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PM Kakar congratulates team Australia on winning WC Travis Head shattered billion dreams as Australia wins 6th World Cup title

Sports Desk AHMEDABAD: Opener Travis Head hit a sparkling 137 to power Australia to a record-extending sixth World Cup title with a convincing six-wicket win over India in Ahmedabad on

Chasing a tricky 241 for victory in the final, Australia slipped to 47-3 before the left-handed Head hit his second century of the tournament to steer the team home with seven overs to

Indian Prime Minister

the Indian team despite over India in Ahmedabad on Sunday.

15 fours and four sixes before Glenn Maxwell hit the

"Dear Team India, tion through the World Cup was noteworthy. You've played with great Head hit his second censpirit and brought immense pride to the nation," he steer the team home with

"We stand with you today and always," he marathon stand of 192 with

power Australia to a record-extending sixth World Cup title with a convincing six-wicket win

on Sunday.

Chasing a tricky 241 your talent and determina- for victory in the final, Australia slipped to 47-3 before the left-handed seven overs to spare.

Head's knock and his Marnus Labuschagne, un-Opener Travis Head beaten on 58, ended India's dominant run of 10 unbeaten matches at the

winning runs to trigger wild celebrations in the

Aussie camp.

"Just thrilled to be a part of it," man-of-thematch Head told Star Sports. "It's a lot better than seeing the World Cup on the couch at home (on his injury). I was a little bit nervous but Marnus played exceptionally well and soaked all the pressure." Head fell after his 120-ball knock laced with global trophy drought since their 2013 Champions Trophy win. India's chances of ending a



Australia's Pat Cummins celebrates with the trophy and teammates after winning the ICC Cricket



LAHORE: Ameer Jamaat-e-Islami Siraj-ul-Haq addressing the Gaza March in front of Punjab University.

Zardari says: PPP to emerge as majority party in upcoming polls

Chairman of Pakistan said that we have confidence Peoples Party (PPP) and in the Election Commission former president Asif Ali Zardari has said that the transparent election. general elections in the

In his statement. former president Asif Ali Zardari said that the country is moving towards transparent elections and the People's Party is fully prepared for it.

He was of the view as the conditions in the coun-

that it would conduct a

The former president country should be held on said that the People's Party is the only party which is capable of contesting elections in any environment and will emerge as the majority party of the country on February 8.

A day earlier, UK High Commissioner Jane Marriott called on PPP leader Asif Ali Zardari at try are conducive, elections Bilawal House in Karachi.



KARACHI: Peoples Party (PPP) President, Asif Ali Zardari exchanging views with Dr. Reza Amiri Moghaddam, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Pakistan during meeting held in Karachi.

NA Speaker says: **Parliamentary Caucus** on child rights to ensure well-being of children

ISLAMABAD (APP): Speaker National Assembly Raja Pervez Ashraf stressed on the significance of child rights and stated that the Parliament has always vigorously worked for the welfare and wellbeing of children.

He stated that the Parliament, especially the 15th National Assembly, has achieved many milestones as regards to effective legislation for child welfare and child safety. He further said, "There is a positive correlation between the socioeconomic progress of a country and the state of well-being of its children". School, u

Children's Day which is commemorated on November 20 (tomorrow) of each year. Speaker National Assembly Raja Pervez Ashraf expressed dismay over the poor state of welfare and well-being of children worldwide and the growing socio-economic problems.

The Speaker further elaborated on the effectiveness of the child-friendly and child welfare initiatives taken by the 15th National Assembly, namely the 1st ever Summer Democracy School, under 18 Internship

Pakistan budget insufficient to tackle climate change: IMF

ISLAMABAD (INP): The International Monetary Fund (IMF) said on Sunday change and earlier 30 mil-Pakistan had limited budget to tackle the aggravated climate condition in the country. An IMF report on public investment indicated, Pakistani economy might be affected by 9 percent by the natural disruptions.

The report said Pakistan was among the coun- mate change.

lion people were affected by the floods in 2022.

The report said Pakistan's developmental budget was 14 time more than the climate budget and every year since 2000, Pakistan was facing over \$2billion losses due to the cli-

Bugti condoles death of Tariq Jameel's son

ISLAMABAD (INP): Caretaker Interior Minister Sarfaraz Ahmad Bugti condoled with Maulana Tariq Jameel the death of his son Asim Jameel, at his home in Islamabad on Sunday.

The Interior Minister also prayed for forgiveness and offered Fateha for the deceased. While condoling

the minister said the death of the son at a young age is a great sorrow and shock for the

entire family.

"May Allah grant all
the bereaved the courage and fortitude to bear this shock", prayed the Interior Minister.

FIA arrests five human smugglers

GUJRANWALA (INP): ederal Investigation Agency (FIA) has arrested five accused for their involvement in human smuggling. The FIA has arrested Khizar Hayat, Farasat Ali, Shaukat Ali, Zain Ahmed and Hassan Tariq, accused of their involvement in human smuggling and keeping citizens in illegal captivity abroad and to extort money from their families.

Five human smuggling accused were arrested from parts various Gujranwala and Gujrat districts, FIA officials said.

Accused Khizar Hayat received 1.13 million rupees from a citizen for sending him to abroad,

Chakwal seminary sealed after sexual abuse cases surface

CHAKWAL (INP): The district police on Sunday sealed a local seminary in Chakwal after cases of sexual assault and torture with multiple students sur-

Two seminary teachers were arrested and a case of "unnatural offences" was registered against them following allegations that they sexually assaulted multiple minor students.

The two accused Zeeshan and Anis - were arrested after the father and uncle of one of the victims approached District Police Officer (DPO)

a day earlier. The police claimed the ages of the victims ranged between nine and twelve and according to them, the abuse had been going on for at least three to four weeks

Locals welcome resumption of Sibi-Harnai train service

ISLAMABAD (APP): Residents in the vicinities of Sibi and Harnai districts in Balochistan province expressed a collective sense of relief following the restoration of train services connecting these twin cities after a 17-year hiatus.

The restoration of this vital transport link has been warmly received by the local community, heralding the resurgence of economic activities and offering prospects for enhancing the standard of living. The renewed accessibility provided by the Sibi-

Harnai train service is anticipated to not only catalyze commercial endeavors but also foster avenues for the locals to elevate their socio-economic conditions. 'The long-awaited railway line, traversing rugged

gions, has been hailed as a vital transportation link in the province by Muhammad Asfand Khan, a local resident told APP on

cluding mountainous re-

Sunday.

He highlighted the restored railway track's significant of the stored railway. nificance, providing an affordable travel alternative and a catalyst for economic growth in the area. Originally established during the late 18th century under British rule, this railway section was deemed instrumental in Balochistan's development. However, in 2006, a banned armed organization orchestrated bombings that extensively damaged bridges and tracks along this line.

Hikmat Khan Bugti, another resident, emphasized the absence of proper roads, making train travel a and perilous terrains, in- much-needed alternative.

Malik paves way for enhanced collaboration in Saudia's job market

Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development. Jawad Sohrab Malik, focused on developing the Pakistani workforce in KSA during his interactions with Saudi employers and human resource executives on his visit to the kingdom.

In Saudi Arabia, he concentrates on solidifying connections and optimizing and economy.

stani community. Jawad Sohrab Malik engaged in in-depth discussions with Saudi employers and human resource management executives in

During the meetings, SAPM emphasized the crucial role of human redevelopment source aligned with the requirements of the Saudi market



ISLAMABAD: First Lady Begum Samina Alvi visiting the Palestinian stall and expressing her condolences for the martyrs of Gaza, at Pakistan Foreign Office Women's Association's Annual Charity Bazar.

Nawaz to be next PM, claims Marriyum

LAHORE (APP): Pakistan alty with his brother and Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) leader Marriyum Aurangzeb said on Sunday that her party's Quaid Mian Nawaz Sharif would be the next prime minister after February 8 elections.

Addressing a press conference here at the party secretariat, she said only free and fair election was solution to the challenges being faced by the country. The former information minister said her party's political opponents knew it well that Nawaz Sharif would become the prime minister for the fourth time, adding that the PML-N's manifesto would be provision of relief to people. About her PML-N President Shehbaz Sharif's acquittal in the Ashiana Housing Scheme reference by a Lahore accountability court, she said the former

prime minister was vindi-

cated once again. Marriyum

said Shehbaz showed loy-

faced various fake corruption cases. Marriyum Aurangzeb said that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan was imposed on the country through deliberate failure of the result transmission system (RTS) in the 2018 elections. "Today's youth must know what kind of game was

played and the people had to bear the brunt of it," said the PML-N leader. She added that a game was played with the opposition and the system of the country. Pakistan, after a tumultuous five years, was approaching one of the most crucial general elections of its history, which are set to take place on February 8 next year. To a question about the recent statement of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Co-chairperson Asif Ali Zardari on elections, the PML-N leader said his statement about transparent elec-

tions was encouraging

ECP gets **2,000 laptops** from HEC for ROs, DROs

ISLAMABAD (INP): In pursuance of the agreement, the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) had signed with the Higher Education Commission (HEC), the former has received 2,000 laptops from the latter as the general elections, 2024 are approaching fast.

As per sources, the ECP had decided to give laptops to the returning officers (ROs) as well as district returning officers (DROs) so that they could perform their duties with ease. It was after feeling helpless in the face of coalition government's reluctance to hold elections despite its order, the Supreme Court (SC) finally on November 3, 2023 said that enough was enough and ordered the government to ensure the conduct of general elections on February 8.

JI's Gaza Solidary March in Lahore LAHORE (INP): Thou- Israeli aggression in Gaza.

Thousands attend

sands of citizens have attended Jamaat-e-Islami's (JI) Gaza March in Lahore to show solidarity with Palestinians in besieged densely populated strip and occupied West Bank suffering from the aggression of the Israeli occupation forces.

Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) organised the Gaza Soli-Punjab University (PU) Campus Bridge today which was attended by thousands of citizens including women and chil-

The massive public event was addressed by JI Pakistan Ameer Sirajul Haq, politicians and cler-

Protestors chanted

While addressing the Gaza March, JI Pakistan Ameer Sirajul Haq said that the innocent children of Gaza were waiting for the help of Muslim countries amid Israeli bombard-

He slammed rulers of the Muslim countries for doing nothing for the relief of Palestinians except darity March at Lahore's making tall claims. He also criticised that the rulers of the Muslim countries did nothing in Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) summit except for consola-

"A dead resolution was passed in the OIC summit, ineffective to provide any relief to the Palestinians and stop inpro-Palestinian slogans humane actions of the Isand demanded an end to raeli occupation forces.'



Pakistani Community, Saudi Employers and HRM Exec.

Bilawal accuses PML-N of lying on PIA's privatization

KARACHI (INP): Completely throwing his weight behind the Pakistan International Airlines' (PIA) employees protest against proposed privatization of the airline, PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari said on Sunday what he had discussed with the PML-N was not the airline's privatization,

but its restructuring. Sources in the Bilawal House stated that while talking to a delegation of the PIA employees, Bilawal Bhutto alleged, "Just like the PML-N lies to the nation in political matters, it is not stating the facts about the discussions we had on the subject.'

235,821 **Afghans** return to homeland

ISLAMABAD (APP): As many as 235,821 Afghans have so far been repatriated to their homeland, according to Radio Pakistan.

The repatriation of illegal foreign nationals, including Afghans, to their homeland is continuing. Thousands of Afghans are returning to their homeland on a daily basis through the Chaman and Torkham borders, thanking Pakistan for its generosity.

CPEC has transformational impact on socio-economic landscape in Pakistan: Ahsan

China-Pakistan Economic erty, he added. Corridor (CPEC), a flagship project of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), has emerged as a transformative force reshaping the socio-economic transformational impact on the lives of people in Pakistan, former Minister for Planning and Special Initiative Ahsan Iqbal said.

"When we started CPEC in 2013, Pakistan was suffering from a major energy crisis. We were experiencing power shortages for 16 to 18 hours per day, and we had major infrastructural bottlenecks with very poor physical infrastructure," he said in an exclusive interview with China Global Television Network (CGTN).

And because of a lack of electricity, energy was not there, and industrial and agricultural production was suffering, which meant there was more unemployment, which was a major

Ahsan Iqbal said that through the CPEC, in three years, more than \$25 billion of investment came into Pakistan that modernized infrastructure and created new roads to connect many regions. It provided more than 8,000 megawatts of new power, which helped the country overcome power shortages.

'As we had energy in the economy, our agriculture and industrial outputs improved, which brought more employment for thousands of young people and also helped them come out of poverty," he added.

About special eco-

nomic zones, he said that nine special economic zones have been identified in different regions of Pakistan and added, "All regions are taking part and taking benefit from CPEC, which is another indicator that it is a very inclusive project and it does not leave anyone behind.



BEIJING: Ambassador of Pakistan to China Khalil Hashmi speaking at the inaugural ceremony of Pakistan's Serene Airline operations at Daxing Airport.

Daily soice of Masse Independent

Rupee's recovery against dollar

The rupee is expected to maintain its upward trend in the coming week, helped by dollar sales by exporters and optimism about the country's economy following its deal with the International Monetary Fund for the next loan tranche what the dealers and analysts believe. The rupee recovered 0.36 percent against the dollar over the week, breaking a 17-day losing streak in the interbank market and rising from 287.55 on Monday to 286.50 on Friday. The local unit has recently appreciated due to the optimism sparked by the IMF review and its positive response, which boosted investors' confidence in the economy, according to dealers. According to a currency dealer, we expect the rupee's rally will continue as the market's inflows have started to improve. Exporters are returning to the mar ket to sell dollars in anticipation that the rupee will appreciate further in the coming days. Improved sup plies and a positive outlook support the rupee.

Worthwhile to mention here is that IMF staff and the Pakistani authorities recently reached a staff-level agreement on the first review under Pakistan's standby arrangement (SBA), subject to approval by the IMF's executive board. Upon approval, the country is set to get approximately \$700 million, bringing the total disbursements under the SBA to nearly \$1.9 bil-

The Tresmark, a financial technology firm, in a weekly client noted that "As soon as the staff-level agreement was announced with the IMF, the top machinery, including the caretaker prime minister, the interim finance minister, and the governor of the State Bank of Pakistan came out with guns blazing and spoke all positives to reinforce the sentiment." It further said that the verbal intervention was accompanied by market tactics to bring down the local currency. Allegedly import payments were postponed, and new letters of credit issuance were restricted and oversight in market trading was intense.

The reversal in currency's trend has reintroduced exporters to sell forwards, even though forward premiums were down by 30 percent (one and three months ended the week at 190 and 430 paisa). According to Tresmark, the market now estimates that the Rupee will strengthen to around 282/\$, whereupon the SBP will restart its dollar buying. Positive news flows like lending from multilaterals and the IMF's executive board approvals will keep Rupee buoyant. As of November 10, Pakistan has \$12.5 billion in foreign exchange reserves, up from \$8.5 billion in May.

The remittances and exports are improving. The current account deficit for October is expected to shrink to \$100 million. It is projected that Pakistan will get approximately \$1.2 billion in financing from the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, and Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank before the end of the year. The government also expects more inflows from Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates to support the country's economy. Over the last 20 days, the global oil prices (Brent) have decreased by 17 percent, from \$97 to \$80 per barrel. Treasury bills and bonds' cut-off yields are trending downward. Due to the base effect and tight monetary policy and base effect, inflation is predicted to decline significantly starting in January; interest rates are positive on a forward-looking basis

Being seen & heard

try to understand the

son offers insight on how

to better see, hear and

also be heard in an age

where digital connectivity

has caused isolation. That

sense of being under-

genuine human connec-

offers practical steps on

how to engage with

people or reconnect with

self-help territory but un-

like other guides, Brooks'

book is meticulously re-

searched. He references

neuroscience, psychol-

ogy, history, education,

and the arts to present an

understanding of human

connections. His concern

is to understand the 'de-

cline' of morals in America

and offers interesting tid-

bits, like how words in

books have reduced in the

20th century. Using a soft-

ware tool, he learned how

'bravery' was down 66 per

cent in books, 'humble-

ness' by 52pc and 'grati-

tude' by 49pc. Parents

aren't teaching their chil-

dren about character, in-

stead it's about winning.

suggestions — how to

while trite, even silly, speak

to a larger issue, not just

in the US. Our screen time

has upended our social

skills. It was possible to

have friends with oppos-

ing views on a host of is-

sues but that seems im-

possible now. We --- my-

self included — use emojis

to communicate feelings.

If you cut yourself off

from emotions you risk

cutting yourself off from

ing inequality, populism,

bigotry and a decline in re-

Along with social me-

intimacy and life itself.

start conversations -

Some of his self-help

old friends.



Muna Khan

Going to graduate school in the US as a mature student meant I felt a disconnect with younger students, especially around language and identity issues. It took some time for me to understand words 'woke' and 'gaslighting' but it provided much humour in the classroom.

I was studying jour-

nalism having practised it for about 20 years and had more in common with my professors than students who complained they did not feel seen or heard. I took 'seen and heard' to mean as sources in reporting whereas they meant the opposite – 'truly understood'. Who has time to sit and truly understand sources, people, communities when you're racing against the clock, I'd argue. They blamed the media for not accurately representing communities, or even trying to, which is why the news media was losing audiences who feel invisible. I warned them that talks about feelings will not sit well in a news-

Donald Trump won the election a few months into these discussions. His unexpected victory was blamed on Russian hackers, Facebook ads, Hillary Clinton; but a Harvard study blamed it on the press "specifically the overwhelmingly negative tone of news cover-

The very classmates I ridiculed had the answer to why the media got it wrong: the liberal elite dia, he holds the widencoastal media did not attempt to understand or fairly report on Trump ligion and community parsupporters. It was a big ticipation responsible for -- Courtesy Dawn

teaching moment for me an absence of values born and I said I would always of kindness. Here, I disagree with

him slightly based on my other perspective in my work but it's been a time as a student in the US struggle especially when where I saw an emergence those others use abusive of a new moral code and I believe that doesn't sit David Brooks' new right with Brooks, a white conservative who supbook How to Know a Perported the Iraq war and is pro-Israel. The US has made a great deal of strides in diverse political representation, gender and LGBTQ rights and is stood can only come from fighting back against racist and anti-climate politions, he writes, and he cies. It represents a rejection of a world order that has seen a rise of centimillionaires (people with investable assets greater This may sound like than \$100 million) whose number has doubled in the last 20 years according to a wealth advisory firm.

believe pushback to Israel's propaganda is also proof that young people are calling out the lies because they now can 'see, hear' Palestinians, who have been denied space in the press. Go to TikTok to see the videos of users reading a 20-year-old letter by Osama bin Laden to the Americans and agreeing with him. There is a genuine interest in wanting to know, to understand 'others' and ourselves in the process. This is the purpose of journalism and I hope the press can find its way back to representing communities fairly.

Of course, societies need more empathy and human connections are vital for us to thrive. It's why I support ease of travel restrictions between India and Pakistan especially for families and artists, sports people, students on exchange program-mes. Let us connect, talk, listen and have a respectful exchange of ideas so we can ease some of the social pain Brooks says we are all in. These small steps — versus grand PR-driven gestures — can help us become a better friend, neighbour, partner, values I hope we can all support.

Issue of refugees



Aizaz Ahmad

Chaudhry Hundreds of thousands of undocumented Afghan refugees are returning to their country. In principle, it makes perfect sense. No country allows illegal foreign nationals to stay on its land. Pakistan, too, has that right. Notably, at this stage, only undocumented refugees are being obliged to return home. The caretaker interior minister said in a Senate hearing that the government would want the return of refugees to proceed without any manhandling, and with immediate redressal

complaints. However, since this forced return has coincided with the steep rise of terrorism in Pakistan, a correlation has developed in the public consciousness that the expulsion of Afghan refugees is Pakistan's answer to the Taliban government's non-cooperation on the issue of the TTP, which is carrying out terrorist acts against Pakistan. This perception needs to be addressed.

There is a view that Afghan refugees were victims of foreign aggression and oppression. Some would even suggest that Afghan refugees have lived in Pakistan long enough to be deemed economic migrants. As it is, many of those returning now might come back to Pakistan in the near future because there is no real economic pull for them to settle in Afghanistan. Hence the need to talk to Kabul for creating pull factors, such as offering

Amidst this diversity of views, the debate has begun to affect the overabout TTP-sponsored terrorism. The answer lies in recognising the fact that the Taliban of Afghanistan and the Taliban of Pakistan are two sides of the same ideological coin. Both derive their inof the Taliban movement. The TTP helped the Af-

ghan Taliban during the

latter's fight with Ameri-

cans. The Afghan Taliban are returning the favour. Further, the TTP wants to do what the Afghan Taliban would welcome: establish an Islamic emirate in the tribal belt straddling the Pak-Afghan border. It is clear that TTP on their soil. It is worth recalling how their first government defended the Al Qaeda leader's right to stay in Afghanistan despite intense

S pressure Given these realities. our government needs to adopt a two-pronged ap-Politically, proach. İslamabad should sustain its efforts to persuade Kabul to not allow the TTP to plan attacks against Pakistan using Afghan soil. Kinetically, this is a fight that Pakistan will have to win on its own, as it did in Swat and Waziristan. The perception of the forced return of refugees being tit-fortat action could have seri-

Let us also address a related question that is being asked, ie, why the Afghans are not grateful to Pakistan for all that was done for them in the past four decades. Indeed, Pakistan had helped Afghans push out the Soviet forces and also gave them humanitarian access during the US-led 'war on terror'. Despite US pressure, Pakistan never took kinetic Courtesy Dawn

ous implications and

cause an open rift with

all trajectory of Pak-Af-ghan ties. Pakistanis won-Taliban leadership that der why the Taliban gov- often visited Pakistan to ernment is not sensitive to meet their families and re-Pakistan's high concern ceive medical treatment. Consequently, Washington accused us of playing 'good Taliban (Afghan), bad Taliban (Pakistani)', meaning a double game.

In hindsight, when the US started a dialogue with the Taliban and manspiration from the founder aged to obtain some written commitments from them in return for withdrawing its troops in 2021, should Pakistan not have opened its own dialogue with the Taliban on how they should deal with the issues of TTP, border management, and the return of refugees, if and when they returned to power? They were under immense pressure and the Afghan Taliban are would have been more unlikely to take any ki- amenable to talks then netic action against the rather than now when they are in power and unchallenged by any internal faction.

Yet, we must stay engaged with them on the diplomatic and political tracks for candid discussions on the bilateral issues mentioned. If we are to learn from history, all such matters should be discussed in Pakistan's parliament. A diversity of views enriches debate and helps generate sound and consensual policy decisions.

The Afghans tend to view their country as the 'economic roundabout' that could connect West and Central Asia with South Asia. They cite a verse of Allama Igbal, which characterised Afghanistan as the 'heart of Asia'. This provides an enormous win-win foundation for both countries to work together on regional energy projects and transit trade. This will help make mutually beneficial economic projects the centrepiece of Islamabad's relations with Kabul, in tandem with Pakistan's pivot to geo-economics espoused in our first National Security Policy 2022. --

Commerce News

Mudassar Iqbal says: UN FAO's 40 ambitious projects to revolutionize agriculture in Pakistan

The United Nations Food Agriculture Organization's (FAO) on Sunday unveiled a dynamic portfolio of 40 diverse projects strategically dispersed across various regions of Pakistan. These initiatives, with varying financial parameters, and target audiences, underscore the FAO's commitment to fortifying the agriculture and food security sectors in the country.

In an exclusive panel interview with the Associated Press of Pakistan (APP), Country Representative Florence

proactive role of the FAO in numerous initiatives and initiatives spectrum, enhancing agricultural sustainability, supporting development, and implementing food security

hunger and malnutrition. involvement extends

Rolle and Assistant FAOR agricultural support. The (Programs) Dr. Aamer organization actively Irshad highlighted the engages in sustainable management, providing programs aimed at humanitarian assistance strengthening Pakistan's during emergencies, and agriculture and food collaborating closely with security sectors. These the Pakistani government

span a on policy development. including Additionally, the FAO supports research and innovation while helping Pakistan adapt to the livestock and fisheries challenges posed by climate change. Rolle outlined FAO's 2023–2027 priorities with programs to alleviate Pakistan: enhancing food availability, strengthening climate-responsive planning, and improving agricultural



IEW YORK (ÅFP) APP): The US transition to electric cars has hit a speed bump, with concerns about vehicle range and limited charging capacity adding to core affordability issues.

Automakers in recent weeks have pushed back EV sales targets and delayed capital projects as they seek to reduce inventories of unsold EVs at dealerships.

"The slowdown in EV sales is much more pronounced than it is for other categories of vehicles and that isn't related to the economy," said Saunders, Neil managing director of

GlobalData. "The EV has a problem attached to it," he said. "It's a much more difficult and complex purchase because of the range of the vehicles and the charging infrastructure.



President, Adeel Siddiqui take keen interest at stalls during Furniture Expo

Govt's move of establishing **Industrial Advisory Council** commendable: Atif Akram

FPCCI, Atif Ikram Sheikh proactively. has commended the In a sta government's move of setting up the Industrial Advisory Council and assured the full cooperation of the business community. He said that the council headed by the Federal Minister of Industry and Production Gohar Ejaz, comprises reputable personalities who will advise the government to boost industrial production in the

ISLAMABAD (INP): c o n f r o n t i n g have been included in the Presidential candidate of industrialisation council.

> on Sunday, Atif Ikram the provincial chief Sheikh, who has also secretaries, including the served as VP FPCCI, Chairman PVMA and President ICCI said that Muhammad Ali Tibba, Fawad Ahmed Mukhtar, Fawad Ahmed Mukhtar, Raza Mansha, Aamir Fayyaz Sheikh, Waqar Ahmed Malik, Abdul Samad Dawood, Shehbaz Yasin Malik, Shahzad Asghar Ali, Syed Haider Ali Faroog Nassem Ahsan Ali, Farooq Naseem, Ahsan Bashir and Sameer Chinoy hopes on them.

Moreover. In a statement issued council members include all chief secretaries of Azad Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan, the finance secretary, the commerce secretary, the industry and production secretary and the chairman of FBR.He said the council would meet every week and submit a report in 10 weeks, adding that the business community is pinning high

CDA needs to focus on development works in markets: Trade Associations

ISLAMABAD (INP): markets on modern lines for The presidents of trade smooth growth of trade associations of the markets of the federal capital Islamabad have urged the all major markets to facilitate the growth of trade activities.

They were speaking during a meeting at the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) on Sunday.

bearers of market associations, President ICCI Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari said that traders were paying various taxes to the CDA and were making significant contributions to its revenue, therefore, it was the responsibility of the

He said that with the efforts of ICCI, CDA has Capital Development allocated spaces in various Authority (CDA to focus markets for the installation on development works in of filtration plants and assured that ICCI would keep pushing CDA for the uplift of markets. He said that ICCI in collaboration with market associations was planning to organize a winter festival in Islamabad and hoped that Addressing the office all markets would fully cooperate in making the festival successful.

Vice President ICCI Engineer Azhar ul Islam Zafar said that unity among traders is the key requirement to get their issues resolved and assured that the ICCI would keep civic body to develop fighting for their cause.



KARACHI: People are busy is buying used items in a Sunday weekly bazaar at North Karachi area.

Grand Souq Lahore to foster business growth, say experts construction of mega project told APP on LAHORE (APP): The drawing inspiration from businesses, thriving and Amin further expressed

Punjab Central Business District Development Authority (PCBDDA), also known as Central Business District Punjab (CBD Punjab), has announced the launch of Grand Souq Lahore (GSL), to foster local and national

country and tackle issues

business growth. It will be constructed at an expansive 68-kanal area at the Rescue 1122 Academy at LOS bus stop, Ferozepur Road, here. A spokesperson for the CBD told APP that the project aims at facilitating and empowering the local business community, international architectural marvels in Dubai and Turkey, adding it will be meticulously crafted to meet global standards.

To further ease business operations, CBD Punjab has introduced an accessible installment plan interested stakeholders, he said. The GSL will boast an outstanding sophisticated infrastructure in local history, including three floors with versatile retail spaces ranging from 350 to 550 square feet and underground parking, he added. CEO CBD Punjab, adding the project Imran Amin, while construction would be expressing his plans for the

Sunday that the local business community and investors serve as the backbone of our economy.

Grand Souq Lahore is an anticipated hope marking a significant milestone in empowering these enterprises while fostering economic growth.

To a query he said that the strategic location of GSL at LOS here ensures accessibility for visitors from key areas such as Ferozepur Road, Shadman, Icchra, and Samnabad, adding the project is poised to transform the business landscape, providing a platform for local

meet to diverse consumer needs. Exploring

immense potential of GSL, business industry experts anticipate it to be a gamechanger, elevating the local economy and setting new benchmarks in business development.

The project would further help promote environment-friendly urban regeneration projects on vertical principles. Prefinancial feasibility has been determined based on development as economic advancement and shall generate employment in various formations of the project, Amin said. Imran

that development shall also enhance vertical activity in surrounding especially within the main markets including Anarkali, Gulberg, Mall Road, and other commercial activity areas with a boost in major business activity. Imran Amin further said the GSI project would be associated with CBD directly and that development has been categorized into five districts Commercial Zone, Digital District, Residential District, Entertainment and Government Zone, each district having unique characteristics

Use of certified seeds crucial for achieving agriculture growth

PESHAWAR: Visitors take keen interest in

antique vehicles during Annual Vintage and

Classic Car Show 2023 held at Services Club

ISLAMABAD (APP): economic growth, and Chairman of the Pakistan Hitch Hybrid Seed Association (PHHSA), Shahzad Ali Malik Sunday said that the use of certified seeds, particularly hybrid seeds, is indispensable for sustainable achieving agricultural production in

Pakistan in Peshawar.

Speaking to a delegation of progressive farmers, he said, "By promoting their adoption, we can contribute to increased food production,

environmental resilience

He urged stakeholders. including government bodies, agricultural extension services, and seed producers. to collaborate in fostering an environment that encouraged the widespread adoption of certified seeds. He said, Certified seeds serve as the foundation for robust and sustainable crop yields. Hybrid seeds, in particular, offer numerous advantages.

such as increased productivity.

KP govt decides to make universities self-sufficient

Independent Report PESHAWAR: A high level meeting chaired by Caretaker Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Syed Arshad Hussain Shah

on Sunday decided to develop financial plans to make all public sector universities financially self-dependent.

The meeting also decided to activate search committee appointment of Vice

Chancellors. The committee would submit its report within a week to the provincial

governance of the universities to solve the problems being faced by the universities.

The chief minister asked to promote high standard of higher education based on the demand of market adding that priorities should also be given to quality of research work

He said the secondary and higher secondary education system should be aligned with the priorities of higher education institutions.

For this purpose, the minister. The CM CM asked to hold emphasized to improve the consultation with the stakeholders.



KARACHI: Member of the Trans community take part in Sindh Moorat March.

Dadocha dam to supply 35 mln gallons water per day to Rwp City

RAWALPINDI (APP): capita availability of water The Dadocha Dam would help overcome water times during the last 50 shortage in Rawalpindi as after construction of the dam, it would supply 35 million gallons of water per day to Rawalpindi city, Commissioner Rawalpindi Division, Liaquat Ali Chatta.

He said that water Punjab is giving priority scarcity has become a global problem and different countries are considering different ways to meet the

Pakistan is also one of the countries suffering in Dadocha village near from a water crisis, the Commissioner said.

Due to the non- which would now be construction of dams, per estimated again.

here has decreased four years, Liaquat Ali Chatta

Due to the shortage of dams, millions of cusecs rainwater is wasted every year or causing floods, he The government of

to the problem of water scarcify and is paying special attention to the construction of small dams, he said and informed that the approved cost of the dam being built Rawat Industrial Estate was Rs 6492 million,

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhawa Governor Haji Ghulam Ali inspecting the various stalls during

culture day at Edwards College Peshawar.

Naqvi visits Chakwal, assures madrasa students of justice

CM also visits Bagh-e-Jinnah, seeks its upgradation

Independent Report Caretaker Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi reached Chakwal on Sunday and met madrasa students who were subjected to molestation and torture by some teachers and assured them and their parents of complete justice.

According to a Talking to the media later handout issued here, the on, the CM said, "We feel a CM acquired information lot of sorrow and shame about the incident and remarked that those madrasa is not bad and few responsible would not be able to go Scot-free.

harsh punishment would be given to the culprits. CM

The informed that both the accused had been arrested after their identification through CCTV cameras. over the incident. Every madrasa is not bad and few people had committed an evil and immoral act." He the affected children," he requested. "The affected commissioner C commissioner C were also present.

"Children are our future and it is our responsibility to provide them justice," he assigned the task of restored. We will restore said and promised that investigating the case and secretary prosecution would perform his duty diligently during the court proceedings.The CM ordered for taking care of privacy of the affected children. "We honour the decision of not holding a medical. I request the local media not to make public the names and pictures of Commissioner Chakwal

normal life needs to be studies of the children and will also get them out of trauma," promised Mohsin Naqvi. The CM directed the commissioner and deputy commissioner undertaking measures for education and rehabilitation of the affected children. The IG Police. Doctor Usman Anwar, RPO Rawalpindi, Commissioner Rawalpind

DPO Chakwal and Deputy

KP CM directs completion of digital record of patwar system

PESHAWAR (APP): As an Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Justice ® Syed Arshad Hussain Shah has directed the concerned authorities for taking necessary steps on urgent basis to install live Internet Protocol Cameras (IPCs) at patwar kahanas, police stations and offices of DCs, ACs, DPOs, DSPs and Tehsildars across the

He further directed to IPCs complete installation of aforem IPCs at all aforementioned public service outlets/ offices by the end of this

He also directed the important step to ensure concerned high ups to set public services delivery in up a Centralized a more efficient and Monitoring Cell for the transparent manner in surveillance of those various service delivery cameras and to put in place outlets of the provincial a mechanism for direct government, the Caretaker access of the Chief Chief Minister Khyber Minister, Chief Secretary and Inspector General of Police offices to those cameras via IP network.

He underlined the need to initiate implementation of this project without any delay and directed the quarter concerned to immediately issue proper directives in written regarding installation of IPCs at al aforementioned offices.

He was presiding over a meeting of the Board of Revenue held here at Chief Minister's House.



KARACHI: Parents of students waiting outside Expo Centre as the Medical and Dental College Admission Test (MDCAT) 2023-24 is being held.

Ex-ministers quit PTI, join IPP

norms.

LAHORE (APP): Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader and former federal minister Ali Nawaz Awan parted ways with Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) and announced joining Istehkame-Pakistan Party (IPP).

According to party sources, Ali Nawaz met Patron-in-Chief Jahangir Khan Tareen and President Aleem Khan in Lahore and announced joining their party. Aoun Chaudhry and other IPP leaders were also president.

Jahangir Tareen and

Stemming out domestic violence still a far cry LAHORE (APP): Despite beatings, and tragically Islamic teachings and

essential legislation and sometimes even murder. repeated efforts to control The repercussions this menace, domestic extend far beyond mere violence still persists in physical injuries, reaching societies worldwide into the realms of thanks to ignorance of compromised health, weakened psychological people to religious and legal obligations and their well-being and profound deep entrenchment in emotional distress. Unfortunately, our country primitive sociocultural is also not immune to this It persisted as an pervasive problem.

insidious issue in our The roots society for decades that domestic violence are transcends geographical, deeply embedded and economic, racial, and cultural boundaries, multifaceted with factors like women's inflicting its impact on education, poverty, lack of Abdul Aleem welcomed Ali Nawaz in the party folds. women through verbal as a wareneess, implementation of relevant to the abuse, physical assault, misinterpretations of laws," remarked Sabahat incidents.

adherence to customary and prevalent cultural customs contributing to

this menace. Significantly, this issue disproportionately affects families in the lower socio-economic strata as men with higher education usually exhibiting a lower propensity to abuse their family women.

Besides factors, domestic violence against women is a case of failure of respective institutions in effective

Rizvi, Secretary Lahore High Court Association.

"Being practitioner, I can validly attribute the increasing cases of domestic violence to a general tendency of overall lethargy by such institutions and a spirit of male dominance in society," she added.

At the same time Sabahat argued that women's welfare is not a government responsibility alone as she also pointed out a growing societal conservatism contributing to the rise in such

personal capacity, perceiving themselves as more powerful, engage in acts of violence against women," she explained. "Therefore, the remedy lies in proper awareness of women and rigorously enforcing

legislation to curtail men. The government has taken several measures to counter this negativity on part of men folk and its detrimental consequences by establishing Punjab Women's Helpline 1043 and Women Safety Mobile Application.

International News

Heavy fighting in north Gaza after hostage deal report denied

GAZA: Fighting raged on Sunday between Hamas militants and Israeli forces in parts of north Gaza and Israeli air strikes killed dozens of Palestinians in the enclave's centre, witnesses said, as a report of a tentative hostage release deal was denied. The Washington Post reported that Israel and Hamas had reached a tentative US-brokered agreement to free dozens of women and children held hostage in Gaza in exchange for a five-day pause in their

It said the hostage release could begin within the

last-minute hitches. All parties would freeze combat operations for at least five days while 50 or more hostages are released in groups every 24 hours, the Post reported. Hamas took about 240 hostages during its deadly cross-border rampage into Israeli communi-

The pause is also intended to allow a significant amount of humanitarian aid in, the newspaper reported, adding that the outline of the deal was put together war, citing people familiar during weeks of talks in Qatar. But both Israel's prime minister and US officials said no agreement

had been hammered out yet, spokesperson saying efforts were continuing to clinch a deal. The Post's report came as Israel appeared to be preparing to expand its offensive against Hamas militants to densely populated Gaza's southern half after air strikes killed dozens of Palestinians, including civilians reportedly sheltering at two schools.

Israeli forces invaded late last month after a devastating aerial blitz in response to Hamas's attack, and say they have wrested control of large areas of the north and northwest around Gaza City.

Musk's X dumped by blue chip firms after White House rebuke

AN FRANCISCO: Elon Musk, the billionaire owner of Tesla, SpaceX and social platform X. came under fire from all sides this week after endorsing an anti-Semitic conspiracy theory and then in an ostensible attempt at damage control — terming phrases associated with the Palestinian cause "euphemisms

The original post was perceived as a reference to longtime conspiracy theory among White su-premacists that Jews have a secret plan to bring in illegal immigrants to weaken

the idea was promoted by the man who carried out a mass shooting at a synagogue in Pittsburgh



cellor Olaf Scholz before the "Compact with Africa" summit in Berlin,

Japanese troops drill on island seen as vulnerable to China

Monitoring Desk JAPAN: Japanese marines

in amphibious assault vehicles stormed an island beach at the edge of the East China Sea on Sunday in a simulated attack to dislodge invaders from territory that Tokyo worries is vulnerable to attack from China.

As tensions run high with neighbours China, Russia and North Korea, the drill on the southwest island of Tokunoshima capped an 11-day series of exercises nationwide dubbed 05JX, meant to

ground, sea and air forces to defend Japan's territory and infrastructure, including nuclear power plants. "The goal of JX is to

show that if there is an emergency situation resulting from an attack, that we are able respond in a joint way,' General Yoshihide Yoshida, chief of staff of the Self-Defence Forces' Joint Staff, said after observing the drill on Tokunoshima

Ground Self-Defence Force amphibious assault vehicles launched from two Maritime Self-Defense Force show the readiness of landing ships anchored off-

shore. Other troops arrived in semi-inflatable rubber boats, with heavy equipment carried to shore on military hovercraft. Unlike many of the beaches along Japan's southwest island chain stretching toward Taiwan, the one on Tokunoshima does not have a coral reef that would make military operations more difficult.

The scope and pace of military exercises in Japan are likely to increase over the next few years, including with US forces, after Prime Minister Fumio Kishida in December.

US sees 'significant pause' if prisoners are released

MANAMA: US President Joe Biden's main adviser on the Middle East said on Saturday there would be a 'significant pause" in fighting if Hamas agrees to release prisoners. "The surge in humanitarian relief, the surge in fuel, the pause. will come when hostages are released," Brett McGurk told a security conference in

manitarian relief", he said.

BUENOS AIRES: Argentines head to the polls on Sunday in a delicately

> Peronist Economy Minister Sergio Massa go headto-head with outsider libertarian Javier Milei. Massa offers continuity but has been at the helm during the worst economic crisis in two decades. Milei pledges economic shock therapy, from shutting the central bank to ditching the peso.

With many voters unconvinced by either, some have characterized the vote as a choice of the "lesser evil": fear of Milei's painful economic medicine or anger at Massa over the economic crisis. Many Argentines say they won't vote at all.

litical landscape, its eco-nomic roadmap, trade in

APEC divided on

wars in Gaza, Ukraine

Monitoring Desk SAN FRANCISCO: Pacific Rim leaders showed di-

visions over the wars in Ukraine and Gaza after a two-day summit of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum on Friday.

Days of meetings involving ministers and leaders were dominated by a summit on Wednesday be-tween US President Joe Biden and Chinese President Xi Jinping aimed at cooling tensions between the world's two largest economies, which have alarmed the region.

The 21 APEC members, which include Russia and Muslim-majority Indonesia and Malaysia, went into the meetings divided over Russia's war in Ukraine and the Israeli war on Gaza, and that is how

they left. A statement issued by the US echoed last year's APEC leaders' declaration in saying that "most" APEC members 'strongly condemn aggression against Ukraine.

It said the leaders exchanged views on the Gaza crisis, with some objecting to language of the chair's statement in an accompanying "Golden Gate Declaration" covering economic issues "on the basis that they do not believe that APÉC is a forum to discuss geopolitical issues." Some APEC leaders shared the united messages of the Nov. 11 joint Arab-Islamic summit in Riyadh, the chair's statement said. Brunei, Indonesia and Malaysia in a joint statement said they were among those who supported the messages of the Riyadh summit.

Argentina readies to vote in likely presidential election thriller

Monitoring Desk

poised presidential runoff, with voters seeking a solution to triple-digit inflation and rising poverty and two clashing visions for the country's future on offer. The election sees

Whoever wins, it will shake up Argentina's po-

grains, lithium and hydrocarbons, and its global ties with partners including China, the United States

"The election will mark a profound rupture in the system of political representation in Argentina," said Julio Burdman, director of the consultancy Observatorio Electoral.

'I think all the political forces as we have known them are going to be transformed.

The story of the election race has been the shock rise of 53-year-old economist and former TV pundit Milei, driven by the disenchantment of Argentines with the traditional political parties on both

the left and right. Milei has a slight edge in opinion polls, but most show a tight and uncertain race. Massa, 51, an experienced political wheeler-dealer, has been clawing back votes with tax cuts and campaigns highlighting Milei's radical plans to

slash state spending.

Japanese Ground Self-Defense Force's Amphibious Rapid Deployment Brigade (ARDB) soldiers take part in a marine landing drill as a part of the country's nationwide 05JX military exercises at Tokunoshima island, Kagoshima prefecture, south-

Iran's Khamenei urges Muslim states to cut political ties with Israel for 'limited period' **Monitoring Desk** DUBAI: Iran's Supreme

Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei appealed to Musand goods. "Islamic governments lim states with political ties with Israel to at least cut them for "a limited time", state media reported on Sunday, weeks after he called for an Islamic oil and food embargo on Israel. "Some Islamic governments have condemned Israeli crimes in assemblies

while some have not. This

is unacceptable," Khamenei

said before reiterating that

the main task of Islamic governments should be to cut off Israel from energy

should at least cut off political ties to Israel for a limited time," Khamenei added During a joint summit between members of the Organisation for Islamic Cooperation and the Arab League in Saudi Arabia's capital on Nov. 11, Muslim states did not agree to impose wide-ranging sanctions on Israel

Monitoring Desk

that imply genocide".

On Wednesday, the world's richest man sparked outrage by endorsing an antisemitic post on X that falsely claimed that members of the Jewish community were stoking hatred against white

white majorities. Most notoriously

peace treaty **Monitoring Desk** forces recaptured in September, prompting a mass EREVAN: Armenia and Azerbaijan have been able exodus of ethnic Armenians to agree on the basic prin-

Azerbaijan, Armenia

agree on principles of

But Pashinyan said ciples for a peace treaty but there had been some are still "speaking different diplomatic languages", Armenian Prime Minister progress in talks over a peace treaty even though he Nikol Pashinyan said on was cited as saying that the Saturday, according to Russia's TASS news two countries still often struggled to agree on some

'We have good and The two countries have been at odds for debad news about the Armecades, most notably over nia-Azerbaijan peace pro-TASS quoted the breakaway Azerbaijani Pashinyan as saying in region of Nagorno-Karabakh, which Baku's

Monitoring Desk

Release of a large number of prisoners would result in "a significant pause... and a massive surge of hu-



Association's Annual Charity Bazar, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Late breast cancer diagnosis causes 44,000 deaths annually in Pakistan: Begum Alvi

First Lady Begum Samina Alvi said on Sunday that nearly 44,000 women die of breast cancer every year in Pakistan due to late diagnosis and stressed that thousands of women and their families could be saved if it was diagnosed at an earlier stage, with chances of survival up to 98 percent.

However, she regretted that there was a lack of awareness about the early symptoms of this disease "One of the major chalin Pakistan. As a result, the disease kept spreading si-lently and proved fatal. The first lady was ad-

dressing the Pakistan For-eign Office Women's Association's (PFOWA)

The spouses Islamabad-based diplomats organized stalls on the occasion depicting the culture, cuisine, and artifacts of their respective countries. The proceeds of the charity bazaar will be used for the welfare of the lowincome staffers of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Begum Alvi said that they had started a comprehensive, inclusive, and nationwide breast cancer awareness campaign.

lenges before us was to convey our message to women living in far-flung areas of the country. Most of the cancer cases in Paki-

third or fourth stages, which not only made the treatment painful and expensive but also reduced the chances of survival. Apart from this, mammography, ultrasound, and screening facilities are either lacking in our country or these facilities are very expensive," she added.

Referring to autism, children with disabilities, and the importance of early detection of breast cancer issues, she said that these initiatives hold immense importance, as they have the potential to save many

About progress on public awareness, Begum Alvi said that they had stan were reported in the reached out to millions of creased, she added.

country with the help of ring-back tone and messages, and in this year, over 140 million SMS on breast cancer had been sent to mobile users in Paki-

She said that now the number of cancer cases in the third and fourth stages has decreased in different hospitals in Pakistan, while the reporting of cancer cases in the first and second stages has increased.

Now, mammography, ultrasound, and screening facilities are being provided at subsidized rates in different hospitals across the country, and the number of these facilities has also in-

1,700 centers nationwide offer free TB diagnosis, treatment: Health Secretary

The government is firmly committed to fighting tuberculosis (TB) in Pakistan, offering free diagnosis and treatment at 1700 centers across the country, said Federal Secretary of Health Iftikhar Ali Shallwani.

Speaking at the Union Conference on Lung Health in Paris, Shallwani mentioned that the Government has allocated significant resources for the diagnosis and quality treatment of the disease. The Government has pledged \$33 million for this cause, supporting 1,700 state-of-the-art diagnostic and treatment facilities across Pakistan.

Shallwani emphasized that the Government of Pakistan is firmly dedicated to eradicating tuberculosis (TB), and comprehensive efforts are underway towards this goal.

The International Research

Supported by a se-

lect-group of philanthro-

pists, IRCRA initiated the

assistance process for Af-

ghan refugees from the very

outset. Concurrently, vari-

ous charitable organiza-

tions, including local tribal

elders, actively participated

in aiding and supporting the

the Afghan refugee commu-

nity expressed gratitude

towards IRCRA and the

Pakistani community for

this compassionate gesture.

Muhammad Israr Madani

emphasized that a prosper-

was the shared aspiration

The Capital Develop-

ment Authority (CDA)

has initiated studies for

recycling and disposal of

the capital's solid waste

ronmental pollution

which is posing a threat to the health of the gen-

ies included waste char-

acterization studies,

waste generation studies,

situational analysis re-

port, municipal solid

waste (MSW) collection,

haulage, treatment and

disposal, rapid assess-

ment report of landfill

sites Islamabad and com-

'The detail of stud-

eral public.

Participants among

Talking to media,

President

ous and stable Afghanistan viding them with ample

CDA initiates studies

for recycling of

capital's solid waste

intending to reduce envi- 21.926175 million. How-

munication and behaviour dards for optimum dis-

departing refugees.

IRCRA

Forkham border.

IRCRA distributes

aid to Afghan refugees

at Torkham Border

ISLAMABAD (APP): of our nations and to

Council for Religious Af- nizations, institutions, and

fairs (IRCRA) on Sunday citizens of both countries

persistently carried out the must collaboratively con-

distribution of aid and gifts tribute. President Madani

to Afghan refugees at the underscored the need for

wide, with a treatment success rate of 94% compared to the TB cases reported in 2021. The diagnostic services comprise a network of 1,800 microscopy labs, diagnostics, 17 Culture labs, and 3 DST labs.

The Health Secretary revealed that 3,684 cases of Drug Resistant TB were registered for second-line anti-TB treatment, targeting an estimated 15,900 DR TB cases through 50 DRTB healthcare services.

He mentioned that a TB/HIV Collaboration included screening 61% of registered TB patients for their HIV status. Additionally, enrolled patients received social support in the form of cash incentives, totaling PKR 12,000 per month during their treatment. It was conveyed that over 7,500 healthcare work-In the year 2022, more ers have undergone training than 424,566 TB cases were through an online training effectively treated nation- course designed for both

achieve this goal, the orga-

Pakistan and Afghanistan to

formulate a unified strategy

addressing common con-

cerns, such as terrorism and

extremism, to foster eco-

nomic stability in both na-

tions. He stressed the im-

portance of fostering strong

working relations between

the two fraternal nations to

address these challenges ef-

tude to the Afghan refugees

for their continual contri-

butions to the development

of Pakistan. In return, the

Afghan refugees acknowl-

edged the generosity of the

Pakistani people in keep-

ing their doors open during

challenging times and pro-

The Urban Unit

Lahore carried out stud-

ies during the period from January to March 2023

with a total cost of Rs.

ever, this is an unfortu-

nate fact that CDA has

been unable to develop an

international system for

solid waste disposal, in

the capital owing to land

availability and legal is-

sues. The authority is

working on developing a

system whereby it will be

initiating a mechanism of

solid waste minimization,

reuse, segregation at source

and recycling of waste

keeping in view the stan-

opportunities.

He expressed grati-

doctors and paramedics. The Federal Secretary of Health disclosed that the National TB Control Programme in Pakistan, with backing from the Glo-420 GeneXpert molecular bal Fund, WHO, and other collaborators, is executing a national strategic plan (NSP) from 2020 to 2023 aimed at eradicating TB in the country. Additionally an NSP for the years 2024-

26 has been formulated. The Global Fund has earmarked over USD 185 million for tuberculosis (TB) in Pakistan, covering the implementation period from January 2024 to December 2026. Looking ahead, there are plans to enhance the scale of rapid molecular diagnostics, increasing GeneXpert machines from 420 to 774 in the year 2024. Other initiatives include expanding Digital X-ray and Artificial Intelligence (AI) machines for TB diagnosis from 12 to 136, fortifying 37

Divisional Laboratories. Fog, smog to engulf plain areas of **Punjab: PMD**

ISLAMABAD (APP) Fog with smog is likely to develop in plain areas of Punjab at morning hours during the next 24 hours as per the Pakistan Meteoro-Îogical Department (PMD) forecast on Sunday.

Mainly dry weather for most parts of the country, while partly cloudy in upper parts.

As per the synoptic situation, a shallow westerly wave was present over western parts of the coun-

The weather will remain dry in most parts of Khyber Punjab, Pakhtunkhwa, Sindh, Balochistan, Kashmir and Gilgit Baltistan.

10 outlaws held; drugs, liquors and weapons recovered

Independent Report SLAMABAD: Islamabad Capital Police apprehended 10 outlaws from different areas of the city during the last 24 hours and recovered drugs, liquors and weapons with ammunition from their possession, a public relations officer said.

He said that, following the special directions of Islamabad Capital City Police Officer (ICCPO) Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan, the Islamabad Capital Police has intensified crackdown against the criminal elements in order to eliminate the crime from the city.

Following these directions the Secretariat police team arrested an accused namely Kashif Iqbal and recovered 190 gram heroin

their possession.
The Margalla police team arrested an accused namely Zeeshan and 20 liters of liquor from his possession



ISLAMABAD: Japanese children performing traditional dance during Pakistan foreign office Women's Association (PFOWA) annual Charity Bazaar 2023 at a local hotel in Federal Capital.

NH&MP issues updates regarding road closures and traffic diversions

ISLAMABAD (APP): The National Highways and Motorway (NHMP) on Sunday issued traffic advisory for travelers across Pakistan for the awareness about closures of several road and traffic diversions till next updates.

According to the spokesman of NHMP, the Motorway North Zone has issued updates for the commuters that on the M-1 Motorway (Peshawar to Islamabad) and told that two sections are closed due to road work from Wali Interchange (KM 450) to Near Wali Interchange (KM 451) in the northbound lanes, while from Near Swabi Interchange (KM 422) to Near Swabi Interchange (KM 422.400) in the southbound lanes will remain closed due to maintenance work.

The NHMP authorities warned that Motorway Central-I that it one section will be closed from (Kot Momin to Lahore) due to

The NHPM authoriallow extra travel time.

bypass Sahiwal (KM 1099) to western bypass Sahiwal (KM 1099) in the northbound lanes will be closed due construction work.

Moreover, on the Motorway Central-II, the Motorway (Pindibhatiya to Abdul Hakeem), three sections are closed due to road work, from NFC Society (KM 1231) to NFC Society (KM 1231) in the southbound lanes, from Kehror Chowk (KM 862) to Evershine pump (KM 861.5) in the southbound lanes and from Adda-5 Faiz (KM 908 to 909 SB) in the southbound lanes, the spokesman added. He said that IMDC, N-75 Highway (Islamabad to Murree), two sections are closed due to road work, from 41 (KM Nursery) to 42 (KM Lakot) in the northbound lanes, from 13 (KM 17mile) to (KM Due to asphalt work) in the northbound lanes and the drivers are advised to plan

Search, combing operation conducted against illegal foreigners

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: According to the details, the Islamabad conducted a search and

Following these directives, a search and combing operation was conducted in Capital Police Counter Ter- different areas of Bani Gala rorism Department (CTD) and Sabzi Mandi police

their trips accordingly and



combing operation against illegal foreigners at Bani Gala and Sabzi Mandi police station jurisdiction, a public relations officer said.

He said that, following the special directives of Islamabad Capital City Police Officer (ICCPO) Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan, the search and combing operations are being conducted in different areas of the city, to ensure the safety and security of the Islamabad

CTD, FC, QRF and local police teams under the supervision of SP CTD.

During the search and combing operation 48 houses and 111 individuals were thoroughly checked, while 05 suspects were shifted to the police station for further verification pur-

ICCPO Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan said that the purpose of the search and combing operations was to heighten the security in the Federal Capital.

ECP to settle delimitation disputes for thirteen districts in next two days

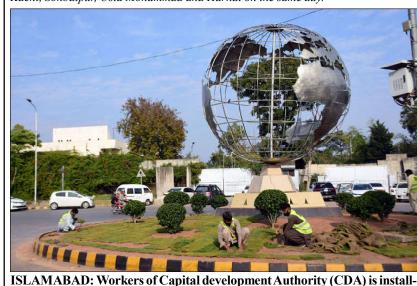
ISLAMABAD (APP): The two benches assigned by the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) are set to address representation filed in connection with delimitation of constituencies in thirteen districts on Monday and Tuesday.

According to the timetable provided by the ECP spokesperson on Sunday, Bench

No. I will handle objections pertaining to Mandi Bahauddin and Khanewal districts, while Bench No. 2 is designated for objections related to Kech and Gujrat

The proceedings of the ECP (Election Commission of Pakistan) Bench will commence with Bench No. 1 focusing on addressing objections pertaining to districts DG Khan and Sahiwal on Tuesday.

Concurrently, Bench No. II will be dedicated to hearing representations concerning the delimitation of constituencies in districts Jhal Magsi, Ĵaffarabad, Nasirabad, Kachi, Sohbatpur, Usta Mohammad and Harnai on the same day.



ing artificial green grass alongside Constitution Avenue in Federal Capital.

37the annual general meeting of PSDE to he held today

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) is organizing 37th Annual General Meeting and Conference of the Pakistan Society of Development Economists (PSDE) to deliberate on how international financing aligns with domestic growth agendas on Monday.

The theme of the event titled "Breaking the Aid-Debt Chains," which will be organized in collaboration with Bahauddin Zakariya University (BZU), Multan scheduled to take place from November 20 to 23, 2023, and seeks sustainable solutions to economic challenges, especially in the context of recent environmental catastrophes like devastating floods, said a press release.

A crucial aspect to be explored during the conference is the assessment of government spending at various tiers and revenue realization against potential over the last decade. This evaluation, encompassing federal, provincial, and local levels, is vital for achieving consolidated fiscal balances and efficient governance.

NDRMF working out plan to transform IIA into 'zero emission' EV-based airport ISLAMABAD (APP): was making dedicated ef-

Management (NDRMF), a dedicated fiinvestments in disaster risk reduction, risk financing, and climate change, is working on a plan to transform the Islamabad International Airport (IIA) into an emission-less electric vehicle (EV)-based airport, which will be the first of its kind and an environmentally

friendly initiative.

Pakistan approved its EV policy back in 2019 with its global nationally determined commitments (NDCs) pledged under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) meeting of its conference of the parties to the convention (COP) forum to convert 30 percent of transport over EVs by 2030. An official of the NDRMF told APP that it was a unique initiative to set a model of EVs replicable across the country and enable the key players to initiate steps for rolling tance of the Pakistan Space out better options for introducing electric vehicles

in the market.

The National Disaster Risk forts in this regard to

Fund achieve its objective. "Moreover, the Fund nancial entity focused on is also working on the country's first ever risk fi nancing strategy, which will be tabled at the highestlevel forum of the federal cabinet for approval.'

The fund, he said, had redefined its role as a financial intermediary working to strengthen the fiscal space of the country in terms of dollar value by promoting carbon markets, saffron, and olive oil harvesting-like initiatives, whereas it was also venturing into updating the oceanographic data of the country, which was also done back in 1986.

The country has huge knowledge gaps in disaster and climate risk modeling that need to be addressed through modern and advanced technological solutions providing informed and real-time data. To address that issue, the Fund has established a special data center with the assisand Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (SUPARCO), which will be He added that it was a rolled out in January 2024 tedious task, and the fund and will be accessible to all.

Cutting educational expenses through novel methodologies

ISLAMABAD (APP): As continuously increasing education expenditures were reaching beyond parents capacity, experts believe that modern and novel teaching methodology could be one of panacea to address this issue.

In a tug of war between the parents and owners of private educational institutions, either the students miss the opportunities of quality education or the lives of their parents become miserable.

The owners, despite earning significant profit, are often seen complaining of extra expenditures in running their institutions due to the price hike of essentials. If, for a moment, their claims were accepted, there could have been no justification for them to continue with this business if there was no profit. But they go with it, and the easy way to recover their expenditures is to shift the burden to parents through an increase in fees.

Therefore, educational experts have come up with the notion of adopting proper planning, the use of the latest technologies, and a systematic approach to reducing education costs at

For them, it might initially seem counterintuitive to invest in new technology. However, choosing the right software and tools can reduce the need for working capital and minimize the use of material resources.

"In many cases, private institutions are charging hefty amounts, and the government should actively engage with them to get fee structures rationalized," remarked former Vice Chancellor Allama Iqbal Open University (AÎOU) Dr. Shahid Siddiqui. "When they are earning millions of rupees, the chargeable amount is becoming unbearable even for middleclass parents, while kids of poor people cannot even think of studying at these institutions.

The government and the owners of private institutions should sit together and think out a way forward to address this issue," he added. He pleaded in favor

of the idea of distant learning through the latest online techniques and said, "It will make us technologically efficient and help save money. Dr. Siddiqui said dif-

ferent schools use bulk number of books and autonomy and revenue paper to maintain records shift them to the latest generation. paper to maintain records and prepare reports, timetables, syllabuses, and much more. "Imagine how much money is spent on maintaining this physical record. But, by going paperless and moving databases to the cloud, they can cut down on a sizeable amount of

money. He regretted that non-formal education had been a deprived area since 1974, as after AIOU, only Virtual University was established to provide distant education. "Virtual or distant learning is an easy source for students to access quality education on lesser fees than to physically approach the educational institutions.

'Then there is annumber of books and notebooks," he mentioned and said, "it is unkindness to our babies, seen carrying kilos of books on their backs." 'Why do we over-

load our primary-level students with books and notebooks?" he stated.

of teachers and students modes of learning in this era of the latest technolo-

He said the formal universities are converting to an online system, which will surely reduce the cost of education. Keeping in view the

hardships of parents, Vice Chancellor Islamia University Bahawalpur, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ali, came up with the idea of amending the laws and creating a corporate cluster by using the physical assets of education departments to earn money and provide cheaper education to students.

'We can use science and technology parks as money-making hubs, and by cutting extra expenses, we can establish 'endowment funds' at colleges other dilemma of the and universities to support needy students," he

Recently, the Higher ships for those in dire Education Commission need." He suggested es-(HEC) under the Higher Education Development in Pakistan (HEDP) project conducted an extensive capacity-building session for public sector "Can't we reduce the universities on financial

This meeting was aimed at encouraging higher education institutions (HEIs) to develop projects for generating funds and revenue to meet their needs. 75 vice chancellors, treasurers, and registrars from public sector HEIs discussed the possibility of resource genera-

As, for decades, education has remained a neglected sector, the expert strongly pleads to enhance the budget for the education

"First of all, the government should take education as a top priority and allocate at least 5% of the GDP for this sector," said Renoqued educationist Murtaza Noor. As per law, education is free from Grade I to 16, and the state should ensure facilities for such students, especially scholartablishing students' alumni to support poor students, control the cost of education, and award scholarships to kids from marginalized segments through charity.