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Chief Editor: Syed Farooq Shah

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During the meeting

maters of mutual & pro-

fessional interest and re-

gional security situation

kistan values its broth-

erly relations with Qatar

and Pakistan Army also

looks forward for en-

hanced defence and secu-

rity cooperation with

The visiting digni-

tary appreciated Pakistan

Army continuous efforts

for peace and stability in

the region and pledged to keep working for better

relations between the two

and illegal actions of August 5, 2019 and stated that

the people of Pakistan and

Kashmir had high expecta-tions of the OIC. Highlighting the tre-

Occupied Jammu and Kash-

mir for realization of their

inalienable right to self-de-

termination, the prime min-

ister said that the Kashmiris

had always looked towards

OIC and Ummah for sup-

also expressed serious con-

Prime Minister Kakar

**Qatar Armed Forces.** 

COAS said that Pa-

were discussed.

# Nawaz Sharif not returning under deal, says PM Kakar

Govt has no soft corner for any political party; Nawaz will have to face legal obstacles to contest polls; Govt finalising required measures for polls with ECP

Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Thursday dismissed the impression that the decision of Pakistan Muslim League leader Nawaz Sharif to return to Pakistan was part of any deal with the interim government.

"The caretaker government has 'no soft corner' for PML-N or any other political party...How can a caretaker government strike such a deal," he said in an interview with digital media platform, WE (World Echo) News.

The prime minister was responding to a question relating to the PML-N chief's homecoming who

flew from London to Saudi Arabia yesterday with his announcement to land in Pakistan on October 21.

Kakar pointed out that Nawaz Sharif left the country as per the court decision "under the nose of Imran Khan's government, and not the caretaker

However, he said that if Nawaz Sharif returns and takes part in politics, he will have to face some legal obstacles. "The answers to these legal questions lie in

legal remedies," he said.

Kakar said any leader
be it Imran Khan, Asif Ali Zardari, or Nawaz Sharif, everyone would have to seek their legal remedy as

QUETTA: Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan Khan

Domki presiding over a meeting regarding restoration of electricity to agri-

The chief justice noted

He said that the real

that no income tax had been

paid on one and a half mil-

lion worth of gold, where

does this gold come from?

suspect in this case should

be the police, adding that

the policeman would ask

for the gold only for his

own benefit. The CJP ob-

served that the committee

was formed by the arrested

suspect and the police in-

vestigated his family

members. The Supreme

Court, however, approved

the bail of the accused ar-

rested in the gold commit-

What is its legal status.

culture sector and payment of outstanding dues of QESCO

Royal system of police,

patwari should be

abolished: CJP

tee. The court was told that 70 tolas of gold was not worth Rs 200,000.

Afghan refugees issue

Double standards of

western countries exposed

**Independent Report** 

QUETTA: The West exhibits a stark contrast by urging

 $ilde{P}$ akistan to show compassion to Afghan refugees while

failing to grant special visas to nearly 197,000 Afghans

who fled the Taliban's rule in 2021. For more than 40

years, Pakistan has welcomed 1.95 million Afghan refu-

gees, with an additional 600,000 finding shelter after Taliban

4,000 Afghans, despite promising to provide asylum to

Afghans who had worked with the US in Afghanistan

through their special visa programs. Similarly, the UK

resettled only 3,000 Afghans but halted the program,

citing COVID-19 as the reason. 156,000 Afghans await-

ing visas from US, and 141,000 from UK under their

respective special visa programs are a testimony to their

Second phase of CPEC in

full swing: Sami Saeed

Chinese envoy appreciates Pakistan's

hypocritical approach towards Pakistan

As of Sep 2023, the US has resettled fewer than

ISLAMABAD (APP): given to the plaintiff.

Chief Justice of Pakistan

Qazi Faez Isa on Thursday

remarked that the institu-

tions should be respected

while the royal system of

police and 'patwari' should

marks during hearing of a

case pertaining to the 70 tola

the case, the top court ex-

pressed displeasure over

the poor investigation into

quired that how much gold

the arrested goldsmith had

to give through the commit-

The CJP gave these re-

During the hearing of

The chief justice in-

be abolished

gold committee.

the matter.

per their case scenario. He said Pakistan was facing the formation of "regimental camps" and the country had been turned

He rejected the notion that the caretaker setup could be likened to the 90s Kakar formula' where both Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and President Ghulam Ishaq Khan were forced to quit on the pro-posal of then army chief General Waheed Kakar to make way for fresh election.

political positions.

"This comparison is apples and oranges. It is out of context because in our case, the stint of the normal parliament led to its

Caretaker PM

bans unnecessary

foreign visits

of Ministers

ISLAMABAD (Online):

Caretaker Prime Minis-

ter (PM) Anwar-ul-Haq

Kakar has banned the

unnecessary foreign

visits of care taker Fed-

eral Ministers and se-

nior government offi-

been issued regarding

foreign visits of Ministers

and government officials.

port was submitted to

Prime Minister (PM) that

some Ministers and Fed-

eral Secretaries and oth-

ers are making unneces-

that due to these visits,

the work in the federal

ministries and the Paki-

stan Secretariat is being

In which it was said

sarv foreign visits.

affected.

New SOPs have also

Sources told that a re-

cials.

retirement and we are part of the constitutional continuation where leaders of the House and the Opposition agreed upon my name,' into a fighting ground for

There has been no interference from any institution in our case, he said. On general polls, he said

necessary security and administrative arrangements were in place. He said the caretaker

government in collaboration with the Election Commission was in the process of the finalization of the required measures. On the expulsion of

Afghan refugees, the prime minister said the action was being taken only against unregistered foreign nation-

Continued on page 2

#### Pakistan values its brotherly relations with **Qatar, COAS** RAWALPINDI (Online): Lieutenant General (Pilot) Salem Hamad Eqail Al-Nabet, Chief of Staff of Qatar Armed Forces called on General Syed Asim Munir, NI (M). COAS at GHQ, today.

ISLAMABAD: Special Envoy of the Secretary General of Organisation of Islamic Cooperation on Jammu and Kashmir H.E. Yousef M. Al Dobeay calls on the Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar.

#### Caretaker CM directs to restore electricity of approved legal tube wells of agri. sector

Urgent solution of problem of electricity restoration to be found out; Says we want to save zamindars from heavy losses and destruction owing to power suspension during season

**Independent Report** 

OUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki has directed the Quetta Electric Supply Company (QESCO) to restore electricity of the approved legal tube wells of the agriculture sector by today (Friday) so that the farmers and growers may not suffer any agriculture mendous sacrifices of the people of Indian Illegally loss right during the peak season due to the power

suspension. The Chief Minister formed a sub-committee headed by the Secretary Energy department and Commissioner Quetta for preparing viable suggestions for payment of the arrears between the QESCO and agriculturists, installation of meters and

legal tube wells. The Chief Minister

was chairing an emergent meeting of the QESCO, Finance department and administrative officers here at the CM's secretariat on Thursday. Also present in the

meeting were the caretaker Provincial Minister Information, Jan Achakzai, Chief Executive Officer QESCO, Abdul Karim Jamali, Secretary Finance, Zahid Saleem, Commissioner Muhammad Quetta, Hamza Shafqat and other concerned high ups.

While briefing the meeting, the QESCO CEO informed that QESCO's 437 billion of rupees are outstanding against agriculture consumers in the province. Moreover, Rs. 32 billion are outstanding against the taking action against the il- private consumers, as a re- arrears in the province.

sult the QESCO is facing severe financial crunch, he added.

He informed that operation is being started for payment of arrears and suspension of illegal power connections in the "B" areas of province.

For the purpose, the Home department has been written a letter to provide services of FC, adding he mentioned.

Addressing the meeting, Chief Minister said that the power suspension would cause destruction and heavy loss to the agriculture sector, therefore, QESCO should ensure restoration of power by Fri-

He also directed to take concrete steps for prevention of power theft as well as payment of the QESCO



Chief of Qatar Armed Forces Lieutenant General Salem Hamad Egail Al-Nabet meeting with Army Chief General Sved Asim Munir in Rawalpindi.

#### countries. Peace in region to remain elusive till Kashmir dispute resolution: PM

ISLAMABAD (APP): wake of India's unilateral Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Thursday calling the Kashmir dispute the root cause of tension in South Asia, said peace in the region would remain elusive till the resolution of the issue.

The prime minister in a meeting with OIC Secretary General's Special Envoy for Jammu and Kashmir Yousef M. Al Dobeay, said Pakistan was committed to a just and peaceful resolution of the Kashmir dispute in accordance with the UN Security Council

of the OIC delegation to Paworld, particularly in the

tained efforts of the OIC in peace and security and support of the Kashmir urged to step up efforts to cause, particularly in the counter these forces.

cern over the rise of He welcomed the visit Islamophobia around the He said this constituted

He lauded the sus- a serious threat to global

#### Students ought to fully concentrate on studies: **Development & prosperity** possible only through quality education: Governor

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar has emphasized that the dream of

development and prosperity can't be materialized without benefiting from modern technology and research.

He said that good education happens to be the basis of strong society and

The Governor was speaking on occasion of his visit to the Mir Chakar Khan University in Sibi on Thursday.

Also accompanied with the Governor were former caretaker Chief Minister Nawab Ghous Bakhsh Barozai, Vice Chancellor, Lasbela university, Dr Dost Continued on page 2

# ity is possible by acquiring uality education.

development and prosper-



SIBI: Balochistan Governor Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar distributing laptops among students at Mir Chakar Khan Rind University Jamali visits

#### PDMA office; gets briefing on relief activities **Independent Report**

QUETTA: The caretaker Provincial Minister for Home, Mir Zubair Jamali visited the office of Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) on Thursday.

The Director PDMA Attaullah Mengal and other officers were also present on the occasion. The caretaker Minister

was briefed about the relief

activities after fire erupted in the forests of Duki. He was also briefed about the relief and rehabilitation activities for the

flood affected people. In addition to this, the Minister was also briefed about the devastations caused at large scale in the country. Speaking on the occasion, Mir Zubair Jamali said that Pakistan is included in the countries affected due to the climate change.

#### 'Don't give up, time of trial to end soon': Imran's message to supporters **Monitoring Desk** tions.'

ated chairman of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI). Imran Khan has reiterated his resolve that he would not back down even an inch from the quest of 'Haqeeqi Azadi' (real freedom), urging the nation to not give up, as this time of trial will end because whenever the election will be held the only destiny of this "unelected predatory group and their facilitators is de-

Talking about the cypher case, the official statement added. Khan stated that the bogus case was designed to protect former army chief General (retd) Qamar Javed Bajwa and US diplomat Donald "I was the elected prime

minister of the country. Treason was committed against me and my government by General Bajwa, instead of investigating the foreign conspiracy in orchestrating a regime change. a case has been filed against me for informing the people of Pakistan, the real protec-

#### Pakistan calls for end to it will be very costly, "inhumane" blockade of Hamas warns Israel Gaza; UN's role for ceasefire **Monitoring Desk** ISLAMABAD (APP): Pa-

ceasefire.

manitarian situation in

Gaza due to the inhumane

blockade and collective

punishment by Israeli

forces. The decision to cut

off electricity, fuel and

water supplies is unjust

and should be reversed, as

it would severely impact

the lives of the Palestin-

ians residing in the en-

clave," Foreign Office

spokesperson Mumtaz

Zahra Baloch said in her

edented gravity of the situ-

ation demanded urgent in-

She said the unprec-

weekly press briefing.

GAZA: A Hamas leader has said that the group is prepared for any potential deployment of Israeli troops inside Gaza amid strong indications that Israel is preparing a ground offensive into the besieged enclave in response to Saturday's attack. "We are not afraid. We are a strong people. We have a strong determination to continue. We have a lot of fighters and a lot of people who want to support us," said Ghazi Hamad, a member of the Hamas political bureau.

'Gaza is not garden,

"Even people in the borders of Jordan, Lebanon and everywhere, they want to come here and fight for us. Gaza is not a garden and it will be very costly for them," Hamad warned.

"Since the beginning of this operation we sent 1,200 fighters who succeeded in destroying the image of Israel, the security of Israel, the intelligence of Israel and the image that Israel is a superpower," he said.

#### Nawaz Sharif arrives in Jeddah

JEDDAH (Online): Former Prime Minister (PM) and PML-N supremo Mian Nawaz Sharif has arrived in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia from London. Thus he has started his journey back to Pakistan. He will also perform Umrah in Saudi Arabia. He reached Jeddah by Saudi Airlines.

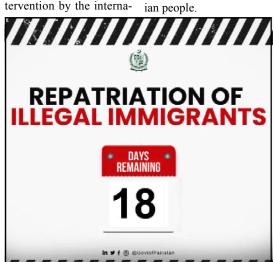
Nawaz Sharif will stay in Saudi Arabia for a week and his important meetings are also scheduled there. He will leave Saudi Arabia for Dubai on October 18. PML-N leader Mian Nawaz Sharif will arrive in Pakistan on October 21 through a special flight from Dubai

#### tional community. kistan on Thursday "We urge the United strongly condemning the Nations to play a proacindiscriminate use of force tive role in facilitating a by Israeli authorities in ceasefire to alleviate the Gaza, called for an end to deteriorating humanitarian

the "inhumane" blockade situation in Gaza," she causing humanitarian situation, besides urging the She called upon Israel United Nations's proacto bring an immediate end tive role in facilitating a to its campaign of indiscriminate bombing against "We are deeply conthe people of Gaza. cerned about the fast-deteriorating and dire hu-

'It should fulfill its obligations as an occupying power under international law, lift the blockade and allow unhindered access to humanitarian aid to the Palestinian people," the spokesperson remarked.

She said the current cycle of aggression and violence was a sad reminder and a direct consequence of over seven decades of illegal foreign occupation, aggression, and disrespect for international law, including UNSC resolutions that recognized the inalienable right to self-determination of the Palestinian people.





ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Muhammad Sami Saeed on Thursday said the second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) was in full swing, reiterating the interim

government's strong commitment to implementing the development projects in letter and spirit.

The minister made these remarks while speaking at a seminar on the Belt

and Road Initiative (BRI):

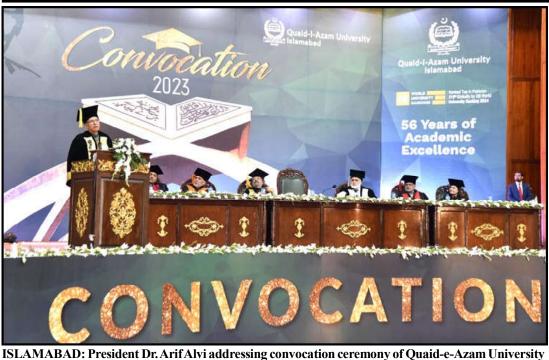
Continued on page 2

ISLAMABAD: Incarcer-

In his message to the "nation" from the jail, the former premier said: "Regardless of what prison they keep me in, whatever conditions they impose upon me, I will not back down even an inch from the quest of Haqeeqi Azadi, for the upholding of the rule of law and the Constitution of Pakistan, at the core of tors of this country, about which is free and fair elec-

In a statement released by PTI, Khan said: "Those suggesting that I leave the country, know that I will live and die in Pakistan, and I will not leave my land to go anywhere."

this treason," he added.



#### Shehbaz Sharif emphasizes economic, political stability for Pakistan's progress

LAHORE (APP): Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) President and former Prime Minister, Shehbaz Sharif, delivered a significant address to traders here on Thursday, highlighting the crucial importance of both economic and political stability for

Pakistan's prosperity. He discussed the nation's journey towards stability and development while referencing historic

Shehbaz Sharif began by emphasizing the pivotal role of a stable economy in Pakistan's progress. He stressed that achieving economic stability is intricately linked

with political stability, making both factors of paramount significance. October 12 marks a

significant date in Pakistan's history, as Shehbaz Sharif pointed out. On this day in 1999, the government of Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif was overthrown through a martial law. He recalled the time when Pakistan achieved nuclear power status on May 28, 1998, and Indian Prime Minister Attal Bihari Vajpayee's visit to Pakistan on February 20, 1999.

During Vajpayee's visit, the desire to resolve the Kashmir issue on fair grounds was expressed



SIBI: Balochistan Governor Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar laying foundation stone of new building of Mir Chakar Khan Rind University

#### **De Kock stars as South Africa** crush go-slow Australia in WC

**Sports Desk** LUKNOW: Quinton de

Kock hit his second successive century at the World Cup on Thursday as South Africa sent five-time champions Australia crashing to a 134-run defeat.

After the Proteas had made 311-7, Australia lost six wickets with just 70 on the board and then focused solely on attempting to limit the damage to their net run-rate.

They were eventually dismissed for 177 with 55

balls to spare. For South Africa, it was

while Australia have lost both of their matches.

I'd be really greedy if said there were areas to improve, a near-perfect game with the bat, and with the ball," said South Africa captain Temba Bavuma.

needs to be said tonight, everyone's hurting." Australia, who lost by six wickets to India in their opener, saw five catches dropped when South Africa a second win in two games batted.

#### Nawaz Sharif not returning...

Continued from page 1 als and over one million illegal aliens.

The government's objective, he said, was to regulate the movement of unregistered foreign nationals

through proper process. On relations with India. he said the radicalized RSS (Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh) mindset of the ruling Indian party and the Kashmir dispute were the main hurdles in the maintenance of good ties.

'The situation between Pakistan and India needs to be improved, however, realistically at present, there is no such possibility," he

PM Kakar said the hegemonic designs of India needed to be curtailed as the country was turning into hell for its minorities, including Muslims, Sikhs, and others.

Asked about any possibility of recognition of Israel, he said, "There are no such deliberations going on." Pakistan considers Israel an "oppressor" and stands with the rights of Palestinians to their existence and return to their land,

On Pakistan's economic stability, he said the country for the first time

witnessed a reversal of the

He said the continuation of the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SFIC) would lead to

sustainability. He dismissed the impression that the army had taken over the mining sec-

tor on the SFIC platform. 'The army's role is a

He emphasized the of civil institutions as a pathway for a viable state

In Balochistan, he termed security, governance, scarcity of resources, and mismanagement as the

Balochs,

mation.

Australia skipper Pat

Cummins admitted his team had been "well off the He added: "Not much

value of the dollar with a consistent descent of about

stop-gap arrangement to run the matters and at SFIC, it is providing impetus in the facilitation process," he said.

need for capacity-building onomically.

main challenges. He recalled that during

the meeting of the apex committee held in Quetta. it was revealed that hundreds of ghost schools and health units existed in the province. "Such mismanagement has led to making a few billionaires but leaving the rest of the population deprived including the common Pashtuns, and Hazaras," he

the challenges faced, such as 20-hour power outages Despite these hurdles, significant projects like the Lahore Metro and the Orange Line train were completed. The latter project faced

However, history wit-

nessed the government's

overthrow on October 12,

1999, and the Lahore Dec-

laration on Kashmir was

labeled as a 'sell-out of

Shehbaz Sharif praised

Kashmir' by the then gov-

the achievements during

Nawaz Sharif's third term

in power, acknowledging

ernment

legal challenges from PTI, leading to a three-year de-

#### **ECP advises** voters to enroll, correct electoral lists for accuracy

ISLAMABAD (APP) The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) has advised people to enroll, rectify errors in the electoral lists, aligning them with their Computerised National Identity Cards (CNIC) data by October

According to the spokesperson, the Election Commission invoked the Elections Act, 2017 to freeze the voter lists on July 20, 2023. In order to simplify the process for the public, the lists were then unfrozen from September 28 to October 25, 2023, allowing all eligible individuals to either register, withdraw, or rectify their infor-

#### **Development &** prosperity....

Continued from page

Muhammad Baloch, acting vice chancellor of Chakar Khan university, Janosh Balach, commissioner Sibi. Bashir Ahmed Bangulzai.

The Governor was briefed about the university. Speaking on the occasion, Governor directed to achieve the academic and

administrative targets well in time. He stressed that it is very important to provide opportunities of quality education and appropriate

training to the students. He said that there's no other other option to move ahead except modern edu-

cation and research. He mentioned that present government has not only increased the budget for education sector, but it has also given special importance to the research based on modern education.

Earlier, the Governor inspected different sections of the University. He also inaugurated the IT lab in premises of the

university. He also planted a sapling in the courtyard of university. Meanwhile, the Governor also participated in the

laptop distribution cer-

emony Addressing the ceremony, Governor exhorted the students to fully focus

on their studies. He said that our youth are precious asset and they have important role in development and construc-

tion of the country. He said that no country can progress without education and skills.

#### wrote in the post. Terrible traffic accident: 12 people killed, dozens injured

KHAIRPUR (Online): 12 people were killed and 11 injured in a horrific collision between a car and a van.

The unfortunate passengers of the van were traveling from Sukkur to Khairpur. According to details, accident took place near Farhan Shah petrol pump on Babarloi bypass and the injured were immediately shifted to Sukkur and Khairpur hospitals for first aid. The persons who died in the accident have not been identified yet.

Caretaker Chief Minister (CM) Sindh Justice ®

concerned authorities to extend all possible cooperation to the families of those who died in the accident.

PM urges unity to create

awareness on breast cancer

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Thursday called for united

efforts to create awareness

on the disease of breast can-

wearing a pink ribbon,

urged the nation to renew

their commitment to this international vital cause. "Proudly wearing the pink ribbon, let's stand

united to make strides to-

ward cancer awareness and

healing. This October, we renew our commitment to

this international vital

cause," the prime minister

The prime minister, who shared his image on social media platform X

cer and its treatment.

While explaining the details to Media Deputy Commissioner Khairpur Syed Fawad Shah said that 12 people died and 11 people were injured in the accident and the bodies of 3 people have been shifted to Khairpur Hospital and 9 to Sukkur Hospital.

According to the spokesperson, the Caretaker Chief Minister has also directed the Motorway Police to regulate the speed Maqbool Baqar directed the on the national highway.

## Mushaal informs OIC's Special Envoy about HR abuses in IIOJK by India

ISLAMABAD (INP): Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Hu-man Rights and Women Empowerment Mushaal Hussein Mullick has informed the OIC's Special Envoy for Jammu and Kashmir, Yousef Aldobeay, about aggravating hu-man rights violations in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir, particularly incarceration of the entire political leadership in-

cluding Yasin Malik. The OIC Secretary General's Special Envoy for Jammu and Kashmir, Yousef Aldobeay along with a high-level delegation met Ms Mushaal Hussein Hussein Mullick in Islamabad,

to Pakistan and Azad Jammu and Kashmir, she thanked the Special Envoy for OIC's consistent and unequivocal support to the oppressed people of occu-pied Jammu and Kashmir, particularly since India's illegal actions of 5th August 2019. She urged the OIC to rally the interna-

tional community for protection of the fundamental human rights of the Kashmiri people. Yousef Aldobeay

cause and his visit to people.

Welcoming the OIC Pakistan and Azad delegation for its visit Jammu and Kashmir in Jammu and Kashmir in his capacity as OIC Special Envoy on Jammu and Kashmir was an expression of that com-

He re-assured the Kashmiri people of OIC's full support for protection of their rights, including the right to self-determination in accordance with the United Nations Security Council resolutions. He further underlined that all OIC bodies, including the Indereaffirmed OIC's principled position on the Jammu and Kashmir He stated that man Rights Communication would continue actively playing their part to extend all possible support and assistant and actively playing their part to extend all possible support and assistant and actively playing their part to extend all possible support and assistant and actively playing their part to extend all possible support and assistant and actively playing their part to extend all possible support and assistant and actively playing their part to extend all possible support and assistant and actively playing their part to extend all possible support and assistant and actively playing their part to extend all possible support and assistant and actively playing their part to extend all possible support and assistant and actively playing their part to extend all possible support and assistant and actively playing their part to extend all possible support and assistant and actively playing their part to extend all possible support and assistant and actively playing their part to extend all possible support and assistant and actively playing their part to extend all possible support and assistant and actively playing their part to extend all possible support and actively playing their part to extend all possible support and actively playing their part to extend all possible support and active part to extend all possible support and acti mitted to the Kashmir tance to the Kashmiri



QUETTA: Caretaker Provincial Minister Asif ur Rehman Dummar meeting with Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki

#### PIO assures CPNE's delegation of resolving print media's issues

ISLAMABAD (APP): Principal Information Officer (PIO) Dr. Tariq Mehmood Khan on Thursday assured a delegation of the Council of Pakistan Newspapers' Editors (CPNE) that the issues faced by print media would be resolved on priority. The delegation,led by CPNE's Senior Vice President Anwar Sajidi and Secretary

General Aijaz ul Haq, was called on the PIO here at his office, said a news release. The delegation felicitated the PIO on assuming the new responsibilities and apprised him of the challenges and problems being faced by the print media in the country

especially financial issues were discussed in the meeting in details. The PIO highlighted the importance of print media in present times in the wake of many new media platforms and appreciated their efforts in highlighting the government's

policies, programmes and issues of the general public. He further listened to their issues and assured the delegation to address and resolve the problems on priority.

The delegation extended their full support and cooperation to the PIO in dissemination of government's policies and programmes. The Editors of national and regional newspapers from across the country including Kazim Khan, Hamid Hussian Abidi, aamer Mahmood, Magsood Yousufi, Ghulam



ISLAMABAD: Adelegation of Council of Pakistan Newspapers' Editors (CPNE) led by its Senior Vice President Anwar Sajidi, Secretary Gneral Aijazul Haq meeting with Principal Information Officer Dr. Tariq Mehmood Khan

#### Second phase of CPEC in.... CPEC has already started

Continued from page 1 Paving the Path to Shared Prosperity," organized here the by Centre of Excellence. CPEC. Quaid-e-Azam Uni-

versity (QUA). Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong was the chief guest at the conference, which was also attended by the Vice Chancellor, QAU, Project Director, CPEC and hundreds of policymakers and experts.

The third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation will be held in Beijing from October 17 to 18. Prime Minister Anwar Ul Hag Kakar would represent Pakistan. The forum would focus on Research and Innovation. Communication, Science and technology, Industry, Agriculture, Energy, Tour-

ism and other areas. Planning Minister Sami Saeed said the BRI was not merely a network of roads and bridges rather it was a manifestation of collective belief in the power of collaboration to create a world where opportunities were boundless and prosperity knew

no borders The Second Phase of CPEC is in full swing as all projects are being super-vised properly and the interim government is committed to implementing the projects," he said appreciating China for consistent support in the implemen-

tation of projects. The second Phase of

as both countries have been celebrating the decade of CPEC.

Despite facing challenges like security concerns, political instability and the COVID-19 pandemic since its inception in 2013, the minister said both China and Pakistan remained committed in the implementation of CPEC. which evolved from a connectivity project to a symbol of enduring regional cooperation with far-reaching implications for devel-

opment and stability. During the seminar, four sessions were held which included Trade & Industrial Cooperation, Cultural Exchange & Connectivity, Financial Sector Integration & CPEC & BRI Integration moderated by various experts while highlighting the key features of

sessions Highlighting the key achievements of the Centre of Excellence, the minister said that the Centre was playing a constructive role in producing research for CPEC and in future more productive research work would be done.

He said the Centre on Modern Earth, Minerals & Natural Resources had been established at OUA which would work with the cooperation of China to modernize the mineral sector.

Speaking at the occasion, Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong

appreciated the Centre of Excellent CPEC and the Planning Ministry for conducting this seminar, which has great significance, especially at a time when the BRI forum was going to start next week Reflecting on the decade

of CPEC's journey, the Chinese envoy praised the remarkable achievements made through the guidance of the leaders of both China and Pakistan. He recalled the historic

visit of President Xi Jinping to Pakistan in 2015, which accelerated the large-scale construction of CPEC. Appreciating the constituent policies formu-

lated by the Planning Ministry, the Chinese envoy said his country would continue to support Pakistan in implementing CPEC projects. "The success of CPEC

is attributed to its adherence to the principles of the BRI as the project exemplifies openness, inclusivity and mutual benefits, garnering support from the people of both China and Pakistan," remarked the envoy, while appreciating Pakistan's efforts for implementing the CPEC projects, especially in the second phase of CPEC.

The Chinese envoy also appreciated Pakistan for taking extraordinary security measures for the Chinese working on various projects in Pakistan.

#### PM to attend Belt & Road Forum in China on Oct 17-18

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar will visit China to participate in the 'Third Belt and Road Forum (BRF) for International Cooperation', being held in Beijing from October 17-18, the Foreign Office said Thursday.

The prime minister is undertaking the visit at the invitation of Chinese President Xi Jinping, the Foreign Office spokesperson said at a weekly press briefing.

Spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch said PM Kakar would attend the opening ceremony of the BRF and address the high-level forum titled 'Connectivity in an Open Global Economy' on October 18. The prime minister during his stay in China will

meet with local leaders and businesspersons, aiming to enhance trade, investment and people-to-people relations, the spokesperson said. "The visit of the prime minister comes in the backdrop of the ongoing celebrations marking the ten years of China Pakistan

The prime minister,

He will also visit

she said, would also meet

the leading Chinese entre-

preneurs to expand bilat-

eral trade and investment.

Urumqi, Xinjiang Autono-

mous Region of China to

Economic Corridor (CPEC), the flagship project of China's Belt and Road Initiative," Baloch said. "The prime minister will highlight the key achievements and the future priorities of CPEC, and reaffirm Pakistan's hold bilateral meetings strong commitment to with President Xi Jinping and senior Chinese leaders jointly promote its highquality development," she and other foreign dignitar-



QUETTA: Rally which led by Anjuman-e-Tajiran Association President Rahim Agha passing at Qhandari Bazar against Israeli aggression on Pal-

#### OIC urged to seek early settlement of Kashmir, Palestine issues

MIRPUR (AJK): (APP) ::Azad Jammu and Kash-mir President Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry, while hailing the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) for its consistent support of Kashmiris' cause, has said that it was high time that the OIC should redouble its efforts to seek an early settlement of the long-running Kashmir and

Palestine issues. He expressed these views while talking to the OIC's Special envoy for Jammu and Kashmir, Yousef Aldoubeay, who called on him at Jammu Kashmir House in the federal metropolis on Thurs-

Ambassador Hasan Ali Hassan, Director of Legal Affairs of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, Bilal Akram Shah, Rida Biruddin Zahra, Gamaruddin and Wagas Latif Mughal were also present on this occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, the president said

that the Muslim body (OIC) has always supported the Kashmiris' legitimate struggle for the right to self-determination.

Expressing his grave concern over Israel's naked aggression on Gaza and other parts of the territory, he said that Israel has broken all records of barbarism and brutality.

He said that reckless bombing of the civilian population in Gaza by Israel had led to the killing of innocent Palestinians, including men, women and children. He said that widespread death and destruction in Gaza was a challenge to the world's conscience. Briefing the delegation about the fast deteriorating political and human rights situation in the Indian-occupied territory of Jammu and Kashmir, the president said that it was quite unfortunate that the Indian government was replicating the Israeli model of occupation and colonisation of Gaza in Kashmir.



youths during these opera-

tions. The President of

People Democratic Party,

Meĥbooba Mufti, in a post

on social media platform X

said that the authorities

placed her under house ar-

rest and didn't allow her to

venture out during the In-

Hurriyat Conference lead-

ers including Syed Bashir

Andrabi, Khawaja Firdous,

Ghulam Nabi Sumjhi,

Junaid-ul-Islam,

Muhammad Yasin Attai,

Maulana Musaib Nadvi and

Muhammad Ramzan in their

statements issued in Srinagar

strongly condemned the kill-

ing of two youth by Indian

The All Parties

dian President's visit.

IIOJK people suffer as

Indian forces continue

CASOs, house raids

ISLAMABAD (APP): rassment. Indian police and

The people of Indian ille-

gally occupied Jammu and

Kashmir suffered im-

mensely as Indian troops

continued their violent cor-

don and search operations

and house raids in different

areas during the visit of the

Indian President, Droupadi

Murmu. According to

Kashmir Media Service, the

Indian President arrived in

Srinagar, yesterday, on a

two-day visit to occupied

Kashmir. The forces' per-

sonnel conducted massive

cordon and search opera-

tions and house raids in dif-

ferent areas of Srinagar,

Baramulla, Bandipora,

Kupwara, Pulwama, Shopian, Islamabad, Kulgam, Rajouri and

## **Senate Committee for more** efforts for conservation of Indus Delta Mangroves

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Senate Standing Committee on Climate Change has called for more coordinated and comprehensive measures for protection of Mangrove forests along the coastline of Pakistan and exploring its economic potential for the benefit of the

The meeting of the senate committee to review measures for conservation of Indus Delta Mangroves, and discuss future outlook and way forward was held here during visit of WWF Wetland Center the other

Chairperson Senator Seemee Ezdi chaired the meeting that was attended by Senator Khalida Ateeb, Senator Abida Muhammad Azeem, Senator Keshoo Bai and Senator Mohammad Humayun Senator Mohmand.

The committee chairperson Senator Seemee Ezdi expressed concerns about the challenges en-

countered to Mangroves and protection of marine forests on coastal line of ecosystem in Indus Delta Pakistan particularly deterioration of the Indus Delta region due to sea intrusion, coastline erosion and deforestation of mangrove forest. Speaking to media per-

sons at the occasion she said that the mangrove forests are not only natural habitat and hatchery and breeding ground of several species of marine life but it serves as a defense line against cyclones and Tsu-

She noted that Mangroves absorb three to four fold more Carbon as compared to other species of the trees and it may contribute significantly in earning valuable foreign exchange in shape of Carbon

She also appreciated joint measures of WWF Pakistan, Sindh Forest Department and other partners during last 10 years for Mangroves conservation

region. The upper house committee underscored the need of further measures by all the relevant departments and ministries for dealing with issue of encroachments over the wetland areas and disposal of untreated water that was causing destruction of mangrove forest cover.

Senator Humayun Mohmand highlighted the financial aspects of Mangrove conservation and proposed to promote it as an industry.

Mangrove forest grown over a single hector has potential to earn thousands of dollars while conservation of Indus Delta Mangroves area could earn Pakistan billions of dollars annually through marine fisheries, sea food exports, creation of livelihood opportunities and resources for local communities as well as Carbon credits, he



ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's Ambassador-designate to Iraq Muhammad Zeeshan Ahmed called on President Dr. Arif Alvi at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

### Nawaz disqualification comes to end following SC observation: Nazir Tarar

ISLAMABAD (Online): High Court (IHC) Thurs-Former Law minister Nazir day. Tarar has said Nawaz Sharif disqualification has come to end following the observation of Supreme Court (SC).

Nawaz Sharif now stands qualified following amendment in election act. he said this while talking to media men on SC decision regarding practice and procedure case in Islamabad Nawaz Sharif after amend-

Council of Islamic Ideology

(CII) Chairman, Dr. Qibla

Ayaz on Thursday said af-

ter extensive discussions on

underage marriage, the

council had suggested that

it should not be solely con-

sidered a religious matter.

day of a conference to eliminate the menace of

child marriage, organized by

National Commission on

Status

Women (NCSW) in con-

nection with International

Day of the Girl Child, he

emphasized the need for a

broader societal and cul-

tural perspective on under-

lighted that the gateway to

Dr. Qibla also high-

interpretation (Ijtihad) in ing people's mindsets.

age marriages.

Addressing the second

CII chairman calls for

broader perspective

on underage marriages

SLAMABAD (APP): social matters should al-

ways remain open.

He stressed the need

for significant changes in

the prevalent marriage customs in Pakistan, suggest-

ing that revisions to mar-

riage certificates were es-

sential. Minister for Social

Welfare Gilgit-Baltistan,

Dilshad Banu, also ad-

dressed the conference and

said in Pakistan, young girls

in rural areas were often

subjected to early mar-

riages, emphasizing the ne-

cessity of discussing and

counseling on underage

marriages in rural commu-

nities. She emphasized the

importance of involving re-

ligious scholars in address-

ing this issue, highlighting

their potential role in shap-

I am happy that the law enacted by parliament has been encouraged. SC has maintained this law. SC has encompassed that legislating is mandate of parliament. SC has given its different decision on the matter of appeal, he added.

He held that this ap-

peal is not so important for

ment in election act. That matter has not been challenged after amendment in election act. It is in vogue. Nawaz Sharif disqualification has ended after SC observation.

Nawaz Sharif is now qualified for contesting election. The other cases of NAB against Nawaz Sharif will be seen on merit after Nawaz Sharif returns to Pakistan, he added.

#### **QAU** award degrees to 7,738 graduates in convocation

ISLAMABAD (APP): As many as 7,738 graduates including 298 PhD, 3359 M.Phil, 1198 M.Sc, and 2883 BS were conferred degrees in the 10th Convo-cation of Quaid-i-Azam University (QAU) held here on Thursday.

The Chancellor of QAU, Dr. Arif Alvi, President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan awarded the degrees to graduates.

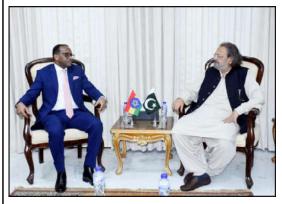
Addressing the degree awarding ceremony, Care-taker Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training, Madad Ali Sindhi said the government was promoting education at every level. He said he had directed to provide all basic facilities to the schools in Islamabad as without basic facilities.

#### on Education Minister ISLAMABAD (APP): Technical Training. He said Ethiopian Ambassador to Pakistan Mr. Jemal Beker benefit from the experience called on the Federal Min- of each other.

Poonch districts, subjecting the residents to severe ha-

Ethiopian ambassador calls

that the two countries can



ister for Education and Professional Training Minister Mr. Madad Ali Sindhi here on Thursday. Madad Ali Sindhi

welcomed the Ethiopian Ambassador to Pakistan Jemal Beker and said that the two countries have religious, cultural and historical people to people who

love each other.

Madad Ali Sindhi discussed the exchange of expertise and knowledge regarding Vocational and two countries.

The Federal Minister also welcomed the exchange of teachers and students to further mutual cooperation, especially for Skilled Vocational Training.
He said that there is

significant potential for cooperation between the two The Minister said that

a Joint Working Group will be formulated which can pave the way for the signing of an MoU between the

#### CDA retrieves 700 kanals land in Sector I-12

ne Capital Development Authority (CDA) has retrieved as many as 700 kanals of its precious land from the land grabbers in Sector I-12 of the federal capital in the last two days.

"The authority has launched a comprehensive operation to curb encroachments in the federal capital on the directives of ĈDA Chairman Capt® Anwar ul Haq," an official told APP.

He said the Enforcenent Directorate of CDA had launched the operation in collaboration with various departments near NUST University, Sector I-12, against an illegal Afghan settlement established over

The official said that

ISLAMABAD (APP): heavy machinery was used during the operation, resulting in the demolition of numerous rooms and livestock enclosures.

During the operation, 700 kanals of land were retrieved and handed over for rapid developmental projects.

Similarly, taking stringent action against encroachments on Simly Dam Road, Karnal Sher Khan Avenue, Maandi Mor Margalla Town Phase-2 and Murree Road, the authorities removed additional sheds and fruit stalls on both the sides of the road while clearing public passages. During the operation, six trucks loaded with confiscated goods were seized by the authority.



ISLAMABAD: Students and people rush towards the blue line bus to take subsidized transportation as administration increase fares to 50 from 30, which makes disheart the people in a such hard days of the life in Country.

# Call for infrastructure up-gradation to

frastructure including roadways, airports and public transit systems should be upgraded to facilitate easier access to different tourist sites which promote tourism in the country at large.

She said that she visited different places in Azad Jammu and Kashmir along with her family and found roads in dilapidated condition and faced miseries and hardships by commuting

has rich tourism potential which attracts most domes-

# boost tourism

ISLAMABAD (APP): In- tic and foreign dignitaries to

Talking to APP, a tourist Aleena Khan said that enhancing the country's infrastructure by upgrading transportation networks will facilitate national and international visitors.

from one site to another. Khan said Pakistan

come to visit the country. She stressed the need to improve road infrastructure as a large number of

international tourists are

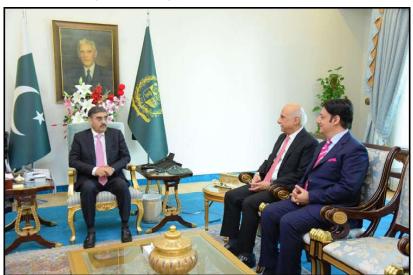
thronging to the country to

enjoy their trip or make the

journey memorable. Another tourist Ahsan Ali said that developing a strong infrastructure would pave the way to encourage tourists to visit various recreational and religious sites. adding that tourism is contributing a lot to economic growth as well

He said that infrastructure including air, ground, port and tourism services like hotel rooms and car rental services plays an important role in travel and tourism competitiveness, serving as the arteries of the

industry



Former ambassador to the Kingdom of Bahrain Javed Malik calls on care-

## **ATC** seeks security report from superintendent Adiala jail regarding Imran

ISLAMABAD (Online): Anti Terrorism Court (ATC ) Islamabad has sought security report with reference to chairman PTI from Su-

during the hearing of judicial complex vandalism and Election Commission protest case

Jan Muhammad counsel for chairman PTI and prosecutor Raja Naveed

also appeared in ATC. Defence counsel Jan Muhammad filed petition regarding production of chairman PTI in the court saying chairman PTI is on bail in these cases and jail trial cannot be conducted.

Defence counsel Jan Muhammad said it is responsibility of state to see arrangement for bringing

The responsibility for presenting the accused in court rests with police.

He said chairman PTI will have to be brought perintendent Adiala jail.
Asad Umar appeared in ATC Islamabad led by Abul Hasnat Zulqarnain
Asad Umar appeared or no. If court issues order then it is binding on police to present chairman PTI to

The defence counsel John Muhammad said chairman PTI is on bail and how can he be kept in jail. Chairman PTI has appeared on every date. He has been appearing in trial

Prosecutor Raja Navid said in the court has to see the present situation with reference to security of chairman PTI. In the past several other cases have been registered due to appearance of chairman PTI



ISLAMABAD: Deserving people stand in long queue to take free food from van during launch time outside Pakistan Institute of Medical Science in Federal Capital.

#### **ICP** enhances security with high-tech entry and exit system

**Independent Report** ISLAMABAD: Following month, the verification of the special directions of Islamabad Capital City Police Officer (ICCPO) Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan, the Islamabad Capital Police has undertaken robust measures to fortify security within the federal capital, a public relations officer said.

He said that, the Capital Police has introduced a high-tech entry and exit system at High-Security Zone and across various precincts and localities in the city. With the implementation of an advanced system the High-Security Zone, police stations, and city-wide key areas security have become more efficient and effective.

This system was integrated with the data from different government departments, allows real-time checks on individuals and vehicles, thus enhancing not only Capital security but also monitoring suspicious

activities. During the last 2,950 citizens has been done who visited different offices and areas. To date, over 85,861 individuals have been verified through this system. Additionally, this modern system identified 147 suspicious individuals, who were shifted to relevant police stations for legal action. ICCPO Dr. Akbar

Nasir Khan emphasized that ensuring security for all governmental institutions, diplomatic missions, offices, and residential areas within the High-Security Zone and city remains a top

The protection of life and property of the citizens and maintaining peace and security in Islamabad is at the forefront of Islamabad Capital Police's objectives. The use of advanced technology and resources is a continuous effort in this regard, he added.

# **Special court** issues written

ISLAMABAD (Online): Official Secret Act Court has issued written decision of its October 9 hearing of the matter of providing copies of challan to Chairman PTI and Shah

Mehmood Qureshi. It has been said in the decision the signatures will become ineffective even if the accused persons don't sign the copies of challan because challan has been

received The proceedings of making indictment as per law will be started on October 17.

Judge Abul Hasnat Zulqarnain issued 4-page decision in respect of hearing held in Adiala jail.

#### **ARDU** arrests bike thief gang member, recovers bikes

ISLAMABAD (APP) The Anti Robbery and Dacoity Unit (ARDU) of the Islamabad Capital Poice recently made a significant breakthrough by apprehending a wanted member of a notorious bike theft gang and recovered stolen

oikes from him. Under the explicit directives of Islamabad Capital City Police Officer (ICCPO) Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan, the Islamabad Capital Police has escalated its efforts to crack down on criminal elements responsible for motorcycle and car thefts, with the aim of eradicating this menace from the city. The ARDU police team, employing a combination of technical expertise and human resources, successfully apprehended the wanted gang member, identified as Waseem. He has been linked to numerous bike theft incidents in the area. Notably, the recovered motorcycles had been reported stolen, and cases had already been registered against the ar-

# decision of its Oct 9 hearing

The decision said the court directed to provide copies of challan to chairman PTI and Shah Mehmood Oureshi in cour

#### Two-Day Stakeholders' Conference on Ending Child Marriage. **MoIT** issues notification for CERT Rules 2023

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Ministry of Information Technology and Telecommunication (MoIT) here on Thursday issued a notification for the Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT) Rules 2023.

Federal Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunication, Dr. Umar Saif, said that the initiative aimed mm,to enhance Pakistan's cyber security measures, prevent potential cyber threats to the country's data, and ensure swift responses in case of cyber attacks.

Under these rules, both National and Sectorallevel Computer Emergency Response Teams will be established and the teams are tasked with the responsibility of monitoring and

safeguarding Pakistan's cyberspace 24/7, including during holidays, he said. The minister said, the National CERT, funded by the Ministry of IT, will maintain close coordination with various Sectoral CERT teams, providing timely as-

This coordinated approach, he said, will ensure a robust defence against cyber threats.

ISLAMABAD: National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW) held a

He said, as part of these new rules, the National Security Operations Center will also be established to facilitate the practical implementation of these regulations.

Dr. Umar Saif announced that the notification for the establishment of the IT CERT Council will be issued in the coming days. The council will consist of members from various government bodies, in cluding the Secretary of IT as the Chairman, along with presentatives from the Ministry of Defense, Foreign Affairs, Interior, and Cabinet Division. Furthermore, the council will include members from the National Security Division, the Telecom Sector, Industry, Academia, and Civil So-

These representatives will play a crucial role in overseeing and advancing Pakistan's cybersecurity

#### Bilawal expresses grief over tragic accident near

**Babraloi bypass** ISLAMABAD (APP): PPP Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Thursday expressed his heartfelt condolences and sorrow over the tragic accident near the Sukkur Babraloi Bypass involving a bus and van.

The accident has resulted in the loss of 12 precious lives, causing deep distress and sadness

Bilawal Zardari in a statement conveyed his deep sympathy for the families who have lost their loved ones in this unfortunate incident.

He emphasized that he shares in the grief of those families who are now in mourning due to the tragic loss of their dear ones. "In the wake of this incident, I stand in solidarity with the grieving families who have lost their loved ones," said Chairman Bilawal Bhutto



ISLAMABAD: Senator Saleem Mandviwalla Convener Sub-Committee of the Senate Standing Committee on Aviation presiding over a meeting of the committee at Parliament House.

# Daily Soice of Masse. Independent

Friday October 13, 2023

#### Last call?

Policy confusion, economic disarray, social upheaval, media clampdown and political persecution have cast a suffocating pall on Pakistan.

Amidst this feeling of desolation, a call for forgiveness and cooperation is a reminder that the way out is much simpler than what it has seemed to be.

What President Arif Alvi has said echoes what many politically astute minds believe is the evance to the elections only way for Pakistan to real- and to the politics of the istically turn the corner: the lies in PTI's current constate must provide an outlet frontational stance toto the public's suppressed will with an election that is free of role in Pakistan's politics. controversy and fair to all par-

For a change, it should let tions to establish its suthe system work in the way it periority over aimy and its leadership by cultivatwas originally intended to. The ing its retired and servcountry's economic condition ing officers and by mapresents an unprecedented discrediting the army as existential challenge for Pakistan.

No government can realistically expect to survive the difficulties that lie ahead if it and at all costs. comes to power on a stolen mandate. To break free of the and the Army became past, we must break the mould. evident through a PTI-

Though the print and electronic media have not been al- port for Imran Khan, with lowed to dwell too long on the Regionally, 29% from topic, the public knows well that it is being ruled by a refavorable view of Iman gime whose priorities and poli- Khan. However, 37% excies are completely at odds pressed a negative opinwith the aspirations of the sharif and Bilawal Bhutto sharif and Bilaw majority.

The latter's discontent has public support, with 36% having a positive emission been made worse by the statebeen made worse by the stateof both. Shehbaz Sharif, with each other. Howspective through nasanctioned use of coercive tac- on the other hand, faced ever, when the perceptional media. High-pro- idea to face such a mas- approach. Building trust Perhaps the establishtics to restore 'stability', which with only 32% expressing cal party is competing porters were appre
sive, sophisticated combination of hard and sistent, responsible accordance of the porters were appre
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sive, sophisticated combination of hard and sistent, responsible accordance of the porters were appre
size of the p have yet to yield any tangible a positive opinion. dividends for the ordinary citi-

Those who favour this style of 'political management' must in government. It's comrealise that repression has never worked in the past and is unlikely to do so this time. In present conditions, holding an election whose fairness is widely doubted will further fracture the sociopolitical or-

This will not only imperil Pakistan's standing in a rapidly changing world, but the continuing instability is likely On Oct 22, Supremo to set its economy back by decades. And, by the time the jetlag. He will feel the rust extent of the damage that has in his joints after four years been wrought under the of rest in London. He faces the prospect of a gruelling present regime is acknowledged, the country will have months, fighting for a job slumped lower in human development rankings.

The past cannot be undone, fourth time, improving his but the path we take forward Maryam's prospects for is entirely up to our political, judicial, military and civil soci- London, reigning over his ety leadership.

The leaders of the different stan and India will hold genparties must sit together — or eral elections. Ten years ago, be persuaded to if they are not Sharif created history by amenable — to agree to some attending the inauguration ground rules for the upcoming Modi in New Delhi. Much election. In negotiating these has happened to both since rules, the parties can create the Nawaz Sharif was released 'level playing field' that each of them has been seeking sepa- that the ex-leader was rately. Meanwhile, the state "fighting for his life". Allowed to leave, Nawaz has ought to consider diverting its spent the past four years energies away from the less- in London, fighting for his than-effective policies it has returns, a part-time invalid. been pursuing and allocate them, instead, towards ensuring that the political parties have an equal incentive for par- nently populist leader. The and his deputy Amit Shah ticipating in the talks. This seems like the only 'positive have honed national populism into a variant of ethnic democracy, moving it gooserole' it can play at this point. Realistically, and given present conditions, this seems to be the most reasonable path forward. study of Modi's India: Hindu Nationalism and the Rise of Ethnic Democracy blitzkrieg cost \$1 billion.

# How can PTI become Relevant Again???



By Qamar Bashir Former Press Secretary to the President; Former MD, SRBC; Former Minister Press, Embassy of Pakistan to

France

In the context of PTI's relwards the powerful Army, which plays a significant tively seeking favor from the public and instituperiority over army and

ligning, weakening and an institution and its leadas an institution has decided to vehemently frus-

The ongoing struggle between PTI sponsored survey indicating strong public supalso garnered far less In national discourse, it's man and leaders, pre-

In my official capacity, I had close associations with both PTI and tion, and vice versa, it PML(N) leadership dur
ity, I had close association is sitive and critical institution, and vice versa, it raises serious and trou
ing their presence in the ing their presence PML(N) leadership dur- raises serious and trouing their respective times bling concerns.

mon for the party in power to conduct surveys to boost their ration, has historically months arbitrary arrests and dentitions, often incompused for extended not ready to learn the ings, often through held control over politifriendly agencies. As a cal, economic, and financounter strategy, the par- cial discipline in Pakities in opposition con- stan. It often remains duct counter surveys to neutral while vigilantly validate their higher rat- monitoring the direction ing and prove the earlier each aspect of discipline survey as biased. How- takes. It has established ever, this time around nei- upper and lower limits of ther the PML(N) nor PPP conducted the counter behavior, and when any surveys, but intriguingly the army did.

The Army conducted its own survey, Opinion Poll Report," which received an impressive 88% rating. This survey, conducted between June 10 and June 30, gathered responses from 3,500 participants across all four provinces of Paki-

Some critics argued that assessing the Army's popularity was unnecessary, as such surveys traditionally focus on pubmilitary. However, it's surveys are commonand the USA.

For instance, the conducted a survey in encountered military is the most trusted institution in the United States, with 72% ers. Whereas, the army of Americans expressing a great deal of trust and ance. confidence in it. Similarly, a 2022 YouGov Survey found that 62% of Britons have a favorable view of the British Army, while officers, had underestionly 16% held an unfavorable view.

> The significance of the two surveys conducted in Pakistan lies in their timing, reflecting a prevailing perception that The Army em-PTI and the Army were ployed a meticulously engaged in a contest for coordinated combinapopularity gaining against each other. This perception, whether rightly or wrongly held, not uncommon for politiwith each other. How- spective through nathe country's most sen- ing their presence in na-

tolerance or acceptable of these boundaries are tegic communication breached, it intervenes to bring them back within acceptable bounds. Seatitled "National Public soned and traditional political parties have learned these limits and, no matter the circumstances, strive to operate within them, fully aware of the consequences of deviating from the established

However, PTI, being relatively new to the political landscape and facing the formidable influence of the establishlic figures rather than the ment for the first time, miscalculated the extent worth noting that similar of support it could muse ety, and community leadter through street proplace in advanced democ- tests and massive pubracies, including the UK lic backing to challenge the Army's overarching role in national politics. Pew Research Center If the PTI had previously 2018, revealing that the establishment's "smart power" with full force, it might have refrained from exceeding the established limits of toler-

PTI, along with its public supporters and alleged involvement of retired and serving army mated the extent to which the Army would take action against them, particularly after the disturbing, violent, and unlawful events of May 9.

tion of kinetic and soft power to effectively remove PTI from the national discourse. It utiventing them from confor popularity against hended, effectively mut-

periods. Detainees suspected of involvement in attacks faced alleged Allegedly, families of detainees were threatened with reprisals if they didn't confess to their alleged involvement. Concurrently, a highly successful stra-

campaign was launched to undermine PTI and its leadership. It leaked stodisseminating propaganda and information about Imran Khan and PTI. Released footage showcasing violence involving PTI workers clashing with the police and damaging property was employed to shape public opinion. Journalists were briefed on the violence, and provided with its own version of events to sway the narrative. Engaged with political parties, civil sociers to discourage support for mass protests, while cautioning the public against participating in protests with of consethreats quences. It employed so-

phisticated technique of narrative framing consistently negative and Imran Khan and PTI. For instance, Khan was portrayed as a divisive and dangerous figure. Techniques such as priming were employed, repeatcorruption and incompetence. A repetition of about Khan and PTI was used to create an adverse public image. A the bandwagon effect was created, giving the impression that the majority of the public opposed Khan and PTI, with claims that most supported the military establishment and the

Most likely the PTI leadership and its advisors did not have any The stark reality is and PTI. This included tution itself which is a may provoke the armed military.

bitter lesson that the army had a history of ducing opposing parties to insignificance, regardless of their popularity or public approval ratings.

significant trials and retribution, PTI seemingly failed to grasp this lesson. Recent social media posts from PTI leadries to the media while ers who have evaded the law and their supporters openly challenging the army's authority are unwise and provocative. Such confrontational behavior provides the army with justification to respond assertively and decisively. This confrontational stance likely accelerates the use of smart power against the

powerful armed forces and should actively seek avenues for constructive and open dialogue with the military leadership. This dialogue should aim to ununfavorable towards derstand the concerns and goals of the armed forces. PTI must maintain transparency about its intentions, policies, and objectives, addressing any misconmilitary. Finding common areas of interest betterment of the nation constitutional framework and ensuring that the party's actions align with the laws govis imperative. In cases of conflicts, engaging in conflict resolution pro-

essary tensions. Simultaneously, it should change its posture towards other posuccessfully achieving litical parties. Rather torture and ill-treatment. its objectives, often re- condemning them of corruption and refusing to engage with them for national construction efforts, it should work on building a consen-Despite enduring sus with them through collaboration and dialogue which can lead to a more stable political environment.

It should prioritize good governance, addressing economic and social issues effectively, and plans of action to fundamentally improve the public service delivery to the people in all sectors and disciplines.

It should fundamentally change its narrative from negativity against the army and political parties to positivity through policies PTI, further diminishing and actions that resoits prospects for a fair nate with the populaand equitable contest in tion, addressing their the upcoming elections. concerns and needs PTI should change while maintaining transits posture sooner the parency in its actions better from its belliger- and decisions to build ent relationship with the trust with the public and institutions. Above all, PTI needs to strike a balance between pursuing its political agenda and collaborating with key institutions to ensure stability and progress in Pakistan's political landscape.

It's anticipated that with such concrete, honest, and convictiondriven actions, a change of hearts within the esedly accusing Khan of ceptions held by the tablishment may occur. Deep down, they also recognize that excludnegative messages and collaboration for the ing a major political party from participation is crucial. Respecting could significantly compromise the credibility of elections.

In democratic systems, it's crucial for elecerning the military's role tions to be inclusive and allow fair competition specific grievances or among various political parties. The exclusion of a major party could be cesses such as media- perceived as undemotion or negotiation to cratic, raising concerns reach mutually accept- about the legitimacy and able solutions is a wise fairness of the election. PTI leadership has not to conflict resolution is PTI's leadership and the public support for Khan leadership or the institions or statements that rather than against the

# Removing rust



F.S. Aijazuddin

Nawaz Sharif will wake up suffering from more than election campaign stretching over the next four he would rather not have.

If he succeeds, he will assume the PM-ship for the ambitious daughter herself. Some suspect he would prefer to remain in PML-N from a safer distance. In 2024, both Pakiin May 2014, PM Nawaz of PM-elect Narendra then. In November 2019, from jail after a mild heart attack. His doctor claimed political rehabilitation. He

During that same period, in India, Narendra Modi has consolidated his position as its pre-eminently populist leader. He closer authoritarianism.

Christophe Jaffrelot's

(2021) traces PM Modi's rise as a pracharak in the RSS in 1972 to his election as India's PM in 2014. Then, his BJP secured 282 seats out of 543 in the Lok Sabha. (In 1984, it had gained only two.)

Jaffrelot writes: "It took a century for the RSS's political party — the Jana Sangh and then the BJP to garner mass support. But it took less than 20 years for Narendra Modi to ensure its success at the polls, first in Gujarat and then in India at large."

Such success has to be earned — the hard way. During the 2018 election campaign (which lasted eight months), "Modi travelled 186,411 miles to hold 475 regular rallies".

The normally indefatigable Mrs Indira Gandhi managed only 252 rallies over two months of campaigning. Travelling through rural constituencies at night, she would hold a torch to illuminate her face, so that people could see she was amongst them. Modi harnessed 21st-century technology to his electoral vahana. While he sometimes spoke at three or four venues in a single day, his words — and his image — were broadcast to 100 locations at the same time. According to his website, 3D hologram projections delivered 12 speeches across 1,350 venues [.] More than seven million people reportedly witnessed the 3D shows over 12 days at the height of the hologram campaign." To rustic Indians, these 3D projections were magical. Modi, like the ubiquitous Lord Krishna, seemed to possess supernatural powers of replication. Modi's 'digital army' of 5,000 officers, led

by a US repatriate Rajesh

Jain, concentrated on 155

key urban constituencies

identified as "digital seats".

Up to 40,000 tweets were

sent every day. This relent-

less barrage was described

as for disseminating propaganda". The Israeli Pegasus spy software proved especially useful. (It failed Israel against Hamas.) Modi's self-abnegation and bhakti deserve instinctive respect. Jaffrelot attributes this to India's traditional submission to hierarchy and acceptance of authority. The Dalit leader Dr B.R. Ambedkar, in 1949, though warned against its misuse: "Bhakti in religion may be a road to salvation of the soul. But in politics, bhakti or hero-worship is a sure road to degradation and to eventual dictatorship." Like Hitler in the 1930s. Modi has given his people self-respect. Like the Germans, Indians "are prepared

> doms". For them, Modi's charisma is enough. It hovers "above accountability". Nawaz Sharif, before plunging into his poll campaign, should make another trip to New Delhi. Modi could offer him advice on how to remove the rust.

Courtesy Dawn

By the time of the 2018 elections, Modi's Swachh Bharat Abhiyan initiative had constructed 92m toilets in rural areas and 6.6m in urban areas. Amongst those who already had toilets and bidets to match, the number of Indian dollar millionaires has swelled from 34,000 (2000) to 759,000 (2019). Oxfam calculated that in 2018, 10 per cent of the richest Indians owned 77pc of the

nation's wealth. (Shades of

Mahbub ul Haq's 22 families in Pakistan.) In the 2018 polls, Modi's BJP shifted focus from social improvement to the mantra of 'national security', with Pak-istan as its repetitive refrain. Amit Shah (now BJP president) recruited "900,000 cell phone paramukh — one for each polling booth. These people were appointed not so much for collecting data To many Indians,

ventures? SIFC point out that such institutional arrangements have not worked out in the past and are unlikely to work this time as well. On the other hand, those defending the SIFC believe its unique structure and the prominent role of the army chief within it will help it avoid the fate of past institutions. History is not destiny, and there is little that will prevent the SIFC from delivering except its overto suspend their critical sight committee's failure to thinking and to readily relearn from past mistakes. nounce some of their free-

> afford any failure at this critical juncture. Among the identified sectors that the SIFC wishes to oversee, agriculture and livestock are the most important and also the

## **Agri investments**

most difficult to properly

manage. In the post-flood

conference in Geneva last

year, the international com-

munity had committed

more than what Pakistan

was asking for. But, at the

end of the day, investors —

be they international finan-

cial institutions or sheikhs

from the Gulf states — re-

quire smart, implementable

and viable projects to put

their money in. This is

where we fail. We have a

bureaucracy which is gen-

eralist by training and does

not have any core compe-

tency in any discipline of

the economy. Therefore,

bureaucrats alone cannot

identify projects which can

take us out of the quagmire

we are in. The SIFC must

avoid this deadwood as it

goes about planning its in-

ness gurus and policy ex-

perts, too, do not always

understand the needs of

the people operating for

generations in the sector,

City-dwelling busi-

terventions.



Aijaz A. Nizamani

Pakistan has reached a stage where it has become immensely difficult for the country to settle its debts. As the country's crisis-hit economy struggles to steady itself, the question on everyone's mind is: how long can we continue like this? The simple answer is, we cannot. There seems to be some understanding among Pakistani rulers that we cannot continue to draw unproductive loans as we have over the past 50 years, and a strategy reset is needed. But will the newly constituted Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) — their answer to the challenges being faced — deliver, and how will it be different from past such

but still feel they can 'teach' farmers what they ought to be doing. And, if farmers are not quick or willing to learn from these 'experts', their advocated The critics of the solution is to push for corporate farming. However, this approach has not worked for Pakistan in the past 40 years and is unlikely to work again. The SIFC's policymakers and implementers should realise that agriculture and farming, like any other economic sector, is a knowledge-based enterprise. The SIFC must include competent and bold sector advisers who understand the nuances of Pakistan's agri economy, and who can identify and Its members should keep in advise on projects which mind that a lot is riding on will serve the sector and the SIFC's shoulders at this investors based on point and Pakistan cannot ground realities.

SIFC should also go back to the drawing board and add the water sector, especially irrigation, to its priority areas. Pakistani policymakers must realise that the country is not

only an agricultural country, it is essentially an irrigation economy. We need private investment, including from the Gulf states, in the water sector as the country does not have the fiscal space to invest public funds in water.

We cannot develop and will not be able to discard the begging bowl without finding new options, including blended finance, for investing in our water resources. The other change the SIFC should consider is to give power to local investors and communities to identify projects which can help serve the sector and the

As students of economic development, the first lesson we are taught is that a project can be identified by two kinds of people: its beneficiaries, or experts in that particular sector. If we follow this philosophy, a farmers' group should be considered just as capable of recommending a project which can help remove a major development constraint in their operating area. As we are talking on a national scale and with an institution like the SIFC involved, this project will, of course, have to be of sufficiently large scope and strategic in nature if it is to be accepted by the relevant people, including interested investing parties.

Say, for example, that a farmers' consortium in Sindh identifies a 'Sukkur Barrage Area Agricultural Modernisation and Processing Project'. As Sindh does not have a proper drainage system in place and this is one of its largest development constraints, this kind of project, and follow-up investments in processing plants for local producers, can result in massive efficiency gains, which can be sold to investor countries as a means of improving their own food security. - Courtesy Dawn

along with this, we have to

change the archaic police

culture to provide justice

to the common man.'

Meanwhile, the plan for

the up-gradation of 750

police stations with

Rs.1.90 billion had been

chalked out as some police

stations lacked their own

buildings even in a city like

Lahore. "I have visited the

Samanabad police station;

it is impossible for a

human being to live there,'

the CM maintained and

noted that the policemen

were also working in such

The government would do whatever possible for the Punjab

Highways Patrol police, he

added and reiterated that

the government would

extend full support to the

must treat the public with

good manners and do

justice to them, he

Akhtar Zaman said that the

Punjab Highways Patrol

police had been given the

responsibility to deal with

the important problem of

Similarly, the police

Chief Secretary Zahid

police stations.

patrolling police.

concluded.

CM gives keys of

312 new vehicles,

uniforms to PHP Police

the

**Independent Report** LAHORE: Caretaker Chief

Minister Punjab Mohsin

Nagvi gave keys of 313

new vehicles and uniforms

to Punjab Highway Patrol

(PHP) Police at a ceremony

held at his office here on

Addressing the ceremony, the CM said

that the incumbent

government had given new

vehicles to the Punjab

Highways Patrol Police

after a hiatus of 19 years.

Only 47 vehicles were

provided to the patrolling police after 2003-04, he

said and maintained that the

government was bound to

give two uniforms to the

jawan and senior police

officer would be given two

uniforms besides the

provision of additional

funds, he said. Punjab

Highway Patrol police had

given

responsibility of checking the axle load. If the police

responsibility in a befitting

manner, it would take a

lead to Punjab police and

traffic police, he remarked.

Khidmat centers are also

Naqvi noted, "Police

performed

From now on, every

policemen every year.

Thursday.

## AJK PM calls for teachers' fair, healthy role to produce quality future architects

MIRPUR (AJK) (APP): :Azad Jammu and Kashmir Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq, while acknowledging the overall healthy role of teachers in nation building, has said that teachers were the real heroes and true architects

of a healthy society.
While talking to a teachers' delegation that called on him at Jammu Kashmir House in the federal metropolis late Wednesday, the PM said that the responsibility of the refinement of society rests on the shoulders of teachers who serve as key actors in shaping the future of the nation by nurturing young minds, imparting

a prophetic profession, he said that teachers must play their proactive role to improve the standard and quality of education in the

region.
"Teachers must perform their duties honestly, give hundred percent results, and make sure that the future of children is bright", he said.

He said that the government was cognizant of the problems being faced teaching the community. He assured the delegation that in addition to teachers' promotions, all their problems would be solved on a priority basis. 'A cabinet committee

Describing teaching as teachers", the PM said, adding that suspended teachers would be reinstated. The government, he said, would ensure the protection of peoples' rights as per the constitution and law of the

> "I will continue to fight for the constitutional rights of the people of Azad Kashmir", he said, adding that when we talk about our legitimate rights we must not forget our duties and obligations towards the state. In order to improve the overall performance government offices and

departments, the PM said that biometric attendance has been made compulsory in schools.



Pak Daman Shrine on 11 October in Provincial Capital.

## Governor KP urges elected local Council Chairmen to try to discourage Kunda mafia

PESHAWAR (APP): A the occasion, spoke to delegation of the elected local body chairmans called top officials of WAPDA to instructed to bring the Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Haji Ghulam Ali on Thursday and discussed in detail the problems being faced by the local government representatives.

The delegation Inamullah Khan, Aziz Ghaffar, Nimatullah Khan and others informed the governor about the problems including closure

and directed to arrest the earliest. The Governor, on

Inspector General Police

Puniab Dr. Usman Anwar

has signed memorandums of understanding (MoUs)

with all major government

hospitals of provincial

capital, taking a historic

initiative for the healthcare

of families of hundreds of

According to the

martyrs of the force.

Punjab Police inks

MoUs with govt

hospitals in Lahore

resolve the electricity load shedding and said that the problem should be resolved the said area. He also urged the elected local Council

Chairmen to try to discourage Kunda mafia in their respective areas, which will permanently solve the problem of load shedding. The Governor said

of electricity feeders and gas load shedding.

Governor KP also contacted CPO Peshawar of electricity feeders and that it was the responsibility of the local body representatives to attract the people for the installation of new meters. suspects involved in the He also directed the Sui murder of the student of Gas authorities to take Edwards College at the steps to end load shedding. Apart from this, the

police martyrs including

parents, wives and children

in these hospitals. The

ceremony for signing of the

MoUs was held at the

Central Police Office in

which senior doctors and

officials from Mayo Hospital, General

Hospital, Ganga Ram

Hospital, Jinnah Hospital,

Hospital,

agreements, free medical Children's Hospital and

Services

accused involved in the murder of the student of Edwards College to justice as soon as possible, on which CCPO Peshawar told the Governor that efforts have been started to arrest the accused on emergency basis and the accused will be arrested very soon.

Governoi directed to take steps to improve the law and order situation in the entire province including Peshawar and said that the SHOs of all the concerned Police Stations to take measures in accordance with the law to prevent vagrancy

#### **CS** reviews progress on 33 priority projects

Secretary Punjab Zahid Akhtar Zaman reviewed the pace of work on 33 priority development

Secretariat meeting, the Planning and Development chairman briefed the chief secretary about the progress on schemes of various departments - 10 schemes of specialised healthcare department, six each of housing and urban development, communication and works



projects on Thursday. At the Civil



GILGIT: Secretary Forest Gilgit-Baltistan Zafar Waqar Taj and VC Karakoram International University Attaullah Shah exchanging documents after signing MOU between KIU and Forest Department at KIU.

Aamir Khattak has

He directed transport

Director environment

those who burn crop

motorways and highways.

department to raid against

smoke emitting vehicles along with traffic police.

Mahar Shamshad, while

giving briefing, said that

inspection of nine units

spreading environmental

pollution was conducted

and notices were served on

three units, two FIRs

lodged and two units

sealed.Likewise,

inspection of 46 brick kilns

47000 fine imposed.

Meanwhile,

streets and towns and strict

## **Commissioner for strict** action to prevent smog

MULTAN Commissioner Multan ordered action against division, Engineer Amir Khattak, ordered residues crackdown against those involved in burning of crop residues and waste to prevent smog.

He expressed these views while presiding over review meeting on performance environment department here on Thursday.

He also ordered to seal the factories causing environmental pollution by serving notices and asked DCs to launch antismog drive in their districts concerned effectively.

He said that the FIRs registered three elements involved in spreading environmental pollution would be brought to justice in any case.

directed environment department to thorough investigation before monitoring of shops of reporting



LAHORE: Representative of City Traffic Police along with Students holds awareness rally regarding the safety measurements during fog and impotence of wearing helmet, at Canal road in Provincial Capital.

## dengue surveillance Punjab has been at the forefront of daily

public health challenges. System, which has been playing a pivotal role in surveillance activities, of the dengue epidemic. This emerged during a progress review meeting, chaired by PITB Chairman Faisal Yousaf, according to a press release, issued here

the meeting were apprised that a total of 77,000 dengue outbreaks Android users were promptly," he added. Android users were registered on the Dengue Tracking System, actively participating in monitoring and performing antidengue activities. On various departments and average, 45 million

on Thursday.

LAHORE (APP): The Android-based activities Information are registered quarterly, Technology Board (PITB) with an average of 650,000 registrations, innovative technology showcasing the system's solutions to address the robust capabilities.

proving effective in

Faisal Yousaf said, Smart Dengue Monitoring Monitoring System stands as a remarkable example of how technology can be efficiently measuring the harnessed to address performance of anti-dengue pressing public health concerns efficiently and ultimately aiding in control effectively. The initiative continues to evolve, making substantial contributions to disease control and management across Punjab. With this system in place, public health authorities and The participants in stakeholders are better equipped to respond to

> The Smart Dengue Monitoring System is an integrated platform designed to empower city district governments.



KARACHI: Jamat-e-Islami (JI) Karachi Chief, Hafiz Naeem-ur-Rehman along with other distributing pamphlets among commuters during public campaign for protest demonstration against Israeli aggression and atrocities on the Gaza Strip and solidarity with the Palestinians, at Saddar Regal Chowk in Karachi.

#### Youth is a valuable asset of the country: Ibrahim Hasan

RAWALPINDI (APP): Caretaker Provincial Minister for Transport, Minerals and Livestock Punjab Ibrahim Hasan Murad has said that the youth was a valuable asset of the country and himself." He said the fortunately, they were in purpose of these initiatives the majority in the of the Punjab government country.

He expressed these views while addressing the swearing ceremony of the volunteers of the leading governance organized at the Punjab Arts Council here Thursday.Ibrahim said that Punjab Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi and the cabinet were working without any salary or benefits while in over two weeks, 10,000 people had registered themselves as

volunteers.

"The tax money of the people is being saved by the austerity policy of the chief minister, he said, adding wherever the Chief Minister of Punjab visits, he bears the expenses was to work for the welfare of the people beyond personal interests.

In the development program of the national agenda, the sector of agriculture, livestock, minerals and information technology was at the top, he said and added that as the Minister of Local Government, for the first time, he made direct bids for the cattle market, from which five billion 77 crores rupees were earned.

# knowledge and unlocking has been constituted to solve the problems of intellectual potential.

LAHORE: Police officials restore baton charge and arrest protesters during protest demonstration of Punjab Teachers Union against the ongoing privatization of government schools, amendments to pension regulations and the issue of leave encashment, outside Civil Secretariat in Lahore.

#### **KPCM** seeks report from IGP of student murder case

PESHAWAR (APP): properties of citizens at all Caretaker Chief Minister costs, adding that the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Muhammad Azam Khan on Thursday took notice of the killing of a college student, who was shot dead by robbers here during heartfelt sympathies an attempt to snatch a cell with the bereaved

General Police to submit a that the elements involved | the report on the incident, and in the heinous crime immediately suspend the would be brought to SHO of the concerned justice soon. police station further directing that all out efforts Minister also took notice be made to ensure the of the alleged incident of immediate arrest of those misbehaviour with a local involved in the brutal

killing.

He termed the happening of such incidents in broad daylight as of serious concern and directed the concerned authorities to take resultsuch incidents

patrolling system be improved and strengthened to prevent street crimes.

The Minister has expressed with the bereaved phone the other day.

The Chief Minister directed the Inspector

family and prayed for the eternal peace of the departed soul. He assured

> Meanwhile, the Chief journalist by the staff members of Lady Reading Hospital Peshawar the other day and directed his adviser for Health to get a factual report of the incident after listening to both the parties and take

Chief Minister, Advisor protection of the lives and enquiry into the matter.

oriented measures for further action accordingly. effective prevention of On the directives of the He further directed on Health Dr. Riaz them to ensure the Anwar has ordered an



**FAISALABAD: Former Federal Interior Minister** Rana Sanaullah Khan is addressing to the media persons after a party officials Meeting at Royal Palm Marquee.

#### **KPCVE Chief says: Integrated strategy** formed to eradicate violent extremism

PESHAWAR (APP): Dr. participants.

Ayaz Khan, Chief Dr. Ayaz Khan shed
Coordination Officer of light in detail on the Centre of Excellence on problem of violent Countering Violent Extremism Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has said that an integrated peace, security, and strategy for the promotion of peace, tolerance, and about the efforts and plans solidarity among the of the Centre of Excellence youth, especially students, has been formed to eradicate

He expressed these views while addressing a seminar organized at Kohat University of Science and Technology. Dean of Social Sciences Dr. Muhammad Naseer ud Din, Director Admin KPCVE Mr. Waqar Khan, Manager CVE Dr. Irfan faculty members, administration officials, and other participants were also among the different religious.

extremism in society, the (KPCVE) contributing factors, and the resulting threats to stability. He informed in eradicating violent extremism. He said that due violent to the development of communication, distances have shrunk in today's world and the situation and conditions of one region

have their impacts worldwide, which is why the threat of violent extremism is a challenge for nations and societies at the global level. There is an urgent

need for understanding and mutual respect between

#### Naqvi inspects expansion project of Bibi **PakDamanshrine** LAHORE (APP): The

renovation and expansion project of the Bibi Pak Daman shrine will be completed by the middle of next month as around 80% of the work has been completed.

Caretaker Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi reviewed the ongoing activities at Bibi Pak Daman shrine early in the morning. Both secretary C&W and architect Nayyar Ali Dada apprised him about the pace of work and the steps taken to improve the

interior of the shrine. The CM ordered to accelerate the speed to complete it in time and instructed secretary C&W and architect Nayyar Dada in this regard. He also prayed for the progress and prosperity of the country at the shrine.

Provincial Ministers Amir Mir, Azfar Ali Nasir, SMBR, secretary auquaf and commissioner & DC Lahore were also present.

#### **DG** Rangers visits riverine areas of Kandhkot

KARACHI Director General (DG) Pakistan Rangers Sindh Major General Azhar Waqas paid a detailed visit of riverine areas in Kandhkot, Sindh and reviewed the operation against the criminals and

dacoits. The spokesman for Rangers told on Thursday that the Sector Commander of the area concerned presented a detailed briefing about the operation to the DG

The Rangers DG also paid an aerial visit of the

#### 21 accused lady drug dealer arrested in police operation

RAWALPINDI (Online) Rawalpindi police arrested 21 accused including a lady drug dealer in an operation against drug dealers, liquor suppliers and illegal weapons and recovered more than 12.5 kg of hashish, 6 bottles, 42 liters of liquor and arms and ammunition. Wah Cantt Police

station recovered 1 kg 800 grams of hashish from Tafsir, 1 kg 560 grams of hashish from Qasim, 1 kg 500 grams of hashish fron Islam, 560 grams o hashish from Sikandar, kg 500 grams of hashish from Kashan.

#### Celebrations of Seerah Week 2023 continues at PMC

PESHAWAR (APP): The "Seerah Week 2023," organized by the PRIME Society for Arts & Literature (PAL), is underway at Peshawar Medical College (PMC).

Students from various academic intuitions, including PMC, Peshawar Dental College, Rufaidah College, Nursing University of Peshawar, Frontier College for women, IM Sciences and other esteemed intuitions are actively participating in these engaging competitions.

was made and 11 sealed 4 This lively week offers a diverse array of notices issued and over Rs competitions and activities, including Quiz eight lac fine was imposed. 95 vehicles checked, 24 Competitions on the life of challaned and over Rs The Rasool (Sal-Allah-ualahi-Wasalam) and His Companions. Commissioner ordered

#### World Sight Day: Walk held to sensitize people on eye care

PESHAWAR (APP): The Khyber Eye Foundation, on Thursday, arranged a symbolic walk here on World Sight Day 2023 to raise awareness among people about essential eye care services.

The primary goal of this initiative was to serve as a powerful reminder to people worldwide about importance of the prioritizing eye health in the workplace.

#### Koto Hydropower to add its share in national grid by April 2024: Minister

DIR LOWER (APP): various sections of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa sites and expressed caretaker Minister for satisfaction with their Mines, Minerals and Energy, Sarfaraz Ali Shah has said that Koto Hydropower Project would start power supply to the national grid from April 2024.

He said this minipower project would prove an accomplished megapower project for the provincial government due to its efficient power addition to the national grid. The minister added that problems of people related to mines and minerals would be

addressed on priority.
The minister said this during his daylong visit to Dir Lower district on Thursday. The minister visited Chakdara Minerals and Mines and Asif province Minerals and Mines enhance Talaash. He inspected

performance.

On the occasion, he listened to the problems of the people associated with minerals and mines and issued directives to the deputy commissioner and DPO to address the same.

Later, the minister visited the underconstruction Koto Power Project and inspected various sections of the project.The project. The project director told the minister that work on the power project was in its last phases and hoped that the project would start power supply to the national grid by April 2024.

The minister said this was a project of high importance for the province that would generation



ISLAMABAD: Russian Ambassador to Pakistan, H.E. Danila V. Ganich meeting with the Caretaker Minister of Commerce, Dr. Gohar Ejaz at the Commerce Ministry to discuss bilateral trade

#### SCCI president, Chief CC discuss issues of custom clearing agents, traders

PESHAWAR (APP): A said in a press release here. businessmen's delegation Collector Customs businessmen's delegation Collector Customs led by the President of Enforcement Peshawar Sarhad Chamber of Khawaja Khurram was also Commerce and Industry (SCCI) Fuad Ishaq on Thursday held a meeting with Chief Collector Customs Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Saeed

At the meeting, the SCCI chief in detail apprised chief collector customs for assurance for their

amicable resolution. The delegation Agents (FCAA) Association president Ziaul Haq Sarhadi, General Secretary Wahid Bacha and other members of the association along with traders, exporters and importers, present in the meeting.

Chief Collector Customs Saeed Akram took a keen interest in issues of custom clearing agents and traders' community

custom KP, Saeed Akram toward early resolution of about customs clearing issues that were faced by agents and gave a number the business community. establish a close liaison and devise a joint mechanism consisted of the Frontier Customs Agents issues of the traders'

community. **FCAA** Earlier. delegation headed by its president Ziaul Haq Sarhadi held a meeting with SCCI chief Fuad Ishaq at the chamber house.



LAHORE: A farmer spreading the fresh rice crop for drying purpose in his field.

#### **ICCI** calls for focusing on trade fairs and exhibitions to revive the economy

ISLAMABAD (APP): consumers and the fifth Faad Waheed, Acting President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI), on Tuesday urged the government to focus on trade fairs and exhibitions to promote trade, exports, and investment that would

help revive the economy. He said that the exhibitions are a permanent feature of business promotion in developed countries. He said that Pakistan is a huge market Industry (PAEI) that with 240 million visited ICCI.

largest country in the world in terms of population; therefore, it needs to organize at least 500 exhibitions every year to uplift businesses and the overall economy. He said that the patronage of the government by the private sector is so important to promoting such activities in the country. He said this while talking to a delegation of the Pakistan Association of Exhibition

#### Bank of China to bolster BRI, promote trade

BEIJING (APP): Bank of promote the smooth China will increase efforts to strengthen the Belt and Road Initiative and thus facilitate China's highstandard opening-up, its executives said.

The bank, they said, has branches in 64 countries and regions, including 44 that are taking part in the BRI. It will extend its financial services to more domestic and overseas enterprises to tradê boost and investment

explore BRI markets to like railways.

operation of industrial and supply chains, and help deepen bilateral and multilateral cooperation for building industrial capacity," said Yan Haisi, deputy general manager, corporate banking, Bank of China.

The lender will continue to establish new overseas facilities to cover more countries and regions participating in the BRI, Yan said.

stment. It will support key
"We will continue to traditional infrastructure



Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar chairs a meeting of the policy board on development

# **CPEC** boosts development of industries in Pak: Report

BEIJING (APP): The the launch of CPEC, a BRI China-Pakistan Economic Corridor has boosted the development of industries energy, infrastructure, agriculture, and textiles in Pakistan, making significant contributions to Pakistan's

The report titled "10 Years of Belt and Road Initiative-China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)" was released as China and Pakistan are celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and CEN reported also the 10th anniversary of Thursday.

The Russian Ambassador to Pakistan, Danila V.

Ganich, called on the Minister of Commerce, Dr.

Gohar Ejaz, at the Commerce Ministry today.

The meeting centered on

discussions surrounding the enhancement of

bilateral trade relations

During the session.

between the two nations.

both sides reaffirmed their

commitment to fostering

stronger cooperation with the aim of increasing the

volume of bilateral trade.

This commitment reflects

**PSX continues** 

with bullish

trend, gains

297 points

ISLAMABAD (APP): The 100-index of the

Pakistan Stock Exchange

(PSX) continued with

bullish trend on Thursday

and gained 297.17 points,

a positive change of 0.61

per cent, closing at

48,771.71 points against

48,474.54 points the

A total 342,287,229 shares valuing

Rs 11.735 billion were

traded during the day as

compared to 396,455,410

shares valuing Rs 10.529

companies transacted their

shares in the stock market;

146 of them recorded gains

and 160 sustained losses,

whereas the share price of

16 companies remained

companies were K-Electric Ltd with 112,985,840

shares at Rs 2.85 per share,

WorldCall Telecom with

17,102,517 shares at Rs

1.30 per share and Nishat

ChunPow with 12,166,495

shares at Rs 21.97 per

witnessed a maximum

increase of Rs 350.00 per

Rafhan

share price.

The three top-trading

unchanged.

As many as 322

billion the previous day.

total

previous day.

flagship project. Since the launch of

CPEC in 2013, China has become the largest source of investment for Pakistan for 10 consecutive years with \$25.4 billion investment in direct projects in the country. Among them, investment in the energy sector accounts for 68%, making it one of the areas with the largest investment, the fastest progress, and the significant achievements under CPEC,

Russian Envoy, Minister pledge

to strengthen bilateral trade ties

ISLAMABAD (Online): friendship and economic medical apparatus, woven

partnership between Pakistan and Russia.

As of the fiscal year 2022-23, the total trade

between Pakistan and

Russia amounted to US\$

920 million. Pakistan's

exports to Russia during this period totaled US\$ 74

million, while imports from

Russia reached US\$ 846

Russia encompass a

diverse range of products,

including citrus fruit,

leather apparel, ready-

made garments, potatoes,

**OUETTA:** A delegation of Shell Petroleum Pakistan Limited meeting with

the shared interest in home textiles, woven fortifying the enduring cotton fabrics, surgical and

Commissioner Ouetta Division Hamza Shafqaat.

Pakistan's exports to

2022, completed power projects under CPEC account for 1/4 of Pakistan's power generation, and the compound growth rate of power generation has jumped from 2.7% in pre-CPEC period to 7% during post-CPEC period. CPEC Power plants provided cheaper electricity by utilizing Thar coal reserves. This reduced Pakistan's oil and gas import bill burden.

terms transportation infrastructure, over 90% of

fabric of synthetic staple fiber, and salt, among

imports from Russia to

Pakistan consist of wheat

and meslin, dried

leguminous vegetables, bituminous coal, and similar solid fuels

manufactured from coal.

minister welcomed the

positive developments in

bilateral trade and reaffirmed Pakistan's

committment to facilitate

an environment conducive

to robust economic

Among the notable

projects are Gawadar

connectivity, Quetta Taftan rail link upgrade, a

new link connecting

Ouetta-Zhob and Dera

Ismail Khan, the Dedicated

Freight Corridor (DFC)

between Karachi Port and

Pipri, a fresh rail link

between Kohat, Thal, and

Kharlachi, solarization in

the railways, and the

commercialization of

the senior official of CDNS

200 billion additional

He said this was Rs

The chair expressed

The

cooperation.

Federal Railways secretary

plans China visit to attract

investors to ML-1 Project

ISLAMABAD (APP): execution. Federal Railways Amo

primary

overall preparations were development

Furthermore, additional railway stations.

potential investors for of preparedness.

will be presented to contentment with the state

CDNS attains Rs 420b

targets in fresh bond

1.6 trillion in fresh bonds current financial year

Thursday.

(2021-22).

included

Secretary Syed Mazhar Ali

Shah chaired a meeting to

prepare for an impending

visit to China, focusing on

the Belt and Road Forum

promoting the ML-1

project and showcasing

railway initiatives for potential investors. The

assessed as satisfactory.

significant railway projects

ISLAMABAD (APP):

The Central Directorate of

National Savings (CDNS)

has accomplished a target

of Rs 420 billion in fresh

bonds in the current fiscal

year, from July 1 to

the annual target and

in the current fiscal year,

FIGHT INEQUALITY AND TYRAN NY

LAHORE: Activists of Pakistan Kissan Rabita Committee holds protest in

the favor of their demands outside Press club in Provincial Capital.

The CDNS surpassed

October 10th.

The

objectives

Whereas, key

Commerce

others.

movement are primarily transport. The mileage of completed and ongoing motorways under CPEC is kilometers, accounting approximately 40% of the

total mileage of Pakistan's motorways. Motorway network in Pakistan links different parts of the country to the three main ports which include Karachi Port, Port Bin Qasim, and Gwadar Port, improving Pakistan's cross-border

## development of more shipyards in country ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on

PM directs to accelerate

Thursday directed the authorities concerned to accelerate the development of more shipyards in the

The prime minister, chairing a meeting of the policy board of shipbuilding, also called for also instructed the relevant keeping in view the authorities to formulate a environmental impacts of comprehensive strategy to the shipyard building curb illegal trawling in

the current position of the development of shipyards in the country.

In the briefing, the meeting was told that the shipyards could be developed in Surbandar, Eastbay, Kappar and Pishu Khan areas of Balochistan. The prime minister

#### PTCL decides to monetize 12 Non-core assets for enhancing financial agility

ISLAMABAD (APP): Telecommunication Company Limited has decided to sell its twelve surplus immovable assets in nine cities to strengthen its financial health and service capacity. This is in consideration of the company's aggressive network and ICT infrastructure expansion plans, said a news release issued here on Thursday.

Required approvals have been accorded for the planned sale of company's properties, situated in Attock, Bahawalpur, Faisalabad, Gujranwala, Kasur, Multan, Okara,

ensures strict compliance with the relevant company policies and frameworks in all business operations. The planned transactions will be carried out through a transparent auction process in accordance with the rules and regulations to provide

in buying the properties. The funds generated from these properties will be allocated to the expansion of PTCL's

an equal opportunity to all

individuals/firms interested



Secretary Railways; Syed Mazhar Ali Shah is chairing a meeting at Islamabad.

#### SBP clarifies Blue, Green Rs 75 commemorative banknotes are legal tender

KARACHI (APP): State Bank of Pakistan (SBP), on Thursday, clarified that both blue and green colour commemorative banknotes of Rs. 75 are legal tender, eligible to be used as medium of exchange and acceptable at all the banks across the country.

The central bank, in a statement issued here, stated that "under Section 25 of the State Bank of Pakistan Act, 1956, all banknotes including commemorative notes issued by SBP are legal tender everywhere in Pakistan for the amount expressed therein and carry the guarantee of the Federal Government."

Banknote of Rs.75 (predominantly green) was issued on August 14, 2022 to commemorate 75 years of Pakistan's Independence and another Rs.75 banknote (predominantly blue) was issued on July 04, 2023 to mark 75 years of SBP's inception.

The spokesperson informed that both of the commemorative banknotes were legal tender across Pakistan.

#### Pakistan's total liquid foreign reserves stood at \$ 13.03 billion

KARACHI (APP): The annual target than the target of Rs 1300 billion for total liquid foreign reserves the previous financial year of Pakistan stood at US\$ 2021-22. "The CDNS has 13,030.1 million while the central bank held the set a reviewed saving target achieved the target of Rs of Rs 1.4 trillion for the reserves of \$ 7,646.7 million.

The State Bank of Pakistan, in a statement issued here on Thursday, informed that SBP's reserves increased by \$31 million to \$7,646.7 million during the week ended on October 6, 2023. Meanwhile, net foreign reserves held by commercial banks stood at \$ 5,383.4 million, it added.

Total liquid foreign reserves held by the country, in the previous week ending on September 2023, were US\$ 13.0308 billion.

Among them, foreign reserves held by the central bank were \$ 7.615 billion while net foreign reserves held by commercial banks were \$5.415 billion.

#### **Poultry Industry playing** important role in economic development: Ibrahim Hasan

RAWALPINDI (APP): He was informed that Transport, Livestock and Hassan Murad has said that the Poultry Industry role in the country's economic development.

Directorate of Poultry Research Rawalpindi, the Minister informed that Pakistan ranks 11th among all countries in terms of poultry industry.

Research Rawalpindi, Dr. Syed provincial regarding the performance of the institution.

Caretaker Provincial the Poultry Research Minister of Punjab for Institute Rwp was established in 1985 and the Mines & Minerals Ibrahim institute was playing an important role developing the poultry was playing an important industry at commercial and rural levels.

nomic development. Along with the During a visit to the economic benefits from the sale of chicken meat and Institute eggs, about 150,000 people are associated with the poultry Industry.
It was told in the

briefing that there are various labs in the Director of Poultry institution for research. Institute The vaccination of birds is also done at the institute. Kamal Nasir briefed the One-day, one-week, 3 and minister 6-month poultry courses are organized for the public free of charge.



QUETTA: Central Anjuman-e-Tajran Dukaandaran Balochistan Leader, Amaruddin Agha along with Mir Nouroz Khan Bangalzai, Tikri Hameed and others addressing a press conference, at Quetta press club.

#### **GB Investment Road Show** showcases vast investment potential in diverse sectors

ISLAMABAD (APP): Secretary Mohyuddin The Gilgit-Baltistan government is holding a roadshow in Islamabad under the theme of 'Sustainable Prosperity" region's immense nvestment potential in a diverse range of sectors, including hospitality, tourism, agriculture, IT, hydropower generation, and minerals. During the roadshow, concerned GB departments will share concrete investment-ready proposals, while existing investors who have nvested in GB and reaped investor confidence. Diplomats from resident missions in Islamabad will also attend the show. Chief Baltistan.

statement, highlighted the one-day investment immense investment potential in various sectors in GB, including agriculture, livestock, fisheries, mines today to showcase the and minerals, green energy, fresh water, organic tourism homestay, and production of organics and medicinal herbs. He said that the GB government is striving hard to showcase this potential and promote both local and foreign investment in the region. Wani also briefed that the

Ahmed Wani, in a

GB Government has initiated remarkable programs for the benefits will share their achieving the goal of experiences to boost sustainable prosperity in the region, including the **Economic Transformation** Initiative (ETI) Gilgit-

# Biden warns Iran to 'be careful' about actions in region

**Monitoring Desk** WASHINGTON:

President Joe Biden on Wednesday issued a stark warning to Iran to "be careful" around its actions in the region following Hamas' attack on Israel.

During a roundtable with Jewish community leaders on administration's efforts to provide support for Israel, Biden stressed the assistance that the US is providing, adding that he's been frequently speaking to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

The US is "surging additional military assistance to the Israeli Defense Force including ammunition, interceptors to replenish the Iron Dome, we moved the US carrier fleet

nean and are sending more fighter jets there, to that region, and made it clear, made it clear to the Iranians - be careful," Biden said.

Meanwhile, Iran's President Ebrahim Raisi and Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman held their first phone call since both countries renewed diplomatic ties, an Iranian presidential aide said Wednesday. During the call, both

leaders discussed the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, "the need to end war crimes," as well as Islamic unity, Raisi's deputy for political affairs, Mohammad Jamshidi, said on X, the platform previously known as Twitter. Biden calls UAE president to discuss situation.

dent Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan "to discuss the terrorist attacks on Israel," according to the White House. "The President stressed his condemnation of Hamas's terror and his warning against anyone who might seek to exploit the current situation," the White House said in a readout of the call. "The two leaders also discussed the

importance of ensuring hu-

manitarian assistance reaches

those in need." Al Nahyan and Biden also discussed the importance of coordination among international parties in calling for "restraint and immediate de-escalation" as rising violence gravely threatens regional security and stability, the UAE state-run WAM news



Supporters cheer for Ecuadorean presidential candidate Daniel Noboa during his closing campaign, in Quito, Ecuador.

#### 'Always by your side': Blinken assures Israel of till-death-do-uspart US support against Hamas

Monitoring Desk will never, ever have to. We WASHINGTON: The will always be there by

United States of America will "always" support Israel; however, Palestinians also have "legitimate aspirations" that are not represented by Hamas, the US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said Thursday during a visit to Israel.

Israel's army has carried out air and artillery strikes on Hamas targets in vering support for Israel Gaza for six days since the and not called for restraint Hamas launched their sur-prise onslaught that killed Blinken hinted at the need prise onslaught that killed 1,200 Israelis, mostly civilians, and took about 150

Israeli forces have prepared for a possible ground invasion of the Palestinian coastal territory after what has been

labelled Israel's 9/11. 'You may be strong enough on your own to defend yourself," Blinken said at a joint press conference with Prime Minister Benyour side.'

More than 1,350 Palestinians have died in Gaza as Israel has levelled entire city blocks and destroyed thousands of buildings, while Hamas has now fired more than 5,000 rockets at Israel, the army said.

US President Joe Biden has vowed unwafor an eventual peace settlement — an idea that has long met resistance from the right-wing Netanyahu.

'Anyone who wants peace and justice must condemn Hamas' reign of terror," Blinken said.

We know Hamas doesn't represent the Palestinian people, or their legitimate aspirations to live with equal measures of sejamin Netanyahu. "But as long as America exists, you curity, freedom, justice opportunity and dignity."

#### Former Hamas chief calls for protests, neighbours to join war against Israel

**Monitoring Desk** DOHA: Former Hamas chief Khaled Meshaal called for protests across the Muslim world on Friday in support of the Palestinians and for the peoples of

neighbouring countries to

join the fight against Israel. '[We must] head to the squares and streets of the Arab and Islamic world on Friday," Meshaal, who currently heads Hamas's diaspora office, said in a recorded statement sent to Reuters. Meshaal, who is based in Qatar, said the governments and peoples of Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and Egypt have a bigger duty to support the Palestinians.

Tribes of Jordan, sons of Jordan, brothers and sisters of Jordan... This is a borders are close to you,

you all know your responsibility," Meshaal said. Jordan and Lebanon are home to the largest number of Palestinian refugees.

His rallying call came

as Israel vowed to escalate its response to an attack by Hamas with a ground offensive, after Israeli fighter jets struck more than 200 targets in Gaza city overnight. Gaza's health ministry said at least 950 people have been killed and 5,000 injured in the crowded coastal enclave. On Saturday, Hamas gunmen from the Gaza Strip rampaged through parts of southern Israel, in the deadliest Palestinian militant attack in Israel's history.

To all scholars who teach jihad... to all who teach and learn, this is a moment of truth and the moment for the application (of theories)" Meshaal said

#### Russian foreign ministry calls for Gaza ceasefire to allow in food and medicine

**Monitoring Desk** 

MOSCOW: Russia's for eign ministry urged Israel on Thursday to agree to a ceasefire in Gaza to allow in food and medicine and said it was unacceptable that what it called the "indiscriminate" bombing of the Gaza Strip was causing so many civilian casu-

Moscow stated after Deputy Foreign Minister Mikhail Bogdanov spoke to Hussein Al-Sheikh, sec retary general of the executive committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), by phone.

Israel said earlier on Thursday there would be no humanitarian exceptions to its siege of the Gaza Strip until all its hostages were freed after the Red Cross pleaded for fuel to be allowed in to prevent overwhelmed hospitals "turning from

morgues' The Russian foreign ministry said Bogdanov and Al-Sheikh had agreed on the need for a ceasefire and for the opening of human corridors to deliver food and medicine to Gaza's population.

#### **Palestinian President Abbas** condemns violence against civilians

Monitoring Desk RAMALLAH: Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas condemned violence against civilians on Thursday in the wake of the devastating attack by Hamas gunmen on Israel and the relentless bombardment of the Gaza Strip by Israeli jets that fol-

'We reject the practices of killing civilians or abusing them on both sides because they contra vene morals, religion and international law," the official Palestinian news agency Wafa quoted Abbas as saving



Brazilian citizen Roseli Pereira, 57, accompanied by other people repatriated from Israel, celebrates upon arrival at the Rio de Janeiro's international airport, Brazil.

GAZA CITY: Palestinians look for survivors under the rubble of a building following an Israeli air strike as bombing of the besieged enclave continued for the fifth consecutive day.

#### 130 countries to take part in Belt and Road Initiative celebrations next week

**Monitoring Desk** nounced on Wednesday it will host a gathering of foreign leaders next week to celebrate a decade of its Belt and Road Initiative project, with Russian President Vladimir Putin expected to

The Belt and Road Initiative is a landmark project in President Xi Jinping's bid to expand China's clout overseas, with Beijing saying this week it had now inked over two trillion dollars in contracts across the world. Representatives from over 130 countries are with Chinese counterpart

due to take part in the event, scheduled for Oct 17 and 18, with Xi set to deliver an opening speech and hold a welcoming banquet for foreign leaders.

It is the third forum of its kind since China launched the vast investment initiative, with events previously held in 2017 and 2019. Russian President Putin has said he will attend the event, in what will be his first visit to China since the Ukraine war began last year. Top Russian diplomat Sergei Lavrov will also attend and hold talks

#### common development." Canadian senate speaker to skip G20 event in New Delhi amid killing row

Monitoring Desk NEW DELHI: Canada's Senate speaker will not attend a two-day G20 event in New Delhi this week, India said on Thursday, as ties remain frozen after

Canada said it is investi-

gating allegations linking Indian agents to the killing of a Sikh separatist Speaker Raymonde Gagne will not be present at the two-day parliamentary speakers' summit that

starts on Friday, as part

of India's year long presi-

armed forces, in Moscow, Russia.

**Monitoring Desk** 

KABUL: Aid agencies

launched fresh appeals for

funds to deal with the fall-

out of deadly earthquakes

in Afghanistan as local au-

thorities called on Thurs-

day for urgent help for

thousands of people left

homeless in the aftermath

struck in the western prov-

ince of Herat on Saturday

and Wednesday, destroying

entire villages in the war-torn

country, which has long re-

lied on foreign aid that has

dried up since the Taliban children.

Titanic submersible

Multiple earthquakes

of the tremors.

Aid agencies call for urgent

funds in aftermath of

deadly Afghan earthquakes

which expires in Novem-"We invite all mem-

(G20) major economies,

bers for G20 events. Participation is their decision and subject to a number of factors," said Indian foreign ministry spokesperson Arindam Bagchi. "I'll have to check

whether anybody is actually attending from Canada because the parliament speaker could not attend.' The Canadian senate

did not immediately respond to a request for dency of the Group of 20 comment from Reuters.

Russian veteran human rights campaigner Oleg Orlov talks to the media

after a court hearing in which he was found guilty of discrediting Russia's

took over in 2021. The In-

ternational Federation of

Red Cross and Red Crescent

Societies in a statement

called for immediate inter-

national support, saying that

an existing appeal for 120 million Swiss Francs

(\$132.64 million) remained

critically underfunded, with

only 36 percent raised.

UNICEF also issued a new

fundraising appeal, its media office said, calling for an

initial \$20 million to respond

to the earthquakes, saying

90 percent of the death toll

was made up of women and

Wang Yi, Moscow said. China and Russia describe each other as strategic allies, frequently touting their "no limits" partnership and economic and military cooperation. China has refused to condemn the war, and has tried to position itself as a neutral party while at the same time offering Moscow a vital dip-lomatic and financial lifeline. "We welcome countries and partners actively participating in the Belt and

#### Turkiye's Erdogan discusses Israeli Palestinian conflict with UAE president **Monitoring Desk**

Road Initiative (BRI) to

come to Beijing to discuss

cooperation plans and seek

ANKARA: Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan discussed the conflict between Israeli and Palestinian forces with Emirati counterpart Mohammed bin Zayed in a call on Thursday, Turkiye's presidency

"During the call, President Erdogan stated that ending the tensions between Israel-Palestine will be possible through the positive steps that the international community, namely regional countries, will take," the presidency said on social messaging platform X.



ratification of the agreement between the Kyrgyz Republic and the Russian Federation for the creation of a Joint Regional Air Defence System," the Kyrgyz parliament said.

the joint programme.

"Lawmakers examined

and adopted the bill on the

Putin had been scheduled to travel to Kant, but past few months.

defence system the Kyrgyz presidency said on Wednesday the visit had been cancelled, without

providing more details.

The Russian leader is still due to speak with his Kyrgyz counterpart Sadyr Japarov on Thursday, and attend a summit gathering leaders of post-Soviet countries the following day. The agreement for a shared defence system between their two countries is valid for five vears, Russian state-run news agency RIA Novosti reported. Russia has similar deals with other allied countries including Kazakhstan, Belarus or Tajikistan. The announcement comes as Moscow's Collective Security Treaty Organisation (CSTO) comprising six post-Soviet states has been criticised over the

#### Over 338,000 Palestinians displaced in Gaza: UN agency

**Monitoring Desk** 

GAZA: The United Nations has released a harrowing report on the ongoing Israel-Hamas conflict, revealing that over 338,000 people have been forced to flee their homes in the Gaza Strip. The UN's humanitarian agency, OCHA, described the situation as a 'mass displacement" as heavy Israeli bombardments continue to pound the densely populated Palestinian enclave.
The crisis deepened as

Israel intensified its attacks on Hamas targets in response to the militants' surprise Saturday assault. Israeli forces reported that approximately 1,200 people, the majority of them civilians, have tragi-cally lost their lives during Gaza City.

this devastating onslaught, marking it as one of the most severe in the country's his-

In Gaza, officials reported over 1,000 casualties due to Israel's sustained campaign of air and artillery strikes. OCHA's statement highlighted that nearly 220,000 of the displaced individuals, which make up two-thirds of the total, have sought refuge in schools run by the UN agency that supports Palestinian refugees, UNRWA.

Meanwhile, around 15,000 people have sought shelter in schools run by the Palestinian Authority, and over 100,000 are being sheltered by relatives, neighbours, and various other facilities within

#### Chinese, Indian militaries hold 20th round of talks to resolve border issue

**Monitoring Desk** 

BEIJING: The Chinese and Indian militaries held two sides agreed to maintheir 20th round of corps tain peace and tranquillity commander-level meeting on the ground in the borand agreed to maintain the der areas. Prior to this cation and dialogue through military and diplomatic channels, the Chinese Defense Ministry said on Thursday.

During the meeting held at the Chushul-Moldo border meeting point on the Indian side from October 9 and 10, the two sides had a had a positive, in-depth and constructive discussion on resolving the remaining issue along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the Western Sector in a mutually acceptable manner at the earliest possible date.

In line with the guidance provided by the leadership, the two sides exchanged views in a candid, open and forward looking manner. They agreed to maintain the momentum of communication and dialogue through military and diplomatic channels, and resolve the remaining issues in an expeditious success.

In the interim, the held the 19th round of Corps Commander Level Meeting at the same meeting point on August 13-14 aimed at resolving the border issue

The 18th round of the China-India Corps Commander Level meeting was held at the Chushul-Moldo border meeting point on the Chinese side on April 23, this

It may be mentioned that the disputed border between China and India covers nearly 3.500 kilometres (2,175 miles) of the frontier that the two countries call the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and that stretches from Ladakh in the north to the Indian state of Sikkim in the

northeast. The two countries have been trying to settle their border dispute since the early 1990s without

#### **Asteroid sample contains** life-critical water and carbon, says Nasa

**Monitoring Desk** HOUSTON: A sample collected from the 4.5-billion-

year-old asteroid Bennu contains abundant water and carbon, Nasa revealed on Wednesday, offering more evidence for the theory that life on Earth was seeded from outer

The discovery follows a seven-year-roundtrip to the distant rock as part of the OSIRIS-REx mission, which dropped off its precious payload in the Utah desert last month for painstaking scientific "This is the biggest

carbon-rich asteroid sample ever returned to Earth," Nasa administrator Bill Nelson said at a press event at the Johnson Space Centre in Houston, where the first images of black dust and pebbles were revealed.

Carbon accounted for almost five per cent of the sample's total weight, and was present in both organic and mineral form, while the water was locked inside the crystal structure of clay minerals, he said. Scientists believe the

reason Earth has oceans, lakes and rivers is because

it was hit with water-carrying asteroids 4 to 4.5 billion years ago, making it a habitable planet.
All life on Earth mean-

while is based on carbon, which forms bonds with other elements to produce proteins and enzymes as well as the building blocks of genetic code, DNA and The findings were

made through a preliminary analysis involving scanning electron microscopy, X-ray computed tomography and 'This stuff is an

astrobiologist's dream," said scientist Daniel Glavin, adding there was much more work to be done and the sample would be shared with labs around the world for further study.
OSIRIS-REx wasn't

the first probe to rendezvous with an asteroid and bring back samples for study — Japan succeeded in the feat twice, returning celestial dust in 2010 and 2020. But the amount collected — an estimated 250 grams (half a pound) dwarfs that returned by the Japanese missions, with Havabusa2 managing only

5.4 grams.

#### debris, human remains recovered **Monitoring Desk** WASHINGTON: More debris and suspected human remains have been recovered from a privately owned subinto the accident. mersible which failed catastrophically in June while on a mission to the Titanic, the US Coast Guard said. All five people on board the recreational sub, named Titan and operated by US-based company OceanGate, were killed when the vessel imploded, which is believed to

18 descent. The sub's failure was confirmed on June 22, ending a days-long rescue mission which captivated the

have occurred during its June

world. The Coast Guard has launched its highest level of probe, called a Marine Board of Investigation,

'Marine safety engineers with the Coast Guard's Marine Board of Investigation (MBI) recovered and transferred remaining Titan submersible debris and evidence from the North Atlantic Ocean seafloor" on October 4, the US Coast Guard said in a statement on Tuesday. "Additional presumed human remains were carefully recovered from within Titan' debris and transported for analysis by US medical professionals," it added

#### Niger junta orders top UN official to leave the country **Monitoring Desk**

NIAMEY: The junta that seized power in Niger has demanded that the head of the United Nations diplomatic mission there leave the country within 72 hours, according to a statement from the West African nation's foreign ministry seen by Reuters on Wednesday. The statement, dated Oct 10, accused the UN of using "underhanded maneuvers" instigated by France to prevent the full participation of Niger in the UN General Assembly last month and other international meetings.

#### Spain's acting leader is booed at a National Day event as the country's political limbo drags on

Monitoring Desk
MADRID: Protestors
booed Spanish acting Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez at the country's National Day military parade Thursday, apparently disgruntled over his efforts to end Spain's political limbo by seeking to strike a deal with separatist parties. Sánchez appeared on a raised platform at Madrid's Neptune fountain alongside King Felipe VI, Oueen Letizia and Princess Leonor for the celebrations as people waving small Spanish flags lined the street.

## Quality education, major requirement for country's development: President

President Dr Arif Alvi on Thursday stressed the universities to provide quality education to the students as it was the foremost requirement for the development of the country.

He directed the education ministry and Higher Education Commission (HEC) to support universities in designing the courses and departments in accordance with the demand of jobs in the market.

Addressing the Convocation ceremony of the Quaid-i-Azam University here, the president said Pakistan was passing through the economic crisis but advised the female profes-

would rise again soon by ensuring quality education, rule of law and justice.

tential to develop and the

"Pakistan has full po-

sun of development and prosperity would rise in the country soon," he re-During the ceremony, the president gave away

medals to the top position holders and conferred degrees to the successful students in various departments of the university.

Referring to the shortage of professionals, especially in the medical field in the country, the president after completing their degree. He said women of the country were very hardworking and they could play key role in the devel-

opment of the country by working shoulder to shoulder with the men. However, he stressed the need to stop their harassment at workplaces so that they could work freely. The president said the literacy rate in the country was alarmingly low as over 20 million or 40% of children were currently out of school.

He said to accommodate all the children at once, the government would need 55000 more schools that

it. Comparing the regional statistics, the president highlighted that in India, Bangladesh and Srilanka, around 98% of the children were enrolled in schools.

He feared that this huge number of out of school children could become burden for the country in future.

He said the Brick and Mortar structure could be followed to educate maximum number of children. He said the mosques could be utilized for providing education besides use of latest technology to educate the children while sitting at

Organization of Islamic Co-

operation (OIC) for Jammu

Aldobeay, while reiterating

OIC's constant support for

the Kashmir cause, said

that the issue of Kashmir is

not only of Kashmiris and

Pakistan, but of the entire

pressed these views during

a conversation with the del-

egation of All Party

Hurriyat Conference Azad

which met him, today, at

need patience and hope, gal actions.

the Foreign Office.

Yousef Aldobeay ex-

Muslim world

Yousef Aldobeay says

Kashmir issue is not only

of Kashmiris, Pakistan but

of entire Islamic world

ISLAMABAD (INP): adding the OIC stands by

Special Representative of their side in their just

the Secretary General of the struggle for right to self-de-

and Kashmir, Yousef Islamophobia are valuable

Jammu and Kashmir Occupied Jammu and Kash-(APHC-AJK) chapter, mir by Modi-led Indian

He said Kashmiris draw its unilateral and ille-

termination. He further said

Pakistan's efforts against

and the fact is that the mas-

sacre of Muslims, the de-

struction of mosques and

the desecration of the Holy

Quran in India and India's

illegal occupation of Jammu

Islamophobia, which India

is committing.
Yousef Aldobeay said

the OIC has rejected the actions of August 5, 2019 in

government and has been

demanding that India with-

Kashmir



QUETTA: A delegation of Zamindar Action Committee meeting with Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki

#### Highly appreciates BRSP's services: Govt. values assistance & initiatives of NGOs, states caretaker CM

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki has appreciated the services of Balochistan Rural Support Programme (BRSP) in different sectors including education, health besides during the natural disasters.

He said that the provincial government values a the assistance programmes and initiatives of the non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and as such every possible cooperation would be extended to them wherever to the BRSP Chief.

they would need so. The Chief Minister was speaking to the delegation of BRSP who called on him under leadership of its Chief Executive Officer, Dr Tahir Rasheed, here on

Thursday. The delegation informed the Chief Minister about ongoing different projects of BRSP in the

The BRSP Chief Tahir Rasheed presented souvenir to the Chief Minister on behalf of his institution.

The caretaker Chief

#### Over Rs. 925mln recovered from so far: 288 more connections suspended as QESCO campaign continues against pilferers & defaulters

**Independent Report** QUETTA: As many as 288 more electricity connections of the defaulters and pilferers were suspended as the extensive campaign against the defaulters and pilferers is continued across the Balochistan province. According to the spokesman of Quetta Electric Supply Company (QESCO), the crackdown is continued against the defaulters of electricity utility bills and those involved in the pilferage of electric-

He informed that in all 1328 applications have been of legal action against the power pilferers in Quetta and different other areas of the province. however, 384 FIRs have been registered so far in this regard, the

QESCO spokesman added. Moreover, over Rs. 806 million have been recovered from some 35,000 defaulters in the province. in addition to this, over Rs. 120 million have been recovered from the pilferers on the charges of pilferage

of pilferage.
The QESCO spokesman told that the campaign against defaulters and pilferers would remain continued in future as well.



ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani exchanging views with Charged' Affairs at the embassy of the state of Qatar, Mr. Issa Bin Muhammad Al-Dasam Al-Kubaisi, at Parliament House.

#### Chinese CG visits APNS office **BRF** will provide opportunity for progress and development of region and globe: Yang

ISLAMABAD (PR): The Consul General (CG) of the for common development Peoples Republic of China and prosperity will provide Yang Yundong visited the an opportunity for office of All Pakistan progress and development Newspapers Society (APNS). The President Mrs. Nazafreen Saigol Lakhani and Mr. Sarmad Ali Secretary General welcomed the honorable guest and stated that Mr. Yang Yundong was the first diplomat to visit APNS House.

Mr. Yang Yundong thanked APNS for inviting him to their head office and said that the 3rd Belt and Road Forum (BRF) will be held in Beijing on October 17 and 18 in which more than 130 countries and over 30 International Organizations are expected to par-

The Chinese Consul General said the belt and road forum under the theme of High-quality Belt and of the region and the globe. The Consul General added that 2023 marks the 10th anniversary of BRI.

Over the past decade, the BRI has established more than 3000 cooperation projects and galvanized nearly USD 1 trillion of investment, creating an array of livelihood projects and

milestones of cooperation. Referring to China Pakistan Economic Corridor projects, Mr. Yang Yundong said this is a pilot project of the BRI and the land mark project for China-Pakistan cooperation in the new era. He said the Chinese Media sector have made several advancements according to the needs of the modern age.

## Zubair Jamali pays surprise visit to

Airport PS **Independent Report** 

QUETTA: The caretaker Provincial Minister for Home, Mir Zubair Jamali paid surprise visit to the Airport Police Station here on Thursday.

During the visit, the Minister inspected the CCTV cameras, record and roznamcha register of the

He appreciated the staff of police station for making excellent arrangements and maintaining record in the police sta-

Speaking on the occasion, Minister Home directed the police force to take special care of the elderly citizens and espe-cially women in police

He said that it is duty of police to protect life and property of the masses. In this regard, police would have to improve its performance further, adding he

PTI submits a 25-point CoD to ECP for holding free, fair polls ISLAMABAD (INP): A Minister and PTI Chairman Imran Khan is currently in-

three-member committee of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) consisting of Senator Ali Zafar, Dr. Babar Awan and Barrister Gohar Khan attended the meeting held at Election Commission of Pakistan, presented a 25point charter of demand and called upon the commission to fulfil the same in order to ensure free, fair and credible elections in the country within the timeframe of 90 days from the dissolution of the National Assembly fixed by the constitution.

The charter of demand is as under; Former Prime

carcerated as a Prisoner of Conscience, Our Leaders mentioned in the list of attendees for the ECP meeting have not been allowed to attend, PTI being victimised and perse as a political entity. ECP is delaying issuing the written order of PTI's Election Symbol case, 'Enforced Staged Encounters' of PTI Leadership staged to force them to renounce PTI, Enforced Disappeared leaders have been forcefully made to give interviews/statements and leave PTI, No level playing field for PTI.



Hon'ble Mr. Justice Syed Mansoor Ali Shah, Judge Supreme Court of Pakistan, Chairman of the Arbitration Law Review Committee convened the third meeting of the Committee today at the Supreme Court of Pakistan, Islamabad.

#### Reshuffle in civil bureaucracy continues in **Balochistan**

**Independent Report** 

QUETTA: The reshuffle of civil bureaucracy is continued in the Balochistan province as several more oureaucrats were transferred and given new responsibilities.

According to an official notification issued here by the Services and General Administration Department (S&GAD) the other day, the senior bu-reaucrat, Qambar Dashti, awaiting posting order was posted as the Secretary Communications and

Similarly, Sohailur Rehman Baloch, who was also awaiting posting order, has been posted Secretary Agriculture department while Zafar Ali Buledi has been posted as the Secretary Colleges and Higher Education department.

Moreover, Ali Akbar Baloch, earlier posted as the Secretary C&W Department, has been transferred and posted as the Commissioner Kalat Division.

Similarly, Muhammad Sadiq, Hamza Anjum and Mujeebur Rehman, all awaiting posting orders, have been posted as the Assistant Commissioners of Pasni, Mach and Gulistan respectively.

Needless to mention here is that all the transfers and postings have been made with approval of the competent authority and prior permission of Election Commission of Paki

#### Pashtoon nationalist leaders call for forging unity to face challenges **Independent Report**

QUETTA: The Pashtoon nationalist leaders have stressed that there is a need to forge unity among the Pashtoon nation to face the challenges facing it.

They said that we can confront the challenges being faced by the Pashtoons just through unity among our ranks.

They asserted that attempts are being made to create divisions, but they would not succeed.

The Pashtoon leaders were addressing a public gathering at Bacha Khan Markaz Čhaman on Thursday.

Those who addressed the gathering were included: Chairman, Khushhal Khan Kakar, provincial president of Awami National Party, Asghar Khan Achakzai, provincial president of National Democratic Move-Ahmed Jan, Nasrullah Zairay, Salahuddin Watanyar,

tion Commission. They vowed to challenge the delimitations to-Abdul Khaliq Haqmal, and gether with other parties.

Also present on the

occasion were: ANP's pro-

vincial General Secretary,

Mabat Kaka, secretary of

PkMAP, Faqir Khushhal

Kasi, central secretary Fi-

nance, Yousaf Kakar, Syed

Qadir Agha, Engineer Aimal

khan Nasar, besides other

leaders. Addressing the

gathering, Khushhal Kakar

and other leaders said that

Pashtoon Afghan are pass

are being made to create dif-

ferences on the basis of zai

and Khaili. He and other

leaders also criticized the

rulers for their alleged anti-

ghans would never forgive

the anti-Afghan attitude of

the alleged unjustified con-

stituencies delimitations by

the government and Elec-

They said that the Af-

They also criticized

Afghan policies.

the government.

He said that attempts

ing through critical time.



QUETTA: Balochistan National Party (BNP) Leader, Malik Naseer Ahmed Shahwani addresses to media persons during press conference, at Quetta press club.

## PM for resolving issues of newspapers on priority

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Thursday directed the ministry of Information and Broadcasting and the finance ministry to resolve all issues of newspapers on priority. Talking to a delegation of Council of Pakistan Newspapers' Editors (CPNE) led by its president Irshad Arif here, the prime minister said the newspapers should play their role in promoting such an environment in which every-body should listen to the differences of opinions.

He said currently an organized propaganda campaign was being launched against the state.

He said during his visit to the US, an organized campaign of false news and undue criticism was launched against him.

nied a very short delegation during his visit to the US

of climate change.

pointed out that he presented the cultural aspect of climate change to the world by referring to the holy Qur'an. With respect to smug-

gling of foreign currency, he said strict measures were being taken to stop smuggling of dollars in the short term. The rising value of the rupee against the dollar is a testament to the success of this campaign, he said adding that the Managing Director International Monetary Fund (IMF) had also appreciated the government's measures to stop smuggling and illegal transaction of foreign currency. The prime minister said the smuggling of petroleum products also continued to cause serious dam-

He said he accompaage to the country's economy. Likewise, he said steps were being taken where he effectively pre-

sented the Pakistan's case vent power theft. He said Pakistan had The prime minister billions of dollars of trade potential with Central Asian states, adding "I am trying my best to take such measures during the short

period by which we can use out trade's capacity.' Speaking about his upcoming visit to China, PM Kakar informed that Pakistan-China strategic relations, bilateral trade, China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and tourism promotion would be discussed during the visit.

Similarly, he said plans to take full advantage of the potential of tourism in Gilgit-Baltistan would also

be part of the discussions.

He said the government was making the process of privatization of lossmaking state-owned enterprises (SOEs) fast and transparent as privatization of loss-making public institutions would reduce the loss to the country's exchequer



SIBI: Leaders of workers of different political parties meeting with Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar

#### **Funds for** minorities' protection earmarked in

budget: Domki
QUETTA (APP): Balochistan Caretaker Chief Minister Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki on Thursday said hefty funds have been allocated in the budget for the protection, construction and repair of the places of worship of the minority

community.
CM Domki while talking to a delegation of the Christian community led by Shaukat Stephen said quota for minorities has been implemented in all departments including all the posts advertised in the Public Service Commission

#### **Bristow visits Reko** Diq site, reviews project progress QUETTA (APP): Barrick

Gold Corporation's president and chief executive Mark Bristow this week arrived at the site of the Reko Diq project to review its progress and engage with stakeholders who live in and around the area. Due to go into production in 2028, Reko Diq hosts one of the world's largest undeveloped copper-gold deposits. Among others, Bristow and his team met representatives of the Pare-Koh and Nokkundi community development committees, which include members of resident tribes, village elders, women and

They also visited the

primary school set up by Reko Dig at the Humai village and inspected the Community Medical Center at Humai with funding from Reko Diq. At the Reko Diq development site, Bristow spoke to the project's employees who, in line with Barrick policy, have been largely recruited locally. Some 75% of the permanent employees are from Balochistan, and most of these are from the surrounding Chagai district.

"Barrick is committed to creating long-term value for our host communities and sharing the economic benefits our operations generate with them to drive their sustainable development.



Baristow being receiving by local community upon arrival in village Humai

## PANAH organizes seminar to create awareness about unhealthy diets

QUETTA (APP): Pakistan the country. National Heart Association (PANAH) on Thursday organized a seminar on the occasion of International Food Day to raise awareness about unhealthy diets aimed at reducing non-communicable diseases.

Director General Health Dr. Noor Muhammad Qazi said that Ultra-processed foods are a major cause of diseases and various countries have taken other policy options to reduce the consumption of ultra-processed foods as well as put nutrition warning labels on them so that people can know about the healthier foods.

Secretary General NAH Sanaullah PANAH Ghumman said that noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) such as heart diabetes, kidney disease. stroke and several types of cancer are skyrocketing in

He added that unhealthy foods such as ultra-processed foods are one of the major causes of diseases. He said Ulema and the media can play an important role in educating people about unhealthy diets. Sanahullah Ghuman said that thousands of people are losing their lives every day due to unhealthy food. He added that reports show that reducing consumption of ultra-processed products can de-

bidity rates. He said that ultra-processed foods contain harmful ingredients like salt, sugar, trans fats and saturated fats. He called for imposing taxes on ultra-processed foods, regulating their marketing, front-ofpack labelling warning signs and removing these prod-ucts from schools to reduce

He said that he had appreciated government's move to in-

deaths and illnesses.

crease taxes on sugary drinks in the Finance Bill 2023-24. He said that raising taxes is the first and most effective step to reduce the consumption of ultra-processed foods, but to improve the situation much needs to be done. Sanaullah

PANAH has launched a campaign to impose frontof-pack labelling on ultra-processed foods which crease mortality and morwould help people make healthier food choices.

He said PANAH is working with Ulema across the country to raise awareness among people and organized a seminar in Quetta to convey our message to the people that they should eat healthy food and avoid unhealthy foods like ultra-