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GWADAR: Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki presiding over a meeting regarding provision of water to Gwadar and surroundings

## **Provision of clean drinking** water to be ensured in Gwadar, assures CM

Mir Ali Mardan Domki directs concerned authorities to start work on all pending projects of water sector in port city without any further delay

#### Independent Report

QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Secretary, Shakeel Qadir Mardan Khan Domki has Khan, Principal Secredirected to the concerned authorities to ensure pro- Rashid Razzaq, Director vision of clean drinking General Gwadar Devel- delay. water in Gwadar district, and for the purpose, the missioner Makran, work must be started on the pending schemes of Deputy Commissioner water sector without any further delay.

The Chief Minister cerned high ups. was chairing a high level issue of potable water and other related issues in Gwadar on Thursday.

order situation and prepa- tion sustainable solution Gwadar's office.

present in the meeting were He regretfully pointed included: caretaker Provinout that unnecessary delay cial Minister for Home, has been caused in certain Mir Zubair Jamali, Chief projects, which is a matter of great concern. He directed the contary to Chief Minister, cerned to start work on the same without any further opment Authority, Com-

He also directed to restore services after making Saeed Ahmed Umrani, payment of the arrears to QESCO and the concerned Gwadar, Aurangzaib contractor. Earlier, the Chief Min-

Badini and other conister was presented guard The caretaker Chief of honour by smartly meeting held to review the Minister was briefed about turned out contingent of the ongoing schemes in police. water sector in Gwadar. Meanwhile, the Chief

Addressing the meet- Minister also visited the Mr. Domki reached ing, Chief Minister said complaint cell established Gwadar to review law and that we are finding solu- in Deputy Commissioner He directed to frame

## Islamabad demands New Delhi's accountability on int'l level Horrifying Indian plot of terrorism in Pakistan exposed thanks to vigilant security agencies

Foreign Office says credible evidence of links between Indian agents and assassination of 2 Pakistanis; Calls Indian campaign "sophisticated and sinister

**Independent Report** ISLAMABAD: The Pakistani security institutions have successfully exposed the terrorist group as well as Indian handlers and facilitators involved in the terrorism acts and target kill-

The security institutions exposed the plot on basis of evidences that two Indian citizens namely Ashok Kumar and Yugaish Kumar were directly involved in the killing of Muhammad Riaz and Shahid Latif.

The security institu-tions of Pakistan apprehended the target killers of Muhammad Riaz and Shahid Latif in the light of



undeniable evidences. The target killers involved in the cold blooded killings were arrested when they were attempting to

flee from Pakistan. Kashmir. It may be recalled here that Muhammad Riaz had been killed by the target killers on September 8, 2023 citizens present in third

Both the deceased were only giving directives along peaceful citizens and their with it's funding, but were

only fault was to expose the also controlling the drive. Matter of fact also re-

dences were provided about There's also no deny-

that it (India) is fully violating the relevant articles of Universal Declaring of Human Rights (UDHR) and International Convent of Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR). The Indian intelligence agency (RAW) is playing

stantly busy in violation of

the international laws and

the role of an international terrorism organization. Worthwhile to men-

tion is that India had killed the Sikh leader Hardeep Singh in Canada last vear

Čanada had reacted strongly to the Sikh leader's killing at diplomatic level and highlighted it at the world level

## PM urges Saudi Arabia's Jomaih Group to invest in

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Thursday urged the Alof consumers. Jomaih Group of Saudi Arabia to invest in the al-

ternative energy sector of The prime minister, in a meeting with a four-member delegation, led by the Al-Jomaih Group head Sheikh Abdulaziz Hammad, said Pakistan and Saudi Arabia had brotherly ties which were getting further stron-ger. The Al-Jomaih Group by the company. had made a huge investment

he K- Electric. minister of the The prime minister company's 1500 megasaid that Pakistan greatly watt projects, the delvalued the Saudi investment egation informed the prime ongoing cruelty, barbarism and heinous face of India in mains that India assassinated the innocent people The investigating agenin terrorism acts in differcies have the authentic ent countries including Paproofs that the Indian kistan, but no concrete evi-

country were involved in their evidences. the whole targeted killing campaign, who were not ing the fact that India is con-

Pak alternative energy sector

alternative energy sector as it would help reduce the power tariff for the benefit The prime minister also expressed the hope that the K-Electric would further improve its infrastructure to ensure uninter-

rupted power supply to domestic and industrial consumers. The Al-Jomaih Group thanked the prime minister and the government team for resolving the longstanding issues faced

Apprising the prime



we make education Centre

of policies and projects at

so in a message issued mark-

ing the international Educa-

tion Day observed on

the objective behind obser-

vance of the International

Education Day this year is

to ensure sustainable peace

lent progress of the devel-

oped nations is because of

the quality education.

He said that the excel-

The Governor said that

The Governor stated

the national level.

Wednesday.

education.

Maryam Nawaz says: **PML-N does** not believe in politics of

Unless education made centre of policies Dream of literate Balochistan can't be materialized: Kakar

rations of the general elecmorning. Those who were Gwadar.

General Elections 2024 to be held on scheduled time: Democratic process can't be affected owing to terrorists'

Caretaker Provincial Minister Information lashes out at Amnesty International report, terms it biased and partial, urges AI not to become instrument of propaganda of separatist groups

other parts of the country

as the security threats have

been received., still the

democratic process can'

affected due to these threats

ter was addressing a hur-

riedly called press conference

at the Civil Secretariat on

Thursday. Jan Achakzai on

the occasion particularly

criticized the negative pro-

paganda campaign run by

Iah Rang Baloch against

The Information Minis-

or terrorists' attacks.

Independent Report OUETTA: The caretaker Provincial Minister for Information, Jan Achakzai has categorically stated that there are challenges of law and order and security threats exist in different parts of the country including Balochistan, however, these threats and subversive acts can't affect the democratic process and as such the general elections would be conducted on the given time.

He noted that the inci-Pakistan and said that the people of Pakistan including dents of terrorists may oc-Balochistan would never accur in Balochistan, cept the disgusting campaign. Islamabad and different



GUJRAT: Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari addresses to his supporters during public gathering meeting as a part of Election Campaign in connection of the General Election 2024 coming ahead, in Gujrat.

#### to the public issues retions in Gwadar the same garding availability of comprehensive mechanism clean drinking water in for resolving the public complaints

and welcomed its investment in the energy sector. He also lauded K-Electric strategy to invest in the

Pakistan.

minister that the projects would feature the usage of local resources and alternative energy



in the K-Electric.

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting and Parliamentary Affairs Murtaza Solangi addressing seminar on "Electoral Code of Conduct: Ethical Practices of Stakeholders including Media" organized by the Press Information Department.

#### **Democratic system** Senior Govt officer, cop meant to serve people, shot dead not vice versa: Solangi

PESHAWAR (APP): Unidentified armed men on Thursday shot dead a Senior Planning Officer of the Social Welfare department here in the jurisdiction of Police Station Gul Bahar and a police constable in the jurisdiction of Police Sta-, tion Daudzai.

According to police, armed motorcyclists targeted the senior planning officer when he was going to the office in his official vehicle. The attackers managed to escape from the scene

he maintained. Meanwhile, unidentified assailants shot police conspeaking as the chief guest stable Kamran Taj resident of at a seminar on "Electoral Gulbaila with a pistol when Code of Conduct: Ethical he was taking his children to Practices of Stakeholders the school van stop.SP Rural including Media", orga-nized by the Press Infor-Division Zafar Ahmed Khan said that the attackers esmation Department. caped into nearby fields, adding that Kamran was de-

Raziq Shaheed.

Constitution, Pakistan was ployed as a computer operaa federal parliamentary tor at Police Station Khan democratic country and the people's elected represen-



"Steps should be taken A certain percentage of to reinvigorate the democonstituents should be emcratic system, which is powered to recall their only to take care of the elected representatives by people and not vice versa," complaining to the Election Commission of Pakistan The minister was (ECP) if they failed to meet

their expectations, he added. Solangi said that the caretaker government was taking all possible steps to facilitate the ECP to hold free, fair and transparent He said that as per the elections on February 8 so that the people could elect

candidates and parties of their choice in a peaceful environment



Dr. Mahrang Baloch after reaching Quetta from Islamabad, in Quetta.

#### allegations

LAHORE (Online): PML-N vice president Maryam Nawaz has said PML-N does not believe in the politics of allegations.

"PML-N got done development work where it was not given mandate. Nawaz Sharif will soon present manifesto before the people. Vote will decide about your and your children future. On February 8 you have to come out of homes and cast vote, she said this while addressing a public meeting here Thursday.

I accepted to go to jail but I stood with my father. Today I am among you.

#### **Bilawal proposes** to make Zardari president

of Pakistan LAHORE (Online): PPP chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has proposed to make Asif Ali Zardari president of Pakistan.

Bilawal Bhutto has placed the proposal in this regard before party. Bilalwal Bhutto said

we should learn from experience of Asif Ali Zardari. It is my desire Asif Ali Zardari becomes president of Pakistan once again.

Senior leadership of PPP has advised that pro posal from Bilawal Bhutto Zardari be placed before central executive committee of party. It has also been said if result of general election comes in favor of PPP then PPP will nominate formally Asif Ali Zardari for the slot of President of Pakistan

#### Senior politician Illahi Bux Soomro 'passes away'

KARACHI (INP): Šenior politician and former National Assembly speaker Illahi Bux Soomro passed away on Thursday.

According to family sources, politician Illahi Bux Soomro breathed his last at a private hospital in Karachi due to cardiac arrest. The senior politician was admitted to the hospital due to health issues.

determined to ensure peace-Soomro was the 16th ful conduct of elections in Speaker of the National the province, he added. Assembly of Pakistan. He belonged to an influential sured that peaceful and conpolitical family of Sindh.

ment.

Independent Report should realize that the QUETTA: The Governor cret of ending issue of un-Balochistan, Malik Abdul employment, overcoming Wali Khan Kakar has stated different crimes and prothat education is base of moting economic activities every kind of development, lies in generalizing techniand as such we can't matecal and vocational educarialize dream of literate province until and unless

However, it is unfortunate that thousands of children of Balochistan are deprived of the ornament of education in the present era science and technology even, adding he regretfully pointed out.

The Governor emphasized upon spreading education in the areas where there is still darkness of ignorance and thus educate those who are deprived of the education.

and harmony by getting He also underlined the need to highlight the high character and honor of the teachers just because they are the soul of educational He stressed that we system



KALAT: President Balochistan National Party Sardar Akhtar Jan Mengal and Prince Agha Musa Jan Ahmedzai addressing a public gathering

#### **Caretaker CM condemns Turbat** firing incident, seeks report from Home Department

ducive environment would **Independent Report** be ensured for the general QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, public and candidates durg the general elections. Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki has condemned the He said that the purpose of the incident of firincident of firing took place ing at office of regional Elecat the Regional Election Commissioner office, tion Commissioner is to cre-

Turbat on Thursday. ate fear and harassment. According to an official He directed the concerned authorities to mobihand out issued here, the lize all resources for arrest Chief Minister sought the report of incident from the of the culprits involved in e incident. Provincial Home depart-

He expressed grief and sorrow over martyrdom of He said that the firing incident is a conspiracy to a police cop in the firing. disrupt the election pro-

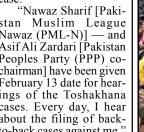
He asserted that the sacrifices of all security cess. However, the interim forces and police would not provincial government is go wasted at all. He also paid homage to the brave soldiers who rendered sacrifice of their lives while The Chief Minister asperforming their duties.

Nawaz, Zardari's cases should be heard on daily basis; Imran demands **Monitoring Desk** 

ISLAMABAD: Amid back-to-back hearings of his corruption cases, the incarcerated Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan on Thursday asked an accountability court judge to also continue proceedings of corruption references against his rivals, Nawaz Sharif and Asif Ali Zardari. The discussion between the former prime minister and the judge, Muhammad Bashir, was held during

the hearing of the £190 million National Crime Agency (NCA) scandal case.

stan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N)] - and Asif Ali Zardari [Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) cochairman] have been given February 13 date for hearings of the Toshakhana cases. Every day, I hear about the filing of backto-back cases against me, Khan said at the outset of today's hearing.



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**OPINION** 

#### Daily **Independent**

## Daily A oice of Masse. Independent

### **Army duties**

The state cannot hold elections without the Pakistan Army. On Tuesday, the caretaker government formally approved the deployment of military and civil armed forces personnel at polling stations and sensitive constituencies "in order to maintain peace and security" during the upcoming general elections

It is understood that these personnel will not only be deputed to guard polling stations on election day but also serve as a rapid reaction force in case any law-and-order situation arises.

The government is said to have approved the arrangement after receiving a summary recommending the same from the hitherto minister-less interior ministry, which cited a severe shortfall of available personnel. The ECP had previously demanded the services of 275,000 troops from the interior ministry for election-related duties after learning that it was facing a shortage of more than 277,000 security officials, of which about 169,000 were needed in Punjab alone.

It is understandable why the ECP wants boots on the ground for the elections. Apart from various administrative and other reasons, there has been a surge in militant attacks targeting security forces in recent months, and the commission would not want anything untoward happening close to or on election day.

There has also been a recent spate of attacks targeting political leaders, mostly in KP, while there are multiple alerts regarding some politicians facing active threats. It is imperative for the state, in these conditions, to provide a secure environment for politicians and voters in the lead-up to and on election day.

However, the troops being deployed should be clearly instructed that their role is limited to providing security and ensuring peace. They must not, for whatever reason, enter polling stations or interfere in the voting and post-voting procedures. The controversies that arose after the 2018 polls must be avoided at all costs.

Finally, though Dr Gohar Ejaz was given the additional charge of caretaker interior minister last evening, it is worth asking what took the government so long to nominate him given that Dr Ejaz's predecessor, Sarfaraz Bugti, had resigned in December. The government has been quite aware of the deteriorating security situation and has brought it up on various occasions and in different contexts: why, then, had it left the ministry responsible for law and order without a head for more than a month?

This was a rather reckless approach, given the serious challenges that have emerged, with the elections drawing nearer. Dr Ejaz's new role will require much attention and energy from him as he tries to address various emergent security-related challenges; will he be able to do so, considering he is also holding several other important portfolios? It is a big ask: the responsibility for the safety of millions now lies with him.



#### **By Qaiser Nawab**

In the face of unprecedented global challenges such as economic downturns, financial crises. pandemics, and climate change, the need for innovation and adaptability in the public sector collection, analysis, has become increasingly evident. However, abling governments to within these challenges lies an opportunity for nations to harness the gation and adaptation.

power of digitalization, turning adversity into innovation. The COVID-19 pandemic acted as a catalyst for the acceleration of digitization, forcing industries worldwide to adapt to the new normal. This article explores the role of e-governance in building resilient soci- nologies, governments eties, with a focus on can innovation and its po-

hetween

not

tential impact on effi- ience ciency, transparency, and accessibility.

The industrial sector, particularly in developed economies like the The integration of cli-ÚK, demonstrated re- mate-focused E-Govermarkable adaptability nance strategies aligns by shifting to remote with the broader vision work and embracing of creating a world that digital transformation. Similarly, nations such as Brazil and Canada witnessed a surge in businesses future.

transitioning to eCommerce. However, technologies, includdeveloping nations face the challenge of ing cryptocurrencies. creating awareness brings both benefits among policymakers and challenges. Adabout the importance dressing vulnerabilities, bridging the digiof digitalization. Contal divide, and ensurducive policies, support for innovation, skill ing inclusive developdevelopment, and im- ment require global colare crucial components gic policy initiatives. stewards of societal challenges that neces- strata. Moreover, ad-

for these nations to Developing a compre- progress, bear the re- sitate strategic fore- dressing social chalharness the opportuni- hensive approach to ties presented by digiknowledge tackle tal transformation. Climate change, a disparities, and poten-pressing global chal-tial job displacement is tal transformation. Climate change, a disparities, and poten-pressing global chal-tial job displacement is tal transformation and the the realm of erbation of existing in-transformation. Climate change, a disparities, and poten-pressing global chal-tial job displacement is tal transformation of emerging cybersecurity threats, equalities, becomes lenge, further under- crucial for the sustain- technologies.

of E-Governance in tal technologies. building resilient socigrapple with the farreaching impacts of a mation of the public sector and research inchanging climate, innosector. Its potential imvative digital solutions pact on efficiency, can play a pivotal role transparency, and acin developing and implementing effective cessibility cannot be overstated. The United Nations, World Bank, environmental policies. E-Governance can fa-European Commission, cilitate real-time data McKinsey, Deloitte all attest to the ety. transformative power and dissemination, enof e-governance, citing make informed decireductions in corrupsions for climate mitition, increased citizen satisfaction, reduced Collaborative efforts processing times, and nations. cost savings.

COMSATS, with its network of 25 Cenguided by E-Governance principles, can enhance the coordinaters of Excellence tion of climate-related across three contiinitiatives, ensuring a nents, stands as a beacon of support for more efficient and unified response to envimember states in their ronmental threats. By digitalization endeavleveraging digital techors. These centers of- ties. fer scientific solutions, policy inputs, training only programs, and re-search to aid industries strengthen their resilto climate change but also foster and governments in a sustainable and econavigating the comfriendly trajectory for plexities of the digital future development. era. Particularly in middle and lowermiddle-income economies. COMSATS members have shown remarkable progress in not only adapts to undigitalization, surpasscertainties but actively ing expectations for works towards a more their respective stages sustainable and enviof development. With ronmentally conscious internet penetration rates exceeding 80%, The rise of digital these nations are setting an example for others to follow

Innovation stands as the cornerstone for the success of e-governance initiatives, constituting a dynamic force that propels governance into the digital

**Commerce** News

То achieve this, a collabo-E-governance be cultivated, where stitutions.

**E-Governance:** 

Such partnerships are essential to identify, develop, and implement innovative solutions that address the evolving needs of a digitally-driven sociand

As the digital landscape undergoes continuous transformacomes not just a stracessity. Policymakers rapidly changing technological terrain, enmodels are not only adaptive but anticipatory of emerging challenges and opportuni-

Embracing a culture of perpetual innovation allows governments to proactively tackle issues such as cybersecurity threats, data privacy concerns, and the ethical implications of emerging technologies. Moreover, it positions nations at the forefront of technological advancements, fostering a competitive edge in the global arena. In essence, the commitment to continuous innovation in e-governance is a commitment to building responsive, forward-thinking, and resilient societies that can effectively navigate the uncertainties of the digital era.

Navigating the path toward a digitally the transformed future is

sponsibility of foster- sight and collaborative lenges, including digiing an environment efforts. One of the fore- tal literacy disparities rative ecosystem must gies exposes govern- ety. Policymakers must eties. As nations emerges as a linchpin policymakers actively tions to increasingly cate challenges with in the digital transfor- engage with the private sophisticated cyber agility and inclusivity, risks. these threats demands proactive measures, including cybersecurity frame- collaborative works and continuous monitoring to safeguard critical informa-

tion infrastructure. Data privacy concerns emerge as another pivotal challenge, as the collection tion, innovation be- and utilization of vast amounts of personal tegic choice but a ne- information raise ethi- with unprecedented cal questions and de- challenges, including mand stringent regula- economic downturns, need to navigate the mand stringent regulations. Striking a delicate balance between suring that governance leveraging data for societal benefits and safeguarding indi- the adoption of digital vidual privacy becomes imperative. Moreover, the ethical implications of emerging technologies, such as artificial intelligence and biotechnology, necessitate careful consideration and ethical guidelines to prevent unintended conse-

> auences nological hurdles, there tities for its transformais a pressing need for tive impacts on effiinternational coopera- ciency, transparency, tion to establish global standards for digital governance.

harmonized regulations nance, emphasizing inmay hinder the seam- ternational cooperaless flow of information and create disparities *Qaiser Nawab*, serving in digital development. Policymakers face the Belt and Road Initiaintricate task of foster- tive for Sustainable ing innovation while Development upholding responsible (BRISD), is an expert governance, ensuring in International Relathat the benefits of digi- tions and Impact talization extend across Technologies. You can proved connectivity laboration and strate- age. Governments, as laden with multifaceted diverse socioeconomic contact

where the rapid evolu- crucial to fostering an tion of digital technolo- inclusive digital sociments and organiza- navigate these intri-Addressing recognizing that the journey toward a digitally transformed future robust demands a holistic and approach.

In conclusion, the imperative for building resilient societies in an uncertain world is underscored by the transformative potential of e-governancedriven digitalization. As nations grapple pandemics, and climate change, the COVID-19 pandemic has acted as a catalyst, accelerating technologies. While developed

economies showcase adaptability, developing nations face the dual challenge of raising awareness among policymakers and implementing supportive policies.

E-Governance emerges as a linchpin, In addition to tech- endorsed by global enand accessibility. Policymakers must balance innovation with The absence of responsible govertion and inclusivity. as the President of the him at qaisernawab098@gmail.com

## **Revolutionary initiatives in IT** sector start bearing fruits: Saif

ISLAMABAD (APP): Software Caretaker Federal Minister Associati Information and Technology Telecommunications, Dr. Umar Saif has said that the promotion of the IT & presence of the Special Investment Facilitation country's development.

Addressing a Town of building and developing Hall meeting during his the country, and the visit to the Pakistan elected government will

promotion of the IT & Additional Secretary Telecom sector in a short MOITT, Muhammad period of 5 months in the Zohaib Khan Chairman Council (SIFC) is leading caretaker set-up. The p@SHA, Nadeem malik, to increase in foreign direct forum of SIFC will prove General Secretary P@SHA investment (FDI) and to be a great support for and representative from IT setting the pace of the the upcoming elected Industry attended the government in the process event.

Dr. Umar Saif further said that, to facilitate IT exporters and boost

**PSX** witnesses

bearish trend,

loses 524 points

ISLAMABAD (APP):

The 100-index of the

Pakistan Stock Exchange

(PSX) witnessed bearish

trend on Thursday, losing

524.43 points, a negative

# Software Houses Association (P@SHA) office, Dr. Saif said, "We have achieved 13 out of 15 important targets for the promotion of the LT & Additional Secretary important targets for the Ms. Aysha Morani

50% of their export proceeds in the Exporters' Specialized Foreign Currency Accounts (ESFCAs). "We worked Accounts with the SIFC and the State Bank to make a significant policy intervention, allowing IT companies to keep 50% of their export revenue in dollars.



photo after Town Hall meeting.

#### **Trade and** Investment officers visit **PSGMEA**

SIALKOT (APP): Trade and investment officers appointed by the Ministry of Commerce to abroad visited the Pakistan Sports Goods Manufactuers and Exporters Association (PSGMEA) here on

Thursday. PSGMEA Chairman Arshad Latif Butt, Senior Vice Chairman Zarar Ahmed Dohdy, Vice Chairman Umer-Uz-Zaman and Secretary General Mohsin Akhtar.

He said that a Masood welcomed the Norwegian enterprise had guests.According to Secretary General PSGMEA Mohsin Masood, Arshad Latif Butt and the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) jointly organized an outstanding interaction with the newlyinducted counsellors at

## Pakistan's public-sector insurance companies' engine of economic growth: Gohar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Insurance Company and Caretaker Minister for Pakistan Reinsurance Commerce, Industry, Company have managed Investment and Interior Dr around Rs. 2 trillion of Gohar Ejaz on Thursday funds. said that Pakistan's publicsector insurance companies are engine of economic growth.

Company,

These companies have established themselves as pillars of financial stability and He expressed these innovation, he said.

**Food group imports** 

These are the best views in a meeting chaired by Caretaker Finance state-owned enterprises in Minister Dr. Shamshad Pakistan, he said. Over the years, he said that the During the meeting, companies have discussion was made on consistently demonstrated reforms in the insurance their ability to navigate industry, a news release economic cycles, maintain said issued here. He said financial stability, and that State Life Insurance adapt to evolving market National conditions.



**ISLAMABAD: Kazakhstan Ambassador to** Pakistan H.E. Yerzhan Kistafin called on the Federal Minister for Commerce, Industries, Investments and Interior, Dr. Gohar Ejaz to discuss regional connectivity and bilateral trade at the **Commerce Ministry.** billion the last day

### **PTCL Group renews partnership** with SNGPL for cellular services

Independent Report LAHORE: Pakistan's largest telecommunications Solutions. and integrated ICT services provider, PTCL Group

services to SNGPL under officials from both PTCL Group Business organizations. Under this agreement, PTCL Group will Group Chief Business provide wireless Officer connectivity and a host of Solutions



largest integrated gas company of Pakistan, SNGPL have renewed their Amer Tufail signed the

(PTCL & Ufone 4G), and (GCBSO), PTCL & Ufone bundled services to SNGPL 4G, Zarrar Hasham Khan, and MD/ CEO, SNGPL, partnership for the agreement at SNGPL Chief Business Solutions continued provision of the headquarters in Lahore, in Officer PTCL & Ufone 4G, state-of-the-art cellular the presence of senior stated.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Zarrar Hasham Khan, Group

relations with Pakistan ISLAMABAD (INP): Ilsaas and discussed Ambassador of Norway to Pakistan Per Albert Ilsaas cooperation between the on Thursday said that his two countries in business country country wanted to and investment fields, said further enhance business a press release. relations with Pakistan. Ambassador

Norway wants to further

enhance business

change of 0.81 percent, closing at 64,298.01 points against 64,822.43 points Talking to a Norway said that that delegation delegation of supporting the business the previous trading day. A total of 460,691,033 shares valuing the Islamabad Chamber of communities of both Commerce and Industry countries to engage in trade Rs 25.248 billion were (ICCI), he said that both and economic relations was traded during the day as the countries had the a key priority of his compared to 479,982,148 potential to increase embassy bilateral trade and do He shares valuing Rs. 22.501

more business together. A delegation of ICCI already signed an agreement led by President Ahsan to invest in solar and Zafar Bakhtawari visited the residence of Per Albert

#### hydropower generation in Pakistan. **Roadshow in Bangkok** for Pak 300MW floating solar plants on Jan 29

ISLAMABAD (APP): can submit international Pakistan will hold a competitive bidding with roadshow in Bangkok on two envelopes for technical January 29 to attract and financial proposals. investment for the 300- The embassy said the set of megawatt floating solar

project sites were within plants project to be the Complex, owned by the executed at the Tarbela-Barotha Complex sites.

Under the project, Pakistan aims to develop two 150-MW AC floating secure controlled access. solar plants, the Pakistan Embassy in Thailand said

on its X account, inviting potential bidders to participate in the roadshow.

The interested parties manageable

The embassy said the

Tarbela-Barotha Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA), a highly area with

The environmental and social impacts of the floating solar plants have already been studied and declared by experts as

2024" in March Industry (SCCI) President year decreased by 19.48 said that "We Exhibit 2024" will be held on the  $2^{nd}$  and 3<sup>rd</sup> of March, 2024, at Living Dreams Maruqee, Sialkot Cantt. In a statement on

months of FY 2023-24 ISLAMABAD (APP): the data of the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics.

During the period under review, the imports of the commodities that went down included milk cream, milk for infants at 25.93 per cent was recorded at \$60.298 During the period million as compared the from July to December imports of \$81.404 2023, different food million, wheat unmilled commodities costing by 34.84 per cent and \$3.957 billion were reached \$39.126 million imported as compared to as compared the the imports of \$4.914 imports of \$609.434 billion in the same period million of the same of last year, according to period of last year.

WCCIS to hold **"We-Exhibit** SIALKOT (APP): Sialkot Chmaber of Commerce and Abdul Ghafoor Malik has

per cent as compared to the imports of the corresponding period of last year. Thursday, Ghafoor Malik

said the first We-Exhibit 2023 was organized by the Women Chamber of

Commerce and Industry Sialkot (WCCIS) while the second We-Exhibit 2024.

decrease 19.48% in 06 different stations abroad. Food group imports into the country during the first half of the current financial

ndependent

Friday January 26, 2024

## **Baligh commends role of Pak** Navy in making defence of water boundaries impregnable

Independent Report LAHORE: Commander Central Punjab, Commandant Naval War College, Rear Admiral Azhar Mahmood, called on Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur soldiers of Pakistan Navy Rehman at Governor House Lahore. During the maritime boundaries are meeting, Commander Central Punjab briefed Governor Punjab on the professional affairs of Governor Punjab said that Pakistan Navy and informed about the performance and activities of the War College.

Speaking on the occasion, Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman said that the role of Pakistan Navy in making the defence of the country's

boundaries impregnable is possible to ensure the commendable. He said that provision of quality the professionalism of Pakistan Navy is a source of pride for the entire nation. Governor Punjab said that the martyrs and who protect Pakistan's College. the pride of the country and the nation. The two Punjab sides also discussed Cadet College Khanpur in detail.

due to the change of government in 2018, despite the completion of this project, Cadet College Khanpur could not be started. He expressed hope that the future Punjab government would start classes in Cadet College water Khanpur as soon as

provision of quality education to the children. On this occasion Commander Central Punjab, Rear Admiral Azhar Mehmood invited Governor Punjab to visit Pakistan Navy War

Ľater, Governor Muhammad Balighur Rahman attended the closing ceremony of Pakistan Learning Festival 2024 at Children's Library Complex as Chief Guest. Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur

Rehman, while addressing the ceremony, said that it is very important to teach students high moral values and build their character. He said that after 2018.

**ANF** recovers 138 kg drugs in eight operations RAWALPINDI (APP): Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) while conducting eight operations across the country managed to recover 138 kg drugs and

with

The

Pakhtunkhwa

local hotel

arrested nine accused including two women, said an ANF Headquarters spokesman here on Thursday.

He informed that 2 g of Ice drug was recovered from a parcel at a Cargo Office in

Lahore. In another operation, 1 kg of Ice was recovered from a parcel being sent to Bahrain from DHL Sadar, Peshawar.

third In the operation, 50 kg hashish and 40 kg opium were recovered from the possession of two accused arrested near M-1 Motorway Islamabad. 15 kg hashish and 12 kg

opium were recovered from an accused netted near Motorway Bridge Peshawar. In the fifth operation, 6 kg of weed was recovered from the possession of 2 suspects nabbed near M-9, Jamshoro Toll Plaza.

Secretariat Provincial Ombudsman. He Independent Report also apprised him in PESHÂWAR: Federal connection with the Ombudsman Ijaz Ahmad Qureshi paid a visit to complaints and redressal Provincial Ombudsman method of the complaints at the secretariat level. He Secretariat and held meeting said that in the year 2023, Provincial Ombudsman Syed Jamal ud the provincial Ombudsman Din Shah here at his staff Office has received record the other day, said a press number of complaints which were more than the release issued here on Thursday.

Federal Ombudsman

visits KP Ombudsman

previous years and majority provincial of complainants received Ombudsman welcomed the relief by resolving their grievances with in specific Federal Ombudsman and briefed him regarding the role and activities of the period as prescribed in the Ombudsman act

#### **KP** Labour Deptt launches first ever Child Labour Survey of KP

Independent Report PESHAWAR: The Khyber (KP) and academia. Labour Department on

Thursday has launched its first ever Child Labour Survey 2022-23 conducted across all districts of the province including the newly merged districts in a ceremony held here at a

KP Child Labour Survey 2022-23 is the second provincial survey in Pakistan, after Punjab, it was said during the event attended by the officials of various government departments, the province.

International News

representatives of UN agencies, civil society organizations, donor agencies

MUZAFFARGARH This survey collected data from 49,734 households including 5,976 (APP): A child was shot at and injured in a heated urban and 43,758 rural, verbal clash that erupted achieving a response rate over a land dispute of 92.5 percent despite between the two families, harsh weather and security according to the rescuer. challenges, especially in

the Newly Merged Districts.According to the identified as Muhammad survey report, the child population of age between 5 and 17 years is approximately 8.28m in

Rashid, 17, s/o Muhammad Latif, a resident of Moza Kotla, who was reported to have

received gunshot wounds on the forehead.

**Darbar Hospital entrusted** to Anti-Narcotics Force Independent Report were exchanged. LAHORE: Memorandum Understanding (MoU) was

management of Data Anti-Narcotics Force.

Minister's Office with the presence of Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi, Corps Commander Lahore Lt Gen Syed Aamer Raza and DG Anti-Narcotics Force Maj Gen Aneeq Ahmad Malik. Secretary Health Punjab Ali Jan and Regional Director ANF Brig Sikandar Hayat Ch signed the MoU. Following the agreement, documents and others.

According to the A According to the of terms of the agreement, the Anti-Narcotics Force will signed to transfer the oversee the rehabilitation and upgrading of Data Darbar Hospital to the Darbar Hospital. The hospital's focus will be on The signing ceremony the treatment and took place at the Chief rehabilitation of individuals struggling with drug addiction.

Page 03

Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi announced the dedicated allocation of Data Darbar Hospital for the rehabilitation of drug addicts. The event was attended by Ministers Dr Jamal Nasir, Azfar Ali Nasir, chief secretary, IG Punjab, secretary Auqaf



KARACHI: Independent Candidate for NA-241 and PS-110, Dr. Shahab Imam addresses during corner meeting as a part of Election Campaign in connection of the General Election 2024 coming ahead, at Gizri area in Karachi.

#### **PEN calls on minister** for IC&TE, discusses issues of private schools

Independent Report the Private Schools Regulatory Authority Fazlullah Daudzai and Syed PESHAWAR: A delegation of private educational institutions Anas Takreem Kakakhel, organisation 'Private Education Network' on office bearers of the organisation from Nowshera Thursday called on Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Caretaker Minister for Newly Merged district Qazi Fazal Hakeem, Districts Affairs, Industries, Commerce and Technical Education. Dr Aamer Abdullah here at his office and discussed issues related to private educational institutions. The delegation was comprised

Presidents

Rashid Maqbool and Noorshad. Special Secretary Elementary and Secondary Education Department, Samar Gul, Managing Director Private Schools Regulatory Authority Tanzila Sabahat and other of Vice officials of the education of the department were also organisation and members of present on the occasion.

welfare state is vision of Jamaat-e-Islami: Mushtaq **Independent Report** Mardan: Jamaat-e-Islami Senator convention at Rustam Mushtaq Ahmed Khan says that making the country an Islamic welfare state is the vision of Jamaat-espoke

**PESHAWAR: Director General Audit Shehzad** 

Naeem presenting Audit Report 2022-23 to

Khyber Pakhtunkhawa Governor Haji Ghulam Ali.

Making country an Islamic

Islami, where there is worship of Allah and slavery of the Prophet, and where every child, oppressed, youth, orphan, and widow gets free education, justice, treatment, employment, and justice, and the system of oppression and drugs is people.

abolished.

RUSTĀM,

He expressed these views while addressing a Eidgah, where Jamaat-e-Islami candidates for NA 21 and PK-55 and district and tehsil leaders also

He said that the PDM government passed a law to abolish the tax on drugs, and he raised his voice against it on the Senate floor for six years. He has fought and will fight for the rights of the



LAHORE: Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Raza Naqvi and Corps

Commander Lahore Syed Amir Raza witnessing the signing ceremony of

**Police conduct** 

raid on Javed

residence, arrest

his son in law,

servants

Police have conducted raid

on the residence of Javed

Hashmi and arrested his

son in law and domestic

said in this regard police

conducted raids at his

residence during PTI

workers convention in

Makhdoom Rashid and

arrested PTI candidate and

doors and rushed into his

home besides subjecting

Qureshi and Zain Qureshi

were to participate in PTI

**Teenager shot**,

injured over

land dispute

The victim was

workers convention.

the women to violence.

Police broke the

PTI leader Mehrbano

his domestic servants.

Javed Hashmi has

(Online):

MULTAN

servants.

handing Administration of Data Darbar Hospital to Anti-Narcotics Force.

## National News

**Administration of Data** 

## **NATO's largest** military exercise since **Cold War kicks off**

vehicles.

**Monitoring Desk** WASHINGTON: The US Navy dock landing ship Gunston Hall left port on Wednesday to mark the first movement for the largest NATO exercise since the Cold War, officials said.

Some 90,000 troops from the United States and fellow NATO allied nations are due to join the Steadfast Defender 2024 drills that will run through

May. More than 50 ships from aircraft carriers to destroyers will take part, as well as more than 80 fighter

**Monitoring Desk** 

MAIDUGURI: At least 30

people have been killed and

Nigeria's central Plateau state

in a series of attacks around

Mangu town, despite a cur-

few imposed by the state

government, a community

and communal conflicts are

rife in central Nigeria, an

ethnically and religiously

diverse hinterland known as

the 'Middle Belt' where a

circle of violence has

claimed hundreds of lives in

Wednesday came after a

Christmas Day attack in

The latest violence on

Farmer-herder attacks

spokesperson said.

recent years.

several others injured in

an eatery near Minara mosque in Mumbai.

jets, helicopters and drones an important moment after and at least 1,100 combat vehicles including 133 tanks and 533 infantry fighting

The drills will rehearse regional plans, the first defence plans the alliance has drawn up in decades, detailing how it would respond to a Russian attack. ope, NATO did not men-

tion Russia by name in its announcement. But its top strategic document identifies Russia as the most significant and direct threat to NATO members' security. The exercise comes at

Russia's invasion of Ukraine started the deadliest war on European soil in more than 70 years. "#NATÓ today

NATO's execution of its launched its biggest military exercise since 1988 with 90,000 personnel taking part in drills across the North Atlantic and Eu-Matthias Eichenlaub, a NATO spokesperson, said on

Twitter 'The departure of the @USNavy's Gunston Hall from Norfolk marked the (official) start of #SteadfastDefender24."

#### Nearly all US Senate Democrats back two-state solution for Israel

and Palestinians

ment reiterating US support of a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian Attacks in Nigeria's conflict.

members of the Senate Democratic caucus backed an amendment supporting a negotiated solution to the conflict that results in Israeli and Palestinian states living side by side, ensuring Israel's survival as a secure, democratic, Jewish

state and fulfilling the Palestinians' "legitimate aspirations" for a state of their own.

Senator Brian Schatz introduced the measure as an amendment to an upcoming bill that would provide national security aid to Ukraine, Israel and Taiwan

"What will determine the future of Israel and Palestine is whether or not there's hope. And the twostate solution has to be that hope.

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un attends the 19th expanded political bureau meeting of the 8th Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea in Pyongyang, North Korea. Aid groups call for stopping arms supply to Israel **Monitoring Desk** of civilian life.

LONDON: Sixteen inter-'Israel's bombardment and siege are deprivnational humanitarian and ing the civilian popularights organisations on Wednesday called for a tion of the basics to surhalt to weapons transfers

vive and rendering Gaza uninhabitable," the stateto Israel and Palestinian ment added. armed groups in a bid to 'The civilian popuend the Gaza conflict. lation in Gaza faces a hu-

In a joint statement manitarian crisis of unthey urged United Nations precedented severity and member states to stop scale." The Israeli aggressending weapons, parts sion has led to dire shortand ammunition to "stop ages of food, water, fuel the crisis in Gaza and and medicines in the beavert further humanitarian catastrophe and loss sieged territory.

### **Britons should be** prepared to fight a land war, says army chief

**Monitoring Desk** ONDON: British citizens should be prepared to fight in a potential land war, the highest ranking army officer General Patrick Sanders said on Wednesday. The chief of the gen-

eral staff said any conflict would need to be a "wholeof-nation undertaking" and that citizens should be don trained and equipped to be in a state of readiness. The general's remarks come after the UK defence minis-

in the UK's professional army from 82,000 to 73,000 by 2025. "Taking preparatory steps to enable placing our societies on a war footing when needed are now not merely desirable but essential,<sup>5</sup> Sanders said in a speech at

an armoured vehicles conference in southwest Lon-"Within the next three years, it must be credible to talk of a British

Army of 120,000, folding in our reserve and strategic try said last year that it reserve. would cut overall numbers

Gaza officials say Israeli fire strikes a crowd waiting for aid, killing at least 20 Monitoring Desk

NEW YORK: Gaza's Health Ministry said Israeli fire struck a crowd of people waiting for humanitarian aid at a roundabout in Gaza City on Thursday, killing at least 20 and wounding 150. The Israeli military says it was looking into the reports.

Meanwhile, the death toll from a strike the day before on a crowded shelter in Gaza rose to 12, with over 75 wounded, accord-ing to Thomas White.

Japan man gets death sentence for killing 36 in anime studio arson - NHK **Monitoring Desk** 

by its US subsidiary and TOKYO: A Japanese man carrying US military supwas convicted and senplies to turn around when tenced to death on Thurs they were transiting the day for the arson and kill-Bab al-Mandab Strait off ing of 36 people at famed Yemen, accompanied by anime studio Kyoto Animathe US Navy. "While en route, tion in 2019, public broad-caster NHK said. The both ships reported seedeadly attack on the ing explosions close by Kyoto-based studio, better and the US Navy accomknown as KyoAni, had paniment also intercepted multiple projectiles,'

sent shockwaves not only through Japan where violent crime is rare

## Erdogan, eyeing more trade with Iran

**Monitoring Desk** from around \$10 billion a year earlier. "The issue of ANKARA: Turkey is conopening new border gates sidering opening new borwith Iran is also on our der crossings with eastern agenda. Efforts to establish neighbour Iran, President trade centres in border (ar-Tayyip Erdogan said late on eas) to increase the eco-Wednesday after talks with nomic development of our his Iranian counterpart, as border provinces continue,<sup>3</sup> they seek to revive sagging he said. economic relations.

Turkey, a NATO ally, and Iran currently have four Erdogan, speaking at a Turkish-Iranian business council meeting alongside Iran's President Ebrahim Raisi, blamed international sanctions on Tehran and the COVID pandemic for a decline in trade volumes. Trade between Turkey and Iran peaked in 2012 at nearly \$22 billion but has since fallen. It stood at \$7.4 billion in 2023. ac-

border crossings between them. One of those gates, between the Gurbulak-Bazergan regions, has been under construction since 2021. "While we have left behind the pandemic, the restrictive effect of sanctions lingers," Erdogan said, adding that Turkey would not cut its economic ties with cording to Turkish Trade Minister Omer Bolat, down Iran because of the international measures



RAFAH: Palestinians inspect the site of an Israeli strike on a mosque, amid the ongoing agression in the southern Gaza Strip.

### **US Navy intercepts** missiles in Red Sea while escorting Maersk ships

**Monitoring Desk** 

Maersk said in a state-

ment, adding it was sus-

pending Red Sea transits by vessels of the US sub-COPENHAGEN: Maersk sidiary. said explosions nearby forced two ships operated

A spokesperson for Yemen's Houthi military forces said they fired ballistic missiles at several US warships that were protecting two US commercial vessels.

Both commercial vessels are operated by Maersk Line, Limited (MLL), its US subsidiary that carries cargo for the Department of Defense, Department of State, USAID, and other US government agencies.

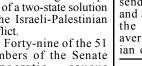
Plateau state leave at least 30 dead the area which left at least 140 people dead. A duskto-dawn curfew was imposed on Jan. 23. A Plateau police

spokesperson did not immediately respond to a request for comment on the attacks which took place

over two days. The attackers targeted several villages including Kwahaslalek, Kinat and Mairana, located on the borders of Mangu and Barkin Ladi local government areas, said Joseph Gwankat, head of the community group Mwaghavul Devel-

opment Association (MDA)





#### Daily **Independent**, Gwadar

### Friday January 26, 2024

**Digitizing electoral process** 

suggested to eliminate

ing against national institu-

tions, dissemination of hate

material, discussing private

individuals' lives, sets an

upper limit of election ex-

penditure at Rs 10 million

for the National Assembly

and Rs 4 million for pro-

vincial assembly seats, re-

stricts wall chalking, and

imposes limitations on the

size of banners and pam-

had established multiple

monitoring teams, deploy-

ing two teams in each dis-

trict and constituency to

oversee the Code's compli-

He said that the ECP

phlets"

ties, and candidates.

### Pakistan raises Ram temple issue at OIC meeting; urges UN to protect Islamic sites in India

UNITED (APP): Reiterating its condemnation of the recent consecration of 'Ram Temple' on the demolished Babri Mosque's site, Pakistan has urged the top official for the U.N. Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) to play his part for the protection of Islamic sites in India, Ambassador Munir Akram told an OIC Ambassadorial meeting Wednesday. At the meeting held at UN headquarters in New York, the Pakistani envoy shared with OIC colleagues a letter he addressed to the UNAOC High Representative, Miguel Angel Moratinos, in which he said that the event in Ayodhya marked a "disturbing rise in Hindu majoritarianism in India", according to a Pakistan Mission press release.

"The developments

minating in the recent consecration ceremony, are indicative of a disturbing rise in Hindu majoritarianism in India," Ambassador Akram said in his letter to the UNAOC head.

"This trend poses a significant threat to the social, economic, and political well-being of Indian Muslims, as well as to the harmony and peace in the region.

The letter he shared with OIC Ambassadors also said: "Regrettably, this is not an isolated incident, as other mosques, including the Gyanvapi Mosque in Varanasi and the Shahi ensure the safeguarding of Eidgah Mosque in Mathura, face similar threats of desecration and ments of some Chief Min-

NATIONS over the past 31 years, cul- torial claims against Paki-

"I am writing to seek your urgent intervention for the protection of religious sites in India. Under your esteemed leadership, the **United Nations Alliance of** Civilizations must play a crucial role in safeguarding Islamic heritage sites and securing the rights of religious and cultural minori-

ties in India. "The Secretary-General has entrusted you to implement the action plan for the protection of religious sites. We urge you to expedite efforts to implement the action plan and

The OIC Ambassadors acknowledged the imdestruction. The state- portance of the issue, with some envoys mentioning isters of Indian states have the attacks on mosques in linked such actions to terri- some European countries.

religious sites in India" ISLAMABAD (APP): President Dr Arif Alvi on Thursday citing an immense potential in tourism sector of Gilgit-Baltistan, called for a special focus on the development of human as well as natural resources of the region. He, in a meeting with elected members of Gilgit-



GWADAR: Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki inspecting complaint cell set up at DC Office

#### CT CM takes notice of public complaints about clean drinking water in Gwadar

**Independent Report** GWADAR: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki has taken notice of the hardships being faced by general public about clean drinking water in Gwadar, Pasni, Ormara and Jiwani

The notice was taken by the caretaker Chief Minister during his visit to Gwadar on Thursday.

Mr. Domki reached the port city of Gwadar on Thursday morning to re-

He summoned the meeting to take review of the issue of clean drinking water in Gwadar.

During the visit, the Chief Minister presided over meeting on law and Dera Bugti. order preparations and law and order situation in Gwadar

day, the Provincial Minis-Earlier, he was acter expressed sorrow over corded warm welcome the iniuries caused to two upon his arrival in Gwadar on Thursday morning. persons in the explosion.

Also accompanied to the concerned authorities with him were the caretaker to take strict action against Provincial Minister for those involved in the incident.

ISLAMABAD: President, Dr. Arif Alvi in a group photo along with a delegation of educationists from Antalya Schools Franchise System, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

#### **President for special focus** on development of GB's natural, human resources

Discussing the current situation and the problems faced by GB, he said the GB people were educated and highly skilled, and the literacy ratio in the region was also pleasing. President Alvi also stressed the need to uplift the GB's agriculture and farming sectors.

He also assured the delegation to convey the Baltistan Council, reiterissues faced by the GB ated the resolve for GB's people to the relevant fodurable socioeconomic derums.

### All the election held from 1947 to-date have been stolen: Shahid Khaqan

SLAMABAD (Online): ormer Prime Minister (PM) Shahid Khaqan Abbasi while declaring the three major political parties of the country as failed parties has said these parties Jamlai takes have no solution to the problems facing the people.

velopment.

"Election is sacred process and country will suffer if it is made controversial. Decision for makin Dera Bugti ing new party will be made Independent Report after election, he said this while talking to media men QUETTA: The caretaker outside NAB office Provincial Minister for Rawalpindi Thursday.

Home, Mir Muhammad He held NAB and anti Zubair Jamali has taken corruptions institutions are notice of the remote conbeing used for manipulation trol IED blast took place in in election and politics. Election is sacred process. It will In an official statecause harm to country if it ment issued here on Thursis made controversial.

He underlined Nawaz Sharif was his Quaid. However there are differences in the party. I left party due The Minister directed to this.

Department

He remarked this system is not destined to run. It did not run in 2018 nor will it run now.

been issued to my spokesperson instead of me. This is tactics of harassing during the process of election.

coming to me from anti corruption during PTI government. When I said I am MNA then anti corruption apologized. It was sent to me by writing on plain paper that I committed corruption in building road. I have been accused that I have awarded contracts of building two roads to my favorite contractors. When I have reached here then it has been said the roads have not been built. I ask caretaker

QUETTA: Director General Punjab Forensic Science Agency Muhammad

Amjad being briefed about Balochistan Forensic Science Laboratory at Home

ters and high-level govern-

tries presented progress on

sectoral projects and policy initiatives under SIFC's

ambit and gave detailed

plans to steer future

viewed the ongoing efforts

to strengthen the domestic

dispute resolution mecha-

nism, a pivotal policy ini-

tiative to enhance investors'

The JUI leaders

Mufti

Qasim,

Maulana Salahuddin Ayubi,

Ghousullah Achakzai,

Maulana Sharifuddun

Maulana Sirajuddin, and

others were addressing dif-

ferent gatherings of inaugu-

ration of election offices of

JUI at various places in

included the joining ceremo-

nies and opening of the elec-

tion offices besides election

The gatherings were

Chaman on Thursday.

The Committee re-

The concerned minis-

ment officials.

endeavours.

confidence.

Maulana

campaigns.

Muhammad

**Those plundering public** 

exchequer wouldn't

escape from their wrath

**Independent Report** 

CHAMAN: The leaders of

Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (JUI)

They said that JUI is

They also said that

Prime Minister (PM) to make election non-controversial. It is gratifying that I am not part of election which creates chaos in the country.

**SIFC resumes 2nd** 

session of 8th Executive

**Committee meeting** 

ISLAMABAD (APP): The speakers at a seminar on "Electoral Code of Conduct: Ethical Practices of Stakeholders including Media," Thursday stressed the need the importance of enforcing election laws and digitizing the electoral process to eliminate controversies in elections. They also stressed the

importance of implementing the Code of Conduct formulated by the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) in collaboration with stakeholders

It was the third seminar organized by the Press Information Department (PID) with the aim to stimulate discussions on elections and contribute to the economic advancement of the country.

will be issued, and fines ECP Spokesperson imposed on those violating Syed Nadeem Haider, in his the Code," he added. remarks, said that the Com-Sustainable Development mission, in collaboration with the stakeholders, de-Policy Institute (SDPI) veloped a Code of Conduct said that the voters' turnfor the media, political parout was the lowest in Paki-

**PM condoles** over demise or ex-NA Speaker Elahi Bux ISLAMABAD (APP)

Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Thursday expressed his deep grief over the death of renowned politician and former National Assembly Speaker Elahi Bux Soomro

"Elahi Bux Soomro was a seasoned politician His services for Pakistan's politics and parliament will always be remembered.

Domki, Jamali

grieved over

death of Sardar

**Fateh Umrani** 

**Independent Report** 

QUETTA: The caretaker

Chief Minister Balochistan,

Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki has expressed deep

grief and sorrow over the

death of head of Umrani

tribe and former Provincial

Minister and Advisor

In a condolence state-

Sardar Fateh Ali Umrani.

ment issued here on Thurs-

day, the Chief Minister

prayed that may Allah Al-

mighty rest the departed

soul into Its eternal peace

and give enough strength

and patience to the be

reaved family to bear the

taker Provincial Minister

for Home Mir Zubair

Jamali has also expressed

grief over death of Sardar

Six killed

several injured

in road mishap

ISLAMABAD (APP): At

least six people were killed

and twenty others injured

in a bus and van collision

near Qazi Ahmed Road,

Jona Mori, in Nawabshah

spokesman, the ill-fated in-

cident occurred when a uni-

versity bus turned turtle.

According to a police

on Thursday morning.

Fateh Ali Umrani.

Meanwhile, the care-

tragic loss of his death.

controversies stan from among 169 coun-Highlighting its key tries. He demanded strict punishment for violators of points, he mentioned that the Code "prohibits speake Code of Conduct.

Dr Shahid Hussain of the Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) mentioned that successive governments had not brought significant changes to the people's lives. Soaring fuel prices, utility bills, and unemployment had made their lives difficult, leading to frustration among them, he added.

Dr Rooh ul Amin Khan of the International Islamic University (IIU) Islamabad highlighted that rigging allegations stemmed from insufficient infrastructure. He recommended collaboration between the Elec-"Show cause notices tion Commission and academia to address the issue and combat misinformation often propagated

Dr Asmat Ullah of the through social media. Journalist Iftikhar Sherazi suggested simplifying the implementation of the Code of Conduct.

Maulana Fazl main-

He regretted that



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Interior Dr Gohar Ejaz in a meeting with Caretaker Federal Minister for Information and **Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi.** 



He stated a notice has Love letters kept on

view the preparations of general elections and law and order situation besides other related issues there. other related issues there.

### **Caretaker Info Minster meets** with Caretaker Interior Minister

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister or information, Broadcasting and Parliamentary Affaris, Murtaza Solangi, met with the Caretaker Federal Interior Minister Dr. Gohar Ejaz on Thursday. The Federal Minister of Information congratulated Dr. Gohar Ejaz on taking charge of the Ministry of Interior.

two leaders reviewed discussed measures to ing the elections.

Environment Directorate of

Gwadar Development Au-

thority (GDA) has started

work on cleaning of parks,

renovating and preserving

the pro-vincial horticulture.

Director General GDA

Dawood Khan Khilji, the

planting of trees has also

been launched in the parks

located in the port city of

Gwadar, an official of GDA

of GDA Director Environ-

ment Fazal Shahswar,

Deputy Director Abdul

Rahim Baloch. Assistant

Director Hamal Dashti, the

renovation works would be

completed with the sup-

port of civil society mem-

bers and other institutions.

Under the supervision

said here on Thursday.

On the direction of

strengthen security arrangements. The government is taking all possible steps to conduct the elections in a peaceful and transparent manner, the information minister said. Gohar Ejaz said that there is full cooperation between the federal and provincial governments to strengthen the security arrangements. He said that all political parties support

In the meeting, the the government in maintaining law and order in the elecpreparations for the Febru- tions and the Law and orary 8 general elections and der will be maintained dur-

BEST DIPLOMATS

Caretaker Provincial Minister for Law and Par-

liamentary Affairs Amanullah Kanrani in a group

photo with Kanwal Dilshad, Provincial Ombudsman

Balochistan Nazar Baloch and renowned intellec-

tual Rafiullah Kakar during international seminar

cleaning of parks

organized by Best Diplomats in Kuala Lumpur

Turbat

#### about fake **Whatsapp** messages, calls

ISLAMABAD (Online): Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) has clarified that fake Whatsapp

being issued in the name of Election Commissioner. People should not be deceived by such messages

It has been requested to people in a statement issued by spokesperson of ECP that to be aware of the fake Whatsapp calls and messages in the names of Election Commissioner.

In case of receiving such call, confirm by contacting the staff officer of Chief Election Commissioner on landline.

and messages are received **GDA** starts renovation, from members of EC or any senior officer then it should also be fully verified.

The officers of EC and GWADAR (APP): The was transforming the Gwadar into a top travel destination and tourist spot which would help attract domestic and international tourists towards this part

Spokesperson EC furof the region. The official said that public parks would also be constructed ther said that all the staff performing duties in EC including DRO's and RO's on mod-ern lines in a bid to should not act on any calls provide a rec-reational opor messages unless it is fully

portunity to the resi-dents of these areas. The GDA verified would be responsible to maintain greenbelts, public

throughout the city, he said. The GDA has taken various initiatives including the conservation of historical buildings, promotion of tourism, improvement of green belts between monuments and roads he said adding that plantation of he informed. The purpose trees would further imof beautifying the parks prove the beautiful image.

He vowed that the enemies of the people would be eliminated together with the provincial governments

notice of

**IED** blast

Meanwhile, the Minister for Home also condemned the incident of firing at the office of regional election commissioner

He expressed grief over the death of a police cop in the incident.

# **ECP clarifies**

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) resumed the 2nd calls and messages are session of its 8th Executive Committee Meeting on 25 January 2024. The meeting was convened to deliberate

on agendas of remaining ministries. The meeting was chaired by Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives and attended by concerned Federal and Provincial Minis-JUI leaders say

If any telephone calls

have stated that the people who have plundered the staff have also been directed to contact staff officer of public exchequer and limited their resources to mere Chief Election Commissioner on landline in case of a specific area couldn't escape from the public wrath. such Whatsapp calls and verify them.

united and would remain united in future too. JUI is just like our combined and we consider service in it as success in the

world and hereafter.

parks, and playgrounds

QUETTA: Provincial Secretary Health Abdullah Khan presiding over a meeting with a delegation of National Health Services Regulation and Coordination Government of Balochistan

politics: Fazal MULTAN (APP): Jamiat- den segments of the socie-Ulama Islam-Fazl (JUI- ety and never raised "hol-F) chief Maulana Fazl-urlow slogans" Rehman said on Thursday tained that his party was that feudalism had made inroads in the country's trying its best for keeping

politics and barons were peace in the country and voted out of fear and fright. added that the economy Addressing a cercould not be stable without emony here, he stated that tranquility. his party had always voiced for the commoners Pakistan's economic growth as getting them rights was rate had gone too much the real politics, besides down in the last three-and safeguarding their lives and a -half years. The political

forces did not have any properties. He claimed that the manifesto and they were JUI-F had always stood for battling for power only in the rights of the downtrod-

the country, he added

LAHORE: Supporters of Pakistan Muslim League (N) holds party flags during inauguration of election campaign camp office of senior vice president of the PML-N Maryam Nawaz, at Singhpura, ahead of the upcoming general elections.

### **Govt paying special** attention on health of new generation: DC

LASBELLA Deputy Commissioner Lasbela Noor Muhammad Mandukhel on Thursday said that the current government was paying special attention to the healthy development of the new generation, especially chil-

dren On behalf of the Ministry of Planning and Development, the project is being successfully impletrict Administration, he said

He expressed these views while addressing the de-worming campaign ceremony at the public level under the Balochistan deworming national program.

The Deputy Commissioner said that more than 0. 2 million children of anti-worm food while a ary 29 to January 31.

(APP)- three-day campaign program would be formally launched in Lasbela district from January 29 to January 31.

The DC said that this food would be beneficial in the mental and physical development of children and this project would play a key role in the safe and bright future of children. Addressing the cerbeing successfully imple-mented in collaboration diversing the cell-emony, program director Qadeer Baig said that the national program of de-worming in Pakistan has been started in 47 districts, in Balochistan. District Lasbela and District Hub have been included in the project as model districts

He said that the first phase of the campaign to protect school children from stomach worms for a safe and healthy future Lasbela would be given would continue from Janu-

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