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

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Member APNS & CPNE

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www.dailyindependent.com.pk

Ph: 2841470/2841473 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** 

**OUETTA: Around 150 Af**ghan 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

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

It was told that the immigrants ti be brought in Chaman following the action 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 in-

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



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

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

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

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

The death toll of Israelis in various clashes has exceeded 600, including more than 100 military command-

According to local media reports, fierce clashes between Israeli forces and Palestinian militants are ongoing in many parts of

had regained control of most of the south, but heavy fighting was still ongoing in Israeli areas near the Gaza border, including Be'eri and Sderot.



People inspect a building destroyed in Israeli strikes

ers and officials On the other hand, the Israeli army, in a cowardly operation, bombarded the houses of Hamas commanders in Gaza throughout the night. Everywhere there are scenes of destruc-

According to the Min-istry of Health in the Gaza Strip, more than 313 Palestinians, including children, were martyred in these at-

southern Israel. The Israeli army said it



# 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: **OIC** voices

## 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 ople 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

#### 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 earth-quake 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.

### 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 former prime minister's turn on October 21. 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 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 corridors, emphasising would receive upon his re-

Taking a swipe at the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) government, Maryam accused the previous administration of appointing individuals who resorted to using offensive language against the then opposition. Branding them as "jok-

ers," Maryam claimed that the health card initiative was started by her father which was hijacked later by the PTI government, adding that the former ruling party wrongfully took

credit for its success. Continued on page 2 functional in Killa Saifullah

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 con-cerned 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

Shafqaat, besides others. Addressing the tribal Jirga, Mir Ali Mardan Domki said that the it has been decided by the govern-ment to repatriate the illegal immigrants to their re spective 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

Continued on page 2



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 and also observed a minute 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 Balakot.

of silence. 18 years ago, on October 8, 2005, at 8:52 a.m., some 80000 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

#### **Project Manager of PMDC** killed in Sorenj road blast just close to his vehicle.

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

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

As a result the explo sive device hitting his vehicle exploded, the Project Manager PDMC died on the spot while his driver go 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.

#### 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.

#### **JUI-F** standing with Palestinian brothers in this difficult time: Maulana Fazal

ISLAMABAD (APP) Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (JUI-F) Chief Maulana Fazl-ur-Rehman Sunday said that his political party was standing with our Palestinian brothers in this difficult time and urged the United Nations to fulfill and imple-ment its resolutions of 1967 to settle down the conflict.

Rehman in a statement said, Palestinian freedom fighter's attacks on Israel were a historic success, adding that they have freed their territories from Israeli occupation. "I congratulate the Palestinian people on this landmark achievement," he said.

He said that JUI-F has always stood by Palestinian and the recent incident has destroyed Israel's defense system and their arrogance, and asked that Palestinian brothers respect human rights and not harm children, women and citizens. Palestinians should prove how Islam and Muslims protect human rights. He said that a meeting of the OIC should be called and all Islamic countries should determine their position keeping in view the current critical situation.

#### **Security forces** kill one terrorist in North Waziristan

RAWALPINDI (APP) One terrorist was killed in an exchange of fire with security forces in Razmak area of North Waziristan. According to Inter Ser-

vices Public Relations (ISPR), weapons and ammunition were also recovered from the killed terror-Known as Azeem Ullah

alias 'Ghazi', the killed terrorist remained actively involved in various terror activities against security forces and killing of innocent civilians.
The ISPR said sanitiza-

tion has been carried out to eliminate any other terrorist in the area. Locals of the area have appreciated the operation.

## **President urges** world to play role for world peace

Israeli occupying forces should immediately stop violence, oppression: FM

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

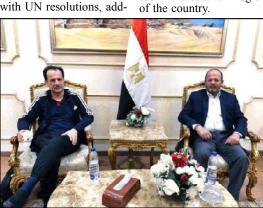
people by Israel.
"Continuous annexation of land, illegal settlements, disproportionate reactions and killings. The result is no hope and no progress towards peace," the president added.

He said time had come to move forward in line

ISLAMABAD (APP): ing "International commu-President Dr Arif Alvi on nity can play a big role tonity 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



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 elec-

tion 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 lead-ership 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 coun-

"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 main-

Murtaza Solangi said that media in Pakistan enjoyed freedom and the courts were also free, adding all registered political parties had equal opportu-The Election Commis-

sion of Pakistan and caretaker government would ensure equal opportunities for all political parties in the upcoming elections, he

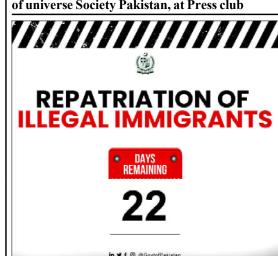
The minister stated that there was no ban on PTI as a political party.

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

Continued on page 2



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



## 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

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

Justice Jamal Khan issued by the Supreme Mandokhel, Mohammad Ali Mazhar, Justice Ayesha A. Malik, Justice Athar Minullah, 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 Faizisai 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.

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 İsa, has remarked that when martial

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



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

## 19th Asian Games concludes in Hangzhou

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

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 4×100-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

BEIJING (APP): The 19th clips, two programs and one carnival.

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

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

The next edition of the Asian Games will take 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 multi-national air exercises in achieving common objectives in the face of the evolving dynamics of air warfare He commended the ef-

forts 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 bolsterinteroperability 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 place in Aichi and Force regarding the crucial

vancing technology, modoffers a unique opportuernizing its capabilities and nity for participating air employing contemporary forces to bring their unparalleled skills and operacombat tactics to effectional capabilities to the tively address shared challenges of aerial defence. Air spotlight, but will also Vice Marshal Tariq deepen mutual understand-Mehmood Ghazi highing between the participatlighted that the exercise ing contingents to promote would prove to be a step interoperability. forward, to promote warm This mega exercise is a

and brotherly relations signature of excellence and amongst the leading air professionalism which validates PAF's aerial powers of the region. Exercise Indus Shieldprowess in the region. In 2023 will witness participaaddition, the exercise oftion from 14 esteemed Air fers an invaluable learning experience of aerial Forces including Turkiye, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, UAE, warfare employment Egypt, Oman, Bahrain, tactics to the air and Azerbaijan, Indonesia, Morocco, Uzbekistan, ground crew through simulation of real-time war sce-China, and Hungary. narios and varied combat



QUETTA: Pashtunkhwa Milli Awami Party (PKMAP) Chairman, Mehmood 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 CHENÑAI: India on Sunday inflicted a humiliating 6-wicket defeat on fivetime champions Australia in their opening match of the ICC Men's World Cup at Chennai's

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

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 bv Mitchell Marsh off Josh Hazlewood, Kohli went on to make 85 as he masterminded vet another successful chase for India.

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

165-run fourth-wicket

stand, KL Rahul, produced

a chanceless knock of 97 not

out as India reached the tar-

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.

Australia would be

get in 41.2 overs.

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

#### His collaborator in the 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 contem-



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



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 cam-

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

Shakeel and Mohammad

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

Sri Lanka will also be buoyed by their twowicket win against Pakistan last month that propelled them to the Asia Cup final

#### Shahid Afridi become brand ambassador of **Superfix League Season 2**

DUBAI (INP): Shahid Shahid Khan Afridi Afridi is a well know praised such an event in cricketer of Pakistan everyone is a fan of Boom Boom Afridi's brilliant allround performance. has taken many steps to Shahid Afridi has a lot of fans in UAE like all over the world for whom the an organized team which happy news is that he is is providing its services coming to Dubai soon as he has been appointed as the brand ambassador for Superfix International Tape Ball League Season

Naveed Ahmed has made Shahid Afridi the brand International Tape Ball added. League season two in Karachi.

Chairman Superfix Naveed Ahmed met Shahid Afridi in Karachi and briefed him about Superfix International Tape Ball Cricket League.

tap ball.

Naveed Ahmed said that apart from UAE, he promote cricket in Pakistan as well and we have from the platform of SuperFix.

Shahid Khan Afridi who is a big name in cricket, signing with us as a brand ambassador Chairman Superfix is a great achievement for us and God willing this event will be a hisambassador of Superfix tory making event, he

> 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 with 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

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 per cent 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-func-

Of 129 locomotives, around 41 were under normal overhauling schedules and maintenan motives 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 maior 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 locomo-tives would be discarded due to high maintenance

#### 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 antiestablishment, 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

Giving date of elections... Continued from page 1 freely and prepare fake passports

"We are bound to implement the decisions of the previous parliament and the previous government," Murtaza Šolangi

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 fun-

damental changes in national broadcasters, he said making such decisions was not included in the mandate of the caretaker govern-Answering a question about deadline given for de-

portation 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

gees during past over four decades as Pakistan has The countries could not survive with soft borders with anybody enter-

documentation and living

had hosted as many refu-

identitycards, 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 re-

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 Consti-

tution 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

The minister said that history was the witness that political parties conducted their election campaigns even in difficult circumstances and there was ing in its territory without no restriction on PTI in that

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

SYDNEY: South Australia batter Jake Fraser-McGurk smashed a 29-ball

Replaying 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

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 for-

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

fessional format

#### LANDIKOTAL: Unregistered Afghan families are willingly enroute their home land with their homes necessities after the government of Pakistan decided in the apex committee meeting to return all those Afghans who are living in Pakistan unlawfully, at Torkham Border in Landikotal.

**Sports Desk** 

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.

"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 proMushaal says:

## World powers play imperative role towards long-standing **IIOJK**, 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 longstanding Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) and Palestine

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

**Independent Report** 

ISLAMABAD: Following

the special orders of

Islamabad Capital City Po-

lice Officer (ICCPO) Dr.

Akbar Nasir Khan, the

Islamabad Capital Police

"Knock the Door" cam-

paign for the registration of

employees and tenants is in

full swing, a public relations

this campaign various teams

of Islamabad Capital Police

are going to the streets and

door-to-door to ensure the

Islamabad High Court

(IHC) is likely to give a de-

cision in the next 72 hours

regarding the jail trial of Ci-

application is likely to be

ineffective due to the trial

the Islamabad High Court

(IHC) has told to give a de-

cision on the case in 2 to 3

days on the request of

Chairman PTI against the

jail trial and appointment of

Farooq said that not till

Monday, but they will try

to give a decision in 2 to 3

cision will come by

Wednesday. The lawyer has

repeatedly requested the

court to give a quick deci-

sion, but the court has

asked to give a decision on

the matter next week.

Chief Justice Amir

It is likely that the de-

On the other hand, the

It should be noted that

pher case this week.

being started in jail.

judge on jail trail.

He said that, during

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 inno-

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

ISLAMABAD: A view of campaign for registration of house servants and

**Campaign for registration of house** 

servants & tenants data in full swing

to inquire about the prob-

lems faced by the citizens.

Counter Terrorism Depart-

ment (CTD) Islamabad has

registered a data of 147

house servants of 450

houses from Sumbal Police

campaign is to avoid any

untoward incident by main-

taining 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

request of Chairman PTI

Marwat appeared on behalf

that the jail trial of the ci-

pher case has started, the

decision has not yet come

Lawyer Shir Afazl

Shirafazl Marwat said

The cipher case is set for jail hearing again on

Chief Justice Amir

Yesterday, a request

Farooq said that I will

hurry, not on Monday, but

I will make a decision in two

was filed by Imran Khan's

lawyer for a telephonic

meeting with Chairman PTI

Sons, in which it was ad-

mitted 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

for quick verdict.

of Chairman PTI.

on our request.

or three days.

Monday.

domestic workers as well as also prevent the elements

**IHC:** verdict on Cipher case

possible to come in next

72 hours on trial in jail

ISLAMABAD (Online): Farooq heard the different

The purpose of this

Station jurisdiction.

In this regard, the

and Kashmir (IIOJK).

However, the unvielding 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 per-

involved in any kind of sus

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 col-

lect the data. Unregistered

employees and tenants

could be involved in seri-

ous incidents like theft and

robbery by impersonating

as a common citizen and

Islamabad Capital Police is

trying to provide a safe en-

vironment to the citizens of

the federal capital by using

Two missing

children

reunited with

parents

Independent Report

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad

Capital Police Shalimar po-

lice station team safely re-

united two missing children

with their parents, a public

tails, a citizen submitted an application at Shalimar po-

lice station and stated that

his son and daughter

namely Ehthisham and Ani

Tahira had been missing and

could not be traced despite

hectic efforts by family

application the police team

started the investigation.

The police team used tech-

nical and human resources

and succeeded to trace the

missing boy and girl and

safely reunited them with

AIOU to hold

Int'l moot on

Islamic Finance

ISLAMABAD (APP): A

three-day international

conference on Islamic fi-nance will be held at Allama

Iqbal Open University

to 3, 2023. According to the

AIOU, national and inter-

national Islamic scholars

will present their papers on

the consequences of inter-

Hashmi, will be the host

be held at the conference.

(AIOU) from November

Upon receiving the

According to the de-

relation officer said

all its resources

He said citizens are

picious activity.

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 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



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

## **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 beneficia-

The payment of Rs. 9000 per household will be disbursed among around nine million registered beneficiary families. The ben-

fices or call the toll-free helpline 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 benefi-

ciaries can also contact them on WhatsApp num-bers including 0320-3263026 (Sindh), 0320-3263041 (9Punjab), 0325-5365469 (Balochistan). 0325-5365469 (Khyber

## Chiropractors provide drug-free back pain relief

Chiropractors employ 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

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 diagno-

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

dispensable resource for

many communities, includ-

offering a space to engage

in public discourse but are

the earning source.

Marginalized communities

already stigmatized can le-

verage these spaces to up-

Therefore, it is neces-

economically", he added.

"They are not only

ing marginalized groups.

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

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

lift themselves socially and its access if effectively utilized can become a means for empowerment, justice,

#### **IC Police initiates** crackdown against beggars Independent Report

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad Capital Police have initiated a massive crackdown against professional beggars and their handlers in the city to curb this menace, a public relations officer said. He said that, the ICCPO ordered the all zonal DPO's to take action against

of science and technology.

Isfahan on Sunday, Prof.
Choudhary briefed the first
Iranian women scientists.

grated with rights perspec-

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

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, guarantees for public access

#### sary to realize that online to information. **COMSTECH urged to** start prog for Iranian **Women Scientists**

ISLAMABAD (APP): lady about COMSTECH 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 portunities to Iranian women to excel in the field

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 univerprograms to give more op- sities and scientific organizations of Iran. Speaking on the occasion, Mrs. Jamileh Alamolhoda In the meeting held in COMSTECH to initiate

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

ISLAMABAD (Online): will be honored. Pakistani 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 will be organized across the country in which special prayers will be asked for their forgiveness.

his great services for the came the first nuclear power country and the nation, he in the Muslim world

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 Oadir Khan made the country of Pakistan invincible in the world under extremely adverse conditions, as a re-While in recognition of sult of which Pakistan be-

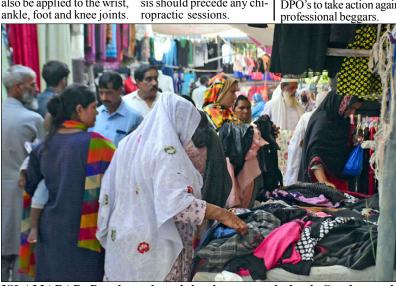


H-9 in Federal Capital.

eficiaries, in case of any complaint, can approach the nearest BISP Tehsil of-

also be applied to the wrist,

sis should precede any chi-



ISLAMABAD: People are busy is buying warm clothes in Sunday weekly Bazaar at sector G-10, in Federal Capital.

## CDA planning to initiate residential scheme for overseas Pakistanis

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Capital Development Authority (CDA) is planning to launch a new stateof-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 designated consultant 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

ecution and conducting various essential studies, including those related to environmental impact, traffic management, and hvdrology. Furthermore, he said the consultant would develop the design for infrastructure, road development, ensuring that all modern amenities are seamlessly integrated into

would be responsible for

overseeing the scheme's ex-

ISLAMABAD: A child along with family is taking

interest in fancy flowers pots at nursery in Sector

## SC's six benches to hear 310 different types of cases this week

Chief Justice Aamir Jail to Adiala Jail.

ISLAMABAD (Online): The Supreme Court (SC) will hear 310 different types of cases this week.

In this regard, the Supreme Court has already formed six benches to hear the cases from October 9 to October 13. These benches include a full court

On Monday, October 9, the fifteen-member full court of the Supreme Court will hear the 'practice & procedure case'. From October 10 to October 13, a three-member bench headed by Chief Justice Qazi Faiz Isa will hear 50 cases.

A two-member bench headed by Justice Sardar Tariq Masood will hear 120 cases in the next judicial week. A three-member bench headed by Justice Ejaz-ul-Ahsan will hear fifty cases. A two-member bench headed by Justice Mansoor Ali Shah will hear fifty cases.

A three-member bench headed by Justice Yahya Afridi will hear fifty cases.

est systems. Renowned economists will shed light on the topic of Islamic World Space Week continues to enthralls participants at IST banking. Vice Chancellor AIOU, Prof. Dr. Nasir ISLAMABAD (APP): Mahmood, will preside The preliminary round of over the inaugural session, exciting activities to mark while Dean, Faculty of Ara-World Space Week are conbic and Islamic Studies Prof. Dr. Shah Mohyuddin tinued virtually by the Institute of Space Technology with an aim to educate Various panel discussions young students and the and working sessions will 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 tion and Awareness Drive entrepreneurs.

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, nonprofit 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 Educa-

(SEAD). The week is celebrated

the scheme.

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

(ŴSWA) declares a theme to highlight a specific aspect of space. National coordinators then plan and organize events around this

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

and decreasing launch around the globe in more 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 compe-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 Agency of Pakistan.

With miniaturization 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

> 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



Golra Mor Underpass in Federal Capital.

## Daily soice of Masse Independent

Monday October 09, 2023

#### Palestine at war

Fifty years since the last Arab-Israeli war, hostilities have once again broken out in Palestine. Hamas, the Palestinian group which rules Gaza, launched a Saturday morning surprise blitz targeting Israel, sending fight- ling the time-consuming task as an excuse to delay ers into the state and initiating elections for some ulterior what will likely be a lengthy armed confrontation between the Palestinians and Israelis.

Tel Aviv has already said Israel is "at war". According to Hamas, 'Operation Al-Aqsa Flood' was started in response to "atrocities in Gaza, against disparity in the sizes of Palestinian people [and] our holy sites". Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, meanwhile, has said his people have the right to defend themselves against the "terror of settlers and occupation troops".

Many Western states have issued typically sanctimonious statements criticising Hamas, and reiterating Israel's right to defend itself. Yet they choose to ignore what has led to the current conflagration: the far-right government that runs Israel has unleashed a reign of terror upon the Palestinians. According to the UN, over 200 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli forces settlers (before vesterday's declaration of war) — the highest number in 18 years. At the time of writing, another 200 Palestinians in Gaza had been killed in a single day's bombardment, a blood-soaked tally that is bound to rise. Moreover, rabid extremists have been stag- the apex committee of the perspective of Pakistan's ing increasingly provocative marches in the occupied city Mational Action Plan, chaired by caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq of Jerusalem, taunting Pales- Kakar in Islamabad. Army tinians on grounds of Al Agsa. They have also been involved with federal ministers and in desecrating churches in the holy city, and attacks on Christian pilgrims and residents, emboldened by a racist government that seeks to ethnically cleanse Palestine of all non-Jews. The situation had been simmering for months, and Saturday's events were the reaction to a sustained cycle of violence and humiliation.

All sides need to exercise restraint, and to avoid civilian targets. Yet knowing Israel's The seeds of mistrust behistorical desire for bloodlust, it is the Palestinian people, particularly in Gaza, who will pay a heavy price as women, children and the elderly are decimated by Tel Aviv's war machine, even Durand Line of 1893 and as Israel's foreign friends trumpet its right to 'self-defence'.

The latest escalation also raises a question mark over the decisively in favour of joinefforts of various Muslim states to normalise ties with Israel. The Palestine question cannot be resolved unless a just solution is found, one where the 30, 1947, Argnanistan s representative cast the only Palestinians have a viable state negative vote for admitting that is secure and financially self-sufficient, where those ethnically cleansed over the decades by the Zionists have the two countries. right to return to the land of their forefathers, and where illegal settlements are permanently dismantled.

Unless the Palestinians receive justice, the cycle of violence will continue, with Israel periodically beating them into stan in 1979 and 2001, Afsubmission. No fanciful deal sidestepping the core issue of enormous hardship to its Palestinian nationhood will ever people. Pakistan opened its doors to millions of Afdeliver, no matter what slick PR | ghan refugees and even supis employed. The Israeli occupation needs to end, and the who were resisting the oc-Palestinian people need justice. Cupiers. That built expectations in Pakistan that a

## **Delimitation blues**



Tahir Mehdi

The Election Commission of Pakistan took up the task of delimitation at great risk to its reputation this time. It was accused of usobjective. But the ECP pressed ahead, preferring the constitutional requirement of delimiting constituencies over everything else. The extraordinary importance given to this task had raised hopes that the ECP was serious about levelling the playing field by first addressing the problem of constituencies.

Constituencies in Pakistan have historically been unequal. In extreme cases, their populations have varied by as much as three times. This goes against the basic democratic

principle of equal suffrage, besides violating citizens equality that is guaranteed in our Constitution. Parliament attempted

to fix this in Elections Act, 2017, by setting a limit of 10 per cent variation in the population of constituencies. The effort, however, was in vain as the 2018 delimitations again resulted in unequal constituencies. The main obstacle

was the rule suggesting that a district shall have a whole number of constituencies; in other words, a constituency shall not comprise parts of two or more districts. Since the population of districts cannot be in exact multiples of the average per seat population, their fractional shares have to be rounded off. For example, if a district's population is 1.6 times the average, it is awarded two seats. Thus the population of each will be 0.8 times the average. On the other hand, a district with a population of 1.4 times the average gets one seat after the rounding off. As a result, constituencies in the former are much smaller than those in the latter. The condition of

within the bounds of one district has been the main source of disparity in constituency sizes.

Parliament in 2023 further amended Section 20 (3) of the Act, adding that "it shall not be necessary to strictly adhere to the existing district bound aries in exceptional cases". The ECP has used this space selectively, and seemingly arbitrarily, in the current delimitation exercise. For example, Tank district's share in the National Assembly stands at 0.52, while that of D.I. Khan comes to 2.02, so instead of creating a very small seat out of Tank and two average seats in D.I. Ismail Khan, the ECP has merged both and divided them into three equal seats. It has thus created a crossdistrict constituency comprising the whole of Tank and a part of D.I. Khan and two wholly within the lat-

The same approach, however, has not been applied in the case of Haripur and Abbottabad. Haripur's share is calculated as 1.29 seats, far exceeding the 10 per cent limit and yet it has been given one whole seat.

Abbottabad's share is 1.56 and it has been rounded off to two seats. This has resulted in a very large Haripur constituency with a population of 1,174,783 next to two small Abbottabad seats with populations of 699,311 and 719,761. The ECP could have easily combined the two districts to create three equal constituencies.

but it has strangely decided

otherwise, without expla-

Similarly, Hafizabad district's share stood at 1.46 so it has been given a whole seat and part of another in neighbouring Guiranwala district. How-Guiranwala ever, district's own share already stood at 5.48; despite taking in the surplus population of Hafizabad, the number of seats for Guiranwala has been kept at five. In other words, with a combined share of 6.94 seats the two districts have been given

only six seats! In contrast, Jhelum's share is 1.56, marginally higher than that of Hafizabad, but it has been given two whole seats. instead of one whole seat, keeping a constituency Neighbouring and one shared with

Rawalpindi or Gujrat. The combined share of the neighbouring districts of Jhelum and Gujrat is five seats (1.56 plus 3.55 equals 5.11) but they have been given six (two and four respectively). This means that the average population of six seats of Hafizabad and Guiranwala is over one million, which is likely to translate into 550,000 voters, while that of the six seats of Jhelum and Guirat is three-quarters of a million (around 400,000

voters) This is simply in-

comprehensible. The most prominent change in the electoral map that the current delimitations have made is that Karachi division has gained one national seat while Sanghar's share has been reduced from three to two. To rub salt, both the new Sanghar seats are 26pc bigger than average and the ECP has opted not to combine it with any other district. It has not bothered to provide any reasons for this odd decision.

It is evident that the ECP has stuck to the old practice of avoiding the

creation of cross-district and cross-division constituencies. It did create some new multi-district constituencies (comprising two or more whole districts) but that is nothing new. Resultantly, we have as unequal constituencies in 2023 as ever. The ECP has explained part of its decision in the preliminary report but has omitted the mention of all instances where it had no justification The ECP hides be-

hind Elections Rule 10 to justify this act. While the law states that populations of the "constituencies of an Assembly" shall not vary by more than 10pc and the recent amendment explicitly asks the ECP to cross district boundaries to ensure parity, the rules drafted by the ECP to conduct delimitation do not conform to these legal conditions.

The bigger question then is: can the ECP ignore democratic principles, the constitutional scheme and acts of parliament, and instead, follow and defend the rules it has formulated for its own procedural convenience? -- Courtesy Dawn

## First, the enemy within



Ghazi Salahuddin

Though it fell to caretaker Interior Minister Sarfraz Bugti's lot to deliver it, the message clearly had the stamp of a higher level. And it seemed to have been designed like a time bomb, sporadic explosions.It happened on Tuesday. The government issued an ultimatum to all undocumented immigrants. including Afghan nationals, to leave Pakistan by October 31 or risk imprison-

ment and deportation. This decision to expel undocumented foreigners was taken at the meeting of Chief Gen Asim Munir attended the meeting, along high officials.

in a tweet by caretaker Information Minister Murtaza Solangi: "All illegal immigrants have 28 days to leave Pakistan". However, it was Sarfraz Bugti who spoke to reporters and shared details of an operation that has the potential of creating major disruptions

Immediately, many difficult questions arose in the minds of the people because of the complexity of the entire plan and its implications for Afghans living in Pakistan, refugees or not. The meeting decided to take strict action against businesses and properties owned by 'illegal immigrants' and scrutinize fake identity cards illegally issued to foreign nationals. There is a lot more.

The central issue, in any case, is that the plan mainly targets Afghans in the wake of rising incidents of terrorism in the country. In that sense, there is this larger constantly changeable relations with Afghanistan and the Taliban. So, how can this historical burden be cast away in less than a month - and with what cost and consequences?

Take, for instance, the any ethnic group. The news was broken remarks of the interior min-

ister that at least 1.7 million unregistered Afghans were currently living in Pakistan. He also claimed that out of 24 suicide attacks in Pakistan since January this year, 14 suicide bombers were Afghan nationals. Serious stuff, isn't it?

As I said, there are questions and questions. I read this comment in a newspaper: "The Afghans cannot be wished away" Naturally, the Afghan community across the country is highly disturbed. More than half of them reside in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, including in the merged tribal districts bordering Afghanistan. As would be expected. the chief spokesman of the Afghan Taliban has termed Pakistan's plan as "unacceptable"

There are some hints of damage control. Caretaker Foreign Minister Jalil Abbas Jilani met his Afghan counterpart in Tibet on Thursday, where they are for a regional conference. They are supposed to have discussed "challenges to neace' Meanwhile, Pakistan's Foreign Office has asserted that the crackdown on undocumented immigrants is not aimed at

Be that as it may. I

deem it important to look at this issue from the point of view of human rights. That is why I want to quote the immediate response of the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP). This is what it said: "The government's decision to evict over one million 'illegal' foreign residents within 30 days – allegedly because they have links to terrorist and criminal groups – reflects not only an absence of compassion but also a myopic and

narrow view of national se-

The large majority of such people are vulnerable Afghan refugees and stateless persons for whom Pakistan has been home for several generations. It is unacceptable to hold them to account for the wrongs of a selected few. They have a moral right to seek refuge in this country and to be treated with dignity and empathy. This decision also contravenes international human rights law and must be reversed immedi-

Now, it is certainly remarkable that the rulers have decided to take this big step and have put an extensive plan into operation. But do they have the ca-

answer is in the affirmative then why have they allowed the demons of violent religious extremism to prosper in Pakistan for all these years?

And if they suddenly

have the will to do it, they must first deal with the sources of religious extremism, bigotry and militancy that are destroying our social order. Since the beginning of this deviance during the long night of Zia's martial law, it is the enemy within that our rulers have not been able to identify and defeat. The Taliban were facilitated by this environment and should also fall in the wider net that is cast to catch all militants and

violent extremists. Actually, there is no evidence yet that the ruling ideas that have presided over a systematic depredation of Pakistan's liberal and tolerant society are changing and a genuine struggle for peace and social justice in Punjab. Another prehas begun. The present leadership should find some time to look at Pakistan's

To take just one example of a recent calamity. they need to patiently sit through a presentation of mobs that roam the streets. what happened in -- Courtesy TheNews

pacity to pull it off? If the Jaranwala in Punjab in the middle of August. If violent mobs can ransack and torch more than two dozen churches and residences of the Christian community without being checked on the spot, then where is the state and its functionaries? The truth is that Pakistan's social fabric is in tatters.

This week's initiative to rid Pakistan of illegal immigrants, howsoever flawed, may still yield some positive results if the rulers are sincerely willing to repent for their lapses in the wake of such unbearable tragedies as the massacre of our schoolchildren in Peshawar's Army Public School by the Taliban terrorists on December 16,

Yes, the entire nation was shaken to its core. A National Action Plan was readily endorsed by parliament. What happened to it? One of its 20 points was: zero tolerance for militancy scribed strict action against the promotion of hatred, extremism, sectarianism and intolerance. But these wise commands have apparently been kept from both: the rulers who govern and the

## Mutual mistrust



**Aizaz Ahmad** Chaudhry

tween Afghanistan and Pakistan were sown even before independence in 1947. By 1946, it had become clear that British India would be partitioned. The Afghan government saw an opportunity to revise the lay claim to several territories that were to become part of Pakistan. When a referendum held in the then NWFP in July 1947 ruled ing Pakistan, the Afghan government started championing the cause of independence for the Pakhtuns

in a separate state ('Pashtunistan'). On Sept Pakistan to the UN. That vote was later withdrawn but the hostility it represented cast a long shadow of mistrust between the

During the Pakistan-India war of 1965, Afghanistan chose to stay neutral though public sympathy appeared to be with Pakistan, leading many Pakistani strategists to believe that Afghanistan could ensure strategic depth for Pakistan. After the Soviet and US invasions of Afghanighanistan plunged into a series of crises, causing ported Afghan militants referred to as mujahideen —

friendly Afghan government denying space to elements hostile to Pakistan could be a strategic asset. This expectation has remained largely unfulfilled, even during the past two years of a seemingly friendly government in Kabul led by the Taliban. How should Pakistan

deal with a state which distrusts it so deeply? The first option would be to start treating Afghanistan as a sovereign state whose people choose rulers without outside influence. Secondly, Pakistan needs a multipronged approach to deal with the difficult situation created by Taliban

Politically, Pakistan should maintain regular contact with the Taliban, through formal and back channels, to convey its concerns and also listen to their perspective. But this should not mean that Pakistan extends formal recognition to the Taliban government. That question should be addressed in consultation Afghanistan's neighbours.

Ideologically, Pakistan should encourage our ulema, particularly those in whose madressahs the Taliban were trained, to engage with the Afghan ulema to persuade the TTP to refrain from carrying out teracts against rorist Pakistan's people.

Militarily, Pakistan should maintain its policy of not talking to the TTP but engage with the Afghan military leadership to persuade them to not provide safe havens to the TTP. We should also manage the border more humanely so that tribes across the border have a friendly attitude towards Pakistan and do not provide shelter to the TTP.

Economically, Pakistan should do everything to boost bilateral trade and facilitate Afghan transit trade through its ports. This is a positive leverage that must be used prudently to win the hearts and minds

of Afghanistan's trading community. Pakistan should also encourage the regional TAPI and CASA-1000 projects as economic prosperity will help counter militancy.

The government has decided to evict all foreign nationals residing in Pakistan illegally, including undocumented Afghan refugees. Though a right decision in principle, its implementation carries serious implications, and would require meticulous, pragmatic and realistic planning, preferably in consultation with UNHCR and the Afghan government. Diplomatically, be-

sides bilateral engagement,

representatives from sev-

eral regional states, includ-

ing Pakistan, urged the Af-

their country from becom-

ing a "terrorism and insta-

countries felt that non-re-

gional players, particularly

the US-led Western coali-

tion, must shoulder the re-

sponsibility for post-con-

country, unfreeze Afghan

national assets and lift uni-

lateral sanctions. There are

reports that the Taliban

leadership includes prag-

matic elements as well as

hardliners. Pakistan's top

priority should be to stay

engaged with all segments

of the Taliban and persuade

them that mutual mistrust

is not serving the people of

either country. Overcoming

that mistrust will take time.

At this point, establishing

good-neighbourly ties is a

realistic goal that can serve

the larger interest of both

countries and the region.

we should coordinate closely with regi-onal countries on the following doing us any good? int-ernational expectations from the Taliban: an inclusive government, girls' right to education, and effective counterterrorism measures. The recent Mos-Consulta-tions, which brought together special

so much sukoon (calm)? ghan authorities to prevent bility hotspot". These flict reconstruction of the

writing TikTokers post their progress of doing the monk mode challenge — wherein they eliminate distractions like social media. Netflix. apps, video games, dating and focus on one task at a time. They practise an iteration of the following schedule: wake up around 530, no checking of devices, cold shower, exercise, reading for half an hour. stretches for 15 minutes focused work for X hours a walk or more exercise some phone time before putting it on silent and away

## Monk à la mode



Muna Khan

I had the good fortune to travel up north recently with my family. The few days in a picturesque town. getting plenty of rest, laughter and good food along with limiting smartphone consumption impacted us all positively. Over breakfast I wondered whether we really need to be connected 24/7 if we knew it was not

The very morning of our departure, I read an article on BBC about people going into 'monk mode' limiting social media and other screen time, in a bid to be more productive. Had we inadvertently done the same which is why we felt

Monk mode gained popularity last year when it was reported as a productivity hack popular among CEO and entrepreneurs who use it to focus on one activity at a time. While the term has been around for at least two decades, it found its way to TikTok, and well, you know the rest — 68.8 million views at the time of

from your bed before bedtime at 10pm. Some people also include healthy habits into the challenge like no junk food, sugar, alcohol and drugs. TikTokers also followed three beliefs that helped them during their monk mode challenge isolation, introspection and improvement. All of this, they said in their videos, improved their productivity, ie, they could manage one task at a time, having been inspired by an XYZ influencer (read rich per-Funny things happen

when capitalism gets its grubby hands on sacred philosophies. The name monk is a

nod to monks who have re-

nounced worldly goods to

pursue spiritual goals. The popular self-help guru/ influencer and author Jay Shetty, who has a massive social media following, renounced business school to join an ashram, wrote about his experience of adopting monk habits in his bestselling Think Like a Monk. "I want to help people find stillness, purpose, peace and clarity in their daily life, by adopting the mindset monks have developed over thousands of years," Shetty told the Guardian in 2020. While noble, I want to add that Shetty is worth between \$25m and \$30m and reportedly earns \$7m a year from his books, podcasts and speaking tours. Monks in Asia, meanwhile, do not earn, certainly not for themselves.

Forbes wrote in 2022 that "the global personal development market was valued at \$41.81 billion in 2021, with projected growth at a compound annual growth rate of 5.5 per cent from 2022 to 2030." I'm not against self-

development. I believe all of us can benefit from introspection without relying on apps for long periods.

I will get into trouble for saying this but Imran Khan would have done well had he ventured into the

realm of self-development, instead of governance. He is clearly inspirational and has the makings of motivational gurus who appeal to folks struggling to find purpose or direction. Such influencers tap into someone's weakness and offer them goals - packaged through books, programmes, courses, videos, complete with hashtags - to help them attain confidence, security, riches,

even love. Khan helped disenchanted, disconnected, apolitical people find some purpose; even if I don't understand it, I can't deny his appeal. He also did it without a heavy reliance on religion, compared to anyone with cleric ahead of their names who are our version of motivational speakers. But unlike those shilling a product guised in philosophy, Khan's goals' were unrealistic, in fact, all smoke and mirrors. Maybe, he'd fare better if he 'sold' concepts suited to our ancient culture and wisdom for collective personal betterment minus empty sloganeering

On the surface, monk mode is an incredible idea. It frees us from the terrible trappings of social media which, studies show, make users feel bad about themselves. But just like being a monk isn't for everyone, neither is going into a mode. Given the advancements in technological innovations vying for your attention, there's got to be a better way to manage living in these times. I don't have answers but I know healthy lifestyles based on personal connections shouldn't be a mode. Our elders may have the answers as they also lived in times of disruptions in communication, albeit not at today's dizzying speed. They adapted without losing sight of personal relationships and didn't compromise on simple sources of joy. We may want to turn to them for their sage advice. -- Courtesy Dawn

### **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 Umair Saif, while Federal Minister for Human Rights, Khalil George briefed Governor Muhammad Balighur Rehman in detail

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

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 Khyber Secretary 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. 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

Chaudhry personally met place to support their with polio workers and efforts.

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 The Chief Secretary, noted that seven-day antipolio 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

### 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.

said that the patriotism and sacrifices of the local population, especially the residents of Barwala including Azari Sehal, Khanpur areas are compensation, he said.

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.

Supreme Court's decision and the directives of the caretaker government of Punjab, the local population would be given the prices of their land The Commissioner according to the current market rates.

Commissioner added. The local residents whose property is affected by the construction of the Malikpur, Azizal and dam would be given fair

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

DERA ISMAIL KHAN items including 15 rolls of (APP): The district police cloth, 33 tyres of different have foiled a smuggling attempt and seized non-bags, 70 sacks of China attempt and seized non-custom paid (NCP) items worth over Rs 23.6 million during the checking of several vehicles here in the pipe, 12 sacks of Iranian limits of Daraban police stations.

Police spokesman, a police team of Daraban police station led by SDPO Daraban Circle Malik

During checking, the authorities for further legal police recovered NCP action.

Karachi.

Salt, eight Iranian blankets, eight blankets with bedsheets, six rolls of plastic sandal, three sacks of dry milk, five cartons of According to the cosmetic items, one sack of tea and two cartons of veterinary medicines.

The estimated worth of the recovered goods was Aneesul Hassan along with SHO Atta Ullah Khan which was later handed inspected several vehicles. over to the customs



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



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 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. Naqvi directed to complete caretaker CM Mohsin Naqvi paid a visit to PIC within three months adding sections.

so as to make onground that work on upgradation AHORE: On the special review of the upgradation of the emergency block should be done in three upgradation work of the ground floor of emergency block by the start of next

CM Mohsin Naqvi while directing to hire the services of surgeons from installed for the facilitation abroad stated that surgeons of patients and their should be hired on contract attendants. basis as well after seeking Mohsin Naqvi during approval of the Board of his visit reviewed

shifts. The construction of Sarai should also be completed at the earliest. CM was informed

during the briefing that Mohsin Naqvi during

Management. Mohsin upgradation plan of the Naqvi directed to complete emergency block and relevant



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

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

National Book Foundation

outstanding performance

of students during the Latif

Night program, expressing

his hope that such

programs would continue

in the future. He stressed

programs that celebrate

Sufi poets' contributions in

schools and colleges across

the country, as he added, it

has been observed that

priorities. Regarding the

status of the School, he

acknowledged that the

School had been

being

gradually

Sindhi praised the

for the school.

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

In the light of the remarks while addressing as special guest at the "Latif Night" program held at such programs were Public School Hyderabad here on Saturday night. marginalized from our The federal minister invited the students of the School for a one-week recreational visit to Islamabad. He also proposed

#### **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 Khanewal 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

#### Seminar highlights youth's crucial role in democracy

MIRPURKHAS (APP) ommissioner 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 Government Quaid Millat High School here Sunday. in its report.

1970 and 2018, a dangerous decline resulting from climate change and various human activities, the WWF

mesmerising things fading away at a rapid pace

school's teachers in but its condition was Islamabad and pledged to deteriorated since it was provide 5,000 books of the 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 the need for organizing campuses and nine hostels, adding that he would discuss increasing the grant with the Sindh's representative during a Sindh's 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 operational for 62 years minister to request training and was remained the best development program opportunities for the institution for a long time schemes for the school.



are treated at a hospital in Provincial Capital.

#### 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

After receiving information about the incident, the rescue team reached the site and shifted the bodies to Tehsil Headquarters (THQ) Hospital paharpur where deceased were Zulfiqar, son of Muhammad Zareef, a of 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."

registered at Excise Police Station Peshawar for further investigation and legal action, an Excise spokesman said.

A case has been

#### digital transformation **Independent Report** PESHAWAR: KPRMP Project Director met with the Caretaker Provincial Advisor Dr Syed Sir Faraz Ali Shah at his office Civil

Dr. Syed Faraz says:

Economic growth, paperless

governance assured with

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 Digital

level.

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 a meeting with Faisal Shehzad project director of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa digital transformation.

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. Sved 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 satisfaction over the steps taken in e-governance and



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 and Faisalabad with 245 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

unfortunate tally with a Chakwal, Rawalpindi with 1,561

Faisalabad, Sheikhupura recorded 3 new dengue cases, 2 cases reported Lahore leads the from Kasur, Gujrat,

staggering 2,130 cases, B a h a w a l n a g a r, closely followed by Bahawalpur and Rajanpur each confirmed one new identified as Muhammad cases, Multan with dengue case during the 620, Gujranwala with 268 same period.

dengue cases were

reported in Lahore, 47 in

Rawalpindi, 10 in Multan, 11 in Gujranwala, 10 in



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

The study and exposure tour was attended by 70 students from the following departments of SBBWU and its affiliated History and Pakistan heritage of Taxila Valley.

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 colleges: Department of history and cultural

#### Climate change fades melodious chirping of birds at devastating scale

fact that the bird population in major cities of the country is declining

Even the population of sparrows, which are often taken for granted, is dropping at a rapid rate, WWF World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) warned

The world's wildlife population volumes are plummeted by an average of 69 percent between

included early morning of extermination in the elevations for increasing

LAHORE (APP): It is a chirping of birds especially sparrows.

Noted wildlife expert Dr. Muhammad Azhar told APP that climate change caused by human activities common birds like 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 biodiversity degradation. responses are often well documented.

Moreover, based on The two most current research, oneeighth of species of birds have a high level of danger views and melodious 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

Some tropical mountain birds, such as the northern snowbird, are especially vulnerable to climate change due to their lack of access to higher temperatures.

Birds also play 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.

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 sparrows, their populations are already on the International Union for Conservation of Nature Threatened Species, where Greater London lost nearly disease transmission.

70 per cent of its sparrows between 1994 and 2001.

It is feared by many ornithologists that the only reason sparrows are not on the Red List in Pakistan yet is that nobody has so far attempted to actually count the number Unfortunately, in our of these birds existing at present, IUCN Country Manager Mahmood Akhtar Cheema told APP.

Complex changes in

climate change have caused numerous changes, such as increasing temperature and a rise in precipitation frequency, representing dynamic environmental changes for birds, he added.

Cheema said that climate change has caused advanced spring migration, (IUCN) 'Red List' of changes in birds' habitat, higher possibility of

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

ISLAMABAD (APP): A the country has had an 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

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.

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 economic costs of protests The recent internet number of orders, to be around 2.0% of the into

FAISALABAD: A worker busy in his work on power loom in a local factory

further strengthen its

hands to achieve common

goals of the welfare of

business community more

government to promote

community and said that

his cooperation with ICCI

would help address of

issues and facilitate the

business community in

occasion, Muhammad

Tanzeem-e-Tajran

Pakistan and President

Pakistan Business Forum

Islamabad said that the

Speaking on the

Chaudhry,

Markazi

business development.

Kashif

President,

He said that the unity

effectively.

**Business leaders urge** 

govt to consult with private

sector for revival of economy

Kashif Chaudhry along among traders and common

with a delegation of stand of their issues would

presidents of various send a strong voice to the

Islamabad Chamber of ease of doing business in

Commerce & Industry the country. He lauded the

(ICCI). He assured that he services of Kashif

would work with ICCI for Chaudhry for the trading

Markaźi

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Tanzeem-e-Tajran

Pakistan and President

Pakistan Business Forum

Islamabad Muhammad

market associations visited

resolving the key issues of

the business community,

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

said a press release.

Addressing

substantial daily loss of Rs 135 million.

Meanwhile, freelance community, contributes significantly to Pakistan's economy, has also felt the 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 telecommunication sector

Furthermore, PIDE had earlier estimated the

**Privatization** 

**Commission** 

will take over

the financial

affairs of PIA

ISLAMABAD (Online):

Privatization Commission

today (Monday).

will take over the financial

Commission will take over

Pakistan International

Airlines from October 9,

while PIA will remain

administratively with the

will begin on a phased basis

after the Privatization

Commission takes over the

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

spokesman told media here

Sunday that under the

supervision of Chie

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 Subdivision. Accused

Basharat Mohammad 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

LESCO

Davis Road Sub-Division

The

administrative affairs.

Privatization of PIA

Aviation Division.

affairs of Pakistan Ban International Airlines from not

According to sources,

Privatization



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

exports and create jobs.

In a statement, PBF

Chairman (Capital Area)

Atif Ikram Sheikh said that

PBF appreciates the

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Pakistan Business Forum (PBF) has welcomed the European Parliament's decision of extending the Generalized unwavering efforts of the System of Preferences Government of Pakistan in (GSP) Plus status to advocating for this Pakistan for another four extension, years till 2027, but has strengthening urged the government to relations and fostering remove regulatory economic growth for our obstacles to boost exports nation. to the EU.

The GSP Plus status Plus status, which Pakistan offers developing countries has enjoyed in the past, has for over 6,000 products. It is a significant opportunity for Pakistan to boost its prosperity.

Atif Ikram said that

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

spokesperson of the World

Bank said that the Bank is

recommendations for the

implementation of taxes.

making

He added that the contractors,

World Bank recommends depositors and importers,

Pakistan's tax system, a very low standard of

conditions.

duty-free or reduced-tariff significantly contributed to access to the EU market enhancing our export potential and economic

**World Bank takes** 

proposal to impose tax

under 50,000 salary

ISLAMABAD (Online): 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

bank

He said that the GSP

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.

#### Revenue officers directed to expedite

Divisional Commissioner Silwat Saeed has directed revenue officers to expedite the recovery campaign to collect maximum revenue from

Chairing a meeting on maximum recovery under the head of

# recovery

FAISALABAD (APP): defaulters.

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 stamp duty, registration fee, capital valuation tax



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

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 Programme (PSDP) official in the Ministry of project was also under 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 Corridor Economic (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 process.

## Chairman, PHHSA for building tax capacity

Chairman Pakistan Hi Tech Hybrid Seed Association (PHHSA), Shahzad Ali Malik Sunday said to build tax capacity, governments would 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-valueadded 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 improving compliance without increasing standard tax rates.

#### 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.

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

#### **Kashif Younis says:** Concept of globalization transforms regional economies

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

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 Company Ltd underwent groundbreaking rigorous inspections and development for Pakistan's quality audits. 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

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

to secure registration on requirements the GACC, Organic Meat

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 highquality meat products. This milestone positions Pakistan as a credible and reliable supplier of meat to China. This achievement Counsellor at the Paristan Embassy in Beijing.

The company that has achieved this remarkable feat is "The Cranic Meat Company The Country's economic growth. It also creates construinties for job has the potential to creation within the meat processing industry", he

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



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 price of high-speed diesel Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce Industry' Businessmen Panel (BMP) \$122.3.Quoting a research has called on the report, he said that the price government to make a of Arab Light crude, which substantive redcution in Pakistan imports from the petroleum products Middle East, fell by 9.1%,

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 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

dipped by 10% to \$110.6 per barrel compared with last fortnight's average of following a huge cut in the global oil market by almost \$88.68 by October 5 per barrel and an compared to the average price of \$97.58 for the September 18-29 period. Incorporating the drop alongside 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 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,

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

individuals,

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 was 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 received multiple in Unauthorized complaints that the Activities" available on

after SECP's website.

## market associations would problems. PIAF for keeping check on expenditure, high cost, as debt jumps to Rs64 tr

cooperation of Markazi traders and industrialists

Anjuman-e-Tijaran and are facing multiple

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.

PIÁF 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

Quoting the State seen

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

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 unsustainable, corrective measures to curb this alarming trajectory been



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

## 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 offic-ers and killed the two at-

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 selfdefence 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 sus-pected 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, Presi-dent Tay-yip 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.'

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

Violent torrents struck Sikkim state on

Wednesday after a high-al-titude glacial lake suddenly

similar disasters will be-

come an increasing danger

across the Himalayas as

global temperatures rise and

ice melts, spurred by climate change.

have been retrieved from

different parts of Sikkim,"

state relief commissioner

Anilraj Rai told AFP by

Bengal state, Jalpaiguri dis-

trict police told AFP that

another 48 bodies had been

recovered. More than 100

people are still missing, ac-

cording to official figures.

Water levels along the Teesta

River "returned to normal" four days after the floods hit.

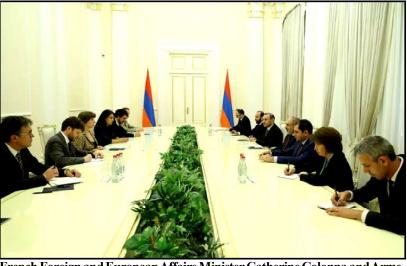
In neighbouring West

"A total of 29 bodies

Scientists warn that

burst.

despite waters receding.



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 re-

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

with moderate wounds, he reports. There was no said, adding that a 33-

**Monitoring Desk** 

WASHINGTON: U.S.

Secretary of State Antony

Blinken said part of the

motivation for Hamas' lat-

est attack on Israel could

have been disrupting a po-

tential normalizing of Is-

rael-Saudi Arabia ties, add-

ing Washington will an-

nounce new aid for Israel

paged through Israeli

towns as the country suf-

fered 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 ma-

jor new Middle East war.

Hamas fighters ram-

**Disrupting Saudi-Israel** 

ties may have motivated

Hamas attack, Blinken says

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

The woman and the infant were hospitalised Reuters could not independently verify the Reuters could not immediate comment

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 nor-

malizing relations with Israel," Blinken told CNN in an interview on

Blinken added the United States has also taken

note of reports of several

Americans killed and miss-

ing in Israel and Washing-

ton is looking to verify the

The secretary of state said details of new U.S. as-

sistance for Israel will be

made public later, as he la-

beled the attack on Israel as

a "terrorist attack by a ter-

details and figures.

Sunday

quently carried out air strikes and shelling on Ukraine since the start of its full-scale invasion 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.

## **Palestinian** Authority calls **Arab League**

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.

### for emergency meeting **Monitoring Desk** CAIRO: The Palestinian

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 Muhannad Al Aklouk as



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

# Zamfara state

**Monitoring Desk** MAIDUGURI: At least nine people were kidnapped in an attack on Friday by gunmen in Nigeria's

residents said. Kidnapping for ransom by armed gangs is rife in northwest Nigeria due to high levels of poverty, unemployment, and the pro-

local government did not immediately respond to Reuters requests for comment on Friday. Residents of Tsohuwar Kasuwa community in Kaura

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

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

# tourist site in

**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. İsrael's Foreign Ministry identified the wounded person as an Israeli who suffered moderate injuries.

#### were dead, 9,240 injured and 1,329 houses damaged or destroyed. More than 200 dead had been brought to different hospitals, a Herat

KABUL: Powerful earthquakes in Afghanistan have killed more than 2,000 people and injured more than 0,000, the Taliban administration said on Sunday, in the deadliest tremors in years in the quake-prone mountain-

Afghanistan earthquakes

kill 2,053, Taliban say,

as death toll spikes

ous 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

**Monitoring Desk** 

(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 Minis-

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 try of Disasters, told considered the cultural capital reuters that 2,053 people tal 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 Eu-

ropean Union and warned that France's decision to send military aid to Armenia could trigger a new conflict in the South Caucasus after a lightening Azerbaijani military operation last month.

Azerbaijan's President Ilham Aliyev last week pulled out of an EUbrokered 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 is- a visit to Yerevan.

sued late on Saturday. President Aliyev said "that due to the wellknown 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 inflate 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

to curb unauthorized immi-

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

**Monitoring Desk** 

LONDON: The British policy to stem the flow of Court weighs whether it's lawful to send asylumseekers 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.

Sunak has vowed to "stop the boats" as a top priority asylum.

Prime Minister Rishi

gration. More than 25,000 government's contentious people are estimated to have arrived in the U.K. by boat migrants faces one of its as of Oct. 2, which is down toughest challenges this nearly 25% from the 33,000 week as the U.K. Supreme 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

#### 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-yearold 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 men-tal 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 pilgrims 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.

# A Syrian man stands on the damaged balcony of a building hit by Syrian proregime forces in the rebel-held city of Idlib. Indian flood

## US will always have Israel's back, says Biden

**Monitoring Desk** States President Joe Biden said on Saturday the US will always have Israel's

back and warned that no

enemy of Israel should ex-

ploit 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 flict with Israel to an "exthis 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 WASHINGTON: United 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."

ever, told US Secretary of State Antony Blinken that tian sanctities," according to

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

# Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, how-

"injustice" towards Palestinians is driving the con-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 Chris-

## 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 inUkrainian military is vital to U.S. national security

invasion of Israeli territory and the murder of Israeli soldiers today and the brutal murder of citizens is an and will be crushed,' Trump said at an appearance in Waterloo, Iowa.

Trump, like others. directly blamed the \$6 bil-"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

'They didn't have that level of aggression with

sist that supporting the

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

The Hamas terrorist act of savagery that must

me. They didn't have it.



#### investigated for suspected witness tampering in Libva 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.

# Armed men kidnap 9 in Nigeria's northwest

northwest Zamfara state,

liferation of illegal firearms.

The Zamfara police and cattle was taken.

**US** extends deportation relief for immigrants from Cameroon **Monitoring Desk** Cameroonians last

man rights abuses in the Central African country. The redesignation 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.

Jnited States on Friday ex-

tended temporary deporta-

tion relief status through

2025 for Cameroonians liv-

ing in the United States, cit-

ing armed conflict and hu-

year received TPS status, which grants immigrants who cannot return to their countries safely due to extraordinary circumstances the ability to stay and work in the United States.

Separatists in northwest Cameroon have been fighting since 2017 against the majority Frenchspeaking government Their aim is to carve out an independent state called Ambazonia. More than 6,000 people have been killed in Cameroon's English-speaking regions since conflict erupted after protests were crushed.

#### president has always maintained his innocence. A policeman in Egypt killed 2 Israelis and 1 Egyptian at a

Alexandria

**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 ex-

pected formal decision from

a Bogota court on Friday.

Uribe and several allies have

been investigated over alle-

gations of witness tamper-

ing carried out in an attempt

to discredit accusations he

had ties to right-wing paramilitaries. The former

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 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

He said that the youth of province are second to many precious lives in it.

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 prov-

He said the event remained continued despite the terrorism act in Mastung and loss of so

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

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

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

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

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



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

## Pakistan faces unpredictable events caused by climatic condition: Chairman NDMA

ISLAMABAD (INP): Chairman 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 ment processes, which will and commitment to advance no doubt lead to greater nanational preparedness by tional resilience against poimproving and increasing tential disasters. Our expethe nation's resilience to dition for resilience is connatural and human induced

Lt Gen Imam Haider said that to meet disasters caused by climatic chal-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 polices and plan in their true letter and spirit, he

He said. "We have also made considerable progress in mainstreaming disaster risk reduction in developsistent 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



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

#### 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. have incurred losses in excess of the prescribed limit. According to the audit documents, various DISCOs and NTDs have suffered losses in excess of the prescribed limit of line and transmission losses from NEPRA, which have been more than 141 billion 76 crore rupees during the financial year 2021/22. PESCO has been leading in terms of losses of more than Rs.53.5billion.

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 feederwise power line and transmission losses

gencies after they had al-ready 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." Imam Haider said that National Resilience Day prompts us to embrace best practices and implement policies and strategies aimed

#### 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

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 Pakistar (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



giving away trophy to captain of winning team after conclusion of All Pakistan Chief Minister Gold Cup 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 vite third parties to partici-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 Sun-

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

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Minister for Religious Af-

fairs and Interfaith Har-

mony, Aneeq Ahmed ex-

pressed his commitment to

continuously strive to pro-

vide top-notch travel facili-

meeting with Caretaker Ad-

visor to the Prime Minister

on Aviation, Air Marshal  ${\mathbb R}$ 

Farhat Hussain Malik, he

expressed hope that pil-

grims would receive encour-

aging news regarding these

without compromising on

The minister empha-

efforts soon.

Mining

Speaking in a recent

ties for Hajj pilgrims.

better facilities for

Hajj pilgrims

sized the responsibility of tor and Ministry of Reli-

quality. He underlined that Rehman, among other offi-

ication of ILO-C176

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

**Economic team led** 

by finance minister

leaves to Morocco

According to sources minister will discuss the

their collective objective cials from the Hajj wing.

pate 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 iden-

tified as one of the most important areas for the second phase, and we have established Joint Working Aneeq aims to provide

was to enhance the services

offered to pilgrims without

increasing the cost of Hajj

said, "We have already ini-

tiated our work, and soon

we will have good news for

the pilgrims." He shared his

dedication to the welfare of

the pilgrims and their com-

fort during this sacred jour-

Chairman, Managing Direc-

gious Affairs Additional

Secretary, Syed Atta-ur-

The meeting was at-

In the meeting, Farhat

(IT) fields

# **Sultan says:**

tended by Aviation Secretary, Saif Anjum, Pakistan International Airlines support for rescue

## 128 illegal in Quetta operations

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.

said that data of so far.

ridors 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

Responding to a question about the transporta-tion 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.

#### Role of Pak **Army during** earthquakes would never be forgotten

M U Z A F F A R A B A D (INP): Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) President Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry has said that un-paralleled help provided by the Pakistan armed forces to the earthquake victims would never be forgotten by the people of Azad Jammu

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

# foreigners held

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

Meanwhile, cases

Police officials 33,000 foreigners have been collected

#### Ashrafi says Pak-Afghan improved relations crucial for regional peace, stability

kistan Ulema Council Chairman, Muhammad Mahmood Ashrafi on Sunday emphasized that the relationship between Pakistan and Afghanistan must be strengthened, and no one should be allowed to undermine the pursuit of peace between

neighbouring countries. Talking to media, accompanying prominent re-ligious leaders, he stressed the need for improved relations between Pakistan and Afghanistan and the importance of maintaining peace in the region.

Ashrafi clarified Pakistan's stance on Afghan nationals residing within its borders, stating, "There is not a single illegal student or teacher in any of the seminaries in Pakistan. If the police have any information, they should consult the concerned seminary and its administration."

He underscored the distinction between Afghan refugees and illegal migrants and expressed Pakistan's commitment to ensuring that Afghan nationals living legally in Pakistan face no issues. Addressing the issue of terrorism, he stressed that both countries should cooperate in preventing individuals from either side from engaging in acts of ter-

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pa-rorism in the neighbouring

He called for a direct channel of communication between the governments of Pakistan and Afghanistan to address concerns and resolve issues. Ashrafi highlighted the sacrifices made by Pakistan for the cause of peace in the region, including hosting almost four million Afghan refugees.

He also reminded the audience that Pakistan had supported Afghanistan against the Soviet Union and suffered significant losses during the war on terror, with over 80,000 Pakistánis martyred.

Regarding the current situation in Afghanistan, he expressed hope in the interim government and Pakistan's ongoing efforts to bring stability to the region. He urged cooperation between both nations in facilitating the return of illegal Afghan migrants while ensuring the protection of those living legally in Pakistan. In conclusion, Ashrafi stressed the importance of collaboration between religious scholars and political leaders from both Pakistan and Afghanistan to promote regional peace. He called for open channels of communication and the removal of misunderstandings that could be exploited by outsiders to create divisions



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): Pa- manent and durable solution kistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) called upon the United Nations and the made it clear that the people OIC to realize the gravity of Palestine have full right of the situation and should to get their own land and immediately hammer out a independent state, adding meaningful and result-ori- that the establishment of an ented 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-

to the Palestinian issue.

PTI spokesperson 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

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.



**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 Of-fice of CPSP here on Sun-

Also present at the inauguration were senior Vice President of CPSP, Professor Dr. Shoaib Shafi, Vice President, CPSP, Professor Dr. Ayesha Siddiqa (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

including

country

also inaugurated the firstever Advanced Life Support in Obstetrics course at the CPSP Regional Office. Speaking on the occasion, Professor Khalid

Masud Gondal said that the

The President CPSP

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 bet-

ter medical treatment opportunities and facilities for people in the province. Professor Gondal also mentioned that CPSP is the only institution that has in-

ternational 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 postgradu-

ate training in remote areas

#### 13blns money laundering discloses under the guise of solar panels KARACHI (Online): Di- solar panels on behalf of 6 fictitious companies have

ings of the World Bank and

the IMF. Finance Secretary,

Governor State Bank is ac-

companied by the caretaker

Finance Minister, the eco-

nomic team is scheduled to

meet with MDIMF, World

Bank President, Asian De-

that the caretaker finance

sale of bonds in the inter-

national market along with

Sources further said

velopment Bank officials.

rectorate 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.

ISLAMABAD (Online):

The economic team headed

by caretaker finance minis-

ter Shamshad Akhtar left

for Morocco today (Sun-

day). The caretaker Finance

Minister and State Bank

Governor departed from

Karachi while the Finance

Secretary left for Morocco

in the Ministry of Finance,

the economic team will par-

from Islamabad.

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 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 En-

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

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/ 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

the electoral watchdog