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WHO, health ministry join hands to upgrade 464 hospitals for Universal Health Coverage

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Ministry of National Health Services Regulations and Coordination and the World Health Organisation on Monday joined hands to refurbish 464 health facilities across the country as a step forward to achieving the government's "top agenda" of Universal Health Coverage. In this connection, a ceremony for the signing of Letter of Understanding between the health ministry and the world health body was held at the PM House which also marked the handing over of health equipment worth over Rs

2 billion including mobile health clinics, ambulances, and mobile vaccination vans. Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar and Caretaker Health Minister Dr Nadeem Jan witnessed the ceremony as Secretary Health Iftikhar Ali Shallwani and WHO Representative in Pakistan Dr Palitha Mahipala signed the document. Being executed with the WHO's support, the project will have zero financial implication for the Government of Pakistan. Under the project, WHO would support Pakistan in renovation of 464

health facilities across the country including 41 in AJK and Gilgit Baltistan, 131 in Balochistan, 64 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 26 in Punjab and 202 in Sindh. The WHO would support the upgradation of 21 health facilities, 14 labour rooms and six EPI training centers in AJK and GB; 99 health facilities, 26 labour rooms, and six EPI training centers in Balochistan; and 36 health facilities, 21 labour rooms and seven EPI training centers in KP. The project also consists of refurbishing 15 labour rooms, nine EPI training centers and two

nutrition stabilisation centers in Punjab; and 150 health facilities, 46 labour rooms and six EPI training centers in Sindh. The WHO support for upgradation of the health facilities throughout the country will contribute to meeting the objective of Universal Health Coverage besides creating a better image of the government in the public for provision of decent health care services to them. This support will also contribute to the SDG 3 for good health and also SDG8 which is decent work environment and economic growth.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar witnesses a ceremony of the signing of letters of understanding between WHO and the Government of Pakistan on Universal Healthcare



ISLAMABAD: A sixteen-member delegation of the American Pakistan Public Affairs Committee led by Deputy Speaker of the New York State Assembly Phil Ramos called on Caretaker Federal Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination, Dr. Nadeem Jan.

Feb 8 sun will rise with PPP's victory: Zardari and Bilawal

KARACHI (INP): The PPP chairman and co-chairman have extended congratulations to the party candidates who won the local body by-elections in different cities of Sindh. In a post uploaded on X platform on Monday, PPP Co-Chairman Asif Ali Zardari expressed his gratitude to the people for party's victory in the LB by-elections in Karachi and other parts of the province. The heart of Sindh also raised the slogan of Jeay Bhutto, Zardari said, adding the success of Murtaza Wahab and Salman Abdullah Murad is a special message for PPP's rivals in Karachi. Asif Zardari paid rich tributes to party workers

for victory in by-elections, saying "Every PPP worker should start the election campaign by becoming the ambassador of Ms Benazir Bhutto Shaheed." Zardari said the sun of February 8 will rise with the message of Bilawal Bhutto Zardari's victory. "There are few days left and PPP will end people's problems," he added. In his tweet, PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari also extended congratulations to the successful candidates in the LB by-elections, showering praise on Karachi Mayor and Deputy Mayor Murtaza Wahab and Salman Abdullah Murad, and Deputy Mayor Sukkur Arshad Mughal on their success in the elections.

Dy Speaker New York State Assembly calls on Health Minister

ISLAMABAD (APP): A sixteen-member delegation of the American Pakistan Public Affairs Committee led by Deputy Speaker of the New York State Assembly Phil Ramos met Caretaker Federal Minister for Health Dr Nadeem Jan. The meeting discussed in detail the promotion of mutual cooperation in the health sector. Dr. Nadeem Jan welcomed the delegation and expressed the desire to forge close collaboration with American Pakistan Public Affairs. He said Pakistani diaspora is making excellent contribution in the U.S. and across the world and we look at their role with utmost admiration. A detailed discussion was held on providing trained nurses, pharmacists, technicians and physiotherapists from Pakistan to the New York State.

Lt Colonel among four martyred, three terrorists killed in Khyber operation

RAWALPINDI (APP): A Lieutenant Colonel was among four soldiers of Pakistan Army, who embraced martyrdom on Monday while eliminating three terrorists and injuring many during an intense exchange of fire amid an intelligence-based operation (IBO) conducted in the general area Tirah of Khyber District on reported presence of terrorists. During the conduct of operation, the troops led by Lieutenant Colonel Muhammad Hassan Haider, effectively engaged the terrorists' location as a result of which three terrorists were sent to hell, while three terrorists got injured, an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release said. The martyrs, brave

Solangi assures all possible coop to Chinese enterprises in developing greater understanding

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi here on Monday said that as China-Pakistan cooperation was proceeding to greater depths, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting shall play a greater role in extending all possible cooperation to Chinese enterprises in developing greater understanding and cooperation in the areas of common interests. Delivering his speech at the launching ceremony of the report on ten years of China Pakistan Economic Corridor by All Pakistan China Enterprises Association and Pakistan China Institute, he said that the Ministry of Information and its associated organizations like Pakistan Television, Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation and Associated Press of Pakistan were already engaged with their counterparts in a structured framework to enhance the media cooperation. Appreciating the Pakistan-China Institute for

Interior Minister vows wipe out terrorism from Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Minister for Interior Sarfraz Ahmad Bugti expressed deep sorrow over the martyrdom of Lt. Col. Muhammad Hasan Haider and other soldiers in the operation against terrorists in Tirah Valley on Monday. Sharing grief with the families of the martyrs, the minister prayed for the martyred Lt. Col. and other martyrs. In his message, the minister said that the security forces fought bravely and brought the three terrorists to their logical end. Martyrs are the real heroes of the nation and the glory of the beloved country, said Sarfraz Bugti. The whole nation salutes the martyrs, the minister said adding that the eternal sacrifices of the security forces are unforgettable and the entire nation stands with them in the fight against terrorism.

Those talking about deal living in fool's paradise: Nawaz

MANANWALA (Online): PML-N supremo Nawaz Sharif has said those talking about deal living in fool's paradise. Future of PML-N is bright. Decision about party tickets will be made on merit. I salute those who stood with party in hard time. There is no room for opportunists in the party, he said this to possible candidate of PML-N Khan Jahanzeb Khan from PPP 143 Sheikhupura who met Nawaz Sharif at his residence. He held country is passing through a critical phase in the prevailing situation. We will have to work for integrity and restoration of national economy so that country could regain its lost stature. "I salute to tigers of

On matters of bilateral interest Pak to continue work closely with France: Hyder

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Minister for Defence, Lieutenant General @ Anwar Ali Hyder on Monday said Pakistan would continue to work closely with France on all matters of bilateral interest. He made these remarks during a call on paid by Ambassador of the France, Nicolas GALEY at him here at the Ministry of Defence, a news release said. The Defence Minister highlighted that Pakistan attached great importance to its relations with France both bilaterally and in the context of European Union. He emphasized on enhanced collaboration between the Armed Forces of the two countries. The Minister stressed that Pakistan was committed to stability and peace in the region with particular focus on its relations with Afghanistan and India. He also stated that the collaboration in addressing global challenges, such as terrorism and extremism is important part of our bilateral relations. The Minister highlighted that Pakistan strongly condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. The visiting dignitary appreciated Pakistan's role in regional stability and ensured to play his role for further improvement in diplomatic cooperation with Pakistan at all levels.

Saudi delegation meets Education Minister to enhance cooperation

ISLAMABAD (APP): President of the Riyadh's Imam Muhammad Bin Saud Islamic University at Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Dr. Ahmed Bin Salem Al Amri Monday met with the Minister for Caretaker Federal Education and Professional Training Madad Ali Sindh to enhance mutual cooperation in education. Saudi Ambassador to Pakistan, Nawaf Bin Saeed Al Malkiy and President International Islamic University, Islamabad Prof. Dr. Hathal Homoud Alotaibi present on the occasion. Madad Ali Sindh said Imam Muhammad Bin Saud Islamic University had a

Court to hear cipher case today

ISLAMABAD (Online): Special Court established under official secret act will hear Cipher case today (Tuesday). The list of the lawyers who will appear on behalf of chairman PTI has been filed in the court. The list was filed by Suleman Safdar counsel for PTI chairman through advocate Khalid Yousof. According to list 8 lawyers including Suleman Safdar, Umair Khan Niazi, Sikandar Zulqarnain Salim, Khalid Yousof, Ahmad Masar, Sohail Khan, Niaziullah Niazi and Usman Riaz Gill will appear before the court during the case in jail.

PUC calls for national unity, action against extremism, terrorism

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Central Executive and Consultative Body of Pakistan Ulema Council (PUC), under the leadership of Chairman Hafiz Muhammad Tahir Mahmood Ashrafi, on Monday convened with more than 200 members representing various religious scholars and leaders from across the nation. The gathering aimed to address the current situation in the country and make vital decisions for the betterment of Pakistan. The council, while acknowledging the urgent need for national unity and action against terrorism and extremism, highlighted that hostile elements were actively undermining Pakistan's economic and social well-being, as evidenced by recent acts of terrorism in the country. Keeping in view the

Interior Minister vows wipe out terrorism from Pakistan

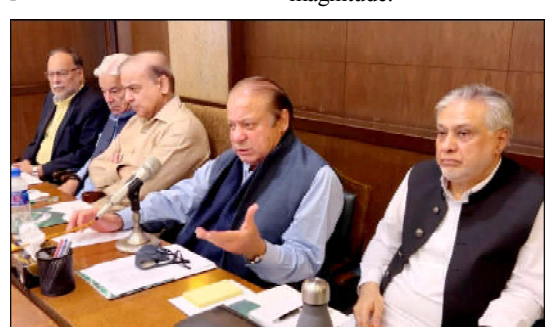
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KARACHI: Chairman Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto Zardari talking to media persons



ISLAMABAD: Dr. Ahmed Bin Salem Al Amri, President of the Riyadh's Imam Muhammad Bin Saud Islamic University at Kingdom of Saudi Arabia along with Nawaf Bin Saeed Al Malkiy, Saudi Ambassador to Pakistan and President Intl Islamic University, Islamabad Prof. Dr. Hathal Homoud Alotaibi met with the Caretaker Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training, Madad Ali Sindh.



LAHORE: PML(N) supremo Nawaz Sharif addressing former parliamentarians and ticket holders of Sialkot

PM directs maximum facilitation, swift visa issuance to Sikh Yatrees

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Monday directed the authorities concerned to extend maximum facilities to the Sikh Yatrees intending to attend their religious festivals in Pakistan. The prime minister, chairing a meeting to review the visa facilities being provided to the Sikh Yatrees by the Government of Pakistan, said the Sikh pilgrims coming to the country to visit their holy places were the guests in Pakistan. He was briefed on the Sikh festivals being held throughout the year, and the facilities for issuance of visas provided to the pilgrims. He instructed the relevant authorities to extend all-out facilities to the Sikh Yatrees for carrying out their religious rituals and visiting their holy places. The prime minister also directed to accelerate the visa issuance process while ensuring the transparency in the system.

On matters of bilateral interest Pak to continue work closely with France: Hyder

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Daily Voice of Masses
Independent

Election season

The promise that democracy will be restored soon is a breath of fresh air in this current atmosphere of doom and gloom. After a rough start, the election machinery has started to click into gear. The chief justice's stern warning to the media, telling it to desist from airing any further speculation on the timing of elections, has signalled to other stakeholders that there may be a finality to the Feb 8, 2024 date that can be banked on.

It is encouraging to note that the PTI, PML-N and PPP — the three largest political parties in the country — have all welcomed the announcement and seem eager to begin the contest. Right now, their attention should be focused on the upcoming electoral exercise rather than anything else. There is not a lot of time for them to regroup and launch effective campaigns. Now that the country is in election mode, the ECP should expect increased scrutiny of its actions. The immense task of ensuring that the upcoming elections are free, fair, impartial and inclusive rests on its shoulders, and it needs to do much better if it wishes to be remembered for discharging its duty responsibly.

There are several things that need immediate attention. For instance, the caretaker government is reportedly attempting to undertake a large-scale reshuffle of officers at the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting despite the announcement of an election date.

All such tinkering with the executive branch must be stopped forthwith. The state must be oriented towards one thing alone: assisting the ECP in delivering a credible election. Everything else is unnecessary at this point in time. Secondly, the ECP must start utilising its considerable powers to ensure that the contest will be fair. The arrest of former National Assembly Speaker Asad Qaiser on corruption charges the day after elections were announced is not a good omen.

The public perception is that the PTI and its people will continue to be harassed with arbitrary detentions and arrests on trumped-up charges for as long as they refuse to toe the establishment's line. There is little justification, legal or moral, for a political party to be treated in this manner, and it is up to the ECP to put a stop to the victimisation.

Other parties have also been complaining about being denied a level playing field. They have accused the caretaker governments and other powerful forces of manipulating the state machinery to favour the PML-N.

There is no point in asking the electorate to vote if a handful of people are going to overrule their choices anyway. The Pakistani people must not be denied the right to choose their future themselves. The ECP should be wary of these sentiments and demonstrate it is working to counter them.

War, hypocrisy and tragedy



Maleeha Lodhi

How has the world responded to Israel's continuing war on Gaza and the humanitarian catastrophe there? Clearly, the UN Security Council failed in its duty to stop hostilities. This from a world body whose primary responsibility is to maintain international peace and security.

Its inability to pass resolutions calling for a truce or humanitarian pause exposed the polarisation among its members which paralysed the Council. The US was the principal stumbling block in efforts to achieve a ceasefire. Its unconditional support for Israel handed Tel Aviv carte blanche to continue its barbaric military campaign in utter disregard for world opinion.

The Security Council's inaction led to an emergency session of the General Assembly, which approved, by an overwhelming majority, a resolution calling for a truce. Only the US and a handful of countries voted 'no'. While this resolution has moral and political weight and aimed to mount diplomatic pressure on Israel and its backers, it is non-binding. Therefore, it could do nothing to end Israel's war on Gaza.

These developments demonstrated America's increasing diplomatic isolation as several of its Western allies joined most of the international community to back an immediate ceasefire. While some European countries shifted their position to voice concern for the humanitarian crisis and loss of Palestinian lives, Washington refused to ask Israel to cease its bombardments or lift the siege of

Gaza, showing indifference to the devastating humanitarian consequences of Israeli actions. UN officials repeatedly declared that Israeli violence directed at over two million Palestinians trapped in Gaza was collective punishment and violated international humanitarian law. But the US and its Western partners only called out Hamas for the attack on Israel and accepted Israel's carpet bombing of an entire population as Israel's 'right to defend itself'.

They showed no compassion for thousands of Palestinian casualties, who were portrayed as human shields for Hamas — an egregious example of dehumanising Palestinians. President Joe Biden even questioned Palestinian casualty figures saying he had 'no confidence in the numbers the Palestinians are using'. When Washington began to voice concern for civilian deaths it was too little, too late especially as it continued to oppose a ceasefire.

These developments laid bare the US-led West's hypocrisy. While Western leaders denounced Russian military actions and targeting of civilians in Ukraine, they refused to apply the same principle to Gaza.

The EU Commission president Ursula von der Leyen once characterised Russia's 'attacks on civilian infrastructure' that aimed to deprive people of water and electricity as 'acts of pure terror'. But neither she nor any Western leader chose to describe Israel's action of cutting off electricity, water, food and fuel supplies to Gaza in a similar way. Nor did Israel's use of white phosphorus in indiscriminate artillery attacks urge Western governments to denounce this violation of international humanitarian law.

There was no Western condemnation of Israel's attacks on Jabalia refugee camp in which scores of people were killed and for which Tel Aviv claimed responsibility, justifying civilian

deaths as a 'tragedy of war'.

Western countries who claim to be standard bearers of human rights and constantly lecture other countries on this adopted a deafening silence on Israeli atrocities and genocidal actions. This display of double standards was not new. Western concern for human rights has always been selective, its criticism usually directed at adversaries and opponents, while friendly countries have been shielded from censure.

Germany and France imposed a ban on pro-Palestinian rallies in a bid to criminalise expressions of sympathy for Palestinians. This made a mockery of their democratic credentials and showed the shallowness of their commitment to freedom of expression. In the US, donors threatened to cut off funding to universities where students rallied in solidarity with Palestinians.

The Guardian reported that prominent American figures from magazine editors to Hollywood agents faced sackings or rebuke for supporting Palestinians. Elsewhere in Europe, pro-Palestinian activists were hounded on the pretext of being antisemitic.

In the UK, Home Secretary Suella Braverman branded pro-Palestinian demonstrations as 'hate marches', called for curbs on protests and urged criminalising waving the Palestinian flag. All this in so-called democracies who claim civilisational superiority over countries of the Global South.

The Western media's role has been as one-sided as that of their governments and blind to the suffering of the Palestinian people.

Major networks echoed Israeli propaganda and mostly covered the war from the prism of 'Israel's right to defend itself'. Western TV anchors seemed to read from the same script and disregarding massacres carried out by Israel, kept asking

Significance of Gadani ship breaking yard

By Mohsin Naseer

One of the biggest ship-breaking yards in the world is located in Balochistan, near the seaside town of Gadani. The Gadani ship breaking yard has 132 ship-breaking plots spread on a seashore that is 10 km (6.2 miles) long. After Aliaga of Turkey and Alang of India and Chittagong of Bangladesh, Gadani of Pakistan is the third-largest shipbreaking yard globally.

The ship breaking industry is a major source of income and employment of Balochistan. International Labor Organization (ILO) states that the Gadani ship breaking yard directly employs about 6,000 people and indirectly supports another 30,000.

The Gadani ship breaking yard supplies raw materials to several enterprises that produce steel, iron, copper, brass, aluminum, and wood, which bolsters our national economy. Local steel mills and rerolling mills use the steel scrap from Gadani to make steel bars, rods, pipes, and sheets. Foundries and engineering workshops use iron scrap to create castings and machine components. The electrical and metal industries use the scrap copper, brass, and aluminum to manufacture wires, cables, cutlery, and ornamental objects.

Carpenters and furniture makers use the leftover wood to create tables, cabinets, windows and doors. The Gadani ship breaking yard also recycles various items from the ships, such as generators, engines, boilers, compressors, pumps, valves, pipes, fittings, cables, switches, lights, fans, air conditioners, refrigerators, furniture, mattresses, carpets, curtains, utensils, crockery, books, magazines, paintings, and souvenirs. These items

are sold in local markets or exported to other countries.

The Gadani ship breaking yard has a history of more than four decades. It was established in the 1960s and reached its peak in the 1980s when it was the largest ship-breaking yard in the world with more than 30,000 direct employees. However, it faced a decline in the 1990s and 2000s due to increased competition from newer facilities and higher import duties for decommissioned vessels in Pakistan.

In 2001, the Government of Pakistan reduced the ship-breaking duties including taxes and tariffs from 15% to 10% and aimed to offer further incentives if industry activity improves. As a result, the Gadani ship breaking yard witnessed a revival in the 2010s and achieved a record output of 107 ships with a combined Light Displacement Tonnage (LDT) of 852,022 tons in the fiscal year 2009-2010.

The Gadani ship breaking yard is also known for its efficiency and speed in dismantling ships. It can break up to 125 ships of all sizes per year with a combined light displacement tonnage of 1 million tons. It takes only 30 to 45 days to break a ship with 5,000 LDT at Gadani compared to more than six months at Alang or Chittagong.

The Gadani ship breaking yard is a vital source of income and employment for Balochistan and a significant contributor to the local and national economy. It is also a place where old ships are given a new life by being recycled into useful materials and items. The Gadani ship breaking yard is a testament to the resilience and resourcefulness of the people of Balochistan who have turned a barren beach into a bustling industrial hub.

Commerce News

Governance issues must be solved for achieving desired results: Minister

LAHORE (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister for National Food Security and Research Dr Kausar Abdullah Malik said on Monday the country was well aware of all challenges related to food security and governance issues needed to be managed to achieve desired results.

He said this while addressing a round table conference at Forman Christian College here.

He said, "The country has gone through two crucial phases one is Covid and the other floods and both changed the scenario." He said that country was self-sufficient

in all commodities. The minister said that food security was governed by three 'As' that were availability, affordability and accessibility, adding that more debate was held on availability of commodities but there was also a need to understand the significance of other two areas.

He further said that no doubt climate change was a fact and could not be denied, adding that to address the issue of climate change adoption of technology was necessary. He said that he was happy that our scientists and researchers were well

aware of issues of climate change and climate resistant varieties were also being developed.

He said, "We are focusing on streamlining the regulatory issues."

Dr Kausar said that soyabean import issue had been solved up to 80 to 90 percent which was a big issue for the poultry industry and added that only few hitches were left which would be solved as well.

The minister said that one thing should be kept in mind that in agriculture import and export were not indication of any food scarcity.



PESHAWAR: A delegation led by Founder / President Bajaur Chamber of Commerce and Industry Haji Lali Shah meeting with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Haji Ghulam Ali.

LESCO detects 68 power pilferers on 59th day of anti-power theft campaign

LAHORE (APP): The Lahore Electric Supply Company (LESCO) has detected a total of 68 connections from where the customers were pilfering electricity in all its circles of five districts: Lahore, Sheikhpura, Nankana Sahib, Kasur and Okara, on the 59th day of grand anti-power theft campaign.

A LESCO spokesman told the media on Monday that the company had also submitted the FIR applications against 68 electricity thieves, out of

which 38 FIRs have been registered in respective police stations, while 10 accused have been arrested.

Grand anti-power theft operations against electricity thieves are being conducted on the directives of the Federal Power Division and the LESCO Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Engineer Shahid Haider is supervising these operations. The LESCO chief vowed that the operations would continue without discrimination until the complete end of electricity theft.

RCCI delegation calls on Charge D Affairs of Romania

RAWALPINDI (APP): A delegation of the Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) headed by President Saqib Rafiq called on H.E Mr Eduard Robert PREDA Charge D Affairs/ Minister Plenipotentiary at the Romania Embassy here on Monday.

According to RCCI spokesman, Charge D Affaires of the Romanian Embassy appreciated RCCI's efforts in promoting trade and diplomatic ties.

NARC distributes over 300 tons of 7 high-yielding wheat seeds varieties

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan Agriculture Research Council (NARC) has provided over 300 metric tons of certified wheat seeds to farmers in order to enhance per-acre crop output in the country and increase farm profitability for achieving sustainable agriculture growth and economic development.

The council had distributed 07 wheat seed varieties among farmers and different seed companies including Punjab Seed Corporation which will cement the efforts of the government to ensure the availability of certified seeds during the current Wheat Program

Coordinator in the National Agriculture Research Center Maqsood Qamar. Talking to APP here on Monday, he said that the distributed seed varieties were comprised of heat and stem rest-tolerant, which would help the local farmers enhance their crop output during the season and maximize their farm income.

Out of the total 07 seed varieties, four varieties were for rain-fed areas and three were for irrigated areas and would help to enhance local output of both irrigated and rain-fed areas, he said adding that NARC was taking other measures to assist local wheat growers.

Pakistan's exports to China increase by 26.42% in 3 months

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan's export of goods and services to China witnessed an increase of 26.42 per cent during the first three months of the current fiscal year (2023-24) as compared to the exports of the corresponding period of last year, State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) reported.

The overall exports to China were recorded at US \$633.374 million during July-September (2023-24) against exports of US \$501.000 million during July- September (2022-

23), showing growth of 26.42 per cent, SBP data revealed.

On a year-to-year basis, the exports to China also surged by 68.57 per cent from \$167.923 million in September 2022, against the exports of \$283.077 million in September 2023.

Meanwhile, on a month-on-month basis, the exports to China rose by 42.29 per cent during September 2023 as compared to the exports of \$198.932 million in August 2023, the SBP data revealed.

New law for resolution of trade disputes to define time frame

ISLAMABAD (APP): Director General Trade Disputes Resolution Organization, Ministry of Commerce, Abdul Salam Shah on Monday said a new law for the resolution of trade disputes was coming in the cabinet to define a time frame to resolve the different disputes of international trade through 'The Trade Dispute Act 2022.'

Under the new law, trade disputes would be decided in a time frame for providing 'Ease of Doing Business' to the Import and export business, he told APP here. President of

Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry Dr. Khuram Tariq, told APP that trade agreements must be strictly implemented.

Earlier, the joint sitting of the parliament passed "The Trade Dispute Resolution Bill, 2023" to establish a commission attached with the Ministry of Commerce to settle the dispute between trading parties and "The Trade Organizations (Amendment) Bill, 2023".

The House passed the bill with a majority incorporating minor amendments. The Trade Dispute

Resolution Bill, 2023 provides for the establishment of a comprehensive regime in Pakistan for the swift and effective resolution of disputes relating to the export and import of goods and services including through E-Commerce.

Clause 61 of the bill described as "All law enforcement agencies and authorities in the federal and the provinces shall be under an obligation to provide and render full and complete assistance to the Commission as and when the secretariat thereof may require such assistance."

Rupee sheds 89 paise against Dollar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistani Rupee on Monday witnessed an 89-paise devaluation against US Dollar in the interbank trading and closed at Rs 285.28 against the previous day's closing at Rs 284.31.

However, according to the Forex Association of Pakistan (FAP), the buying and selling rates of the Dollar in the open market stood at Rs 285 and Rs 287.5 respectively. The price of the Euro increased by Rs 4.51 to close at Rs 306.59 against the last day's closing of Rs 302.08, according to the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP). The Japanese Yen increased by 01 paise and closed at Rs 1.90; whereas an increase of Rs 7.01 paise.

Kunwar highlights hope amid economic challenges in real estate projects

ISLAMABAD (APP): A delegation from the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI), led by the business community, and government officials engaged in a comprehensive discussion on Monday concerning the opportunities and critical challenges faced by the real estate industry. During an exclusive business networking meeting, they expressed their commitment to working collaboratively to maximize its potential.

The Chief Guest, Caretaker Minister for Law and Justice Punjab,

Kunwar Muhammad Dilshad, remarked that in the face of economic challenges and political uncertainties, the projects in accordance with high standards offered a ray of hope to the investors, showcasing the nation's potential to thrive despite adverse circumstances. ICCI President Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari encouraged the real estate developers and business delegates to actively participate in the journey toward a brighter future for Pakistan. Kunwar's Associates Chairman.

Israel committing unimaginable atrocities in Gaza, say politicians

LAHORE (APP): Lawmakers called upon the international community on Monday to intensify its efforts in securing an immediate ceasefire to halt the catastrophic humanitarian crisis in Gaza, Palestine. In this dire situation, Palestinians are desperately searching for their loved-ones amidst the widespread destruction of their homes.

Over the past two-and-a-half weeks, the world has borne witness to an unfolding tragedy of unprecedented proportions in the occupied Palestinian

territories. Lawmakers characterise this conflict as a systematic attempt at the genocide of the Palestinian people, underscoring the urgent need for global intervention to address Israel's aggressive actions.

Chairman of the Senate Standing Committee on Defence Mushahid Hussain Syed emphasised the longstanding historical ties between Pakistan and Palestine, spanning centuries rather than mere years. He pointed out that leaders throughout Pakistan's history, including its founding father, Quaid-e-Azam, have consistently lent their

political, diplomatic and economic support to the Palestinian cause.

Senator Mushahid stressed that the ongoing Israeli atrocities in Gaza represent the gravest genocide in human history, calling on the Pakistani nation to raise its voices in support of the oppressed. Referring to Israel's recent bombing of hospitals in Gaza, he condemned these actions as war crimes and urged an immediate cessation of such heinous acts.

Former senator Shehar Kamran told APP that more than two million people in the Gaza Strip

are struggling to survive amidst a catastrophic humanitarian crisis and the level of civilian casualties has been manifold and unprecedented. She strongly condemned the dangerous and insane remarks made by the Israeli Minister Amichai Eliyahu about dropping of a nuclear bomb on Gaza.

Such comments and threats of violence reflect the irresponsible cruel attitude and criminal mindset, she said, adding it is not only morally reprehensible but also counterproductive to achieving lasting peace in the region.



MUZAFFERABAD: Speaker Lagestaltive Assembly of AJK Chaudhry Latif Akbar participate in the rally of Pasban-e-Hurriyat to mark the "Youm-e-Suhada" in the Capital of AJK.



RAWALPINDI: First Lady Begum Samina Alvi in a group photo with medical professionals and survivors of breast cancer during an awareness seminar, at Behbud Association of Pakistan.

Punjab Governor says: Promotion of technical education fosters employment opportunities for the youth

LAHORE: Chairman TEVTA Brigadier (Retd) Muhammad Sajid Khokhar called on Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman at Governor House Lahore, here today. Promotion of technical and vocational education was discussed in the meeting.

Speaking on the occasion, Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman said that the promotion of technical education fosters employment opportunities for the youth. He said that skilled youth play a positive role in the economic development of the country. Governor Punjab said that

technical courses provide employment opportunities to the students, which makes many families economically self-sufficient and prosperous. He said that it is commendable that Tevta is making them economically independent by providing technical and professional education to the young generation.

KP caretaker govt ready for elections, says Aamir

Independent Report PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Caretaker Minister for Local Government and Rural Development (LG&RD) Engineering (PHE), Engineer Aamir Durrani on Monday said that the caretaker provincial government is ready for the elections and is in contact with various departments in this regard.

Expressing satisfaction over preparations regarding elections by various departments, he said that the caretaker provincial

government will play its full role in holding transparent elections, saying the preparations of all departments are complete in this regard. He expressed these views while addressing a meeting regarding election preparation here. Besides, Secretary Local Government and Rural Development (LG&RD) Daud Khan, Special Secretary Muhammad Masood, Coordinator Local Governments Sajid Gul and other relevant officials also attended the meeting.

CS Punjab inaugurates Rescue Services centres in Lala Musa, Dinga

Independent Report LAHORE: Punjab Chief Secretary Zahid Akhtar Zaman visited Gujranwala and Gujrat on Monday and inaugurated the newly established Rescue Services stations at Lala Musa and Dinga. He also inspected the Punjab government's flagship project Motorway Link in Gujranwala and reviewed the construction work of 15.2 km-long dual

carriageway that would link Gujranwala to Lahore-Sialkot Motorway. Speaking at the inaugural ceremony, the chief secretary said that emergency services are being improved across Punjab and Rescue stations are being equipped with modern equipment. He said that Rescue stations have been provided with modern gadgets, ambulances and motorcycles.

Women urged to practice 5-min self-examination every month to detect breast cancer

RAWALPINDI (APP): Begum Samina Alvi, wife of the president of Pakistan, Rawalpindi, she stressed the need to sensitize the general public about shunning the taboo about breast cancer.

Samina Alvi mentioned that the world overall had a 98 percent recovery rate from breast cancer, however, pointed out that in Pakistan, insufficient mammographic facilities led to a high mortality rate due to the

detection of malignancy at a late stage. She said women of all ages including teenage girls of 12-14 years were also being diagnosed with breast cancer. She urged the women and girls to learn the five-minute routine of self-examination and spread the word among at least 20 other women folks in their circle. For the Behbud Mother and Child Hospital, Samina Alvi announced a donation of Rs 500,000 on behalf of her family.

awareness seminar on breast cancer here at Behbud Association of Pakistan, Rawalpindi, she stressed the need to sensitize the general public about shunning the taboo about breast cancer.

Five involved in different crimes in riverine areas arrested

KARACHI (APP): The Pakistan Rangers Sindh arrested five suspects allegedly involved in different crimes in the riverine areas and recovered arms and ammunition from their possession.

The accused were apprehended from a village in Obaro, district Ghotki, according to a spokesman for Sindh Rangers on Monday.

Fawad Chaudhry files petition against anti corruption Punjab

RAWALPINDI (Online): Former minister Fawad Chaudhry has filed petition against Anti Corruption Punjab in Lahore High Court (LHC) Rawalpindi bench.

Punjab government and DG Anti corruption have been made respondents in the petition of Fawad Chaudhry.

Advocate Faisal Chaudhry brother of Fawad Chaudhry filed the

petition on behalf of his brother. The petitioner has taken the plea the allegations from anti corruption are false and baseless. The allegations on occupying state land are false. It was said in the petition lands were purchased from private persons. Affidavits of private persons are available.

International News

UN leaders say Gaza war must 'stop now', as dozens more die

Monitoring Desk GAZA: U.N. agency leaders saying "enough is enough" demanded a humanitarian ceasefire on Monday nearly a month into Gaza's war, as the enclave's health authorities said dozens more people were killed in overnight attacks by Israeli fighter jets and troops.

Israel has rebuffed mounting international pressure for a ceasefire, saying hostages taken by Hamas militants during their rampage in southern Israel on Oct. 7 should be released first.

"An entire population is besieged and under attack, denied access to the essentials for survival, bombed in their homes, shelters, hospitals and

places of worship. This is unacceptable," the U.N. chiefs said in a joint statement.

"We need an immediate humanitarian ceasefire. It's been 30 days. Enough is enough. This must stop now."

The 18 signatories include the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Turk, the head of the World Health Organization Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, and U.N. aid chief Martin Griffiths. A Reuters journalist in the Gaza Strip described the overnight bombardment from the air, ground and sea as one of the most intense since Israel launched its offensive.

Health officials in Hamas-controlled Gaza

said more than 9,770 Palestinians have been killed in the war since Hamas killed 1,400 people and seized more than 240 hostages on Oct. 7.

Israel, which says its forces have encircled Gaza City, faces mounting pressure over civilian casualties. A U.S. diplomatic blitz in the region is intended to reduce risks of the conflict escalating.

The health ministry in Gaza said dozens of people were killed by the Israeli air strikes in Gaza City and further south in Gaza neighbourhoods such as Zawaida and Deir Al-Balah. Hamas-affiliated Al-Aqsa TV quoted medical sources as saying at least 75 Palestinians were killed and 106 hurt in the attacks.



Meera Alul (C), a Palestinian-American, holds up a sign during a rally in support of Palestinians at the Colorado State Capital in Denver, Colorado.

Xi says China, Australia can become 'trusting partners'

Monitoring Desk BEIJING: Chinese President Xi Jinping told Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese on Monday their two countries stood to become "trusting partners" and were on the "correct path of improving and developing relations", state broadcaster CCTV said.

The two leaders met in Beijing during a four-day state visit by Albanese to China, a high-water mark in their nations' ties following years of tensions that cut billions of dollars in trade.

China and Australia, Xi said on Monday, "have no historical

grievances or disputes and no fundamental conflict of interests, and can totally become mutually trusting and mutually successful partners."

Xi told Albanese that Beijing hoped to "fully develop the potential of the China-Australia free trade agreement and open up cooperation in new fields including climate change and the green economy".

"Through both sides' efforts, China and Australia have resumed exchanges in various fields and returned to the correct path of improving and developing relations," Xi said, according to CCTV.

"Where there are efforts to cause disturbances in the Asia Pacific region, we must firstly stay vigilant, and secondly oppose them," the Chinese leader said.

China, Xi said, is keen to "develop more trilateral and multilateral cooperation" with Australia.

Beijing also seeks to "support the strengthening of development resilience for south Pacific nations, tackle challenges including climate change, and protect the peace and stability of the Asia Pacific region with openness and tolerance", Xi said.

More than 20 killed in Sudan after shell hits market: NGO

Monitoring Desk WAD MADANI: More than 20 people were killed Sunday after shells hit a market in a suburb of the Sudanese capital Khartoum, a committee of pro-democracy lawyers said in a statement.

It was the latest bloodshed in the fighting since April between the forces of army chief Abdel Fattah al-Burhan and his former deputy Mohamed Hamdan Daglo, who commands the Rapid Support Forces (RSF).

A statement from the committee for pro-democracy lawyers said the shells hit the market in Omdurman during an intense exchange of fire between the two sides.

"More than 20 civilians have been killed and others have been wounded," said the statement, which was sent to AFP. The committee keeps track of rights violations during the conflict and its civilian victims.

On Saturday, a medical source said shells that hit houses in Khartoum had killed 15 civilians.

Omdurman has repeatedly been the site of fierce battles between the two sides. Though most of the fighting was previously contained to the capital and the western region of Darfur, it has also spread to areas south of Khartoum according to witnesses.

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Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba looks on during his meeting with his South African counterpart Naledi Pandor, as they hold a joint press conference in Pretoria, South Africa.

France to give armoured vehicles to Lebanese army defence minister

Monitoring Desk PARIS: France will send dozens of armoured vehicles to the Lebanese army so it can properly carry out patrol missions in the country, France's defence minister said in remarks published on Monday.

Speaking to Lebanon's L'Orient Le Jour newspaper after a trip to the country, Sebastien Lecornu said it was vital to beef up the Lebanese national army so that it could coordinate

well with the United Nations peacekeeping force as tensions mount between Israel and Iran-backed Hezbollah in southern Lebanon.

"We will pursue our partnership with military equipment, notably for the transport of troops protected by armour, which is key to maintain patrols," he said, adding that several dozen armoured vehicles would be given to the Lebanese army soon.



U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken meets with Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan, amid the ongoing conflict between Israel and the Palestinian Islamist group Hamas, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Ankara, Turkey.

Ukrainian officers investigated for holding awards ceremony struck by Russia, killing 19 soldiers

Monitoring Desk KYIV: Ukraine on Monday launched a criminal investigation into military officers who organized a troop-honoring ceremony that was hit by a Russian missile strike, killing 19 soldiers in one of the deadliest single attacks reported by Ukrainian forces.

The State Bureau of Investigation said it aims to hold military officials accountable for the Rocket Forces and Artillery Day

event held Friday near the front line in Zaporizhzhia, where Russian reconnaissance drones could easily spot the crowded gathering.

The carnage sparked a wave of criticism among Ukrainians who questioned on social media the planning of an event so close to the battlefield. President Volodymyr Zelenskyy lamented the deaths of the men of the 128th Separate Mountain-Assault Brigade.

Russia's Putin to stay in power past 2024, sources say

Monitoring Desk MOSCOW: Vladimir Putin has decided to run in the March presidential election, a move that will keep him in power until least 2030, as the Kremlin chief feels he must steer Russia through the most perilous period in decades, six sources told Reuters.

After defusing an armed mutiny by the leader of the Wagner mercenary group in June, Putin has moved to shore up support among his core base in the security forces, the armed forces and with regional voters outside Moscow, while Wagner has been brought firmly to heel.

Russian defence, weapons and overall budget spending has soared while Putin has made numerous public appearances, including the regions, over recent months. "The decision has been made - he will run," said one of the sources who has knowledge of the planning. Another source, also acquainted with the Kremlin's thinking,

Hamas leader Haniyeh briefs Iran's Khamenei over Gaza situation

Monitoring Desk DUBAI: Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has met the leader of Hamas, Ismail Haniyeh, in Tehran, state media reported on Sunday, a day after a Hamas official said they held a meeting in recent days.

Iranian state media said Haniyeh, who has resided between Qatar and Turkey since 2019, "briefed Khamenei on the latest de-

velopments in the Gaza Strip and the crimes of the Zionist regime in Gaza, as well as the developments in the West Bank".

"Ayatollah Khamenei praised the steadfastness and resilience of the people of Gaza and expressed strong regret over the crimes of the Zionist regime, supported directly by Washington and some Western countries," Iran's state TV said.

Polish president to announce new PM on Monday

Monitoring Desk WARSAW: Poland's president will tell the nation on Monday evening whom he will appoint as prime minister, an aide said, drawing a line under weeks of uncertainty after the ruling nationalists lost their parliamentary majority in an Oct. 15 election. President Andrzej Duda, an ally of PiS, said before the election he would give the first shot at forming a government to the largest single party.

PM orders strict action against drug dealers supplying drugs in educational institutions

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Monday ordered the police authorities to take strict action against the drug dealers supplying drugs and narcotics in and around the educational institutions.

Chairing a meeting regarding issues related to Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) here, he said protection of life and property of the citizens was the primary responsibility of the state. The meeting discussed in detail the ICT's

administrative issues, law and order situation and anti-narcotics' issues.

He also directed the concerned authorities to take special measures for the protection of schools besides taking necessary steps on priority basis for the establishment of Dolphin Force in Islamabad.

The meeting was briefed in detail about illegal encroachments, the development projects under Capital Development Authority, performance of the ICT Police and other issues.

The prime minister ordered to immediately resolve the problems created by the showrooms established in various parts of the city to trade vehicles that cause problems of traffic and parking in the respective areas. A comprehensive plan of a Car City should be made at a suitable location for the exhibition, auction and sale of vehicles in Islamabad, he instructed.

PM Kakar also said that an effective strategy should be devised to reduce the traffic pressure in the

city. The meeting was informed that 160 new buses would soon arrive in the city that would help making the public transport system in the city more effective.

The prime minister directed that a central digital system should be made for registration of cars in all cities across the country including Islamabad.

Fitness certificates should be issued for old vehicles based on the internationally accepted environmental pollution standards, he said.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar chairs a meeting regarding issues related to ICT.



ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani presiding over a senate house business advisory committee meeting at Parliament House.

Pakistan is a cradle of several diverse & pluralistic civilizations: Jamal Shah

Independent Report
ISLAMABAD: National Institute of Folk and Traditional Heritage-Lok Virsa in collaboration with UNESCO organized a conference on folklore and traditional heritage of Pakistan here at Lok Virsa on the sidelines of Folk Festival.

Federal Minister for National Heritage and Culture Jamal Shah was the chief guest on the occasion.

Adviser and expert on National Heritage and Culture Division Muhammad Kashif Irshad, Executive Director Lok Virsa Muhammad Uzair Khan

and representative of UNESCO were also present on the occasion.

Addressing the participants, the Minister said that Pakistan's cultural heritage is over 9,000 years old, starting from Mehrgarh.

"Pakistan is a cradle of several diverse and pluralistic civilizations", he added.

He said that he was making efforts to bring investment for the protection and preservation of Mehrgarh and Takht-e-Bahi.

He said that it will be more good to also invite ar-

tisans in such conferences for their awareness.

We need to create more opportunities for our artists and artists," he added.

He said that we need to change our attitude towards artisans and artists as they are our strength.

The minister termed projection of cultural diversity as the best source for promotion of peace and harmony in the society.

He said Lok Mela is a valuable platform for artists to exhibit their talent and promote the national cohesion in a befitting manner.

Delegation of NIM Peshawar visits Safe City Islamabad

Independent Report
ISLAMABAD: Following the special directions of Islamabad Capital City Police Officer (ICCP) Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan, the SSP Safe City Islamabad, the Mid-Career Management Course delegation from National Institute of Management (NIM) Peshawar at the Safe City Islamabad, a public relations officer said.

He said that the delegation visits the command and control center, the data hub unit, modern technology-equipped cameras, and the Police operations center hall. They were fully

modern techniques, including the Police Operations Center, Data Hub Unit, Dispatch Control Center, E-Challan System, and the "Pucar-15" helpline.

The delegation was also apprised of the functionality and benefits of the Safe City cameras in the city.

The modern cameras of Safe City are playing a crucial role in ensuring the safety of the city and preventing crimes and safeguarding the lives and property of citizens. 42% of crimes are resolved through the Safe City Command



briefed about the procedures and advantages of this project.

Furthermore, the delegation was informed that Safe City Islamabad is playing a significant role in various departments through

and Control Center. Face recognition cameras have been installed at the entry and exit points of the city which are playing an important role in identifying suspicious elements, he maintained.

Air pollutants below permissible limits in Capital

ISLAMABAD (APP): The air quality of the federal capital was recorded healthy on Monday as the air pollutants ratio in the atmosphere was below the permissible limits of the national environmental quality standards of Pakistan Environmental Protection Agency.

The Pakistan Environmental Protection Agency (Pak-EPA) daily air quality report indicated a reduced ratio of air pollutants, recorded below permissible limits, and the air quality was healthy.

The Agency is responsible to ensure the protection of the environment under the Pakistan Environmental Protection Act 1997.

The hazardous air pollutant particulate matter of 2.5 microns (PM2.5), which was a hazardous atmospheric contaminant, remained 30.53 micro grammes

per cubic meter on average which was higher than the national environmental quality standards (NEQS) of 35 microgrammes per cubic meter and denoted the air quality unhealthy.

PM2.5 is generated through the combustion of an engine, industrial emissions, burning garbage or inflammable material and dust blown up by fast-moving cars plying on non-commented patches of the roads.

The ratio of nitrogen dioxide and sulphur dioxide (NO2&SO2 respectively) also remained below the NEQS that were mostly produced during the industrial emissions from the factories involving complex and extraordinary chemicals' use in production processes. The NO2 remained 8.31 microgrammes per cubic meter and SO2 was 14.52 microgrammes per cubic meter.

NADRA cancels over 18,000 illegal identity cards

ISLAMABAD (INP): National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) has canceled over 18,000 illegal identity cards through a robust system, coordinating with other stakeholders, says in media reports.

The step has been taken to address the issue of counterfeit identity cards and fake documents, which pose a threat to national security. New measures include biometric verification of parents and relatives during the processing, SMS alerts to family heads, and two-stage verification for data access. Disciplinary actions are also taken against facilitators of forgery.

NADRA has also strengthened its accountability and inquiry system, leading to penalties and dismissal of those involved in illegal practices.

APPAC delegation meets Senator Qadir

ISLAMABAD (APP): A delegation of the American Pakistani Public Affairs Committee (APPAC) on Monday met Senator Muhammad Abdul Qadir here at the Parliament House. Deputy Speaker of the New York State Philip Ramos, who led the delegation, provided an overview of the APPAC's role and purpose of their visit.

He emphasized that the APPAC aimed to enhance economic relations between the United States and Pakistan, particularly in education and healthcare. Ramos highlighted the economic potential of Pakistan and stressed that bilateral cooperation would be mutually beneficial, considering the expertise of APPAC members in various fields.

Chairman of the Senate's Standing Committee on Petroleum Muhammad Abdul Qadir commended the APPAC's vision and acknowledged the significant market capacity of the US.

PM emphasizes significance of Pak, Canada strong ties

ISLAMABAD (APP): Canadian High Commissioner Leslie Scanlon here Monday called on Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar and discussed matters related to mutual interests.

The prime minister and the High Commissioner discussed various aspects of Canada-Pakistan bilateral relations, including Canada's development programs in Pakistan, humanitarian support post 2022 floods, economic and trade ties as well as Canadian investments in Pakistan, particularly the Reko Diq Project, a press release issued by the Prime Minister

Office said.

PM Kakar emphasized the significance of strong ties between the two countries.

He highlighted the steps being undertaken by the government in priority areas, particularly for the stabilization of the economy, facilitation of foreign investment through Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC), and repatriation of illegal foreigners.

The High Commissioner appreciated the support extended by the government of Pakistan to Canada's Afghan Relocation Program.

Turkish Red Crescent delegation forges closer ties with PRC in humanitarian collaboration

ISLAMABAD: In a significant step towards strengthening the bonds of humanitarian collaboration, Head of Delegation from Turkish Red Crescent, Mr. Ergest LIMKA met with Chairman Pakistan Red Crescent Society, Sardar Shahid Ahmed Laghari. The call on, held at National Headquarter of Pakistan Red Crescent here on Monday, showcased the commitment of these two esteemed organizations to work hand in hand for the betterment of communities in Pakistan.

The meeting commenced with warm greetings and expressions of solidarity from Chairman Pakistan Red Crescent, who emphasized the longstanding relationship between the two organizations. Mr. Sardar Shahid Ahmed Laghari acknowledged the pivotal role that Turkish Red Crescent has played in providing support and assistance during numerous humanitarian crises, both within Pakistan and on a global scale.

The discussions during the meeting revolved around various aspects of cooperation, including support in ongoing PRCS Recovery program in Sindh and Baluchistan which may cover Livelihood, Cash Voucher Assistance (CVA) Nutrition, Shelter and Migration program and also Strengthen the effective coordination between the PRCS and Turkish Red Crescent, Support for Iftaar and Qurbani project. Expressing gratitude for the continuous support, Chairman Laghari assured Mr. Ergest LIMKA of a close working relationship to fortify the partnership and deliver impactful, life-saving services to those in need. The meeting culminated with a symbolic exchange of tokens of appreciation, signifying the shared commitment of both parties to alleviate suffering and enhance the well-being of vulnerable communities.

In the end, Chairman PRCS Sardar Shahid Ahmed Laghari presented memento to the TRC Head of Delegation Mr. Ergest LIMKA.



Head of Delegation Mr. Ergest LIMKA, representing TRC, reciprocated the sentiment and reaffirmed their dedication to support PRCS in humanitarian endeavors. He commended Pakistan Red Crescent for its tireless efforts in humanitarian work within the country.

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CPI organises training workshops for Child Protection Committees

ISLAMABAD: To build the capacity of Islamabad based Child Protection Committees on child rights and protection mechanisms, the Child Protection Institute (CPI) organised three two-day trainings in collaboration with ILO and Sahil.

These committees will be responsible for identifying and monitoring the cases of child rights violation, hazardous and worst forms of child labour and report to the respective institution including CPI, local police, Reconciliation Committees at local police office/Thaana, Child Help

World Science Day to be marked on November 10

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan, like other parts of the world, will celebrate World Science Day for Peace Development on November 10 (Friday) through several activities highlighting the importance of scientific developments for the benefit of mankind.

Different public and private departments will arrange various activities including seminars, conferences, rallies, discussion programmes and competitions highlighting this year's theme "Building Trust in Science".

The role of science in shaping the collective future of mankind can only be fulfilled when there is trust in science.

It is trust in science that fuels the development and application of evidence-based solutions to our world's multifaceted challenges.

Trust in science is a complex issue. It affects how scientists operate and the way science is perceived by society.

Chairman Senate applauds Pakistan-China friendship, contributions

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman Senate Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani on Monday highlighted the enduring and deep-rooted friendship between Pakistan and China and commended the substantial contributions made by Chinese institutions and organizations operating within Pakistan, underscoring their significance in strengthening the bond between the two nations.

In his message lauding the remarkable achievements of '10 Years of CPEC' during a report launching ceremony titled "Thousands of Miles with CPEC", he emphasized the enduring friendship between Pakistan and China.

The ceremony was held at the Pakistan Institute of Parliamentary Ser-

vices and distinguished guests in attendance included Senator Mushahid Hussain Syed, Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Murtaza Solangi, Chinese Ambassador Jiang Zaidong, the Executive Director of Pakistan-China Institute Mustafa Hayder Sayed and Chairman of the All Pakistan China Enterprises Association Yang Jianduo. A heartfelt message on behalf of Chairman Senate, was read out to the audience by the Executive Director Pakistan-China Institute, Mustafa Hayder Sayed.

In his message, the chairman emphasised the enduring friendship between the two nations and commended the significant contributions of Chinese institutions and organizations operating in Pakistan.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister, Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar exchanging views with Leslie Scanlon, Canadian High Commissioner during a meeting.

KP government cracks down on non-compliance in education department

By M. Ilyas
PESHAWAR- the Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, through its Higher Education, Archives & Libraries Department, has taken resolute action to address instances of non-compliance with regard to posting and transfer notifications within the department.

Reports have come to light, revealing that certain Principals have steadfastly declined to relinquish their positions to recently transferred or newly appointed officers.

The Competent Authority, with a keen sense of responsibility, has regarded this matter with utmost seriousness and has, in response, issued directives for the initiation of disciplinary proceedings against those Principals and Staff members found to be in defiance of these crucial administrative procedures.

To proactively tackle this issue, the department is fervently urging all stakeholders to ensure unwavering adherence to the transfer, posting, and adjustment notifications meticulously issued by the Department.

It is imperative that all parties, be it the Principal of the college or the officer in question, diligently comply with these directives.

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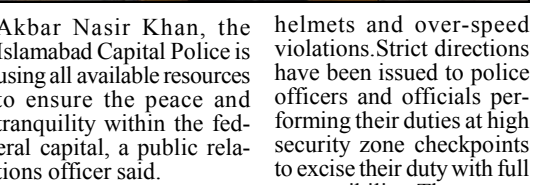
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It is imperative that all parties, be it the Principal of the college or the officer in question, diligently comply with these directives.

Efforts afoot to ensure foolproof security arrangements at high security zone

Independent Report
ISLAMABAD: Following the special directions of Islamabad Capital City Police Officer (ICCP) Dr.

plates from 689 vehicles, impounded 11 vehicles without papers and issued challan tickets to 505 motorcycleists for not wearing



Akbar Nasir Khan, the Islamabad Capital Police using all available resources to ensure the peace and tranquility within the federal capital, a public relations officer said.

He said that the Islamabad Capital Police ensured data registration, identification documents and effective search of citizens entering the high security zone on a regular basis. Action against 678 vehicles and 537 motorcycleists over traffic rules violations on various checkpoints of high security zone was also taken.

During the last week, the Islamabad Capital Police removed tinted glasses and improper number