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Allah and then federal Govt can steer province out of financial crisis:

Govt serious in restoring peace; endeavouring hard to improve governance, CM Domki

Balochistan.

against those involved in it.

ministration in Turbat incident.

ould see the circumstances there.

ng he mentioned.

QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki has categorically stated that the interim provincial government is serious in restoring peace in the province and endeavouring hard to improve governance. He said that Allah Almighty and then federal govern-

ment can steer the province from the financial crisis. The caretaker Chief Minister was speaking to select group of media persons at the Chief Minister secretariat

He spoke at different topics and issues facing the province and shared his heart-out with the media per-

Mr. Domki noted with contentment that prices of petrol and petroleum products have been reduced considerably, which would have good impact on the economy.

He also said that the caretaker federal government has taken certain important initiatives for bringing improvement in the economy.

As a result of these measures, the prices of dollar,

gold and iron are getting decreased. Now the transporters should also decrease the fares

BEIJING: Mr. Wang Zhigang, Minister of Science

& Technology of China receiving Caretaker Prime

Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar upon his arrival.

Pakistan, Iran, Egypt agree

for steps to prevent

Gaza conflict escalation

ISLAMABAD (INP): Minister for Foreign Affairs Jalil

Abbas Jilani on Monday telephonically spoke to his coun-

terparts from Iran and Egypt and discussed the crisis in

nian counterpart Hossien Amir Abdollahian also dis-

cussed the large-scale displacement of the Palestinians

prevent conflict from escalating and the provision of hu-

ing conflict in Gaza, Foreign Minister Jilani also spoke to

from escalating, protecting civilians from collective pun-

PUIC convenes emergency

meeting on Palestine crisis

ISLAMABAD (Online): ing key representatives to

Senator Nuzhat Sadiq attending the Virtual Emer-

gency meeting of the Parliamentary Union of OIC

member States (PUIC) to discussed serious devel-

opments of the situation of Palestine Territories,

Reshuffling in civil bureaucracy continues

Rashid Razzaq posted as

PS to CM, Saboor Kakar

as ACS Development

at Parliament House Islamabad.

Independent Report

QUETTA: The reshuffling

in senior civil bureaucracy

remained continued as some

senior officers serving on

the key positions were re-

moved giving new respon-

notification issued here on

Monday, the Principal Sec-

retary to Chief Minister,

Lal Jan Jaffar has been

transferred and posted as

the Secretary Planning De-

partment while Rashid

Razzaq, awaiting posting

orders, has been posted as

Principal Secretary to Chief

Member Board of Revenue,

Abdul Saboor Kakar has

been posted as Additional Chief Secretary Develop-

ment while his predecessor,

Hafiz Abdul Basit has been

directed to report in the

Services and General ad-

ministration department.

Similarly, the senior

Minister

According to an official

sibilities on Monday.

Active participation

Senators, including Senator

Continued on page 2

Moreover, Secretary

Finance, Zahid Saleem has

been transferred and posted

as Additional Chief Secre-

tary Home while Secretary

Fisheries department

Hafiz Muhammad Tahir

has been posted as senior

Member Board of Revenue.

was also awaiting posting

order, has been posted as

secretary S&GSD while his

predecessor Babar Khan

the Member Chief Minis-

ter Inspection Team.

partment.

Syed Faisal Agha, who

the Egyptian Foreign Minister Sameh Shukri.

ishment, starvation and displacement.

The foreign minister, in the conversation with Ira-

Both sides agreed that urgent steps were needed to

As part of efforts for a coordinated response to ongo-

In the conversation, the stressed preventing conflict

The foreign minister also assured of Pakistan's hu-

Gaza including the killing of civilians.

manitarian assistance

manitarian assistance.

In response to the alarming

developments in the Pales-

tinian territories, the Parlia-

mentary Union of OIC

Member States (PUIC)

convened a virtual emer-

gency meeting today, unit-



BEIJING (Online): Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar has arrived in China to participate in the '3rd Belt and Road Forum (BRF) for International Cooperation.' He was received by Chinese Minister of Science & Technology, Wang Zhigang, Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong and Ambassador of Pakistan to China Moin-ul-Haq.

The Prime Minister is undertaking the visit at the invitation of China's President Xi Jinping. He is accompanied by a high-level delegation including members of the cabinet and senior government of-

The Prime Minster will attend the Opening Ceremony of the BRF and rum titled 'Connectivity in | which marks the complean Open Global Economy to be held on 18 October

The Prime Minister will hold bilateral meetings with President Xi Jinping, Premier Li Qiang and Mr. Li Xi, member of the Standing Committee of Politburo of CPC Central

Committee. Rabi-us-Sani moon sighted

ISLAMABAD (APP): Central Ruet-e-Hilal Committee Chairman, Maulana Syed Muhammad Abdul Khabir Azad on Monday announced that the moon for Rabi-us-Sani, 1445 AH, had been sighted.

He said the first Rabius-Sani, 1445 AH would on Tuesday, (October 17).

Gas tariff likely to be increased by 100pc on IMF demand

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistan caretaker govern-ment is likely to jack up gas tariff by 100pc on the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) demand sources said Monday.

According to sources knowing the matter, the IMF demanded an increase in gas tariff from up to 100pc before the next economic review to curtail circular debt in the gas sector.

Sources said the shortfall of Rs185 billion will be added to the circular debt of the gas sector if the gas tariff is not increased. The current circular debt of the gas sector is touching s2,700 billion.

They further said from July-September, 2023, the gas companies have added Rs46 billion more to their overall losses.

The summary for the hike has been 'prepared' and is likely to be presented before the next meeting of the Economic Coordination Committee (ECC).

In that incident, SSP Kech has been suspended, add-He also said that he is going Turbat soon where he

Regarding rehabilitation of the flood affected people, the caretaker Chief Minister said that work would be

He said that we have enforced section 144 for good

of transport so that the public may benefit from it. Referring the labourers killing in Turbat, the care-taker Chief Minister said that he is grieved over the kill-

ing of labourers saying that it is not tradition of

serious about it and as such stern action would be taken

He, however, asserted that the government is very

He said that there is an issue of law and order in the province, however, insha Allah there would be improve-

He admitted that surely there was negligence of ad-

PM Kakar says

of Provincial Cabinet

Pakistan committed to CPEC as 'corridor of socio-economic growth' said Pakistan endorses China's vision of CPEC as ISLAMABAD (APP):

Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar has a corridor of growth. expressed the country's As the flagship project commitment to jointly building the China-Pakistan of the BRI, he said, CPEC marks a milestone in Paki-Economic Corridor stan-China relations by plac-(CPEC), saying the project ing "economic cooperation has transformed the socioand connectivity at the very economic landscape of Pacenter of the bilateral kistan. "The CPEC has agenda", making the two countries more intercon-nected. "We fully endorse transformed the socio-economic landscape of Paki-China's proposal of developing the CPEC as a corristan, upgrading modern infrastructure, enhancing redor of growth, livelihood, gional connectivity, ensurinnovation, greenness, and ing energy security, and creating jobs," the prime minopenness - representing our two countries' preference for ister wrote in his article

Caretaker Prime Minister

published in Global Times

PM Kakar, who is set opment," he said. to participate in the Third The prime minister Belt and Road Forum for said Pakistan and China as close friends, strate-International Cooperation address the High-Level Fo- in China on October 17-18 gic partners, and iron brothers, are moving fortion of a decade of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

Continued on page 2

a human-centric approach,

inclusivity, and green devel-



Naveed Ashraf exchanging views with Ambassadors of Saudi Arabia, Nawaf bin Saeed Al-Maliki at Naval headqauter.

Oman Army commander lauds Pakistan's efforts for regional peace

RAWALPINDI (APP): Commander Royal Army of Oman, Major General Matar bin Salim bin Rashid Al-Balushi called on Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Syed Asim Munir at the General Headquarters (GHQ) on Monday.

The visiting dignitary lauded the Pakistan Army's achievements in the fight against terrorism and continued efforts for regional peace and stability, an In- dignitary.

ter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release

During the meeting, matters of mutual interest were discussed.

Earlier on arrival at the GHQ, the Commander Royal Army of Oman laid a wreath at the Yadgar-e-Shuhada. A smartly turned out contingent of Pakistan Army presented the guard of honour to the

Seminar on Intl. Day of Disaster Risk Reduction: Balochistan faces challenges of preparedness & response to natural disasters: Jamali

Independent Report QUETTA: The caretaker

Provincial Minister for Home, Captain (Retd) Mir Muhammad Zubair Jamali has stated that the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) is performing and playing its role regarding disaster management, however, the province is facing vast challenges of preparedness and response to the natural disasters due to its uneven ar-

The Minister was addressing a seminar on the International Day of Disaster Risk Reduction

eas, coast and deserts.

here on Monday. The Minister said that it's not in the domain of human being to stop the natu-

ral disasters. He said that the natural disasters cause destruction and devastations besides increasing poverty.

He stressed that we have to ensure that our disaster management strategy is stronger and in accordance with the changing environment.

He also said that the welfare of masses of the province is our top priority and as such we would not be leaving any stone unturned for this purpose. Minister Information Jan Achakzai shares detail of decisions:

Interim Balochistan cabinet strongly slams Turbat labourers killings; vows to take terrorists to task

Cabinet chaired by Mir Ali Mardan Domki expresses concern over Palestine situation; urges UN to intervene immediately; approves formation of Information Commission under Right to Information Act;

Independent Report

pledged to take the terror-

also expressed grave concern over the situation of

immediate ceasefire, lifting of blockade in Gaza

he expressed Pakistan's complete solidarity with the oppressed people of Palestine. Expressing deep concern on the ongoing violence and loss of life in Gaza, the Prime Minister said Israel's deliberate, indiscriminate and disproportionate targeting of civilians is against all norms of civility and in manifest violation of international law.

LAHÖRE (INP): Another key politician of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) and former minister Farrukh Habib announced to quit the party on Mon-

appeared for the last several months and suddenly appeared before the media and announced separating his ways with Imran Khan in a press conference.

newly established political party, the Istehkam-e-Pakistan Party (IPP) and held a press conference there.

Talking to media persons, Farrukh Habib said for the last five months, there was a thought in his mind about parting away to the PTI and Chairman Imran Khan.

okays grant of Rs. 780 million for restoration of power to farmers

QUETTA: The interim cabinet of Balochistan has strongly condemned the incident of brutal killing of six labourers in Turbat city of Kech. The cabinet has ists involved in the brutalism to task at every

Kakar calls for

ISLAMABAD (Online) Pakistasn has made its stance on Israel-Palestine situation clear that we stand in solidarity with oppressed people of Pales-

Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar has called for an immediate ceasefire and lifting of the blockade in Gaza.

In a tweet on Monday of Pakistan (ECP) in car-

Farrukh Habib quits PTI, joins IPP

According to details, Farrukh Habib who was considered one of the close aides of PTI Chairman Imran Khan during the last regime also announced to join the Istehkam-e-Pakistan Party (IPP). Farrukh Habib had dis-

Interestingly, he reached the office of the

ing of provincial cabinet here at the Chief Minister's Palestine and showed solidarity with the people of

Palestine against the Israel's barbarism and urged the world community especially the United Nations to intervene in the Palestine issue immediately. This and other details were shared by the caretaker Provincial Minister

QUETTA: Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki presiding over meeting

Moreover, the cabinet

for Information, Jan Achakzai while addressing He said that the cabia hurriedly called press con-Continued on page 2 ference soon after the meet-Solangi vows level-playing field to political parties

in electoral process ISLAMABAD (APP): rying out the whole elec-Caretaker Federal Minister for Information and country Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi on Monday said it was the caretaker's government responsibility to ensure level-playing for all the

process. In a meeting with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Information Minister, Solangi said "it was a shared responsibility of the caretaker set up to assist the Election Commission

registered political parties

during the whole electoral

toral exercise across the

secretariat on Monday.

Sharing the details of

decisions and other related

matters discussed in the

cabinet's meeting, Jan

Achakzai said that the cabi-

net met with the caretaker

Chief Minister Mir Ali

Mardan Khan Domki in the

Both the Information Ministers discussed matters related to mutual interests including the upcoming general election, media cooperation between federal and provincial information departments and pathways for capacity building of journalists. They also discussed a plan

train Pakhtunkhwa's information officers in the Information Services Academy (ISA) here at Islamabad



QUETTA: Caretaker Provincial Ministers Dr. Ameer Muhammad Khan Jogezai, Jan Achakzai and Prof. Qadir Baloch exchanging views during a

IHC rules Imran Khan's trial in cipher case will be held in jail

Islamabad High Court (IHC) has ruled that the trial of PTI Chairman and former prime minister Imran Khan will be held in prison, disposing of the plea against his cipher case trial inside the jail Pronouncing the ver-

dict on Monday, IHC Chief Justice Aamer Farooq wrapped up the case with directions stating that the

ISLAMABAD (INP): The PTI chairman, as he himself had talked about threats to his life.

The decision further stated that the court did not find any malice in the matter of the jail trial. The PTI chief can ap-

proach the trial court if he has reservations about the jail trial, the verdict said. IHC Chief Justice Aamer Farooq reserved the judgment on the former premier's plea



QUETTA: Caretaker Home Minister Captain (Retd) Muhammad Zubair Jamali addressing a ceremony held in connection with Disaster Risk Reduction Day



Rich tribute paid to former PM Liaqat Ali Khan on his 72nd death anniversary

LAHORE (APP): The Khan for his role as prime 72nd death anniversary of Pakistan's first prime minister Shaheed-e-Millat, Khan Liaquat Ali Khan, was observed on Monday across the country.

Born in Karnal' East Punjab, Liaquat Ali Khan got education from Aligarh Muslim University, India and Oxford University, United Kingdom.

Liaquat Ali Khan then struggled with Founder of Pakistan Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, to get a separate homeland for Muslims of Sub-conti-

Liaquat Ali Khan was assassinated on this day in 1951 during a public meeting at Company Bagh in Rawalpindi which was later named after him as 'Liaquat Bagh."

Noted writer, educa-Kamran paid a rich tribute to former PM Liagat Ali

with Disaster Reduction Day

will feature as one of five

new sports at the 2028

Olympic Games in Los

Angeles, organisers an-

Committee's session in

Mumbai approved cricket,

together with baseball/soft-

ball, flag football, squash

board last week accepted a

proposal by LA organisers

for Twenty20 cricket, the

sport's shortest format, to

be included along with the

had to be voted on Mon-

day at the IOC session in

Mumbai, one of the global

centres for cricket, as India

hosts the men's 50-over

Cricket World Cup. Los

Angeles chiefs have pro-

But the final choice still

four other new events.

A vote of the Interna-

Olympic

nounced Monday.

tional

IOC approves cricket

for 2028 Los Angeles

Olympics

MUMBAI (INP): Cricket both men's and women's

T20 cricket.

minister and his contribution in the Movement of Pakistan as the 'right hand' of Jinnah as the Quaid himself termed him.

Quaid-e-Azam

Muhammad Ali Jinnah passed away on 11 September 1948, but it was Liaquat who guided the Pakistani Nation in crucial moments after the demise of the Quaid, he said, adding that he was a brave and courageous leader who knew how to lead Pakistan in different directions.

Riaz Ali, an elderly citizen told APP here that Liaqat Ali Khan was born in the Nawab family of the Punjab and was educated at Aligarh Muslim University and at Oxford in En-

He said that in politics he devoted himself to the tionist Professor Dr. cause of the Muslims in particular and of all Indians, adding when Jinnah

QUETTA: Caretaker Home Minister Captain (Retd) Muhammad Zubair

Jamali in a group photo with participants of a ceremony held in connection

The United States is set

to field sides as the host

nation, but no firm decision

has been made on the num-

ber of teams, or how they

will qualify. Cricket last fea-

tured at the 1900 Paris

Olympics, when a team

from Britain beat a side rep-

resenting France. Adding

cricket to the Olympic

programme is an obvious

It would tap into the

move, financially speaking.

lucrative South Asian mar-

ket, attracting fans in coun-

tries such as India and Pa-

kistan. The Indian Premier

League, featuring cricket's

global stars has helped In-

dia become the unques-

tioned economic driving

force of the sport, thanks

to legions of fans and lucra-

tive broadcasting deals in a

nation where the game is

started his efforts for the cause of Pakistan in 1936, he got him appointed as the Honorary Secretary-General of the All-India Muslim League, largest Muslim political organization which later championed the cause of Pakistan under Jinnah's leadership,

Riaz Ali informed.

During all the crucial times and moments of the Pakistan Movement, Liaquat was one of those leaders who enjoyed full confidence of Jinnah. In the last phase of the struggle, Liaquat was very close to Jinnah because in his dialogues with the British Government, it was Liaquat who all the times was with him, Ali added.

It is worth mentioning here that President Dr. Arif Alvi on Monday has paid a rich tribute to Quaid-e-Millat Liaquat Ali Khan on the solemn occasion of his death anniversary for his

Shabbir vows not

to surrender

freedom struggle

in any case

ISLAMABAD (APP): Se-

nior All Parties Hurriyat

Conference leader Shabbir

Ahmad Shah has reiterated

his commitment to continue

his struggle for the freedom

of his oppressed Kashmiri

people from India's illegal

occupation, come what

may. According to Kashmir

Media Service, Shabbir

Ahmad Shah in a message

from New Delhi's Tihar jail

said that India cannot break

hıs will through putting him

behind bars to fight for the

Kashmir cause. "My heart

throbs in unison with the

hearts of Kashmiri people,

people are his best asset.

he said and added that the

is using, in vain, nefarious tac-

tics like banning pro-free-

Democratic Freedom Party

sealing houses and offices of

Hurriyat leaders and organi-

zations and torturing activ-

dom parties including

He maintained that India

immense services to the nation.

In his message on the occasion, the President said, "This day reminds us Liaquat Ali Khan's unwavering commitment to the cause of Pakistan's independence and well-being of its people.'

He said Liaquat Ali Khan's vision for a united, democratic, and progressive Pakistan is a beacon of light and source of inspiration for all of us.



QUETTA: Caretaker Provincial Ministers meeting with Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan Mir

panel discussion on climate

action urged the govern-

ment and departments con-

silience of the country

climate change and environ-

convened a panel discussion

titled Climate Action Panel

discussion at the launch of

Four thematic Policy Posi-

tion Papers with members

of the academia, civil soci-

ety, journalists and business

Opening the panel dis-

cussion, Deputy Executive

Director, SDPI, Dr. Shafqat

Munir Ahmad briefed the

participants on the Four

Thematic Policy papers dis-

cussing the country's posi-

tion on climate finance, in-

stitutional capacities for cli-

mate action, policy frame-works and the Loss and

community.

The Sustainable Devel-

mental degradation.

PM Kakar calls for passing on benefit of petrol prices cut to masses

ISLAMABAD (INP): Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar has directed the concerned authorities at federal and provincial level to take measures for reducing the prices of essential commodities and serves. The premier in a social

media post wrote, "Consequent to substantial reduction in fuel prices, I have directed the concerned authorities at Federal and Provincial level to activate a strict price control mecha-

He urged all chief minsters to ensure that prices of essential commodities and services are reduced correspondingly.

'All efforts should be directed towards transfer-

in petroleum prices to the people of Pakistan. Strict implementation be ensured," he added. In a surprise move, the

caretaker federal government slashed the petrol price by Rs40 per litre earlier in the day. The new price of petrol has been fixed at Rs283.38 per litre for running fortnight of October.

Similarly, high-speed diesel (HSD) price has been reduced to Rs15 per litre for the upcoming two weeks. The new price is Rs291.18 per litre.

Previously, on Oct 1, the petrol price in Pakistan had been lowered by Rs8 per litre following a twomonth increase, settling at ring the benefit of reduction Rs323.38 per litre.

May 9 cases:

Interim bail of sisters of chairman PTI, Asad Umar extended

LAHORE (Online): Anti binding on them to produce Terrorism Cour (ATC) has exttended interim bail of PTI leader Asad Umar, sisters of chairman PTI Uzma Khan and Aleema Khan and others till October 31.

Judge Arshid Javed of ATC heard the interim bail of Asad Umar, sisters of chairman PTI and others in the cases registered against them in connection with May 9 incidents.

Police did not file record during hearing of the case.

Counsel for Asad Umar said we have joined investigation. Only tell us this they have done what after joining the investigation by

investigation officer sufheart attack. Therefore, we cannot

produce record. Counsel for Asad Umar

ISLAMABAD (INP): A

recent survey carried out by

Ipsos, a multinational mar-

ket research firm, reveals

most runs in this year's ICC

Cricket World Cup amass-

ing a whopping 42% of

votes, despite his below

average performance in the

follows the team's skipper

with 37% votes while 7%

of Pakistani cricket fans

believe India's Virat Kohli

The survey also in-

cluded predictions for other

titles including "Most

Mohammad Rizwan

mega event so far.

will take the title.

The state counsel said

World Cup:

Pakistanis believe Babar.

Rizwan to be top run scorers

and more.

PTI and others till October Later talking to media

men Asad Umar said Pakistan is his own country of Nawaz Sharif. He should of the cases in the court be here. He should be treated as per law.

lowed to hold public meeting but PTI is not permitted to hold public meeting. Elaection commisssion should take notice of it. have not met chairman PTI. There is no permission to meet him. All Pakistanis should raise voice in support of Palestinians.

The benefit of reducsaid these people are mak- tion of prices of petrolium ing all others to suffer heart products should go to attack. It should be made people.

> Wicket-Taking Bowler' "Wicket Keeper with Most Catches", "Best Fielder",

> > Fans abuzz with cricket

fever have been closely ob-

serving and analysing every

move made by their

pitch. Based on their analy-

sis or sheer admiration for

the players, Pakistanis

have predicted that Shaheen

Shah Afridi, the young

speedster, will become the "Most Wicket-Taking

Bowler" with a whopping

47% of votes. He is fol-

lowed by teammates Haris

Rauf with 19% of votes,

Hassan Ali with 14% and

Shadab Khan with 8%

favourite players on the

record on next date essen-Damage that had been created at the global to provide The court summoned a platform for reparations to lawyers on next hearing for the most impacted countries final discussion. through climate catastro-The court extended interim bail of Asad Umar,sisters of chairman Dr Shafqat Munir said

the crisis of climate change had no boundaries and it impacted all the nations with-

out any distinction. However, the country

KARACHI (APP): The tive implementation of its of 41,000 megawatts (MW) Speakers on Monday at a convincing policy instruments established to cope with the climate disasters. yesterday.

He underlined that the country had separate mincerned to join hands for collating and collaborating inistries of subjects that were equally impacted due to clidigenous knowledge-based solutions for enhanced remate change and demanded an intricate and integrated approach.
"We need to align and against adverse impacts of

Pakistan needs indigenous

knowledge-based, local solutions

for enhanced climate resilience

develop coherence in existing system and ministries to opment Policy Institute address climate change. The country will also have to maintain technical climate human resource expert on the subject," he added.

He also pointed out that amid growing vulnerability of the country due to climate change it was needed to revise the national disaster risk reduction (DRR) Policy to set targets and key areas like risk understanding, governance, financing and overall framework for collaboration. Former VP FPCCI, Member Board of Governors SDPI, Eng MA Jabbar felicitated the institute for successfully compiling the policy papers.

He mentioned that the increase in migration towards urban centers was burdening the existing capacities of those cities leading to economic impact driving climate and financial cri-

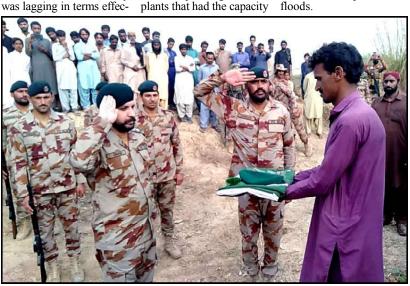
Climate change affecting tools in the country, he said were the power generation

whereas India got 413,000 megawatts plant installed

He compared the India and Pakistan coal to energy potential and mentioned that Pakistan had \$183 billion coal reserves which was one of the highest in the

"But India was mining 1.2 billion tonnes of coal a year. It is producing 78% energy in terms of units and 60% in terms of installation from coal fired power plants. India has developed its capacity to come out of poverty to make cheaper energy from coal back from the times when there was no limitation on coal globally. The UN Secretary General had demanded India to stop producing energy from coal but it added 6,000 MW more coal energy projects in its

system," he added. He suggested that if the country's public sector collate the recommendations from the civil society and think tanks for guiding its endeavours then its future is not bleak but rather promising. Senior Environmental Journalist, Afia Salam also mentioned that there was no synergy in the ministries and departments of the country, alongwith that there had been no implementation of the planning decisions and policies formulated post-2010



NASEERABAD: Pakistan Army officers and citizens are attending funeral prayer of an army soldier Abdul Hakeem Bhangar with full military honour in his hometown, who was embraced martyrdom in clash between militants in North Waziristan operation, held at Dera Murad Jamali in Naseerabad.

posed a six-team event, in ists as intimidating tactics almost a religion. Army, Balochistan B, Wapda, Customs win matches in National Hockey C'ship

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pa- Both teams displayed exkistan Army, Balochistan B, Wapda and Pakistan Customs earned victories in the 67th AWT National Hockey Championship at Lt. Gen. Ishfaq Nadeem Hockey Stadium Rawalpindi on Monday. In the first match, Pakistan Army beat Gilgit Baltistan by 13-0. Led by Osman's four goals, the Army's strong performance showcased their prowess on the field, while Shafqat and Ahmed Suroor, among others, contributed to the commanding win. The match was supervised by Umpire Asif Ali and Shahzaib, with Rizwan Khan serving as the reserve umpire. The second match saw

Sindh A and Rangers engaged in a fierce battle, resulting in a draw of 0-0.

ceptional defense, with the match ending without any goals. The umpires for this match were Amir Hamza and Waqas Butt, with Muhammad Salim as the reserve umpire.

In the third match. Balochistan B downed Islamabad by 2-1. Madthur from Balochistan B shone bright, scoring both goals, while Adil contributed a goal for Islamabad. The umpires for this match were Wasim and Zahid Hamid, with Irfan Malik serving as the reserve umpire.

Wapda defeated Police by 5-1 in the fourth match. Aziz and Aleem Bilal led the scoring for Wapda, while Atif Baig scored for the Police team. Umpires Bilal and Fahad supervised this thrilling match, with Abdul

Sattar as the reserve um-

outplayed Azad Jammu and Kashmir by 10-1 in the fifth match. Abdul contributions Ghazanfar and Baqar propelled Pakistan Customs to a commanding win. Waqar Azad Jammu and Kashmir.

and Wajahat officiated the

that the majority of Pakistanis have predicted that Pakistan Customs Babar Azam will make the

Mannan's hat-trick and scored the solitary goal for Umpires Asad Abbas

match, with Irfan Tahir as the reserve umpire. Five matches were scheduled for Tuesday. Punjab A would face Pakistan Air Force. Balochistan A will clash with Gilgit Baltistan, Wapda will go against Balochistan B, Mardan Petroleum will challenge Punjab B, and Sindh A will compete with Port Qasim.

Continued from page 1 net strongly condemned the incident of terrorism took place in Turbat that claimed

lives of six labourers on Saturdav last. He said that the government would take stern ac-

tion against those involved in the terrorism incident. He said that the terror-

ists involved in the brutalism would be take to task at every cost. No one would be spared in this terrorism act, he vowed.

Jan Achakzai said that the cabinet also expressed serious concern over the situation of Palestine and urged the international community including United Nations to intervene in it immediately.

He said that cabinet approved Rs. 78 crore for restoration of the electricity to the farmers in Balochistan. He said that the amount would be released to the OESCO after restoration of the electricity to the farmers.

Interim Balochistan cabinet.... Referring the section 144 in Quetta city, the caretaker Minister Information said that the section has been enforced for everyone. and there' no exception for anyone.

He said that it is deci-

sion of the caretaker government to launch crackdown against mafias. He said that implementation is being made on the decision of government in true letter and spirit, he maintained.

Jan Achakzai also informed that the interim cabinet has approved to form commission under the Right to Information Act. Every individual would have the right to access to information with formation of Information Commission, he added

About the Wadh situation. Jan Achakzai said that the traffic has been restored on the Karachi-Quetta road at Wadh, and adding he believed that the situation would improve further with passage of time.

PUIC convenes... Continued from page 1

NuzhatSadiq, Senator Faisal Saleem Rahman, Senator Sana Jamali, and Mir Shai Mazar Baloch, Director General (Coordination) Senate.

Expressing profound concern over the ongoing violence, the participants collectively appealed to the United Nations to intervene and halt the continuous violations of international law by Israeli forces. In an urgent plea to avert an impending humanitarian crisis, they called for the unrestricted entry of aid and much-needed relief goods into the Gaza Strip.

Participants, including speakers/presidents of Parliaments from Bahrain, Egypt, Tunisia, Malaysia, Turkey, Iran, Kuwait, Syria, UAE, Lebanon, Mauritania, and Guyana, spoke on the occasion. They emphasized the critical importance of presenting a united front against these human rights violations.

Additionally, the participants, with great emphasis, called for an immediate end to the illegal occupation of Palestinian lands. They urged the international community to play a decisive role in resolving the Palestinian issue, aligning with relevant UNSC resolutions. Representatives from Malaysia specifically called for the inclusion of this issue as an emergency agenda item in the upcoming 147th IPU General Assembly Meeting, stressing that immediate action is essential to save the residents of Gaza.

ward toward a destiny of shared future.

"The tale of China-Pakistan relations is not an ordinary one. It is an account of brotherhood, friendship, and trust, the foundations of which were laid more

than 70 years ago," he said. Kakar said the timeless Pakistan-China partnership and deep-rooted friendship serve the interests of both countries and remain the cornerstone of Pakistan's foreign policy.

He said Pakistan and its people, with absolute confidence, value the relationship greatly, and proudly call China as best friend. It is heart-warming that in China, the term "Ba Tie" meaning Iron Brother is reserved only for Pakistan, he

He termed the historical evolution of the Pakistan-China relationship amid the evolving regional and global developments as an "exemplary model of inter-state relationship".

"The unique relationship of more than seven decades, underpinned by the rationale of strong political support, mutual trust, and all-round practical cooperation, has matured into a strong strategic partnership," he said.

The prime minister paid tribute to the vision and statesmanship of President Xi Jinping who propounded the vision of building a global community of shared future, a new idea for global governance and cooperation, and a fresh approach toward international exchanges, thus

Pakistan committed to.... **Continued from page 1** drawing up a new blueprint

for a better interconnected He quoted Zhou Enlai,

China's first premier, who once said that "the friendly interactions between the peoples of China and Pakistan date back to the dawn of history" and mentioned in this regard the historic links such as the Silk Road and Gandhara civilization.

The prime minister said Pakistan was a pioneering member of the Group of Friends of the Global Development Initiative (GDI) proposed by President Xi Jinping and played an active role in giving it a more concrete shape.

"As the first one to ink a Memorandum of Understanding on the GDI, Pakistan stands ready to benefit from this cooperation in areas of education, healthcare, climate change, and poverty reduction," he said.

He said Pakistan's foreign policy objectives were based on "peace within and peace without," as outlined y the founding father Muhammad Ali Jinnah.

Kakar said in a world marred by multiple challenges like conflicts, economic recessions, food insecurity, social inequalities, and climate change, the salience of the Pakistan-China all-weather strategic cooperative partnership assumed great importance.

He expressed gratitude to China for its support for Pakistan's sovereignty, territorial integrity, and economic security, and its principled support on the issue of Kashmir.



away trophy to Winner team captain during the prize distributing ceremony of Inter Club Open Hockey Championship.

POPULATI

Govt plans to include health, hygiene in curricula: Dr Nadeem

Caretaker Federal Minister for Health Dr Nadeem Jan on Monday said that the government had planned to include health, hygiene, and nutrition in the curricula to create awareness among people from the childhood.

He was addressing a women convention on 'Family Planning and Population', which was organized by the Population Programme Wing (PPW) of the Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination.

The minister said that the main objective of the convention was to raise the awareness and knowledge of women, particularly the rural women on population issues and family planning.

He said that the population of Pakistan was growing at an alarmingly high growth rate, with addition of around 6.1 million new individuals every year. "This is more than the

of countries like Singapore, Denmark and Norway," he added. "It means every year we are adding the population more than the Denmark's population in Pakistan.

He said, "When population is growing we need to increase the resources. If we cannot rapidly increase our resources, we should focus on stabilization and management of our population at the family, community and country level and it is a huge pressure on resources

He suggested to integrate the health, population and nutrition at the federal and provincial levels which would synergize and complement each other. He quoted the example of Iran where family is taken as a

He said that health as well as the family planning were the fundamental hu-

size of the total population man rights. "There is a direct link between female status and development. Women can contribute in the development through literate, educated, well aware and empowered fe-

He said that at the policy level, the number of lady health workers would be increased to 150,000. "We will integrate polio workers and volunteers, which are our asset into LHWs (lady health workers) to address the uncovered areas.

He said that the government would ensure due respect and dignity for the hospital staff, nurses, midwives, doctors and community workers.

He suggested that there should be a dashboard at the district, provincial and federal levels showing real time information or health, population and family planning to indicate as to where we are going.

Umrah draw

held at AIOU

ISLAMABAD (APP): The

Employees Welfare Associa-

tion (EWA) of Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU)

organised an Umrah draw in

the university's auditorium

grade 2 to 16 including Irfan

Ahmed, Farman Ali, Iram

Nazli, Mumtaz Alam, Riasat

Hussain and Muhammad

Ansar, while 5 members

from grade 17 to 21 including Shah Farrukh, Zahida

Parveen, Shafique Ahmed,

Aftab Ahmed and Naveed

Sultana were among the

lucky members whose name

was balloted and they will

sided over by Vice Chancellor, AIOU, Prof. Dr. Nasir

Mahmood, while Registrar,

Raja Umar Younis, Chairman

Umrah Committee Sved Zia

Hussain Naqvi, President

EWA Yasir Mehmood and

other representatives partici-

pated in the event. The VC

and the Registrar congratu-

lated all the lucky winners

Dr. Nasir Mahmood advised

them to go to Madinah and

offer special prayers for the

development and prosperity

of the country and the uni-

IESCO recovers

over Rs 401 mln

drive against power theft

versity in particular.

The ceremony was pre

perform umrah this year.

Six members from

the other day.



ISLAMABAD: Cultural Counselor of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China and Director China Cultural Center in Pakistan Zhang Heqing wrote Long Live Pak-china Friendship on charts during the celebrations of 74th anniversary of Founding of the People's Republic of China - Celebrating a Decade of CPEC and BRI at local hotel in Federal Capital.

Italian Embassy hosts immersive digital

The Italian Embassy in Pakistan on Monday orga-tis unique artistic tools, and nized an immersive digital digital art represented the innovative art form to the Pakistani audience. Speaking on the occasion. Italian Ambassador Andreas Ferrarese expressed his pride in presenting the unique showcase of digital art to the public, highlighting its versatility and wide range of possibilities.

The ambassador acknowledged the artwork of Stefano Fake, one of Italy's celebrated digital artists. He praised Italy's capacity to blend historical heritage with new and creative arts, dispelling the notion that the country was solely associated with its past. Stefano Fake, in his address, delved into the journey of digital art, which he began nearly 30 years ago.

He described his transition from traditional art to digital tools in 1997, culminating in the establishment of his studio in 2001, dedi-

ISLAMABAD (APP): art experiences. Fake unpression. He said, "The purpose of art is, after all. to create original and imaginative forms of aesthetic expression shared with a community through experiences and events.

Stefano Fake's early work in this field was initially met with skepticism, often being associated with music or youth-centric events. However, over time, digital art gained recognition and acceptance. His exhibitions now span the globe, from Germany to Colombia, and even recent showcases in Berlin and Shanghai. This transformation reflects the growing appreciation for new media art worldwide.

One of groundbreaking proaches was to immerse audiences in a digital environment, using video projection to transform spaces and even people.



ISLAMABAD: Italian Ambassador to Pakistan Andreas Ferrarese and his spouse Albana Ferrarese posing for group photo graph along with participants after an event by "fake Factory" at local hotel in Federal Capital.

Four high-profile absconders apprehended for serious crimes

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: Islamabad

Capital Police successfully detained four high-profile absconders involved in serious criminal activities, police said on Monday.

As per the directives of Islamabad Capital City Police Officer (ICCPO) Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan, senior police officials were assigned specific tasks to ensure the apprehension of proclaimed offenders and absconders engaged in se-

vere criminal activities. In adherence to these orders, the police teams

from Karachi Company, Golra, Noon, and Lohi Bher police stations collaborated to apprehend the four highprofile absconders associated with serious crimes.

The ICCPO, emphasized that the police were committed to eliminating crimes from the city, with strict actions planned for those involved in heinous crimes and illegal activities.

Ensuring the safety of citizens and their property remained the topmost priority for the Islamabad Capital Police, he empha-



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Health Minister Dr. Nadeem Jan presenting a shield to UNFPA Country Director Dr. Luay Shabaneh at All Pakistan Women Convention on Family Planning and Population Management.

FAMILY PLANNING AND POPULATION

HEC explores opportunities for students, faculty in WBAF **Financial Inclusion Programme**

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Higher Education Commission (HEC), Pakistan held here Monday a meeting with Executive Chairman World Business Angel Forum (WBAF), Mr. Babarys Altuntas to explore opportunities for students and faculty under the WBAF Financial Inclusion

Chaired by Chairman HEC Prof. Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed, the meeting was attended by Vice Chancellors/Pro-Vice Chancellors of leading public sector uni- General R&I HEC Hazrat

versities including MNS University of Agriculture Multan, National Textile University Faisalabad, Abdul Wali Khan University Mardan, National University of Modern Languages Islamabad, Institute of Management Sciences Peshawar, University of Agriculture Faisalabad, DOW University of Health Sciences Karachi, National University of Science &

Technology Islamabad. CEO IGNITE Mr. Asim Hussain, Director Bilal, Director R&I HEC Ms. Noshaba Awais, and representatives of universities' Business Incubation Centres, also attended the meeting.

The meeting held in continuation of the recent

collaboration established between HEC and WBAF, in March 2023 on the sidelines of the 5th Vice Chancellors Forum. WBAF, an international organization, aims to ease access to finance for start-ups for generating jobs in the world economy.

AC conducts massive crackdown on encroachers, violators of polythene ban

ISLAMABAD (APP): In a massive crackdown on encroachers, beggars, and violators of the polythene ban, the Assistant Commissioner Secretariat Islamabad Aneel Saeed visited different areas of the Secretariat Sub-Division and conducted price checks, inspected the unauthorized use of polythene bags and overall cleanliness, and took action against violators in with the (MCI / DMA) accordance with the law.

Four encroachers were arrested and transferred to the police station, and their goods were seized. Thirtysix professional beggars were also arrested from different areas of Islamabad, ICT spokesman said on Monday.

He also issued a warning on the unauthorized use of open spaces, instructions were issued for immediate registration under the law

ITA announces 10 % reduction in transport fares

ISLAMABAD (APP) The Islamabad Transport Authority (ITA), in a bid to provide relief to commuters, on Monday announced 10% reduction in transport fares, both for inter-city and intra-city The decision was to

the effect taken in a meeting held on the instructions of Deputy Commissioner Islamabad Irfan Nawaz Memon, following the reduction in the price of petroleum products by the government.



ISLAMABAD: Secretary Waseem Ajmal announces bonus for teachers and head-teachers The Secretary of the Ministry of Federal Education & Professional Training hosted head teachers and teachers from 7 FDE schools today.

Virtual University organized All Pakistan **Integration camp**

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: The Virtual University of Pakistan commenced its highly anticipated Student Integration Camp 2023 in collaboration with the Pakistan

Azad Kashmir for a memo-

with visit to Pakistan

ISLAMABAD: Director General Pakistan Customs, Mr. Muhammad Junaid Jalil Khan and Deputy

Director General Anti Narcotics Force Pakistan Mr. Sohail Tajik, honored with souvenirs by Prof. Dr.

Arshad Saleem Bhatti, Rector of Virtual University of Pakistan, at the closing ceremony of the VU's

from 26,399 Boys Scout Association. This exciting event defaulters was organised at the Head-ISLAMABAD (APP) quarter of Pakistan Boys Islamabad Electric Supply Company (IESCO) has so Scouting Association Islamabad. More than 300 students gathered for the far recovered over Rs 401 event from all provinces of million from 26,399 defaulters during the ongoing Pakistan including GB and

and recovery across all the rable 5-day experience. The Student Integracircles of the company. According to an IESCO official, the Comtion Camp offered a wide array of activities, includpany teams on Monday ing camping, hiking, archery, first aid training, and captivating bonfire. This recovered over Rs 1.4 million from 130 running defaulters and Rs 1.9 million unique camp not only profrom dead defaulters, bevided students with an opsides removing meters and portunity to connect with transformers of defaulters. peers from various back-The official said the grounds but also enables drive would continue vig-

them to forge connections orously till complete elimithat can be invaluable for nation of power theft and both professional networkrecovery from the defaulting and personal development. To promote healthy lifestyle hiking walk along

He urged the consumers to pay their bills timely

student integration camp.

Monument was organised by VU for their campers. The closing ceremony of the Student Integration

Camp took place at the National Headquarters of PBSA in Islamabad. The ceremony was

graced by the esteemed presence of Mr. Muhammad Junaid Jalil Khan Director General Pakistan Customs, Mr. Sohail Tajik, Deputy Director General Anti Narcotics Force Pakistan, Prof. Dr. Arshad Saleem Bhatti, the Rector of the Virtual University of Pakistan, and Mr. Sarfaraz Qamar Daha, the Chief Commissioner of PBSA. During the ceremony, Registrar VU Prof. Dr. Mohsin Javed shared his insights about the significance of the student integration

camp for VU students. Prof. Dr. Arshad Saleem Bhatti emphasized the importance of Scouting and its profound impact on our student in recognition of his invaluable support in organizing this remarkable event for our student community, providing all the necessary assistance required for its success.

IRSA releases 99,600 cusecs water

ISLAMABAD (APP): Indus River System Authority (IRSA) on Monday released 99.600 cusecs water from various rim stations with inflow of 69,000 cusecs

According to the data released by IRSA, water level in River Indus at Tarbela Dam was 1528.93 feet and was 130.93 feet higher than its dead level of 1,398 feet. Water inflow and outflow in the dam was recorded as 39,300 cusecs and 40,000 cusecs respectively.

The water level in Mangle

River Jhelum at Mangla Dam was 1212.90 feet, which was 162.90 feet higher than its dead level of 1,050 feet. The inflow and out-

flow of water was recorded 8,100 cusecs and 38,000 cusecs respectively.

The release of water at Kalabagh, Taunsa, Guddu and Sukkur was recorded as 60,400, 57,900, 50,900 and 20,200 cusecs respectively. Similarly, from River Kabul, a total of 9,700 cusecs of water released at Nowshera and 3,800 cusecs released from River Chenab at Marala

Prominent persons call on Jamal Shah

SLAMABAD (APP): academia figures here on Monday met with Federal Minister for National Heritage and Culture Jamal Shah at the Culture Division to discuss cultural preservation and peace, exploring academic partnerships to empower youth creatively, concluding with a friendly

Conversations also revolved around plans to establish academic connections with periphery universities to empower youth creatively, said a press release issued here. The meeting included

attendees such as film director Sajjad Ahmed, Prof. Dr. Mansoor Ahmed Kundi, who previously served as the VC of both Gomal University and Bahauddin Zakariya University, Former EĎ HEC, Islamabad, and Sarfaraz Ali Korejo, who holds the position of Executive Director of Students Advancement Fund Endowment (SAFE) at Shah Abdul Latif

University, and is the Founder of the Pak-U.S. Alumni Network (PUAN) Sukkur Chapter, among others who met with the

In the meeting, they conveyed their best wishes

to the minister. During meeting, they talked about common areas of interest and matters concerning the promotion and preservation of the country's artistic and cultural heritage.

Furthermore, they had a detailed discussion about establishing academic and institutional connections with universities in Pakistan's periphery, including Shah Abdul Latif University, Khairpur. The aim is to empower and involve our dynamic youth in

creative endeavors. The minister emphasized that promoting the national heritage and culture among the people is key to preventing societal issues such as hatred and intolerance, leading to peace and



ISLAMABAD: Workers of Jamat-e-Islami (Women wing) hold banners and placards during "Free Palestine Rally" in City.

Competent officers should be transferred to **Operations division; ICCPO**

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: According to the details, the Islamabad Capital City Police Officer (ICCPO) Dr Akbar Nasir Khan held an important meeting at Central Police Officer, a public relations officer said

He said that, during the meeting, the ICCPO Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan assessed the performance of all divisions and issued directives to improve their performance further. Senior police officers from all divisions

sized the effective use of cessing due to SOPs.

the ICT-15 application by all officers and officials, effectively in fulfilling their official duties. Directives were given to strengthen the security of all important government offices and installations.

Special directions were issued to SSP Operations, to improve the standard and effectiveness of Operations division by appointing officers skilled in investigation matters. Those police officers

and officials who have been of Islamabad Capital Police suspended should not be were present at the occa- sent for training courses. Directions were also given to The meeting empha- reduce delays in case pro-

Experts call for joint efforts to make Pakistan a food secure country

ecutive Director of the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri on Monday said that this year's World Food Day theme is "Safe Food Today for a Healthy Tomorrow, which meant that only the safe and nutritious food could guarantee a healthy future. In his message on the World Food Day 2023 here, nerable and needy people

Dr Suleri called upon the

ISLAMABAD (APP): Ex- government, private sector, civil society and academia to work together to give top priority to make Pakistan a food secure country and bring an end to this crisis especially in vulnerable districts of the country.

> He stressed the need to invest in long-term initiatives such as Benazir Income Support Programme that provide the poor, vulwith enough food to eat.



ISLAMABAD: Teachers are shouting slogans during protest outside National Press Club as More than 300 teachers working in Federal Capital's schools under wedlock have appealed to President Dr Arif Alvi to sign the much-awaited legislation entitled "Protection of Family Life and Wedlock Bill 2023" which was passed by both Houses of the Parliament, the National Assembly and the Senate of Pakistan.

Secretary education announces bonus for teachers and head-teachers

ISLAMABAD (APP): Secretary of the Ministry of Federal Education & Professional Training on Monday hosted head teachers and teachers from seven schools working under Federal Directorate of Education (FDE) here on Monday.

On the occasion, the Secretary also announced a one-month bonus salary for the teachers and headteachers present, as well as a one-time grant of Rs 100,000 for each of the seven schools to be used at the discretion of the head-

As part of the Ministry's STEAM Pakistan program, the head teachers and the program's focal persons were invited to tea to celebrate these schools' commitment to improving the learning experience of their students. "From the establish-

ment of STEAM Clubs, organising Safeer sessions, encouraging students to conduct STEAM demonstrations, these schools have shown how we can transform schools just through committed teachers and head teachers.

Daily soice of Masse Independent

Tuesday October 17, 2023

Rogue nation

A recent assassination — the latest in a spate of similar killings from Karachi to Kashmir has turned the spotlight onto what has seemed, for tary and defense, and inquite a while, to be an organised campaign overseen by a hostile intelligence agency to murder individuals on Pakistani soil.

In the last two months alone, there have been at least four targeted killings that have, either directly or indirectly, been attributed by police to the terms and conditions of India's foreign intelligence agency, the Research and Analysis Wing.

In each case, armed assailants tracked, targeted and killed individuals associated in various capacities with different religious outfits.

However, after the most recent incident, in which a former activist of the outlawed Jaish-e-Muhammad killed, along with two others, in a Daska mosque on Wednesday, police and intelligence agencies were quicker to react. Within 24 hours of the incident, they claimed to have busted a network involved in carrying out a vendetta for a 'rogue nation'. Even if the Punjab police chief, who made the announcement of the arrests, desisted including more than 600 from taking names, it did not take much imagination to conclude that it was India his finger was pointing to.

Indian media have reported slain the man, Mohammad Shahid Latif, was suspected by New Delhi of hav- tinians in Gaza to relocate ing facilitated the attack on an Indian Air Force base in the week-long deprivation of essential supplies, Pathankot in 2016.

However, there seems to be little evidence to substantiate severe humanitarian crisis. The UN, warning of dire consequences, has criticized this allegation, and no link was these actions. ever made public tying Latif to the Pathankot incident.

Indeed, the murders of Latif and the others before him would seem, on the face of it, to be part of an international campaign that also saw the high-profile killing of Sikh nationalist Hardeep Singh Nijjar in Surrey, Canada, in June this year. The Canadian government has said it has evidence of Indian involvement in the murder; and now Pakistan learning about the 'birds and bees' than its convenis claiming the same.

It would seem as if New growth demands some Delhi wants anyone whom it learning and 'unlearning' on that count as well, that is a suspects has played a role in digression. Let us stick to any one of the nationalist movements active within the some 15 metres above the territories under its control ground and would have killed. But India cannot go the harness holding him around murdering people in other countries with impunity. In allowed such exuberant display. Instead, a jubilant shout of "the There must be severe consequences imposed on it. It is also allowed by way of celebrapertinent to ask our own aution, according to a Dawn report titled 'Rare wild thorities how they could let so bees find has English counmany individuals be murdered on Pakistani soil before a network apparently being run by ecotype species of bees in the Oxford countryside an enemy power was finally with a suspected centuriesbusted. Pre-empting such attacks is a core task for counterintelligence officials responsible for the nation's security, way across the world? and as such, it is their responsibility to ensure that mental degradation hits us Pakistan's enemies do not use in the face every day of our lives and it impacts the its soil to carry out vendetta flora and fauna equally, if killings. Nothing can be more embarrassing for them than Lahore. Flight schedules the enemy managing to infil- and road travel would get affected, but who cared? It trate the country while they are was a Lahore problem.
Then smog spread everybusy dealing with domestic issues they legally and technically have no business being of it. Climate change is an issue that impacts us all involved in.

The Evolving Pakistan-China Relationship"

By A.R Ansari

Pakistan and China's rela-

tionship is often referred to as an "all-weather friendship" owing to strong political, economic, and military ties. This friendship has evolved over several decades, based on mutual interests and cooperation in the fields of economic development, milifrastructure projects, cultural exchanges and people-to-people contacts have also grown, with an increasing number of Pakistani students studying in China and a surge in Chinese expatriates living and working in Pakistan. Despite the strong ties, there have been challenges in the Pakistan-China relationship like concerns about Chinese loans and investments under CPEC, owing to Pakistan's growing debt burden and security concerns in the border region.

China has been a staunch ally of Pakistan at international forums, particularly on issues related

to Kashmir. China has sup- Karakoram Highway as and limitations. It is nently taking center stage ported Pakistan's stance on the Kashmir conflict and has shielded Pakistan from diplomatic isolation in the United Nations and other international organizations. China is holding its third Belt and Road forum in Beijing where representatives from over 130 countries are joining to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Belt and Road Initiative.

The Belt and Road

Initiative (BRI) is a massive infrastructure and economic development project initiated by China. It aims to create a network of roads, railways, ports, and other infrastructure that connects China to Europe, Africa, and other parts of Asia. CPEC is a flagship project of the BRI initiative- a collection of infrastructure projects that include the construction of highways, railways, pipelines, and the development of the strategic Gwadar Port. The world has witnessed in 1979, one of the world's highest and most spectacular international

connections

evidence of all-weather friendship, that connects Pakistan and China, making it one of the world's highest and most challenging engineering feats. The Karakoram Highway holds strategic significance, providing China with access to the Arabian Sea via Gwadar, very essential for China's energy and trade interests. The Karakoram Highway stretches for approximately 1,300 kilometers (810 miles) from HasanAbdal Islamabad to the Chinese city of Kashgar in Xinjiang. The Karakoram highway is subject to harsh weather conditions, especially in

Pakistan's Prime Minister, Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar, visit to China sets the stage for a new era for CPEC projects, particularly in the acceleration of the Thakot-Raikot sectiona critical segment of the Karakoram Highway, known for its sharp bends

the winter, and has faced

issues such as landslides

and road closures due to

natural disasters.

poised for an overhaul, of state-of-the-art tunnels. for reducing travel time and enhancing safety. The road classification will be advanced from Class 4 to Class 2, signaling an upgrade in its quality and the permitted speed limit will be increased, promising swifter and more efficient travel. This development extends beyond mere travel enhancements. It holds the potential to revolutionize cargo transport, making it more efficient and cost-effective. The improved road network will support heavier cargo loads, streamlining the transportation of goods with greater ease and efficiency. The Karakoram Highway looms as a prominent highlight of this historic partnership. It signifies more than just a road: it's a symbol of friendship, cooperation, and a shared vision for a brighter, more interconnected future.

The Highway Research & Training Centre also stands as one of the indoor and outdoor lab pivotal projects, promi-

as the primary highlight of Prime Minister Kakar's visit. A promising Joint Research Program is envisioned with the Government of China from 2023 to 2027, aiming to foster collaboration and innovation in various domains of highway engineering. A formal memorandum of joint research extension will be finalized and entered into during the PM's visit to China. This program aims to foster collaboration and innovation in various domains of highway engineering. This extension is poised to be a cornerstone of the cooperation in the road infrastructure while the National Highway Authority is a vanguard of such cooperation. It is agreed to construct the Highway Research and Training Center spread over 530 acres by a Chinese Contractor/ Consultant under a Chinese Grant of Rs.15 billion. It includes infrastructure, a Test track, and

handed over to NHA for operation after completion and required training. Various research Projects in Reclaimed Asphalt. Bridges and Tunnelling, training and degree courses in China, development of engineering design manuals and standards for Pakistan are some of the key target areas of this project.

Pakistan-China relationship is poised to continue evolving, adapting to the ever-changing global landscape. With a shared commitment to deepening ties and fostering enduring peace, this friendship remains a cornerstone of stability in a rapidly shifting world.Pakistan and China are not just strategic allies but genuine friends, encouraging a legacy of collaboration that continues to shape the future. The Pakistan-China relationship serves as a compelling case study of how nations can accomplish prosperity and progress through resolute partnership, surpassing borders and generating a conduit to a happier future for all

Beyond a two-state solution



Malaika Raza

The recent Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip have once again thrust its horrifying human tragedy into the spotlight – with approximately 2500 Palestinians, children, killed – and more than 9,000 injured.

Israel's use of white phosphorus confirmed by Human Rights Watch, in densely populated areas breaches international humanitarian law, risking countless innocent lives The Israeli military's demand for 1.1 million Palessparked fears of an imminent ground offensive and a

Gaza, a small Palestingrave infringement upon ian territory on the Medifundamental human rights. terranean coast, houses 2.3 Palestinians are unjustly million people. Its history, denied their right to return. deeply intertwined with the while Israel continues to ex-Israeli-Palestinian conflict, pand its occupation, and ilhas seen mass displacement legally besiege Gaza since and ethnic cleansing since Israel's establishment in It is imperative to 1948. Since the ascension of

comprehend that the situa-Hamas in 2007, the Israeli tion in Gaza is not an isolated internal matter consiege on Gaza has intensified, severely restricting fined to Palestine alone. movement and access to vi-Rather, it represents a coltal services, in violation of lective failure of the internainternational law. This 17tional community to take vear blockade blatantly viodecisive measures. The imlates Article 33 of the mediate solution lies in the Fourth Geneva Convention. Despite 140 UN resolutions consistent and unbiased application of international against Israel, the grim situlaw, with equal attention given to other conflicts such ation underscores the urgent as the Ukraine-Russia conneed for a lasting solution to alleviate the suffering in flict. Seeking justice and upholding the principles of The international cominternational law must be at munity, particularly the the forefront of any mean-

> ian conflict and ensuring a peaceful future for the people of Gaza. The recent escalation of hostilities between Israel and Palestine has reignited the debate on the most effective path towards lasting peace in the region. While many advocate for the twostate solution as the ideal

ingful efforts aimed at re-

solving the Israeli-Palestin-

this approach is fundamentally flawed and insufficient in addressing the underlying complexities and grievances that perpetuate the conflict. Merely establishing separate states will not rectify the deep-rooted issues that have plagued the region for decades. It is time for the international community, particularly the United Nations, to adopt a more comprehensive and visionary approach that recognizes the need for genuine reconciliation, justice, and respect for the rights of all parties involved. Only through such a transformative framework can sustainable and just peace be achieved in the Is-

The proposed twostate solution, once hailed as a beacon of hope, has proven ineffective in resolving the conflicts in the region. It fails to resonate with both Israelis and Palestinians due to its inherent flaws. First, it perpetuates the idea of dividing the land along pre-1967 borders, which fails to address the Israeli settlements built on occupied Palestinian territory. These settlements hinder the possibility of a viable Palestinian state and further en-

raeli-Palestinian conflict.

trench the occupation.
The two-state solution

also does not rectify the severe power imbalance between Israel and Palestine. In fact, it would further empower Israel to oppress Palestinians within their own borders. The vast difference in military capabilities, economic resources, and political influence undermines any notion of equal negotiations. It is unrealistic to expect a fair agreement when one party holds significantly more power than the other. This power asymmetry is exacerbated by the support Israel receives from influential global players, making it difficult for Palestinians to achieve their rights through traditional diplomatic channels

equipment which will be

Additionally, the twostate solution overlooks the rights of the Palestinians in Israel. The Palestinian population within Israel faces systemic discrimination and inequality, hindering their ability to fully participate in society and enjoy equal rights. Any proboth Palestinians living under occupation and those

The resolute support intellectuals for a unified democratic state stands as Courtesy TheNews

an unwavering testament to the sole enduring resolution for peace between Israel and Palestine. Detractors argue that a one-state solution remains unattainable, citing the deep-rooted divisions and enmity between Israelis and Palestinians. Nonetheless, history has demonstrated that societies ravaged by conflict and fragmentation can unite and forge a path towards reconciliation. Examples like South Africa bear witness to the triumph of transitioning from apartheid to a harmonious multiracial democracy, showcasing the feasibility of peaceful coexistence even amidst seemingly insurmountable

barriers To implement a onestate solution, a profound shift in mindset is imperative for both Israelis and Palestinians. It necessitates mutual recognition, acknowledgement of historical injustices, and a collective endeavour to construct a shared future. This transposed solution must address formative journey demands the rights and concerns of audacious leadership, grassroots movements, and international solidarity to foswho hold Israeli citizenship. ter the conditions for a society that is not only equitable of progressive Palestinian but embraces the principles

Birds and bees

United Nations, has a vital

role to play in addressing the

dire situation in Gaza. It is

crucial for the international

community to recognize

that Palestine is under oc-

cupation according to inter-

national law. Israel's persis-

tent refusal to relinquish

control and return the land

constitutes a clear violation

of established international

norms. This conflict extends

beyond a mere territorial resolution, it is imperative

dispute; it encompasses a to confront the reality that

Gaza.



Shahzad Sharjeel

There is definitely more to tional connotation. Though our unbridled population the unconventional here.

The guy was dangling jumped up and down had queen's laying", was all that his precarious perch old lineage.

So what? Many would be tempted to say. Why should we care about some bees being found half-Well, because we live in the same world where environnot more. There was a time when 'fog' was specific to where and now even Karachi is getting a taste and having established that

it is the develo-p--ed world that has contributed much more to it and continues to add to the worsening global warming, we need to do our bit to stop the downour nose to spite the other's' face.

Pakistan never had sufficient green cover remember we are a desert with the Indus running across it — and reckless deforestation has destroyed the re--m-aining natural habitat of wildlife including the bees that form a crucial link in the ecosystem we share with countless creatures. Bee farming caught on in Pakistan as the only alternative to the natural production of honey, providing smallscale livelihood to rural

As if the climatic conditions were not enough to wreak havoc on the feeding grounds of bees, Covidstruck. Yes! It did impact bee farming in a big way. The lockdowns and ban on inter-city transport meant that essential medicine for the bees in captivity could not reach the farms. This resulted in the deaths of millions of bees and a drastic reduction in honey production. Bee framers in KP suffered losses running into hundreds of millions of rupees, owing to Covid-related

hardships. Again, some may ask What's the big deal if we one day run out of bees and honey? We have sugar and maple syrup and whatnot." One may not care about the bees — but at immense peril to us and the environment we inhabit. In addition to the fact that what is bad for nation, what about the bee farmers? Do we not care about them? If the presence of alternative sources 'couldn't care less' attiwind energy? Should we about the bees. -- Cour-

now stop caring about hydropower? Most of us have never and will never eat any part of a whale or a shark, at least knowingly. Does that mean we should ward spiral; we cannot cut not worry about their extinction because we have rahu and surmaee to satisfy our yearning for sea-

> Qand and shakar (forms of sugar) do appear as alternatives for 'sweet' in literature, especially poetry. However, imagine having honey only as a metaphor like the phoenix or the unicorn, and losing it in all its tangible beauty and sweetness. What a shame and what a loss it will be to both the palate and literary realms. A casual web search for poetry containing the word honey' throws up such a humongous body of work that it could form a tome spread over volumes.

> Till about the 1970s, the famous Royal Gurkha Rifles were deployed in Britain to prevent poachers from stealing red eagle eggs from their nests. They now pass on their reconnaissance and stealth skills to the staff of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds to do its own patrolling of rare birds' nests.

Our national contribution to the field of science and technology, including research and conservation, is next to zero. All we can do is parrot the great feats achieved in the past by the learned Arab men. Not that there were no illustrious women, but we choose to ignore them and cannot name even a couple off the cuff. All we have under the label 'scientist' are lobbyists and wannabe public intellectuthem is bad for us too, plus als without any patent or their crucial role in polli- a theory proving or disproving anything in their field of specialisation. Hope the message does not just 'float like a butis any logic for this terfly and does 'sting like a bee'. After all, we are trytude, what about solar and ing to create some buzz

Huma Yusuf

China last week issued a statement on the Israel-Palestine war, calling, noncommittally, for restraint on all sides and an end to hostilities. There was no condemnation of Hamas's atrocities or of Israel's response against Gaza's civilian population. This is the latest example of Chinese non-interference and a manifestation of its Global Civilisation Initiative (GCI), Beijing's latest strategic push that could in the long run have more influence on its allies, including Pakistan, than the much-touted BRI.

China has in the past called for Palestinian statehood, and even in last week's statements evoked the two-state solution as the only way out of the Israel-Palestine quagmire. At the same time, Israel and China have in recent years deepened economic and political ties, with China in 2021-22 replacing the US as Israel's main source of imports. China's role in the diplomatic rapprochement between Iran and Saudi Arabia also had a bearing on Israeli political calculations vis-à-vis Beijing: it had manoeuvred itself into a position to

influence Israeli security. China's forays into the Middle East may have been part of its Global Security Initiative, launched in 2022, in an effort to rebalance the international world order, tipping power away from the US and other Western countries towards China and Russia. But Beijing's

forcefully against either tion of its GCI, introduced in March this year, which privileges state-defined values over those — such as human rights — that have been posited in global governance as univer-

critique of Western efforts to implement a world oraccording to Westernised norms, particularly the absolutism around human rights and democracy. The GCI instead acknowledges 'peace, development, equity, justice, democracy and freedom" as "common aspirations" rather than fundamental rights. China argues that these issues and the way they are embedded in states and societies are 'relative', rooted in local history and culture, and cannot be universally mandated. In a dig against the US in particular, which for years tried to impose its values of democracy and human rights — forcefully, if necessary, despite the ironies - the Chinese do not believe in imposing one country's models on an-

Many international observers have understood the GCI as a way for the Chinese government to justify why it won't condemn or attempt to stop bad behaviour, whether that be human rights violations within or beyond its borders or state conduct in conflict scenarios. The idea of relativism offers Beijing a way out: a conceptually and strategically grounded ability to dismiss egregious acts as culturally and contextually rooted, and therefore indigenous and worthy of respect rather than disruption. And so despite the challenges of balancing engagement in the Middle East context, China will try, its GSI and GCI flags choice not to speak out waving over its effort.

Beyond 'restraint' These initiatives are Hamas or Israel is a reflec- unlikely to get centre stage at the Third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation taking place in Beijing. This meeting will laud the achievements of the Belt and Road Initiative, of which CPEC was a major pillar, and The GCI is a direct which is celebrating its 10th anniversary. The gathering is expected to look ahead to a new era for BRI, which is more green, more inclusive, and more sustainable from a debt perspective for recipients of

> projects. But many have described this week's BRI forum as a swan song for a project that never reached its lofty ambitions. A 2021 study conducted by resea-rch lab AidData found that 35 per cent of BRI projects have been plagued by controversies such as corruption, excessive debt and labour exploitation. The Global South's call for BRI investment has in recent years been replaced with calls for debt forgiveness, as it transpired that the lending terms were burdensome. Many projects, including numerous SEZs planned as part of CPEC, remain unbuilt, incomplete or underutilised.

The petering out of the initiative would not mean that the era of Chinese influence is waning, however. Beijing's current strategies, including the GCI, may have a more lasting impact on Pakistan's state and society than infrastructure investment ever could. While China itself pursues its balancing act in the Middle East, it can reconcile with a Pakistan that supports Gaza, but does not criticise China's treatment of its Uighur population, or introspect about the plight of its own religious minorities. A new global order that hesitates to challenge states' worst instincts will be equally, if not more, oppressive than the one that came before. -- Courtesy Dawn

CM Punjab orders reduction in commodity prices and transport fare following petrol price cut

LAHORE: Acting upon the special directives of the task of reducing Punjab's Caretaker Chief transport fares by 10% Minister Mohsin Naqvi, a decision has been made to promptly pass on the benefits of significant reduction in petroleum prices directly to the people of Punjab.

In a pivotal meeting convened at the Chief Minister's Office and presided over by Caretaker Chief Minister Mohsin Nagvi, a deadline of 48

implementing price relevant associations. reductions. Additionally, Furthermore, agriculture was assigned, aligning them proportionally with the lowered petroleum prices.

Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi instructed the Provincial Transport Minister and Transport Secretary to urgently engage with transporters. Similarly, the Provincial Ministers for Industry and Agriculture, SM Tanvir was entrusted with liaising

price relevant associations. secretary, commissioners, and deputy commissioners responsibility

prices of essential commodities. Secretary will conduct regular meetings with Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners to assess the progress of price reduction measures. Minister Chief

Mohsin Naqvi issued hours was set for with Ghee, flour and other directives to Price Control

Control Committees, urging them to actively contribute to providing were entrusted with the relief to the public. He emphasized the necessity overseeing reductions in the of a relentless crackdown on hoarders, ensuring that the benefits of the reduced petroleum prices are equitably distributed among the populace. It was underscored that the historic relief extended by the government through the reduction of petroleum prices must directly

benefit the public.

Turkish Ambassador to

Pakistan Mehmet Pacaci

called on Sindh Governor

Mohammed Kamaran

Khan Tessori at Governor

House on Monday.

They discussed
Pakistan and Turkiye

relations, the exchange of

delegations in various

opportunities and other

issues of mutual interests.

said that Pakistan and

and Pakistan had brotherly

Ambassador visited the site

of Bell of Hope and appreciated Governor's

He also witnessed

articles, used by Father of

relations, rooted in history.

Turkiye were two nations

Governor Tessori

He said that Turkiye

Turkish

fields.

but one soul.

iniciative.



PESHAWAR: A combine delegation of Academia and Business Community meeting with Governor Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa Haji Ghulam Ali.



KARACHI: Turkish Ambassador to Pakistan Mehmet Pacaci handing over a memento to Sindh Caretaker Minister for Health Dr. Saad Khalid Niaz during the inauguration ceremony of an Operation Theatre (Operating Room) renovated and equipped by the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA) at NICH.

Governor asks teachers to protest without skipping classes

PFA celebrates

World Food Day

Governor Punjab Engineer Muhammad Baligh-ur-Rehman has said that all the right demands of teachers should be heard however. teachers must not skip classes for protests which will hurt students' future. Talking to APP, he

said that teachers are founder of our future and the government will solve their grievances. He urged teachers to work on recruiting more

students at school and help in improving Pakistan's literacy rate.

Responding to a question, he said that Pakistan was heading in the right direction and as a state propaganda.

He said that political parties must teach their followers respect and result, Pakistan's economy was improving. acceptance of opposite ideologies.

Independent Report

LAHORE: The Punjab

Food Authority has

celebrated World Food Day

2023 by organizing a

seminar titled "Food

Adulteration Challenges &

Way Forward" at Alhamra

Director General Raja

Commissioner Lahore

journalist Mujeeb-ur-

Rehman Shami, Former

Chairman PCSIR Dr

Shahzad Alam, Chairman

Department of Food

Punjab Chief Minister and

leader of Pakistan People's

Party (PPP) Dost

Muhammad Khosa said

his party was getting

stronger in South Punjab

at Khosa House, he called

Addressing a ceremony

day by day.

press club.

On the occasion, PFA

Anwar,

senior

Sciences Punjab University important to reduce the

Lahore Dr Shinawar consumption of junk food.

PPP getting stronger

in South Punjab

DG Khan (APP): Former the poor only. The power-

it 'unfortunate' that imple- the country. Inflation has

mentation of the law re- broken back of the poor, he

Art Centre on Monday.

Jahangir

Muhammad

Randhawa,

He said that the recent decrease in petrol prices, dollar, and gold rates were indicators of better

Governor Punjab said that an international cricket stadium would be constructed in Bahawalpur. He said that sports

economic conditions.

activities must be promoted among youth and more grounds must be made available for them.

Engr Muhammad Baligh-ur-Rehman said that youth must not indulge in negative ventures and refrain from following anti-

Waseem Ali, nutrition expert Dr Ghazala Pervez,

Vice Chairman Food

Industry Dr Muhammad

Nasir and people from

different walks of life

Jahangir said that food

safety is as important as

food security. He said that

reforms are being made in

the food industry to

provide nutritious food to

the people at their

doorstep. Along with the

provision of nutritious

items for children, it is very

ful class considers itself as

Akram Khan Mulghani, the

political figure of Taunsa

tion of society is affected

by the current situation in

for joining the party.

He said they welcomed

He said that every sec-

superior, he said.

Addressing participants during a panel discussion, PFA DG Raja

attended the event.

German Envoy calls on Mayor Karachi

KARACHI (APP): Consul General of Germany Dr. Rudiger Lotz called on the Mayor Karachi Barrister Murtaza Wahab in KMC head office on Monday and discussed matters of mutual interest.

Earlier, the mayor welcomed the Consul General of Germany on his arrival.

Talking to Dr. Rudiger, the mayor said that there was a wide scope of cooperation between Pakistan and Germany in various fields. Germany achieved an important position in the provision of urban facilities and the Mukhtar, Chairman of the zone and NEPRA. Both development of science and technology. We had also improved the basic urban infrastructure in Karachi,

Karachi Metropolitan Corporation, District Municipalities and other institutions were working together to provide quality facilities to the citizens, he said. The mayor said that there were attractive investments opportunities for German investment companies in Karachi and complete facilities would be provided to German.

he said.

ANF seizes 108 kg drugs; arrests three

RAWALPINDI (APP) operation at Jinnah International Airport Karachi Courier Office on Sibi Road Quetta.

Dr. Aamir meets **NEPRA Chairman**

the Nation Quaid-i-Azam and appreciated the

Turkish Ambassador,

British HC call

on Sindh Governor

Meanwhile British

discussed

relations

enhanced

High Commissioner (HC)

to Pakistan Jane Marriot

called on Sindh Governor

Moahmmed Kamran Khan

Tessori at Governor House

between Pakistan and

education, investment

opportunities in the Sindh

province and other issues

Commissioner of Britain

The Governor said

Sara Mooney was also

the province offered good

investment and British

investors could invest in

the province. The High

Commissioner visited

the site of Bell of Hope

Governor's initiative.

present on the occasion.

of mutual interests.

Deputy

opportunities

on Monday.

economic

Britain,

investment cooperation in the field of

They

Independent Report PESHAWAR: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Caretaker Minister for Industries, Commerce, Technical Education, and Newly Merged Districts Affairs, Dr. Aamir Abdullah, held a and other issues meeting with Waseem concerning the industrial Dr. Aamir Abdullah, held a and National Electric Power parties sought cooperation

Monday. Khattak, Chief Executive Officer of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Economic Zones Development and Management Company, Gul Hasan Bhutto, Advisor to NEPRA, and Aamir Marwat, Head of Department of

KPEZDMC During the meeting,

study and research analysis. This new addition is housed within discussed matters related to the issuance of electricity transmission Hindko language researcher from Peshawar, Dr. Elahi license for the Special Economic Zone (SEZ) Bakhsh Awan. Rashakai in the province University of London, Regulatory Authority in addressing these issues. (NEPRA), in Islamabad on Dr. Aamir Abdullah expressed his belief that the establishment of the The meeting was the establishment of the attended by Javed Iqbal Rashakai Special Economic contributions include an Zone under CPEC will extensive dictionary and numerous usher in a new era of development prosperity in Pakistan, especially in Khyber publications.

The Persian Section at the Hindko Academy is Pakhtunkhwa. brimming with resources, Rashakai Economic Zone including a Persian translation of the Holy represents a significant Pakistan-China cooperation project, expected to bring Quran, substantial

Trying to change things in health sector: Health Minister

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Caretaker Minister for Health Dr Saad Khalid Niaz has said that they were trying to change things in the health sector during a short period of

He said that they were working on 'Insurance' and he also discussed it when he visited Turkiye.

While addressing the inauguration ceremony of an Operation Theatre (Operating renovated and equipped by the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA) at the National Institute of Child Health (NICH), also attended by

PESHAWAR (APP): The

Academy in Peshawar has

inaugurated a Persian

Section dedicated to the

pursuit of comparative

the Dr. Elahi Bakhsh Awan

Library of the academy, a

tribute to the distinguished

Awan, during his doctoral

England, from 1968 to

1974, conducted extensive

research on the Hindko

language. His scholarly

research - based

Hindko

Dr. Elahi Bakhsh

Gandhara

Turkish Ambassador to Pakistan Dr. Mehmet Pacaci, Caretaker Minister Dr. Saad Niaz said, 'Operation Theatre is a good addition to NICH.' He thanked Turkiye and said that she was a real

brother. Dr. Niaz said that

Turkiye always stood shoulder to shoulder-with Pakistan whenever she was in need of help or in trouble. The minister said

Pakistan and Turkiye had Room) old and strong relations. He said that NICH was providing health services to children and adolescents free of cost.

improvement Ambassador of the Republic of Turkiye Mehmet Pacaci addressing the ceremony said that Pakistan and Turkiye had a brotherhood more than a friendship.

He said that both the countries had people-topeople contacts. He said that Pakistan had a special place in the hearts of Turkish people.

Pacaci said, 'Our relations are unparalleled.' He said that TIKA was performing well in Pakistan and its work was making our relations stronger. He also congratulated TIKA He also highlighted that on its successful projects there was always room for in Pakistan.

Hindko CM reviews progress of Academy **Band Road controlled** establishes access corridor project **Persian Section**

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Caretaker Chief Minister grant immediate motorway Mohsin Naqvi conducted a morning inspection of the ongoing Controlled Access Corridor project on Band Road.

meticulously assessed the progress of this significant endeavor, underscored studies in linguistics at the

> should personally oversee operations and recommended deploying additional traffic wardens. Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi promptly ordered the relocation of street lights and poles from the closed roads. He further directed that the poles be removed and re-purposed

directive for the timely

Traffic Officer (CTO)

upon Lahore completion. The Controlled Access Corridor is poised to yield substantial savings, both in terms of time and fuel, benefiting the economy significantly. The spanning from Niazi Chief Minister received a Chowk to Babu Sabu. He comprehensive briefing, Chief Minister received a underscored the underscoring the round-importance of ensuring the-clock efforts being smooth traffic flow on the made to complete the 7.3 closed road throughout the km long controlled access construction phase. He corridor within four emphasized that the Chief months. The project encompasses packages, with Package One spanning 3.65 km from Niazi to Sagian Interchange, and Package Two covering an equivalent

access from any corner of

Babu Sabu Interchange. Commissioner Lahore Division and DG LDA Muhammad Ali Randhawa along with the Chief elsewhere. The Chief Engineer LDA and the Minister set forth a clear contractor, provided contractor, provided detailed updates to Chief completion of the Minister Mohsin Naqvi controlled access corridor regarding the project's project. He highlighted progress.

distance from Sagian to

COMSATS Uni Abbottabad awards degrees to 1357 students at Convocation 2023

University Abbottabad Monday awarded MS/BS degrees to 1,357 students, both at the undergraduate and graduate level while 27 students received PhD degrees, and 47 students were honored for their exceptional performance with gold, bronze, and silver medals.

The ceremony marked the 22nd and 23rd convocation at the university, held on the campus grounds. The special guest for the event was Professor Dr. Sajid Qamar, the Vice-Chancellor of the Islamia University of Islamabad.

While addressing the convocation, Professor Dr. Sajid Qamar commended university's management and faculty members for their dedication in raising Pakistan's educational standards on a global scale.

He emphasized the pivotal role that graduates play in the progress of the country and encouraged them to contribute to improvement.

ABBOTTABAD (APP): Pakistan's development with their skills and dedication. The underscored significance of scientific research in achieving economic growth and addressing the challenges of the 21st century. The special guest also stressed the importance of acquiring strong academic skills in relevant fields for a successful professional life. He praised the efforts of Professor Dr. Muhammad Ma'roof Shah, the Director of the Abbottabad campus, in imparting excellent academic skills to the students. Dr. Sajid Qamar encouraged the graduates to be appreciative of the opportunities they've been given and the knowledge acquired from a prestigious institution like COMSATS University. He urged them to maintain a strong work ethic and express gratitude to their parents and teachers, emphasizing that consistent hard work and mutual respect would lead to continuous self-



LAHORE: Sikh Yatrees are being welcomed on their arrival at JCP Wagah Border.

Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) while conducting five operations across the country managed to recover 108 kg drugs and arrested three accused, said an ANF Headquarters spokesman here on Monday. He informed that 24.8 kg hashish was recovered from an accused, resident of Kohat arrested on Super Highway Karachi. On the pointation of the accused, a co-accused, resident of Karachi was also arrested.In another ANF recovered 180 grams Ice drug from a parcel booked for Dubai.30 kg hashish concealed in doors of a vehicle was recovered During the operation, an accused, resident of Naseerabad was arrested.



HYDERABAD: Members and supporters of Jamat-e-Islami (JI Women Wing) are holding protest demonstration against Israeli cruel and inhumane acts and express unity with the innocent people of Palestine, held at Hyderabad



LAHORE: Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi issuing directives regarding construction works during his visit to under construction controlled accessed corridor project.

Amir Mir holds Press conference Positive shift in smog conditions, Lahore's improved ranking, govt actions highlighted

Independent Report LAHORE: The current shared by Punjab's smog situation presents a notable improvement compared to January 2023. Previously topping the smog index, Lahore has now descended to the 54th position. This shift can be attributed to a combination of factors, including the influence of rainfall and government initiatives. Among the most effective governmental measures has been the enforcement of Section 144 in the city, alongside restrictions on smog-emitting vehicles and crop residue burning, practices that continue to be upheld. Further steps in this direction will be considered with an eye on future smog

scenarios

Information and Culture Minister, Amir Mir, during a press conference at the Directorate General Public Relations Department following today's Punjab Cabinet meeting.

Minister informed the media representatives that, in accordance with the directives of Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Syed Mohsin Naqvi, district administration and price control teams have been mobilized to transfer the benefits of the Rs 40 per liter reduction in petrol prices to the public. It is anticipated that, in the coming days, prices of essential commodities such

These views were see significant reductions. Responding to questions from journalists, the provincial minister affirmed that the Punjab government will pursue legal avenues to reinstate the commissioner's authority to impose fines on wholesalers, a measure

aimed at curbing inflation. When queried about the implementation of long-term smog control strategies, Amir Mir stated that the caretaker government is deploying every available resource within its limited timeframe to ensure compliance. He further emphasized that decisions regarding permissions for specific political gatherings are influenced by the as flour, milk, and rice will events of May 9.

People welcome relief in POL prices; ask for inflation-ease

ISLAMABAD (APP): commutes daily from :People from different walks of life on Monday welcomed government's decision to substantially reduce petroleum prices, viewing it as a much-needed relief to counter the adverse effects of high inflation on their daily routines.

In the past, they said whenever petroleum prices increased it resulted in a surge in the prices of essential commodities, public transportation fares, and shipping costs, negatively impacting the common man.

Now, with the government's ample reduction of Rs40 per liter in petrol prices and Rs15 in high-speed diesel, people expect this to have a trickle-down effect on the prices of everyday items, goods transport, and public transportation fares.Khurram Shahzad, a commended

Qasim Market Rawalpindi to Islamabad, expressed his concern that public transporters had not lowered their fares despite a significant reduction in

petroleum prices.
They had increased fares by almost 300 percent over the past six months, which he said should be revised and brought down.

He urged the Regional Transport Authority to revise and regulate the public transport fares to align them with the reduced petroleum prices.

He also called for the display of revised fare charts in public transport vehicles to provide maximum relief to the common commuters between the twin cities of Rawalpindi and Islamabad.

business community the government employee who government's decision to

reduce petroleum prices, considering it a positive step in combating inflation and providing much-needed relief to the common man throughout the country.

They attributed the positive indicators to the government's zerotolerance policy against the illicit trade and smuggling of essential commodities and the dollar mafia. These measures led to the strengthening of the local currency against the dollar, which also facilitated local trade and businesses.

President of the Islamabad Industrial Association, Muhammad Ahmad, appreciated the government's move to significantly reduce Motor Spirit Oil (Petrol) and High-Speed Diesel prices; anticipating it to help reduce transportation costs for industrial goods and essential commodities.

Gold rates

decrease by

Rs.1,900 to

Rs.200,100

per tola

ISLAMABAD (APP)

The per tola price of 24

karat gold decreased by

Rs.1,900 and was sold at

Rs. 200,100 on Monday

compared to its sale at Rs.

202,000 the previous day

of 24 karat gold also

decreased by Rs.1,629 to

Rs.173,182 whereas the

price of 10 gram 22 karat

gold went down to Rs.157,257 from

Rs.158,750, the All Sindh

and ten gram silver

remained constant at

Rs.2,500 and Rs.2,143.34

the international market

decreased by \$15 to

\$1,923 from \$1,938, the

Rupee gains 79

paisa against

Dollar

ISLAMABAD (APP)

Pakistani Rupee on

Monday witnessed the

28th consecutive recovery

session as it gained 79

paisa against the US Dollar

in the interbank trading and

closed at Rs 276.83 against

the previous day's closing

to the Forex Association of

Pakistan (FAP), the buying

and selling rates of the

Dollar in the open market

stood at Rs 276 and Rs 278

decreased by Rs 1.47 to

close at Rs 291.61 against

the last day's closing of Rs

293.08, according to the State Bank of Pakistan

remained unchanged to

close at Rs 1.85, whereas a

decrease of Rs 2.16 was

witnessed in the exchange

The Japanese Yen

The price of the Euro

However, according

of Rs 277.62.

respectively.

(SBP).

Association reported.

The price of per tola

The price of gold in

Association reported.

Jewellers

The price of 10 grams

of trading.

Rs.171,553

Sarafa

respectively.



QUETTA: Central Anjuman Tajran Balochistan President Abdul Rahim Kakar along with All Balochistan Sugars Association President Syed Abdul Rehman Shah and others addresses to media persons during press conference held at Quetta press club.

Irfan Iqbal Sheikh says **Business community** lauds Army Chief's role in economic stabilization

Independent Report KARACHI: Mr. Irfan cost of production, Iqbal Sheikh, President escalates debt repayments FPCCI, said that the and eliminates fiscal space business community of for Pakistan appreciates the expenditures. effective, timely and crucial role played by the Army Chief in swiftly reducing economic uncertainty; in international crude prices, these steps have bringing back stability and fostering positive sentiment in the country. Controlling speculative trading of dollar and putting

a stop on its smuggling are the most effective and meaningful steps in the right direction by COAS, he added. Mr. Irfan Iabal Sheikh recalled that dollar was trading at 336 on 4th September in the open market and today it has come down to 276. In an export-dependent fuels inflation, increases developmental

FPCCI Chief added that, coupled with a decline enabled the government to slash the prices of petroleum products by a historic PKR. 40 per litre for petrol and PKR. 15 per litre for high speed

Mr. Irfan Iqbal Sheikh maintained that crackdown on smuggling is another praiseworthy step taken by the Army Chief; which has resulted in improved supplies of the essential commodities & agricultural inputs in the country and their prices are economy like Pakistan, experiencing significant decline in the domestic currency depreciation is the mother of all evils as it market.

PSQCA arranges awareness walk

LAHORE (APP): Pakistan Standards & Quality Authority Control (PSQCA) on Monday arranged an awareness walk with a theme "Shared Vision for a Better World", in connection with World Standards Day - 2023.

efforts of experts worldwide who contribute to the creation of International Standards and to raise awareness about the significance of fostering a quality culture through adherence to the standards and regulations. The walk was led by

Director General PSQCA, Dr. H.U. Khan, commencing from 'Hamdard Chowk, Madar-e-Millat Road' and ended at Regional Office of

Lakhpat. The event saw the participation of Directors Dr. Shahzad Afzal, Mr. Muhammad Yasin Akhtar, Dr. Muhammad Rizwan,

Ms. Amna Oasim, and Engr. Khurram Mateen along with officers, staff members, and representatives from the This day serves as a industry, academia, NGOs, tribute to the collaborative and civil society. Addressing the participants, Dr. H.U. Khan highlighted the organization's achievements, stating that PSQCA has developed more than 22,000 national standards and adopted a number of ISO and IEC standards. He underscored the pivotal role of standardization regulations, emphasizing that PSQCA plays a crucial part in Pakistan's economic development by providing PSOCA '125-A Quaid e technical guidance to the



QUETTA: Demand of second hand jackets increased as start of winter season.



HYDERABAD: A large number of motorcyclists at petrol pump after the government reduce the petrol prices.

Investment in digital banking, FinTech, AgriTech beneficial for global investors: Dr. Umar

Minister for Information Technology Telecommunication, Dr. Umar Saif said on Monday that international investors could greatly benefit from investing in Pakistan's digital banking, FinTech, AgriTech, and telecom infrastructure sectors.

Speaking at the inaugural session of the Information Technology Exhibition in does not have bank

DUBAI (APP): Caretaker take advantage of various incentives in Pakistan, including tax concessions and a 100% ownership rights regime.

Running from October 16 to 20, the **Dubai Global Exhibition** features delegates from countries, representing over 6,000 IT companies.

Dr. Saif said that 85% of Pakistan's population said accounts and prefers to use international investors can cash or alternative means

for transactions. This presents an excellent opportunity for offering suitable digital payment solutions.

The minister said Pakistan is an attractive market for payment companies like PayPal due to its potential for generating billions in revenue.

He also pointed out that Pakistan's strength lies in its youthful population, with 65% of its people under the age of 30.

IIUI, I Bank Al-Falah ink MoU

ISLAMABAD (APP): International Islamic Iniversity Islamabad (IIUI) and Bank Alfalah Limited Monday joined Memorandum Understanding (MoU) for free of cost digital banking.

The MoU is part of the efforts of IIUI President's vision of Students' facilitation, said a press release here.

As per MoU, the

Bank Alfalah will provide facility of mobile banking through its app for deposit of dues at IIUI. The students will also

be given a facility of Afalah wallet that is an E wallet service to make banking and transactions more

install special cash deposit intellectual, social

machines to facilitate the IIUI community for payment of dues.

Dr. Hathal Homoud Alotaibi, President IIUI and Adnan Nasir ,Head Digital Payments Bank Alfalah signed MoU on behalf of their respective

institutions.
Dr. Hathal said that IIUI was committed to promote education and

He opined that the student's centric approach was cornerstone of the university's leadership's

The president IIUI further added that the university provided a sound intellectual and The bank will also the ideological, moral,

STANDARDS

LAHORE: Director General PSQCA Dr. HU Khan in a group photo with

whereas the share price of

12 companies remained

The three top-trading companies were K-Electric Ltd with 98,168,338 shares at Rs 3.15 per share

PTCL with 22,603,000

shares at Rs 6.95 per share

and Pak Int. Bulk with

22,073,500 shares at Rs

4.59 per share. Nestle

Pakistan witnessed a

maximum increase of Rs

102.00 per share price,

closing at Rs 7,300.00.

whereas the runner-up was

population. They also urge

similar relief for essential

commodities like flour.

edible oil, rice, pulses, and spices. The LCCI office-

bearers acknowledged the

government's commitment

to stabilizing the economy,

evident by the massive cut

in petroleum prices and a

significant Rs. 28 drop in

the inter-bank dollar rate

within the past one and a

half months. The inter-

bank dollar rate, which was

Rs. 305 on September 1,

2023, has fallen to Rs.

277 on October 13, 2023,

they noted

DAY 2023

participants participating in the awareness walk on World.

unchanged

PSX continues with bullish

trend, gains 237 points

ISLAMABAD (APP): and 129 sustained losses

companies transacted their Philip Morris Pak with a

shares in the stock market; Rs 40.50 rise in its per

218 of them recorded gains share price to Rs 580.50.

LCCI welcomes historic

cut in fuel prices

LAHORE (APP): Lahore industry, and the general

The 100-index of Pakistan

Stock Exchange (PSX)

continued with a bullish

trend on Monday and

gained 237.88 points, a

positive change of 0.48 per

cent, closing at 49,731.35

points against 49,493.47

A total of 467,383,787 shares valuing

Rs 14.119 billion were

traded during the day as

compared to 556,389,862

shares valuing Rs 15.450

billion the previous day.
As many as 359

Chamber of Commerce and

Industry (LCCI) lauds

government's decision to

reduce petroleum product prices. The LCCI office-

bearers anticipate a

substantial decrease in

interest rates and electricity costs in the near

Kashif Anwar, Senior Vice

President Zafar Mahmood

Chaudhry, and Vice President Adnan Khalid

Butt commended the

considerable reduction in

fuel prices, emphasizing its

positive impact on trade,

President

LCCI

points the previous day.

PAKISTAN STANDARDS AND QUALITY CONTROL AUTHORITY

Facilities at rural revenue centres reviewed

LAHORE (APP): Senior Member Board of Revenue (SMBR) Nabil Javed here Monday chaired a meeting about the provision of facilities at rural centres.

Punjab Land Revenue Authority Director General Saira Umar apprised the meeting about facilities in rural centres such as eregistration, inheritance and online registration of property for foreign nationals. The SMBR congratulated Saira Umar for her excellent performance. Briefing the meeting, Provincial meeting, Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) Director Nazia Jabeen said scholastic foundation for | that the authority had distributed furniture among all districts as per demands.

SHARED VISION FOR

Shipping activity

at Port Qasim

KARACHI (APP): The

movements of ships was

reported at the port where

five ships namely, MSC

Gina, Maersk Chesapeak,

Hafnia Prestige, Jal Kalpavriksh and Horin

Trader carrying Containers, Gas oil, Coal

and Chemicals, berthed at

Container Terminal, Oil

Terminal, Bulk Terminal

and Engro Terminal

ships, Onyx-1, Gambella,

Xin An Ping and Al-Zubarahscheduled to load/

Containers, LNG and Coal

also arrived at outer

anchorage of the port during last 24 hours.

were engaged at PQA berths during the last 24 hours, out of them a

containers ship, Maersk Chesapeak left the port on

today morning, while two more ships, MSC Gina and

Livarden are expected to

sail on today afternoon.

Cargo volume of 116,892 tonnes

comprising 79,628 tonnes

imports cargo and 37,264

tonnes export cargo.

including containerized

cargo carried in 2,324

Containers (134 TEUs

Imports and 2,192 TEUs export) was handled at the

port during last 24 hours.

Outer Anchorage of Port

Oasim, out of them five

ships, Gambella, Chem Harvest, Xin An Ping.

There are six ships at

A total of eight ships

offload

Meanwhile four more

Cement

respectively on Sunday.

BETTER WORLD

PSX holds Gong ceremony to announce building of In-House manufacturing facility

Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) held a gong ceremony to announce the building of an in-house manufacturing facility for the Panadol portfolio by Haleon Pakistan Limited, a world-leading Consumer Healthcare Company and a listed company on the Pakistan Stock Exchange.

The gong ceremony was attended by British High Commissioner to Pakistan, Jane Marriott, as the Chief Guest, said a press release on Monday. The team from the British High Commission and Haleon Pakistan Limited were received at

the Stock Exchange by the

MD & CEO PSX, Farrukh H. Khan and Board member(s) PSX along with the Exchange's senior management. The gong was struck by the Chief Guest, Jane Marriott, and the CEO of Haleon Pakistan Limited, Farhan M. Haroon, in the presence of MD and CEO PSX, Farrukh Khan, Board member(s) PSX, the team from the British High Commission and senior management of both Haleon Pakistan and PSX.

Speaking on the occasion, the MD & CEO PSX, Farrukh Khan stated, 'I warmly welcome the British High Commissioner to Pakistan, Jane Marriott, her team, the CEO of

team, to PSX. Your visit to PSX will serve as a confidence-building measure for the UK-based companies in Pakistan and will send a positive message to the PSX-listed companies to enhance business and trade with companies in the UK.

"I would also like to congratulate Haleon Pakistan on the launch of their Panadol Expansion project. Multinationals operating in Pakistan have historically excellent profitability. investment reinforces their commitment to Pakistan and highlights the opportunities presented by Pakistan's economy".

The CEO & General Manager of Haleon Pakistan Limited, Farhan Muhammad Haroon, added, "Under the project, Haleon Pakistan Limited will be investing ~ USD 10 million in its manufacturing facility at Jamshoro to bring the latest technology to Pakistan and enhance the production of Panadol to 8 billion tablets.

This will help ensure smooth supplies of Pakistan's pharmaceutical / Over-the-Counter medicine to needy



drying purpose in the field.

PCJCCI keen to merge urban, rural development for common prosperity

Moazzam Monday emphasized upon rural areas of the country in conjunction with the urban business hubs at the pattern of Chinese model

Coordinated Development. Addressing a think-tank session here at PCJCCI Secretariat, he added that China had enhanced the prosperity level of her villages by making coordinated urban and rural development. need that The meeting was also attended by PCJCCI Senior Vice President Fang Yulong, Vice President Hamza Khalid and Secretary General Salahuddin Hanif.

Ghurki said

Urban-Rural

LAHORE (APP): Pakistan SMEDA (Small and China Joint Chamber of Medium Enterprise
Commerce and Industry Development Authority) (PCJCCI) President had focused in the past on equitable development of SMEs in the country and equitable development of Small and Medium regard was launched as Enterprises (SMEs) in "Aik Hunar, Aik Nagar" "Aik Hunar, Aik Nagar" (AHAN) project that connected the rural handicrafts with the fashion designers to add value in the rural handmade products. The intervention proved to be so successful that a number of our rural handicrafts won the space in export market besides gaining business in the national markets. He stressed the government should also focus on this important project. Fang Yulong said that common prosperity is an essential requirement of socialism and a key feature Chinese-style



Association Ring Road are holding protest demonstration against high handedness of influent police officials, held at Peshawar press club.

Motorbikes, three-wheelers sale drops 9% during July-September

ISLAMABAD (APP): Suzuki motorcycles The sale of motorbikes and country witnessed a decrease of 9.85 per cent during the first three months of the current fiscal year (2023-24) as compared to sales of the corresponding months of the last year.

During the months under review, as many as 268,990 motorbikes and three-wheelers were sold against the sale of 298,405 units in July-September (2022-23), according to the Pakistan Automobile Manufacturing Association (PAMA). The sale of Honda motorcycles dipped 250,132 units to 232,139

witnessed a decrease of three-wheelers in the 62.27 per cent from 10,007 units to 3,775 units during the months under review. Similarly, the sale of Yamaha motorbikes also

went down from 3.726 units to 2,555 units witnessing a decline of 31.42 per cent while the sale of Road Prince motorbikes witnessed a sharp decline of 55.59 per cent from 9,273 units to 4,118 units. However, the sales of United Auto motorcycles witnessed an increase of 7.04 per cent from 20,369 units to 21,803 units.Meanwhile, the sale of United Auto threeby 7.19 per cent from wheelers dipped from 412 units to 218 units while the units whereas the sale of sale of Sazgar.

tribute to another teacher,

Samuel Paty, killed exactly

three years ago near his

Paris area school. He was

beheaded by a radicalized

Chechen later killed by

police. Macron cut short

travel plans abroad to hold

a security meeting at mid-

day with the prime minis-

ter and other key govern-

ment members as well as

top military and

counterterrorism officials.

He initially planned to at-

tend a summit on the

Gaza aid stuck as Egypt says Israel not cooperating

ISMAILIA: Egypt said on Monday that Israel was not cooperating with the delivery of aid into Gaza and evacuations of foreign passport holders via the only entry it does not wholly control, leaving hundreds of tonnes of supplies stuck.

Cairo says the Rafah crossing, a potentially vital opening for desperately needed supplies into the besieged Palestinian enclave, is not officially closed but is inoperable due to Israeli air strikes on the Gaza

"There is an urgent need to alleviate the suffering of Palestinian civilians in Gaza," Egypt's Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukry

Bratislava, Slovakia.

Monitoring Desk

WASHINGTON: Videos

circulating on social media

purporting to show a high-

energy laser weapon de-

stroying missiles during the

Israel-Hamas war are actu-

ally altered clips derived

from a military simulation

tion footage depicting swarms of overhead projec-

from Arma 3, a photorealistic game billed

as a "massive military sand-

box" by its publisher,

Bohemia Interactive. Mul-

tiple prominent accounts on

X, formerly Twitter, shared

videos over the weekend

incorrectly claiming they

showed the real-world ap-

plication of Iron Beam, de-

veloped by Israeli company

Rafael Advanced Defense

Monitoring Desk

CAIRO: Six months of war

between Sudan's military

and a powerful paramili-

tary group has killed up to

9,000 people and created

"one of the worst humani-

tarian nightmares in recent

history," the United Na-

tions humanitarian chief

said Sunday. Sudan has been

engulfed in chaos since mid-

April, when simmering ten-

sions between military

chief Gen. Abdel-Fattah

Burhan and the commander

of the paramilitary Rapid

Support Forces, Gen.

Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo,

exploded into open warfare.

ians ... have known no re-

spite from bloodshed and

Undersecretary-General

Martin Griffiths said in a

statement marking the six-

month anniversary of the

war. "Horrific reports of

rape and sexual violence

"For six months, civil-

Czech Republic-based

Bohemia Interactive on Reuters, and others).

UN aid chief says six

months of war in Sudan

has killed 9,000 people

Cropped, low-resolu-

video game.

told reporters, adding that talks with Israel had not

'Until now the Israeli government has not taken a position on opening the Rafah crossing from the Gaza side to allow the entrance of assistance and exit of citizens of third coun-

More than 2 million Gazans have been under siege since Israel launched an intense bombardment and blockade in retaliation for an assault by the Hamas Islamist militants.

Two Egyptian security sources had told Reuters a ceasefire in southern Gaza to last several hours had been agreed for Monday morning to facilitate aid and evacuations

Hlas-Social Democracy party chairman Peter Pellegrini, Smer-Social De-

mocracy party chairman Robert Fico and Slovak National Party chairman

Andrej Danko sign a coalition agreement to form a new government in

Oct. 10 warned that its

game — set in a futuristic,

fictional conflict, and eas-

ily modded and recorded by

players — was being used

to peddle misinformation.

Staff at the BBC, the

Warzone and the Times of

Israel later reported the vid-

eos and accompanying de-

scriptions were misleading.

that Arma 3 simulates mod-

tainly not pleased that it can

be mistaken for real-life

combat footage and used as war propaganda," Pavel

Køižka, a Bohemia Interac-

tive public relations man-

taken down, ten more are

uploaded each day," Køižka

added. "We found the best

way to tackle this is to ac-

tively cooperate with lead-

ing media outlets and fact-

checkers (such as AFP,

centered in Khartoum, but

quickly spread to other ar-

eas across the east African

nation, including the already

conflict-wrecked western

fighting reportedly killed up to 9,000 and forced mil-

lions of people out of their

homes, either to safer areas

inside Sudan or in neighbor-

ing countries. He said the

conflict led to "communi-

ties torn apart. Vulnerable

people with no access to

life-saving aid. Mounting

humanitarian needs in the

neighboring countries

migration agency, more than

4.5 million people were

displaced inside Sudan,

while over 1.2 million oth-

ers sought refuge in neigh-

boring countries. The fighting also left 25 million

people — more than half

of the country's population

According to the UN

where millions have fled."

Griffiths said the

Darfur region.

'With every video

ager, said in a statement.

'While it's flattering

No, Rafael's 'Iron

Beam' laser didn't blow

up missiles over Israel

tiles being intercepted in ern war conflicts in such a

front of a tower are sourced realistic way, we are cer-

However, Israel denied that.

"There is currently no truce and humanitarian aid in Gaza in exchange for getting foreigners out," a statement from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office said.

Hamas official Izzat El-Reshiq told Reuters the

On the ground at Rafah, one source said that there had been no bombardments on Monday and that the Egyptian side of the crossing was ready. Shoukry said Egypt aimed to allow normal flow through the crossing, including for Palestinians seeking medical treatment or normal travel.

Iran says Hamas

is ready to

release hostages

if airstrikes stop

Monitoring Desk

Ministry said Monday that

Hamas potentially was ready

to release the nearly 200 hos-

tages it is holding if Israel stops

its campaign of airstrikes on

the Gaza Strip. The militant

group hasn't acknowledged

try spokesman Nasser

Kanaani spoke at a news

conference in Tehran, Iran's

theocracy is a main sponsor

of Hamas in its fight against

Israel, Tehran's regional

"stated that they are ready

to take necessary measures

to release the citizens and

civilians held by resistant

groups, but their point was

that such measures require

preparations that are impos-

sible under daily bombard-

ment by the Zionists against

various parts of Gaza,'

will trade the captives for

thousands of Palestinians

held by Israel in the kind

of lopsided exchange

deals that have been

reached in the past.

Hamas has said it

Kanaani said.

Iranian Foreign Minis-

making such an offer.



MOSCOW: Russian President Vladimir Putin entered the fevered diplomatic fray of the Middle East on Monday, speaking to five of the major players includ-ing Iran and leading Arab powers in an attempt to secure a ceasefire in the war between Israel and Hamas.

lationships with Iran, Hamas, major Arab powers as well as with the Palestinians and with Israel, has repeatedly said the United States and the West have ignored the need for an independent Palestinian state within 1967 borders.

Bashar al-Assad by telephone, the Kremlin said. He also plans to speak to Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, Abbas and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, it said.

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov told Putin that the situation was escalatory, that Israeli army actions were "indiscrimi-

this whole conflict gets out

and to Syrian President chiefs and military leaders. He said that the United States was ultimately responsible for the crisis due to its failed policy in the Middle East and that Washington was blocking a Russian resolution in the UN Security Council.

Putin, who says the West is seeking to cleave Russia apart by supporting Ukraine, says the current violence in the Middle East shows just how far U.S. policy in the region has

Jinping in China this week in a bid to deepen a partnership forged between the United States' two biggest strategic competitors.

Raisi says Iran backs Palestinians but 'resistance' groups decide independently

eign policy priority but the "resistance" groups make their own independent decisions, President Ebrahim Raisi told his Russian counterpart in a phone call on Monday, Iranian state media reported. They quoted Raisi as also telling Russia's Vladimir Putin: "There is a possibility of the conflict between Israel and Palestinians expanding

Monitoring Desk DUBAI: Supporting the Palestinians is Iran's for-

All French schools held a Western Balkans in Tirana, Albania. Speaking moment of silence on Monat the end of the meeting, Interior Minister Gerald day afternoon in homage to the teacher who was killed in Friday's attack by a Darmanin said that 102 former student suspected of people have been arrested relation Islamic radicalization. The homage also paid antisemitic acts. China calls for ceasefire in

Israel, suggests mediation

France's Macron holds security meeting amid heightened alert

after deadly school stabbing

Monitoring Desk

ARRAS: French President

Emmanuel Macron held a

special security meeting on

Monday amid heightened

alert against feared terror

threats, as a high school

where a teacher was fatally

stabbed in an attack last

week has been evacuated

over a bomb threat. Several

hundreds of students and

teachers went back into the

high school in the northern

town of Arras after what ap-

peared to be a false alert.

Monitoring Desk

BEIJING: China's foreign minister on Monday called for a ceasefire to halt the bloodshed in Israel, suggesting at a meeting with his Russian counterpart that major world powers should work to avoid a humanitarian disaster.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov discussed the conflict between Israel and Hamas with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi in Beijing ahead of a visit by President Vladimir Putin to China.

"The United Nations Security Council must take action, and the major powers should play an active role," Wang told Lavrov, according to a Chinese transcript of the meeting.

'It is imperative that a ceasefire be put in place, ignored the need for an incentral that the two sides be pendent Palestinian state.

at meeting with Russia brought back to the negotiating table, and that an emergency humanitarian channel be established to prevent a further humanitarian disas-

> Russia and China, both permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, have said that the fundamental issue at the heart of the conflict is the lack of justice for the Pal-

The Palestinians want a state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip with East Jerusalem as its capital - all territory captured by Israel in the 1967 war. Russia has condemned violence against both Jews and Palestinians, but Putin has repeatedly criticised the United States for what he said was its flawed approach which had ignored the need for an inde-

With eye on US, Turkiye in no rush to back Sweden's NATO bid

Monitoring Desk

ANKARA: Turkiye is willthis month as it awaits signs of U.S. support for its own trust over the issue of Fsources said, potentially disappointing bloc allies hoping to end 17 months

President Tayyip Erdogan elated a NATO summit in July by promising to send the bid to Turkiye's parliament for ratification when it reopened in October, appearing to green-light Sweden after having raised objections over its alleged harbouring of terrorists.

However since parliament opened on Oct. 1, its foreign affairs commission, which would debate the NATO bid has received almost 60 international agreements to review - excluding Sweden's, official data

Two people familiar with the situation said Ankara wanted to move in tandem with Washington, where the State Departtime to seek congressional Turkiye.'

sale of F-16 fighters to ing to hold off ratifying Sweden's bid to join NATO modernisation kits. "Given the lack of

> 16s and Sweden, Turkive is not rushing to ratify the NATO bid and looking for a sign that the United States is taking steps at the same time," said an official from Erdogan's ruling AK Party.

A second person familiar with U.S.-Turkish talks said a rough proposal - in which each side would take steps toward ratifying the NATO bid on the one side, and the F-16s purchase on the other - had been delayed.

Erdogan's office did not immediately comment on a time frame for Sweden's ratification or on any U.S. talks.

The U.S. State Department looked forward to Sweden joining NATO 'in the near future", a spokesperson said, and that President Joe Biden backed the F-16s sale in the interest of the alliance, the United States ment is expected at some and its relationship with

US Congress handcuffed by Republican feud amid international crises

Monitoring Desk WASHINGTON: As the

flames of war burn in the Middle East and Ukraine, the US Congress is immobilised by a brawl among Republicans, a dysfunction that even some in Donald Trump's party worry is giving comfort to the nation's adversaries.

The House of Representatives has drifted leaderless for 12 days since eight of its 221 Republicans ousted Speaker Kevin McCarthy. That has held up any legislative action, from debating further aid to Ukraine as it battles a Russian invasion to a statement of support for ally Israel.

Republicans on Friday nominated hardliner Jim Jordan for speaker, but it was not clear if the longtime antagonist of party leadership would have the support needed to win a floor vote this week.

McCarthy's removal was the latest in a series of self-created crises Congress has faced in a year that saw lawmakers bring the federal government to the brink of defaulting on its \$31.4 trillion in debt and just two weeks ago narrowly avert the fourth partial US government shutdown in a de-

That latter move led to McCarthy's ouster by colleagues angry that the spending bill passed with more Democratic than Republican votes, even though any measure passed by the House needs to clear the Democratic-controlled Senate and be signed by Democratic President Joe Biden to become law.

Some House Republicans voiced frustration and anger that they have gone so long without being able to choose a leader. "The world is on fire. Our adversaries are watching what we do and ... quite frankly, they like it," said Republican House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Michael McCaul. Speaking to reporters as his colleagues huddled to discuss their next moves, McCaul added, "I see a lot of threats out there. One of the biggest threats I see is in that room because we can't unify as a conference." The dysfunction was undermining Americans' already weak confidence in Congress, with twothirds of respondents to a Reuters/Ipsos survey this month saying they did not

believe Washington.

Russia's Putin speaks to Iran, Israel, Palestinians, Syria and Egypt

Monitoring Desk

Russia, which has re-

nate" and that the risk was that Israel would begin a ground operation against "The threat is high that

of control," Ryabkov told Putin spoke to Iranian
President Ebrahim Raisi
Putin at a meeting also attended by Russia's spy

Moscow does not violate UN sanctions against North Korea - Russian diplomat

Monitoring Desk MOSCOW: Moscow does not violate United Nations sanctions against North Korea, but is categorically against new restrictive measures on Pyongyang, a highranking Russian diplomat told the RIA state news agency in remarks pub-

lished on Sunday.
"Russia, as a responsible member of the community, strictly adheres to its international obligations Pyongyang towards through the UN Security

Council," Russian Ambassador at Large Oleg Burmistrov told RIA in an interview. 'At the same time, we

are categorically against the introduction of new restrictive measures. The White House on

Friday said North Korea recently provided Russia with a shipment of weapons, calling it a troubling development and raising concerns about the expanded military relationship between the two coun



A view of trucks carrying humanitarian aid for Palestinians, as they wait for the re-opening of the Rafah border crossing to enter Gaza, amid the ongoing conflict between Israel and the Palestinian Islamist group Hamas, in the city of Al-Arish, Sinai peninsula, Egypt.

ers concerned about the fu-

ture of media freedoms,

women's and migrants

said Ewa Bankowska, a 43-

year-old working in finance,

said as she voted in Halinow,

a town just outside the capi-

tal Warsaw. "I'm concerned

about the economy. I would

like us to develop and for

the government to stop

spending money it does not

have," she said. But Dorota

Zbig, a 57-year-old nurse,

said the last few years of PiS

government "have been very

good for me and my family

and I hope everyone includ-

with the EU and Ukraine ing young people votes rea-

"It's time for a change,"

Poland votes in 'most important' election since communism

Monitoring Desk

NEW YORK: Ahmed Abdul-Hadi, the representative of Hamas in Lebanon, insisted Monday that the decision to launch the surprise Oct. 7 attack in southern Israel was made by Hamas leadership and not directed by Iran or any other outside party, but he said that in event of a ground invasion of Gaza, allied groups will intervene.

decision to enter it was a by Hamas and its military Qassam Brigades, "together with the Palestinian resistance factions," he said in an interview with The Associated Press ahead of the group in Beirut.

Hamas said it made the decision to attack Israel without direction from outside

The war in Gaza is "a Palestinian battle and the Palestinian decision" made wing, the Izz ad-Din al a conference convened by

enous citizens, scuppering plans to amend the country's 122-year-old constitution after a divisive and racially tinged ref-

Monitoring Desk

WARSAW: Poles voted on

Sunday in parliamentary

elections that will deter-

mine the country's future

ties with the European

Union and neighbouring

Ukraine, as the ruling popu-

lists bid for a third consecu-

the nationalist Law and

Justice (PiS) party will get

the most votes but may

struggle to build a govern-

ing coalition, giving a

chance to the opposition led by former EU chief

Donald Tusk.A PiS victory

could exacerbate tensions

and will dismay campaign- sonably.

Opinion polls indicate

tive term in power.

With 88 per cent of polling places reporting, around 59pc of people had voted against a proposal to acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders within the 1901 constitution for the first time.

The reforms would

also have created a consultative body — a "Voice" to Parliament — to weigh in on laws that affect Indigenous communities and help address profound social and economic inequal-

The often spiteful campaign exposed the deep racial fault lines still running through the so-called Lucky

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, who campaigned for a "yes" vote, urged a divided nation to now come together in a 'spirit of unity and healing'.

on a key eastern Ukraine city reported to be weakening. The war marks 600 days **Monitoring Desk**

Russia's assault

KYIV: A dayslong attempt

by Russian forces to storm a strategically important city in eastern Ukraine appears to be running out of steam, Kyiv officials said Monday, as the Kremlin's war entered its 600th day. Ukrainian forces repelled 15 Russian attacks

Avdiivka over the previous 24 hours, the Ukrainian General Staff said. That compared with up to 60 attacks a day in the middle of last week, according to Vitalii Barabash. head of the city administration. The slackening sug-

gests the Russian effort to

from four directions on

capture Avdiivka has "deflated," Barabash said. A Washington-based think tank broadly concurred with that assessment. "Russian forces continued offensive operations

aimed at encircling Avdiivka but have yet to make further gains amid a likely decreasing tempo of Russian operations in the area," the Institute for the Study of War said in analysis published late Sunday.

Russia's ambassador to the United Nations, Vassily Nebenzia, told a U.N. Security Council meeting last Friday that the ramped-up attacks in the east amounted to a new stage in Moscow's campaign in Ukraine.

– in need of humanitarian Australia rejects more aid, Griffiths said. The fighting initially rights for Indigenous in historic referendum **Monitoring Desk** SYDNEY: Australians have roundly rejected greater rights for Indig-

erendum campaign.

Children sign documents as people place flowers at the Gambetta high school after a bomb alert in Arras, northern France.

CPEC major milestone in shape of successful projects in several sectors: Solangi

Caretaker Federal Minister for Information Murtaza Solangi said on Monday that China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) was a major milestone in shape of successful projects in Pakistan including road infrastructure, power sector, and industrial zones worth 62 billion dol-

Delivering his speech at the CPEC Art Exhibition jointly organised by Behria University and China Media Group here he said he was glad to note that relations between Pakistan and China were getting stronger with every pass-

ing day.
The minister said that above all people were the heart and soul of every thing and they were focus of every initiative that the government launched. The minister said it was well established fact that arts and culture had a deeper impact on human lives. He

in this event not only art pieces were being exhibited but interactive media was also included in this exhibi-

teractive media would at-

He hoped that new in-

tract more young people and make them aware of the importance Pakistan, China friendship and how this was reflected through the CPEC projects. He stressed that the present government was vigorously continuing its efforts to facilitate CPEC projects by ensuring the implementation of the poli-

Solangi said that Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq had left for China to represent Pakistan in the Third Belt and Road

As the 10 year celebrations of CPEC were being observed, there would be good news regarding road infrastructure, green initiative, technology, export processing zones, special economic zones and ML-

1, said Murtaza Solangi. He said it was the pledge of the present caretaker regime to provide relief to the people and steps were being taken for the welfare of the people. 'Due to the reduction in the prices of petroleum products, many people are happy today", Murtaza Solangi remarked.

The government, he added had brought the benefit of petroleum products to the masses as the effects of reduction in the prices of petroleum products should be passed on to the

He said the caretaker dispensation in collaboration with the provincial governments and district administration was striving to ensure that transport fares were reduced after a cut in petroleum products prices. The minister said it was the commitment of the caretaker government to leave the country in a better state than it was handed



QUETTA: Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki being briefed about Provincial Cloud Strategy and Digital Balochistan Policy

Pakistan to dispatch humanitarian relief assistance to Gaza

ISLAMABAD (INP): In ment of Egypt and Pakistan view of the human tragedy unfolding in Gaza, Pakistan has decided to immediately dispatch humanitarian relief assistance to Gaza, to alleviate the suffering of the Palestinian brothers and sis-

In a statement, Foreign Office spokesperson said that in the wake of indiscriminate Israeli aggression and siege of the Gaza Strip, the already oppressed people of densely-populated Gaza were in urgent need of humanitarian assistance.

In this regard, Pakistan has decided to dispatch humanitarian relief assistance to Gaza in an effort to alleviate the suffering of the

'The Government of Pakistan is coordinating with the Palestinian Red Crescent Society, relevant UN agencies, the GovernMissions abroad to finalise modalities of delivery," the statement added.

Israel has declared war on Hamas after its fighters broke through the heavily fortified border and killed more than 1,400 people.

Israel has responded with relentless bombing, killing at least 2,670 people, the majority ordinary Palestinians, in the blockaded and impoverished Gaza

Strip.
Earlier in the day, Caretaker Prime Minister (PM) of Pakistan, Anwaarul Haq Kakar, called for an immediate ceasefire and lifting of the blockade in Gaza.

Taking to X (Formerly Twitter), the caretaker prime minister expressed Pakistan's complete solidarity with the oppressed people of Pales-



OUETTA: Director General Balochistan Levies Force Naseebullah Khan Kakar meeting with Caretaker Information Minister Jan Achakzai

Jan Achakzai praises China's vision for safeguarding regional peace & stability

QUETTA (APP): Care- and the cooperation betaker Information Minister Balochistan Jan Achakzai Monday said that the China Pakistan Economic Corridor is a way forward for timely completion of ongoing projects and highly praised China's vision for safeguarding regional peace and stability. "China's support to Pakistan has always been meaningfully aimed to support the country in overcoming the challenges' he said while talking to PTV news channel.

CPEC is a game changer for Pakistan and many projects under this mega project have already been completed while the work on the rest of the projects is underway, he added.

He said that the pace of work on the CPEC projects will be further expedited in the coming days, added.

tween the two countries is being enhanced in various areas including agriculture, special economic zones, information technology, and exploration of mineral re-

He also thanked the Chinese government for supporting Pakistan during the financial crisis, adding, CPEC project has brought "peace, prosperity and development opportunities not only to Pakistan but also to the entire region". Replying a question, he

said China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), is 'a win-win economic initiative which has opened vast opportunities for all investors around the world.

China had always proved to be a reliable partner and a trusted friend, he

JUI-F's Hafiz Hamdullah hints at deal with PTI chief

Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-Fazl now. (JUI-F) leader Hafiz Hamdullah incarcerated Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI).

Exclusively talking to private news channel. Hafiz Hamdullah said deals are possible through backdoor channels in Pakistan and a deal with the

ISLAMABAD (INP): it cannot be confirmed

Deals will continue to Monday take place in Pakistan till hinted at a deal with the the politicians continue giving preference to power politics on the masses, he

was quoted as saying. The JUI-F leader claimed that former first lady, Bushra Bibi tried her best for a 'deal' but no one was 'ready' to PTI chairman is also on the take guarantee of the PTI

British HC

calls on

PPP Chairman

KARACHI (APP): British High Commissioner (HC) to Pakistan Jane Marriot called on Chairman of Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto Zardari at Bilawal House on Monday.

Deputy High Commissioner of Britain Sara Mooney was also present on the occasion.

On the occasion, they discussed the promotion of bilateral relations and other issues of mutual interests.

Gwadar offroad Jeep & bike rally commences in Gwadar today **Independent Report**

QUETTA: The Gwadar offroad Jeep & bike rally is scheduled to begin today (Tuesday) in Gwadar. All the necessary ar-

rangements have been made for the mega offroad Jeep rally that would remain continued till October 22. According to the

spokesman of Gwadar Development Authority (GDA), the event is being organized by GDA in collaboration with the Gwadar Motor Sports. In all 204 racers including 10 foreigners and 10 females are featuring in the offroad Jeep rally for around 250 kilo meter track has been prepared. In addition to the offroad Jeep rally, two separate categories of motorbike race have been included in the rally.

Earthquake tremors in Swat, Mingora and surroundings

SWAT (Online): Earth quake tremors have been felt in Swat city of Khyber PakhtunKhwa (KPK) Mangora and surroundings. Fear and panic spread among citizens due to earthquake. Earlier on Sunday there was also an earthquake in Afghanistan and India. According to American geological survey, today (Sunday), earthquake came at 8:06 local time in Afghanistan. This is the 3rd

earthquake in last 9 days. While the tremors of earthquake felt in the city of New Delhi in India, intensity was recorded at 3. on rector scale.



QUETTA: The Pakistan Coast Guard (PCG) foiled major bid of smuggling of huge quantity of narcotics from sea-route in Jiwani on Monday.

quantity of narcotics was recovered from a speed boat which otherwise was to be smuggled abroad via sea.

The PCG patrolling team got a secret informa-

tion about the smuggling of narcotics from sea-route. On this tip, a patrolling boat of PCG chased a suspected speed boat in the sea of Jiewani. Instead of stopping it, the smugglers on board accelerated the speed of boat. However, later, they fled after leaving the speed boat at coast of Jiwani.

Later, during search, 833 kilogram of charas and 42 kilogram of ice was re-



HUB: Pakistan Coast Guard Officials are showing huge apprehended drugs worth millions of rupees to media persons during press conference held at PCG Gwadar Headquarters in Hub.



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Indonesia Adam M. Tugio called on Chairman Senate Muhammad Sadiq Sanjran at Parliament House.

Senate Chairman, Indonesian evoy unite for stronger bilateral relations

donesian Ambassador to Pakistan, Adam M. Tugio, met with Chairman Senate. Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani at the Parliament House and discussed matters of mutual interest, culminating in a commitment to strengthen bilateral ties, particularly in the areas of trade and invest-

Chairman Senate expressed his steadfast determination to deepen relations with Indonesia, emphasizing the historical support both nations have provided each other during challenging times. Acknowledging the intrinsic value of the Pakistan-Indonesia relationship, Chairman Senate highlighted the need to augment economic cooperation, focusing on trade, culture, and

During the meeting, the favorable investment climate in Pakistan was underscored, with Chairman Senbusinessmen to explore in- across various domains.

ISLAMABAD (APP): In- vestment opportunities Stressing the necessity to boost the trade volume between the two countries, he also emphasized the importance of reinforcing parliamentary ties and fostering economic diplomacy. The parties delved into

the intricate situation in Palestine, advocating a resolution aligned with UN resolutions. Chairman Senate urged world powers to exert pressure on Israel, emphasizing the need to halt the suffering of innocent Palestinians. In addressing the glochallenge Islamophobia, the Chairman Senate emphasized the significance of unity and consensus among Muslim na-

miration, Ambassador Adam Tugio described Indonesia's view of Pakistar as crucial. He commended Pakistan's efforts for regional peace and expressed Indonesia's keen interest in ate encouraging Indonesian advancing bilateral relations

tions. Expressing mutual ad-

Pakistan committed for economic uplift, climate resilience: Dr Shamshad

ISLAMABAD (INP): Minister for Finance Dr. Shamshad Akhtar has reinforced Pakistan's commitment to sustainable economic development and climate resilience.

She was speaking at "V20 Ministerial Dialogue X" conducted for the most climate-vulnerable

economies, on the side lines of annual meeting of World Bank and International Monetary Fund Moroccan city Marrakech.

The discussions focused on developing global strategies to avert the impending climate break



QUETTA: Chief Secretary Balochistan Shakeel Qadir Khan meeting with caretaker Chief Minister Mir Ali Mardan Khn Domki

Nawaz urges govt to provide humanitarian assistance to suffering Gazans

ISLAMABAD (INP): Terming Israel's aggression on Palestine as an attack on all humanity, former prime minister and PML-N supremo Nawaz Sharif has called upon the Government of Pakistan on Monday to raise its voice at every international forum in favour of the Palestinian cause and take immediate action to provide food, medicine and other humanitarian needs to the suffering people in Gaza.

social media platform X three times former premier Nawaz Sharif wrote: "Israeli aggression is not just an attack on Palestine, it is an attack on all humanity. The martyrdom of thousands of innocent citizens. including children and women, is a big question mark on the human conscience. The world must realize that without a permanent solution to the Palestinian issue, lasting people in Gaza. peace will always remain elusive.

PCG foils major bid of smuggling of huge quantity of narcotics

Independent Report

According to the spokesman of PCG, huge

covered

Caretaker CM addresses interim cabinet: We are determined to resolve public issues & establish good governance

Independent Report

OUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki has stated that the interim cabinet is determined to resolve general public problems and establish good governance by making necessary decisions on immediate and important nature matters.

He also said that we are making efforts to take the government affairs to the right direction with dedication and sincerity. It's our utmost endeav-

Kakar pays

tribute to

Pakistan's first

PM's vision

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minis-

Kakar on Monday paid

tribute to the country's

first Prime Minister, Nawabzada Liaquat Ali

Khan, who was assassinated in 1951 on this day.

"Liaquat Ali Khan was the symbol of sacri-

rice, simplicity, and decency who, along with Q u a i d - i - A z a m Muhammad Ali Jinnah

and others, led the struggle for Pakistan,"

he wrote on the social

He said, "Let's pay homage to his contribu-

Nawaz, Imran be

given opportunity

to contest election,

says Asad Umar

LAHORE (Online): PTI

leader Asad Umar has said

it is his personal desire that

election is held as soon as

possible and Nawaz Sharif

and chairman PTI should

be given opportunity to

contest election and their

decision be left at people.

ing to media men outside

Anti Terrorism Court

silent on the issue of Pales-

tine and care taker govern-

(ATC) of Lahore.

under delusiion.

He said this while talk-

He said if we remain

media platform, X.

tion and vision."

Anwaar-ul-Haq

our to dispose of all the matters on merit and that in light of the existing laws. This and similar other views were expressed by

the Chief Minister while presiding over the meeting of interim provincial cabipresent in the meeting were included the caretaker Ministers Prince Ahmed Ali Baloch, Mir Zubair Jamali, Mir Amanullah Kanrani, Amjad Rasheed, Jan Achakzai, Dr Qadir Bakhsh, Dr Amir Muhammad Khan Jogezai, Sheikh Mehmood ul Hassan Mandokhail, Sardar Ejaz Ahmed Jaffar, Mir Asifur Rehman and Advisors to Chief Minister Mir Danish Lango and Shania Khan.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister said that whatever time we have, we would work for the public service and cor-

recting government matters. Earlier, certain important matters were discussed and decisions made in the



OUETTA: Caretaker Provincial Ministers Prince Ahmed Ali Baloch and Nawabzada Mir Jamal Khan

Raisani holding a meeting Country heading towards economic stability:

Jan Achakzai hails reduction in prices of petrol, terms big relief for masses

Independent Report QUETTA: The caretaker Provincial Minister for Information, Jan Achakzai has welcomed the decision of caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar regarding reduction in prices of petrol and petroleum products and termed

In a message on social media on Monday, the Minister Information said reduction of Rs. 40 per liter in the price of petrol is really a big relief for the

ment will seek support from outside then they are He said that the federal If we want Kashmir and Pakistan are given their rights then we should raise

voice for every oppressed, he stressed. The price of petrol every cost due to curtailment of its price in interna-

tional market. He went on to say the cut in price of petrol will benefit only when fares and

price of other things stand slashed. PTI leader said permission for holding public meeting has not been given to PTI. All is happening

before Election Commis-

sion (EC). He indicated PTI application for public meeting is in the court. Justice says that permission to hold public meeting should be given to all.

Oureshi moves IHC for bail in cypher case

ISLAMABAD (APP) Former foreign minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi on Monday filed a postarrest bail petition before Islamabad High Court (IHC) in the cypher case, registered under Official Secrets Act.

It prayed the court to set aside the order of the trial court dated October 9 for the indictment of PTI Chairman. It further said that his jail trial was continuing without any notification in this regard.

The petitioner prayed the court to stop his jail trial and issue order for his open trial in the said case.

Saeed Ghani blames MQM for terrorism in Karachi KARACHI (INP): Paki-

stan People Party President Karachi region Saeed Ghani said on Monday that Muttahida Qaumi Movement was responsible for the surge of terrorism in He said MQM was in-

capable to solve the problems of the city while adding the local elections made the MQM aware of its fragile political situation.
The PPP Karachi re-

gion president mentioned that the MQM wanted to win elections in Karachi again by using rigging as a tool while adding it would fail to win in Karachi as the people have had enough of the fake promises by the

the Prime Minister on pub-

lic friendly decisions.

Minister is determined to resolve the public issues. He said that the not only Balochistan but also the whole country salutes

He also said that the country is now heading towards economic stability. it a big relief for the masses. He said that fruits of steps taken for the public interests are being seen.

Jan Achakzai urged the transporters and trader's community to provide relief to the masses as well.

He said that it is necessary for everyone to play government under leader- one's part in development and ship of caretaker Prime prosperity of the country.

Committee formed to probe issuance of 12,096 fake passports

Interior Ministry has constituted a high-level fivemember committee to probe the matter involving issuance of 12,096 fake passports from Pakistan.

According to a notification released by the Interior Ministry, the committee will be headed by the Passport and Immigration director general, and will draw the FIA deputy secretary, a representative each from the Ministry of Interior, FIA

and Nadra as its members. The probe body will investigate the matter of fake passports, including the issuance of passports and determining the complicity of tee will also submit proposals to prevent such issues in the future and will submit its report to the Interior Minister within 15 days.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Interior has formed a five-member committee to investigate issuance of fake Pakistani passports to over 12,000 Afghan nationals.

The director general of immigration and passport will head the committee, comprising representatives of the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) and National Database and Registration Authority (Nadra). Assistant director admin will work as secretary of the committee.



OUETTA: Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Balochistan Central Leader, Abdul Rahim Kakar along with others addresses to media persons during press conference held in Quetta press club.

SC sets aside LHC verdict in fuel price adjustment case

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Supreme Court (SC) on Monday set aside the decision of Lahore High Court (LHC) for declaring the fuel price adjustment in electricity bills as illegal and sent the matter to the NEPRA Appellate tribunal. The apex court ob-

served that the LHC verdict was not practicable as per the Constitution and law, allowing the power transmission companies to receive fuel price adjustment from today, which, however, would be subject to the approval of the NEPRA Appellate Tribu-

The court said that the consumer companies would file appeals against the fuel price adjustment with the Appellate Tribunal within 15 days, which would fix the appeals within 10 days for hearing and decide within the statutory period.

During the course of of Pakistan Qazi Faez Isa

asked whether there was any objection to the admissibility of the appeal, and if no one had any objection then give arguments on The appeals contained different pleas, he noted.

The petitioners' lawyer Salman Akram Raja said

that at the time of FPA's imposition in May 2022, the formation of NEPRA (National Electric Power Regulatory Authority) was unconstitutional. The CJP observed that

if NEPRA's formation were unconstitutional then the high court should have given a decision on it. The high court's single member bench had given the verdict beyond its scope, which could not be maintained, he said adding the LHC had given the decision which was even not prayed in the petitions

CJP Isa observed that it would be better to take proceedings, Chief Justice up the technical issues be-