

Ph: 2841470/2841473 REG: No. BC-116 B/ID-445 Vol: XXV No. 63, Rabi-us-Sani 08, 1445 AH Tuesday October 24, 2023 Pages 12, Price Rs. 15

### May 9 vandalism: SC declares civilians' trial in army courts as null and void

In a 4-1 majority ruling, court says trial of May 9 suspects will be conducted in ordinary courts

majority decision.

of their basic rights.

ISLAMABAD (Online): Supreme Court (SC) has nullified the trial of civilians in military courts.

Announcing the reserved judgment on Monday, the SC accepted the petition filed against the trial in military courts.

The SC said in short order the trial of those accused in May 9 incidents will be carried out in civilian courts

The court declared both the sub sections of section 2-1(D) of official secret act are contrary to constitution.

The court also declared clause 4 (59) of official secret act (4) 59.

The SC said in its order the cases against the accused be run in criminal courts keeping in view the nature of the offences of the accused.

Decision was an-nounced with 4-1 majority. Up the case for hearing Justice Ijaz ul Ahsan, Monday. justice Munib Akhtar, jus-At the inception of hearing the Attorney Gentice Mazahar Naqvi and Justice Ayesha Malik reeral (AG) while addressing jected the trial of civilians

the court said " I will talk in military courts with conabout making or not making constitutional amendsensus. Justice Yahya Afridi differed from the ment with reference to establishment of military ac-Justice Ijaz ul Ahsan counts. I will talk about this raised the most important point why the constitulegal and constitutional tional amendment is not

points remarking tell us needed in this case. Trial in those who were tried in military courts meet all the military courts in the past requirements of criminal were common citizens or courts. Now the trial has terrorists. Constitution started in military courts. provides guarantee to gen-Reasons will also be writeral citizens for protection ten in the decisions of military courts

A five members larger AG said he will give the bench of SC led by Justice brief of previous hearing. I Ijaz ul Ahsan and compriswill tell why the constituing Justice Munib Akhtar, tional amendment is not Justice Yahya Afridi, Jus-

Continued on page 2



TURBAT: Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki presiding over a meeting regarding law and order

Caretaker Information Minister Balochistan says: We respect SC's judgment on

Meeting 90-day deadline for



ISLAMABAD: The Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar addresses a Press Conference.

State's writ to be established at all cost: **Caretaker CM emphasizes on** getting to motives, elements & aides behind Turbat incident

Domki informed joint investigation of killing of labourers being done keenly; extraordinary headway in probe; directs concerned authorities to review and improve security plan

Independent Report QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki has categorically stated that the writ of state would be established at all cost, and those involved in assassination of the labourers in Turbat would be taken to task.

He emphasized that we have to uncover the motives behind the Turbat incident as well as to reach to the elements involved in it along with their facilitators.

The Chief Minister was chairing a meeting on law and order situation and review of the progress of investigations into labourers killing at the Commissioner office, Turbat on Mondav

Mr. Domki reached I urbat especially to review

Also present in the there's an extraordinary

The Commissioner and other concerned high ups briefed the Chief Minister about the Turbat incident

the steps taken for restoration of peace in Turbat. It was informed that the further so that no such in-

ing from other cities in Turbat and adjoining areas being done. In this regard, all the private and government construction companies

and contractors to take necessary measures.

### Chinese investment to prove stimulant for Pakistan's economic growth: PM

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Monday said that the Chinese investment expected under the newly signed 20 MoUs would prove to be a stimulant for Pakistan's economic growth.

of the policy.

Forum where he also held bilateral meetings with Chinese President Xi Jinping, Premier Li Qiang, and the leadership of the Communist Party of China. During the visit, the two sides signed 20 agreements

and MoUs, covering coop-eration on the BRI, infra-Addressing a press conference about his recent visit structure, mining, industry, to China, the prime minisgreen and low-carbon deter said 20 Memorandums velopment, health, space of Understanding (MoUs) cooperation, digital were signed and hoped that economy, development cothe upcoming government would ensure consistency operation and export of agricultural products to China

The prime minister, along with a high-level del-"The signing of 20 MoUs was very encouragegation visited China from ing. This is after a long time October 16-20, mainly to attend the Belt and Road

Continued onp page 2

### Education not an option but a necessity, says army chief

COAS felicitates NUST graduates, underscores their responsibility to figure out challenges faced by country

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Syed Asim Munir Monday felicitated the the National University of Sciences & Technology (NUST) graduates on successfully accomplishing their goal and



remarked that it was now incumbent upon them to figure out and analyse challenges facing the country and put their intellectual resourcefulness to find their solutions.

Chairman NUST Board of Governors, COAS, General Syed Asim Munir as chief guest at the inaugural 'Master Convocation Ceremony'' conferred medals upon

Provincial Minister for Home, Captain (Retd) Mir Muhammad Zubair Jamali, Commissioner Makran, Turbat was a very sorrow-Saeed Ahmed Umrani and ful, and it is a matter of great other concerned high ups. concern for all of us.

He said that we have to reach out and take to the motives as well as those involved in the incident besides their aides to task.

and law and order situation. He also briefed about and other law enforcement agencies to review the security plan and improve it

profiling of labourers comcident is occurred in future. labourers and keep updating it in future.

In addition to this, necessary deployment of the police and other LEAs It was further informed should be made and

meeting were the caretaker headway. Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister the killing of labourers in

### civilian trials in military courts, but it's disappointing too

Independent Report QUETTA: The caretaker Provincial Minister for Information, Jan Achakzai has stated that although we respect the judgment of 5member bench of the Supreme Court about trials of civilians in the military courts, but it is disappointıng.

In an official statement issued here on Monday, Jan Achakzai said that the past judgments of Supreme Court had validated the civilian trials, and the parliament had also formally approved the trials of civilians in the military courts.

The caretaker Minister Information said that this

**KARACHI PRESS CLUB** 

ence held at Karachi press club.

verdict of Supreme Court Chief Justice of Pakistan is contrary to four judgments given in the past. (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa on He said that thousands Monday observed that it was "not possible" to meet of civilians have been disposed under these military the 90-day deadline for laws and that Pakistan holding elections and la-Army Act.

mented the lack of preparations of the petitioners. The Minister Information mentioned that Su-The CJP passed the preme Court has given sev-eral judgments in the light observation while hearing the petitions seeking timely of these laws.

elections within 90 days of He said that the objecthe dissolution of the astive of petition is nothing semblies. The CJP is leadexcept political support. He also said that thouing a three-member bench

comprising himself, Justice sands of civilians perform Athar Minallah and Justice in the civilian military in-Amin-Ud-Din Khan on the stallations, and any of them matter. may commit any heinous The pleas were filed by Continued on page 2

the Supreme Court Bar Association, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) and others to ensure that polls in the country are held

within the stipulated time period At the outset of the hearing, CJP Isa asked the SCBA when they had filed the petition and questioned why it was not listed for a hearing at once.

He also asked the lawyer to give his arguments based on facts and lamented the petitioners' lack of preparation. When SCBA lawyer

Abid Zuberi started to speak about the 2017 census, the CJP observed that

the counsel was not speaking on facts. No respite to

ISLAMABAD (Online): Only 8 days left for all illegal foreigners to leave Pakistan. By October 31st, the evacuation of illegal persons

from Pakistan is inevitable. to illegal residents.

law enforcement agencies after October 31st.

necessary delay under different pretexts and through new applications. Therefore court should indict the sure evacuation of illegal persons after October 31st accused. Upon it court indicted the accused and sum-Actions will also be

moned the witnesses of the who will shelter them.

elections no longer possible: CJP labourers there. ISLAMABAD (INP):

the situation following the that the joint investigation incident of killing of of the Turbat incident is being done keenly and



### **Caretaker** CM visits Turbat

He directed the police

He also directed to

complete profiling of the

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki visited Turbat city

of Kech on Monday. The caretaker Provincial Minister for Home, (Retd) Captain Muhammad Zubair Jamali was also accompanied by him.

Kaleemullah Zaid meeting with Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar Upon his arrival in Turbat, he was accorded warm welcome by the We have to enable our Commissioner Makran, Saeed Ahmed Umrani, DIG children to cope with Police, Masroom Alam and Deputy Commissioner, Hussain Jan Baloch.

Soon after his arrival, speaking to different delthe Chief Minister moved egations who called on him to the Commissioner office here at the Governor House where he was presented salute to him by the He said that wastage of smartly turned out continany of a child is equal to gent of police.

loss of the whole nation. Later, he presided over an important meeting on law and order situation in wake of the Turbat firing incident that had claimed lives of five labourers there

> **Police rewriting** history with its blood:

Sarfraz Bugti ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister for Interior Sarfra Bugti

said that police martyrs are rewriting the history of Pakistan, with their blood. Addressing the 49th CTP passing out cer-emony of ASPs at the National Police Academy on Monday in Islamabad, Bugti said that Pakistan is

terrorism and the citizens, police and law enforcement agencies have made countless sacrifices to stop this wave of terrorism.

that we have sacrificed thousands of lives to ensure the survival and bright future of Pakistan," said the minster.

from IG Apart Islamabad Police, Commandant National Police Academy, foreign diplomats and families of passing out police officers participated in the ceremony.

distinction holders.

The annual convocation week of the National University of Sciences & Technology (NUST) commenced here at the University's main campus, an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release said.

The Bachelor's, Master's and PhD students received degrees during the course of convocation week. Degrees are being awarded to over 3500 graduates from all NUST Schools at the main campus in the 7 core disciplines.

Addressing the graduates, the COAS extended his heartiest felicitations to graduates, their parents and faculty.

He commended NUST for developing a conducive ecosystem for teaching and learning - one that nurtures brilliant minds, who are fully poised to serve the nation. The army chief emphasized that education was not an option but a necessity.

He highlighted that today was the beginning of a new chapter in students' lives, which heralded a significant change that demanded greater responsibility.

He emphasized that this newfound responsibility should manifest in their personality and choices in the iournev ahead.

Earlier upon arrival, the COAS was received by Rector NUST.



SLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Interior Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti presenting sword of honour to Nayab Ramzan ASP during the passing out ceremony of ASPS of 49th STP.

### 'Election delayed is election denied': Bilawal

ISLAMABAD (INP): Derestoration of the judiciary, spite the Supreme Court's he said it was a seminal indismissal of the possibility cident in the history of of holding the general elec-Pakistan's judiciary that tions in the 90-day period had a profound impact on defined by the Constituthe relations between the tion, Pakistan Peoples judiciary and parliament. Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari reiterated his demand for the lawyer and member of the polls at the earliest, saying movement for the restorathat delaying the election is

tion of the former chief justo deny them. tice of Pakistan (CJP) "The elections delayed Iftikhar Muhammad are election denied," Chaudhry, as saying that Bilawal said while address-"the 2009 restoration of the ing the celebration of the judiciary as a result of pubgolden jubilee of the Conlic pressure had resulted in stitution of Pakistan in an judges prone to arrogance event organised by the Suand a bar prone to viopreme Court Bar Associalence" tion (SCBA) on Monday.

The former minister further said that in the Bilawal, the former for-2013 general election, the eign minister, once again sought the election schedjudiciary under Chaudhry ule and provision of a "level became a partisan actor playing field" for all the with clear favourites in the polls, and the same happened in the 2018 elec-

Without naming him,

Bilawal quoted a leading

political parties. Recalling the lawyers' movement of 2009 for the tions

RAWALPINDI (Online): Umair Niazi, Khalid Yousif Judge Abul Hasnat of Specounsels for chairman PTI cial Court established under Official secret act has indicted PTI chairman Imran Khan and his co-acpresent in the court. cused former foreign minister Shah Mehmood

not be framed.

KARACHI: Caretaker Sindh Interior Minister,

Brigadier(R) Haris Nawaz along with Balochistan

Caretaker Minister for Information, Jan Achakzai

Qureshi in cipher case. Chairman PTI and Shah Mehmood Qureshi signed the documents related to indictment.

However the both have pleaded not guilty and negated the charges leveled against them.

The court issued summons to the witnesses for regular trial of the case besides adjourning the hearing of the case till October 27 to record the evidences.

Both the accused, Shah Khawar advocate counsel for FIA, other state counsels, Usman Riaz Gul, case on next hearing

and Taimore Malik and Raja Oamar counsels for Shah Mehmood Qureshi were The counsels for the accused while opposing the indictment once again during the hearing of the case

took the plea there is no substance in the allegations. Therefore, indictment can-

Counsel for FIA took the stance the court had fixed hearing today for indictment but the lawyers of the accused are causing un-

addresses to media persons during press confer-PTI chairman, Qureshi indicted in cipher case

foreigners after final deadline

A final decision has been taken not to provide

even one more day's respite Illegal residents will not

be given any concession by

Security agencies have announced that actions will be taken in all areas where illegal foreigners live to en-

taken against those persons

sary for us to enable them He regretfully pointed to cope with the challenges out that majority of parents of future instead of letting lack the ability of grooming them live in the past. of the children according to He urged the parents to requirements of the modern seek guidance from new era because of the social backwardness. If fewer

**QUETTA: A delegation led by Director Colleges** 

Governor Balochistan emphasizes:

future challenges

on Monday.

books for education and grooming of their children. people want to do some-He said while the dething for the society in this velopment is continued for regard, then the economic

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Malik Abdul

Wali Khan Kakar has em-

phasized that we want to

prepare our children for fu-

ture, therefore, it is neces-

development of science and conditions and financial technology and it is not gohardships become hurdles ing to stop for us. in their way, the Governor On one hand, we have maintained. He said it is also

to keep abreast the parents a sorrowful reality that the with new needs and emergparents have left their reing circumstances, while on sponsibilities at the teachthe other hand, we have to ers and educational instituprovide them necessary fations giving up their recilities besides putting the sponsibilities, and at same education on modern lines time, teachers consider in view of the fast development of the science and techsible according to the curnology, adding he stressed.

The Governor was out.

ISLAMABAD: Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari addresses during the ceremony regarding the completion of 50 years of the Constitution of Pakistan under the Supreme Court Bar Association of Pakistan held in Islamabad.

"We must never forget

themselves to be responricula, he regretfully pointed facing serious threats like Independent Quetta

Tuesday October 24, 2023

## **Miscellaneous**

## **Afghanistan shock Pakistan** by eight wickets in World Cup

Sports Desk CHENNAI: Afghanistan defeated Pakistan by eight wickets to win their second match of the World Cup 2023 at MA Chidambaram Stadium, Chennai.

Afghanistan chased down the target of 283 runs in 49th over with eight wickets in hand. Afghanistan wrote the history as they defeated Pakistan for the first time in ODI. Afghanistan rode on the back of impressive innings from İbrahim Zadran (87), Rahmat Shah (77 not out), Rahmanullah Gurbaz (65) and skipper Hashmatullah Shahidi (48 not out).

Earlier, Afghanistan also stunned defending champions England in the tournament. With this defeat, Pakistan now have two wins and three losses from their five group games.

Earlier, Pakistan set 283 runs target for Afghanistan to win the important match of the World Cup.

Pakistan won the toss and elected to bat first. Captain Babar Azam remained

the top scorer with 74 runs. Abdullah Shafique made 56 runs while Iftikhar Ahmed scored quick 40 runs.

Shadab Khan replaced Mohammad Nawaz, who was said to be suffering from

fever Pre-match coverage

A bright start for Pakistan has been dulled by back-to-back losses but in Hambantota as openers they now have an opportu-Rahmanullah Gurbaz and nity to reignite their semi-Ibrahim Zadran put Pakifinal hopes when they are stan to the sword and compiled 157 for the first going to meet familiar foes Afghanistan. vicket. An assured 91 from Pakistan made light Imam-ul-Haq steered Paki-

work of Netherlands and Sri Lanka for a strong start to was only sealed with one their ICC Men's Cricket wicket and one ball remain-World Cup 2023 campaign but have since fallen short in tougher tests against India and Australia.

back-to-back with a quickfire 80 against England that set up losses leave Pakistan with little margin for error as they chase the six victories likely needed to secure passage to

the knockout stage of the Cricket World Cup. Afghanistan come at the right time for a Pakistan outhow crucial he will be through the rest of the tour fit needing to find form nament to Pakistan hopes o

progressing to the semi-fiished 7-0 record in their previous ODI clashes sure to nals. The 23-year-old overboost their confidence. Pakistan have brushed came a relatively slow start aside Afghanistan in almost to the Cricket World Cup,

and reportedly illness all of those matches, though were pushed all the way on the eve of the clash when the teams met in a 50with Australia, but stepped over encounter just two up to take 5/54 even with months ago. Afghanistan amassed 300 in that match Pakistan on the ropes after many early blows.

Those figures pushed Afridi to nine scalps for the tournament to be among the leading wicket-takers even with some room left for improvement. The left-arm quick can strike fear in batstan toward victory but it ters with his express pace and will face a gripping battle with the Afghanistan openers that tend to Gurbaz made 151 in have a huge say on their

that close contest and has team's hopes. since starred on the big stage 76-year ordeal – Kashmiris to observe

Afghanistan's rousing victory at the Cricket World Shaheen Afridi led the resistance against a rampant Australia outfit to reveal

quickly, with an unblem-

The

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar chairs a meeting regarding Pakistan International Airlines.

### Shah urges world to prevent India from robbing Kashmiris of their land, identity

ISLAMABAD (APP): Senior APHC leader and Chairman of Jammu and Kashmir Democratic Freedom Party (DFP) Shabbir Ahmed Shah has sought intervention from the world community to prevent the robbing of the people of

deprive natives of their resources, jobs, identity, cul-ture, land and above all the right of self-determination guaranteed to them by no less than the United Nations itself.

Terming these laws as a serious violation of the occupied Jammu and Kash- UN resolutions, Shah urged against Marriyum Aurangzeb mir of their land, identity the influential world gov-

Marriyum files acquittal plea by All Parties Hurriyat in provocative Conference (APHC), Resisspeech case tance Youth Forum Jammu LAHORE (Online): Anti Terrorism Court (ATC) has and Kashmir, Jammu and Kashmir

E FINISH

adjourned till November 11 hearing of PML-N information secretary Marriyum Aurangzeb petition seeking dismissal of provocative speech case against her. Admn Judge Abher Gul of ATC took up for hearing

**October 27 as Black Day** determination as promised by the international com-ISLAMABAD (APP): Kashmiris and their supporters the world over and munity.

on both sides of the Line of People have been ap-Control (LoC) will observe pealed to become a wall October 27 as black day against the Indian BJP-RSS the day when Indian forces government's Hindutva illegally landed in Srinagar agenda in Kashmir by markin 1947, marking a chapter ing October 27 as Black of occupation, subjugation and oppression for the innocent people. Black Day is observed

every year to protest against the Indian illegal occupation and remind the world community of its commitments regarding the implementation of United Nations Security Council (UNSC) resolutions that advocate Kashmiris' right to plebiscite.

In Srinagar, posters have appeared in different localities wherein people have been asked to observe October 27 (Friday), as Black Day, Kashmir Media Service (KMS) reported. still unresolved despite The posters displayed agreed resolutions of

walls, buildings and electric

polls said that the

Kashmiris would continue

their struggle till they achieve their right to self-

CWADA

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HUB: Motorists are on the way during the Gwadar Off-Road Rally organized

Chinese investment to prove stimulant...

During the visit, the

prime minister also met

presidents of Russia, Sri

Lanka and Kenya. In their

meeting, the Kenyan presi-

dent told him that a lot of

investigation had been done

into the killing of Pakistani

The prime minister

NSC. He was of the view that India has let loose reign of terror in occupied Kashmir Warseen-eto suppress the Kashmiris Shohda, Jammu and Kashvoice and punish them for mir Political Resistance demanding right to self-de-Movement, Jammu Kashtermination, while on Aumir Democratic Movegust 05, 2019 it revoked ment, Jammu Kashmir Stuspecial status of Kashmir to pave for settler colonidents Forum and others have described the 27th zation. October 1947 as the dark-

"The criminal silence of est chapter in the history world over the human rights of Jammu and Kashmir. violation, unilateral decision



LANDIKOTAL: Long queues of loaded trucks have been waiting for clearance to cross the Torkham border to move into Afghanistan, at Khyber Pass in Landikotal.

### DG NAB Balochistan says Engaging students in healthy sports activities can play an important role in fostering a corruption-free society

emony as special guests.

Independent Report QUETTA: NAB

NAB (Balochistan) in collaboration with Sports Depart-ment, Govt of Balochistan organized multiple Inter-University Sports Tournaments. These tournaments commenced from 19th till 22nd October, 2023.The main objective behind organizing these sports tournaments was to engage young masses in these healthy activities to make them ambassadors of integrity and honesty to stand against corruption and corrupt practices.

Twitter,

These games consisted upon Cricket, Hockey, Badminton, Football, Futsal and Table Tennis. Female students also played separate matches like Futsal, Badminton, Cricket and Table Tennis. It is worth mentioning here that students from far-flung areas of Balochistan like Turbat, Khuzdar, Sibi, Loralai and Lasbella not only actively participated in these games but scored some top rankings.

Closing ceremony and prize distribution was held on 23rd of October, 2023 at Badminton Court Ayub Stadium, Quetta. Chief Guest of event was the Di-rector General NAB (B) als to channel their energy such healthy activities. It Mr. Zafar Iqbal Khan positively, promoting whereas Secretary Sports The posters pasted on of August 05, 2019 and and Youth Affairs departnon-implementation of ment Mr. Muhammad Ishaq UN resolutions has been Jamali also accompanied encouraging Indian to him as host of the cercontinue with its brutal emony. Mr. Muhammad Rashad Director A&P policies," Gilani remarked

NAB (B), DG Sports Decorruption and encourages merit, thereby contributing partment and Mr. Khuram Shehzad Deputy Director NAB (B) also witnessed to the overall well-being of the society. He applauded the event alongwith particito the performances of parpating players, representaticipating players, their fotives of the universities and cal persons and other allied notables from sports commembers in these competimunity. Junaid Ahmed Shah tions and urged them to and Rajab Ali Hazara, Naapply the NAB's awaretional Team football playness message in their prac-tical lives i.e. "Our Faith, ers also attended the cer-Corruption Free Pakistan"

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Director General NAB (B) Mr. Zafar Iqbal Khan in his remarks said that engaging students in healthy sports activities can play an important role in fostering a corruption-free society. Through sports, individuals develop values such as fair play, teamwork, and perseverance, which are essential in cultivating integrity and ethics. Sports pro-

Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs department Muhammad Ishaq Jamali also appreciated the efforts of Sports Department and NAB (Balochistan) for providing the platform to the students for the healthy environment through these sports tournaments. He assured that Sports Department will ensure the cooperation to NAB was also urged by the Sec-

Day, adding India was changing education curriculum and dismissing Muslim employees to advance its Hindutva agenda in IIOJK. Social media platforms including Twitter Facebook and WhatsApp are also being utilized to record voices against the illegal occupation and for Kashmiris' right to self-de-

termination. Meanwhile, Senior All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC) leader Mushtaq Hussain Gilani while talking to APP said it was very unfortunate that Kashmir dispute was

and integrity by the Modiled Indian regime.

According to Kashmir Media Service, in his message from New Delhi's Tihar jail, the incarcerated leader mentioned singing a devotional Hindu hymn in Srinagar and renaming schools, colleges, roads and other landmarks having Muslim-rooted names as part of New Delhi's latest bid to impose Hindutva ideology in the Muslim majority territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

Referring to settler-colonialism policies of the Indian state, he said, "Enactment of a series of anti-Kashmiri laws such as the rebranding of demographics and redrawing of Jammu and Kashmir's electoral map has instilled a fear of insecurity amongst the Kashmiris'

These laws, he said, were meant to change the region's demography and to

UoT's cricket squad claims title in All Balochistan Inter-University Sports Festival 2023 Independent Report

TURBAT: The University of Turbat's Cricket Team emerged as champion in the T20 Cricket Tournament in the All Balochistan Inter-University Sports Festival 2023. The team UoT secured the title by defeating Mir Chakar Khan Rind University (MCKRU) Šibi's cricket

team by 11 runs in the final match at Ayub Stadium Quetta. The team MCKRU won the toss and opted to field first. The team UoT set a target of 151 with a loss of 4 wickets, thanks to excellent batting by Salman Naik's 75 and Bahad Naeem's 26 runs.

The team UoT restricted MCKRU to 139 with 8 wickets down in 20 overs, with Sohail Shoaib taking 3 wickets, and Beezan and A. Rehman securing 2 wickets each. Prof. Dr. Jan Muhammad, Vice Chancellor of UoT, Mazhar Gichki, In-charge of the UoT's Sports Directorate, faculty members, and administrative staff extended their congratulations to Team UoT for clinching the cricket cham pionship

This Sports Festival was organized by the Sports and Youth Affairs Department, Government of Balochistan, and National Accountability Bureau (NAB) Balochistan in the context of raising awareness against corruption in the society.

and others Monday. PML-N ernments to take effective leader filed acquittal plea. The notice of India's settler copetitioner took the plea she lonialism drive intended to has no role regarding talks replace the indigenous in TV program. I am not population with a new soresponsible for talks in TV ciety of settlers in occupied program. Kashmir.

Referring to the 5th August 2019 move by the Indian government, the APHC leader said, "The move was a deep-rooted conspiracy against Kashmiris to erase their political, cultural and national identity". he maintained that the unilateral move has pushed the region into a quagmire of uncertainty.

Expressing deep con-cern over the lack of freedom of the press and expression in IIOJK, he said. 'Coercion, intimidation and harassment of political activists, journalists, rights groups and civil society activists, has been a hallmark

by Gwadar Development Authority and Balochistan Motor Sports, held at of the Modi government's Gwadar near Hub. Kashmir policy'

> Continued from page 1 that the MoUs in such a huge number were signed with China... We have brought along three guiding principles of coordination, cooperation and consultation with us," he remarked. China, the region as well as

He said the MoUs the whole world. He said the land, sea and aerial conwere yet in the planning nectivity under the Belt and stage and the assessment of the potential, market needs Road Initiative would not only bring the regions closer and impact on exports but also create opportuniwould precede their executies for the people. tion

He said a designated cell at the Prime Minister's Office would carry out the follow-up of the bilateral and other engagements with China to pave the way for their implementation. Mentioning his interaction with the Chinese busi-

news anchor Arshad Sharif and assured him of workness leaders, he said under ing in coordination with the the second phase of CPEC (China-Pakistan Economic Pakistani authorities. Corridor), the Chinese private business entities would pointed out the minimal

linkage between the Pakiinvest in Pakistan's agriculstani and Chinese media, ture, mining and other secdespite the fact that there tors. existed immense opportu-He told the newsmen nities for both private and that Pakistani leadership's state-run media for story-"constructive" engagement telling, documentaries and with Chinese counterparts was well received by the other content.

think tanks.

Coming to the issue of Chinese people, media and Gaza, Prime Minister Kakar told the media that Emphasizing the consistency of relations with humanitarian aid had landed China, he expressed the in Egypt for its onward dispersal to the suffering Palhope that the upcoming estinian people. However, government would carry the foremost priority was forward the momentum as the cessation of hostilities any deviation from the

commitments might put the for which Pakistan was making collaborative efforts state's dignity at stake. as the country had also co-He said the address by Chinese President Xi hosted an OIC (Organisation of Islamic Jinping at the Forum was Cooperation) ministerial in fact an answer to all the meeting in Jeddah on the challenges confronting

issue To a question about the elections, he said the final date for voting would be announced soon and that the caretaker government was trying its utmost to facili tate the electoral process.

He said no major po litical party was out of the political process unless anyone was legally barred. About the return of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz Quaid Nawaz Sharif, Prime Minister

Kakar said that he was a political reality and his adversaries should face him in politics.

About the economic situation, he said for the first time in the country' history, the dollar rate had meaningfully reduced and that he would

hold a follow-up meeting with provincial chief secretaries later in the day to ensure the trickle-down

effect on the common man in form of commodities prices and transport fares To another query, the prime minister said the existing business model of print media was flawed and would collapse.

We respect... Continued from page 1 crime would no more be trialled in the military

court. Jan Achakzai noted that he wants to mention that the Supreme Court rather international Court of Justice also ac-cept the same declaring it due process. Moreover, this ver-

dict of Supreme Court is against its past judg-ments I.e., 2014, 2015 and case, till October 24. 2017, Achakzai maintained.

He said that Barrister Aitezaz Ahsan had filed the petition only to provide political relief so as to freed the accused involved in the heinous crimes

He said that the incidents of 9th May should have been viewed from the national security point of view instead of political one.

#### SC declares...

moned. Continued from page 1 needed for the present trial. I will talk on article 175, I that accused Khadija Shah will read paragraph of was nominated in only Liaqat case. Attack on protwo cases related to Mayhibited buildings and areas can also go to military courts. The trial of May 9 May-9 case now. accused will be conducted replied that the police reon pattern of criminal cently arrested three accourts. Appeals will be allowed to be made in high cused, in connection with court and then Supreme Court

Justice Ijaz Ul Ahsan inquired are you saying constitutional amendment was must for putting ter-

rorists to trial and was not necessary for general citizens. I am trying to understand your arguments.

AG said there is no need of amendment if the accused belong to armed forces.

The decision of case was reserved on completion of arguments AG.

Later the SC while announcing the judgment annulled the trial of civilians in military courts ordered that the trial of those accused in May, 9 and 10 tragedv be conducted in Anti Terrorism courts.

retary that such inter uniphysical and mental health while diverting them from unethical practices. By encouraging participation in tober with the collaboration sports, communities can of NAB to play role in renurture a sense of communal harmony and promote to promote healthy activia culture that discourages ties.

versity tournament will be arranged every year in Ocduction of corruption and

### LHC seeks replies from police authorities on Khadija Shah's contempt plea

LAHORE (APP): The court adjourned further Lahore High Court (LHC) proceedings till October 24 on Monday adjourned hearand sought replies from the ing of a contempt petition, police authorities on the filed by fashion designer contempt petition. Khadija Shah against police

Earlier, during the first high ups over arresting her round of proceedings, the in another May-9 violence court had summoned the CCPO Lahore after hear-

The court sought reing arguments of the plies from police authoripetitioner's counsel. The counsel had submitted that ties to the contempt petition on the next date of hearthe police through a report had informed the court

The single bench comthat Khadija Shah was prising Justice Ali Baqar named only in two cases Najafi heard the contempt but after the LHC division petition filed by the fashbench granted bail to her in the cases, the police arion designer. The Capital City Porested Khadija Shah in lice Officer (CCPO) Lahore Bilal Siddique third case on charges of

abetting in connection with Kamyana and joint inves-Rahat Bakery arson mattigation team head, DIG ter. He pleaded with the Investigations Imran court to initiate contempt Kishwar, appeared before proceedings against police high ups over arrest of the court on being sum-Khadija Shah.

The court observed It is pertinent to menthat the police had reported tion here that an LHC division bench had granted post-arrest bail to Khadija Shah in cases of attacks on 9 violence but why she had Jinnah House and Askari been arrested in another Tower, a few days ago.

Meanwhile, an anti-To which, the CCPO terrorism court (ATC) turned down request for physical remand of Khadija Shah in Rahat Bakery arson case and sent her to jail on 4-day judicial remand. ATC Judge Abher Gul Khan conducted the proceedings, wherein police produced the accused Khadija Shah and requested for physical re-

Subsequently, the mand.



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آخری موقع برائے تصدیق سیکنیکل اور مان سیکنیکل ملا زمین



### Daily Aoice of Masse Independent

### Breast cancer awareness message be disseminated from door to door to reduce mortality rate: President

country.

and economy

cation

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Dr Arif Alvi on Monday called for disseminating the awareness message about breast cancer from door to door across the country for early detection of the disease and reducing the mortality rate.

He said Pakistan had successfully handled the polio disease and that experience also helped the government to successfully

cope with COVID-19. Now the breast cancer awareness campaign was being run very effectively. Addressing a breast

caner awareness programme at the Aiwane-Sar, the president said awareness about other key health issues, including mental health, stunting, and women health should also be raised along with the breast cancer awareness campaign as it was very important to keep women healthy for a healthy nation.

Highlighting the importance of family system, President Alvi said that a

woman was the key member of a family that must be kept healthy, financially empowered, and also safe from any kind of harassment in the society He said empowering

the women economically disease. was linked to the overall economic growth of the He said 24% of the

country's population was suffering from mental disdeath rate. Appreciating the role of media in success of the ease that was due to a number of reasons, including diseases, and financial issues. President Alvi also stressed the need to control

population by increasing the access of the people to long term contraceptive products as it was key to development of the country both in terms of health Citing China's ex-

ample, the president said cussed at every level. the country's rapid development was due to its spe-

cial focus on health and edu-He maintained that due to lack of resources. prevention should be fo-

cused to avoid the chronic disease at a later stage. First Lady Begum Samina Alvi urged the women to learn how to make self-detection to ensure timely diagnose of the

Women should make habit of self-examination for five months every month to minimize the ISLAMABAD: President Dr. Arif Alvi addressing a Breast Cancer Aware-

ness program, at Aiwan-e-Sadr. campaign, the First Lady **IIUI holds int'l conference to** said the media should continue its role in raising awareness about the disease. She said she initiated

the breast cancer awareness campaign five years ago and now the topic that was considered a matter of discomfort and taboo to discuss, was now being dis-

Talk, More Action: Chang-Expressing pleasure over increasing awareness about the disease, she hoped that the campaign would help further increas-

**Delay in** 

elections can

aggravate

country's

problems,

says Senator

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Senator Kamran Murtaza

on Monday said that the

delay in elections could ag-

gravate the problems of the

of Pakistan (ECP), should

announce the exact date for

general elections without

further delay, he said while

talking to a private televi

sion channel. There is no

reason to postpone general

elections after passing the

90-day constitutional pe-

riod, he said. The caretaker

government is responsible

for making arrangements

for free and fair elections

Call to resolve

Palestine,

Dr.

Sardar

Tahir

ences.

across the country.

Election Commission

people of this country.

ing the message to every door across the country.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Interior Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti reviewing parade during the passing out ceremony of ASPS of 49th STP at National Police Academy.

courts, aiming to ensure the

arrest of criminals involved

in heinous crimes such as

murder and other serious

special drive, the Islamabad

Capital Police teams en-

sured the fulfillment of all

legal requirements, main-

taining transparency and

efficiency in the processing

of cases reported during the

current year, while also suc-

cessfully completing the

challans of 986 pending

Nasir Khan commended the

performance of Islamabad

Capital Police teams, em-

ICCPO Dr. Akbar

cases from 2018 to 2022.

During the 10-day

### 979 cases challan in relevant courts during the special campaign

Independent Report rected SSP Operations and ISLAMABAD: Following the special directions of completion of pending

offenses

nizations such as ILFABET shedding light on the path and HRDN Pakistan, and to advancing women's acainternational keynote demic leadership. Academic luminaries speakers. gathered for the opening The conference feaceremony of the interna- tured international keynote Analysts call upon world to

### help stop Israeli aggression against innocent Palestinians

relations expert Dr. Muhammad Khan said that to stop Israel from its genocide of Palestinians. He the situation in the Middle opined that the basic objec-East was very unfortunate tive of Israel was to expel and tragic. He lamented Palestinians from Gaza and tive of Israel was to expel that no effort was being other pockets and occupy made from any quarters to the whole area for good.

insidious ways of silencing in academia and the need to empower women to overcome unjust treatment. **IRSA** releases 90,800 cusecs

mark success advance

women's academic leadership

tional conference, setting

the tone for what would be

Rector of IIUI, emphasized

inclusivity and collabora-

tive discussions, which

were the cornerstone of the

yond mere paper presenta-

tions, incorporating voices

from diverse backgrounds,

including academics, orga-

Dr. Samina Malik, the

importance of

The event went be-

a transformative event.

the

conference

ISLAMABAD (APP): Indus River System Au-thority (IRSA) on Monday released 90,800 cusecs water from various rim sta-tions with inflow of 67,400 alarming situation, more and more Palestinians were dycusecs

According to the data released by IRSA, the wa-ter level in River Indus at Tarbela Dam was 1528.76 feet and was 130.76 feet higher than its dead level of 1,398 feet. The water inflow and outflow in the dam was recorded as 33,100 cusecs and 35,000

speakers who brought in-valuable insights to the

Newcastle's Professor Penny Jane Burke, Direc-

tor of the Centre of Excel-

lence for Equity in Higher

Education and the Global Innovation Chair of Equity,

took the stage. Her address resonated

with the praxis of justice in

academic spaces. Professor

Sara Aiston, Professor in

Public Policy at Teesside

University, uncovered the

water

The University of

table.

cusecs respectively. The water level in River Jhelum at Mangla Dam was 1208.55 feet, which was 158.55 feet higher than its dead level of 1,050 feet. The inflow and Muste

outflow of water was re-

corded 8,500 cusecs and

30,000 cusecs respectively.

AC seals LPG

cylinder outlet,

arrests owner

ISLAMABAD (APP): In a

crackdown against illegal

LPG cylinder decanting and

overpricing, Assistant Com-missioner Rural Zukhruf

Fida Malik Monday sealed a shop and arrested the

owner on directions of Deputy Commissioner,

Irfan Nawaz Memon. The

assistant commissioner in-

spected various areas of the Sub-Division and found the

shop in violation of govern-

ment rates and safety regu-

lations. He issued a stern

## **USAID** organizes strategic planning dialogue for VCs of 16 Pak universities

ISLAMABAD (APP): capacities for strategic plan-The United States Agency for International Development (USAID), through its Higher Education System Strengthening Activity, organized a strategic planning dialogue for Vice Chancellors of 16 Pakistani univer-

'APITAL NEWS

ning. The opening session of this 2-day event was chaired by Ms. Maura O'Brien, Deputy Mission Director USAID/Pakistan, alongside Dr. Michael Barber, University of Utah, and Dr. Aslam Chaudhry, Chief

During the event, Vice

Chancellors will activate

planning teams on their

campuses to complete

USAID's Deputy Mission

Speaking at the event,

strategic planning.

Page

03

Leaders from the pubof Party HESSA. lic sector universities gathered to share the strategic Chancellors began develplans that each university oping their university is developing. strategic plans. Over the During the dialogue, next few weeks, Vice

university leaders reflected on best practices in academia, research, and governance to kickstart their institution-specific strategic planning. The Higher Education

Director Maura O'Brien System Strengthening Acsaid, "What makes the tivity (HESSA), imple-Higher Education System mented by the University Strengthening Activity of Utah, brings together an uniquely powerful is that extensive international netit brings together both Pawork of experienced college kistani and American uniand university planners to versities to learn from each support its partner univerother, exchange ideas, and sities in strengthening their think strategically to solve institutional and technical shared challenges.



ISLAMABAD: Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari being briefed by Abid Zuberi, President of Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) about the foundation stone and inauguration plaques of the Supreme Court building, in Islamabad.

### Six healthcare establishments sealed over malpractices

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Islamabad Healthcare the services of six Healthcare Establishments Regulatory Authority (IHRA) has sealed six (HCEs) over different medi-

Healthcare Establishments (HCEs) in different areas of Islamabad Capital Territory Hello Esthetics Hair (ICT) IHRA inspection teams carried out inspecthology Lab (Inside Mishal tions of 88 Healthcare Es-

Clinic), Dr. Neelam Ayub-Skin Aesthetics and Laser tablishments in different Clinic, Ayaz Hope Clinic, Tooth Care Dental Clinic, areas of ICT during the past Mustel Center, City Medical Center, Ahmed Labs and Blood Bank, Habib Medical Center, Dua Rehabilitation Center, Axis Dental Clinic and dental lab were sealed due to malpractices like not getting registration with IHRA, unhygienic conditions and absence of proper waste management system,

keeping expired kits and

zen Club in F-9 Park.

supporters.

film screenings.

Civic Care Hospital were

ISLAMABAD (APP): stop the aggression of Is-Analysts have called upon rael. He said that in this the international community to pressure Israel to stop its aggression against innocent Palestinians in Gaza. They said that Israel had been pursuing a policy of apartheid against Palestinians for decades. Taking part in Radio Pakistan's current affairs programme international

ISLAMABAD (APP):

The International Islamic

University Islamabad

(IIUI) has hosted the "Less

ing the Course of Women's

Academic Leadership" in-

three-day event, held in col-

laboration with the Higher

Education Commission

(HEC) Pakistan, brought

together a diverse assembly

of academic luminaries,

This transformative

ternational conference.

ing in Israeli bomb strikes. He said that Israel was enjoying the support of Western countries and was carrying out its lethal campaign against innocent Palestinians with impunity. Dr Muhammad Khan said the United Nations has failed

Islamabad Capital City Po- cases and the presentation lice Officer (ICCPO) Dr of challans in relevant Akbar Nasir Khan, the Islamabad Capital Police undertakes a 10-day special drive under the supervision of CPO Operations to streamline the pending cases, complete challans, and apprehend proclaimed offenders and court absconders, a public relations officer said. He said that, during the campaign, a total of 979 cases were challaned in relevant courts and 113 accused, including proclaimed offenders and 66 court absconders, were apprehended. Additionally, in the period from 2018 to 2022, 986 pending cases were successfully prosecuted.

The Capital Police phasizing the continuation Officer Operations division Shakir Hussain Dawar di-

**ISLAMABAD:** Labourers busy in installing new pedestrian bridge at IJP Road.

### Photo exhibition to highlight Kashmir's plight inaugurated at Pakistan embassy in Brussels

dian subjugation.

its forces, forcibly occu-

and indicated a series of

unlawful brutalities, kill-

ings and atrocities against

unabated till today

ISLAMABAD (APP): A highlight the unending mis-'Kashmir Black Day' photo eries of the Kashmiris, a press release said. tions being committed by India, she called upon the international community crimes against humanity in the Illegally Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) was inaugurated at the Embassy of Pakistan

Belgium on Monday. Ambassador of Pakistan to Belgium, Luxembourg, and the EU, Amna Baloch inaugurated the event.

The photo exhibition that will continue for one week, will display Indian atrocities and the plight of the people of Kashmir.

The heart-rending depictions of gross human rights violations in IIOJK as documented and widely reported by the UN Offices, INGOs, volunteers and international media.

India, she called upon the international community Ambassador Amna to intervene and stop Baloch, while speaking at

bloodshed of the voiceless and defenceless people of the occasion, paid homage to the Kashmiri victims Kashmir. and lauded their unbreak-The ambassador furable resolve for their right ther said that such events to self-determination and underscored the need to complete freedom from In-

hold India accountable for its crimes against human-Stressing upon the importance of October 27, She said that the exhibition would help visithe ambassador said that, on this day India through

tors to understand the gravity of human rights pied Jammu and Kashmir abuses committed by Indian occupation forces, spanning over many decades.

the innocent people of IIOJK, which continues For its part, Pakistan would continue to raise its voice for the Kashmiris on Speaking on the egreall platforms, the ambassagious human rights violador added

**ISLAMABAD:** Caretaker Federal Minister for communications, Railways and Maritime Affairs, Shahid Ashraf Tarar hosts French Ambassador H.E. Nicolas Galey, Investment opportunities and other matters of mutual interest discussed.

### **IHC forms bench to** hear Nawaz's plea for revival of his appeals

bench to hear applica-

tions seeking to re-

store appeals of Paki-

stan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Quaid

Muhammad Nawaz

after hearing argu-

he had not completely

recover from the ill-

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Monday country due to miserable economic conditions. formed a division

He said that he was given imprisonment sentence by the accountability court in his absence on July 6. 2018. He had requested the trial court to delay the judgment

He came back to

Nawaz said that

operty case. He said his aphealth issues. He had his pleas, stated that not misused his bail, and had been submit-

ness, however, he de- regularly to Lahore cided to return to the High Court (LHC).

warning to other violators. urging them to comply with the law **AIOU to close** enrolment for

continue students tomorrow ISLAMABAD (APP): Allama Iqbal Open Univer-sity (AIOU) is currently

offering admissions in As-sociate Degree in Arts (BA General), Associate Degree in Commerce (B.Com), Associate Degree in Education, BS (ODL), B.Ed, BBA, and

postgraduate diploma programs for semester autumn 2023

The last date for enrolment of continuing students is tomorrow (Wednesday, October 25) while new students can take admission until No-vember 7, 2023, without any late fee charges, said a press release on Monday. Admission forms and

prospectus of all the programs are available on the university website

Similarly, 54 Healthcare Establishments were served notices for minor non-compliances and instructed to comply with the directions given by the inspections team.

The IHRA suspended

and Skin Studio, Iqbal Pa-

As many as 17 HCEs were found closed upon arrival by inspection teams. Five Healthcare Establishments were recommended reagents and unqualified for registration and revocastaff rendering medical ser- tion of suspension

### **3-day Islamabad Literature Festival to** start on Friday

ISLAMABAD (APP): eminent Urdu poet, Hilal-The Oxford University e-Imtiaz, Sitara-e-Imtiaz, Press (OUP) to hold a and Presidential Pride of three-day 9th Edition of the Performance, Iftikhar Arif. Islamabad Literature Festi-A beautiful performance of val (ILF) from November 3 a literary piece will conto 5 at the Gandhara Citiclude the event.

Staying true to its tra-dition of celebrating Urdu The festival is being held in collaboration with poetry and its rendition, the CDA, Getz Pharma Pakievent's program has a grand stan, Kaizen Paint Pvt Ltd, Mushaira presided over by British Council and other Iftikhar Arif, and a Ghazal Night with the maestro With the overarching Ustad Hamid Ali Khan on

theme of 'People, Planet, Possibilities,' ILF promthe second and third evenings, respectively. ises an array of captivat-All informative and

ing keynotes, engaging literary discussions will be conversations, book led by eminent experts, inlaunches, exhibitions, and cluding Dr Ishrat Husain, Dr Maleeha Lodhi, The inaugural event Mohammad Aurangzeb, on November 3 will be Muhammad Azfar Ahsan, opened to the public, fea-Saquib Ahmad, Dr Farzana turing thought-provoking Bari, Dr. Najeeba Arif, addresses by Arshad Saeed Nasir Abbas Nayyar, Kishwar Naheed, Nasira Husain, Managing Director Zuberi, Omar Shahid OUP; Jane Marriott, High Hamid, Muneeza Shamsie, Commissioner of the United Kingdom; and Harris Khalique, Hamid Khalid Mahmood, Manag-Khan, Zahid Hussain, ing Director, Getz Pharma Nasim Zehra, Hamid Mir, Pvt. Ltd. The event will also Asma Shirazi, Dr. Aisha include keynotes by the Ghaus Pasha, Asghar notable British author, bi-Nadeem Syed, Khaled ographer, and historian, Anam, Sarmad Khoosat, Victoria Schofield, and the and Beo Zafar.

Sharif in two referas his wife was on ven-The two-judge tilator in a London bench comprising hospital, but his re-Chief Justice Aamer quest was rejected. Pakistan, remained in jail and filed appeals against his conviction, Amjad Pervaiz Adhe added.

his co-accused Maryam Nawaz and her husband had already been acquitted in the Avenfield

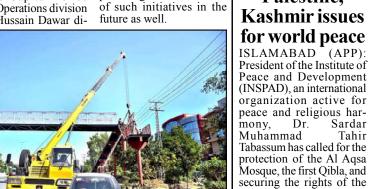
peals were terminated and give its decisions in his absence as he could not appear before ments on merit. Nawaz Sharif, in the court due to his

ting his medical reports



ISLAMABAD: First Lady Begum Samina Alvi addressing a Breast Cancer Awareness program, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.





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OPINION

Daily **Independent** 



### **Past perfect**

In Pakistan, antiquity has been at odds with the politics of ideology and identity, leading to a partisan concept of culture based on dominance. Therefore, Thursday's judgement by a division kilometre-long coastline along the Arabian Sea and bench of the Sindh High being a major state of the Indian Ocean Region. For its Court's Hyderabad circuit on the preservation of Nagarparkar's Karoonjhar Hills and their "protection in conformity throes of a serious existenwith international guidelines" was momentous as it endorsed the range as a well of heritage. The order stated that "the entire range of Karoonjhar Hills is one monument under the law and cannot be divided into pieces and por-

of every Jain temple in its

original form and that

statues declared as world

heritage be made avail-

able.



Some two weeks back, the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA), a 23-member inter-governmental organisation, held its annual meeting in Colombo. Pakistan has been intentionally kept out of this forum despite having a 1,046-

being a major state of the part, Pakistan has also not made a serious attempt to get its foot in the door. Like the rest of South Asia that has been the most

affected by the climate storm, Pakistan, which in particular has been in the tial threat (the Himalayas have lost 40 per cent of their ice due to the melting of gla-ciers), would have benefited from the rich discussion which was on the IORA's

and the barriers to achieving it. Since the Covid-19 pandemic, there has been a growing realisation of the importance of regional and sub-regional cooperation. lion people (nearly a quarter of the world's popula-tion) has failed to build rela-

tionships like, say, the EU and Asean, or to capitalise on their proximity and come together, despite a shared history, philosophy, food, culture and art. Recently, however,

there is an emerging trend in the eastern part of South Asia to forge ties without Pakistan and Afghanistan. Take for instance the energy sector. The Sri throughout. The region will

Lankan minister for power menu and included regional be lit up and blackouts will and energy, Kanchana Wijesekera, talked about trade, maritime safety and security, fisheries managedeveloping a "power corriment, disaster risk management and the blue economy. dor" between Sri Lanka and

Around the same time as IORA's meeting, and in the same hotel, the World Bank had organised its second Editor's Forum with ournalists and editors from dropower during the wet South Asian countries -Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, season. He also envisioned going beyond India, to Maldives, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Pakistan (Afghanistan

Bhutan. Nepal, which prowasn't present) to discuss the benefits of regional coduces an excess of nearly 30 operation and integration per cent hydroelectricity during its wet season, and is exporting 632 megawatts of power from its 10 run-ofthe-river hydropower projects to India since May, now has its eyes set on This region of two bil-Bangladesh to sell 40MW to it via India. If the tripartite

agreement, the first of its kind for the three countries, materialises, Nepal eventually hopes to transmit as much as 500MW to Bangladesh. If the southern part of South Asia can think of connectivity through crisscrossing energy corridors, imagine the huge economic benefits this may have for the entire region

through one regional grid

transmitting clean energy

become a thing of the past. But energy is just one example. Senator Mushahid Hussain Saved, interna-India for electricity trade in tional, political, and stratethe next five years. And if gic issues expert, believes the everything goes as planned, 'sky is the limit" when it he said, the island nation will comes to regional collaboraimport electricity during the tions in the areas of culture, dry season and export hy-

**Thriving South Asia a pipe dream?** 

medicine, travel, tourism and even sports. For all of these, South Asian leaders need a "vision followed by Bangladesh, Nepal and even a will to act". He believes Pakistan has much to offer, especially to smaller countries, including diplomatic and military training, or even making inroads through the use of drone technology in agriculture. "If Pakistani footballs are used in World Cup matches, why not in

South Asia?" he asked. Pakistan, which built and gifted the Maldives its parliament building, is currently offering 25 scholar-ships per year to Nepalese students and 60 of Nepal's military officers come for training annually to Pakistan. It also provided military and diplomatic help to Sri Lanka to help them defeat the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam.

However, along with

and Bangladesh, and which must be promoted through a special South Asian "soft power" fund, Sayed says Pakistan has yet another advantage — CPEC which can offer regional economic connectivity to all of South Asia with Central Asian countries via Pakistan.

mas and pop songs that are so popular in India, Nepal

The same goes for healthcare. While there is much to learn from Sri Lanka's universal healthcare system and Bangladesh's family planning success, when it came to pandemic preparedness (scientists are already warning of the possibility of the next pandemic at the scale of Covid-19: 2.5pc to 3.3pc yearly, and 47pc to 57pc in the next 25 years), Pakistan was a notch above the rest of South Asia. It handled the pandemic well with its robust coordination, preparedness, and response through the National Command and Operation Centre. This best practice can be fine-tuned and expanded to form a larger regional pool to share resources and information, even have joint procurement and distribution

complete annihilation.

services of say, test kits and the low-hanging fruit in the PPE distribution. form of Pakistani TV dra-

reduce the number of tragedies like the Greek boat disaster. The recent resumption of the passenger ferry service between India and Sri Lanka after 40 years reminded one of the weekly bus service between Muzaffarabad and Srinagar that was in place for a good 10 years from 2005 to 2015 and then stopped in 2019, as did the Delhi-Lahore passenger bus service due to India's revocation of the special status of occupied Kashmir. However grave the political differences between countries, they can

tries in this region can re-

duce poverty. Setting aside

mistrust, business pro-

cesses need to be less cum-

bersome and transport and

digital connectivity im-

proved. Allowing for labour

mobility within South Asia

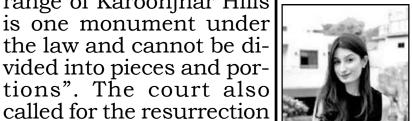
along with export and ex-

change of capabilities, may

perhaps agree to rise above them and stop people-topeople exchanges from becoming a casualty in political war-mongering. In the end, however, as Sayed points out, South Asian relationships will only warm up if these are based on 'non-interference" and are 'non-hegemonic". -- Cour-

Trade between countesy Dawn

## In the shadows of occupation



Ayman Zafar

Several days ago, a surprise and well-coordinated attack on Israel by the Palestinian militant group Hamas, drew renewed global attention to

the long-standing Israeli-Sindh's forgotten ties Palestinian conflict that has troubled the Middle East with Jainism nestle in the for many decades.

depths of Nagarparkar longstanding and compliand Karoonjhar Hills, a cated history, and involves range which some archae-alogista souris poorly three distributions and territorial dis-historical and territorial disologists say is nearly three putes that extend far bebillion years old. Nour-ished by the lost Hakra billion years old. Nour-

the case The recent Hamas assault has received significant global attention, with the US, EU and Britain condemning the attacks while pledging support to Israel. However, the destruction in Gaza and the tragic loss of

enced periods of war, up-

risings, and occasionally,

brief moments of hope for

potential compromises.

However, that is no longer

thousands of Palestinian lives, including many children in Israeli airstrikes, have been notably underreported all across The claim of Israel's

right to self-defence has them been used to justify these sis that has escalated to a

actions taken but is also a

# tested region has experi- more frightful than is fore-

rael of its horrific choices. In conflicts as such, a declaration of war typically face and combat the kind of gruesome attacks that are being launched against

What is indisputable is that one of the world's most well-funded militaries is attempting to justify a severe military response to an isolated incident of violence within a settler colonial state. Not only does this raise serious concerns about the proportionality and

children have been killed and injured. Every hour in Gaza the number of children killed rises. The killing of children must stop.

What any reasonable individual should readily acknowledge is that the Israeli government, under its current policies, is engaging in actions that could very well be categorized as being equivalent to ethnic cleansing. They have been carrying out extensive bombings within Gaza, with a devastating impact on the civilian population, half of which comprises children under the age of fifteen, with families being wiped out entirely from the prospects of any future

life, even before they had the chance to fully experience the richness of life in and thousands of innocent its truest form.

children, depriving them The Western media's of their childhood and the role in this situation is inopportunity to grow up like any other child around deed a matter of concern. the world, all in the name Reporting has been conspicuously biased, lacking of protecting and defendimpartiality, and repeatedly ing an oppressor state, events unfolding within tion of international hu-

difficult times, and within grappling with the relentless attacks being carried out this complex reality, a sad within their homeland - livreality that we live in, it ing in constant fear, starvbecomes evident that it ing, injured, orphaned, and often takes a full-scale 'counter' attack by those under the threat of an occupying government intent who have endured decades on nothing less than their of oppression to awaken global awareness to the This harsh reality relong-standing suffering of quires a global call to action,

the Palestinian people. Regrettably, even in urging everyone, particuthe face of these particularly those in positions of power, to break the silence lar realities, numerous and rightfully acknowledge world leaders continue to the atrocities being commitprovide unwavering supted without any accountport to those wielding imability, whatsoever. It is a mense power, effectively condoning actions that have resulted in the loss plea for humanity, urging the world to translate concern into tangible action. of innocent lives of those, Every innocent life is whose tragic fate was simprecious on either side of ply belonging to a state the field, but to brutally they once called their homeland. take the lives of hundreds

It remains essential to prioritize peace and the protection of civilians, irrespective of the political and diplomatic intricacies that surround this enduring conflict.

This is the time to act. To educate ourselves. As we find ourselves



Western media. This conflict has a

fering unseen before.

# level of destruction and suf-

actions, which has sparked intense debate and led to contrasting perspectives, and more troublingly, unfolded a humanitarian cri-

Just three days into the fighting, Israeli command- humanitarian impact of the dismissing the horrific constitutes a grave viola-

seeable by any one of us. Come to think of it, you can blame Hamas for many things, but you absolutely cannot absolve Is-

involves two sides, fully equipped with military capabilities. In the present case, the Palestinian territories, particularly Gaza, lack even the most basic resources like water, shelter, and most importantly, critical medical care that is required to equip them to

river, the area throve as a cultural hub in the Chalcolithic and Paleolithic ages. The pink once protound rengious significance for Christians, Jews, and Muslims alike. Over the past 70 years, this congranite stretch, once known as Kinro, is still encrusted with magnificence: Bodhesar, Sadhro, Ambaii. Virawah temples. the Gorri Jain Mandir and a Bodhesar mosque. Almost six kilometres from central Nagarparkar stands a complex of three Bodhesar Jain temples We can see genocide unfold built in 1375 AD and in our phones; scenes of horror dominate our social 1449 AD; two have domes carved from Karoonjhar and entire families wiped stone and the third is in concentration camp that complete decay. While the nation camp. In this decades-old higher Bodhesar temple, In this decades-old murderous project, Israel with an uneven stone has the support of the en-tire Western establishment. stairwell, was said to be America not only disby the Gulf of Sindhu, protect its ally, but is also leveraging all diplomatic Bodhesar talao and a support it can muster and white marble mosque financing Israel's murder-ous campaign, while being unable to pay for healthcare for its own citizens. The foot of the hills. Such relics, and the remains of the fifth-century Parinagar banned pro-Palestinian Fort, which connected protects along with Ger-many which has once again Karoonjhar to the sea, il- decided to dump the bur-den of its historical guilt lustrate how sacred the over the Holocaust onto Palestinian shoulders. The slopes were to Jains. The very existence of Palestine is criminalised in that basleast we can do today is to tion of freedom and liberty, ensure that all beautiful residues of the past do not fade away as besides monetary rewards, such when lecturing the rest of this benighted globe. vestige reconnects us to our humane, accepting Western media, which goes selves — an invaluable inheritance for future gen-Israel's lies but also repeats erations.

indeed as ruthless as it

gross violation of international human rights law. According to a Unicef report, hundreds of children have been killed as a result of the Israeli airstrikes. "Hundreds and hundreds of

Gaza by the minute. Palestinians are enduring extreme hardship, to an extent bevond comprehension, as they lack access to even the most basic of amenities required for survival, while

**By Ayesha Rafiq** 

Austin's proposition

manitarian law and qualiwithin our homes, one of fies as a war crime.

International Law:

Bridging the Divide of Legitimacy

its legal character.

nance.

the most meaningful steps Times have changed we can take is to educate and the world today is ourselves with the right side of history. To simply wiser, many no longer blind to the true face of be aware. -- Courtesy the oppressor. These are TheNews

### Slow turn of the tide

lie becomes truth.

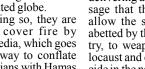
governments

Zarrar Khuhro

media feeds as we see images of murdered children out as Israel converts the

patched a carrier force to financing Israel's murder-UK, obediently in tow, is doing the same albeit on a smaller scale, while France, that bastion of liberty, and the police have been In doing so, they are provided cover fire by

out of its way to conflate all Palestinians with Hamas them ad nauseam unfil down the spines of tradithey fervently hope — the tional Jewish-American



Except no one is buying it this time. The Arab world has not seen this kind of outpouring since the Arab Spring, a tide of people calling out not only Israel but also (if carefully) the impotence of their own Across the Western far as America is concerned,

world tens of thousands of and is only one of many unapologetic, outspoken protesters are showing the world that while their states may stand with Israel, vast numbers of people stand with Palestine.

One reason for this is how badly Western narratives and Western media stand exposed; multibilliondollar media giants are dragged across the coals and fact-checked by ordinary people armed only with keyboards and a conscience, and star anchors so convinced of their powers to convince — splutter and rage as their one-sided narrative is picked apart. Despite the attempts by social media companies to censor, throttle and shadowban, the volume and scale of pro-Palestinian and anti-genocide content is too much to curtail. Even in the US, that

one inviolable bastion of Israel, the tide is slowly turning. Over the last week Jewish-American activists have led pro-peace protests that have surrounded the White House and the residence of Vice President Kamala Harris demanding an immediate ceasefire. Marching into the Capitol, young activists and wizened rabbis — many of whom had lost loved ones at the hands of the Nazis -were arrested in their hundreds, but not before delivering a powerful message that they would not allow the state of Israel, abetted by their own country, to weaponise the Holocaust and carry out genocide in the name of the Jewish people. That should send a collective shiver tice will come, but not now;

organisations like the Anti Defamation League and AIPAC, who can surely see these challenges to their The ongoing debate reself-proclaimed right to garding whether internaspeak for all of American tional law qualifies as Jewry and are aghast that their propaganda is no "true law" hinges upon the longer working. interpretation of the term This is a sea change as

'law' itself. This dispute, as Professor Glanville L. Williams astutely noted, examples of people who largely revolves around had hitherto stayed quiet semantics. Advocates of now speaking out in a clear the position held by figand united voice; similar ures like Hobbes, Austin, sentiments echoed when and Pufendorf contend comedian Dave Chapel echthat law derives from sovoed cries of 'Free Palestine' ereign command, enat his sold-out show in forced by superior politi-Boston. The shift is generacal authority, thereby extional and racial; an NPR cluding international law poll conducted last week from the realm of law. Conshows that while the maversely, those who emjority (65 per cent) of brace a broader definition Americans — Republicans and Democrats — want the of law assert that it can-US to publicly support Isnot be confined solely to rael, that percentage drops rules dictated by political to 48pc when it comes to authority, allowing inter-Generation Z, and 51pc national law to be recogwhen it comes to nonnized as a legitimate whites. The change isn't branch of jurisprudence. limited to the streets and social media; a day after the that law is the product of Capitol protests and ar-

a command from a surests, Muslim and Jewish preme political authority, Congressional staffers backed by coercive enwrote an open letter to their forcement, faces criticism. Congressmen and women This narrow definition, as bosses calling for an immepointed out by Professor diate ceasefire, although the Oppenheim, fails to acpervasiveness of fear of recount for the unwritten or taliation is so great that the customary law within musignees had to remain anonymous. It's not just the nicipal legal systems. It is staffers; thus far at least 16 a stark reality that no com-Congress members have munity or state exists called for a ceasefire and solely on written laws. Inperhaps they will add Constead, law is better defined gressman Justin Amash, as "a body of rules of huwho says several of his man conduct within a relatives murdered in community, which, by the Israel's bombing of the consent of its community, Saint Porphyrius Church in shall be enforced by ex-Gaza, to their number.

ternal power." This per-The list goes on, and a spective, shared by scholars like Brierly and day will come when the tide will turn completely despite Professor Hart, chalthe pervasive power of Islenges Austin's conceprael and its allies. But that tion of law. day is not today, when Israeli warplanes massacre children to the applause of Western capitals. The time of jus-

-- Courtesy Dawn

Several compelling arguments support the notion that international law qualifies as true law: now is the time of monsters. Historical jurisprudence demonstrates that various

communities have estab- tions in line with their lished legal systems even constituent treaties without formal legislative Public opinion plays a authorities. This practice crucial role in enforcing highlights the adaptabilinternational law, as naity and inclusiveness of tions hesitate to violate law as a concept. States it in the face of international condemnation

routinely acknowledge international law as binding Critics often cite the upon them, even when frequent violations of inthey infringe upon its printernational law as eviciples. This recognition dence against its legitiunderscores the legal macy. However, such character of international violations are not unique law in the eyes of the into international law; they ternational community. occur in municipal law as States, when involved in well. The frequency of international disputes, violations should not unconsistently reference the dermine the status of inprovisions, duties, preceternational law as law. In dents, and opinions of juboth contexts, it is the rists grounded in internastrength of the enforcement mechanism that detional law, reinforcing its legal status. In some termines the extent of adstates, including the herence.

United States and the In conclusion, in-United Kingdom, internaternational law postional law is integrated into sesses the characteristheir domestic legal frametics of law when viewed works, further validating within its unique context. While it operates in Additionally, the es- a decentralized system

tablishment of institutions and lacks the efficiency like the International Court of state legislative maof Justice (ICJ), which dechinery, it is as strong cides disputes in accorand effective as posdance with international sible given its paramlaw, affirms the legality of eters. Critics should recinternational law. Internaognize that international tional conferences and law is not meant to repconventions treat internalicate municipal law entional law as genuine law, tirely; rather, it functions effectively within its distinctive setting. As emphasizing its importance in global gover-Louis Henkin wisely The United Nanoted, "much of the mistions, founded on prinunderstandings of interciples of international national law is due to law, explicitly recognizes failure to recognize law its role in establishing where it exists." Indeed, international law not justice and upholding treaty obligations. Alonly exists but also exerts a substantial influ-

though international law lacks centralized en- ence on the conduct of forcement, it still operinternational affairs in ates with sanctions. our complex and inter-These include the use of connected world. force under certain cir-

Writer is (Student of National Defense Unicumstances, internaversity (NDU), Pursuing tional enforcement aca Degree In Peace and tions, and the authority Conflict Studies (PCS), of international organizations to impose sanc-Islamabad, Pakistan.)

Daily A oice of Masse Independent

Tuesday October 24, 2023

## **CM Bagar orders inquiries** against SRB, labour dept for failing to recover Rs16bn

KARACHI Caretaker Sindh Chief respectively. Minister Justice (retd) "If b Minister Justice (retd) Maqbool Baqar has ordered two separate inquiries against the Sindh Revenue Board (SRB) and Labour Department for their failure to act against the non-compliants of Sindh Workers Welfare Fund and Sindh Workers

Participation Fund and the failure, of DG Labour, to

register Industrial Units Omar Soomro, Advocate

PSCM Hassan Naqvi, both the organizations- the SRB and Secretary Labour Shariq Ahmad, Chairman SRB the DG Labour. had taken Wasif Memon, Secretary Law Ali Ahmad Baloch, timely action the recovery of Rs16.4 billion for workers fund could have been ensured." Commissioner SESSI Saleem Khuhro, Secretary This he said while Workers Welfare Board and

presiding over a joint meeting of SRB, SESSI and others. Chairman SRB Wasif Workers Welfare Board attended by Minister Law

fund payers- Workers Welfare Fund (WWF) and General Hassan Akbar, Workers Participation Fund (WPF)- have been updated in the ledger of the Nazir of the Sindh High Court and now the Nazir ledger reflects that there were 39 cases who have deposited Rs19.29 billion against which Rs

6.75 billion and now the Memon told the CM that total amount has come to the missing amount of the 26.03 billion.



ational

PESHAWAR: Governor Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa Haji Ghulam Ali distributing laptops among students at IM Science Hayatabad under PM Youth Laptop Scheme.



LAHORE: A delegation of overseas Pakistanis led by Chief Coordinator Muslim League (N) International Affairs Amjad Ali Malik and President Muslim League (N) Holland Chaudhry Parvez Sandhila photographed with Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman after a meeting

### Pakistan would be put back on path to development very soon: Governor Punjab

Independent Report LAHORE: A delegation of return of political leader overseas Pakistanis led by Chief Coordinator Muslim League (N) International Affairs Àmjad Ali Malik and President Muslim League (N) Holland Chaudhry Parvez Sandhila called on Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman at Governor House Lahore, here today. In the meeting, issues of mutual interest, including the current political situation in the country and the problems faced by overseas Pakistanis, were discussed.

Speaking on this occasion, Punjab Governor playing an important role Muhammad Balighur in the country's economy progress and prosperity.

Rehman said that the by sending significant like Muhammad Nawaz Sharif is ray of hope and augurs well for the future of the country. He said that Muhammad Nawaz Sharif in his speech put aside the injustices and excesses committed against him and other leaders of the Muslim League in the past and have given a road map for the development of the country. country.

He expressed hope He that Pakistan would be put back on the path to development very soon. Governor Punjab said that overseas Pakistanis are

### **CM orders free** legal assistance to juvenile offenders

KARACHI (APP): Caretaker Sindh Chief Minister Justice (retd) Maqbool Baqar, taking notice of the 385 juvenile offenders in different jails of Karachi, Hyderabad and Sukkur, on Monday directed the provincial Law Department to take steps to ensure legal assistance for these inmates.

The CM issued the sending directive after the media reports.

### **KP Information Minister** visits Nowshera

providers were found to be

imposing excess charges, he

swiftly intervened, collected the surplus fees,

and returned them to the

**Independent Report** PESHAWAR: Responding to directives from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Caretaker Chief Minister, Muhammad Azam Khan,

passengers. The Minister Barrister Feroze Jamal stressed the vital necessity Shah Kakakhel, the for rigorous oversight by Minister of Information district administration and and Public Relations, transport authorities at terminals and along roadways to ensure embarked on an extensive inspection tour of Nowshera district. The adherence to governmentprimary objective of this mandated pricing.Minister visit was to evaluate the Kakakhel reiterated his implementation of official unwavering commitment to adopting a zero-tolerance approach toward those who transportation fares and the pricing of fruits and vegetables at governmentattempt to charge fares

exceeding official rates. He visiting While called upon both provincial terminals, and regional transport Minister Kakakhel engaged authorities to maintain with passengers to confirm vigilant supervision of fare their compliance with pricing. Additionally, he government-sanctioned encouraged administrative fare structures. In officers to prepare and instances where transport prominently display.

**Independent Report** reported that 385 juvenile offenders, were facing imprisonment including 168 17-years-old, 106-16years-old, 100-18-years-old, eight 15-years-old, two 14-years-old and one 13years-old in jails. The Chief Minister directed the Law dept to provide free legal assistance to juvenile offenders and keep him day-to-day

regarding the services provided by the One Window Cell.A woman present in the one-window cell extended her prayers and gratitude to Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi for tirelessly serving the public day and night. During the conversation, she

widespread presence in days. Additionally, at the

#### **IRPArea** Manager calls on Governor KARACHI (APP): The

Area Manager of Islamic Relief Pakistan (IRP) Mahboob Ali called on Sindh Governor Mohammed Kamran Khan Tessori at the Governor House here on Monday.

They discussed the measures for the welfare of the people through Islamic teachings and projects pertaining to the services humanity.The Governor lauded the role of the IRP in working for the poor people.

Gastro takes

60,000 lives

per annum

in Pakistan:

**Experts** 

FAISALABAD (APP)

The experts have revealed

that the gastroenteritis and

stomach diseases are taking

the lives of 60,000 people

an awareness seminar on

"Gut Warriors: conquering

gastroenteritis through

awareness and action'

They were addressing

annually in Pakistan.

## **CM Naqvi emphasizes** swift resolution of issues

LAHORE: In a surprise move, Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi conducted an impromptu visit to the LDA One Window Cell today. He other critical places. personally met with the staff of the One Window seeing the Chief Minister Cell, engaging in in the One Window Cell and discussions about the praised the collective challenges they face. Chief efforts of the team for Minister Naqvi also sought striving feedback from citizens improvement. Responding promptly to a citizen's complaint, the Chief Minister immediately summoned the concerned officer and directed swift issue, spanning two years, be resolved within four commended his

schools, hospitals, and request of a retired LDA various other settings. She employee's wife, Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi prayed for his continued strength and expressed directed the expeditious deep appreciation for his resolution of a plot allotment matter. He emphasized to LDA visits to hospitals and A senior citizen expressed his pleasure at officials the utmost

importance of promptly addressing citizens' concerns and underscored the need for efficient handling of LDA-related towards matters. Mohsin Naqvi noted

Page

05

the commendable progress in the performance of the One Window Cell, while acknowledging room for further enhancement. He resolution of the matter. He assured that all endeavors further instructed that a are underway to ensure citizen's long-pending citizens do not face unnecessary hurdles in seeking assistance from the One Window Cell.



FAISALABAD: A large number of women waiting to collect slips at the registration counter at the OPD of the District Headquarters Hospital.

Kashmiris to wrench back homes from Indian unlawful

#### foreign exchange. He said that overseas Pakistanis always generously helped their compatriots in difficult times. Chief Coordinator Muslim League (N) International Affairs Amjad Ali Malik said that the return of a sincere, experienced, and

humble leader like Muhammad Nawaz Sharif is a good omen for the approved rates. said that Muhammad Nawaz Sharif transport had brought the country out of crises before, and he would once again steer the country out of crises and put it on the road to

### Roadshows will be organized to provide maximum benefit to doctors. Dr. Javed Akram

Through Punjab Health Foundation

Independent Report The 35<sup>th</sup> LAHORE: meeting of the Board of Directors of Punjab Health Foundation was held in the Department of Specialized HealthCare and Medical Education under the chairmanship of the Caretaker Provincial Minister of Health Prof. Dr. Javed Akram. Special Secretary Operations Raja Mansoor Ahmed, Additional Secretary Admin Zahida Azhar, Additional Secretary Finance Shahida Foundation. Farrukh, Prof. Dr. Mahmood Shaukat and other officials participated in the meeting. The CFO of Puniab Health Foundation presented the contents of the agenda for doctors.

during the meeting Caretaker Provincial Health Minister Prof. Dr. Javed Akram also approved the minutes of the 34<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Directors of Punjab Health Foundation. During the meeting, he approved the decisions of the 87th meeting of the Finance and

Technical Committee. ingredients. During the meeting, SOPs were also reviewed in detail with reference to provision of loans of Punjab Health caretaker

provincial health minister Prof. Dr. Javed Akram said that Government wants to make the Punjab Health Foundation more beneficial Khan, five in Bahawalpur and four in Multan.

### **High-level meeting with** focus on out-of-school children held

The

**Independent Report** PESHÂWAR: În a significant development for non-formal education policy in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, a pivotal meeting convened on Monday under the guidance of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Caretaker Education Minister, Dr. Muhammad Qasim Jan.

During the meeting, essential decisions were taken to enhance access to non-formal education and streamline certification procedures. Distinguished included education system. attendees

Education Secretary Syed Mohtasim Billah Shah, Special Secretary Sharif Hussain, Education and Advisor Khalid M e h m o o d , Communication Specialist Sheikh Fakhar Alam, Director ALP Rafiq Khattak, Director Gohar Ali, and representatives from JICA and UNICEF.

The meeting also provided an insightful briefing to the provincial minister on the ongoing not only add to the beauty efforts to reintegrate outof the environment but also of-school children into the prevent the increase in pollution. In this regard.



KARACHI: Mayor Karachi, Barrister Murtaza Wahab exchanges views with Peoples Party Karachi Division Secretary Record and Events, Naveed Bhatti and others during meeting held at his office in Karachi.

### warning to 209 cereal units

**PFA** issues

**Independent Report** LAHORE: The Punjab Food Authority (PFA) has served warning notices for improvement to 209 cereal

production units and penalised 33 others with hefty fines over violations during the province-wide inspection drive. The authority also stopped production of a unit besides discarding more than 80kg of expired

PFA Director General Raja Jahangir Anwar said in a statement on Monday that the food safety teams inspected 268 cereal units across Punjab including 126 in Lahore division, 13 in Faisalabad, 39 in Sahiwal, 25 in Gujranwala, 18 in Rawalpindi, 17 in Sargodha, 21 in Dera Ghazi

#### **Plantation** campaign launched in

**FUUAST** with KARACHI (APP): Acting Registrar of Federal Urdu University of Arts, Science democracy. Technology Muhammad Sadia Monday while planting saplings during the Clean

and Green campaign on behalf of FUUAST's Department of Horticulture said that there was a great need for plantation in educational institutions,

especially in Karachi city.He said that the plants



**PESHAWAR:** Caretaker Minister for Finance, Excise and Revenue KP Ahmad Rasool Bangash and CAA Chief Operating Officer Zia Ahmad in a group photo with other officials during Full Scale Airport Emergency Exercise at Bacha Khan International Airport.

### 12<sup>th</sup> death anniversary of Begum Nusrat **Bhutto observed**

LARKANA (APP): The paid rich tributes to Begum 12<sup>th</sup> death anniversary of Nusrat Bhutto for her services to the progress and prosperity of Pakistan and Begum Nusrat Bhutto wife of former Prime

Minister and Founder protecting the democracy Chairman of PPP Shaheed in the country. Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto was On this occasion, observed here on Monday Oura'an Khawani was held at the Bhutto House renewed commitment to continue Naudero and Garhi Khuda the struggle for protecting Bux Bhutto (Larkana)

District President PPP Larkana and former MNA Khursheed Ahmed Qura<sup>2</sup> an Khawani and fateha Khawani were held in every corner of the Junejo, District General Secretary of PPP Larkana country for the departed soul of Begum Nusrat and Chairman District Bhutto. People from all Council Larkana Aijaz Ahmed Leghari, Khair walks of life in their messages on the occasion Muhammad Shaikh.

### Naqvi takes decisive measures to combat smog

**Independent Report** LAHORE: In light of the prevailing smog conditions, it has been decided that educational institutions in Punjab will not observe a holiday on Wednesday this week. A special meeting focusing on anti-smog measures was convened today at the Chief Minister's Office, presided over by Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi, with the participation of provincial ministers.

During the meeting, it was unanimously agreed, based on an improvement in the air quality index, that Wednesday will not be declared a holiday. Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi selling substandard fuel.

issued directives to the Inspector General of Police and Secretary Transport for a continued and effective crackdown on vehicles emitting smoke. He emphasized the need for relentless action against brick kilns and factories that contribute to smog. emitting Factories excessive smoke and engaged in the burning of tires will face immediate closure. The Chief instructed Minister

commissioners and deputy commissioners to take robust measures against the burning of crop residues. Swift action will also be

taken against those found

organized by Rotaract Club, under Senior Tutor Office University of Agriculture Faisalabad (UAF) in collaboration with Gastro-Pak Project of Medical Research Council UK Research and Innovation and Earlham Institute UK.

The session was organized to create awareness about gastroenteritis and promote preventive measures to combat this prevalent disease.

Speaking on the occasion, Chairman Agronomy Department Prof. Dr. Abdul Khaliq stressed the need of water treatment before irrigating the field as the wastewater was contaminating the agricultural produce which was posing serious health hazards.

Principal investigator of Gastropak and Club Incharge Dr. Fahad Rasool presented results from the experiments about "Quantifying the Transmission Routes of

Gastroenteritis in Pakistan and Developing Targeted

### occupation: Sardar Attique

MIRPUR (AJK) (APP): Kashmir government Former Prime Minister, founded on October 24. Azad Jammu and Kashmir 1947 after immense human (AJK) Sardar Attique sacrifices is launching Ahmed Khan Monday said region to free rest of the that Kashmiris were fully Jammu and Kashmir state determined to wrench back under military occupation their homes from Indian of India. occupation;

He pleaded today over one million Indian regular armed forces and half a million informal Indian occupation forces were torturing Kashmiris in homes, a collective crime that should not be overlooked by the civilized

expressed the views in his world. Attique reminded t the Muslim 76<sup>th</sup> AJK govt founding anniversary message here. that The anniversary is Conference had chartered a being celebrated on Tuesday, across AJK and political course to accede Ĵammu and Kashmir to worldwide by 20 million Pakistan back in 1932 and it unwaveringly sticks to

Azad Jammu and this manifesto.

Attique, also head of

Jammu Kashmir

Muslim Conference,

Kashmiris.



KARACHI: Members of Pakistan Pediatric Association Sindh are holding protest demonstration against Israeli cruel and inhumane acts and express unity with the innocent people of Palestine, held at Karachi press club.

### **Punjab chief secretary** orders DCs to ensure new rates implementation

Independent Report LAHORE: Chief Secretary Punjab Zahid Akhtar Zaman directed all deputy commissioners on Monday to ensure implementation of the new rate lists, issued following a reduction in the prices of petroleum products.

He issued this directive while presiding over a video-link meeting the deputy commissioners at the Civil

Secretariat here. The meeting reviewed implementation of reduction in food prices and transport fares. The chief secretary ordered that fare reduction lists be displayed in passenger instructions.

buses. He said the price magistrates concerned would be responsible in case of sale of commodities at higher than fixed rates. He said that deputy commissioners themselves determine the prices of commodities in their districts, adding that it was also their responsibility to implement these rates.

The CS said that providing relief to people from inflation was a priority of the government. He said that the administrative officers should play their role in improving governance and service delivery. The chief secretary also issued

### Daily Aoice of Masse, Independent Tuesday October 24, 2023

## PM for accelerated steps to trickle down impacts of reduced oil prices to common man

Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Monday directed the by 4.7 percent should be authorities concerned to trickled down to the accelerate steps for trickling down the impact of reduced prices of the petroleum products to the common man.

The prime minister, chairing a review meeting to discuss the impact of oil prices' reduction on commodities'

by 12.38 percent and diesel smuggling.

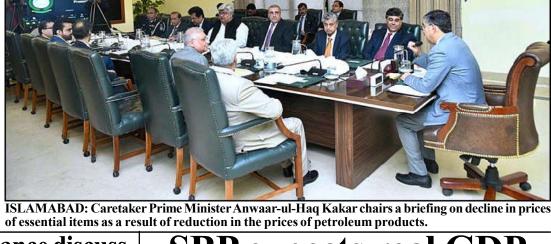
to the reduced petroleum common man at the earliest. prices, inflation had come He said Rs 41 billion down by 1.7 percent which had been saved due to the was the highest during the stability in dollar rate and last one year.

reduction in petroleum The prime minister prices, and the relief would appreciated administration for taking be extended to the common man. The meeting was steps to reduce oil prices apprised of the recent oil and dollar rate, curb rates, prices reduction and smuggling and transmitting

ISLAMABAD (APP): instructed that the effect of outcomes of operation their impacts to the Cartaker Prime Minister reduction of petrol price against power theft and common man.

He instructed the It was told that due relevant authorities to strictly deal with the hoarders and profiteers, and viewed that the operation against power theft and smuggling had benefited the consumers.

He said 18 percent the reduction of wheat price and sugar by 16 percent in Balochistan welcoming.



OMMERCE NEWS

of essential items as a result of reduction in the prices of petroleum products.



ISLAMABAD: Provincial Secretary Power Gilgit-Baltistan and Chairman of Nor Hydro are signing the memorandum of understanding for the solar energy project started with the cooperation of Norway, Chief Minister Gilgit-Baltistan Haji Gulbar Khan and ambassador of Norway is also present.

### World bodies offer SMEDA collaboration to help women entrepreneurs

Programme, Revenue Mobilization Investment and Trade (ReMIT), has offered collaboration to the Small and Medium Enterprises Development Authority (SMEDA) to develop a separate SME policy for women entrepreneurs in Pakistan.

In this regard a fourmember technical team of cent. Of these, merely 19 ReMIT, headed by Hamid per cent are self-employed Ateeque Sarwar, visited or own-account workers, on Monday to discuss the per cent are employers. development, and in line scope of collaboration. With approximately 3.22 with the National SME

LAHORE (APP): The (PSIC), Dr. Shehla Javaid International Trade Akram, Founder President Center's ITC-FCDO Women Chamber of Akram, Founder President was informed that SMEDA, with the support and guidance of Women Chamber of for along with a number of the Ministry of Industries other stakeholders. The and Production (MoIP) SMEDA team was headed had developed a National by Socrat Aman Rana, SME Policy 2021 along General Manager Central with its action plan that Support. provides a comprehensive The meeting observed

roadmap for development and promotion of SMEs that while male labour force participation hovers at across 67.9 per cent, the figure for Recognising the pivotal women is a dismal 21.4 per role of women in economic activities, the SME Policy features a dedicated section SMEDA Head Office here and an almost negligible 0.1 entrepreneurs hip

### **Pakistan, France discuss** investment opportunities in key sectors

ISLAMABAD (APP): bright.Some of the specific Pakistan's Caretaker Minister Shahid Ashraf investment opportunities discussed include: A new railway line

Shipping

HCSTSI

Tarar met with French Ambassador Nicolas Galey from Kohat to Kharlachi to on Monday to discuss connect with Afghanistan, the Sukkur-Hyderabad issues of mutual interest, including investment motorway M-6, and the opportunities in key expansion of the Pakistan sectors such as railways, National motorways, and shipping. Corporation. The meeting is a

Tarar highlighted the country's democratic positive sign of the stability and bright future, growing economic ties while Galey expressed between Pakistan and confidence in the Pakistani France. Alstom, a leading market and pledged to French rail transport company, has already established a permanent attract more French investment

Shahid Ashraf Tarar representation in Pakistan, further said that the and Galey's assurance to democratic stability in bring more French Pakistan has continued investment is a welcome since 2008 and its future is development.

**President HCSTSI appeals** SSGC authorities to resolve gas supply related issues

HYDERABAD (APP): management, he said in a statement issued here on The President Hyderabad Monday. Chamber of Small Traders

and Small Industry The President expressed Farooq Shaikhani has appealed to annoyance over the nonthe Chairperson and professional attitude of the Managing Director of Sui SGC management in Southern Gas Company to Hyderabad including the resolve the issues of gas Regional Manager adding supply with low pressure that despite repeated unscĥeduled complaints in person about management in Hyderabad. gas pressure reduction and unscheduled management, citizens the no positive step was

particularly industrialists of Hyderabad initiated to address the are suffering hardship due grievances causing financial

Muhammad

The

and

### **SBP** expects real GDP growth in the range of 2-3 percent in FY24 KARACHI (APP): The development and also stability. Children stressed expediting tax "There is a need to

(SBP), Monday, said that Pakistan's economic situation started to show implementation some early signs of improvement and real GDP growth is expected to remain in the range of 2-3% while inflation may subside to 20 to 22% in physical capital. FY24. The Central Bank, in

its Annual Report on the State of Pakistan's Economy for the fiscal year 2022-23 released here, underscored the need of initiating broad-ranging reforms to ensure the availability of resources alleviate import reliance (SBA) from IMF, towards for economic growth and for achieving price the end of FY23.

**PSX** stays bullish, gains 338 more points

ISLAMABAD (APP): The 100-index of Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) witnessed bullish trend on Monday, gaining 338.96 points, a positive change of 0.67 per cent, closing at 51,070.83 points against 50,731.87 points the

previous day.A total of 364,070,705 shares valuing Rs.15.930 billion were traded during the day as compared to 430,052,557 shares valuing Rs.14.611 billion the previous day. As many as 352

companies transacted their shares in the stock market

expedite these reforms to policy reforms and speedy achieve a high and of governance reforms in PSEs terming them sustainable economic growth required to absorb instrumental to create the new entrants in labor fiscal space for public market, improve social investment in human and welfare and raise the general standard of living in The SBP also the country," the SBP underscored the need to suggested.

Page

06

 $(\mathbf{x})$ 

The create a conducive report highlighted that Pakistan's environment to support foreign direct investment in economic situation has started to show some early exportable sectors and encourage technology transfers, coupled with signs of improvement as the country has been able agriculture sector reforms to secure a US\$ 3.0 billion that were required to Stand-By Arrangement and for achieving price the end of FY23



ISLAMABAD: Muhammad Tahir Javed, SAPM/ MOS on Investment meeting with H.E. Khazar Farhadov, Ambassador of Azerbaijan at SAPM/ **MOS** office.

Mian Zahid Hussain

Nawaz will bring equilibrium

to political climate

The meeting was also million attended by Asim Javaid entrepreneurs in the Hashmi, Managing country, the women Director Punjab Small entrepreneurship ratio is Industries Corporation alarmingly low.

tely 3.22 with the National SME to gas pressure reduction losses to industrialists of and unscheduled gas Hyderabad.

### **Pakistan Culinary** Submit 2023 & star chef award held

**Independent Report** KARACHI: Director General Sindh Food Authority Agha Fakhar Hussain along with Food Authority Agha Director Training SFA Fakhar

Head Chef Mukeem

Soomro have attended, as

Guest of Honour, Pakistan

Culinary Submit 2023 &

Star Chef Award, which is

set to foster an image of

Pakistan that will depict

the country as a peaceful,

friendly, creative, and

planet.

showcase their exceptional Riceberthed at Oasim abilities, all the budding and International Container export Chef, gathered at a Terminal and Multilocal hotel. DG Sindh P u r p o s e Terminalrespectively on Hussain Sunday.

Meanwhile five more ships, Discovery, Al-Danah, Mega-1, Sc-Pigasus and Aliki Force carrying Wheat, Palm oil and Coal also arrived at outer anchorage of the por during last 24 hours.

port on today morning.

A cargo volume of 117,276 tonnes has introduced an Automated Teller Machine comprising 77,156 tonnes imports cargo and 40,120 (ATM) through its tonnes export cargo reformer in the institution, including containerized cargo carried in 2,618 Containers (258 TEUs Imports and 2,300 TEUs export) was handled at the port during last 24 hours.

Mega job fair on Thursday FAISALABAD (APP): A

"mega job fair" would be arranged at Government College of Technology (Boys) Samanabad under the aegis of Technical Education & Vocational Training (TEVTA) (TEVTA) here on Thursday (October 26,

2023). A spokesman of the college said here on Monday that Director General Operations TEVTA Amir Aziz would inaugurate the fair as chief guest whereas President Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry

(FCCI) Dr Khurram Tariq and former president Board of Management TETVA Engineer Asim Munir would attend the ceremony

MULTAN: Farmer busy in spreading fertilizer in TEVTA Faisalabad/Chiniot his farm field. Abid Hussain Chaudhry.

ISLAMABAD (APP): reforms in CDNS and new The Central Directorate of reforms and innovations National Savings (CDNS) were being introduced.

very important role in the global financial sector at this time, and a large part of the economy of many major countries currently includes Islamic finance,' he added.In view of the current market trend in the country, the ambitious target had been set to further improve the savings culture, he said.

Replying to a question, he said CDNS had achieved a target of Rs 430 billion in fresh bonds in the current fiscal year, from July 1 to October 20. The CDNS surpassed the annual target and

The Web

The senior official of achieved the target of Rs CDNS said that work was 1.6 trillion in fresh bonds being done on institutional in the current fiscal year.

LAHORE (APP): Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI Vice 'Islamic finance has a President Adnan Khalid Butt said on Monday that there was a clear improvement in economic

affairs due to joint efforts of the government and the Pakistan Army, but the issues of non-opening of LCs, high electricity and gas tariffs, and markup rates were still resolved.

In a statement issued here, he said due to crackdown on the dollar smuggling, the value of the Pak rupee had stabilised. He appreciated that smuggled goods worth more than Rs. 30 billion had been confiscated. Apart from this, the control over Afghan Transit Trade had also

yielded positive results and economic indicators had improved, he added. He said the business community was worried due to non-opening of LCs, lack of supply chain, non-

availability of raw materials on time and high cost of doing business. He said that if these problems were not overcome, sustainable economic development would not be possible.

Adnan Khalid Butt said the government should immediately reduce. 20, a critical step for

#### ISLAMABAD (PR): did he talk about any kind Chairman of National of revenge, which is a proof Business Group Pakistan,

of his political insight. Pakistan Talking to the business community, the and Intellectuals Forum, and veteran business leader All Karachi Industrial said that the former prime minister did not make any tall claims or vowed to jail

Alliance, and former provincial minister Mian Zahid Hussain said on the opponents, which Monday that the business shows that he does not community is pinning high want the politics of chaos hopes on the return of in the country. former Prime Minister The people and the

business community have His return will result breathed a sigh of relief in balanced politics, which after his speech because will result in political stability that will help the the country cannot afford any more protests and people and the economy, politics of conflict, he added.

Mian Zahid Hussain Mian Zahid Hussain said that the former prime said that in spite of jail, exile, and other difficulties, minister did not mention the former prime minister the armed forces and the did not try to incite the judiciary despite public in his speech, nor complaints

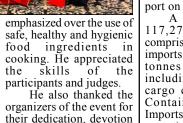


**RAWALPINDI:** vendor is displayed LPG gas cylinders outside his shop at Advala road in the city, As The gas prices are likely to increase by up to 193% from next month as the caretaker government has decided to fulfill another condition set by the International Fund (IMF) before the start of negotiations on the global lender's economic review for the next tranche of \$700 million.

### Wheat to be cultivated at 6.4 mln acres in South Punjab

MULTAN (APP): South Punjab is all set to witness the cultivation of wheat on an impressive 6.4 million acres of land, with an expected yield of a staggering 11.05 million tons of wheat production. South Punjab secretariat set a target to enhance at least seven maund per acre production during the season. This was decided in a meeting chaired by Secretary Agriculture Saqib Ateel, on Monday. Saqib Ali Ateel underscored the importance of cultivating receive vital training on the wheat before November

ensuring a bountiful harvest.A promising harvest.A promising strategy for achieving the wheat cultivation and production target was reviewed and unveiled in the meeting.Secretary of Agriculture South Punjab. Saqib Ali Ateel, conveyed the urgency of enhancing wheat productivity, as it is integral to our food security. He also expressed his dedication to equipping farmers with the knowledge and tools needed for the agricultural the revolution.Farmers will utilization of certified seeds



towards the organizing of To participate and such a wonderful event.

talented nation on the and sincere commitment

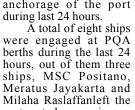
### **SBP** increases retention limit of IT exporters to 50%

KARACHI (APP): State approval from SBP or Bank of Pakistan (SBP) on Monday introduced new measures to facilitate Information Technology Exporters and Freelancers for bolstering exports of IT and IT-enabled services.

SBP has increased the permissible retention limit of IT exporters from 35% to 50% of their export proceeds in the Exporters' Specialized Foreign Currency Accounts (ESFCAs) while usage of the balances available in the ESFCAs has been simplified by allowing the IT exporters to make their payments from these accounts without any

banks. The banks have also been advised to facilitate the issuance of debit cards, enabling the IT exporters to make online payments from the balances available in their ESFCAs, said a statement issued here. A new Framework for Freelancers has been

introduced to further ease the opening of their bank accounts and allow higher retention of amounts in their foreign currency (FCY) accounts. it stated adding that the freelancers would now be able to open as guests of honor. He said the bank accounts both that District Director digitally and physically at their choice with minimum.



The ReMIT team

Pakistan.

women

constituted and notified a

Consultative Group on

Supporting Women-owned

**Shipping** Activity

at Port Qasim

KARACHI (APP): Two

ships namely, MSC Positano and Woohyun

Sky, Scheduled to load/

offload Containers and

SMÊs.

reformer in institution

which will also provide a banking facility to the

customers. The Automated Teller Machine (ATM) had also been introduced in CDNS which would provide enough facilities to

the users and introduce innovation to the organization, the senior official of CDNS told APP here on Monday.

In this way, the CDNS introduced new reforms in the Institution by digitizing all its branches, he said. Authority



Lahore chamber demands cut in power,

gas tariffs

he said.

and 150 sustained losses. President

171 of them recorded gains

Businessmen Nawaz Sharif.

Daily A oice of Masse

Tuesday October 24, 2023

**International News** 

Page 07

rescuers reporting they could still see bodies

crushed and trapped under

ing cranes is on its way," he

"A rescue train carry-

Local residents and

The crash occurred af-

overturned coaches.

said

### Turkey's president submits protocol for Sweden's admission into NATO

Monitoring Desk ANKARA: Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has submitted a protocol for Sweden's admission into NATO to Turkey's parliament for ratification, his office said Monday, bringing the Nordic country a step closer to membership in the military alliance.

Erdogan had been delaying ratification of Sweden's membership, accusing Stockholm of being too soft on Kurdish militants and other groups his country considers to be security threats. Turkey also was angered by a series of Quran-burning protests in Sweden.

All 31 NATO allies must endorse Sweden's mem-

bership. Turkey and Hungary ment to deal with the issue. are the only two allies that We look forward to becomhave yet to ratify it. ing a member of NATO."

A brief statement from Sweden and its neighthe presidential communibor Finland abandoned decades of military nonaligncations directorate said Erdogan had signed the proment and sought protection tocol on Sweden's NATO under NATO's security umbrella after President accession, which was then submitted to the Turkish Vladimir Putin ordered Grand National Assembly. Russian troops to invade It was not immediately Ukraine in February 2022. Finland joined the military known when Sweden's membership would come to alliance in April after Turthe floor. Sweden welcomed the move. "Glad to hear that Turkish President Erdoðan has now handed over the ratification docuconcerns. ments to the Turkish Parliament," Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson

wrote on X, the platform Sweden's membership in the military organization.

key lifted its objections to its membership, saying Helsinki had taken steps to address Ankara's security Earlier this month. NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg urged Tur-key to quickly ratify

formerly known as Twitter. "Now it remains for Parlia-

U.S. House of Representatives meet to vote on a new Speaker of the House at the U.S. Capitol in Washington.

### South Korea says holds first joint air drill with Japan and US

**Monitoring Desk** SEOUL: South Korea, together with Japan and the United States, held a joint aerial exercise near the Korean peninsula on Sunday, the South Korean military said, marking the first such collaboration between the three countries.

The drill aimed to expand the countries' response capabilities against North Korea's nuclear and missile threats, South Korea's air force said in a

At the Camp David summit in August, leaders of Japan, South Korea and the United States agreed to carry out annual, multi-domain trilateral exercises and set up a hot line for crisis communications.

pleted a joint anti-subma-

rine exercise called Silent

Shark, the South Korean

navy said.

The aerial exercise is the latest effort by Washington and its two Asian allies to strengthen ties in the face of tensions with North Korea and China's influence in the region. Biden.

Also on Sunday, South Korean and US navies com-



Palestinians check the damage inside a mosque which was hit in an Israeli air strike, in Jenin refugee camp in the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

### Blinken, Austin say US is ready to respond if US personnel become targets of Israel-Hamas war

**Monitoring Desk** REHOBOTH BEACH: Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin said Sunday that the United States expects the Israel-Hamas war to escalate through involvement by proxies of Iran, and they asserted that the Biden administration is prepared to respond if American personnel or armed forces become the target of any such hostilities. "This is not what we want, not what we're looking for. We don't want escalation," Blinken said. "We don't want to see our forces or our personnel come under fire. But if that happens,

Austin, echoing Blinken, said "what we're seeing is a prospect of a sig-

tacks on our troops and our people throughout the region." He said the U.S. has the right to self-defense "and we won't hesitate to take the appropriate action." The warning from the high-ranking U.S. officials came as Israel's military response to a deadly Oct. 7 attack by Hamas on civilians in communities in southern Israel entered its third week. Israeli warplanes struck targets across Gaza

overnight and into Sunday, as well as two airports in Syria and a mosque in the occupied West Bank allegedly used by militants as the war threatened to engulf more of the Middle East. Israel has traded fire with Lebanon's Hezbollah militant group on a near-daily

### Almost 20,000 displaced in Lebanon as clashes on Israel border escalate

**Monitoring Desk** rael by Hamas militants and an Israeli counteroffensive GENEVA: Almost 20,000 on Gaza. It said the movepeople have been internally ments were mostly by those displaced in south Lebanon fleeing the south although and elsewhere since early October, a U.N. agency said some departures were also reported elsewhere. on Monday, as violence es-calates on the Lebanese-Is-The Israeli authorities raeli border following the have also been evacuating

dozens of towns and comeruption of the Gaza war. munities from the north of The International Or-Israel. Lebanon's heavily ganization for Migration armed Hezbollah group said 19,646 people had been and Israel have been exdisplaced inside Lebanon changing fire on an increassince it began tracking ingly frequent basis all movements on Oct. 8, the day after an assault on Is- along the border.

0



to see a second or third front to the hostilities between Israel and Hamas, which rules Gaza. The secretary said he expects "escalation by Iranian proxies directed against our forces, directed against our personnel," and added: "We are taking steps to make sure that we can effectively defend our people and respond decisively if we need to." Iran is an enemy of Israel.

#### ing in exercises named for China calls for the founder of modern Turkiye, Mustafa Kemal ceasefire, again Ataturk. **Monitoring Desk**

It said the drills were being held across Azerbaijan, including in Baku, the Nakhichevan ex-BEIJING: China believes "force is not a way to resolve" the Israeli-Palestinian crisis and once again calls for clave which borders a ceasefire, its envoy for the Turkiye, and in what the Middle East pleaded in Egypt, the foreign ministry said on Sunday. Egypt on Saturday hosted a "summit for peace" where UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres called for swift "action to end this godawful nightmare" after two weeks of Israeli brutality in Gaza. Beijing's envoy for the Middle East, Zhai Jun, met Arab League chief Ahmed Aboul Gheit on the sidelines

of the summit

## 17 dead, over 100 injured in Bangladesh train crash

**Monitoring Desk** DHAKA: At least 17 people have been killed and 100 others injured in Bangladesh after two trains collided on Monday, with officials saying they fear the death toll will rise.

volunteers rushed to the The crash in the eastern city of Bhairab saw a scene after the accident took place at around 4pm (1000 freight train smash into a GMT). passenger train travelling in the opposite direction, deter one train entered the railing two passenger car-

Azerbaijan said on Monday

it had begun a series of joint

military exercises with close ally Turkiye, the first

since Baku retook the

breakaway region of Nagorno-Karabakh last

nians to flee.

riages, officials said. "We have recovered same line as the other, Rahman said. 17 bodies. More than 100 Video footage broadcast by the private Chanpeople were injured," Sadiqur Rahman, a governnel 24 showed hundreds of ment administrator in people crowding the accident site with many in tears Bhairab told AFP, which lies around 60 kilometres as they searched for rela-(38 miles) northeast of the tives. capital Dhaka.

"We have rescued at "The death toll will least two people alive from rise," Rahman said, with the overturned coaches.'

### Azerbaijan holds first joint drills with Turkiye since Karabakh victory

**Monitoring Desk** A Z E R B A I J A N Karabakh.

Turkiye has close linguistic and cultural links to Azerbaijan, and offered Baku military and political support during its three decade-long conflict with Armenia, with which Ankara has no formal diplomatic relations.

month, prompting most of the territory's ethnic Arme-Armenia and Azerbaijan have recently Azerbaijan's defence signalled willingness to ministry said in a statement that up to 3,000 military sign a peace treaty formally ending their conflict following Azerbaijan's vic-tory in Karabakh and the personnel were participatexodus of almost all the region's 120,000 ethnic Armenians.

The foreign ministers of the two countries, along with those of Turkiye, Iran and Russia, were due to hold talks hosted by Tehran on Monday on progress ministry called the "liber- towards a peace agreeated territories" of ment.

### Second aid convoy enters Gaza Strip from Egypt -**UN official**

Sunday's convoy carrying **Monitoring Desk** medical and food supplies, CAIRO: A second convoy the security and humanitarof 14 aid trucks entered the Rafah crossing from the ian sources said. Egyptian side to the be-

A first convoy of 20 sieged Gaza Strip on Sun- trucks of badly-needed day night, Juliette Touma, supplies had entered Gaza

on Saturday through Rafah,

which had previously been

out of operation after bom-

bardments hit on the Gaza

side of the border and amid

but aid officials are still

warning of a humanitarian

disaster as supplies of

food, water and fuel run

blockade and launched air

strikes on Gaza in response

to a deadly attack on Îsraeli

point to Gaza that does

not lead to Israel, has be-

soil by Hamas on Oct. 7.

Israel imposed a total

The Rafah crossing,

U.N. officials say at

low.

Distribution of those

Australian prime minister announces China visit hours before leaving for US

to meet Biden **Monitoring Desk** CANBERRA: Australian Prime Minister Anthony

Albanese said he will visit China in early November to meet President Xi Jinping, making the announcement Sunday hours before he departed for the United States to meet with President Joe

The Chinese visit dates were confirmed a day

after Beijing agreed to re-

view the crippling tariffs it

levied on Australian wine

that have effectively

blocked trade with the

winemakers' biggest export

the first Australian prime

Albanese will become

"It's in Australia's in-

market since 2020.

we're ready for it."

nificant escalation of at- basis since the war began,

statement. It involved a US B-52

strategic bomber as well as fighter jets of the three na-

### Philippines says a coast guard ship and supply boat were rammed by Chinese vessels at disputed shoal

for

sions

#### **Monitoring Desk**

MANILA: A Chinese coast to guard ship and an accompanying vessel rammed a Philippine coast guard ship and a military-run supply boat Sunday off a contested shoal, Philippine officials said, in an encounter that heightened fears of an armed conflict in the disputed South China Sea.

A top Philippine security official told The Associated Press there were no injuries among the Filipino crew members and an assessment of the damage to both vessels was underway.

The official said that the two incidents near Second Thomas Shoal, where China has repeatedly tried to isolate a Philippine marine outpost, could have been worse if the vessels were not able to maneuver rapidly away from the Chinese ships. The official spoke on condition of anonymity due to a lack of authority to publicly discuss the matter.

China's sweeping territorial claims in the South China Sea, including over islands closer to Philippine shore, have raised tensions and brought in the United States, a longtime treaty ally of the Philippines.

with the families of hostages.

minister to visit China in seven years when he travels to Beijing and Shanghai The U.S. ambassador on Nov. 4-7 Manila, MaryKay Carlson, wrote on X, forterest to have good relamerly Twitter, that "the tions with China," Albanese United States condemns told reporters at Australian the PRC's latest disrup-Parliament House. tion of a legal Philippine resupply mission to Ayungin shoal, putting the **France boosts** lives of Filipino service members at risk.'

air, rail security amid rise in She used the initials China's formal name, bomb hoaxes the People's Republic of

**Monitoring Desk** China, and the name the PARIS: France, already on Philippines uses for Secits highest security alert, is ond Thomas Shoal. She to boost security at airports added that Washington was around the capital and on standing with its allies to trains after a wave of bomb help protect Philippine hoaxes, the transport minsovereignty and to support ister said on Sunday. a free and open Indo-Pa-

cific region. The Chinese coast guard said the Philippine vessels "trespassed" into what it said were Chinese waters "without authorization" despite repeated to extra police patrolling radio warnings, prompting its ships to stop them. It blamed the Philippine ves-France Inter. sels for causing the colli-

. "The Philippine side's behavior seriously violates the international rules on avoiding collisions at sea and threatens the navigation safety of our vessels," the Chinese coast

#### BERLIN: Germany's chanstrongly denounced a rise Security patrols at in antisemitism in Germany Paris airports will be inin the wake of the Israelcreased by 40% and staff Hamas war in separate apat the national railway compearances Sunday that pany SNCF will be reinstressed the same idea that forced by 20% in addition it is unacceptable for such

hatred to flourish in the narailway stations, minister Holocaust

tally stabbed a teacher in the city of Arras in northern France. "Transport (networks) have been places that have seen heavy tolls in attacks in the history of our country and in

guard said in a statement Europe," said Beaune. posted on its website

People hold placards during a demonstration to show support and solidarity

tion that perpetrated the Clement Beaune said on In Berlin, thousands of France has been on its people gathered at a demhighest alert since Oct. 13 after a 20-year-old man faopposition to antisemitism all places.

some of the people reported to be missing or held by Hamas as hostages. The protest, organized by a broad alliance of

onstration called to show today — in our country of

### Philippines tells China to stop provocative actions in South China Sea

**Monitoring Desk** MANILA: The Philippines repeated its call for China to stop "provocative actions", warning that its at-tempts to block Manila's resupply missions to a disputed atoll in the South China Sea could have "disastrous results".

Jonathan Malaya,

spokesperson at the National Security Council (NSC), said in a news conference on Monday that China's move to interfere with a resupply mission on Sunday resulted in damage to one of Manila's boats, but that no one was harmed. In the incident early on Sunday, China's sador and has filed a diplo-coastguard said there had matic protest, its foreign been a "slight collision" be- ministry said.

tween one of its ships and the Philippine boat while the coastguard was "lawfully' blocking the boat from transporting "illegal construction materials" to the warship. The ship was resup-

again on Monday to try to plying the BRP Sierra Madre, a former warship pick a new speaker to lead the chamber and address grounded on the Second funding needs for Israel, Thomas Shoal and used as Ukraine and the federal a base for Philippine magovernment rines. The shoal is in the Philippines' exclusive eco-

Factional strife between right-wing hardliners nomic zone. Manila responded by condemning "in and more mainstream Republicans led to the ouster the strongest degree" the of former Speaker Kevin McCarthy on Oct. 3 and "dangerous blocking manoeuvres" of the Chinese derailed leadership bids by vessel. It has also summoned the Chinese ambas-

two would-be successors No. 2 House Republican Steve Scalise and prominent conservative Jim Jordan.

director of communications at the U.N. Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), told Reuters in Gaza by phone from Amman.

wrangling over conditions Witnesses reported a for delivering aid. blast and ambulance sirens on the border earlier. supplies began on Sunday,

Israel's military said one of its tanks accidentally hit an Egyptian position near the border with the Gaza Strip.

Several Egyptian border guards sustained minor injuries after being hit by fragments of an Israeli tank shell, a spokesperson for the Egyptian army said.

A witness and a medical source said seven people the main entry and exit were wounded and taken to hospital.

come the focus of a push Israel's defence force to deliver aid as humani-'expresses sorrow regarding the incident, which is tarian conditions in Gaza being investigated," it said worsen in a statement, giving no further details.

least 100 trucks a day There were a total of would be required in Gaza around 19 trucks in to cover urgent needs.

### China crackdown on cyber scams in Southeast Asia nets thousands but leaves networks intact

**Monitoring Desk** BANGKOK:

19 pandemic.

platforms.

who have become ensnared

by powerful Chinese crimi-

Zhang eling to Southeast Asia out of fear they might be duped Hongliang, a former restauor kidnapped and caught rant manager in central up in a cyber scam opera-China, took various gigs in and outside China to suption. In recent years, media port his family after losing

his job during the COVIDreports have uncovered instances of young people being lured to places in Cambodia or Myanmar for In March, a job offer to teach Chinese cooking at high-paying jobs, only to be a restaurant led him into a forced to work as cyber scam compound in scammers. Rescue organi-Myanmar, where he was zations say people are reguinstead ordered to lure Chilarly beaten or face physinese into giving up their cal punishments such as savings for fake investment being forced to run laps if schemes via social media they don't perform well.

ordinary Chinese from trav-

In August, China, Thai-Zhang is one of tens of thousands of people, mostly but not all Chinese, land, Laos and Myanmar agreed to set up a joint police operations center to tackle cyber scams in the in cyber scam networks run region. On Oct. 10, China's Ministry of Public Security nal syndicates in Southeast announced that its "Sum-Asia. Regional and Chinese mer Operation" had sucauthorities have netted cessfully brought back thousands of people in a 2,317 scam suspects from crackdown, but experts say northern Myanmar to they are failing to root out China.

the local elites and criminal China calls such networks that are bound to people suspects, though keep running the schemes. experts say most of them When scam operations are shut down in one place are victims who were forced to work for the they often just resurface criminals. They question elsewhere. The problem is an embarrassment for how they will be treated Beijing and is discouraging once back in China.

NEW YORK: Thousands of pregnant women in the Gaza Strip who are expected to give birth this month are in grave danger because they are not able to reach a medical facility to deliver, an aid agency says. Guillemette Thomas, medical coordinator for Doctors Without Borders in the Palestinian territories, said women have already given birth in

are in danger,

**Monitoring Desk** 

UNRWA schools that have

turned into shelters housing.

Republican

search for new

**US House** 

leader returns

to square one

Monitoring Desk

WASHINGTON: Republi-

cans, whose party infight-ing has paralyzed the U.S.

House of Representatives

for three weeks, will begin

reacts to the results of the presidential election, in Buenos Aires, Argentina.



## German leaders voice outrage and thousands rally in Berlin in

reaction to rising antisemitism aid workers say and support for Israel. People carried Israeli flags **Monitoring Desk** cellor and president or posters with photos of

various organizations comes as antisemitic incidents have been rising in Germany following the violent escalation of the war in Gaza. "It is unbearable that Jews are living in fear again

Tens of thousands of pregnant women in Gaza

### Daily **Independent**, Quetta

### Tuesday October 24, 2023

## Govt to ensure restoration of peace, protection of life and property of masses at every cost, vows CM

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The caretaker ter said that the tragic inci-dent of killing of labourers Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki has reiterated his government's resolve to ensure restoration of peace and protection of life and property of the masses at

every cost. Mr. Domki was speaking to the media persons soon after chairing a meeting on law and order in Turbat on Monday.

Also present on the occasion were the caretaker Provincial Minister for Home, Muhammad Zubair Jamali and other concerned high ups.

Referring the Turbat incident, the Chief Minis-

was occurred in Turbat few days ago. individual

He said that he wanted to come to Turbat same day pended the SP of Turbat on after the incident. the incident occurred, however, he deemed it neces-However, the joint insary to send the bodies of vestigation of the incident those killed as well as their is underway, and in today's heirs and inured persons to meeting, we have been provided an update on the law

their native areas. He recalled that we sent and order situation besides the family members of the the progress made so far slain labourers and other about the investigations, injured to Multan by the adding he mentioned. He said that the decispecial plane of Governsions made in the law and ment of Balochistan.

Similarly, we dis-patched the bodies of order meeting are of important nature and as such they can't be disclosed before labourers to Multan from Quetta by special helicoptime

He said that the inci- make it clear that those indent of Turbat was very volved in the Turbat incipainful for him and every dent would be dealt with iron hands", asserted the He said that he had sus-Chief Minister

He also said that no one would be spared irrespective of one's status.

The Chief Minister mentioned that he has issued directives to improve performance of the law enforcement agencies further for prevention of such untoward incidents in future

He also said that the data of labourers coming from other parts of the country to Turbat is being collected, and all available resources would be mobi-"However, I want to lized for their protection.

TURBAT: Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki inspecting class rooms during his visit to Turbat Law College



ISLAMABAD: Ambassadors of the ECO member States called on Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar.

#### **Chairman Senate meets** expediting PIA's **Chairman of CPPC**

opment.

kistan

Chairman

ISLAMABAD (APP) Chairman Senate, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani on Monday met with Wang Huning, the Chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC).

The Chairman expressed his delight at the warm hospitality extended to his delegation and con-gratulated Mr. Wang Huning on his appointment as the Chairman of the CPPCC and the successful "Two Sessions" held earlier this year

According to news release received here the Chairman emphasized the as the flagship of the Belt enduring friendship be- and Road Initiative and entween Pakistan and China, couraged more Chinese citing it as the cornerstone

President Xi Jinping's visit to Pakistan. ISLAMABAD (APP) The Chairman high-Caretaker Prime Minister lighted the rich history of Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Monday directed the aufriendly exchanges between the CPPCC and the Senate thorities concerned to expe-

He looked forward to

of Pakistan and underdite the process of scored Pakistan's support privatization of the nafor China during the COVID-19 outbreak and tional flag career, Pakistan International Airlines legislative measures taken (PIA) in Hong Kong.

Chairing a review meet-The Chairman Senate ing on the financial crisis of expressed sincere apprecia-PIA, the prime minister tion for China's generous support for Pakistan's economic stability and devel-

He emphasized the strategic significance of CPEC him in this regard. companies to invest in Pa-

privatization.

the privatization process within stipulated time. day. The prime minister sought regular compliance

PM Kakar said the government would continue

till completion of its

Owned Enterprises (SOEs),

financial situation of PIA.

He said the State-

**PM** orders

privatization

process

stressed the finalization of

reports to be submitted to

extending support to PIA

### Nawaz Sharif files applications for restoration of appeals in two references ISLAMABAD (APP):

the accountability court in The legal team of Pakistan his absence on July 6, 2018. Muslim League-Nawaz He said that his wife

(PML-N) was under medical treat-Ouaid Muhammad Nawaz Sharif ment and on the ventilator on Monday filed applicain a hospital of London. He tions to the Islamabad High had requested the trial court Court (IHC), seeking the to delay the judgment but restoration of appeals in the request was rejected at Avenfield property and Al-Azizia Steel Mills referthat time. Despite the fact, he came back to Pakistan, faced the jail and filed apences.

Amjad Pervaiz Advocate filed the applications on behalf of the former prime minister. It prayed the court to decide the appeals after hearing arguments on merit in the cases. In the petitions, PLL-N leader Nawaz Sharif

stated that he hadn't com- minated the in absence of pletely recovered from the the petitioner. ailment, adding he decided

to return country due to the miserable economic condition of the country. He said that he was awarded the he had not misused his bail

peals against his convic tions, he added. He said that the co-accused including Maryam Nawaz and her husband, had already been acquitted in Avenfield property case.

The application said that the appeals were ter-

It said that the former prime minister couldn't

appear before the court due to his health issues, adding imprisonment sentence by in manner.

### CT CM directs to solarize Turbat Public Library; visits Law College

#### **Independent Report**

QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan visited the public library and Law college Turbat on Mon-

During the visit of Library, the Chief Minister went round of its different sections and inspected the facilities available for the book readers and visitors.

He handed over the gift of books from the Chinese embassy to the administration of public library. He expressed pleasure over interest of the students in



We will continue to play our

## role for development, peace and stability, Jalil Abbas Jilani

lent example of re-

He said that we

gional relations.

He

ISLAMABAD (Online): ASEAN countries. Caretaker Foreign tions with ASEAN Minister Jalil Abbas Jilani said that Pakicountries improved stan will continue to further during Corona play its role for develepidemic. opment, peace and are further strengthstability.

He expressed his views while addressing the opening cer-emony of ASEAN Corner at the institute of

Strategic Studies Islamabad. He said that es-

tablishment of ASEAN Corner is an-

other step in enhancalso want to expand ing the relations beour regional relations tween ASEAN counwith ASEAN countries and Pakistan. tries

Pakistan has very good relations with

**Pakistan Railways** 

### plans cross-border network

to Afghanistan ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Railways Shahid Ashraf Tarar revealed on Monday that Pakistan Railways has strategic plans to develop a railway network connecting

Kohat to Kharlachi, promoting connectivity between Pakistan and Afghanistan.

During a meeting with

suffer from Indian Pakistan's relabias and so does Pakistan.

We will launch a bilateral calendar to enhance our events and relations with ASEAN countries. He said that we

ening relations with He said that our ASEĂN countries by geographical boundlooking at cyber and strategic security. aries increase our importance but climate Pakistan-China changes are also af-Economic Corridor fecting us. (CPEC) is an excel-

He said that peace and security is fundamental component for any country.

He said that Pakistan believes in ensuring the implementation of UN charter of Human Rights.

ASEAN countries also

said that



ISLAMABAD: Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Naveed Ashraf exchange views with Ambassador of Indonesia to Pakistan, Adam Mulawarman Tugio at naval Headquarter.

of Pakistan's foreign policy, enjoying unanimous public and institutional support. Both nations pledged unwavering support for each other on key issues, including the "One China" policy and the South China Sea.

Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani commended the momentum of high-level exchanges and expressed gratitude for China's invitation to the Pakistan Prime Minister to the 3rd Belt and Road Forum.

close communication in strengthening the Pakistanwhich were facing financial China All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership. save the national exchequer He also extended a warm invitation to Mr. Wang Huning to visit Pakistan. Mr. Wang Huning graciously accepted the invitation and mentioned that he would report the warm

invitation to President Xi

taker CM Balochistan for

stressed the importance of

Senate

Jinping **Balochistan CM advisor** meets Sindh Governor, CM

KARACHI (APP): Advisor to Chief Minister Balochistan Shania Khan called on Governor Sindh Mohammed Kamran Khan Tessori here on Monday. They discussed inter-provincial coordination, exchange of delegations and cultural relations. The governor said that development of the provinces was top priority of the federa-

tion.

Social Welfare and Special Education, Mrs Shania Khan who called on him here . The advisor said that the Social Welfare Dept of Balochistan had an endowment fund from which the medical treatment of poor patients for deadly diseases was carried out.

The patients were referred to hospitals of Sindh such as Dow University



tation

He said that the provinces would develop by funding from the federation.

Tessori said that the provinces could get benefit from the experiences of each other.

The advisor said that cooperation of the federation in Balochistan was appreciatable.

Meanwhile Caretaker Sindh Chief Minister Justice (retd) Magbool Bagar Monday said that the government hospitals in the province were providing free-of-cost medical treatment to every patient, no

matter whether the patient belonged to other provinces, but the Gambat Hospital had some specialities for which they did charge.

This he said while talking to the Advisor to Caredisappoint them.

Hospital and Gambat Institute of Medical Sciences but the treatment was costly, she said and urged to give

pertaining to holding assets subsidy to the patients. The chief minister said income that as far as the Down Hospital, Ojha was concerned it was the personal

hospital of the university minister where subsidized rates

were being charged. ity Talking about the Gambat Hospital, Baqar said that it had a long list of patients for liver transplan-"Even then I am direct-

proceeded in such circuming the health department stances to discuss the matter with both the hospitals for the he NAB prosecutor to give

welfare of poor patients this statement in writing. from Balochistan," he said The court subseand added Balochs were our quently disposed of the brothers and we would not

book reading at the library

He on the occasion directed to resolve the issue of internet in the public library at the earliest ensuring the connectivity with other libraries of the country and world. Meanwhile, he visited the law college where the Prin-

cipal Dr. Gul Hasan briefed him about the functioning of loss, would be privatized to college. He announced that the study tour of college students The prime minister

would be arranged in near future. He also planted a was given a briefing on the sapling in the premises of law college.

SEAN CORNER

#### World Polio Day to be celebrated in Quetta today **Independent Report**

QUETTA: The World Polio Day is scheduled to be celebrated today (Tuesday) in Ouetta. Marking the Polio Day,

a ceremony had been arranged at the Balochistan University of Information Technology, Engineering and Management Sciences ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Foreign Minister Jalil (BUITEMS). The Chief Secretary Shakeel Qadir Khan would be the chief guest at the cer

emony He would also inaugurate the painting exhibition marking the World Polio

Day. The Secretary Health, Asfandyar Khan Kakar Coordinator, Emergency Operation Center, Zahid Shah, Maulana Anwaarul Haq Haqqani besides representatives of WHO UNICEF and the polio workers wound also be participating in the ceremony.

**Court disposes of** NAB reference against Dar

ISLAMABAD (APP): An Accountability Court (AC) on Monday disposed of a reference against former finance minister Ishaq Dar

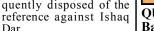
beyond known sources of AC Judge Muhammad Bashir announced the ver-

Asian States.

dict on a petition of former At the outset of hearng, National Accountabil-

Bureau Prosecutor Afzal Qureshi adopted the stance that no evidence had been found against the accused in the said reference, and the trial could not be

At this, the judge asked





Culture, Syed Jamal Shah said on Monday that his ministry planed to orga-(PECB).

aimed at transcending economic ties and strengthening cultural bonds between Pakistan, China and the Central

The cultural excursion ducer of the film. under the title 'CPEC Cultural Caravan 2023' will be composed of diverse groups of Pakistani, Chinese and Central Asian artists, musicians, photographers, anthropologists, writers and filmmakers, he

newly renovated auditorium of Pakistan Embassy College Beijing nize a cultural caravan The minister also gave

by the end of this year away Pakistan-China Cultural Exchange Envoy award to Producer of the film, Xie Peng and Pakistan National Award for Outstanding Achievement in Culture to the co-pro-

Jamal Shah informed that the caravan would start from Xi'an, China and travel through Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan Turkmenistan, Iran, UAE, Oman, Gwadar, Karachi before culminating in

French Ambassador Nicolas Galey, the minister expressed that the Sukkur-. Hyderabad Motorway M-6 also represents a compelling investment prospect for France. Pakistan National Shipping Corporation is actively broadening its operation Organisation scope, providing further (ÉCO), said Pakistan was investment avenues. keen to further strengthen

The caretaker minister, Tatar, noted that the Pakistan National Shipping Corporation (PNSC) is undergoing expansion, offering extensive investment possibilities, including opportunities for French investors.

velopment The French ambassador highlighted the longstanding history of relations and cohistory and culture. operation between France and Pakistan

He also mentioned the interest of French investors in Pakistani projects, emphasizing the diverse investment possibilities available for French investors in Pakistan.

14 new Corona cases reported ISLAMABAD (APP) Health officials have said that 14 new coronavirus cases were reported during the last week across the country. As per data shared by the National Institute of Health (NIH), the case positivity ratio was 0.66 per-

in critical condition. No death was reported from the coronavirus while 2,112 Covid-19 tests were conducted.

Meanwhile, the official of the Ministry for Na-tional Health Services, Regulations, and Coordination said that the government had strengthened the role of Border and Health

Services in Pakistan to deal with any sub-variant of Covid-19. e said there was a surveillance system at all entry points of the coun-

try including airports. There will be rapid tests and screening of passengers at



QUETTA: Additional Chief Secretary Home Zahid Saleem presiding over meeting regarding repatriation of foreigners living in **Balochistan illegally** 

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#### strengthen bilateral ties with ECO member states ISLAMABAD (APP):

Pakistan keen to

that need to be dealt with Caretaker Prime Minister to create opportunities for Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on collective growth and pros-Monday, stressing the sigperity," he remarked. nificance of Economic Co-

In this regard, Prime Minister Kakar highlighted connectivity, trade, energy and economic cooperation. He looked forward to

his meetings with the heads of state of ECO member countries on the margins of the 16th ECO Summit in Tashkent, Uzbekistan from November 8-9.

of the ECO for regional de-The ambassadors reaffirmed their respective He said the ECO memcountries' desire to build ber states shared a common stronger relations with Pakistan and also their collec-Today, the region tive commitment to the vi-

faces common challenges sion and objectives of ECO.

#### Physical activities to be started soon: **NRL** receives exploration license for minerals in Chagai district

proved exploration plan and currently exploration resources are being hired to start the physical activities soon. NRL spokesman said the company plans to hire

bilateral ties with each ECO

a meeting with resident am-

bassadors of ECO member

states at the PM House,

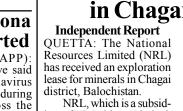
highlighted the significance

The prime minister, in

member country.

all its human resources from within Pakistan especially from Balochistan. We also plan to hire a major foreign consultancy firm to supervise the entire exploration activities. Foremost assignment of this foreign consultancy would be to train the local engineers to make them capable of handling such exploration activities on their own. NRL is confident that this award will encourage many other Pakistani domestic compaopportunities for people in especially nies to venture into mining Balochistan. Subject to feasector. Mining Sector has sibility, NRL will attempt to been picked up as one of refine the product locally priority areas to revive our before being exported. ailing economy and SIFC NRL has received has developed a road map to NOCs from Environmental revamp and streamline the as well as Forest & Wildlife

whole Mining chain from seeking to apply for a mine lease right up to delivering a value added product.



iary of YB Pakistan Limited, Reliance Commodities (Pvt.) limited and Liberty Mills Limited has been leased out an area of 500 Sq. km in cent while no patient was Chagai area. NRL had applied for lease in early 2022 and the lease has been issued after fulfilling all legal and other formalities. he project when materialized will attract major investment in mining and will also generate direct and indirect employment

Pakistan