

Independent

Member APNS & CPNE

Chief Editor: Syed Farooq Shah

www.dailyindependent.com.pk

Quetta

Ph: 284-1470/284-1473 REG: No. BC-116 B/ID-445 Vd XXV No. 48, Rabi-ul-Awwal 22, 1445 AH Monday October 09, 2023 Pages 12, Price Rs.15

Joint meeting chaired by caretaker CM in border town informed:

Around 150 families repatriated respectfully to homeland from Chaman border

Independent Report

QUETTA: Around 150 Afghan refugee families have so far been repatriated respectfully along with all necessary facilities to their homeland from the Pak-Afghan border, Chaman.

This was informed to a joint meeting of the high ups and representatives of the Frontier Corps, police, district administration and law enforcement agencies held with the caretaker Chief Minister Mir Ali Mardan Domki in the chair in Chaman on Sunday.

The meeting was briefed about the implementation on the decisions of Apex committee and steps taken for expulsion of the aliens.

It was informed that an effective monitoring mechanism has been formulated for continuous review of the repatriation process. In this regard, a monitoring committee has been formed that comprises Deputy Commissioner and representatives of police and other law enforcement agencies.

It was told that the immigrants to be taken after the given date would be kept in the camps before their handing over to the respective country.

The basic facilities have been provided at the camps, the number of which would be increased in view of the number of immigrants, it was further informed.

The meeting was also informed that the strength of police and levies is being increased owing to the arrival of large number of immigrants in Chaman.

In addition to this, it has been proposed to set up Afghan sub-consulate in Chaman.



CHAMAN: Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki presiding over a meeting regarding deportation of illegal immigrants

Decision of expulsion of illegal immigrants final: Caretaker CM assures every possible support for return of illegal immigrants

Mir Ali Mardan Domki says additional staff deputed at Passport office Chaman; passport office to be made operational at Killa Saifullah soon

Independent Report

QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki has categorically stated that the decision of expulsion of illegal immigrants is final, and as such the interim government would provide every possible assistance to them in repatriation to their respective countries.

He said that the additional staff has been deputed in the Passport office of Chaman to serve the people round the clock.

Moreover, a focal point has also been set up in the Deputy Commissioner office Chaman while the passport office would be made

functional in Killa Saifullah soon.

This was announced by the caretaker Chief Minister while addressing a tribal Jirga at Chaman.

Also present on the occasion were the prominent tribal elders besides the senior officials from the civil bureaucracy, Frontier Corps (FC) and other concerned high ups.

Prominent among them were the Chief Secretary Shakeel Qadir Khan, Additional Chief Secretary Home, Saleh Muhammad Nasar, Inspector General FC North, Major General Muhammad Amir Ajmal, Inspector General of police, Abdul Khaliq Sheikh, Commissioner Quetta, Hamza

Shafiqat, besides others.

Addressing the tribal Jirga, Mir Ali Mardan Domki said that the it has been decided by the government to repatriate the illegal immigrants to their respective countries.

He made it clear that the illegal immigrants don't belong to a particular tribe or nationality.

He said that the policy about expulsion of Afghan refugees is not only for the Afghan nationals, rather it would apply on all illegal immigrants living without valid documents in the province and country.

The caretaker Chief Minister said that the paper Tazkara would be over

OIC voices concern at Israeli escalation in Palestinian territory

Monitoring Desk

ISLAMABAD: Organization of Islamic Corporation has expressed deep concern on dangerous Israeli escalation in Occupied Palestinian territory.

The General Secretariat in a statement said that Israel's impunity has encouraged it to persist in its policy which in their entirety amount to war crime against humanity.

The statement stressed for providing international protection for Palestinian people and sponsoring a credible political process to establish an independence sovereign Palestinian State with East Al-Qudus as its capital on the line of 1967 borders.

OIC said achieving a just and comprehensive peace based on vision of two state solutions as per international legitimacy must be pursued.

President urges world to play role for world peace

Israeli occupying forces should immediately stop violence, oppression: FM

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Dr Arif Alvi on Sunday called upon the international community to play its active role for peaceful resolution of the Israel-Palestine dispute in accordance with the relevant UN resolutions and international law.

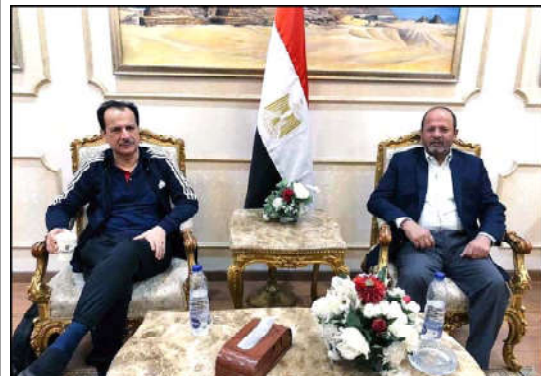
In a post on X, he said progress towards peace could not materialise without condemnation of usurpation and brutalisation of Palestinian rights and people by Israel.

"Continuous annexation of land, illegal settlements, disproportionate reactions and killings. The result is no hope and no progress towards peace," the president added.

He said time had come to move forward in line with UN resolutions, adding "International community can play a big role today towards world peace."

Online adds: Caretaker Foreign Minister Jalil Abbas Jilani has expressed deep concern over the growing tension in the Middle East and said that the Israeli occupying forces should immediately stop the violence and oppression, deeply saddened by the loss of innocent lives.

More than 300 Palestinians have been martyred after Israel launched retaliatory air strikes in the Gaza Strip following Hamas's operation "Al-Aqsa Storm" which saw 5,000 rockets being launched into Israel from Gaza, followed by gunmen infiltrating areas in the southern region of the country.



CAIRO: Egypt Ambassador Sajid Bilal receives Federal Minister for National Health services Dr. Nadeem Jan upon arrival at Cairo airport.

Giving date of elections not mandate of caretaker regime, says Solangi

Nawaz did not flee country illegally; No ban on PTI for upcoming elections, says info minister

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi has said that it was not the mandate and responsibility of caretaker government to give date for general election in the country.

Talking to WE News on Sunday, the minister said Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) was an autonomous constitutional institution, and since the day, he took oath as minister, he was in constant contact with the ECP.

The minister said he had full faith and confidence in the capability and leadership of the ECP, and the elections would be held on the date announced by the Election Commission.

To a question he said that Pakistan People's Party was one of the major political parties of the country.

"We are going through the phase of election and during the environment of election, any party and its leadership had the freedom to give their stand on any important issue", he maintained.

Murtaza Solangi said that media in Pakistan enjoyed freedom and the courts were also free, adding all registered political parties had equal opportunities.

The Election Commission of Pakistan and caretaker government would ensure equal opportunities for all political parties in the upcoming elections, he added.

The minister stated that there was no ban on PTI as a political party. Replying to a question, he said that the process of privatization was not initiated by caretaker government, previous parliament and its elected government decided to privatize various entities.

Continued on page 2



QUETTA: Chairman Pashtoonkhwa Milli Awami Party Mahmood Khan Achakzai addressing during award distributing ceremony organized by Baluchistan International Think Tank and friends of universe Society Pakistan, at Press club



QUETTA: Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar in a group photo with members of College of Physicians and Surgeons Pakistan

Hamas, Israel war, total casualties exceed 900

TEL AVIV/GAZA (Online): After the unexpected attack by Hamas, the death toll of Israeli citizens has increased to more than 600 and dozens of people, including soldiers, have been taken hostage.

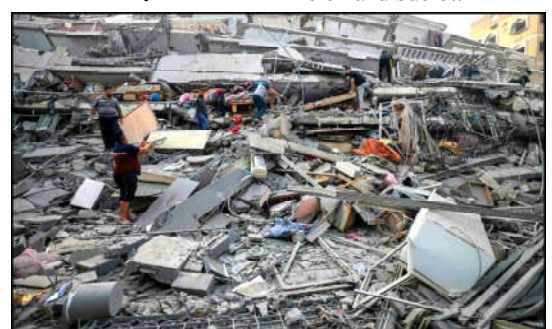
While according to Palestinian officials, at least 370 Palestinians have been killed and nearly 2,000 injured in Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip.

In this way, the total number of casualties has exceeded 900 in the clashes between Hamas and Israel that have been going on for 2 days.

The Israeli army said fighting is ongoing in eight locations in its territory.

According to media reports, the current tension between Israel and Palestine has now completed 24 hours.

After the sudden attack by Hamas, the Israeli army could not recover even for the second day.



People inspect a building destroyed in Israeli strikes in Gaza City

Nawaz's return to end 'days of sadness', says Maryam

PML-N leader says her father preferred 'suffering days of hardship' instead of remaining in power

LAHORE (INP): Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Senior Vice President Maryam Nawaz expressed optimism on Sunday about the return of her father, Nawaz Sharif, to Pakistan on October 21, aiming to bring an end to what she referred to as a "seven-year period of prolonged sorrow".

Addressing a public gathering in Lahore, Maryam remarked that Nawaz Sharif had suffered more days of hardship instead of remaining in power corridors, emphasising

former prime minister's commitment to the nation's well-being.

Maryam highlighted the PML-N's economic achievements under Nawaz Sharif's leadership and challenged the audience to recall any other prime minister who had successfully reduced the prices of essential commodities.

Amidst an enthusiastic crowd displaying placards bearing Nawaz Sharif's images, Maryam expressed her anticipation of the joyous reception her father would receive upon his return on October 21.

Pakistan grieved over devastating earthquake in Afghanistan

Independent Report

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Sunday expressed deep sadness and condolence over loss of precious lives and properties in devastating earthquake that hit Western regions of Afghanistan on Saturday.

"The Government and people of Pakistan are deeply saddened by the devastating earthquake in Western regions of Afghanistan yesterday, resulting in tragic loss of life and widespread damage to property," a statement issued by the foreign office spokesperson said.

"We extend our sincerest condolences to the families of those who lost their loved ones and pray for the early and complete recovery of the injured."

The statement added that Pakistan stood in complete solidarity with the brothers and sisters in Afghanistan during this difficult time.

"We are in contact with the Afghan authorities to get a first-hand assessment of the urgent needs of those affected by the earthquake. Pakistan will extend all possible support to the recovery effort," it added.



MUZAFFRABAD: Prime Minister of AJK Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq addressing during a ceremony to mark the 18th anniversary of the devastating 2005 earthquake

Anniversary of the 8th Oct devastating earthquake observed in Balakot

BALAKOT (APP): People of Balakot and adjoining areas Sunday observed the 18th anniversary of the devastating earthquake that took thousands of lives and destroyed Balakot City, where hospitals and schools are still waiting for reconstruction.

At 8:52, a memorial ceremony was held at Balakot, where the survivors of the earthquake, members of civil society, and other organizations were present

and also observed a minute of silence. 18 years ago, on October 8, 2005, at 8:52 a.m., some 80,000 people died and houses were destroyed when an earthquake of 7.6 magnitudes hit Azad Kashmir and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. According to the statistics, the earthquake left more than 17,000 people dead in Balakot alone. Collective prayers for the victims will be offered at different places in Balakot.

Project Manager of PMDC killed in Sorenj road blast

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Project Manager of Pakistan Mineral Development Corporation (PMDC), Shabbir Mirza was killed and his driver injured in the roadside blast hit their vehicle in Sorenj area on Sunday morning.

According to the police sources, the Project Manager PMDC was on way to the Sorenj coalmine field riding his vehicle when an explosive device went off

just close to his vehicle. As a result the explosive device hitting his vehicle exploded, the Project Manager PMDC died on the spot while his driver got injured. The area police and administration reached the spot and shifted the body of deceased to the local hospital. The injured, however, was removed to the Sandeman Provincial Headquarter Hospital for treatment where his condition is stated to be precarious.



KARACHI: Palestine Foundation Pakistan activists chant slogans against Israel at a protest rally outside Karachi Press Club.

REPATRIATION OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS. 22 DAYS REMAINING.

Verdict on 'practice and procedure case' likely to come today

ISLAMABAD (Online): Supreme Court (SC) verdict on the 'practice & procedure case' is likely to be issued today (Monday), while the arrangements for the third hearing of the case have been completed.

The hearing will be broadcasted live through the official TV and a bench has also been formed in this regard.

Justice Sardar Tariq Masood, Justice Ijazul Ahsan, Justice Syed Mansoor Ali Shah, Justice Munib Akhtar, Justice Yahya Afridi, Justice Aminuddin Khan, Justice Syed Mazhar Ali Akbar.

Justice Jamal Khan Mandokhel, Justice Mohammad Ali Mazhar, Justice Ayesha A. Malik, Justice Syed Hasan Azhar Rizvi, Justice Shahid Waheed and Justice Musrat Hilali in the 15-member full court bench of the Supreme Court headed by Chief Justice Qazi Faiz Isa. Chief Justice Qazi Faiz Isa has also said that verdict will be made after hearing three lawyers.

He has also asked for the lawyers for preparations. A full court bench headed by Chief Justice Qazi Faiz Isa will hear the case. Notices have also been

issued by the Supreme Court to the parties.

It should be noted that the hearing on the petitions filed against the Practice & Procedure Act 2023 in the Supreme Court was adjourned till Monday, while the court directed the remaining lawyers including Muslim League-N, MQM to appear and submit written arguments.

The court had said that it will give a decision after completing the hearing on Monday. The head of the full court bench, Chief Justice Qazi Faiz Isa, has remarked that when martial law is imposed, they throw

away their weapons. When parliament do something, everyone remembers the oath, the parliament has the legislation power. This law will also apply to the future Chief Justice and senior judges of the Supreme Court. If the Chief Justice has made a decision, nothing can be done now. If the right to appeal has been given, has the apocalypse come? Even in cases of serious treason, the affected party will appeal, he added.

Further he said that Parliament has given the right to appeal on the misuse of automatic notice.



QUETTA: Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki watching historical pictures at FC Arts Gallery



HYFERABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister of Education, Madad Ali Sindhi giving Book of Shah Latif poetry to student during Shah Latif day function on late Saturday night at Public School.

ICC World Cup 2023: Pakistan, Sri Lanka to clash in Hyderabad tomorrow

LAHORE (INP): Two former consecutive cricket world cup champions, Pakistan and Sri are set to clash at the ICC World Cup 2023 in Hyderabad on Tuesday.

Pakistan defeated the Netherlands in a nervy performance by 81 runs in Hyderabad on Friday to open their World Cup campaign.

Netherland overcame a top-order failure, recovering from 38-3 before posting a challenging 286 with half-centuries from Saud

Shakeel and Mohammad Rizwan.

They then bowled out the Netherlands for 205 in 41 overs. Pakistan is likely to keep the same line-up for Tuesday's match, handing a lifeline to out-of-form opener Fakhar Zaman who scored just 12 against the Netherlands.

Sri Lanka will also be buoyed by their two-wicket win against Pakistan last month that propelled them to the Asia Cup final in Colombo.

Shahid Afridi become brand ambassador of Superfix League Season 2

DUBAI (INP): Shahid Afridi is a well known cricketer of Pakistan everyone is a fan of Boom Boom Afridi's brilliant all-round performance. Shahid Afridi has a lot of fans in UAE like all over the world for whom the happy news is that he is coming to Dubai soon as he has been appointed as the brand ambassador for Superfix International Tape Ball League Season 2.

Shahid Khan Afridi praised such an event in tap ball.

Naveed Ahmed said that apart from UAE, he has taken many steps to promote cricket in Pakistan as well and we have an organized team which is providing its services from the platform of SuperFix.

Shahid Khan Afridi who is a big name in cricket, signing with us as a brand ambassador is a great achievement for us and God willing this event will be a history making event, he added.

The Superfix Championship will start on December 1st at Sharjah Cricket Stadium. Teams from 8 countries will participate in this 3-day event, including India and Pakistan.



QUETTA: Members of Communist Party of Pakistan are holding protest demonstration for acceptance of their demands, at Quetta press club.

Caretaker CM assures every....

Continued from page 1

in couple of days, and instead of it, the passport and E-Tazkara would be valid.

He said that immediate probe would be conducted into any complaint about exploitation or mistreatment of any immigrants.

The Chief Minister said that the villages located at both sides of the Pak-Afghan border and their dwellers have Pakistani national identity cards would don't have need passports.

Rather, they would have permission of across the border movement after necessary verification of national identity cards and biometric.

Mir Ali Mardan Domki said that such a decision

should have been made one day, therefore, the process has been started.

However, adding he believed that the matters would gradually be improved after initial hardships. He said that we are aware about the hardships of the families living in the border and they could face problems for time being.

However, we are preparing comprehensive strategy for the purpose.

In addition to this, viable steps are being proposed regarding transit trade, he added.

The Chief Minister on the occasion thanked the support to government initiatives by majority of the tribal elders of Chaman and adjoining areas.

PRs 28 pc nonfunctional locomotives disrupting entire operations: official

ISLAMABAD (INP): Out of total 461, around 28 percent of Diesel-Electric Locomotives (DEL) of Pakistan Railways are non-functional creating disruption in appropriate functioning of entire operations of the department.

An official of Ministry of Pakistan Railway said on Sunday that Pakistan Railways has 332 locomotives in running condition out of a total of 461, while 129 (28 percent) diesel-electric locomotives were non-functional.

Of 129 locomotives, around 41 were under normal overhauling schedules and maintenance. The locomotives will be rolled out after routine schedule maintenance turn by turn, the official said.

He said that 11 locomotives met with an accident on various dates and locations and fabrication work and procurement of spares were under process for these locomotives.

The official said that around 69 DPU class diesel-electric locomotives were held up for repair and need major modification while eight locomotives were temporarily deleted and under condemnation process due to overage.

To a question, he said that Pakistan Railways was planning to procure as many as 25 diesel-electric locomotives for various shunting points across the country which would help to replace outdated locomotives that were to be scrapped very soon.

The project for the procurement and manufacturing of 25 shunting locomotives would be implemented in three years at an estimated cost of Rs. 14 billion, he added.

Currently, he said that only 51 locomotives were being operated for this service against the 98 shunting points at various railway stations across the country. Additionally, most of the old locomotives would be discarded due to high maintenance costs.

Nawaz's return to end 'days...'

Continued from page 1

Earlier, in a news conference held on Friday, PML-N President Shehbaz Sharif had clarified that the party's "vote ko izzat do" (respect the vote) slogan was not intended to be anti-establishment, but rather focused on serving the people and improving the lives of those living below the poverty line.

The former prime minister also deftly avoided answering any questions about holding the outgoing generals, whom the party has long accused of overthrowing their government, accountable.

The most notable aspect of the press conference was an attempt to evade questions regarding the current and departing establishment.

19th Asian Games concludes in Hangzhou

BEIJING (APP): The 19th Asian Games concluded at the Hangzhou Olympic Sports Center Stadium in Hangzhou, east China's Zhejiang Province, on Sunday night.

Raja Randhir Singh, acting president of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA), formally declared the 19th Asian Games closed.

After 15 days of competition featuring 11,830 athletes from 45 countries and regions in 481 events across 61 disciplines in 40 sports, a total of 15 world records, 37 Asian records and 170 Asian Games records were set, highlighting the incredible performances and the efforts behind them by the participating athletes as well as the teams behind them.

China, which had 886 athletes, the second-most in Asian Games history, won a record 201 gold, 11 silver and 71 bronze medals, leading the medal standings for the 11th straight time.

Xie Zhenye, who won the men's 100-meter and the men's 4x100-meter relay gold medals at the Asian Games, carried the flag on behalf of China at the closing ceremony.

The closing ceremony of the Asian Games was an 85-minute-long farewell party that included four

clips, two programs and one carnival.

According to Zhang Shiqian, the creative director of the closing ceremony, some 40,000 light-emitting diodes (LEDs) were installed under the turf of the Hangzhou Olympic Sports Center Stadium as an important part of the show, CGTN reported.

Sunday, October 8, marked the beginning of this year's Hanlu, one of China's 24 solar terms. It began with the final blossoming days of lotus and the newly blossoming of sweet osmanthus. The LEDs, in combination of augmented reality (AR) technology, generated tides and various pictures of both flowers, turning the stadium into "Asia's most beautiful garden," in the director's words, as a farewell to the visiting friends.

The digital torchbearer that drew worldwide attention at the opening ceremony now has a name: Pioneer, a youngster who faces and battles the risks in an era that surges forward. The avatar came to the stadium again at the end of the closing ceremony and waved goodbye to the participants as the flame went out.

The next edition of the Asian Games will take place in Aichi and Nagoya in Japan in 2026.

PAF'S 14 nation multinational air exercise INDUS SHIELD-2023 kicks off at ace

ISLAMABAD (APP): In a magnificent display of international camaraderie and airpower, the Pakistan Air Force (PAF) on Sunday proudly inaugurated its 14 Nation Multinational Air Exercise, Indus Shield-2023, at an operational air base of Pakistan Air Force.

Air Officer Commanding, Central Air Command, Air Vice Marshal Tariq Mehmood Ghazi was the Chief Guest at the inauguration ceremony, a PAF news release said. While addressing the exercise participants Air Officer Commanding Central Air Command emphasized on the significance of multinational air exercises in achieving common objectives in the face of the evolving dynamics of air warfare.

He commended the efforts of the Air Power Center of Excellence on the organization of the mega exercise, which would augment the existing partnership between the key allies in addition to bolstering interoperability amongst the participating Air Forces.

He also added that the planning and execution of Exercise Indus Shield-23 underscores the vision of the esteemed, Chief of the Air Staff, Pakistan Air Force regarding the crucial role played by PAF in ad-

vancing technology, modernizing its capabilities and employing contemporary combat tactics to effectively address shared challenges of aerial defence. Air Vice Marshal Tariq Mehmood Ghazi highlighted that the exercise would prove to be a step forward, to promote warm and brotherly relations amongst the leading air powers of the region.

Exercise Indus Shield-2023 will witness participation from 14 esteemed Air Forces including Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, UAE, Egypt, Oman, Bahrain, Azerbaijan, Indonesia, Morocco, Uzbekistan, China, and Hungary.

The exercise not only

offers a unique opportunity for participating air forces to bring their unparalleled skills and operational capabilities to the spotlight, but will also deepen mutual understanding between the participating contingents to promote interoperability.

This mega exercise is a signature of excellence and professionalism which validates PAF's aerial prowess in the region. In addition, the exercise offers an invaluable learning experience of aerial warfare employment tactics to the air and ground crew through simulation of real-time war scenarios and varied combat missions.



QUETTA: Pashatunkhwa Milli Awami Party (PKMAP) Chairman, Mehmoood Khan Achakzai presenting certificate to woman during Gold Medal and National Award ceremony organized by Balochistan International Think Tank and Friends of Universe Society Pakistan held at Quetta press club.

India start World Cup campaign with easy victory against Australia

Sports Desk

CHENNAI: India on Sunday inflicted a humiliating 6-wicket defeat on five-time champions Australia in their opening match of the ICC Men's World Cup at Chennai's M A Chidambaram Stadium.

The hosts probably expected their chase to be a cakewalk after their spin-heavy attack bundled out the five-times champions for 199 with three deliveries left in the Australian innings.

India, however, made a shocking start to their reply with three of their top four batters falling for ducks - for the first time in an ODI - inside two overs.

Dropped on 12 by Mitchell Marsh off Josh Hazlewood, Kohli went on to make 85 as he masterminded yet another successful chase for India.

His collaborator in the

165-run fourth-wicket stand, KL Rahul, produced a chanceless knock of 97 not out as India reached the target in 41.2 overs.

Australia would be particularly unhappy with their batting as no one reached fifty in the low-scoring match though David Warner (41) and Steve Smith (46) got decent starts.

Teams

India: Rohit Sharma (capt), Ishan Kishan, Virat Kohli, Shreyas Iyer, KL Rahul (wk), Hardik Pandya, Ravindra Jadeja, Ravichandran Ashwin, Kuldeep Yadav, Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Siraj

Australia: David Warner, Mitchell Marsh, Steve Smith, Marnus Labuschagne, Glenn Maxwell, Alex Carey (wk), Cameron Green, Pat Cummins (capt), Mitchell Starc, Adam Zampa, Josh Hazlewood

5th COMBAXX Asian Open Taekwondo C'ship registration continues

LAHORE (APP): The coveted 5th COMBAXX Asian Open Taekwondo Championship, being organized under the auspices of the Pakistan Taekwondo Federation (PTF), will start from November 1.

The registration process of international players for this five day mega event is in full swing.

PTF President Colonel (Retd) Waseem Janjua has hailed the hosting of the 5th Combaxx Asian Open Taekwondo Championship given to Pakistan by the Asian Taekwondo Federation and said that the PTF had organized the 4th Asian Open in Pakistan last year as well.

Through sports, a positive image of Pakistan can be promoted. Such international events in the country will be beneficial in the professional development of our players and they will learn a lot and gain experience in competitions with their international contemporaries.

freely and prepare fake passports and identity cards, he said.

The minister said that the people residing illegally in the country should voluntarily leave the country by October 31.

After October 31, he added such illegal foreigners would be forcibly evicted from the country.

"Our aim is to defend our state and our citizens. Our primary responsibility is to defend our citizens and secure our national borders," he remarked.

The minister said Pakistan only wanted deportation of illegal immigrants from its soil and the country would no longer allow anyone crossing the border and living here without fulfilling legal requirements.

He said that Nawaz Sharif's return had nothing to do with caretaker government.

The minister acknowledged that Nawaz Sharif was the leader of one of Pakistan's largest political parties and he did not flee the country illegally.

He said that on return of Nawaz Sharif law would take its course and Constitution of Pakistan will be abided by.

To a question about who would run the PTI election campaign, he said it was internal matter of that party.

The minister said that history was the witness that political parties conducted their election campaigns even in difficult circumstances and there was no restriction on PTI in that regard.



SKARDU: A jeep Racer participant approaching towards its target during the "Sarfara Cold Desert Rally 5th Edition 2023 in Final round at world highest desert sarfara.

Giving date of elections...

Continued from page 1

"We are bound to implement the decisions of the previous parliament and the previous government," Murtaza Solangi opined.

The minister stressed the need for reformation in the institutions.

Answering a question, he said that public broadcasters were considered essential services, and as they were institutions of compulsory national service they were supported by the state worldwide.

He said he was against privatization of public broadcasters which was as a matter of principle and ideologically wrong.

However, the minister said that public broadcasters should not have such people who do not belong to today's modern broadcasting mechanisms.

When asked about fundamental changes in national broadcasters, he said making such decisions was not included in the mandate of the caretaker government.

Answering a question about deadline given for deportation of illegal immigrants living in Pakistan, he said those who lecture Pakistan on human rights should check their own record on human rights.

The minister said no other country in the world had hosted as many refugees during past over four decades as Pakistan has done.

The countries could not survive with soft borders with anybody entering in its territory without documentation and living

South Australia's Fraser smashes fastest one-day hundred in 29 balls

Sports Desk

SYDNEY: South Australia batter Jake Fraser-McGurk smashed a 29-ball century against Tasmania at the Marsh Cup on Sunday to register the fastest hundred in one-day cricket, eclipsing South Africa great AB de Villiers' previous record of 31 balls.

Replaying to Tasmania's mammoth 435-9, South Australia were dismissed for 398 at the Karen Rolton Oval in Adelaide, but it turned out to be a memorable outing for Fraser-McGurk, who hammered 125 runs from 38 deliveries, which included 10 fours and 13 sixes.

The 21-year-old was eventually dismissed by off-spinner Beau Webster in the 12th over. Fraser-McGurk reached his half-century in 18 balls, the quickest by an Australian in the 50-over format.

"I went out there with some good intent, had my plans and process, and seemed like everything went my way," Fraser-McGurk said.

"I've made a few 30s playing in twos and stuff, felt like I've been hitting them reasonably well but probably not that well so definitely surprised myself." The record also marked Fraser-McGurk's first century in any professional format.

Mushaal says: World powers play imperative role towards long-standing IOJK, Palestine dispute

ISLAMABAD (APP): Advisor to the Prime Minister on Human Rights, Mushaal Mullick on Sunday urged the world powers to play their imperative role towards the long-standing Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IOJK) and Palestine dispute.

Speaking at the annual event of Darbar Mohra Sharif, Mishal Malik stated that the ongoing crisis in Palestine, particularly the tensions with Israel, reflected the same adversities Kashmir faces under Indian

subjugation. Mishal Malik pointed out that the Indian government is involved in promoting extremism and terrorism in occupied Kashmir, Israel is similarly involved in serious human rights violations in Palestine. Just like in occupied Kashmir, Muslims in Palestine are subjected to harsh treatment, mosques are being desecrated and violence is being inflicted upon the innocent people.

India has unleashed a new wave of grave human rights violations in Indian

Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IOJK).

However, the unyielding resilience of the Kashmiris is often viewed as a divine blessing from Allah. She highlighted the role of Peer Mohra Sharif in propagating the message of peace and love with Kashmir. She underlined that Islam teaches its followers to treat each other with brotherhood, empathy, altruism, sacrifice and love. Mohra Sharif has significantly served Islam and humanity by teaching the value of setting aside personal

desires to establish a connection with God.

Drawing from Islamic history, it is evident that the religion was among the pioneers in granting rights to women, encompassing property, divorce, and even business rights. This progressive stance is epitomized by Hazrat Khadijah's business acumen, which underscores the immense power women can wield. Bibi Fatima's life is not just a tale of struggles but also serves as a beacon of inspiration for women globally.



ISLAMABAD: A view of demolished houses during Islamabad Police and Capital Development Authority (CDA) joint anti-encroachments operation of illegal Afghan Basti, in Federal Capital.



ISLAMABAD: A view of campaign for registration of house servants and tenants data in full swing.

Campaign for registration of house servants & tenants data in full swing

Independent Report
ISLAMABAD: Following the special orders of Islamabad Capital City Police Officer (ICCPPO) Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan, the Islamabad Capital Police "Knock the Door" campaign for the registration of employees and tenants is in full swing, a public relations officer said.

He said that, during this campaign various teams of Islamabad Capital Police are going to the streets and door-to-door to ensure the registration of tenants and domestic workers as well as

to inquire about the problems faced by the citizens.

In this regard, the Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) Islamabad has registered a data of 147 house servants of 450 houses from Sumbal Police Station jurisdiction.

The purpose of this campaign is to avoid any untoward incident by maintaining law and order in the federal capital adding that the registration of tenants and domestic workers could not only keep a close watch on miscreants but also prevent the elements

involved in any kind of suspicious activity.

He said citizens are also requested that they can ask for the identity of a person if someone dressed in civil clothes comes to their house in order to collect the data. Unregistered employees and tenants could be involved in serious incidents like theft and robbery by impersonating as a common citizen and Islamabad Capital Police is trying to provide a safe environment to the citizens of the federal capital by using all its resources.

BISP starts disbursement of quarterly tranche of Benazir Kafaalat

ISLAMABAD (APP): The process of disbursement of the quarterly tranche (July-September) of Benazir Kafaalat cash assistance to beneficiaries across the country is continued smoothly by the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) to provide relief to the beneficiaries.

The payment of Rs. 9000 per household will be disbursed among around nine million registered beneficiary families. The beneficiaries, in case of any complaint, can approach the nearest BISP Tehsil offices or call the toll-free

number 080026477 of the Benazir Income Support Program. The special control room has been activated in the BISP headquarters to address the complaints of the beneficiaries promptly.

However, the beneficiaries can also contact them on WhatsApp numbers including 0320-3263026 (Sindh), 0320-3263041 (Punjab), 0325-5365469 (Balochistan), 0325-5365469 (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa), Azad Jammu and Kashmir, and Gilgit Baltistan.

Chiropractors provide drug-free back pain relief

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chiropractors provide High-Velocity Low Amplitude Thrust (HVLA) manipulation technique will provide rapid pain relief along with improved mobility, flexibility and movability. Talking to APP here on Sunday, Dr. Arsalan Sajjad explained that chiropractic practice involves joint manipulation, mostly of the spine to grade five thrusts. He said this technique can also be applied to the wrist, ankle, foot and knee joints.

He said that during a chiropractic procedure, the joint is rotated to its maximum range of motion and then a quick, controlled force is applied. He explained that the cracking sound produced comes from gas bubbles bursting in the joint fluid and not by the bones themselves. He said that chiropractic sessions must be performed by licensed professionals for safety and proper diagnosis should precede any chiropractic sessions.

'Right of Access to Information for marginalized communities in Pak pertinent for inclusive policy'

ISLAMABAD (APP): Right of Access to Information for the marginalized communities is strongly needed for an inclusive policy framework, safe online space and to address the digital divide in the country.

In an interview with APP here Sunday, Executive Director, Peace and Justice Network, Syed Raza Ali said that it was crucial for persons with disabilities, transgender and religious minorities, etc., to have equal access to information to promote inclusivity.

"The information and its access if effectively utilized can become a force for empowerment, justice,

and equal participation in society," he added.

He said that keeping the United Nations' shared value of "leaving no one behind" at the core, it was imperative to ensure that these groups leverage online spaces, adding that online space(s) had become an indispensable resource for many communities, including marginalized groups.

"They are not only offering a space to engage in public discourse but are the earning source. Marginalized communities already stigmatized can leverage these spaces to uplift themselves socially and economically," he added.

Therefore, it is necessary to realize that online

spaces and by extension internet needs to be integrated with rights perspective.

He said that an approach developed by UNESCO that safeguards rights, is open and accessible for all and consists of pluralism.

The 74th UN General Assembly proclaimed 28 September as the International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI). UNESCO as the custodian agency strives for progress on SDG indicator 16.10.2: to support member states to adopt and implement constitutional, statutory and/or policy guarantees for public access to information.

IHC: verdict on Cipher case possible to come in next 72 hours on trial in jail

ISLAMABAD (Online): Islamabad High Court (IHC) is likely to give a decision in the next 72 hours regarding the jail trial of Cipher case this week.

On the other hand, the application is likely to be ineffective due to the trial being started in jail.

It should be noted that the Islamabad High Court (IHC) has told to give a decision on the case in 2 to 3 days on the request of Chairman PTI against the jail trial and appointment of judge on jail trial.

Chief Justice Amir Farooq said that not till Monday, but they will try to give a decision in 2 to 3 days.

It is likely that the decision will come by Wednesday. The lawyer has repeatedly requested the court to give a quick decision, but the court has asked to give a decision on the matter next week.

Chief Justice Aamir

Farooq heard the different request of Chairman PTI for quick verdict.

Lawyer Shir Afzal Marwat appeared on behalf of Chairman PTI.

Shirafazl Marwat said that the jail trial of the cipher case has started, the decision has not yet come on our request.

The cipher case is set for jail hearing again on Monday.

Chief Justice Amir Farooq said that I will hurry, not on Monday, but I will make a decision in two or three days.

Yesterday, a request was filed by Imran Khan's lawyer for a telephonic meeting with Chairman PTI Sons, in which it was admitted that Sher Afzal Marwat did not have any consultation regarding the transfer of Imran Khan from Attock to Adiala Jail. Imran Khan should not have been transferred from Attock Jail to Adiala Jail.

Two missing children reunited with parents

Independent Report
ISLAMABAD: Islamabad Capital Police Shalimar police station team safely reunited two missing children with their parents, a public relation officer said.

According to the details, a citizen submitted an application at Shalimar police station and stated that his son and daughter namely Ehtisham and Ani Tahira had been missing and could not be traced despite hectic efforts by family members.

Upon receiving the application the police team started the investigation. The police team used technical and human resources and succeeded to trace the missing boy and girl and safely reunited them with their family.

AIOU to hold Int'l moot on Islamic Finance

ISLAMABAD (APP): A three-day international conference on Islamic finance will be held at Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) from November 1 to 3, 2023. According to the AIOU, national and international Islamic scholars will present their papers on the consequences of interest systems. Renowned economists will shed light on the topic of Islamic banking. Vice Chancellor AIOU, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood, will preside over the inaugural session, while Dean, Faculty of Arabic and Islamic Studies, Prof. Dr. Shah Mohyuddin Hashmi, will be the host. Various panel discussions and working sessions will be held at the conference.

CDA planning to initiate residential scheme for overseas Pakistanis

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Capital Development Authority (CDA) is planning to launch a new state-of-the-art residential scheme only for overseas Pakistanis at Mauza Kuri in the federal capital. "The new scheme, sprawled across 14,000 kanal of land along Kuri Road, adjacent to Park Road, will be reserved exclusively for overseas Pakistanis," an official in the CDA told APP on Sunday. The official said that

the plots within the scheme would be marketed and sold to overseas Pakistanis in US dollars, contributing to the country's foreign exchange reserves.

He said that in the initial phase, the CDA has given the go-ahead to the relevant authorities for the appointment of a design consultant as per the decision made during a meeting chaired by CDA Chairman, Captain @Anwar ul Haque. The official said the

designated consultant would be responsible for overseeing the scheme's execution and conducting various essential studies, including those related to environmental impact, traffic management, and hydrology. Furthermore, he said the consultant would develop the design for infrastructure, road development, ensuring that all modern amenities are seamlessly integrated into the scheme.

COMSTech urged to start prog for Iranian Women Scientists

ISLAMABAD (APP): Coordinator General COMSTech, Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary in a meeting with the first lady of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mrs. Jamileh Alamolhoda reiterated his commitment to design new programs to give more opportunities to Iranian women to excel in the field of science and technology.

In the meeting held in Isfahan on Sunday, Prof. Choudhary briefed the first

lady about COMSTech activities, programs and joint collaborative programs with the Mustafa Science and Technology Foundation of Iran. Prof. Choudhary also informed that he had signed several MoUs with the top universities and scientific organizations of Iran. Speaking on the occasion, Mrs. Jamileh Alamolhoda urged COMSTech to initiate joint training programs for Iranian women scientists.

2nd death anniversary of Dr. Abdul Qadeer Khan will be observed tomorrow

ISLAMABAD (Online): The second death anniversary of late Pakistani nuclear scientist Dr. Abdul Qadeer Khan will be celebrated on October 10 (tomorrow). Condolence events organized by political and social organizations around the world. Dr. Abdul Qadeer Khan made the country of Pakistan invincible in the world under extremely adverse conditions, as a result of which Pakistan became the first nuclear power in the Muslim world.

will be honored. Pakistani scientist and creator of atomic bomb Dr. Abdul Qadeer Khan was born on April 1, 1936 in Bhopal, India. He received higher education from prominent educational institutions around the world. Dr. Abdul Qadeer Khan made the country of Pakistan invincible in the world under extremely adverse conditions, as a result of which Pakistan became the first nuclear power in the Muslim world.



ISLAMABAD: A child along with family is taking interest in fancy flowers pots at nursery in Sector H-9 in Federal Capital.



ISLAMABAD: Laborers are busy in their work during the construction of Golra Mor Underpass in Federal Capital.

World Space Week continues to enthral participants at IST

ISLAMABAD (APP): The preliminary round of exciting activities to mark World Space Week are continued virtually by the Institute of Space Technology with an aim to educate young students and the general public about the benefits of space technology and its applications.

The World Space Week activities are being arranged by the Space Education Research Lab, National Center of GIS and Space Applications, IST, highlighting this year's theme "Space and Entrepreneurship".

According to an official of IST, World Space Week is the annual week of celebrating achievements and contributions of Space Science, technology, and its applications.

The United Nations General Assembly has declared October 4-10 as World Space Week to educate young students and the

general public about the bounties of space technology and its applications.

The UN General Assembly selected October 4 to commemorate the launch of the first human-made Earth satellite, Sputnik 1, on October 4, 1957, and the signing of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on October 10, 1967.

World Space Week Association (www.worldspaceweek.org), a non-government, non-profit international organization, coordinates this celebratory week worldwide through National Coordinators appointed in each country. In Pakistan, the event is coordinated by the country's national coordinator, the Secretary of the National Space Agency of Pakistan, SUPARCO, through the Space Education and Awareness Drive

(SEAD).

The week is celebrated around the globe in more than 96 countries with 8000+ participants worldwide, organized by different space agencies, aerospace companies, schools, planetaria, museums, and astronomy clubs, all synchronized for effectual public awareness.

Every year, the World Space Week Association (WSWA) declares a theme to highlight a specific aspect of space. National coordinators then plan and organize events around this theme.

The official highlighted that World Space Week's theme, "Space and Entrepreneurship," recognizes the growing significance of the commercial space industry in space, the increasing opportunities for space entrepreneurship, and the new benefits of space developed by space entrepreneurs.

With miniaturization and decreasing launch costs, it is now possible for a small business to build and launch a small satellite and for entrepreneurs to create valuable new data products for governments and industry.

Following the theme of space and entrepreneurship, NCGSA aims to promote career options and raise space awareness among school and college students through space-related activities and competitions.

With 75 modules for students in grades 6 to 12, participants are taking part in a diverse range of fun learning activities. The overall ten categories covering different domains are designed to include students with different interests and skills, the official said.

The World Space Week celebrations offers a learning opportunity, especially for space enthusiasts

who want to pursue a career in space technology. Among the two main rounds of the World Space Week, the preliminary round is being held online from October 6-10, while the final round will be held from November 8-10 at IST.

About the categories and modules, the official informed that World Space Week 2023 is holding 75 modules in 10 major categories for students in Grades 6 to 12, including Space Recitations, Space Quiz, Space Creative Writing, Space Applications, Space Technology Demonstration, Space Models and Collectibles, Space Fine Arts, Space Performing Arts, Space Life, and Space Entrepreneurship.

IST has held the legacy of celebrating World Space Week in Pakistan since 2005 in collaboration with the National Space Agency of Pakistan.

Information technology education important for youth: Governor

Independent Report
LAHORE: The caretaker federal minister for Information Technology and Telecommunication, Dr. Umar Saif and federal Minister for Human Rights, Khalil George called on Punjab Governor Muhammad Balighur Rehman, here today at Governor House Lahore. A detailed discussion was held regarding the promotion and improvement of the IT sector during the meeting with Umar Saif, while Federal Minister for Human Rights, Khalil George briefed Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman in detail about the work regarding minorities. Speaking on the occasion, Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman said that it is very important to provide education of information technology to the youth. He said that Information Technology (IT) is shaping the future of the world, and expertise in IT is very important in today's modern world. He said that students can take advantage of numerous online earning opportunities by doing IT courses. He said that the caretaker federal government is doing a good job in the IT sector. He said that Umar Saif has vast experience in the field of IT.



TAXILA: SBBWU and affiliated colleges students are visiting Taxila Museum in collaboration with the Directorate of Museum and Archaeology KP.

Chief Secretary stresses joint efforts to wipe out polio virus from region

Independent Report
PESHAWAR: Chief Secretary Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Nadeem Aslam Chaudhary has directed authorities to vaccinate every eligible child against the crippling polio virus. He stressed the need for meticulous monitoring of anti-polio drives to ensure complete eradication of the virus from the region. The Chief Secretary, gave the instructions on Sunday during his visit to several parts of the provincial capital including Hayatabad and Rigi to monitor anti-polio campaign, along with Deputy Commissioner Peshawar Afaq Wazir. Chief Secretary Chaudhry personally met with polio workers and appreciated them for their excellent performance during the campaign. He appealed to parents, urging them to cooperate with polio teams and vaccinate their children to protect them from permanent disability. He reiterated the importance of collective action, saying that eradication of polio requires joint efforts of all stakeholders. It should be noted that seven-day anti-polio campaign is currently underway in Peshawar, under the supervision of district administration, which aims to administer polio vaccines to 901,985 children. To achieve this, 2,496 teams have been formed, with robust security arrangements in place to support their efforts.

Construction work of Dadocha Dam to be resumed soon: Chatta

RAWALPINDI (APP): Commissioner Rawalpindi Division Liaquat Ali Chatta has said that the construction work of Dadocha Dam would be resumed soon. He informed that the construction work of the Dam would be completed within the stipulated period as Punjab government was paying special attention to water supply projects. The Commissioner said that the patriotism and sacrifices of the local population, especially the residents of Barwala including Azari Sehla, Malikpur, Azizal and Khanpur areas are commendable. "We value the sacrifices of the local population and would make every effort to provide them with the full benefit of these sacrifices," Liaquat Ali Chatta said. In the light of the Supreme Court's decision and the directives of the caretaker government of Punjab, the local population would be given the prices of their land according to the current market rates, the Commissioner added. The local residents whose property is affected by the construction of the dam would be given fair compensation, he said.

Smuggling bid foiled, NCP items worth over Rs 23.6 mln recovered

DERA ISMAIL KHAN (APP): The district police have foiled a smuggling attempt and seized non-custom paid (NCP) items worth over Rs 23.6 million during the checking of several vehicles here in the limits of Daraban police stations. According to the Police spokesman, a police team of Daraban police station led by SDPO Daraban Circle Malik Aneesul Hassan along with SHO Atta Ullah Khan inspected several vehicles. During checking, the police recovered NCP items including 15 rolls of cloth, 33 tyres of different sizes, 20 sacks of plastic bags, 70 sacks of China Salt, eight Iranian blankets, eight blankets with bed-sheets, six rolls of plastic pipe, 12 sacks of Iranian sandal, three sacks of dry milk, five cartons of cosmetic items, one sack of tea and two cartons of veterinary medicines. The estimated worth of the recovered goods was around Rs 23.6 million which was later handed over to the customs authorities for further legal action.



KARACHI: People are buying essential commodities at a Sahulat Bazar established by Pakistan Markazi Muslim League (PMML), in Karachi.



LAHORE: Caretaker Federal Ministers Dr. Umar Saif and Khalil George meeting with Punjab Governor Muhammad Baligh-ur-Rehman at Governor House.

Naqvi visits PIC to make onground review of the up gradation plan

Independent Report
LAHORE: On the special direction of Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi upgradation plan of the emergency block of Punjab Institute of Cardiology has been prepared. Emergency block will be upgraded under the plan and new surgeons will be hired. New ICUs and operation theatres will be established. 100 beds will be further increased. Caretaker CM Mohsin Naqvi paid a visit to PIC so as to make onground review of the upgradation plan and ordered to start upgradation work of the ground floor of emergency block by the start of next week. CM Mohsin Naqvi while directing to hire the services of surgeons from abroad stated that surgeons should be hired on contract basis as well after seeking approval of the Board of Management. Mohsin Naqvi directed to complete the upgradation project within three months adding that work on upgradation of the emergency block should be done in three shifts. The construction of Sarai should also be completed at the earliest. CM was informed during the briefing that LED screens will be installed for the facilitation of patients and their attendants. Mohsin Naqvi during his visit reviewed upgradation plan of the emergency block and inspected relevant sections.



KARACHI: Sindh Caretaker Minister for Law, Religious Affairs and Human Rights Omar Soomro inaugurating an exhibition on Yahya Kemal, a portrait of a poet as the first Turkish Ambassador to Pakistan, at Arts Council of Pakistan.

Madad emphasizes domestic and int'l trainings for teachers to promote quality education

HYDERABAD (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training Madad Ali Sindhi has emphasized the importance of training for teachers at domestically and internationally to promote quality education in the country. He highlighted the need for well-prepared educators to play an effective role in shaping a better future for children. He made these remarks while addressing as special guest at the "Latif Night" program held at Public School Hyderabad here on Saturday night. The federal minister invited the students of the School for a one-week recreational visit to Islamabad. He also proposed training opportunities for the school's teachers in Islamabad and pledged to provide 5,000 books of the National Book Foundation for the school. Sindhi praised the outstanding performance of students during the Latif Night program, expressing his hope that such programs would continue in the future. He stressed the need for organizing programs that celebrate Sufi poets' contributions in schools and colleges across the country, as he added, it has been observed that such programs were gradually being marginalized from our priorities. Regarding the status of the School, he acknowledged that the School had been operational for 62 years and was remained the best institution for a long time but its condition was deteriorated since it was handed over to IBA. He commended the current principal for his efforts to improve the school's condition. Madad Ali Sindhi pointed out that the grant of 50 million rupees allocated to the school was insufficient, as it has three campuses and nine hostels, adding that he would discuss increasing the grant with the Sindh's representative during a conference scheduled for October 16, involving education ministers from across the country, at Islamabad. He stated that he would write to the provincial government and the Sindh education minister to request development program schemes for the school.

IPP power show now on 28th

LAHORE (APP): The Istehkam-e-Pakistan party (IPP) has changed the schedule of its meetings and will organise its first power show in Khanawal on October 28 instead of October 13. Dr. Firdous Ashiq Awan, the Information Secretary of the party, told APP on Sunday that the date had been changed due to the engagements of the leadership and a new political strategy. The revised date of a power show in Jhang will be announced soon, she added.

Seminar highlights youth's crucial role in democracy

MIRPURKHAS (APP): District Election Commissioner Mirpurkhas, Khalid Hussain Lund has emphasized the pivotal role of youth in shaping the nation's future. He was addressing at the insightful one-day seminar organized by the District Election Commission at Government Quaid Millat High School here Sunday.



LAHORE: Patients suffering from dengue fever are treated at a hospital in Provincial Capital.

Climate change fades melodious chirping of birds at devastating scale

LAHORE (APP): It is a fact that the bird population in major cities of the country is declining fast. Even the population of common birds like sparrows, which are often taken for granted, is dropping at a rapid rate, WWF World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) warned in its report. The world's wildlife population volumes are plummeted by an average of 69 percent between 1970 and 2018, a dangerous decline resulting from climate change and various human activities, the WWF said. The two most mesmerising things fading away at a rapid pace included early morning views and melodious chirping of birds especially sparrows. Noted wildlife expert Dr. Muhammad Azhar told APP that climate change caused by human activities is considered to have negative effects for the majority of species and threaten the survival of a large number of species on the Earth. Climate change is damaging the abodes of birds because they are widely known to respond to various forms of perturbations to the climate, and their responses are often well documented. Moreover, based on current research, one-eighth of species of birds have a high level of danger of extermination in the recent future decades, and they need humans to take actions and protect them, he added. The research showed that if the temperature increases 3.5 degrees Celsius in 2100, 600-900 species of birds will become extinct, and 89 percent of them would happen in the tropic regions. To a question about captive birds, Azhar said that climate change patterns have limited temperature variations and low metabolic rates that are at the most risk from biodiversity degradation. Some tropical mountain birds, such as the northern snowbird, are especially vulnerable to climate change due to their lack of access to higher elevations for increasing temperatures.

Free camp for hearing loss to be organized on 11 October

HYDERABAD (APP): Islamabad Hearing center (Pvt) Ltd would organize a free camp for hearing loss patients on 11th October (Wednesday). The camp will be held from 10 am to 7 pm at Ghazi Medicare and Maternity home Hirabad, Hyderabad. Eminent Specialists from Islamabad would examine patients suffering from Hearing loss, Tinnitus-Management, Baby Hearing Deficiency, Hearing Aid and test will be conducted through computerized machines.

Couple killed in m/c-tractor trolley collision in DI Khan

DERA ISMAIL KHAN (APP): A couple died when the motorcycle they were riding on was collided with a tractor-trolley here on Chashma road last night. According to Rescue 1122, the accident occurred near Segri-Bangla on Chashma road when a motorcycle was collided with a tractor-trolley which was wrongly parked in the center of road. There was no reflective tape on the trolley which caused the accident in the darkness. After receiving information about the incident, the rescue team reached the site and shifted the bodies to Tehsil Headquarters (THQ) Hospital paharpur where the deceased were identified as Muhammad Zulfiqar, son of Muhammad Zareef, a resident of Pipplan area of Mianwali district, and his wife. The deceased couple was reportedly coming to Dera Ismail Khan to inquire about the health of the woman's ailing father.

Two key smugglers of international drug network arrested

PESHAWAR (APP): Another important operation of the Excise Intelligence Bureau (EIB-1&2), spokesperson Excise said here Sunday. Two key operatives of the international drug network were arrested, and 80 capsules (588 grams) of heroin were recovered from the arrested suspects, an excise spokesman said. The suspects were to smuggle heroin-filled capsules first to Punjab and then to Gulf countries, adding, "The two suspects, Hanifullah, son of Amin Gul, and Abdul Wajid, son of Nabi Gul, residents of Bara District Khyber, were arrested on the spot." A case has been registered at Excise Police Station Peshawar for further investigation and legal action, an Excise spokesman said.

Dr. Syed Faraz says: Economic growth, paperless governance assured with digital transformation

Independent Report
PESHAWAR: KPRMP Project Director met with the Caretaker Provincial Advisor Dr Syed Sir Faraz Ali Shah at his office Civil Secretariat Peshawar. Advisor to the Caretaker Chief Minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Dr. Syed Sir Faraz Ali Shah has said that the Corona epidemic has highlighted the need for a strong and organized digital infrastructure at the global level. Digital transformation is essential for faster connectivity, better efficiency and adapting to new challenges. These views were expressed by the Caretaker Provincial Adviser for Mineral Development, Planning & Development and Energy & Power Dr. Syed Sir Faraz Ali Shah in a meeting with Faisal Shehzad project director of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Revenue Mobilization and Public Resource Management in Civil Secretariat Peshawar yesterday. Senior Manager EY Azeem Sani and Program Manager NETSOL Zahid Mushtaq were also present in the meeting. On this occasion, the caretaker provincial adviser was given a detailed briefing about the steps taken, ongoing projects, challenges and suggestions for e-governance and digital transformation in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Caretaker Advisor Dr. Syed Sir Faraz Ali Shah expressed interest in the subject of reforms and digitization of institutions and said that this will ensure faster service delivery. The Caretaker Adviser expressed satisfaction over the steps taken in e-governance and digital transformation.



KARACHI: Activists of Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) are holding protest demonstration against the escalating prices of petrol, electricity, and inflation, at Governor House in Karachi.

Another 143 dengue cases reported in Punjab

LAHORE (APP): The battle against dengue virus continues in Punjab as 143 new cases were reported on Sunday, according to the latest data from the Health Department. This year, a total of 5,469 confirmed dengue cases have been reported across 36 districts in Punjab. Lahore leads the unfortunate tally with a staggering 2,130 cases, closely followed by Rawalpindi with 1,561 cases, Multan with 620, Gujranwala with 268 and Faisalabad with 245 cases. As many as 52 new dengue cases were reported in Lahore, 47 in Rawalpindi, 10 in Multan, 11 in Gujranwala, 10 in Faisalabad, Sheikhupura recorded 3 new dengue cases, 2 cases reported from Kasur, Gujrat, Okara, Bahawalnagar, Bahawalpur and Rajanpur each confirmed one new dengue case during the same period.



PESHAWAR: Visitors take keen interest in art during Art Exhibition organized by Ramina Foundation held at Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University (SBBWU) in Peshawar.

SBBWU arranges study tour for students

PESHAWAR (APP): Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University Peshawar, in collaboration with the Directorate of Museum and Archaeology, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, organized a one-day study and exposure tour to Taxila Valley (Jaulian) for students of the university and its affiliated colleges on Sunday. The study and exposure tour was attended by 70 students from the following departments of SBBWU and its affiliated colleges: Department of History and Pakistan Studies, Department of Political Science, Govt Girls Degree College, and Bacha Khan Govt Girls Degree College Dabgari. The participant actively engaged in a series of guided tours, interactive sessions, and on-site examinations during the exposure visit. The program aimed to foster a deep understanding of the archaeological significance of the Taxila Valley and the challenges posed by climate change. The participant gained insights into the rich history and cultural heritage of Taxila Valley. 70 per cent of its sparrows significant roles in ecosystems and are exceedingly subjected to human health and welfare, such as public hygiene, pest control, and the reproduction of plants, Dr. Azhar further said. Unfortunately, in our major cities, both these beauties are fading away at an alarming rate, mostly due to deforestation and rapid urbanization and the factors associated with it, senior journalist Din Muhammad Dard observed. According to a report on sparrows, their populations are already on the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) 'Red List' of Threatened Species, where Greater London lost nearly

Internet shutdowns cost Pakistan Rs 1.3 bln in direct loss: PIDE

ISLAMABAD (APP): A study conducted by the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) revealed that the closure of internet services for 24 hours results in a direct loss of Rs1.3 billion, which equates to 0.57% of the daily GDP average for the nation.

According to a press release issued here Sunday, this study is part of PIDE's research infographic titled "The Economic Cost of Internet Closure" and highlights the consequences of internet shutdowns in the country.

It said that the internet has become a fundamental necessity in modern times, however, the internet infrastructure of the country lags behind in terms of both quality and coverage.

The recent internet closure in various parts of

the country has had an impact on multiple sectors, leading to substantial financial losses and operational challenges.

Online cab services, online food delivery services, freelancers, transport companies, and postal services have all been affected by the disruption of internet services, it said.

The PIDE infographic showed that online cab services, a cornerstone of modern transportation, saw a 97% reduction in the number of rides on days when the internet has been closed down. This significant downturn equates to a loss of Rs 29 to 32 million for the industry per day.

Similarly, online food delivery services suffered a 75% reduction in the number of orders, translating into a

substantial daily loss of Rs 135 million.

Meanwhile, the freelance community, which contributes significantly to Pakistan's economy, has also felt the brunt of internet disruptions.

Denial of orders to Pakistan-based freelance workers resulted in over \$1.3 million loss of revenue, equaling Rs 390 million, impacting the livelihoods of many and the national economy as a whole too, it revealed.

Besides, the suspension of 3G/4G services for a single day causes a loss of PKR 450 million to the telecommunication sector alone.

Furthermore, PIDE had earlier estimated the economic costs of protests to be around 2.0% of the GDP.



FAISALABAD: A worker busy in his work on power loom in a local factory, in the city.

Business leaders urge govt to consult with private sector for revival of economy

ISLAMABAD (APP): President, Markazi Tanzeem-e-Tajran Pakistan and President Pakistan Business Forum Islamabad Muhammad Kashif Chaudhry along with a delegation of presidents of various market associations visited Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (ICCI). He assured that he would work with ICCI for resolving the key issues of the business community, said a press release.

Addressing the delegation, Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry said that ICCI being the apex trade body of the federal capital is working actively for the progress and development of the business community and cooperation of Markazi Anjuman-e-Tijaran and market associations would

further strengthen its hands to achieve common goals of the welfare of business community more effectively.

He said that the unity among traders and common stand of their issues would send a strong voice to the government to promote ease of doing business in the country. He lauded the services of Kashif Chaudhry for the trading community and said that his cooperation with ICCI would help address of issues and facilitate the business community in business development.

Speaking on the occasion, Muhammad Kashif Chaudhry, President, Markazi Tanzeem-e-Tajran Pakistan and President Pakistan Business Forum Islamabad said that the traders and industrialists are facing multiple problems.

Privatization Commission will take over the financial affairs of PIA

ISLAMABAD (Online): Privatization Commission will take over the financial affairs of Pakistan International Airlines from today (Monday).

According to sources, the Privatization Commission will take over the financial affairs of Pakistan International Airlines from October 9, while PIA will remain administratively with the Aviation Division.

Privatization of PIA will begin on a phased basis after the Privatization Commission takes over the administrative affairs.

Power theft detected at Relax Inn hotel; owner fined Rs 7m

LAHORE (APP): The Lahore Electric Supply Company (LESCO) has detected pilferage on a electricity connection of a nine-storey hotel, 'Relax Inn,' owned by Basharat Muhammad, in the area of Davis Road Sub-Division.

The LESCO spokesman told media here Sunday that under the supervision of Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Engineer Shahid Haider, the operation against electricity thieves is going on successfully. In this regard, Basharat Muhammad, the owner of the 9-storey "Relax Inn" hotel, was caught stealing electricity while checking by a LESCO inspection team in the area of Davis Road Sub-Division. Accused Basharat Muhammad was stealing electricity from LESCO's direct supply by hooking wires and caused a loss of millions of rupees to the power distribution company. The accused was using stolen electricity for 27 ACs (air-conditioners).

PIAF for keeping check on expenditure, high cost, as debt jumps to Rs64 tr

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistan Industrial and Traders Association Front (PIAF) has called for keeping check on government expenditure and high cost of debt servicing, as the federal government debt has surged to a staggering Rs64 trillion, reflecting an alarming increase of over 29% in just one year.

PIAF Chairman Faheemur Rehman Saigol said that this unsettling trend has raised concerns about fiscal sustainability and the adverse impacts of steep currency devaluation come at a time when the World Bank has cautioned Pakistan about the growing risks of its macroeconomic framework.

Quoting the State Bank of Pakistan report, he said that the federal government's debt has soared by Rs14.5 trillion, constituting a substantial 29.2% rise compared to the same period last year. This rapid escalation in debt is widely seen as unsustainable, yet corrective measures to curb this alarming trajectory have not been implemented.

The PIAF Chairman said that the debt burden is gradually increasing because of insufficient tax revenue collection that forced the government to borrow from the domestic and external resources to finance the soaring fiscal deficit.



RAWALPINDI: A man is busy buying warm clothes from a roadside vendor in the city.



HYDERABAD: Sindh Food Authority Director General, Agha Fakhar Hussain addresses to business community during his visit to Hyderabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (HCCI) in Hyderabad.

PBF welcomes EU Parliament's decision of extending GSP Plus status to Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Pakistan Business Forum (PBF) has welcomed the European Parliament's decision of extending the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) Plus status to Pakistan for another four years till 2027, but has urged the government to remove regulatory obstacles to boost exports to the EU.

The GSP Plus status offers developing countries duty-free or reduced-tariff access to the EU market for over 6,000 products. It is a significant opportunity for Pakistan to boost its

exports and create jobs.

In a statement, PBF Chairman (Capital Area) Atif Ikram Sheikh said that PBF appreciates the unwavering efforts of the Government of Pakistan in advocating for this extension, further strengthening trade relations and fostering economic growth for our nation.

He said that the GSP Plus status, which Pakistan has enjoyed in the past, has significantly contributed to enhancing our export potential and economic prosperity.

Atif Ikram said that

GSP Plus status holds paramount importance for Pakistan's economy as it has played an important role in expansion of multilateral trade.

According to the trade statistics from ITC World Trademap, Pakistan's exports to EU, which were around 6.3 billion dollars in 2013, have increased over the time to 11.3 billion dollars in 2022, primarily due to the deeper market access provided by European Union under GSP Plus.

He said that this essentially meant that due to GSP Plus.

World Bank takes proposal to impose tax under 50,000 salary

ISLAMABAD (Online): The World Bank withdrew the proposal to impose tax on people earning 50,000 monthly salary. The World Bank retracted its proposal saying that the proposal was issued based on 2019 data, which needs to be updated to reflect recent inflation and labor market conditions.

The spokesperson of the World Bank said that the Bank is not making any recommendations for the implementation of taxes.

He added that the World Bank recommends comprehensive reforms in Pakistan's tax system, reforms that would increase the tax burden on

the rich and provide relief to the poor. According to government data, the salaried class has paid more tax than the total tax of rich exporters and real estate sector during the last three months. While the exporters and real estate sector have paid a total of Rs 65 billion in taxes, there is no comparison of wealth between the salaried class and the real estate sector and exporters. The salaried class is the fourth largest tax payer after contractors, bank depositors and importers, the majority of whom have a very low standard of living, and the majority of the salaried class.

Revenue officers directed to expedite recovery

FAISALABAD (APP): Divisional Commissioner Silwat Saeed has directed revenue officers to expedite the recovery campaign to collect maximum revenue from defaulters.

Chairing a meeting on Sunday, she reviewed the performance of recovery officers of the revenue department and expressed her dismay over their poor performance. She directed the revenue officers to speed up their efforts for ensuring maximum recovery under the head of stamp duty, registration fee, capital valuation tax and water rate.



QUETTA: President Anjuman-e-Tajiran Balochistan Raheem Agha, Wali Afghan and Umar Tareen inaugurate food point at Sirki Road.

Railways strives to complete rehabilitation work of tracks

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan Railways is striving to complete rehabilitation and reconstruction work on railway tracks in order to improve the speed of the locomotives to carry passengers to their respective destinations on time.

The infrastructures, including the track and signalling system from Karachi to Peshawar, Main Line-I (ML-I) and doubling of track from Lahore to Peshawar (462.20 Km) are also being revamped, an official in the Ministry of Railways told APP.

The official noted that the length of the track was 1,726 kilometres and the department has planned to improve the speed up to 160 kilometres per hour in the project of up-gradation of ML-I under the China-Pak Economic Corridor (CPEC).

To improve the speed of the trains and ensure fixed timings, he said the procurement of 230 passenger coaches and 820 Capacity Wagons under the Public Sector Development Programme (PSDP) project was also under process.

NPO to organize 'Boost Business Workshop' on Oct 12

LAHORE (APP): The National Productivity Organization (NPO) will organize a workshop, webinar on 'Boost Business Efficiency through Waste Control and Recycling' on October 12 (Thursday). The purpose of training workshop is to equip top line executives with latest management tools to understand the marketing, financial and production excellence, NPO official sources told APP on Sunday.

The webinar/workshop has been designed for production managers, inventory managers, material managers, supply chain managers, store managers.

Chairman, PHSA for building tax capacity

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman Pakistan Hi Tech Hybrid Seed Association (PHSA), Shahzad Ali Malik Sunday said to build tax capacity, governments must urgently need to take a holistic and institution-based approach with focus on leveraging core domestic tax policies.

Talking to a delegation of industrialists here, he called upon the government to implement bold reform plans and focus on tax base broadening through the rationalization of tax expenditures, more neutral taxation of capital income, and better use of taxes.

Shahzad said this multi-pronged approach, over the long term, could balance equity and efficiency considerations.

He said government must improve the design and administration of core domestic taxes—value-added taxes, excises, income taxes, and corporate income taxes.

The chairman said revenue in low-income countries, for instance, could be doubled by limiting preferential treatments and improving compliance without increasing standard tax rates.

Kashif Younis says: Concept of globalization transforms regional economies

ISLAMABAD (APP): Coordinator to Federal Tax Ombudsman Meher Kashif Younis Sunday said the concept of globalization is undergoing a transformation, with regionalism playing an increasingly prominent role.

Speaking at a seminar on "Globalization shifting to Regionalization", held under the aegis of Gold Ring Economic Forum.

First Pakistani company approved by GACC to export meat to China

BEIJING (APP): In a ground breaking development for Pakistan's meat industry, a local meat company named Pakistan's Organic Meat has achieved a historic milestone by becoming the first Pakistani entity to be registered with the General Administration of Customs of China (GACC).

This achievement not only opens up new avenues for Pakistan's meat exports but also solidifies the country's position in the global meat market, said Ghulam Qadir, Commercial Counsellor at the Pakistan Embassy in Beijing.

The company that has achieved this remarkable feat is "The Organic Meat Company Ltd," a leading player in Pakistan's meat processing and export industry. This achievement comes after years of rigorous quality control measures and compliance with international standards, he told China Economic Net (CEN). He further said that to secure registration on the GACC, Organic Meat

Company Ltd underwent rigorous inspections and quality audits.

This demonstrates their commitment to maintaining high-quality standards in meat production, processing, and packaging.

"Registration on the GACC opens the doors to the vast Chinese meat market, which has a growing demand for high-quality meat products. This milestone positions Pakistan as a credible and reliable supplier of meat to China. This achievement has the potential to significantly boost Pakistan's meat exports, contributing to the country's economic growth. It also creates opportunities for job creation within the meat processing industry", he added.

He further said that this achievement enhanced the country's reputation on the global stage. It showcases Pakistan's ability to meet the stringent requirements of international markets.



KARACHI: Members of Azad Contractor Association are holding protest demonstration for acceptance of their demands, at Karachi press club.

Govt needs to reduce POL prices amid rupee gain, low global rates: Anjum Nisar

KARACHI (INP): The Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry Businessmen Panel (BMP) has called on the government to make a substantive reduction in petroleum products following a huge cut in the global oil market by almost \$9 per barrel and an immense recovery of the rupee to ease inflation to 27% in Oct, which has been hovering at around 31%.

Former president FPCCI and Chairman Businessmen Panel, Mian Anjum Nisar observed that the Pakistani rupee appreciated 2.7% to Rs283/dollar compared with the previous fortnight's average of Rs292/ a dollar. In the same way, the price of petrol plummeted by 15% to \$84.3 per barrel in the international market compared with last fortnight's average of \$99.3. The international

price of high-speed diesel dipped by 10% to \$110.6 per barrel compared with last fortnight's average of \$122.3. Quoting a research report, he said that the price of Arab Light crude, which Pakistan imports from the Middle East, fell by 9.1%, or \$8.9 per barrel, to \$88.68 by October 5 compared to the average price of \$97.58 for the September 18-29 period. Incorporating the drop alongside rupee appreciation and assuming the international prices and currency remain at the same level for the next 10 days, the local petrol and diesel prices should go down by Rs40 per litre and Rs20 per litre, respectively, in the next fortnightly price revision effective from October 16, 2023. Mian Anjum estimated that exchange rate adjustments in the last fortnightly prices of petrol and diesel were Rs11.9 and negative Rs2.8 per litre.



CHINIOT: A farmer is checking vegetables before plucking at Faisalabad Road.

SECP warns public against Meilleuretech Services' illegal investment scheme

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) in warning issued on Sunday has advised the general public against investing in fraudulent investment schemes of Meilleuretech Services, a sole proprietorship concern.

The SECP has noticed that the entity, owned by Mr. Zeeshan Munir, was prima facie accepting deposits from the public illegally by offering various illegal "advertisement watching packages" and promising unrealistic daily and weekly returns. It was clarified that the said entity does not hold any license to collect deposits from the public.

SECP has also received multiple complaints that the individuals, after

depositing funds with Meilleuretech Services, did not receive any packages but were asked to arrange for more individuals to buy packages or deposit further funds to get their earnings.

The SECP has initiated legal proceedings against Mr. Zeeshan Munir and his entities, which include deregistering/winding up Meilleuretech Services (SMC-Private) Limited, disqualifying Mr. Zeeshan Munir from becoming chief executive and director of any company, and imposing penalties. The SECP is also referring the matter to relevant investigation authorities. The name of Meilleuretech Services (SMC-Private) Limited has been added to the "List of Companies engaged in Unauthorized Activities" available on SECP's website.

58 Kurdish 'militants' killed by Turkiye in Syria

Monitoring Desk
ANKARA: Turkish forces have killed 58 Kurdish militants in northern Syria in overnight attacks on militant targets, the Defence Ministry said on Saturday, as conflict in the region escalated nearly a week after a bomb attack in Ankara.

Turkiye this week said all targets belonging to the outlawed Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) militia and the Syrian Kurdish YPG militia were "legitimate targets" for its forces, after the PKK claimed responsibility for Sunday's bombing in Ankara which wounded two police officers and killed the two attackers.

Turkiye said the attackers came from Syria. The US-backed Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) — a coalition of rebel groups spearheaded by the

YPG militia — denied this. Since the bomb attack, Ankara has launched a barrage of air strikes and ground-based attacks against militant targets in northern Syria and Iraq, while ramping up security operations at home.

"Targets belonging to PKK/YPG terrorists in northern Syria's Euphrates Shield, Olive Branch, and Peace Spring operation areas were hit strongly all night long," the ministry said, referring to regions where Turkiye has previously mounted incursions.

The ministry said the operations, which it says are carried out under self-defence rights, had "neutralised" 58 militants in the region. Ankara typically uses the term "neutralised" to mean killed. Late on Friday, the ministry had said Turkiye's

military had conducted air strikes in northern Syria, destroying 15 militant targets where it said militants were believed to be.

Interior Minister Ali Yerlikaya said that police in the eastern province of Van had captured six people suspected of PKK links and in preparation of an attack. Following the bomb attack, authorities have carried out raids and operations across the country, seizing dozens of people. Speaking at his ruling AK Party's congress in Ankara, President Tayyip Erdogan repeated his warning that Turkiye "may suddenly come one night", a term he has often used to target militants in Syria and Iraq. "We will implement our strategy of ending terror at its root with determination, and hold the PKK, FETO, and Daesh to account over every drop of blood they have spilled."



A Syrian man stands on the damaged balcony of a building hit by Syrian pro-regime forces in the rebel-held city of Idlib.

US will always have Israel's back, says Biden

Monitoring Desk
WASHINGTON: United States President Joe Biden said on Saturday the US will always have Israel's back and warned that no enemy of Israel should exploit the attacks.

Talking to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, he offered "all appropriate means of support" to the government and people of Israel in their fight against Hamas.

"The United States unequivocally condemns this appalling assault against Israel by Hamas terrorists from Gaza, and I made clear to Prime Minister Netanyahu that we stand ready to offer all appropriate means of support to the government and people of Israel," President Biden said in a statement issued after he spoke with Mr Netanyahu. "My administration's support for Israel's security is rock solid and unwavering. Terrorism is never justified. Israel has a right to defend itself and its people," he said "We are heartbroken by

the lives that have been tragically cut short and hope for a swift recovery for all those who have been wounded," President Biden said. "My team and I are tracking this situation closely, and I will remain in close touch with Prime Minister Netanyahu."

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, however, told US Secretary of State Antony Blinken that "injustice" towards Palestinians is driving the conflict with Israel to an "explosion", according to Palestinian news agency Wafa. In a phone call, Abbas also said the ongoing escalation is down to the "practices of the colonialists and the Israeli occupation forces, and the aggression against Islamic and Christian sanctities," according to Wafa.

In New York, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres urged all parties to make "diplomatic efforts to avoid wider conflagration," adding that "only a two-state solution" could bring peace to the region.

Indian flood toll up to 77 as waters recede

Monitoring Desk
NEW DELHI: At least 77 people are confirmed dead in the floods that hit India's northeast, authorities said on Sunday, with destroyed roads and bridges leaving thousands more still cut off despite waters receding.

Violent torrents struck Sikkim state on Wednesday after a high-altitude glacial lake suddenly burst.

Scientists warn that similar disasters will become an increasing danger across the Himalayas as global temperatures rise and ice melts, spurred by climate change.

"A total of 29 bodies have been retrieved from different parts of Sikkim," state relief commissioner Anilraj Rai told AFP by phone.

In neighbouring West Bengal state, Jalpaiguri district police told AFP that another 48 bodies had been recovered. More than 100 people are still missing, according to official figures. Water levels along the Teesta River "returned to normal" four days after the floods hit.

The Republican field is blaming Joe Biden for dealing with Iran after Hamas' attack on Israel

Monitoring Desk
WATERLOO: Former President Donald Trump and other GOP contenders tried to lay blame on the Biden administration after Hamas militants launched the deadliest attack on Israel in decades, citing a \$6 billion transfer to Iran that administration officials insisted Saturday had yet to be spent.

Hamas' surprise early morning attack during a major Jewish holiday Saturday marks a new foreign policy front in a presidential election that has already been unusually dominated by foreign affairs.

Russia's ongoing invasion of Ukraine has divided the Republican field, with some like Trump and Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis questioning the U.S.'s continued involvement, while others like former Vice President Mike Pence in-

stead that supporting the Ukrainian military is vital to U.S. national security interests.

On Saturday, the candidates appeared united, standing with Israel.

"The Hamas terrorist invasion of Israeli territory and the murder of Israeli soldiers today and the brutal murder of citizens is an act of savagery that must and will be crushed," Trump said at an appearance in Waterloo, Iowa.

Trump, like others, directly blamed the \$6 billion — "American taxpayer dollars helped fund these attacks," he said in an earlier statement — and argued that, under Biden, the U.S. is perceived as being "weak and ineffective" on the global stage, opening the door to hostility.

"They didn't have that level of aggression with me. They didn't have it.

France's Sarkozy investigated for suspected witness tampering in Libya funds case

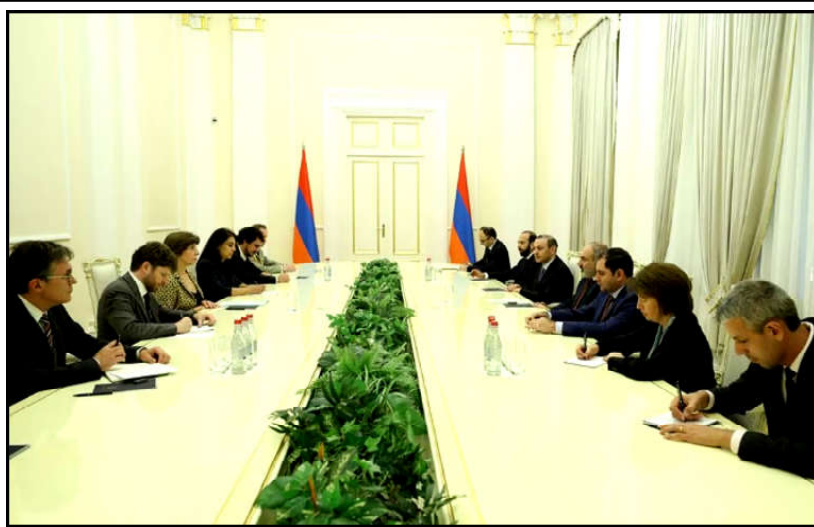
Monitoring Desk
PARIS: Former French President Nicolas Sarkozy was placed under formal investigation on Friday for suspected witness tampering and fraud, as part of a probe into whether he received illegal Libyan funding for his successful 2007 election campaign.

Sarkozy, due to go on trial in 2025 over the accusations he illegally accepted the Libyan funds, has always denied wrongdoing. His lawyers could not be immediately reached for comment.

In the latest investigation, Sarkozy is accused of interfering with a witness and criminal association with a view to committing fraud, a spokesperson for prosecutors said. Sarkozy had been questioned by a judge since Tuesday.



Unionist supporters protest against amnesty of separatist leaders and activists involved in the failed independence drive at Passeig de Gracia in Barcelona, Spain.



French Foreign and European Affairs Minister Catherine Colonna and Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan attend a meeting in Yerevan, Armenia.

Dozen injured, including baby, in Russian attack on Ukraine's Kherson, governor says

Monitoring Desk
KYIV: A dozen people were wounded, including a 27-year-old woman and her 9-month-old baby, in a Russian attack on the southern Ukrainian region of Kherson, its governor said on Sunday.

"The Kherson region experienced another terrible night," Governor Oleksandr Prokudin wrote on the Telegram messaging app.

The woman and the infant were hospitalised with moderate wounds, he said, adding that a 33-

year-old Red Cross medic was also wounded.

Several houses and gas pipelines were damaged in the attack.

Over the past 24 hours, Russian forces carried out 59 attacks on Kherson, the region's administration said on Telegram, including 19 instances of shelling of Kherson city, the region's administrative centre.

Reuters could not independently verify the reports. There was no immediate comment from Russia.

Russia has frequently carried out air strikes and shelling on Ukraine since the start of its full-scale invasion in February 2022. Ukraine says its counteroffensive in the south and east is gradually making progress.

Both sides deny targeting civilians, but thousands of civilians in Ukraine have been killed in attacks that have hit residential areas as well as energy, defence, port, grain and other facilities.

Disrupting Saudi-Israel ties may have motivated Hamas attack, Blinken says

Monitoring Desk
WASHINGTON: U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said part of the motivation for Hamas' latest attack on Israel could have been disrupting a potential normalizing of Israel-Saudi Arabia ties, adding Washington will announce new aid for Israel on Sunday.

Hamas fighters rampaged through Israeli towns as the country suffered its bloodiest day in decades on Saturday and subsequently battered Palestinians with air strikes in Gaza on Sunday, with hundreds killed on both sides and spiralling violence threatening a major new Middle East war.

"It wouldn't be a surprise that part of the motivation may have been to disrupt efforts to bring Saudi Arabia and Israel together, along with other countries that may be interested in normalizing relations with Israel," Blinken told CNN in an interview on Sunday.

Blinken added the United States has also taken note of reports of several Americans killed and missing in Israel and Washington is looking to verify the details and figures.

The secretary of state said details of new U.S. assistance for Israel will be made public later, as he labeled the attack on Israel as a "terrorist attack by a terrorist organization."

Palestinian Authority calls for emergency Arab League meeting

Monitoring Desk
CAIRO: The Palestinian Authority submitted a memorandum on Sunday calling for an emergency Arab League meeting at the foreign ministerial level, according to Wafa, the Palestinian news agency.

The request for the meeting comes in light of the "brutal and ongoing Israeli aggression against the Palestinian people, including the escalation of the storming of the Al-Aqsa Mosque by thousands of settlers," Wafa quoted Arab League Ambassador Muhammad Al Aklouk as saying.



People injured in the earthquake are being treated by doctors in Afghanistan.

Armed men kidnap 9 in Nigeria's northwest Zamfara state

Monitoring Desk
MAIDUGURI: At least nine people were kidnapped in an attack on Friday by gunmen in Nigeria's northwest Zamfara state, residents said.

Kidnapping for ransom by armed gangs is rife in northwest Nigeria due to high levels of poverty, unemployment, and the proliferation of illegal firearms.

The Zamfara police and local government did not immediately respond to Reuters requests for comment on Friday. Residents of Tshuwar Kasuwa community in Kaura Namoda local government area of the state said the gunmen stormed their village in an early morning raid on motorcycles. "They abducted my two children and they were taken to an unknown destination," Rabe Sarkawa, a resident of the community, told Reuters by phone. "I am in pain right now." Five members of resident Alhaji Sabitu's household were among those abducted, and his herd of cattle was taken.

"Apart from unrest from the abductions for ransom, and the loss of innocent lives, we're also not allowed to carry out our daily livelihood in peace."

Ex Colombia President Uribe says witness tampering case to go to trial

Monitoring Desk
BOGOTA: Colombia's former President Alvaro Uribe said his long-running witness tampering case will go to trial, citing a news magazine ahead of an expected formal decision from a Bogota court on Friday.

Uribe and several allies have been investigated over allegations of witness tampering carried out in an attempt to discredit accusations he had ties to right-wing paramilitaries. The former president has always maintained his innocence.

US extends deportation relief for immigrants from Cameroon

Monitoring Desk
WASHINGTON: The United States on Friday extended temporary deportation relief status through 2025 for Cameroonians living in the United States, citing armed conflict and human rights abuses in the Central African country.

The resignation of Cameroon for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) was extended for 18 months from Dec. 8 through June 7, 2025, the Department of Homeland Security said, adding this would also allow students with Cameroonian citizenship to seek work permits.

A policeman in Egypt killed 2 Israelis and 1 Egyptian at a tourist site in Alexandria

Monitoring Desk
CAIRO: An Egyptian policeman opened fire Sunday on Israeli tourists in the Mediterranean city of Alexandria, killing at least two Israelis and one Egyptian, Israeli and Egyptian authorities said. A statement from Egypt's Interior Ministry said that another person was wounded in the attack at the Pompey's Pillar site in Alexandria. It provided no further details. Israel's Foreign Ministry identified the wounded person as an Israeli who suffered moderate injuries.

Afghanistan earthquakes kill 2,053, Taliban say, as death toll spikes

Monitoring Desk
KABUL: Powerful earthquakes in Afghanistan have killed more than 2,000 people and injured more than 9,000, the Taliban administration said on Sunday, in the deadliest tremors in years in the quake-prone mountainous country.

Amid the confusion, the death toll from Saturday's quakes spiked from 500 reported on Sunday morning by a Red Crescent spokesperson and 16 from Saturday night.

The quakes hit 35 km (20 miles) northwest of the city of Herat, with one measuring 6.3 magnitude, the US Geological Survey (USGS) said.

Mullah Janan Sayeeq, spokesman for the Ministry of Disasters, told Reuters that 2,053 people

were dead, 9,240 injured and 1,329 houses damaged or destroyed.

More than 200 dead had been brought to different hospitals, a Herat health department official who identified himself as Dr Danish told Reuters, adding most of them were women and children.

Bodies had been "taken to several places — military bases, hospitals," Danish said. The quakes caused panic in Herat, resident Naseema said on Saturday. "People left their houses, we all are on the streets," she wrote in a text message to Reuters, adding that the city was feeling follow-on tremors. Herat — 120 kilometres east of the border with Iran — is considered the cultural capital of Afghanistan.

Azerbaijan's president says France will be to blame if new conflict starts with Armenia

Monitoring Desk
MOSCOW: Azerbaijan's president scolded the European Union and warned that France's decision to send military aid to Armenia could trigger a new conflict in the South Caucasus after a lightning Azerbaijani military operation last month.

Azerbaijan's President Ilham Aliyev last week pulled out of an EU-brokered meeting with Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan at which Brussels said it was standing by Armenia.

But Aliyev criticised the EU's approach — and particularly France's position — when European Council, Charles Michel, telephoned him, according to an Azerbaijani statement issued late on Saturday.

President Aliyev said "that due to the well-known position of France, Azerbaijan did not participate in the meeting in Granada," the Azerbaijani presidential office said.

"The head of state emphasized that the provision of weapons by France to Armenia was an approach that was not serving peace, but one intended to inflame a new conflict, and if any new conflict occurs in the region, France would be responsible for causing it."

France has agreed on future contracts with Armenia to supply it with military equipment to help ensure its defences, Foreign Minister Catherine Colonna said Oct. 3 during a visit to Yerevan.

France has agreed on future contracts with Armenia to supply it with military equipment to help ensure its defences, Foreign Minister Catherine Colonna said Oct. 3 during a visit to Yerevan.

UK Supreme Court weighs if it's lawful for Britain to send asylum-seekers to Rwanda

Monitoring Desk
LONDON: The British government's contentious policy to stem the flow of migrants faces one of its toughest challenges this week as the U.K. Supreme Court weighs whether it's lawful to send asylum-seekers to Rwanda.

The Conservative government is challenging a Court of Appeal ruling in June that said the policy intended to deter immigrants from risking their lives crossing the English Channel in small boats is unlawful because the East African country is not a safe place to send them.

Three days of arguments are scheduled to begin Monday with the government arguing its policy is safe and lawyers for migrants from Vietnam, Syria, Iraq, Iran and Sudan contending it's unlawful and inhumane. The hearing comes as much of Europe and the U.S. struggle with how best to cope with migrants seeking refuge from war, violence, oppression and a warming planet that has brought devastating drought and floods.

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak has vowed to "stop the boats" as a top priority to curb unauthorized immigration. More than 25,000 people are estimated to have arrived in the U.K. by boat as of Oct. 2, which is down nearly 25% from the 33,000 that had made the crossing at the same time last year. The policy is intended to put a stop to the criminal gangs that ferry migrants across one of the world's busiest shipping lanes by making Britain an unattractive destination because of the likelihood of being given a one-way ticket to Rwanda. Consequences of the crossing have been deadly. In August, six migrants died and about 50 had to be rescued when their boat capsized after leaving the northern coast of France. In November 2021, 27 people died after their boat sank. The government claims the policy is a fair way to deal with an influx of people who arrive on U.K. shores without authorization and that Rwanda is a safe "third country" — meaning it's not where they are seeking asylum from.

The U.K. and Rwandan governments reached a deal more than a year ago that would send asylum-seekers to the East African country and allow them to stay there if granted asylum.

The U.K. and Rwandan governments reached a deal more than a year ago that would send asylum-seekers to the East African country and allow them to stay there if granted asylum.

An American tourist is arrested for smashing ancient Roman statues at a museum in Israel

Monitoring Desk
JERUSALEM: Israeli police have arrested an American tourist at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem after he hurled works of art to the floor, defacing two second-century Roman statues. The vandalism late Thursday raised questions about the safety of Israel's priceless collections and stirred concern about a rise in attacks on cultural heritage in Jerusalem.

Police identified the suspect as a radical 40-year-old Jewish American tourist and said initial questioning suggested he smashed the statues because he considered them "to be idolatrous and contrary to the Torah." The man's lawyer, Nick Kaufman, denied that he had acted out of religious fanaticism. Instead, Kaufman said, the tourist was suffering from a mental disorder that psychiatrists have labeled the Jerusalem syndrome. The condition — a form of disorientation believed to be induced by the religious magnetism of the city, which is sacred to Christians, Jews and Muslims — is said to cause foreign pil-

grims to believe they are figures from the Bible.

The defendant has been ordered to undergo a psychiatric evaluation. Officials did not release his name due to a gag order.

With religious passions burning and tensions simmering during the Jewish holiday season, spitting and other assaults on Christian worshippers by radical ultra-Orthodox Jews have been on the rise, unnerving tourists, outraging local Christians and sparking widespread condemnation. The Jewish holiday of Sukkot, the harvest festival, ends Friday at sundown.

The prominent Israel Museum, with its exhibits of archaeology, fine arts, and Jewish art and life, described Thursday's vandalism as a "troubling and unusual event," and said it "condemns all forms of violence and hopes such incidents will not recur."

Museum photos showed the marble head of the goddess Athena knocked off its pedestal onto the floor and a statue of a pagan deity shattered into fragments.

All Pak CM Gold Cup Football Tournament ends: Wholehearted opportunities of healthy activities being provided to youth, in Balochistan: Domki

Independent Report
QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki has stated that wholehearted opportunities of healthy activities are being provided to the youth in the province.

The Chief Minister was addressing the closing ceremony of All Pakistan Chief Minister Gold Cup Football Tournament played at the football ground in Ayub Stadium on Sunday afternoon.

He said that the competitions of different sports including football in Quetta are proof of that this land is ambassador of the peace.

He said that the youth of province are second to

none in potential. They just need opportunities and proper patronage to excel in the sports and other sectors, he added.

The Chief Minister on the occasion appreciated the Provincial Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs, Nawabzada Jamal Raisani and all the organizers for holding the national level football event in Quetta successfully.

He also assured that the provincial government would fully encourage the talented players for promotion of the sports in province.

He said the event remained continued despite the terrorism act in Mastung and loss of so many precious lives in it.

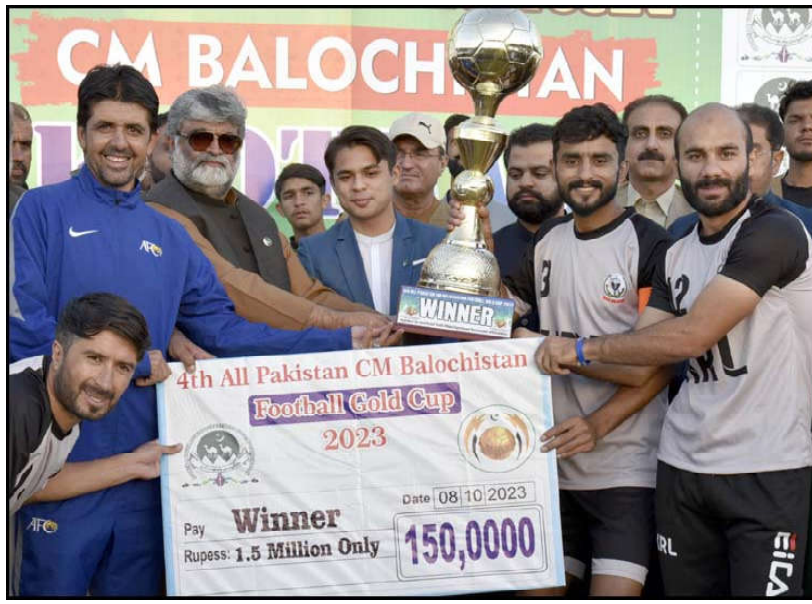
He said this event of national level gives message that we are peace and sports loving.

In the end, Chief Minister gave away cash prizes and trophies to the top three position holders of the event.

The cash prize of Rs. 1.5 million along with the winning trophy to KRL team.

The cash prize of Rs. 1 million was awarded with runner-up trophy to the WAPDA team.

Similarly, Rs. 0.5 million cash was given to the Madho Muhammadan Karachi. It may be mentioned here that KRL defeated WAPDA by 1-0 to win the CM Gold Cup Tournament.



QUETTA: Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki giving away trophy to captain of winning team after conclusion of All Pakistan Chief Minister Gold Cup Football Tournament. Caretaker Provincial Minister for Sports Mir Jamal Raisani is also present

Pak, China agreed to invite third parties' participation in CPEC: Ambassador Haque

BEIJING (APP): The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a pilot project of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is a game changer and very important for socio-economic development of Pakistan and now, both Pakistan and China have agreed to invite third parties to participate in this project, Pakistan Ambassador to China, Moin ul Haque said on Sunday.

"This project has been a game changer and very important for socio-economic development of the country. Now, our two countries have agreed to invite

third parties to participate in this project," he told CCTV in an interview.

"We are now working to extend it to Afghanistan, the neighboring country of both China and Pakistan," he added.

Ambassador Haque said that China is a global leader in terms of many technologies like artificial intelligence, e-commerce, green technologies.

"So, it has been identified as one of the most important areas for the second phase, and we have established Joint Working Groups for cooperation," he added.

He said that new corridors like China-Pakistan Digital Corridor, Green Corridor and Health Corridor have been launched to benefit on the emerging opportunities in the area science and technology and Information Technology (IT) fields.

Responding to a question about the transportation projects, he said that Lahore Orange Metro Train was one of the first early harvest projects under the CPEC framework.

"It was built in the second largest city of Lahore, a city of over 10 million people.



DUKI: Caretaker Health Minister Dr. Ameer Muhammad Khan Jogezi being briefed by DHO Dr. Muhammad Rafiq during his visit to civil hospital

Pakistan faces unpredictable events caused by climatic condition: Chairman NDMA

ISLAMABAD (INP): National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Lieutenant General Inam Haider Malik HI(M) has said that Pakistan was facing changing climatic condition and frequent recurrence of unpredictable and extreme events.

In his message on "National Resilience Day", he said that we commemorate the occasion with a mission and commitment to advance national preparedness by improving and increasing the nation's resilience to natural and human induced threats.

Lt Gen Inam Haider said that to meet disasters caused by climatic challenges, NDMA was proactively working at reducing the vulnerability to disasters, and also providing coping mechanisms and framework for effective disaster management. The disaster management system in Pakistan has traveled a long way in the recent time

with formulation of National Disaster Risk Reduction Policy and National Disaster Management Plan but still we have to go very far by implementing these policies and plan in their true letter and spirit, he added.

He said, "We have also made considerable progress in mainstreaming disaster risk reduction in development processes, which will no doubt lead to greater national resilience against potential disasters. Our expedition for resilience is consistent and we need to make our utmost efforts to realize the ideals."

The chairman NDMA said that the Disaster Management System in Pakistan was currently undergoing a transformation, shifting from a reactive to a proactive approach. This represents a significant change in how we collectively address unexpected crises. In the past, the primary focus was on responding to emer-

gencies after they had already occurred, often resulting in substantial loss of life and property. However, due to advancements in technology and a deeper understanding of natural disasters, Pakistan is now moving towards taking proactive measures, he maintained. He said, "This transformation involves the establishment of a modern National Emergencies Operation Center (NEOC) at the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA). The disaster NEOC is now capacitated to create common operating picture enabled by multiple satellite feeds, softwares, Artificial intelligence tools that is expected to strengthen digital risk assessment, early warning systems, and preparedness strategies." Inam Haider said that National Resilience Day prompts us to embrace best practices and implement policies and strategies aimed at fortifying our nation.

Aneeq aims to provide better facilities for Hajj pilgrims

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony, Aneeq Ahmed expressed his commitment to continuously strive to provide top-notch travel facilities for Hajj pilgrims.

Speaking in a recent meeting with Caretaker Advisor to the Prime Minister on Aviation, Air Marshal Farhat Hussain Malik, he expressed hope that pilgrims would receive encouraging news regarding these efforts soon.

The minister emphasized the responsibility of ensuring travel amenities without compromising on quality. He underlined that their collective objective

was to enhance the services offered to pilgrims without increasing the cost of Hajj tickets.

In the meeting, Farhat said, "We have already initiated our work, and soon we will have good news for the pilgrims." He shared his dedication to the welfare of the pilgrims and their comfort during this sacred journey.

The meeting was attended by Aviation Secretary, Saif Anjum, Pakistan International Airlines Chairman, Managing Director and Ministry of Religious Affairs Additional Secretary, Syed Atta-ur-Rehman, among other officials from the Hajj wing.

Sultan says: Role of Pak Army during earthquakes would never be forgotten

MUZAFFARABAD (INP): Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) President Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry has said that unparalleled help provided by the Pakistan armed forces to the earthquake victims would never be forgotten by the people of Azad Jammu Kashmir.

In a statement, he said that compensation for the loss of human lives caused by the earthquake was not possible, but the government tried its best to rehabilitate the victims, rebuild and reconstruct the damaged infrastructure. He thanked the international community for its generous support for rescue.



QUETTA: Chairman Senate Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani condoling with former MNA Mir Ehsanullah Reki over death of his father

UN, OIC urged to craft meaningful strategy for settlement of Palestine issue

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) called upon the United Nations and the OIC to realize the gravity of the situation and should immediately hammer out a meaningful and result-oriented strategy to find out lasting and perpetual solution to the Palestinian issue, insisting that enduring peace in the region lies only in a two-state solution.

Reacting to the fierce armed clashes between Palestine and Israel and the escalating tension in the region, PTI spokesperson demanded that the international nations should protect the basic and fundamental rights of the people of Palestine and make the oppressor and illegitimate state of Israel bound by international law and ethics.

He emphasized that the key countries of the Muslim Ummah, including the OIC, should take special measures on war-footing basis to ensure a per-

manent and durable solution to the Palestinian issue.

PTI spokesperson made it clear that the people of Palestine have full right to get their own land and independent state, adding that the establishment of an independent Palestinian state with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital was inevitable for the regional security and stability.

He recalled that PTI Chairman Imran Khan's principled stance on the Palestine issue was the key for the perpetual solution to the conflict and the lasting peace in the region, who has consistently maintained his stance that oppression, occupation, and peace cannot go hand in hand.

PTI spokesperson underlined that the Israel's occupation on Palestinian's territories and its policy of expansion through use of force, inhuman coercion and fascism was the basis of the conflict.



QUETTA: Activists of Pakistan Sunni Tehreek hold a protest in favour of their demands at Quetta Press Club.

NTDC, DISCOs' negligence: 141 billion rupees line and transmission losses burdens consumers

ISLAMABAD (Online): The negligence and incompetence of NTDC and DISCOs, the burden of line losses and transmission losses of more than 141 billion rupees has also been put on the consumers, and SEPCO line and 24 billion 78 crore rupees, FESCO'S line and transmission losses are 16 billion 82 crore rupees, NTDC'S line and transmission losses are 5 billion 71 crore rupees, LESCO'S line and transmission losses are 16 billion 6 crore rupees, TESCO'S line and transmission losses are more than 83 crore rupees. While GEPCO'S transmission and line losses have been more than 67 crore rupees. According to the documents, Lahore Electric Supply Corporation's line and transmission losses are more than 24 billion 42

crore rupees, Multan Electric Supply Corporation's line and transmission losses are more than 22 billion 85 crore rupees. HESCO has the losses more than 13 billion 5 crore rupees, and SEPCO line and 24 billion 78 crore rupees, FESCO'S line and transmission losses are 16 billion 82 crore rupees, NTDC'S line and transmission losses are 5 billion 71 crore rupees, LESCO'S line and transmission losses are 16 billion 6 crore rupees, TESCO'S line and transmission losses are more than 83 crore rupees. While GEPCO'S transmission and line losses have been more than 67 crore rupees. According to the documents, the audit authorities have sought details of feeder-wise power line and transmission losses.

PDM parties doing drama over election date: Khattak

ISLAMABAD (INP): Terming the recent trade of verbal blows and apparently escalating feud among component parties of the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) and key partner of the former government over the poll timing a "drama", Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Parliamentarians (PTI-P) Chief Pervez Khattak has said that the former ruling alliance is "misleading" the nation.

Addressing a ceremony held on Sunday to mark the formal induction of Pakistan Muslim League-Quaid's (PML-Q) Allama Muhammad Shoaib and his colleagues into the newly-formed party, Khattak — once the close aide of PTI Chairman Imran Khan — said: "The PDM empowered the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) [to fix a date for the general elections in the country] but now they are doing a drama." A day earlier, PDM President and Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman said the country was sinking into a quagmire, while some political parties were busy campaigning for the elections. PPP — a key partner of the former coalition government — have been stressing the electoral watchdog.



QUETTA: Senior Mines Inspector Muhammad Atif addressing participants of Round Table on Safe Mining

Economic team led by finance minister leaves to Morocco

ISLAMABAD (Online): The economic team headed by caretaker finance minister Shamshad Akhtar left for Morocco today (Sunday). The caretaker Finance Minister and State Bank Governor departed from Karachi while the Finance Secretary left for Morocco from Islamabad.

According to sources in the Ministry of Finance, the economic team will participate in the annual meet-

ings of the World Bank and the IMF. Finance Secretary, Governor State Bank is accompanied by the caretaker Finance Minister, the economic team is scheduled to meet with MDIMF, World Bank President, Asian Development Bank officials.

Sources further said that the caretaker finance minister will discuss the sale of bonds in the international market along with the economic team.

128 illegal foreigners held in Quetta operations

QUETTA (INP): As many as 128 illegal foreign nationals were arrested during ongoing operation in different areas of Quetta.

Meanwhile, cases were registered against 38 people under Foreign Act.

According to details, as part of mass deportation of illegal Afghan nationals, police continues operations in Quetta.

During separate actions, 128 illegal foreigners were detained and cases were registered against 38 under Foreign Act.

Police officials said that data of 33,000 foreigners have been collected so far.

13blns money laundering discloses under the guise of solar panels

KARACHI (Online): Directorate of Post Clearance Audit FBR (Federal Board of Revenue) has exposed the money laundering of Rs.13billion in the name of solar panel import and over invoicing.

According to media reports, the Directorate of Post Clearance Audit FBR Karachi has identified 6 more fake companies of solar panels during the customs clearance audit, and money worth 13 billion rupees has been transferred abroad under the guise of

solar panels on behalf of these fake companies.

Sources said that out of these 6 fictitious companies, 3 are related to Karachi and the other 3 are related to Quetta, 6 fictitious companies include Messrs. SH Traders, Messrs. Sahar International, Messrs. Delta Trading, Messrs. Smart Impex, Messrs. Ehsanullah Import Export and Asadullah Enterprises.

After the customs clearance audit, it has been pointed out that the above

6 fictitious companies have submitted a total of 687 goods declarations to the customs department for the clearance of imported solar panels, out of which 443 goods declarations contain excess prices of imported solar panels. Over-invoicing was revealed and money laundering of 3 billion was done.

Sources said that the said 6 fictitious solar import companies showed the value of solar panels worth 9 billion rupees in the goods declaration at 13 billion, while 2 importers M/s Smart Impex, M/s Asadullah Enterprises sold solar panels worth 4 billion for 2.4 billion rupees in the local market.

The Customs Post Clearance Audit team has registered 6 new cases and formed teams for arrests, while Abdul Aziz, the owner of the fictitious solar company M/s. A day's remand has been obtained.



CHAMAN: Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki addressing jirga of tribal elders



GWADAR: Commissioner Mekran Saeed Ahmed Umrani presiding over a high level meeting regarding arrangements of Gwadar jeep rally

CPSP's newly built Hall & Library inaugurated: Advanced Life Support in Obstetrics course conducted at CPSP's Regional Office

Independent Report
QUETTA: The President College of Physicians & Surgeons Pakistan (CPSP), Professor Dr. Khalid Masud Gondal (Tamgha-e-Imtiaz) inaugurated the newly built Hall and Library in the Regional Office of CPSP here on Sunday.

Also present at the inauguration were senior Vice President of CPSP, Professor Dr. Shoaib Shafi, Vice President, CPSP, Professor Dr. Ayesha Siddiq (Tamgha-e-Imtiaz), DG International Relations, Professor Dr. Asghar Butt, DG Medical Education, Professor Umar Zaman, General Dr. Shehla Baqai and other members of the CPSP council besides the senior medical educationists, gynecologists and physicians from all over the country including Balochistan.

The President CPSP also inaugurated the first-ever Advanced Life Support in Obstetrics course at the CPSP Regional Office.

Speaking on the occasion, Professor Khalid Masud Gondal said that the postgraduate training and education is being promoted in the province so as to improve the healthcare services in Balochistan.

He said that it is our endeavour to provide better medical treatment opportunities and facilities for people in the province.

Professor Gondal also mentioned that CPSP is the only institution that has international recognition.

He said that it is our desire to establish the regional offices of CPSP in Loralai, Turbat and Khuzdar so that the doctors may get the postgraduate training in remote areas of the province as well.