





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

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 cancer 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 was linked to the overall economic growth of the country.

He said 24% of the country's population was suffering from mental disease 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 and economy.

Citing China's example, the president said the country's rapid development was due to its special focus on health and education.

He maintained that due to lack of resources, prevention should be fo-

cus 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 disease.

"Women should make habit of self-examination for five months every month to minimize the death rate."

Appreciating the role of media in success of the campaign, the First Lady 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 discussed at every level.

Expressing pleasure over increasing awareness about the disease, she hoped that the campaign would help further increasing the message to every door across the country.



ISLAMABAD: President Dr. Arif Alvi addressing a Breast Cancer Awareness program, at Aiwane-Sadr.

## IIUI holds int'l conference to mark success advance women's academic leadership

ISLAMABAD (APP): The International Islamic University Islamabad (IIUI) has hosted the "Less Talk, More Action: Changing the Course of Women's Academic Leadership" international conference.

This transformative three-day event, held in collaboration with the Higher Education Commission (HEC) Pakistan, brought together a diverse assembly of academic luminaries, shedding light on the path to advancing women's academic leadership.

Academic luminaries gathered for the opening ceremony of the interna-

tional conference, setting the tone for what would be a transformative event.

Dr. Samina Malik, the Rector of IIUI, emphasized the importance of inclusivity and collaborative discussions, which were the cornerstone of the conference.

The event went beyond mere paper presentations, incorporating voices from diverse backgrounds, including academics, organizations such as ILFABET and HRDN Pakistan, and international keynote speakers who brought invaluable insights to the table.

The University of Newcastle's Professor Penny Jane Burke, Director of the Centre of Excellence 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 insidious ways of silencing in academia and the need to empower women to overcome unjust treatment.

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The conference featured international keynote

## Analysts call upon world to help stop Israeli aggression against innocent Palestinians

ISLAMABAD (APP): Analysts have called upon 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 relations expert Dr. Muhammad Khan said that the situation in the Middle East was very unfortunate and tragic. He lamented that no effort was being made from any quarters to

stop the aggression of Israel. He said that in this alarming situation, more and more Palestinians were dying 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 to stop Israel from its genocide of Palestinians. He opined that the basic objective of Israel was to expel Palestinians from Gaza and other pockets and occupy the whole area for good.



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

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Monday formed a division bench to hear applications seeking to restore appeals of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Quaid Muhammad Nawaz Sharif in two references.

The two-judge bench comprising Chief Justice Aamer Farooq and Justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb will hear the pleas on Tuesday.

Amjad Pervaiz Advocate, counsel for the former prime minister, filed the applications urging the IHC to restore his client's appeals in the Avenfield property and Al-Azizia Steel Mills references, and give its decisions after hearing arguments on merit.

Nawaz Sharif, in his pleas, stated that he had not completely recover from the illness, however, he decided to return to the

country due to miserable economic conditions.

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 as his wife was on ventilator in a London hospital, but his request was rejected.

He came back to Pakistan, remained in jail and filed appeals against his conviction, he added.

Nawaz said that his co-accused Maryam Nawaz and her husband had already been acquitted in the Avenfield property case.

He said his appeals were terminated in his absence as he could not appear before the court due to his health issues. He had not misused his bail, and had been submitting his medical reports regularly to Lahore High Court (LHC).



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.

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

ISLAMABAD (APP): Following the special directions of Islamabad Capital City Police Officer (ICCP) Dr 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 Officer Operations division Shakhir Hussain Dawar di-

rected SSP Operations and other officials to ensure the completion of pending cases and the presentation of challans in relevant courts, aiming to ensure the arrest of criminals involved in heinous crimes such as murder and other serious offenses.

During the 10-day special drive, the Islamabad Capital Police teams ensured the fulfillment of all legal requirements, maintaining transparency and efficiency in the processing of cases reported during the current year, while also successfully completing the challans of 986 pending cases from 2018 to 2022.

ICCP Officer Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan commended the performance of Islamabad Capital Police teams, emphasizing the continuation of such initiatives in the future as well.



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

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

ISLAMABAD (APP): A "Kashmir Black Day" photo exhibition depicting India's 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,

highlight the unending miseries of the Kashmiris, a press release said.

Ambassador Amna Baloch, while speaking at the occasion, paid homage to the Kashmiri victims and lauded their unbreakable resolve for their right to self-determination and complete freedom from Indian subjugation.

Stressing upon the importance of October 27, the ambassador said that, on this day India through its forces, forcibly occupied Jammu and Kashmir and indicated a series of unlawful brutalities, killings and atrocities against the innocent people of IIOJK, which continues unabated till today.

Speaking on the egregious human rights viola-

## Delay in elections can aggravate country's problems, says Senator

ISLAMABAD (APP): Senator Kamran Murtaza on Monday said that the delay in elections could aggravate the problems of the people of this country.

Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP), should announce the exact date for general elections without further delay, he said while talking to a private television channel. There is no reason to postpone general elections after passing the 90-day constitutional period, he said. The caretaker government is responsible for making arrangements for free and fair elections across the country.

## Call to resolve Palestine, Kashmir issues for world peace

ISLAMABAD (APP): President of the Institute of Peace and Development (INSPAD), an international organization active for peace and religious harmony, Dr. Sardar Muhammad Tahir Tabassum has called for the protection of the Al Aqsa Mosque, the first Qibla, and securing the rights of the Palestinian and Kashmiri people for peace in the Middle East and South Asia and the world at large.

tions being committed by India, she called upon the international community to intervene and stop bloodshed of the voiceless and defenceless people of Kashmir.

The ambassador further said that such events underscored the need to hold India accountable for its crimes against humanity.

She said that the exhibition would help visitors to understand the gravity of human rights abuses committed by Indian occupation forces, spanning over many decades.

For its part, Pakistan would continue to raise its voice for the Kashmiris on all platforms, the ambassador added.

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

ISLAMABAD (APP): 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 universities.

Leaders from the public sector universities gathered to share the strategic plans that each university is developing.

During the dialogue, university leaders reflected on best practices in academia, research, and governance to kickstart their institution-specific strategic planning.

The Higher Education System Strengthening Activity (HESSA), implemented by the University of Utah, brings together an extensive international network of experienced college and university planners to support its partner universities in strengthening their institutional and technical

capacities for strategic planning.

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 of Party HESSA.

During the event, Vice Chancellors began developing their university strategic plans. Over the next few weeks, Vice Chancellors will activate planning teams on their campuses to complete strategic planning.

Speaking at the event, USAID's Deputy Mission Director Maura O'Brien said, "What makes the Higher Education System Strengthening Activity uniquely powerful is that it brings together both Pakistani and American universities to learn from each other, exchange ideas, and think strategically to solve 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 Regulatory Authority (IHRA) has sealed six Healthcare Establishments (HCEs) in different areas of Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT).

IHRA inspection teams carried out inspections of 88 Healthcare Establishments in different areas of ICT during the past four weeks.

Mustehsan Medical 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 reagents and unqualified staff rendering medical ser-

VICES.

The IHRA suspended the services of six Healthcare Establishments (HCEs) over different medical non-compliances.

Hello Esthetics Hair and Skin Studio, Iqbal Pathology Lab (Inside Mishal Clinic), Dr. Neelum Ayub-Skin Aesthetics and Laser Clinic, Ayaz Hope Clinic, Tooth Care Dental Clinic, Civic Care Hospital were suspended.

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

As many as 17 HCEs were found closed upon arrival by inspection teams. Five Healthcare Establishments were recommended for registration and revocation of suspension.

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

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Oxford University Press (OUP) to hold a three-day 9th Edition of the Islamabad Literature Festival (ILF) from November 3 to 5 at the Gandhara Citizen Club in F-9 Park.

The festival is being held in collaboration with CDA, Getz Pharma Pakistan, Kaizen Paint Pvt Ltd, British Council and other supporters.

With the overarching theme of 'People, Planet, Possibilities,' ILF promises an array of captivating keynote, engaging conversations, book launches, exhibitions, and film screenings.

The inaugural event on November 3 will be opened to the public, featuring thought-provoking addresses by Arshad Saeed Husain, Managing Director OUP; Jane Marriott, High Commissioner of the United Kingdom; and Khalid Mahmood, Managing Director, Getz Pharma Pvt. Ltd. The event will also include keynote by the notable British author, biographer, and historian, Victoria Schofield, and the

eminent Urdu poet, Hilal-e-Imtiaz, Sitara-e-Imtiaz, and Presidential Prize of Performance, Iftikhar Arif. A beautiful performance of a literary piece will conclude the event.

Staying true to its tradition of celebrating Urdu poetry and its rendition, the event's program has a grand Mushaira presided over by Iftikhar Arif, and a Ghazal Night with the maestro Ustad Hamid Ali Khan on the second and third evenings, respectively.

All informative and literary discussions will be led by eminent experts, including Dr. Ishrat Husain, Dr. Maleeha Lodhi, Mohammad Aurangzeb, Muhammad Azfar Ahsan, Saqib Ahmad, Dr. Farzana Bari, Dr. Najeeba Arif, Nasir Abbas Nayyar, Kishwar Naheed, Nasira Zuberi, Omar Shahid Hamid, Muneeza Shamsie, Harris Khalique, Hamid Khan, Zahid Hussain, Nasim Zehra, Hamid Mir, Asma Shirazi, Dr. Aisha Ghaus Pasha, Asghar Nadeem Syed, Khaleel Anam, Sarmad Khoosat, and Beo Zafar.



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



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

KARACHI (APP): Caretaker Sindh Chief Minister Justice (ret'd) Maqbool Baqar has ordered two separate inquiries against the Sindh Revenue Board (SRB) and Labour Department for their failure to act against the non-compliance of Sindh Workers Welfare Fund and Sindh Workers Participation Fund and the failure, of DG Labour, to register Industrial Units respectively.

"If both the organizations-the SRB and the DG Labour, had taken timely action the recovery of Rs16.4 billion for workers fund could have been ensured."

This he said while presiding over a joint meeting of SRB, SESSI and Workers Welfare Board attended by Minister Law

Omar Soomro, Advocate General Hassan Akbar, PSCM Hassan Naqvi, Secretary Labour Shariq Ahmad, Chairman SRB Wasif Memon, Secretary Law Ali Ahmad Baloch, Commissioner SESSI Saleem Khuro, Secretary Workers Welfare Board and others.

Chairman SRB Wasif Memon told the CM that the missing amount of the

fund payers- Workers Welfare Fund (WWF) and 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 total amount has come to 26.03 billion.



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 overseas Pakistanis led by Chief Coordinator Muslim League (N) International Affairs Amjad 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 Muhammad Balighur

Rehman said that the return of political leader 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.

He expressed hope that Pakistan would be put back on the path to development very soon. Governor Punjab said that overseas Pakistanis are playing an important role in the country's economy

by sending significant 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 country.

He said that Muhammad Nawaz Sharif 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 progress and prosperity.

## Through Punjab Health Foundation Roadshows will be organized to provide maximum benefit to doctors. Dr. Javed Akram

**Independent Report**  
LAHORE: The 35<sup>th</sup> 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 Farrukh, Prof. Dr. Mahmood Shaukat and other officials participated in the meeting. The CFO of Punjab Health Foundation presented the contents of the agenda

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 87<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Finance and Technical Committee. During the meeting, SOPs were also reviewed in detail with reference to provision of loans of Punjab Health Foundation. The caretaker provincial health minister Prof. Dr. Javed Akram said that Government wants to make the Punjab Health Foundation more beneficial for doctors.

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

**Independent Report**  
PESHAWAR: In 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 attendees included

Education Secretary Syed Mohtasim Billah Shah, Special Secretary Sharif Hussain, Education Advisor 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 efforts to reintegrate out-of-school children into the education system.



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.

## CM orders free legal assistance to juvenile offenders

**Independent Report**  
KARACHI (APP): Caretaker Sindh Chief Minister Justice (ret'd) 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 directive after the media

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

## KP Information Minister visits Nowshera

**Independent Report**  
PESHAWAR: Responding to directives from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Caretaker Chief Minister, Muhammad Azam Khan, Barrister Feroze Jamal Shah Kakakhel, the Minister of Information and Public Relations, embarked on an extensive inspection tour of Nowshera district. The primary objective of this visit was to evaluate the implementation of official transportation fares and the pricing of fruits and vegetables at government-approved rates.

While visiting transport terminals, Minister Kakakhel engaged with passengers to confirm their compliance with government-sanctioned fare structures. In instances where transport

providers were found to be imposing excess charges, he swiftly intervened, collected the surplus fees, and returned them to the passengers. The Minister stressed the vital necessity for rigorous oversight by district administration and transport authorities at terminals and along roadways to ensure adherence to government-mandated pricing. Minister Kakakhel reiterated his unwavering commitment to adopting a zero-tolerance approach toward those who attempt to charge fares exceeding official rates. He called upon both provincial and regional transport authorities to maintain vigilant supervision of fare pricing. Additionally, he encouraged administrative officers to prepare and prominently display.

## CM Naqvi emphasizes swift resolution of issues

### Independent Report

LAHORE: In a surprise move, Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi conducted an impromptu visit to the LDA One Window Cell today. He personally met with the staff of the One Window Cell, engaging in discussions about the challenges they face. Chief Minister Naqvi also sought feedback from citizens 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 commended his widespread presence in

schools, hospitals, and various other settings. She prayed for his continued strength and expressed deep appreciation for his visits to hospitals and other critical places.

A senior citizen expressed his pleasure at seeing the Chief Minister in the One Window Cell and praised the collective efforts of the team for striving towards improvement. Responding promptly to a citizen's complaint, the Chief Minister immediately summoned the concerned officer and directed swift resolution of the matter. He further instructed that a citizen's long-pending issue, spanning two years, be resolved within four days. Additionally, at the

request of a retired LDA employee's wife, Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi directed the expeditious resolution of a plot allotment matter. He emphasized to LDA officials the utmost importance of promptly addressing citizens' concerns and underscored the need for efficient handling of LDA-related matters.

Mohsin Naqvi noted the commendable progress in the performance of the One Window Cell, while acknowledging room for further enhancement. He assured that all endeavors are underway to ensure citizens do not face unnecessary hurdles in seeking assistance from the One Window Cell.

## IRP Area Manager calls on Governor

**Independent Report**  
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 to humanity. The Governor lauded the role of the IRP in working for the poor people.



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 occupation: Sardar Attique

**Independent Report**  
MIRPUR (AJK) (APP): Kashmir government founded on October 24, 1947 after immense human sacrifices is launching region to free rest of the Jammu and Kashmir state under military occupation of India.

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 world.

Attique reminded that the Muslim Conference had chartered a political course to accede Jammu and Kashmir to Pakistan back in 1932 and it unwaveringly sticks to this manifesto.



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 of 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

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 instructions.



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

**Independent Report**  
LARKANA (APP): The 12<sup>th</sup> death anniversary of Begum Nusrat Bhutto wife of former Prime

Minister and Founder Chairman of PPP Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto was observed here on Monday with a renewed commitment to continue the struggle for protecting democracy.

Qura'an Khawani and fateha Khawani were held in every corner of the country for the departed soul of Begum Nusrat Bhutto. People from all walks of life in their messages on the occasion

paid rich tributes to Begum Nusrat Bhutto for her services to the progress and prosperity of Pakistan and protecting the democracy in the country.

On this occasion, Qura'an Khawani was held at the Bhutto House Naudero and Garhi Khuda Bux Bhutto (Larkana).

District President PPP Larkana and former MNA Khurshed Ahmed Junejo, District General Secretary of PPP Larkana and Chairman District Council Larkana Aijaz Ahmed Leghari, Khair 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

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.

Factories emitting excessive smoke and engaged in the burning of tires will face immediate closure. The Chief Minister instructed commissioners and deputy commissioners to take robust measures against the burning of crop residues. Swift action will also be taken against those found selling substandard fuel.

## Gastro takes 60,000 lives per annum in Pakistan: Experts

**Independent Report**  
FAISALABAD (APP): The experts have revealed that the gastroenteritis and stomach diseases are taking the lives of 60,000 people annually in Pakistan.

They were addressing an awareness seminar on "Gut Warriors: conquering gastroenteritis through awareness and action" 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

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

ISLAMABAD (APP): Cartaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Monday directed the authorities concerned to 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' rates,

instructed that the effect of reduction of petrol price by 12.38 percent and diesel by 4.7 percent should be trickled down to the common man at the earliest.

He said Rs 41 billion had been saved due to the stability in dollar rate and reduction in petroleum prices, and the relief would be extended to the common man. The meeting was apprised of the recent oil prices reduction and

outcomes of operation against power theft and smuggling.

It was told that due to the reduced petroleum prices, inflation had come down by 1.7 percent which was the highest during the last one year.

The prime minister appreciated the administration for taking steps to reduce oil prices and dollar rate, curb smuggling and transmitting

their impacts to the common man.

He instructed the 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 reduction of wheat price and sugar by 16 percent in Balochistan was welcoming.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar chairs a briefing on decline in prices 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

LAHORE (APP): The International Trade Center's ITC-FCDO Programme, Revenue Mobilization for 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 four-member technical team of ReMIT, headed by Hamid Ateeque Sarwar, visited SMEDA Head Office here Monday to discuss the scope of collaboration. The meeting was also attended by Asim Javaid Hashmi, Managing Director Punjab Small Industries Corporation

(PSIC), Dr. Shehla Javaid Akram, Founder President Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry, along with a number of other stakeholders. The SMEDA team was headed by Socrat Aman Rana, General Manager Central Support.

The meeting observed that while male labour force participation hovers at 67.9 per cent, the figure for women is a dismal 21.4 per cent. Of these, merely 19 per cent are self-employed or own-account workers, and an almost negligible 0.1 per cent are employers. With approximately 3.22 million women entrepreneurs in the country, the women entrepreneurship ratio is alarmingly low.

The ReMIT team was informed that SMEDA, with the support and guidance of the Ministry of Industries and Production (MoIP), had developed a National SME Policy 2021 along with its action plan that provides a comprehensive roadmap for development and promotion of SMEs across Pakistan. Recognising the pivotal role of women in economic activities, the SME Policy features a dedicated section on women entrepreneurship development, and in line with the National SME Policy 2021, MoIP had constituted and notified a Consultative Group on Supporting Women-owned SMEs.

## Pakistan Culinary Submit 2023 & star chef award held

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

showcase their exceptional abilities, all the budding and export chef, gathered at a local hotel. DG Sindh Food Authority Agha Fakhur Hussain emphasized over the use of safe, healthy and hygienic food ingredients in cooking. He appreciated the skills of the participants and judges.

He also thanked the organizers of the event for their dedication, devotion and sincere commitment towards the organizing of such a wonderful event.



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

KARACHI (APP): State 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

approval from SBP or 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 the bank accounts both digitally and physically at their choice with minimum.

## Pakistan, France discuss investment opportunities in key sectors

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan's Caretaker Minister Shahid Ashraf Tarar met with French Ambassador Nicolas Galey on Monday to discuss issues of mutual interest, including investment opportunities in key sectors such as railways, motorways, and shipping.

Tarar highlighted the country's democratic stability and bright future, while Galey expressed confidence in the Pakistani market and pledged to attract more French investment.

Shahid Ashraf Tarar further said that the democratic stability in Pakistan has continued since 2008 and its future is

bright. Some of the specific investment opportunities discussed include:

A new railway line from Kohat to Kharlachi to connect with Afghanistan, the Sukkur-Hyderabad motorway M-6, and the expansion of the Pakistan National Shipping Corporation.

The meeting is a positive sign of the growing economic ties between Pakistan and France, Alstom, a leading French rail transport company, has already established a permanent representation in Pakistan, and Galey's assurance to bring more French investment is a welcome development.

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

HYDERABAD (APP): The President Hyderabad Chamber of Small Traders and Small Industry Muhammad Farooq Shaikhani has appealed to the Chairperson and Managing Director of Sui Southern Gas Company to resolve the issues of gas supply with low pressure and unscheduled management in Hyderabad.

The citizens particularly the industrialists of Hyderabad are suffering hardship due to gas pressure reduction and unscheduled gas

management, he said in a statement issued here on Monday.

The HCSTSI President expressed annoyance over the non-professional attitude of the SSGC management in Hyderabad including the Regional Manager adding that despite repeated complaints in person about gas pressure reduction and unscheduled management, no positive step was initiated to address the grievances causing financial losses to industrialists of Hyderabad.

## SBP expects real GDP growth in the range of 2-3 percent in FY24

KARACHI (APP): The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP), Monday, said that Pakistan's economic situation started to show 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 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 and for economic growth and

development and also stressed expediting tax policy reforms and speedy implementation of governance reforms in PSEs terming them instrumental to create fiscal space for public investment in human and physical capital.

The SBP also underscored the need to create a conducive environment to support foreign direct investment in exportable sectors and encourage technology transfers, coupled with agriculture sector reforms that were required to alleviate import reliance and for achieving price

stability.

"There is a need to expedite these reforms to achieve a high and sustainable economic growth required to absorb the new entrants in labor market, improve social welfare and raise the general standard of living in the country," the SBP suggested.

The report highlighted that Pakistan's economic situation has started to show some early signs of improvement as the country has been able to secure a US\$ 3.0 billion Stand-By Arrangement (SBA) from IMF, towards 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; 171 of them recorded gains and 150 sustained losses.



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

ISLAMABAD (PR): Chairman of National Business Group Pakistan, President Pakistan Businessmen and Intellectuals Forum, and All Karachi Industrial Alliance, and former provincial minister Mian Zahid Hussain said on Monday that the business community is pinning high hopes on the return of former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif.

His return will result in balanced politics, which will result in political stability that will help the people and the economy, he said.

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

did he talk about any kind of revenge, which is a proof of his political insight.

Talking to the business community, the veteran business leader said that the former prime minister did not make any tall claims or vowed to jail the opponents, which shows that he does not want the politics of chaos in the country.

The people and the business community have breathed a sigh of relief after his speech because the country cannot afford any more protests and politics of conflict, he added.

Mian Zahid Hussain said that the former prime minister did not mention the armed forces and the judiciary despite complaints.



KARACHI: Brokers are busy trading at Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) in Karachi.

## CDNS introduces ATM through reformer in institution

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Central Directorate of National Savings (CDNS) has introduced an Automated Teller Machine (ATM) through its reformer in the 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.

The senior official of CDNS said that work was being done on institutional

reforms in CDNS and new reforms and innovations were being introduced.

"Islamic finance has a 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 achieved the target of Rs 1.6 trillion in fresh bonds in the current fiscal year.

## Lahore chamber demands cut in power, gas tariffs

LAHORE (APP): Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) Vice 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.



RAWALPINDI: vendor is displayed LPG gas cylinders outside his shop at Adyala 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 wheat before November 20, a critical step for

ensuring a bountiful 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 revolution. Farmers will receive vital training on the utilization of certified seeds.



MULTAN: Farmer busy in spreading fertilizer in his farm field.



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

**Independent Report**  
**QUETTA:** The caretaker 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 Minister

said that the tragic incident of killing of labourers was occurred in Turbat few days ago.  
 He said that he wanted to come to Turbat same day the incident occurred, however, he deemed it necessary to send the bodies of those killed as well as their heirs and injured persons to their native areas.  
 He recalled that we sent the family members of the slain labourers and other injured to Multan by the special plane of Government of Balochistan.  
 Similarly, we dispatched the bodies of labourers to Multan from Quetta by special helicopter.

He said that the incident of Turbat was very painful for him and every individual.  
 He said that he had suspended the SP of Turbat soon after the incident.  
 However, the joint investigation of the incident is underway, and in today's meeting, we have provided an update on the law and order situation besides the progress made so far about the investigations, adding he mentioned.  
 He said that the decisions made in the law and order meeting are of important nature and as such they can't be disclosed before time.  
 "However, I want to

make it clear that those involved in the Turbat incident would be dealt with iron hands", asserted the 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 mobilized 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 Chairman of CPPC

**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 congratulated 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 enduring friendship between Pakistan and China, citing it as the cornerstone 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.

## 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 federation.  
 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 appreciable.  
 Meanwhile Caretaker Sindh Chief Minister Justice (ret'd) Maqbool Baqar 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 Care-



taker CM Balochistan for 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 Hospital and Gambat Institute of Medical Sciences but the treatment was costly, she said and urged to give subsidy to the patients.  
 The chief minister said that as far as the Dow Hospital, Ojha was concerned it was the personal hospital of the university where subsidized rates were being charged.  
 Talking about the Gambat Hospital, Baqar said that it had a long list of patients for liver transplantation.  
 "Even then I am directing the health department to discuss the matter with both the hospitals for the welfare of poor patients from Balochistan," he said and added Balochs were our brothers, and we would not disappoint them.

## PM orders expediting PIA's privatization process

**ISLAMABAD (APP):** Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Monday directed the authorities concerned to expedite the process of privatization of the national flag carrier, Pakistan International Airlines (PIA).  
 Chairing a review meeting on the financial crisis of PIA, the prime minister stressed the finalization of the privatization process within stipulated time.  
 The prime minister sought regular compliance reports to be submitted to him in this regard.  
 PM Kakar said the government would continue extending support to PIA till completion of its privatization.  
 He said the State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs), which were facing financial loss, would be privatized to save the national exchequer.  
 The prime minister was given a briefing on the financial situation of PIA.

## World Polio Day to be celebrated in Quetta today

**QUETTA:** The World Polio Day is scheduled to be celebrated today (Tuesday) in Quetta.  
 Marking the Polio Day, a ceremony had been arranged at the Balochistan University of Information Technology, Engineering and Management Sciences (BUITEMS).  
 The Chief Secretary Shakeel Qadir Khan would be the chief guest at the ceremony.  
 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 would also be participating in the ceremony.

## CPEC Cultural Carvan to promote cultural bonds between Pakistan, China: Jamal Shah

**BEIJING (APP):** Federal Minister for Heritage and Culture, Syed Jamal Shah said on Monday that his ministry planned to organize a cultural caravan by the end of this year aimed at transcending economic ties and strengthening cultural bonds between Pakistan, China and the Central Asian States.  
 The cultural excursion 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 said while addressing an award ceremony for the

## 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 pertaining to holding assets beyond known sources of income.  
 AC Judge Muhammad Bashir announced the verdict on a petition of former minister.  
 At the outset of hearing, National Accountability 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 proceeded in such circumstances.  
 At this, the judge asked the NAB prosecutor to give this statement in writing.  
 The court subsequently disposed of the reference against Ishaq Dar.

## Nawaz Sharif files applications for restoration of appeals in two references

**ISLAMABAD (APP):** The legal team of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Quaid Muhammad Nawaz Sharif on Monday filed applications to the Islamabad High Court (IHC), seeking the restoration of appeals in Avenfield property and Al-Azizia Steel Mills references.  
 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, PML-N leader Nawaz Sharif stated that he hadn't completely recovered from the ailment, adding he decided to return country due to the miserable economic condition of the country. He said that he was awarded the imprisonment sentence by the accountability court in his absence on July 6, 2018.  
 He said that his wife was under medical treatment and on the ventilator in a hospital of London. He had requested the trial court to delay the judgment but the request was rejected at that time. Despite the fact, he came back to Pakistan, faced the jail and filed appeals against his convictions, 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 terminated in the absence of the petitioner.  
 It said that the former prime minister couldn't appear before the court due to his health issues, adding he had not misused his bail 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 Monday.  
 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 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 Principal Dr. Gul Hasan briefed him about the functioning of college.  
 He announced that the study tour of college students would be arranged in near future. He also planted a sapling in the premises of law college.



**ISLAMABAD:** Caretaker Foreign Minister Jalil Abbas Jilani along with High Commissioner of Malaysian Ambassador to Pakistan Mohammad Azhar Malan and others are visiting the ASEAN Corner after the session "Forging Partnerships: Exploring the Future Prospects of Pakistan-ASEAN Relation" at The Institute of Strategic Studies in Federal Capital.

## CPEC Cultural Carvan to promote cultural bonds between Pakistan, China: Jamal Shah

film Ba'tie Girl held in newly renovated auditorium of Pakistan Embassy Beijing College (PECB).  
 The minister also gave 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-producer of the film.  
 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 Islamabad.

## We will continue to play our role for development, peace and stability, Jalil Abbas Jilani

**ISLAMABAD (Online):** Caretaker Foreign Minister Jalil Abbas Jilani said that Pakistan will continue to play its role for development, peace and stability.  
 He expressed his views while addressing the opening ceremony of ASEAN Corner at the institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad.  
 He said that establishment of ASEAN Corner is another step in enhancing the relations between ASEAN countries and Pakistan. Pakistan has very good relations with

ASEAN countries. Pakistan's relations with ASEAN countries improved further during Corona epidemic.  
 He said that we are further strengthening relations with ASEAN countries by looking at cyber and strategic security.  
 Pakistan-China Economic Corridor (CPEC) is an excellent example of regional relations.  
 He said that we also want to expand our regional relations with ASEAN countries.  
 He said that ASEAN countries also

suffer from Indian bias and so does Pakistan.  
 We will launch a bilateral calendar to enhance our events and relations with ASEAN countries.  
 He said that our geographical boundaries increase our importance but climate changes are also affecting us.  
 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.

## 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 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 scope, providing further investment avenues.  
 The caretaker minister, Tatar, noted that the Pakistan National Shipping Corporation (PNSC) is undergoing expansion, offering extensive investment possibilities, including opportunities for French investors.  
 The French ambassador highlighted the longstanding history of relations and cooperation 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.



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

## Pakistan keen to strengthen bilateral ties with ECO member states

**ISLAMABAD (APP):** Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Monday, stressing the significance of Economic Co-operation Organisation (ECO), said Pakistan was keen to further strengthen bilateral ties with each ECO member country.  
 The prime minister, in a meeting with resident ambassadors of ECO member states at the PM House, highlighted the significance of the ECO for regional development.  
 He said the ECO member states shared a common history and culture.  
 "Today, the region faces common challenges

that need to be dealt with to create opportunities for collective growth and prosperity," he remarked.  
 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.  
 The ambassadors reaffirmed their respective countries' desire to build stronger relations with Pakistan and also their collective commitment to the vision and objectives of ECO.

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

**Independent Report**  
**QUETTA:** The National Resources Limited (NRL) has received an exploration lease for minerals in Chagai district, Balochistan.  
 NRL, which is a subsidiary of YB Pakistan Limited, Reliance Commodities (Pvt.) Limited and Liberty Mills Limited has been leased out an area of 500 Sq. km in Chagai area. NRL had applied for lease in early 2022 and the lease has been issued after fulfilling all legal and other formalities. The project when materialized will attract major investment in mining and will also generate direct and indirect employment opportunities for people in Pakistan especially Balochistan. Subject to feasibility, NRL will attempt to refine the product locally before being exported.  
 NRL has received NOCs from Environmental as well as Forest & Wildlife department enabling it to start the exploration activities. NRL board has approved exploration plan and currently exploration resources are being hired to start the physical activities soon. NRL spokesman said the company plans to hire 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 companies to venture into mining sector. Mining Sector has been picked up as one of priority areas to revive our ailing economy and SIFC has developed a road map to revamp and streamline the whole Mining chain from seeking to apply for a mine lease right up to delivering a value added product.



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