of developing the Winter Contingency Plan for the 2023-24 season. This initiative aims to minimize disaster risks, identify vulnerabilities, and map available resources for a well-coordinated and timely response.In this regard, a crucial pre-winter planning and orientation meeting was chaired by PDMA Director General,

Mr. Janat Gul Afridi,

gathering Provincial Line

Departments and relevant The stakeholders. Mr. Afridi stated that the plan, expected to be finalized by mid-November, involves data collection tools sharing information on Settlement Department in district-specific hazards, vulnerability profiles, hazard impacts, damages, compensation details, resource mapping, needs assessments, coordination efforts. The Winter Contingency Plan will categorize districts based on Vulnerability and Risk Assessment, tailored to address unique weather patterns and geographical challenges faced by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. proactive approach is in alignment with guidelines from the National Disaster Management Authority.



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

# CM aide urges swift progress on Nowshera Mega City Housing project

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

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

present in the meeting.
The meeting included a comprehensive briefing housing scheme, urging the by the secretary on the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Mega City project.

#### KARACHI: Health worker administering polio drops to a child at Cantt Station. Dr Javed visits city's health institutes to inspect facilities

RAWALPINDI (APP): Caretaker Provincial Minister for Health Professor Dr. Javed Akram on Tuesday made a visit to various health facilities of the city including Rawalpindi Institute of Urology and Dr Javed directed the Transplantation(RIUT), hospital administration to

Rawalpindi Institute of Cardiology(RIC), Holy Family Hospital(HFH), District Headquarters
Hospital(DHQ)and
Benazir Bhutto Hospital(BBH)to inspect treatment arrangements. minister The inspected the help

Department of Social

Welfare and Baitul Mal in

all the hospitals and

the

counters

directed the Department of Social Welfare and Baitul-Mal to increase funding. During the visit to

provided to the patients.

merge both dialysis centres into one and make them functional on the fast track. He also directed us to

Nursing Hostel and admin block at RIUT. Dr. Javed instructed the Vice Chancellor Rawalpindi Medical University Professor Dr. Umar to make the RIUT 100 per cent functional at the earliest.

RIUT, the concerned officials informed him about the medical facilities

take immediate steps for the construction of the

#### demolishes illegal water **hvdrants** KARACHI (APP): The Tuesday.

Rangers

water hydrants were demolished during the areas,

An accused was also

Five pumps, two electric motors, two water tankers, three generators, a 100-meter cable and other equipment were seized during the operation. The Rangers, had so far. demolished 105 water hydrants while 241 suspects were arrested.

The Rangers would continue the operation against illegal water hydrants till its logical

# poor hygiene

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

also imposed.

An SFA team led by inspected the kitchen was found in a very poor hygiene condition, said a statement issued here.

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

to Rs.100000 for poor

# ADB report Political stability following elections to boost business confidence in Pakistan

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

"Political stability following general elections later this year, if achieved, will boost business confidence, as will a new standby arrangement International Monetary

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

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

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

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

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

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

Fiscal and monetary tightening will crimp demand, as will inflation staying in double digits. On implementation of the economic adjustment program and a likely smooth general election should boost confidence, while the easing of import controls should support investment as fiscal tightening restrains public consumption.

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

relief package of free seeds, subsidized credit.



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



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

#### **Chairman PARC vows** Improve crop productivity with a special focus on Oilseed and Sugar Crops

**Independent Report** ISLAMABAD: Evaluation Committee (VEC) recommended 04 new sunflower hybrids, 03 Mustard varieties/hybrids and 1 variety of each soybean, rapeseed, groundnut while 2 varieties sugarcane commercial cultivation in the potential ecologies.

The VEC meeting on Oilseed & Sugar Crops was

Member (PSD)/Chairman The (VEC) and attended by the committee members belonging to various public and private sector organizations and policy makers. In the meeting, 21 proposals for Soybean, Rapeseed, Sunflower Mustard, Groundnut, and Sesame candidate varieties/hybrids as well as 04 proposals of



Committee Room of Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC) Hqs. Islamabad. The by Dr. Imtiaz Hussain, potential ecologies.

held on Monday, the evaluation and discussion, the October 2, 2023 in the committee recommended 4 new sunflower hybrids, 3 Mustard varieties/hybrids, variety each of soybean. rapeseed and groundnut while meeting was presided over 2 varieties of sugarcane for

# Cotton arrivals cross 5m bales, making a 71pc yearly growth

ISLAMABAD (Online): A on-year surge. milestone in Pakistan's cotton sector was reached as cotton arrivals for the vear 2023 exceeded expectations. demonstrating remarkable growth in production.

Cotton arrivals as of September 30, 2023, soared to an impressive 5.0 million bales, representing an astounding 71% year-on-year growth. This accomplishment is a testament to the resilience and dedication of Pakistan's farmers in overcoming the challenges posed by last year's devastating floods.

The key Yield Figures are: Pakistan: 5.0 million bales, reflecting a remarkable 71% year-onyear increase. Punjab: 2.1 million

bales, registering a commendable 34% yearon-year growth.

Sindh: 3.0 million bales, achieving an outstanding 113% year-

To recall, the cotton production sector faced a substantial setback last year, experiencing a 34% vear-on-vear decline due to the massive flooding that affected the country. However, this year's outstanding performance has not only surpassed the previous year's figures but also exceeded expectations.

Dr. Gohar Ejaz, Minister for Commerce, expressed his optimism for the cotton sector, stating, "Cotton arrivals crossing the 5 million bales mark on October 1, 2023, is a momentous achievement for Pakistan. Last year, our total crop was 5 million bales, and this year, we are anticipating a bumper crop

of 12 million bales. This remarkable growth showcases the dedication and hard work of our farmers and the resilience of our cotton

industry

#### **PSX** witnesses bullish trend, gains 129 points ISLAMABAD (APP):

The 100-index of the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) witnessed bullish trend on Tuesday, gaining 129.72 points, showing positive change of 0.28 per cent, closing at 46,756.80 points against 46,627.08 points the previous day.

A total of 213,188,395 shares valuing Rs 6.094 billion were traded during the day as compared to 202,598,801shares valuing

Rs 7.404 billion the previous day. As many as 326

companies transacted their shares in the stock market; 142 of them recorded gains and 154 sustained losses. whereas the share price of 30 companies remained unchanged. The three top-trading

companies were WorldCall Telecom with 60.699.742 shares at Rs 1.25 per share, Cnergyico Pk with 19,001,237 shares at Rs 3.28 per share and Oil and Gas Dev. With 9,902,658 shares at Rs 98.55 per

J.D.W. witnessed a maximum increase of Rs 23.75 per share price, closing at Rs 388.75, whereas the runner-up was Pak Hotels with a Rs 20.72 rise in its per share price to Rs 297.04.

#### **Dollar tops** 150 yen for first time in a year

LONDON (APP): The dollar rose above 150 ven on Tuesday for the first time in a year, as the Japanese currency weakened further on a mix of ultra-loose monetary policy in Japan coupled with rising US interest rates that are attracting investors to the greenback.

In mid-afternoon trading, the dollar/yen rate hit 150.16, a level not seen since October 2022, before falling back. Analysts say the yen's decline could prompt the Bank of Japan to intervene in foreign exchange markets to support its currency, since the weakness increases the cost of imports such as food and energy for families and businesses.

By selling some of its dollar reserves, the central bank could lift the yen's value—as it did in October

#### PR's existing infrastructure, rolling stock to be improved through private investments ISLAMABAD (APP): and expand railways in the country which include safety, efficiency, and self-

**Shahid Tarar says:** 

Minister for Railways, Communication, and Maritime Shahid Ashraf Tarar Tuesday said the existing infrastructure, rolling stock, factories, and railway stations will be improved through private sector investments. He said this while

chairing a high-level meeting at the Ministry of Railways to discuss the efficiency, he added. self-reliance plan of Pakistan Railways.Shahid Ashraf said that Pakistan Railways is following three

Railways which are expected to bring He said that the journey by train is a great means of connecting people living in different

reliance. The minister said

that Pakistan Railways has

taken several initiatives to

cut costs and enhance its

revenue. The improvement

in administrative and

operational areas are

underway in Pakistan



QUETTA: CEO Pakistan Stone Development Company (PASDEC) Babar Miraj addressing during his visit to Quetta Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

# Pakistan earns \$70.969m by exporting transport services in July

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan earned US \$70.969 million by providing different transport services in various countries during the first month of the current fiscal year (2023-24) as compared to corresponding period of last year. This shows a decline of 5.32 percent as compared to \$74.960 million earned through the provision of services during the corresponding month of the fiscal year (2022-23), the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) reported.During the month under review, the exports of sea transport services witnessed a decrease of 50.95 percent, going down from \$19.960 million last year to \$9.790 million

Among the sea transport services, the exports of freight services dipped by 70.32 percent from \$13.510 million last year to \$4.010 million whereas the exports of other sea transport services also decreased by 10.39 percent from \$6.450 million to \$5.780 million current year, the PBS data revealed.

The exports of air transport rose by 7.43 percent going up from \$53.120 million last year to \$57.069 million during July 2023. Among the air transport services, the exports of passenger services increased by 2.97 percent, from \$34.990 million to \$36.030 million, whereas the exports of freight services dipped by 36.47 percent, from \$3.290



HYDERABAD: Women labourers busy sorting out green chili at vegetable market.

## Farmers advised to complete canola cultivation in October

The agriculture experts have advised the growers to immediately start cultivation of canola and complete it during October for getting bumper yield.

A spokesman of Agriculture (Extension) Department said here on Tuesday that canola was an important cash crop which not only played an important role in catering to domestic oil needs but also helped the growers to mitigate their financial

sufferings. He said that although Pakistan was an agrarian country, yet the country had to export edible oil by spending billions of rupees every year as the domestic

FAISALABAD (APP): oil-seed crops could cater to 12 percent requirement of edible oil.

Therefore, the Punjab government had allocated Rs.5.11 billion for promotion of oil-seed crops across the province so that the country could trim its export bill for edible oil at maximum extent.

In this connection, the government had also announced a subsidy of Rs.5000 per acre on cultivation of canola crop this year.

The farmers were also persuaded to take part in demonstration of canola plots and the government would provide them Rs.20,000 per acre as expenditures of the crop.

of high-standard farmland. support

Spottail

# KCCI, NUTECH ink MoU for establishment of campus in Karachi

KARACHI (APP): The statement issued here. Karachi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) and National University of Technology (NUTECH), on Tuesday, inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for establishment Karachi

NUTECH Karachi
Campus.President KCCI
Iftikhar Ahmed Sheikh and
Rector NUTECH
Islamabad Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Moazzam Ejaz, signed the MoU here at KCCI, wherein both institutions have mutually agreed upon principles establishment

NUTECH Karachi Campus (NKC), said a

#### Rupee gains Rs 1.04 against **US Dollar**

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

However, according to the Forex Association of Pakistan (FAP), the buying and selling rates of the dollar in the open market stood at Rs 283.5 and Rs 286.3 respectively.
The price of the Euro

decreased Rs 3.34 to close at Rs 299.56 against the last day's closing of Rs 302.90, according to the State Bank of Pakistan

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

of business community.
As per MoU,
NUTECH and KCCI will jointly develop NKC academics, research and skills system based on 2023 by the World exports-supported University Ranking for strategies while both the Innovation.

and other representatives

collaborate for intellectual, research, academic and professional cooperation to promote implementation, transfer and export of indigenous industrial knowledge, technologies and skills.

Speaking on the occasion, Rector NUTECH Lt. Gen. (Retd) Moazzam Ejaz stated that NUTECH was established in 2018 and it has recently been selected as one of the hundred most innovative universities worldwide in

# Tarbela 5th Extension Project to add another 1530 MW to national grid system

Tarbela 5th Extension Hydropower Project will enhance power generation of Tarbela Power House 1530 Megawatt (MW), paying a way to increase cumulative power generation of Tarbela dam frm 4888 MW to 6418

Official sources told Project is being developed Tarbela dam and would contribute 1.347 billion low cost green and clean units to the national grid system.

work was being carried out at all key sites including powerhouse, tail race tunnel and downstream coffer dam etc, official sources told APP here.

Excavation of the powerhouse and the tail race tunnel as well as slope stabilization for the switch yard were also in progress APP here that, the Tarbela besides modification in the 5th Extension Hydropower existing Tunnel No. 5, they at Tunnel No 5 of the Hydropower Project is a component of green, clean and least-cost energy generation plan, WAPDA is implementing on priority.



QUETTA: A delegation of traders of Abdul Sattar Road in presence of Deputy Commissioner Quetta meeting with Balochistan Governor Malik Abdul Wali

#### Chinese policy bank ups loan support for farmland cultivation

Khan Kakar.

BEIJING (APP): The China Development Bank country's policy banks, has stepped up loan support for the cultivation

By the middle of September, the lender had issued a total of 24.5 billion yuan (about 3.42 billion U.S. dollars) in loans to farmland cultivation, which is expected to help foster 4.25 million mû (about 283,333 hectares) of highstandard farmland.

The CDB has issued 5.3 billion yuan of loans since the beginning of 2023 to support high-standard farmland cultivation and farmland infrastructure upgrading projects in Jilin, Jiangsu, Sichuan, Guangxi and Ningxia.

#### Shipping activity at **Port Qasim**

KARACHI Fourships namely, MSC Tokyo, Onyx-I, Lisa and Containers and Gas oil, berthed at Container Terminal and Oil Terminal respectively on Monday.

Meanwhile another Oil tanker 'Al Soor-II' carrying 59,220 tonnes of Gas oil also arrived at outer anchorage of the port

# Stock markets drop as rate fears take hold

LONDON (APP): Stock of previous rate hikes has markets slumped across the board Tuesday on growing worries that high interest rates will take a toll on economic growth, as central bankers pursue was heightened by their efforts to rein in comments from a senior inflation.

Investors are focusing in particular on US Treasury bond yields that have surged to levels not seen in over a decade, suggesting doubts about prospects for growth and corporate earnings. "Concerns

borrowing costs bed in they will weigh heavily on companies and consumers, at a time when the effect Barr said Monday.

yet to be felt," said Susannah Streeter, head of money and markets at Hargreaves Lansdown. The wary outlook

Federal Reserve official suggesting no easing of monetary policy anytime

The most important question at this point is not whether an additional rate increase is needed this year or not, but rather how are long we will need to hold spreading that if higher rates at a sufficiently restrictive level to achieve our goals," Fed Vice Chair for Supervision Michael

# **HAP** delegation meets LCCI President

LAHORE Handicrafts Association of Pakistan (HAP) delegation mentioned that Lahore headed by its Chairperson Maryam Iqbal met with Lahore Chamber of Lounge and encouraged its Commerce and Industry (LCCI) President Kashif Anwar here at LCCI on Played by the Lahore

Tuesday.
Other members of the delegation included Tanzeela Yusuf and Zeeshan Raja. During the meeting, LCCI President Kashif Anwar expressed his enthusiasm for women's involvement in address the challenges the SAAF scheme.

(APP): faced by women in the Chamber has established a Women Empowerment Chamber's (Alternative Dispute Resolution Centre) and the various services and facilities available to members. mentioned the State Bank's introduction of several subsidized the Lahore Chamber and including up to Rs 10 emphasized the need to million available through



LAHORE: Workers of Mils Association holds protest outside press club against price hike in LPG and cylinder mafia, in Provincial Capital.

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

**Monitoring Desk** 

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

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

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

The purpose of the meeting was to "express

our solidarity and support to the Ukrainian people", he said, acknowledging that the gathering "does not have the aim of reaching concrete conclusions and Ukraine's Foreign

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

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

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

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

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



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

Turkiye regards the

These violations are

rejected by the Iraqi people,

the (Kurdistan) region and all of Iraq's inhabitants," Presi-

dent Rashid said in an inter-

view with Saudi state-owned

broadcaster Al Hadath, a

short clip of which was aired

on Monday. Rashid said such

strikes sometimes killed ci-

vilians, including people vis-

iting the region who "be-

come victims of Turkish

bombing". The Iraqi presi-

dent said Baghdad hoped to

come to an agreement with

Ankara to resolve the issue

in a manner similar to a secu-

rity agreement Iraq has inked

with Iran to deal with Ira-

#### Iraq opposes Turkish strikes in Kurdistan, seeks solution

ish assembly.

**Monitoring Desk** 

BAGHDAD: Iraq rejects PKK as a terrorist group repeated Turkish air strikes and regularly carries out air or the presence of Turkish bases in its Kurdistan restrikes in northern Iraq, which has long been outside gion and hopes to come to the direct control of the an agreement with Ankara Baghdad government. to solve this problem, Iraqi Turkiye has also has sent President Abdul-Latif Rashid said in comments commandos and set up military bases on Iraqi territory aired on Monday. to support its offensives.

Turkey said on Sunday it carried out air strikes in northern Iraq that destroyed 20 targets belonging to the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) after the outlawed group said it orchestrated the first bomb attack in Ankara in years.

On Sunday morning, two attackers detonated a bomb near government buildings in Ankara, killing both and wounding two police officers. The outlawed Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) claimed responsibility.

The blast rattled a district that is home to ministries and the parliament, in an attack coinciding with nian Kurdish separatist the reopening of the Turk- groups in the Kurdistan re-

Nepal hit by two earthquakes, injuring 11 and triggering landslide **Monitoring Desk** 

KATHMANDŪ: Two earthquakes rocked western Nepal on Tuesday, injuring 11 people, damaging homes and triggering a landslide that blocked a major highway, authorities said. The landslide after the

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

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

Police official Bharat Bahadur Shah said 11 people — seven women and four men — were injured and were being treated in hospital. One woman was missing after being hit by another landslip triggered by the quake, he said.

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

#### UN authorizes a second malaria vaccine Monitoring Desk LONDON: The World at least another year with a booster. Tedros said the in illegal

Health Organization authorized a second malaria vaccine on Monday, a decision that could offer countries a cheaper and a more readily available option than the world's first shot against the parasitic disease.

WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said the U.N. health agency was approving the new malaria vaccine based on the advice of two expert groups, recommending its use in children at risk of the disease.

'As a malaria researcher, I used to dream of the day we would have a safe and effective vaccine against malaria. Now we have two," Tedros said.

Oxford University developed the new three-dose vaccine with help from the Serum Institute of India. Research suggests it is more than 75% effective and that protection is maintained for

shot would cost about \$2 to \$4 and could be available in some countries next year if funders agree to buy it.

Earlier this year, regulatory authorities in Ghana and Burkina Faso approved the vaccine.

This is one more tool we will now have, but it's not going to replace bed nets and spraying insecticides," said John Johnson with Doctors Without Borders. "This is not the vaccine that's going to stop malaria." Johnson was not part of the WHO expert group that gave the Oxford

vaccine the green light. In 2021, WHO endorsed the first malaria vaccine in what it described as a "historic" effort to end the devastating toll the mosquito-transmitted disease has on Africa, home to most of the world's estimated 200 million cases and 400,000 deaths.



NEW DELHI: Indian police raided the office of a news portal and the homes of journalists and writers linked to it on Tuesday as part of an investigation into suspected illegal foreign funding of the media company, two government officials said.

Laptops and mobile phones were taken away as part of the investigation into media company NewsClick, the officials and some of the journalists said. 'A special investigations team launched a search operation to identify all those individuals who were possibly getting funds from overseas to run a media group with the main agenda of spreading foreign propaganda," said an official in the interior ministry overseeing the raids by the Delhi Police.



Security officers carry boxes of material confiscated after a raid at the office of NewsClick in New Delhi, India.



eign Policy Chief Josep Borrell as they visit the Memory Wall of Fallen Defenders of Ukraine, amid Russia's attack on Ukraine, during the marking of Defenders of Ukraine Day in Kyiv.

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

**Monitoring Desk** 

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

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

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

Putin would not be arrested if he entered the country

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

bassador. Countries that ingit will raise "additional questions" in Moscow, even though Armenia is "our ally, a friendly state. our partner, and a lot unites us with the brotherly Armenian people."
Asked if Putin would

have to refrain from trav-Armenia later sought eling to Armenia, he added: "Of course, we wouldn't want the president to have to assure Russia that to ever, for whatever reason, refuse a visit to Armenia." A diplomatic solution is needed and will be discussed with Yerevan, he said

#### **India tells Canada** Nine killed to withdraw 41 diplomats: report

**Monitoring Desk** 

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

Nijjar, 45, was the president of Guru Nanak Sikh Gurdwara temple in Surrey, British Columbia and advocated for the creation of a Sikh state known as Khalistan. In-

dia has dismissed the allegation as absurd. On September 21, Trudeau called on India to cooperate with an investigation into the murder of the separatist leader in British Columbia and said Canada would not release its evidence for their claims. India suspended new vi-

sas for Canadians and asked Ottawa to reduce its diplomatic presence in the country on the same day. Last week, the Indian foreign minister spoke to US Secretary of State Antony Blinken and US National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan about Canadian allegations of New Delhi's possible involvement killing of the separatist leader in Canada.

after Mexican church roof collapses **Monitoring Desk** MEXICO CITY: A church

roof collapsed during Sunday Mass in a northern Mexican city killing at least nine people and injuring 40, authorities said, as rescuers worked into the night, desperately looking for another 30 people believed to be trapped under the

Working under floodlights, military personnel supported emergency services using rescue dogs and earth moving equipment to identify and dig out survivors from the ruins of the church in Ciudad Madero, a city on the Gulf coast near the port of Tampico.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### Rep. Matt Gaetz files motion to oust Speaker Kevin McCarthy, throwing House into new turmoil

**Monitoring Desk** WASHINGTON: Speaker Kevin McCarthy is facing an extraordinary referendum on his leadership of the House after a conservative member of his own Republican maiority, a longtime critic, moved to launch a vote to

oust him from the helm.

Late Monday, Rep. Matt Gaetz, R-Fla., rose in the chamber as the House was almost done for the day to file the motion — a resolution that would set a snap vote in coming days that even Gaetz acknowledged may not have enough support to remove the speaker from the job.

"I have enough Republicans where at this point next week, one of two things will happen: Kevin McCarthy won't be the speaker of the House or he'll be the speaker of the House working at the pleasure of the Democrats, Gaetz told reporters afterward outside the Capitol.

McCarthy responded minutes later on social media, "Bring it on." Gaetz soon retorted in a post, "Just did." It's a historic moment: the first time in more than 100 years that a lawmaker may actually force a vote using the legislative tool that has been threatened against other House speakers.

#### Football clash called off in Iran after Saudis refuse to play Monitoring Desk

ISFAHAN: Al Ittiĥad's Asian Champions League match with İran's Sepahan was called off on Monday after the Saudi team refused to leave the dressing room due to a statue of assassinated Iranian general Qasem Soleimani being placed at the entrance to the pitch. The game was postponed by officials at the Nagĥsh-i Jaȟan Stadium in Isfahan, where around 60,000 fans had turned out to see Sepahan take on an Al Ittihad starting line-up that was due to include former Premier League stars Ngolo Kante.

#### **Indian mission** heads towards centre of solar system

**Monitoring Desk** 

NEW DELHI: India's Sunmonitoring spacecraft has crossed a landmark point on its journey to escape "the sphere of Earth's influence", its space agency said, days after the disappointment of its Moon rover failing to awaken.

The Aditya-L1 mission, which started its fourmonth journey towards the centre of the solar system on September 2, carries instruments to observe the Sun's outermost layers. "The spacecraft has escaped the sphere of Earth's influence," the Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) said in a statement late on Saturday.

# Kremlin says Russia has not abandoned moratorium on nuclear testing

Monitoring Desk cordin MOSCOW: The Kremlin tions.

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

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

The Soviet Union's last nuclear test took place in 1990. The United States' now from an official point of view," Peskov said, in 1990. The United States' of view," Peskov said, last nuclear test took place adding that Simonyan's in 1992 and France and words did not "always" China conducted their last reflect Moscow's official nuclear tests in 1996, ac- position.

cording to the United Na-

The Kremlin said it had not abandoned the moratorium when asked about remarks Margarita Simonyan, the editor-in-chief of statefunded broadcaster RT, who suggested that Russia should detonate a nuclear bomb over Siberia.

'At present, we have not left the regime of abandoning nuclear tests, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters.

"I don't think such discussions are possible

## Niger says 29 soldiers killed in attack, rejects **Algerian mediation**

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

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

Niger and its neighbours Mali and Burkina Faso, also run by military governments that seized power in coups, are all battling militants linked to al Qaeda and Islamic that several dozen assailants State who have killed thou- were killed.

sands and displaced over two million people in the Sahel region. They signed a security pact last month promising to defend each other against rebels or aggressors.

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

by more than 100 assailants in vehicles and on motor-bikes using explosive devices and suicide

The provisional toll of the attack is as follows, 29 soldiers fell in battle and two were wounded," the defence ministry said in a statement read on Niger national television, adding

#### **US** completes first working day after shutdown threat

**Monitoring Desk** 

WASHINGTON: More than four million US military personnel and government workers resumed their work on Monday, as did Congress, after rare weekend votes in both chambers prevented a government shutdown.

But House Speaker Kevin McCarthy, whose last-minute move prevented the shutdown just three hours before it would have taken effect, now faces another move — a vote to oust him.

Matt Gaetz, a member of the lobby that tied to force the shutdown, is now seeking a vote of no-confidence against the speaker this week, apparently for playing a key role in avoiding the closure. Both are Republicans who dominate the House. On Saturday, when the House voted 335-91 to avoid the closure, the speaker dared his detractors that "If somebody wants to make a motion against me" for preventing the closure, they should "bring it" now.

Gaetz, a Conservative from Florida, accepted the challenge. "I do intend to file a motion to vacate against Speaker McCarthy this week," he told CNN. McCarthy is a California

Republican.

"I think we need to rip off the Band-Aid," said Gaetz while attacking the speaker and other Republi-cans who voted for the aversion. "I think we need to move on with new leadership that can be trust-

worthy," he added. Gaetz belongs to a conservative lobby within the Republican Party, which favors former president Donald Trump and some of its members support Trump's claim that President Joe Biden rigged the 2020 elections. Speaker McCarthy thwarted their move by presenting a new bill which allows the government to stay open for 45 days, giving the House and Senate more time to fin-

ish their funding legislation. The Senate, where Democrats are a majority, passed the bill but only 3 hours before a 12:01am shutdown of the federal government would have taken effect. The measure was signed into law by President Biden late Saturday night. More than four million US military personnel and government workers would have been forced to stay at home if the speaker's counter measure had not passed.

# Spanish city ordered closure of fire-ravaged nightclubs a year ago

**Monitoring Desk** MURCIA: Two nightclubs

destroyed by a deadly fire in the southeastern Spanish city of Murcia over the weekend had been found a year ago to be operating without a valid permit and were ordered to shut at the time, local authorities said on Monday. It wasn't clear why

the club was allowed to continue to operate following that recommendation. At least 13 people died in the blaze early on Sunday, authorities said, Spain's deadliest fire in decades.

The fire razed through three neighbouring nightclubs in Atalayas, on the outskirts of the city, but two of them - Teatre and La Fonda Milagros - were the most affected. The cause of the blaze was still unknown.

Local officials told a news conference on Monday that Teatre, which had a licence to operate as a nightclub and kitchen since 2008, had asked for a special permit after splitting the establishment into two in said.

But in January 2022, the municipality ordered it to cease all business activities, as dividing the building required them to request a completely different permit. Teatre unsuccessfully appealed the decision and the closure order was issued in October 2022.

'We are going to hold anyone who might have been responsible to account,' Antonio Navarro, the local councillor in charge of urban planning, told reporters.

Navarro, who said that municipal authorities were not aware of the nightclubs remaining open despite the closure order, said that they had vet to ascertain whether local inspectors had recently visited the venues

to enforce the order. All of the victims were found in La Fonda club, whose roof had collapsed due to the intensity of the flames, Diego Seral, spokesperson for Spain's national police,



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

# President stresses competitive jobs opportunities for professionals to prevent brain drain

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

"Offering competitive job opportunities and creating a favourable work environment is essential to reduce the loss of our precious intellectual elite," he

prominently the people of

occupied Jammu & Kash-

termination of the Kashmiri

people, the Pakistani envoy

said, was explicitly recog-

nized in UNSC resolution

47 and several subsequent

resolutions, which pre-

scribed that the final dispo-

sition of the State of Jammu

& Kashmir should be de-

cided by its people through

a free and fair plebiscite held

These resolutions were accepted by both In-

dia and Pakistan, he said.

under UN auspices.

The right of self-de-

mir and Palestine.

At UNGA body

Pakistan terms India's

occupation of IIOJK 'worst

manifestation' of colonialism

there are still peoples who adding that under Article 25

**Caretaker Minister Info maintains:** 

**Balochistan** is poised to

take lead in cutting-

edge technology

assistance in their labora- pace with their counterparts.

**QUETTA: Additional Secretary Information Amjad** 

Sohail and Abdul Aleem Bareech meeting with

Protest against killing

of person ended on

Caretaker Information Minister Jan Achakzai.

tory activities.

adoption

In a statement, he out-

across

lined plans for the expan-

sion of AI facilities beyond

Girls Cadet College Turbat,

ushering in a new era of AI

Balochistan. He also em-

phasized Balochistan's am-

bition to excel in AI and its

intention to seek collabora-

tion with the Chinese gov-ernment in this endeavor. "We

are inviting private sector in-

vestments to establish mod-

ern IT labs equipped with 3D printers and AI support, en-

suring that our students keep

are denied the right to self- of the UN Charter

(INP): Describing India's

occupation of Jammu and

Kashmir as the "worst

manifestation of modern-

day colonialism," Pakistan

has called on the U.N. to

push for a peaceful settle-

ment of the lingering Kash-

mir dispute in accordance

with the Security Council

resolutions and Kashmiri

people's wishes. Noting

that since 1946, 80 former

colonies have gained inde-

pendence, Ambassador

Munir Akram told the Gen-

eral Assembly's Special Po-

litical and Decolonization

(Fourth) Committee that

**Independent Report** 

QUETTA: The caretaker

Provincial Minister for

Infomation, Jan Achakzai

has announced that

Balochistan is poised to

The inaugural utiliza-

take the lead in cutting-edge

tion of a 3D printer by cadets at Girls Cadet College

Turbat for their college

projects marks the begin-

ning of this technological

transformation. In addition,

the cadets at Girls Cadet

College Turbat are availing

themselves of Chat GPT's

technology.

said in his address here at the convocation of the dentistry and nursing departments of the Foundation University School of Health Science (FUSH).

President Álvi said the country invested its resources in doctors, engineers, and other professionals, however, the flight of skilled human capital had a negative impact on the economy and developmental growth.

He said the effective

skilled doctors to seek employment abroad was to create better employment opportunities for them within the country.

Pakistan, he said, needed 900,000 nurses compared to the available 300,000 at present to cope with the requirements in the field of health services.

Dr Alvi said only nine percent of students of F.Sc (Faculty of Sciences) Pre- was a huge loss to the coun-Medical got admission to try.

way to reduce the need for medical colleges in Pakistan, while the statistics were 25 percent in India and Bangladesh. The situation needed a strategy to set up more medicine schools to accommodate a greater number of students, he

> The president pointed out that the women doctors who quit their professional fields while in a struggle to balance their family lives

# Aneeq emphasizes unity among Muslim nations for global influence ISLAMABAD (APP): sized the promotion of

ligious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony, Aneeq Ahmed on Tuesday said the Muslim countries would have to portray a soft image of Ummah with concerted efforts on the globe.

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

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

During their discus-

unity within the Muslim Ummah, addressing common issues, and combatting Islamophobia.

Minister Aneeq reaffirmed that Pakistan's foundation was rooted in the Quran and Sunnah, and stressed the need for Muslim nations to work collectively to manifest the teachings of Islam. He highlighted that as Muslims, it was crucial to align their actions with Quranic guidance and promote Islamic values to the world.

Furthermore, he emphasized the importance of nurturing the younger generation lamenting that many young individuals were not seeking solutions to contemporary issues within the Quran's teachings.

Sheikh Almuawda ex-



QUETTA: Chairman Red Crescent Society Balochistan Shafqat Ullah Lango meeting with Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar.

# Nawaz Sharif to appear before court: Rana

LAHORE (INP): The Pa- PMLN head would do it by kistan Muslim League-N announcing the party mani-(PML-N) Punjab President festo at a gathering. During Rana Sanaullah has said that the public gathering, he said former premier Nawaz Sharif would appear before

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

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

The entire nation is facing the crisis like situation due to Baba Rehmaty, however, Nawaz Sharif is coming back to Pakistan for the nation. He said we have to improve the situation of elections had been dethe common man and the

Nawaz Sharif would also express his view on his narrative and policy as well.

Criticizing the chairman PTI, the former interior minister said due to his conducts he is in jail as we had not instituted case against anyone. He said the neat and clean person turned up disastrous and country could default in his regime. He said that incidents of May 9 were attack on the defense of Pakistan and culprits involved in this occurrence should be given any relaxation. Everyone is free to contest the election as the PMLN does not want to incarcerate anyone, the minister said adding during a meeting with the **Election Commission early** 



NASEERABAD: Traders and residents of Dera Murad Jamali blocked road and burn tyres as they are holding protest demonstration against the behavior of the district administration and Assistant Commissioners, held at Sind Balochistan National Highway road in Naseerabad.

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

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

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

Sirajul Haq stressed that stability was contingent upon upholding the constitution and conducting transparent elections. He criticized those ing economic reforms before elections, asserting that such calls merely echo past slogans, specifically the rhetoric of "accountability before elections." He noted that proponents of these ideas were acutely aware of their dwindling popularity among the masses and were anticipating an impending

Underscoring the responsibility of the state and its institutions to combat smuggling and corruption, the JI chief emphasized that an elected government was better equipped to address these challenges. He highlighted the people's admiration for the armed forces, attributing it to the constitutional mandate of safeguarding the nation.

pressed his country's deep affection for Pakistan as the only state established in the name of Islam. He also drew attention to historical instances of Islamophobia and the need to change the world's perception of Islam by removing the veil of ig-

Both leaders concurred that gradually incorporating religious education in educational institutions and spreading the message of Islam in a gentle and informative manner was essential. He also extended an invitation to Minister Aneeq to visit Bahrain to further strengthen bilateral

The meeting concluded with a shared commitment to enhancing cooperation between Pakistan and Bahrain.

#### **Preparations** for Gwadar off-road Rally reviewed

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The prepara tions for the 5th Gwadai off-road Rally were reviewed in detail in a meeting held at Gwadar on Tues

The Director General Gwadar Development Authority (GDA), Mujeebur Rehman Qambrani pre sided over the meeting.

The Chief Executive of the Rally Talha Rais informed that the work of 250-kilometers long track has almost been completed.

occasion said that large number of foreigner as well as national and local racers are vying in the off-road

He said that different committees have been formed to finalize the

#### Pitiless father kills 4 children. throws body in canal

LAHORE (INP): A pitiless man killed his four children and threw bodies in canal in Kahna area of Lahore. Police arrested the accused and recovered bodies.

According to details, accused Azeem hailing from Kahna area killed his four children Sabir, Avesh Habibi and Samia aged between five to 12 years and threw their bodies in Kasur Lalyani canal.

The culprit staged drama of abduction of his children but police over suspicion arrested him.

During investigation. the accused admitted murder of his four children and police after registering a case against him started investi-

#### LG by-polls schedule notified

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

The LG by-polls will be held in Karachi East, Karachi West, Khairpur and Hyderabad districts on November 5. The by-polls will be held on four seats of the union councils (UCs) in the said districts.

assurance of Achakzai them and held negotiations

to end their protest. QUETTA: The heirs of a He assured them that person killed in Kila the culprits involved in the Abdullah area protested killing would be appre-hended and brought them to here at Fayyaz Sunbal chowk here on Tuesday. The heirs of the slain the justice. During the course of person along with other

cerned authorities and di-rected them to apprehend to arrest the killers imme-While they were prothe culprits. testing against the killing, the caretaker Provincial

**Independent Report** 

people of the area de-

manded of the government

Minister for Information,

Jan Achakzai approached

Meanwhile, the pro-testers ended their protest peacefully on assurance of the Minister Information.

negotiations, the Minister also contacted the con-

## Nawaz has vast record of completing development projects: Mushahid

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

A large number of people like working style of Nawaz Sharif, he said while talking to a private television channel. Nawaz Sharif, he said had a glorious period of launching China Pakistan Economic

ISLAMABAD (APP): Corridor (CPEC), and construction of motorways. CPEC is a game changer, he said adding that Pakistan's geographical situation demands to work with regional nations to bring pros-perity for the people of this country.

We have a high ratio

of young talented men and women, he said adding there is an urgent need to utilize the potential of these educated and skilled genders for achieving fast growth for Pakistan.



statement issued here.

Deputy Commis-sioner Sahabpur said a total of 67,848 children will be administered anti polio

He emphasized that role of media, teachers, scholars, tribal elders and political leaders is pivotal to end the virus from the

DC noted the district administration and the security agencies are providing foolproof security to the health teams.

#### Large quantity of arms. ammunition seized in Kohlu

KOHLU (INP): The security forces seized large quantity of arms and ammunition from compound of the terrorists in teĥsil Kohan of district Kohlu Balochistan.

According to Levies sources, the operation against militant was conducted by QRF force of

The operation which continued for 11 hours was participated by 40 Levies personnel and officials.

Levies sources said arms and ammunition including anti-tank mines, 8 APMs, two APM, four RPG7, four BM12 missiles, five hand grenades, one kilogram explosives and seven 12 gun were recovered from compound of terrorists.

#### PTI loses one more seat in AJKAssembly

MUZAFFARABAD (INP): The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) lost one more seat in the Azad Jammu and Kashmir Assembly on Tuesday, after the Election Tribunal de-clared the election in LA 35 Jammu 2 null and void due

to rigging.
The tribunal's judgment was issued on an application filed by Muslim League (N) candidate Chaudhry Ismail, who had alleged irregularities in the polling process.

The tribunal found that the rigging allegations were substantiated and ordered the Election Commission to take action against the officials involved.

The tribunal also ordered the Election Commission to re-conduct the election in LA 35 Jammu 2.

Akhtar presided over a meeting of the ECC of the Cabinet, said a press release issued here. The Ministry of In-

formation Technology & Telecommunication submitted a summary for approval of "Telecom Infrastructure sharing Framework.'

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

key economic indicators including CPI of various essential items presented by Ministry of Planning, Development, and Special

The meeting decided to constitute a Core group comprising Secretary Planning, Commerce, Food Security and Industry with the mandate to present concrete proposals for monitoring and advising the ECC on prices of the essential commodities as well as maintaining the stocks of the strategic prod-

A summary of Ministry of Industries & Production regarding "Change of name from M/S Tuwairqi Steel Mills LTD (TSML) to National Steel Complex LTD (NSCL)" was also considered by the Commit-

The ECC gave in prin-Spectrum along with its ciple approval to the prosubject to further re The meeting dis- view and endorsement by cussed and reviewed the the Law division.

#### **Health Consultant of CM states:** GoB & GDA committed to fully cooperate to improve medical assistance

**Independent Report** 

QUETTA: The Government of Balochistan and Gwadar Development Authority (GDA) would extend full cooperation to improve the health services in Indus Hospital further.

This was stated by the Health Consultant of Chief Minister, Dr Shahzad Alam while speaking to the Director General GDA, Mujeebur Rehman Qambrani in the GDA office on Tuesday.

On the occasion, Head of Campus of GDA Hospital, Dr Aftab Ahmed brief Dr Shahzad about overall performance of the Hospi-

He informed that practical steps have been taken to provide quality medical services to the patients in the GDA hospital being run by Indus.

He also informed that some 100,000 people were provided free treatment facilities during one year.



QUETTA: DIG Special Branch Ali Sher Jhakrani meeting with Caretaker Home Minister Captain (Retd) Muhammad Zubair Jamali.

## **Crackdown against** power theft continues unabated

QUETTA (APP): On the special instructions of the Ministry of Energy Power Division, operations against electricity thieves and defaulters of Quetta Electric Supply Company (QESCO) are in full swing in all operation circles.

A handout issued by the QESCO, said that so far, 5117 connections have been found involved in electricity theft across the province. Illegal connections included 3049 domestic, 1986 commercial and 82 indus-

He further said that as many as 1265 applications have been filed for legal action against electricity thieves in police stations and levies stations, and so far 380 FIRs have been reg-

thieves in all areas of the province including the provincial capital Quetta. Of which 66 FIRs

have been registered in the

provincial capital Quetta,

89 in Lorelai, 65 in

Khuzdar, 93 in Sabi, 46 in Pishin and 21 in Makran. Apart from this, a total of 166 electricity thieves have been arrested so far, against whom legal pro-

ceedings are ongoing.
Meanwhile, 25 lakh 30 thousand unit detection fines have been charged to the electricity thieves.

A fine of 13.83 million rupees has been imposed on all the electricity thieves, while 9.26 million rupees have been collected from the electricity thieves so far.

