

# Independent

Member APNS &amp; CPNE

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www.dailyindependent.com.pk

Quetta

Ph: 2841470/2841473 REG: No. BC-116 B/ID-445 Vd 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 challenges regarding security situation and ensure implementation of constitution and law as per expectations of the people.

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

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

present in the meeting.

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

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

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

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

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

The Forum reiterated the need to further enhance and strengthen ongoing

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

## 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

Independent Report

QUETTA: The caretaker Provincial Minister for Information, Jan Achakzai has stated that the relations of Pakistan with Germany are strengthening with passage of time.

However, there is a need to work for promotion of culture between the two countries.

This was stated by the caretaker Minister for Information while speaking at the ceremony organised to mark the German Unity Day observed as the na-

tional day of Germany here at the local hotel on Tuesday.

The Consul General of Germany based in Karachi, Dr Rudiger Lotz, Honorary Consul General of Germany in Quetta, and other dignitaries from different walks of the life also participated in the event.

Addressing the gathering, the German Consul General Dr Lotz welcomed the participants.

He said that it is a matter of pleasure that the Germany's national day was observed in Quetta.



QUETTA: Vice Chancellor BUTEMS Prof. Dr. Khalid Hafeez presenting shield to Caretaker Information Minister Jan Achakzai

## WB country director says: Pak needs 'careful' economic management to get macroeconomic stability

ISLAMABAD (APP): The World Bank (WB) on Tuesday suggested Pakistan to undertake the much-needed 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 Najib Benhassine said while launching "Pakistan Development Update (PDU): Restoring Fiscal

Sustainability." 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-resilient development."

According to the WB report, Pakistan's economy slowed sharply in FY23 with real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) estimated to have contracted by 0.6 per cent.

"The decline in economic activity reflects the accumulation of domestic and external shocks including the floods of 2022, government restrictions on imports and capital flows, domestic political uncertainty, surging world commodity prices, and tighter global financing."

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



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

## Vice Admiral Naveed Ashraf appointed as new Naval Chief

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

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

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

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



Chief of Staff at the Naval Headquarters.

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

## Bright chances of development in Balochistan: Governor emphasizes on adopting modern means to promote trade and commerce activities

INDEPENDENT REPORT QUETTA: The Governor 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 birds.

The dry and fresh fruits produced in the province are unique as well.

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

This and similar other

views were expressed by the Governor while speaking to different delegations who called on him here at the Governor House on Tuesday.

The Governor said that there are bright chances of development in the province.

He said that we can ensure development by utilizing different natural and Human Resources.

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

Therefore, it is necessary for our youth to benefit from the modern technical skills, he maintained.

## Ten terrorists killed amid intense exchange of fire in Pezu IBO

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

During the operation, intense fire exchange took place between the Army troops and terrorists, an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release said.

The ISPR added that

these terrorists remained actively involved in numerous terrorist activities against the security forces as well as extortion and killing of innocent civilians.

A large cache of arms, 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 country," 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 demanded for recovery of disappeared party leaders.

The PTI has also sent the copies of letters to four caretaker chief ministers. PTI's Farrukh Habib, Sadaqat Abbasi, Usman Dar and Awais Younus have been missing for last several days, the party's official wrote in his letter.



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

## 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 laws.

Critics, particularly lawyers, have historically voiced concerns about the

top court's perceived misuse of its jurisdiction under Article 184 (3) of the Constitution of Pakistan.

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

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

The full court bench, led by CJP Isa, included Justice Sardar Tariq Masood, Justice Ijazul Ahsan, Justice Syed Mansoor Ali Shah, Justice Munib Akhtar, Justice Yahya Afridi, Justice Aminuddin Khan, Justice

Sayyed Mazhar Ali Akbar Naqvi, Justice Jamal Khan Mandokhel, Justice 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, October 9.

At the start of today's hearing, the chief justice said the law affected the CJP and the two senior-most judges of the SC. He added that the law would also apply to future chief justices 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.



QUETTA: Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar inspecting different sections during his visit to Pakistan Television Quetta Center

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

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

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

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

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 Official Secrets Act.

## 36 students affected; condition out of danger: 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 upward incidents are occurred in future, the Chief Minister stressed.

Meanwhile, the Medical Superintendent of Sandeman Provincial Head-

quarter Hospital, Dr. Ishaq Panzezi 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 Panzezi, 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 suffered burn injuries.

## 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.

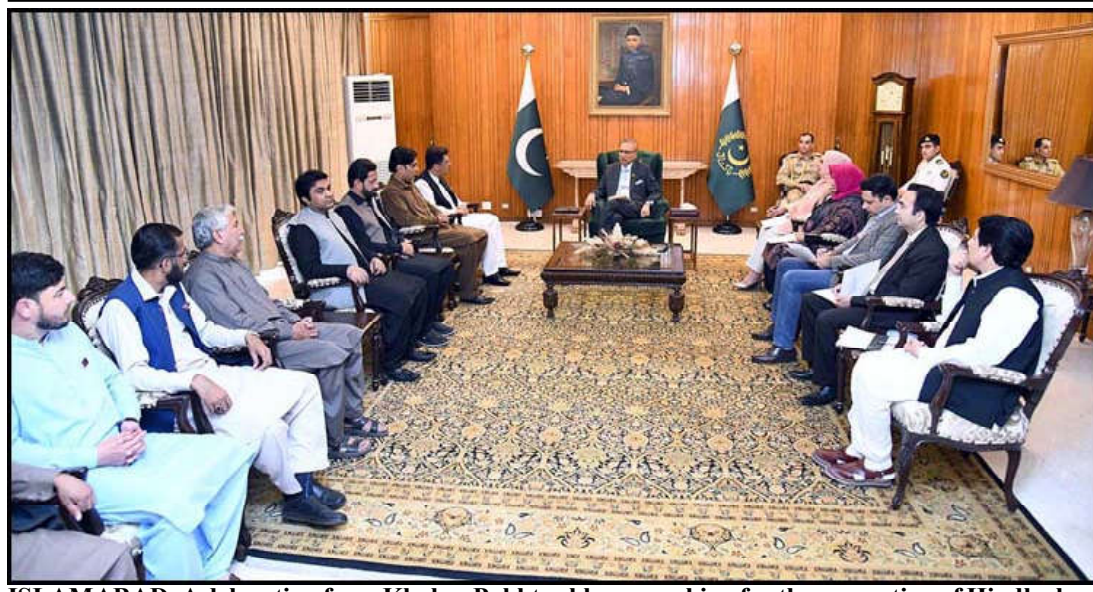
Election Commission of Pakistan intended to send invitations to international observers/media through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) in

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.





ISLAMABAD: A delegation from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, working for the promotion of Hindko language, called on President Dr. Arif Alvi, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

## 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 Headquarters, 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 combating during the last 09



months. 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 available resources would be utilized to achieve this goal.

## Senator Afnan chairs Standing Committee meeting

ISLAMABAD (Online): Senator Afnan Ullah Khan presided over a meeting of the Senate Standing Committee on National Heritage and Culture. In attendance were senators including Mushahid Hussain Sayed, 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 Heritage and Culture, along with other key officials.

During the meeting, the Committee unanimously resolved to dismiss the consideration of the "The Promotion and Protection of Gandhara Culture Authority Bill, 2023," based on the committee's consensus that the bill had been previously rejected in a prior committee meeting.

## Pearson Pakistan, British Council hosted informative Forum for partner-schools

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pearson Pakistan and British Council held the "Principals' Forum" on Tuesday to facilitate Pearson's partner 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,



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

## NDMA transitioning from reactive to proactive body with clear futuristic strategy: Inam

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Lieutenant General Inam Haider Malik Tuesday said the Authority was transitioning from a reactive to a proactive organization with a clear futuristic strategy to cope with emerging challenges in the disaster management realm.

He was addressing the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) launching ceremony of its special report titled "Human Security through Development" here.

The chairman said the Human Security through

Development Report by ISSI was an important document timely launched by the Institute, whereas the authority was to convert such reports into doable actions.

He added that human security should be the main stake of means of development, as there were different definitions of disasters in various societies linked to the individual capacities of the nations to respond to the disasters of multiple natures.

The erratic behavior of natural weather patterns world over were evident and natural disasters were observed in many urban

centers that did not face such threats earlier, he said.

The NDMA, he said was now in a better position to manage the prediction of disasters that had advanced world projections of different level monitoring its changing climatic behavior.

He underscored that the population growth index needed to be watched world over as it was threat multiplier. The NDMA is developing a national think tank and connecting all research conducted in the past decade that could have shaped our national disaster response in the present, he added.

## Pak greets Germany on annual Unity Day

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan on Tuesday extended greetings to the people and Government of Germany as the country celebrated annual Unity Day on the day.

"On the occasion of German Unity Day of the Federal Republic of Germany, we extend our heartfelt felicitations to its people and Government," the Foreign Office spokesperson said in a statement.

## PBC celebrates silver jubilee of FM-101 channel with zeal

ISLAMABAD (APP): Radio Pakistan has celebrated Silver Jubilee of FM-101 channel with fervour and zeal which was simultaneously launched from Islamabad, Lahore and Karachi in 1998.

Being the pioneer in the FM industry, the prime focus of this channel was to provide an effective platform to the youth, where they can improve their communication skills, and generate revenue for Radio



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

## AIOU holds National Seerat Conference

ISLAMABAD (APP): Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) is working to spread the teachings of Hazrat Muhammad (SAWW) and, in that context, the university is hosting a National Seerat 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 Seerat Studies, AIOU and the Rahmatul-lil-Aalameen Authority, as per the special directives of the Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training, Madad Ali Sindh.

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 Ali Sindh, 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): Official Secret Act court has sought opinion from law ministry about where the next hearing of cipher case against chairman PTI will take place. Judge Abul Hasnat Zulfqarnain 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 chairman PTI to court. Chairman PTI is important person and head of a political party. His security will have to be kept in view. Judge Abul Hasnat Zulfqarnain 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 Zulfqarnain had ordered to present chairman PTI on October 4 in cipher case.

## 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 playing

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

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

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

policy.

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

Madad Ali Sindh 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

skills.

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 entrepreneurial skills.

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 industry.

President, ICCI Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, said that



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

## NIH diagnoses conjunctivitis epidemic

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

In a statement, Caretaker 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 epidemics.

According to the National Institute of Health, the recent outbreak was caused by Cocksackievirus A24, Dr. Nadeem Jan added.

He said that due to this virus, there was a medium outbreak in different countries.

"People need not worry and take precautionary measures," Dr. Nadeem Jan said.

He said that citizens should follow the SOPs issued by the federal and provincial governments to prevent conjunctivitis.

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

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 Amir 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.

## Azerbaijan ambassador meets Health Minister

ISLAMABAD (APP): Ambassador of Azerbaijan to Pakistan Khazar Farhadov on Tuesday held a meeting with caretaker 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 improve the availability of medicines and the establishment of pharmaceutical parks in Pakistan.

The minister emphasized to utilize technology transfer for molecular manufacturing in Pakistan.

The minister informed that Pakistan was hosting first Global Health Summit. This summit will bring together top health leaders, officials, and technical experts from around the globe. The Global Health 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 experiences, and there is cooperation in allowing medical students from both nations to enroll in government-approved universities, the Ambassador said.

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

ISLAMABAD (Online): Islamabad High Court (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 Tuesday.

Petitioner Sher Afzal Marwat appeared in the court along with his counsel Qazi Adil advocate.

During the hearing of

the case the court sought details of the cases against Sher Afzal Marwat from police and other respondents.

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 of the case till Friday.

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

ISLAMABAD (Online): Fawad Chaudhry could not be indicted in the case of inciting government employees.

Fawad Chaudhry appeared in the court of Additional Sessions Judge Tahir Abbas Sipra Tuesday.

Defence counsel Faisal Chaudhry and prosecutor Khanzada Khan also appeared in the court.

Fawad Chaudhry filed his acquittal plea in the court through his counsel Faisal Chaudhry.

He took the plea in his acquittal plea politically

motivated case against him 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 obtained through challan.

He further took the plea plaintiff is employee of Election Commission (EC).

The statement of employee has not been included to support the statement. It does not seem from the record that hatred or provocation has been formulated 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.



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

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

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

Speaking on the occasion, Punjab Governor Muhammad Balighur Rehman said that the efforts made by HWPL in the world for peace since 2014 are praise worthy. He said that wars are devastating for humanity. He said that the Kashmiris in Occupied Jammu and Kashmir are still deprived of their legitimate right to self-determination. Governor Punjab said that India is trying to suppress the legitimate right of self-

determination of Kashmiris by usurping their basic human rights.

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

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

On this occasion, the delegation informed the Punjab Governor about the aims and objectives of peace organization, Heavenly Culture World Peace Restoration Light. The delegation included

Yang Bang sig, Park Kyung-taek, Kim Young-seung, Jun Young-woo, Lee Seungkyu, Naveed Tahir and Javed Waheed.

Later, Governor 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 to develop strong connection between the universities with their alumni, to keep the records of their alumni, to facilitate connections between the alumni and current students so that the alumni can guide the current students in career and various educational issues.



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

## CM reviews law & order situation in province

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

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

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

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

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

## Promotion of business activities in peaceful environment top priority

**KARACHI (APP):** Sindh Caretaker Home Minister Brigadier (Retd.) Haris Nawaz 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 the Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) here on Tuesday.

The Minister discussed with the members of the Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry the security situation of the city and mutual cooperation. He said that the business community has a very important and

key role in the development and prosperity of the country.

Nawaz said that the caretaker government wanted a strong partnership with the commercial sector and the business community so that the sector could play an important role in the country's economic development.

He said that the establishment of law and order in Sindh needed the joint efforts of the people and the law enforcement agencies.

He further said that strict action was being taken against all criminals including drug peddlers and dealers, land grabbers and street criminals.

## CM pins promotional badges to CSO

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

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

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

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

She was addressing a seminar arranged by the Career Building Society, Senior Tutor Office, University of Agriculture Faisalabad (UAF) at the Iqbal Auditorium on Tuesday. She stressed following in 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 the 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 addressed the seminar.

## Governor KP stresses upon faculty to improve ranking of institution

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

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

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

He said that improving educational

standard of the college was among his priorities, adding that resources would be utilized to improve its ranking. "As a resident of Peshawar, it is my responsibility to work for improvement of the institutions that was one for its reputation and standard of education", he said.

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



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 (APP):** Development, Finance, Health, Elementary and Secondary Education, Agriculture departments, Additional secretaries Mines and Mineral, Tourism and Law departments, members board of revenue nominated by SMC, 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 invited.

A notification issued 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 Secretary of the committee.

The other members would include Special secretaries CC Secretariat, special secretaries Planning

and Development, Health, Elementary and Secondary Education, Agriculture departments, Additional secretaries Mines and Mineral, Tourism and Law departments, members board of revenue nominated by SMC, 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 invited.

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

## PDMA initiates winter contingency planning to enhance disaster preparedness

**PESHAWAR:** The Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA), working under the guidance of the Relief, Rehabilitation & Settlement Department in 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 hazards, assess 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 stakeholders. Mr. Afridi stated that the plan, expected to be finalized by mid-November, involves data collection tools sharing information on district-specific hazards, vulnerability profiles, hazard impacts, damages, compensation details, resource mapping, needs assessments, and 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. This proactive approach is in alignment with guidelines from the National Disaster Management Authority.



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

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

**Independent Report**  
PESHAWAR: Caretaker Minister for Local Government Election, Rural Development, and Public Health Engineering Departments, Engineer Amir Durrani, has emphasized that the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa 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

Syed Zafar Ali Shah, Director Compliance Directorate KPCIP Amir Alam Khan, Director Technical Mian Muhammad Shakeel, and Director Finance Qazi Raees briefed the minister on the technical, financial, and social safeguards aspects of the project.

The project director highlighted key initiatives in Peshawar, Mardan, Kohat, Abbottabad, and Mingora.

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 supplied to the residents of Mingora city."

## Rangers demolishes illegal water hydrants

**KARACHI (APP):** The Pakistan Rangers Sindh continued its operation against illegal water hydrants in the city.

As many as 10 illegal water hydrants were demolished during the operation conducted in Ramzan Goth and Manghopir areas, according to a spokesman for Rangers.

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

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 conclusion.

## SFA closes kitchen of JSMU for poor hygiene

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

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

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

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



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

**PESHAWAR (APP):** The Provincial Disaster Management Authority, under the guidance of the Relief, Rehabilitation and Settlement Department Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, on Tuesday commenced the process of developing the Winter Contingency Plan for 2023-24 in consultation with all relevant stakeholders. The primary 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 Line 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

shared them with stakeholders, including information on district/sector-specific hazards, vulnerability profiles, hazard impacts, damages, compensation details, resource mapping, needs assessments, and coordination efforts."

He added, "Through the upcoming contingency 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 Winter 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.



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 Transplantation (RIUT), Rawalpindi Institute of Cardiology (RIC), Holy Family Hospital (HFH), District Headquarters Hospital (DHQ) and Benazir Bhutto Hospital (BBH) to inspect treatment arrangements.

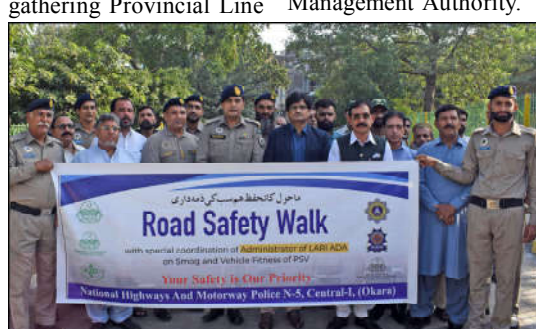
The minister inspected the help centers of the Department of Social Welfare and Baitul Mal in all the hospitals and

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

During the visit to RIUT, the concerned officials informed him about the medical facilities provided to the patients.

Dr Javed directed the hospital administration to merge both dialysis centres into one and make them functional on the fast track.

He also directed us to take immediate steps for the construction of the 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.



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

## 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. Nowshera Housing Project, During the meeting, Umarzai emphasized the importance of expediting the first phase of the Mega City Nowshera housing scheme, urging the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

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

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

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

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Asian Development Bank (ADB) said in its recent report that political stability after upcoming elections in Pakistan could boost business confidence and pave way for new standby arrangement with International Monetary Fund (IMF).  
"Political stability following general elections later this year, if achieved, will boost business confidence, as will a new standby arrangement agreed with the International Monetary Fund to support economic

stabilization and rebuild fiscal buffers," says Asian Development Outlook (ADO) for September 2023.  
The outlook has slightly revised Pakistan's growth target to 1.9 percent for the fiscal year 2023-24 against its projections of 2 percent made in April 2023.  
"In Pakistan, growth is forecast at 1.9% in FY2024, slightly below the April projection, assuming continued implementation of reforms and supportive macroeconomic policies, recovery from flood-

induced supply shocks, and improving external conditions," it added.  
The report revised down the country's growth estimate for FY2023 to 0.3% (0.6% forecast in April).  
According to report, the revised projection assumes a modest rebound in demand, with private consumption and private investment growing by about 3% and 5%, respectively.  
Fiscal and monetary tightening will crimp demand, as will inflation staying in double digits. On

the other hand, implementation of the economic adjustment program and a likely smooth general election should boost confidence, while the easing of import controls should support investment as fiscal tightening restrains public consumption.  
On the output side, better weather conditions will enable an increase in the area under cultivation and in yields, supporting recovery in agriculture.  
The government's relief package of free seeds, subsidized credit,



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



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: The Variety Evaluation Committee (VEC) recommended 04 new sunflower hybrids, 03 Mustard varieties/hybrids and 1 variety of each soybean, rapeseed, groundnut while 2 varieties of sugarcane for commercial cultivation in the potential ecologies.  
The VEC meeting on Oilseed & Sugar Crops was

Member (PSD)/Chairman (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, Canola, Rapeseed, Mustard, Sunflower, Groundnut, and Sesame candidate varieties/hybrids as well as 04 proposals of sugarcane were assessed. After thorough



held on Monday, the October 2, 2023 in the Committee Room of Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC) Hqs. Islamabad. The meeting was presided over by Dr. Imtiaz Hussain,

evaluation and discussion, the committee recommended 4 new sunflower hybrids, 3 Mustard varieties/hybrids, 1 variety each of soybean, rapeseed and groundnut while 2 varieties of sugarcane for potential ecologies.

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

ISLAMABAD (Online): A milestone in Pakistan's cotton sector was reached as cotton arrivals for the year 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.

on-year surge.  
To recall, the cotton production sector faced a substantial setback last year, experiencing a 34% year-on-year 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."

The key Yield Figures are: Pakistan: 5.0 million bales, reflecting a remarkable 71% year-on-year increase.  
Punjab: 2.1 million bales, registering a commendable 34% year-on-year growth.  
Sindh: 3.0 million bales, achieving an outstanding 113% year-

on-year surge.  
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LAHORE: Workers of Mills Association holds protest outside press club against price hike in LPG and cylinder mafia, in Provincial Capital.

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

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Railways, Communication, and Maritime Shahid Ashraf Tarar Tuesday said the existing infrastructure, rolling stock, factories, and railway stations will be improved through private sector investments.  
He said this while chairing a high-level meeting at the Ministry of Railways to discuss the self-reliance plan of Pakistan Railways. Shahid Ashraf said that Pakistan Railways is following three pronged strategy to revive

and expand railways in the country which include safety, efficiency, and self-reliance. The minister said that Pakistan Railways has taken several initiatives to cut costs and enhance its revenue. The improvement in administrative and operational areas are underway in Pakistan Railways which are expected to bring efficiency, he added.  
He said that the journey by train is a great means of connecting people living in different regions of Pakistan.

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 202,598,801 shares 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, Nergycio 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 share.  
J.D.W. Sugar 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.



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 the 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 during the months under review.  
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 million to \$2.090 million.

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

## Farmers advised to complete canola cultivation in October

FAISALABAD (APP): 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

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.

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

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

statement issued here.  
The MoU signing ceremony was attended by Director General Airport Security Force (ASF) Maj. Gen. Adnan Asif Jha, Pro Rector NUTECH Maj. Gen. Khalid Javed, Registrar NUTECH Brigadier Dr. Syed Adnan Qasim, Chairman Businessmen Group (BMG) Zubair Motiwala and other representatives of business community.  
As per MoU, NUTECH and KCCI will jointly develop NKC academics, research and skills system based on exports-supported strategies while both the

institutions would also collaborate for intellectual, research, academic and professional cooperation to promote creation, development, implementation, transfer and export of indigenous industrial knowledge, technologies and skills.  
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 2023 by the World University Ranking for Innovation.

## Rupee gains Rs 1.04 against US Dollar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistani Rupee on Tuesday witnessed 20th consecutive recovery session as it gained Rs 1.04 against the US dollar in the interbank trading and closed at Rs 285.72 against the previous day's closing of Rs 286.76.  
However, according to the Forex Association of Pakistan (FAP), the buying and selling rates of the dollar in the open market stood at Rs 283.5 and Rs 286.3 respectively.  
The price of the Euro decreased Rs 3.34 to close at Rs 299.56 against the last day's closing of Rs 302.90, according to the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP).

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

ISLAMABAD (APP): Currently, vigorous 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 besides modification in the existing Tunnel No. 5, they said. Tarbela 5th Extension Hydropower Project is a component of green, clean and least-cost energy generation plan, WAPDA is implementing on priority.

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

## Chinese policy bank ups loan support for farmland cultivation

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

## Stock markets drop as rate fears take hold

LONDON (APP): Stock markets slumped across the board Tuesday on growing worries that high interest rates will take a toll on economic growth, as central bankers pursue their efforts to rein in 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 are spreading that if higher borrowing costs bed in they will weigh heavily on companies and consumers, at a time when the effect

of previous rate hikes has yet to be felt," said Susannah Streeter, head of money and markets at Hargreaves Lansdown.  
The wary outlook was heightened by comments from a senior Federal Reserve official suggesting no easing of monetary policy anytime soon.  
"The most important question at this point is not whether an additional rate increase is needed this year or not, but rather how long we will need to hold rates at a sufficiently restrictive level to achieve our goals," Fed Vice Chair for Supervision Michael Barr said Monday.

## HAP delegation meets LCCI President

LAHORE (APP): Handicrafts Association of Pakistan (HAP) delegation headed by its Chairperson Maryam Iqbal met with Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) President Kashif Anwar here at LCCI on 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 the Lahore Chamber and emphasized the need to address the challenges

faced by women in the business world. He mentioned that Lahore Chamber has established a Women Empowerment Lounge and encouraged its utilization. Kashif Anwar highlighted the active role played by the Lahore Chamber's ADRC (Alternative Dispute Resolution Centre) and the various services and facilities available to members. He also mentioned the State Bank's introduction of several subsidized schemes including up to Rs 10 million available through the SAAF scheme.

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

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

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

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

The purpose of the meeting was to "express

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

Moscow last month called Yerevan's effort to join the ICC an "unfriendly step," and the Russian Foreign Ministry summoned Armenia's ambassador. Countries that have signed and ratified the Rome Statute that created the ICC are bound to arrest Putin, who was indicted for war crimes connected to the deportation of children from Ukraine, if he sets foot on their soil.

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

Still, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov called Tuesday's decision "incorrect," saying it will raise "additional questions" in Moscow, even though Armenia is "our ally, a friendly state, our partner, and a lot unites us with the brotherly Armenian people."

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

## India tells Canada to withdraw 41 diplomats: report

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

Nijjar, 45, was the president of Guru Nanak Sikh Gurdwara temple in Surrey, British Columbia and advocated for the creation of a Sikh state known as Khalistan. India has dismissed the allegation as absurd. On September 21, Trudeau called on India to cooperate with an investigation into the murder of the separatist leader in British Columbia and said Canada would not release its evidence for their claims.

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

## Nine killed after Mexican church roof collapses

**Monitoring Desk**  
MEXICO CITY: A church roof collapsed during Sunday Mass in a northern Mexican city killing at least nine people and injuring 40, authorities said, as rescuers worked into the night, desperately looking for another 30 people believed to be trapped under the rubble.

Working under floodlights, military personnel supported emergency services using rescue dogs and earth moving equipment to identify and dig out survivors from the ruins of the church in Ciudad Madero, 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 Ciudad 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 survivors and more victims.

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

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

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

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

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

**Monitoring Desk**  
ISFAHAN: Al Ittihad's Asian Champions League match with Iran'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 Naghs-e Jahan Stadium in Isfahan, where around 60,000 fans had turned out to see Sepahan take on Al Ittihad starting line-up that was due to include former Premier League stars Ngolo Kante.

## 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 majority, 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.

## Indian mission heads towards centre of solar system

**Monitoring Desk**  
NEW DELHI: India's Sun-monitoring 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 four-month 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**  
MOSCOW: The Kremlin said on Tuesday that Russia had not abandoned a moratorium on nuclear testing, and dismissed a suggestion by the editor of a state television channel that Moscow should detonate a thermonuclear device in Siberia as a warning to the West.

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

The Soviet Union's last nuclear test took place in 1990. The United States' last nuclear test took place in 1992 and France and China conducted their last nuclear tests in 1996, according to the United Nations.

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

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

"I don't think such discussions are possible now from an official point of view," Peskov said, adding that Simonyan's words did not "always" reflect Moscow's official position.

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

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

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

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

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 bombers.

"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 that several dozen assailants were killed.

## 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 Republican members who voted for the aversion. "I think we need to move on with new leadership that can be trustworthy," 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 finish 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.



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

## Iraq opposes Turkish strikes in Kurdistan, seeks solution

**Monitoring Desk**  
BAGHDAD: Iraq rejects repeated Turkish air strikes or the presence of Turkish bases in its Kurdistan region and hopes to come to an agreement with Ankara to solve this problem, Iraqi President Abdul-Latif Rashid said in comments aired on Monday.

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 the reopening of the Turk-

ish assembly.

Turkiye regards the PKK as a terrorist group and regularly carries out air strikes in northern Iraq, which has long been outside the direct control of the Baghdad government. Turkiye has also sent commandos and set up military bases on Iraqi territory to support its offensives.

"These violations are rejected by the Iraqi people, the (Kurdistan) region and all of Iraq's inhabitants," President Rashid said in an interview with Saudi state-owned broadcaster Al Hadath, a short clip of which was aired on Monday. Rashid said such strikes sometimes killed civilians, including people visiting the region who "become victims of Turkish bombing". The Iraqi president said Baghdad hoped to come to an agreement with Ankara to resolve the issue in a manner similar to a security agreement Iraq has inked with Iran to deal with Iranian Kurdish separatist groups in the Kurdistan region.

## Nepal hit by two earthquakes, injuring 11 and triggering landslide

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

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

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

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

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

## UN authorizes a second malaria vaccine

**Monitoring Desk**  
LONDON: The World 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

at least another year with a booster. Tedros said the 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.

## Indian police raid media office, homes of journalists in illegal funding probe

**Monitoring Desk**  
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 the 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.



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

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

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

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

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

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

He said the effective

way to reduce the need for 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-Medical got admission to

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

The president pointed out that the women doctors who quit their professional fields while in a struggle to balance their family lives was a huge loss to the country.

## Aneeq emphasizes unity among Muslim nations for global influence

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

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

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

During their discussions, both leaders emphasized

the promotion of unity within the Muslim Ummah, addressing common issues, and combating 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 expressed

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 ignorance.

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 relations.

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

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

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

Noting that since 1946, 80 former colonies have gained independence, Ambassador Munir Akram told the General Assembly's Special Political and Decolonization (Fourth) Committee that there are still peoples who are denied the right to self-

determination, “most prominently the people of occupied Jammu & Kashmir and Palestine.”

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

These resolutions were accepted by both India and Pakistan, he said, adding that under Article 25 of the UN Charter.

## Caretaker Minister Info maintains: Balochistan is poised to take lead in cutting-edge technology

ISLAMABAD (APP): The caretaker Provincial Minister for Information, Jan Achakzai has announced that Balochistan is poised to take the lead in cutting-edge technology.

The inaugural utilization of a 3D printer by cadets at Girls Cadet College Turbat for their college projects marks the beginning of this technological transformation. In addition, the cadets at Girls Cadet College Turbat are availing themselves of Chat GPT's assistance in their laboratory activities.

In a statement, he outlined plans for the expansion of AI facilities beyond Girls Cadet College Turbat, ushering in a new era of AI adoption across Balochistan. He also emphasized Balochistan's ambition to excel in AI and its intention to seek collaboration with the Chinese government in this endeavor. “We are inviting private sector investments to establish modern IT labs equipped with 3D printers and AI support, ensuring that our students keep pace with their counterparts.”

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

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



QUETTA: Regional Director Federal Ombudsman Ghulam Sarwar Barohi presiding over a meeting at QESCO headquarters regarding outstanding dues of electricity bills against federal departments.

## DC urges officer to monitor anti-polio drive

QUETTA (APP): Deputy Commissioner Sahabpur Mir Miran Khan Baloch has asked the officers of all the departments of the district to monitor the anti-polio campaign.

“Polio is a dangerous disease that can cripple any child mentally and physically for life, he said in a statement issued here.

Deputy Commissioner Sahabpur said a total of 67,848 children will be administered anti polio drops.

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

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

## ECC approves first ever telecom infrastructure sharing framework

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) discussed and approved the first ever Telecom Infrastructure sharing framework.

Federal Minister for Finance, Revenue, and Economic Affairs Dr. Shamsad Akhtar presided over a meeting of the ECC of the Cabinet, said a press release issued here.

The Ministry of Information Technology & Telecommunication submitted a summary for approval of “Telecom Infrastructure sharing Framework.”

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

The meeting discussed and reviewed the

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

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

A summary of Ministry of Industries & Production regarding “Change of name from M/S Tuwairqi Steel Mills LTD (TSM) to National Steel Complex LTD (NSCL)” was also considered by the Committee.

The ECC gave in principle approval to the proposal, subject to further review and endorsement by the Law division.



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

## Nawaz Sharif to appear before court: Rana

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

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

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

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

PMLN head would do it by announcing the party manifesto at a gathering. During the public gathering, he said Nawaz Sharif would also express his view on his narrative and policy as well.

Criticizing the chairman PTI, the former interior minister said due to his conducts he is in jail as we had not instituted case against anyone. 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 elections had been demanded.

## Preparations for Gwadar off-road Rally reviewed

QUETTA: The preparations for the 5th Gwadar off-road Rally were reviewed in detail in a meeting held at Gwadar on Tuesday.

The Director General Gwadar Development Authority (GDA), Mubeenur Rehman Qambrani presided over the meeting.

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

The DG GDA on the occasion said that large number of foreigner as well as national and local racers are vying in the off-road Rally.

He said that different committees have been formed to finalize the preparations.



QUETTA: Additional Secretary Information Amjad Sohail and Abdul Aleem Bareech meeting with Caretaker Information Minister Jan Achakzai.

## Protest against killing of person ended on assurance of Achakzai

QUETTA: The heirs of a person killed in Kila Abdullah area protested here at Fayyaz Sunbal chowk here on Tuesday.

The heirs of the slain person along with other people of the area demanded of the government to arrest the killers immediately.

While they were protesting against the killing, the caretaker Provincial Minister for Information, Jan Achakzai approached

them and held negotiations to end their protest.

He assured them that the culprits involved in the killing would be apprehended and brought them to the justice.

During the course of negotiations, the Minister also contacted the concerned authorities and directed them to apprehend the culprits.

Meanwhile, the protesters ended their protest peacefully on assurance of the Minister Information.

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

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

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

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

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



NASERABAD: 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 Naserabad.

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

LAHORE (INP): Ameer 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 assemblies.

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

He criticized those

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

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.

## LG by-polls schedule notified

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

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



QUETTA: Secretary Finance Zahid Saleem presiding over a meeting regarding Balochistan Police Welfare Fund.

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

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, Mubeenur 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 Hospital.

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 Jhokrani 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 industrial.

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 registered

against electricity 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 proceedings 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.