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India a terrorist state, committing worst atrocities against Kashmiris: PM Kakar

MUZAFFARABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Monday said that India was a terrorist state, which had been committing the worst atrocities and brutalities against the innocent people of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu & Kashmir for decades.

The world was, however, silently watching the Indian state terrorism against the Kashmiris, he regretted while addressing the Azad Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly on the occasion of Kashmir Solidarity Day.

The prime minister said for last many years, India was presenting a false narrative and trying to weaken the indigenous movement of the Kashmiris for freedom by wrongly labeling them as

There was a clear difference between terrorism and the people's struggle for independence, he added.

PM Kakar said that the Indian leadership was also claiming that Gilgit-Baltistan and Azad Jammu & Kashmir were part of their country



"On this day, I make it clear that that India should not have any such illusions. We believe in peace and are showing maximum patience and tolerance, but any misadventure in this regard will be forcefully responded." He reaffirmed that Pakistan did not want any con-

flict in the region, however, it was fully capable of strongly retaliating any attack on its soil. India, he said, had for

many times tested Pakistan's capacity, and if still had any desire in that regard then "we are fully ready to show our might".

He said if India was a true democracy then it should give the people of Kashmir their just right to self-determination, besides restoring all the basic human rights in the IIOJK. PM Kakar said India must also stop the gross violations of human rights in the region along with releasing all the political prisoners. It should also abrogate all the strict emergency laws, besides removing its heavy military presence from the villages and towns of Kashmir.

Solangi says:

for quick redressal of

journalist's complaints

Broadcasting

foreign journalists during

ing ceremony of the media

helpline, he said, in the

present era of digital media

it was imperative to up-

grade and improve working.

The media-compliant

plication will be acces-

He said the application

national journalists and sentatives.

sible through any browser,

Murtaza Solangi remarked.

was launched for the con-

venience of local and inter-

Addressing the launch-

media persons covering the

Article 224 of the Consti-

tution, the Caretaker Gov-

and helped the Election

Commission of Pakistan in

every way to ensure a free

and transparent election

within the timeframe given

people of Pakistan will

choose their representa-

tives to run the affairs of

the country as the pre-

amble of the constitution

states that this country will

be run by its elected repre-

by the ECP.

He remarked that under

general election 2024.



RAWALPINDI: General Syed Asim Munir, NI (M), Chief of Army Staff (COAS) talking with soldiers during his visit to the front lines along Line of Control (LOC) in Sarian Sector.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Information & Broadcasting, Murtaza Solangi launched Media Helpline app at Press Information Department.

10 policemen martyred in terrorist attack on DI Khan police station

Six policemen were also injured when terrorists targeted the police station in Tehsil Daraban

DERA ISMAIL KHAN Muhammad (APP): At least 10 policemen were martyred and six others got injured as a group of unidentified militants attacked Chaudhwan police station here in Daraban tehsil in the wee hours on Monday.

According to the police spokesman, the terrorists employing heavy weapons attacked the Chaudhwan police station at around 03:00 a.m.

The police retaliated and an exchange of gunfire continued for around two and a half hours. However, the attackers managed to escape the scene.

În the attack, 10 policemen were martyred and nine others got injured. The

Independent Report

QUETTA: The caretaker

Provincial Minister for In-

formation, Jan Achakzai

has categorically stated that

the terrorists killed in Mach

operation belonged to a

banned terrorist organiza-

of the terrorists killed by

the security forces in Mach

themselves confessed in

written that they were the

members of the banned or-

He said that the heirs

Aslam, Ghulam Farid, Muhammad Javed, Muhammad Idrees, Muhammad Imran, Safdar, ASI Kausar, Ehtram Syed, Rafi Ullah and Hameed ul Haq while the injured policemen included Ahmad Hasan, Akbar Zaman, Inayat Ullah, Shehrab Khan, Ibrahim and Naqeeb Khan. The injured were immediately shifted to District Headquarters hospital Dera Ismail Khan.

RPO Nasir Mehmood Satti and DPO Abdul Rauf Sioner Mansoor Arshad Babar Qaisrani along with District Police Officer a heavy contingent of police and security forces reached the site and and civil administration's launched a search operation officials, besides a large to arrest the perpetrators.

Later, the funeral from difference prayers of the martyred the society.

Terrorists killed in Mach operation

belonged to banned organization,: Jan

volved in the terrorism ac-

tivities. In a tweet on his

formation said that the

bodies of terrorists are not

handed over to the heirs

anywhere in the world, and

the state takes care of their

of terrorists have given as-

surance that no terrorist

would participate in their

He said that the heirs

misled children.

funeral prayer.

police officials were offered here in Ejaz Shaheed Police Lines with full official protocol and honor. The funeral were also attended by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Caretaker Chief Minister Arshad Hussain Shah Chief Secretary Nadeem Aslam Chaudhry, Inspector General of Police (IGP) Akhtar Hayat Khan, Regional Police Officer (RPO) Dera Nasir Mehmood Satti Commissioner Dera Zafarul (DPO) Abdul Rauf Babar Qaisrani, Senior military

numbers of people hailing

from different segments of

the operation conducted by

Jan Achakzai also said

that the bloody plot and

network of the conspiracies

hatched on behest of the

Indian masters have also

been exposed to the world.

termind of the drama Mah

Rang is making allegation of

the extra judicial killing just

He said that the mas-

Nawaz asks Murree constituents to vote wisely for a new dawn MURREE (INP): Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz

(PML-N) supremo Nawaz Sharif and party chief organiser Maryam Nawaz on Monday pledged to redevelop the country after coming to power.



During the power show in Murree just days before the general elections, Nawaz reiterated that the cost of essentials was much less when he was the prime minister than the present prices. He said he rid the people of the menace of loadshedding.

During his last stint in power, Nawaz claimed that the economy was flourishing and businesses were thriv-

He urged the people to vote responsibly as "vote can change the destiny of their generations." He asked the constituents to stamp on the 'tiger' (electoral symbol of PML-N) on Feb 8 and become part of development and

He criticised the judges who disqualified him. He said the country was devastated after his removal from office and today they (a reference to judges) were tender-

Kashmir Solidarity Day:

Protests, calls for freedom echo across Pakistan, AJK

Independent Report

ISLAMABAD: On Kashmir Solidarity Day, being observed on February 5, the passion for Kashmiri self-determination burned bright across Pakistan and Azad Jammu and Kashmir.

Large-scale demonstrations, symbolic gestures, and passionate speeches marked the day, highlighting the ongoing struggle and demanding international intervention.

In Muzaffarabad, the capital of Azad Kashmir, a grand ceremony unfolded at Azadi Chowk. Participants waved flags, chanted slogans, and formed a chain of human hands connectacross the Line of Control. A special session of the Azad Jammu and Kashmir Assembly was also held, with speeches reiterating support for the Kashmiri

marched on Constitution Avenue in Islamabad, led by Foreign Ministry officials. Children, politicians, and citizens alike joined the rally, paying homage to Kashmiri martyrs and chanting "Kashmir Banega Pakistan." Caretaker Federal Minister for Religious Affairs Aneeq Ahmed also participated, delivering a strong message against the Indian occupation

Any aggression to be responded with full military might: COAS

Pakistan Army well versed with full threat spectrum and perpetually ready to respond effectively; Gen Asim Munir lauds operational readiness of troops

RAWALPINDI (APP): Army Chief General Syed Asim Munir has reaffirmed that any aggression or violation of the territorial sovereignty of Pakistan will be responded with full national resolve and military

He was addressing the troops deployed on the front lines along the Line of He said now only two days were left for the elections in which more than Control in the Sarian sector 120 million Pakistanis near Muzaffarabad today. will exercise their right to

The Army Chief said the Pakistan Army is well- rale, and effective response In the elections, the spectrum and is perpetu- violations. ally ready to respond effectively. He mentioned that Indian state-sponsored terrorism in Pakistan has now extended to the heinous targeting of individual Pakistani citizens on our soil. Such a callous disregard for international law and norms of the international system is becoming a routine occur-rence, and India is now be-

Visit Muzaffarabad

Monument

PM, COAS pay

tribute to sacrifices

of martyrs

RAWALPINDI (APP)

Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-

Haq Kakar, Azad Jammu &

Kashmir (AJK) Prime

Minister Ch. Anwar ul Haq

and Chief of Army Staff

(COAS) General Syed

Asim Munir on Monday

visited the Muzaffarabad

Jammu and Kashmir

Monument to lay wreaths

and pay rich tribute to the

supreme sacrifices of the

According to an Inter-

Services Public Relations

(ISPR) news release, the

leadership acknowledged

that the fortitude, resilience

and unwavering faith of

the Kashmiris in the face

of unabated brutality of In-

dian occupation forces in

the Indian Illegally Occu-

pied Jammu & Kashmir

(IIOJK) had been exem-

brewing humanitarian and

security crises in the

IIOJK seriously threat-

ened regional peace and

stability.

They observed that

martyrs.

many countries worldwide, exposing its sham creden-General Syed Asim Munir said Pakistan would

ing openly called out by

continue to expose all such attempts and ensure the security of its citizens. During the occasion, the Army Chief was briefed about the latest situation along the Line of Control.

He appreciated the opera-

tional readiness, high mo-Earlier, upon arrival at the Jammu and Kashmir Monument in the demography of IIOJK through illegal adminis-Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar, Prime Minister imposed draconian laws Azad Kashmir, and the and

wreaths at the Martyrs'

rifices of Shuhada.

unabated brutality of Indian occupation forces in IIOJK are exemplary. They said the brewing humanitarian and security crises in the IIOJK seriously threaten regional peace and stability. Pakistan would always stand with Kashmiris in their just struggle for the inalienable right to self-determination versed in the full threat of troops to Indian ceasefire in light of UN Security Council resolutions.

They acknowledged

that the fortitude, resilience,

and unwavering faith of Kashmiris in the face of

They noted that India is attempting to change trative and unilaterally Army Chief laid floral clampdowns. Such machinations cannot suppress the will of the Kashmiri Monument and paid rich tribute to the supreme sacpeople to attain their legiti-

mate objectives.

Nawaz Sharif pressuring administration, elections must be fair: Bilawal

kistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari has addressed various issues ahead of the upcoming general elections and accused former prime minister Nawaz Sharif of pressurising the administration to influence the deci-

In an interview with VOA Urdu, he emphasized his party's focus on contesting the polls independently, warned against alleged political pressure, and stressed the need for fair and transparent elections. Bilawal reiterated that

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pa- the PPP was not forming alliances with other parties and will fight the elections based on its own manifesto.

"I am contesting the elections and trying to ensure that the People's Party wins and forms a government," he told the news outlet.

He accused former prime minister Nawaz Sharif of the PML-N of pressuring the administration, warning him against any interference in the electoral process. He expressed confidence that the administration will resist such pressure



KARACHI: Chairman Pakistan People's Party Bilawal Bhutto Zardari addressing the election

Kashmir Solidarity Day observed in big way: **Peace of region linked with**

solution to Kashmir issue, says Mir Zubair Jamali

Independent Report

QUETTA: The caretaker Provincial Minister for Home, Captain (Retd) Mir Muhammad Zubair Jamali has stated that the peace of region is linked with the solution to Kash-

mir issue. Therefore, this issue must be resolved so as to ensure peace in the region. In an official statement mir.

issued here on eve of Kashmir Solidarity Day observed on Monday, the caretaker Provincial Minister said that the people of country including Balochistan express solidarity with the Kashmiri people.

He said that independence from the clutches of India is basic right of the people of Occupied Kash-

He said that the terror- to hide her shame. ganization and were in-1651 polling stations declared most sensitive: All set to hold elections in Balochistan; preparations finalized, maintains PEC

Independent Report QUETTA: The Provincial

Election Commissioner Balochistan, Muhammad Farid Afridi has stated that all the preparations have been finalized for the general elections to be conducted on February 8 in the

He said that we are determined to conduct the elections in peaceful man-

The Provincial Election Commissioner was addressing press conference at his office on Monday.

He said that the elections would be held on 16 and 51 seats of National Assembly and Balochistan Assembly from the province. He said that 429 can-



social media account "X" on the security forces and

Monday, the Minister In- their conspiracy was un-

covered.

didates are in competition run for 16 seats of the National Assembly from the province. Similarly, 1267 candidates are contesting elections on 51 seats of the Provincial Assembly.

He said that the security arrangements have also been finalized for the elections in the province. He

informed that 31,000 personnel of different law enforcement agencies would be deployed at the polling stations located all over the province. He assured that the general elections would be peaceful in the province and as such the voters should come out from their homes

for casting their votes.

ing them to their brethren

Meanwhile, thousands

Original CNIC mandatory for casting vote: ECP

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) on Monday advised people to bring their Computerized National Identity Card (CNIC) to cast a vote on Election Day.

The ECP in a message said no person would be allowed to cast his vote at the polling station without having original CNIC. No other document in

cluding a copy of CNIC, passport and driving license would be acceptable for casting a vote. The commission fur-

ther said anyone having an expired CNIC can cast his/

Daily Aoice of Masse Independent

Economic rhetoric

On Thursday, voters will elect a new government tasked with managing one of the country's worstever economic crises: growth shrank, inflation soared to record highs, the rupee weakened rapidly, and foreign reserves dwindled in the last two years. However, the 'economic programmes' articulated by the three major contenders for power — the PML-N, PTI and PPP — in their respective election manifestos show that none has an actionable short- to long-term strategy to tackle the daunting economic challenges.

More crucially, no party talks of how they intend to accomplish the immediate task of approaching the IMF for another larger and longer funding programme — critical to economic revival — once the current \$3bn facility expires in mid-April, to avoid the prospect of default. Rather than giving the party's roadmap for achieving macroeconomic and other targets in their manifestos, and outlining economic objectives, priorities and policy intentions, each party has made frivolous promises instead. For example, the PML-N, whose leadership likes to harp on the party's 'development narrative and building a network of motorways and roads, has pledged to create 10m jobs, enhance wages to match inflation and cut electricity bills by 20-30pc. How? They don't explain.

Likewise, the PPP has promised to double salaries, and provide free electricity up to 300 units and subsidies to alleviate the impact of inflation on voters, as well as generate employment opportunities for young labour market entrants.

Though the PTI has avoided populist commitments, its economic plan, like those of the PML-N and PPP, is also heavy on rhetoric, hardly giving concrete strategies to achieve the macroeconomic goals its manifesto defines. Elections are the best time for political parties to send their message to the voters and rally support around their socioeconomic priorities. However, in Pakistan, parties usually avoid providing quantitative, evidence-based policy targets with a detailed overview of how and when they intend to implement their economic promises. A PIDE study of past election manifestos of the major parties shows that these documents did not contain concrete plans and largely comprised empty promises, with no homework done vis-à-vis future goals. While the PML-N is seeking votes for its promise of delivering 'speedy development', PTI is staking its claims on the basis of its 'economic performance' during the Covid pandemic, and PPP on its social welfare agenda. That means these parties do not have any ready economic policy blueprints to work on if voted into power.

Both the PML-N and PTI may have given some abstract macroeconomic, export and other targets and priorities in their new manifestos, but do not offer any specifics or practical strategies to achieve these goals if elected to power. Little wonder these parties are unable to consistently pursue their economic policies even through a single budget cycle.

Anti-colonial ally?

Huma Yusuf

Tuesday February 06, 2024

Many will recognise the name of the great Russian poet, Alexander sian poet, Alexander nian messaging, particu-Pushkin. Fewer people larly in the run-up to the will know that he is partially of African origin, Moscow as proof that it is not a European-style not know this detail, but it is widely appreciated across the Global South, particularly in Africa, where Russia is increasingly valued as an ally helping to balance the excesses of the Global

The sense in the Global South that Russia is an anti-colonial ally (despite its imperial past, and its colonising aims the recent documentary Inside Wagner: The Rise of Russia's Notorious that Russia is anti-West, and so pro-Global South is becoming entrenched, driven further by Russian propaganda, including the production of slick action films glorifying Wagner and the cooption of African social media influencers. Russian mercenaries' violent tactics and human rights abuses are reframed as stability, particularly in can Republic, and swept aside in favour of finally standing up to European (and by extension Western) colonial powers.

Why is this relevant to Pakistan? In some ways, we are an outlier. Russia features less in our public discourse, particularly after former prime minister Imran Khan's awkwardly timed eve of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Khan's populism was plugged into these emergent glo-

stance. However, that could fragment along the flirtation was quickly relines of US/ Saudi vs flirtation was quickly replaced by military pragmatism and pro-Ukrai-

IMF deal. Islamabad of late and that his heritage is has tried to better bal-routinely touted by ance its ties with Moscow, with celebrations of 75 years of diplomatic imperial power. We may engagement last October, and promises to boost trade ties and security cooperation.

But the potential for

a serious bilateral rela-

tionship is complicated, particularly with the Middle East developments. Pakistan has never been a foreign policy priority for Russia, with most engagement from Moscow beperfunctory. in Ukraine) is apparent in Russia's growing proximity with Iran is another twist: Tehran is allegedly supplying Moscow Mercenaries. The film drones for the Ukraine shows how the narrative conflict; Moscow has responded with a pivot towards Palestine in the context of the Israel-Palestine war. This pivot is largely driven by domestic political considerations. As Fiona Hill points out in an interview with Brookings, Moscow is worried that Gaza's fate will stir memories of violent Russian interventions in sacrifices in the name of Chechnya, and pro-Palestinian positioning is places like Central Afri- considered a way to appease Russia's Muslim

population. Still, this facilitates Moscow's affinity with Tehran. While Russia's pro-Palestine positioning will win it more fans across the Global South, its pro-Tehran, anti-US stance will leave it in murky political waters given the post-conflict scenario shaping up in visit to Moscow on the the Middle East. Given plans for a two-state solution to be tabled in exchange for Saudi recognition of Israel — and all bal narratives, and he the security guarantees Putin positioning as an extension of his anti-US over Palestine's plight tesy Dawn

Global South. -- Courextension of his anti-US over Palestine's plight

Russia/ Iran.

Where will Pakistan find itself? While Islamabad's diplomatic balancing act will continue, pro-Russian sentiment is unlikely to become a major feature of public discourse. Indeed, in Moscow's calculations, ours is a geopolitical space already dominated by Russia-friendly Beijing, and so not worth the effort to shape through overtures and propaganda. But that does not mean that Pak-is-tan is completely disengaged broa-der Global South

narratives. Pro-Russian narratives in the Global South are in fact anti-colonial and pro-justice. And anti-colonial sentiment will express itself in various ways in an increasingly stressed and resource-scarce world as demands for climate justice, labour rights, inclusive technology, equitable service delivery and more. Indeed, as authoritarianism creeps, civil resistance will soar. And as I wrote recently, Pakistan is not immune to these trends.

Even during a carefully engineered election cycle, our powers that be have been distracted by civil movements, which they have sought to address through both soft and hard approaches. Wheat subsidies are being deployed to calm tensions in Gilgit-Baltistan, while a security crackdown is intensified in Balochistan. The game of whack-amole to manage protest (whether in the form of social and political movements or violent uprisings) will continue in the post-poll settlement as well, and may intensify in response to the political orches-tration of this week. As such, Pakistan briefly flirted with pro- that would entail — the is firmly in step with the

Living longer

Arif Azad

Education is a strong determinant of higher remunerations in the course of a lifetime and generally, higher education levels result in increased incomes For instance, a university graduate is likely to earn more than a college graduate. These higher earnings levels create better health outcomes cation exercises not individual expenditure in terms of longer lifespans, healthy lifestyles and enough funds to spend on health maintenance and improvement activities. However, the link bespent at school or unitween the years of versity reduces the risk schooling, adult mortalof mortality by two per ity and longevity has cent. For 18 years of been under-researched. This under-examined connection has been somewhat established recently, and estimates for years of schooling and gains in lifespan were produced in a recent global meta-analysis and systematic review. The Centre for Global Health Inequities-Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (Chain-IHEME) issued a global meta-analysis and systematic review that estimates the magnitude of education on mortality risks and lifespans. The study covers 70 locations in 59 five or more alcoholic countries in 10 landrinks daily or smoking guages, including the UK, US, Brazil and China. The findings of the study are far-reaching in terms of policy implications and resources. It goes beyond previous studies on the subject as it is not restricted by time, location

and language. While previous studies on educational inequalities focused on high-income countries. this study includes varied economic contexts and regions and produces estimates of adult mortality in the age group 18 to 70 years. The importance of this analysis lies in its iden- far, been narrowly con-

ined benefits of education by systematically identifying and quantifying the impact of cation on adult mortality risk at a global level.

Broadly, the review shows that the number of years spent in education have a relationship with longevity and mortality. In this way, eduonly protective effects on health, especially in on adult mortality but poor households. also serves a longevityboosting function. According to the

education, the mortality risk declines by a whopping 34pc, while completing secondary education cuts the risk by an impressive 25pc. Thereyears to your life with a longer stay at school. Conversely, those missing out on school years or dropping out of school find themselves deprived of health benefits. The report claims that adults not receiving any education face higher risks of ill-health the effects are comparable to consuming

10 cigarettes per day for a decade. It also demonstrates that mortality risk is moderated by health behaviour. Higher education, in turn, shapes access to better healthcare and wholesome lifestyles. Pakistan has one of the highest number of out-of-school children in the world; the dropout rate is elevated as are school absences. These

factors have a direct im-

pact on the number of

and the cumulative ef-

fect on mortality risk and

healthy lifespans. In Pa-

kistan, education has, so

tification of under-exam- ceived. Its impact on mortality risk reduction has not been considered in public health strategies. Therefore, pouring number of years of edu- more and dedicated money into education and making concerted efforts to keep children in school and beyond can result in better health outcomes for population health, which, in turn, saves governmental and

Policymakers and politicians should see both education and study, every two years health as intimately connected and focus or improving educational outcomes and retaining as large a number of youngsters as possible from school to university — the best investment in health and education.

A strategy that fore, you can add more combines education and health will see not only prosperity but also improved health for the nation in the long term. Our younger generations are affected more by education inequalities that plague our education system. Therefore, enhanced schooling policies and inthroughout their lives creased resources towards education can act as proactive investment in health, which reduces disparities in learning and well-being.

Education is an essential component of the Sustainable Development Goals, which target inclusive and quality education for everyone, gender equality and reduction of inequalities within and between countries. Pakistan has been lagging behind on SDG targets. Dedicating sustained and stipulated funds to education with an 'educationhealth' lens as the bedyears spent in education rock of investment and policies can turn the tide on low educational attainment and associated low health outcomes. --Courtesy Dawn

Commerce News

AGPR conducts study on loans to employees on direction of President

ISLAMABAD (APP): granting of loans to govt employees, recommends to improve existing mechanism on the direction of the President In response to the concerns raised by President Dr Arif Alvi over the Ar Auditor General identifies Government employees by criteria as to when, why Alvi over the violations of granting loans to organizations, wherein merit and criteria for government employees to incidents of preferential granting loans to ensure transparency, merit treatment and violations of government employees, the and fair play. He had merit were reported as Auditor General of raised concerns over the loans were extended to Pakistan (AGP) has non-observance of criteria some of the government identified weaknesses and violations of rules in the "regular list" and the General Financial Rules existing system of granting long term Advances (House

"out of turn list/priority", were being maintained for criteria of 07-12-2015. Building and Conveyance granting loans. He observed

as two separate lists, called employees in violation of (GFR) and the approved

advances) to Federal that there seemed to be no AGP, the President had also observed that the grievances and litigation. In response to

President's letter, AGP conducted a special study on the long-term advances to Federal Government employees that found violations discrepancies due to nonobservance of the existing

In his letter to the rules and procedures.



Economic Resilience, and Investments" at the Third EU Indo-Pacific Ministerial Forum in Brussels. PTA committed to ensuring

ISLAMABAD: Women wearing traditional Kashmiri dresses as looks warm shawls on a stall at Lok Virsa Museum in the Federal Capital.

Pak mobile industry thriving despite dire economic indicators

Monitoring Desk ISLAMABAD:

Pakistan battles its smartphone devices that prevailing dire economic were manufactured indicators, it seems that the country's mobile industry has managed to thrive despite rampant inflation and the declining purchasing

power of the people.

The Pakistan Telecommunication Authority's (PTA) annual report has revealed that local mobile phone manufacturers produced a whopping 84.4 million devices in the last five vears.

As per the report, 25 As million of these were between January 2019 and September 2023.

Furthermore, the regulatory authority said that 33 local and foreign companies locally December 2022. established manufacturing plants under the Mobile (MDM) Regulations obtained a 10-year MDM

authorisation.

The country also has initiated the export of locally manufactured handsets, with 120,000 SEEGO brand mobiles labelled as "Manufactured in Pakistan" exported to the African market in

The Identification Registration Device Manufacturing and Blocking System (MDM) Regulations (DIRBS), introduced by the introduced in 2021 — with PTA, has provided a level these companies, operating playing field for foreign both as standalone entities investments in the mobile and through joint ventures, device manufacturing industry in Pakistan.

CM distributes allotment letters among landless farmers of Cholistan underprivileged farmers

Independent Report LAHORE: Caretaker Punjab Chief Minister Mohsin Nagvi distributed allocation letters for 12.5 acres of land to 26,000 landless farmers in Bahawalpur. The allocation of land to Cholistan farmers is poised to uplift the impoverished community and pave the way for prosperity.

this Under transformative initiative, each farmer has been granted a lease for 12.5 acres of land for a period of five years. This momentous decision addresses the long-standing grievance of the Khan, and for securing allotment.

spanning three districts in south Punjab, namely Rahim Yar Khan, Bahawalnagar, Bahawalpur, according to a handout issued here Monday.

The occasion holds immense importance for the Bahawalpur division, commemorating a historic day for the Cholistanis. Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi expressed heartfelt congratulations to the landless farmers of Bahawalpur, Rahim Yar Khan, and Bahawalnanger for securing their rightful

Pakistan's exports to China up by 46pc in 7 months

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistan's export of goods and services to China witnessed an increase of 46 percent during the seven months (July to January).

According to sources, the overall exports to China were recorded at US \$1.7214 billion during July-January (2023-24) against exports of US \$1.18 billion during July-January

(2022-23). On the other hand, the imports from China into the country during July-January were recorded at US \$7.71 billion against US \$7.66 billion last year, sources added. On January, Pakistan's export of goods and services to China witnessed an increase of 39.44 per cent during the first five months.

safe online environment for country's youth: Chairman ISLAMABAD (APP): recognizes the critical role mentioned that PTA has that the internet plays in Telecommunication our lives. We are steadfast

Pakistan Authority Chairman, Major General ® Hafeez ur Rehman, has particularly for the country's youth and children.

In a message on the occasion of "Safer Internet

in our commitment to Fund (UNICEF), TikTok, ensuring a safe online and other organizations to environment, particularly said that the PTA is for our youth and committed to ensuring a children."The chairman safe online environment, asserted that it is the collective responsibility of all to create a secure and protective digital space, allowing Pakistani users to continue their online under the category of

Day", to be celebrated on activities in a safer February 6, he said, "PTA

Tokyo shares open higher after US rallies TOKYO (AFP/APP): Tokyo stocks opened higher Monday, driven up

by the strength of US tech shares that pushed Wall Street indices to new records.

benchmark The Nikkei 225 index climbed 0.69 percent, or 248.99 points, to 36,407.01. while the broader Topix index added 0.61 percent, or 15.61 points, to 2,555.29.

The dollar stood at 148.40 yen, compared with 148.30 yen on Friday in New York.

collaborated with Meta, United Nations Children's pursue the cause of promoting a safer online environment in Pakistan.

"Our efforts for the cause have been recognized, and PTA received the SAMENA international LEAD award "Enabling Child & Youth environment. He further Safety Online," the

Pakistanis drank tea worth over \$336m in six months!

Monitoring Desk LAHORE: Tea imports into the country witnessed an increase of 5.53% during the first half of the current fiscal year compared to last year's corresponding period, the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) data showed. The tea imports into the country increased up to \$336.423 million during July-December (2023-24) compared to the imports of \$318.798 million in July-

December (2022-23),

according to PBS data. In terms of quantity, the imports surged by 9.12% as the country imported 139,751 metric tonnes of tea during the period under review compared to the imports of 128,068 metric

Meanwhile, on a yearon-year basis, the tea imports during December 2023 decreased by 16.80% to \$58.869 million from last December's \$70.759 million.

PM Kakar says:

Entire nation stands with Kashmiris to support their right to self-determination

MUZAFFARABAD occasion of Kashmir not hidden from anyone (APP): Caretaker Prime Solidarity Day. Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Monday said the entire Pakistani nation stood shoulder to shoulder with its Kashmiri brothers and sisters to support their struggle for the right to self-determination. "Pakistan will continue to provide moral, political and diplomatic support to its Kashmiri brothers and sisters until they realise their right to selfdetermination as per the UNSC resolutions", the prime minister said during his visit to Muzaffarabad, Azad Kashmir on the the illegal rule of India were

and Kashmir Chaudhry Anwarul Haque and Speaker Azad Jammu and Akbar here, PM Kakar said the final and just solution free and impartial referendum according to United Nations Security Council (UNSC). He said the Indian atrocities in Jammu and Kashmir under Kashmiri brothers and

MUZAFFRABAD: Students hold placards to showing

solidarity with the people of Kashmiri, during protest

KP Governor says:

India breaks all records of

atrocities, human rights

violations in IIOJK

dignity and respect for the people of the held valley.

Addressing the Kashmir Solidarity Day

Addressing the Governor said that

Governor said that hundreds Government.

rally to mark the Kashmir Solidarity Day.

(APP):

PESHAWAR

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Governor, Haji Ghulam Ali

here Monday said that India

has broken all records of

oppression and brutalities

after illegally invaded the Occupied Kashmir and

demanded international

community take notice of

it. He also demanded

rally, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

and the silence of the Talking to the Prime international community Minister of Azad Jammu on Indian atrocities on innocent Kashmiris was alarming and reprehensible. The speaker of the Kashmir Legislative Legislative Assembly and Assembly Chaudhry Latif the prime minister of Azad Jammu and Kashmir welcomed the prime of the Kashmir issue was minister's visit to possible only under the Muzaffarabad. They said the PM Kakar's visit to Muzaffarabad on the the resolutions of the occasion of Kashmir Solidaridy Day had sent a clear message to India that the hearts of Pakistani and

Tuesday February 06, 2024

sisters beat together. Gas leakage leaves 2 dead in Havelian

ABBOTTABAD (INP): Two more people on Monday lost their lives in a gas leakage incident in Haavalian village, during the current season death tolls caused by the gas leakage crossed 12. season

According to the Rescue 1122 sources, dead persons were identified as Yasar and Mehtab, hailed from the village Tatrila an area of Rajoi Police Station.

Responding to the incident, the rescue medical team shifted the bodies of Yasar and Mehtab to Type-D Hospital Havelian.

Despite the issuance of guidelines for the use of gas heaters during the winter season by Rescue 1122, district administration, and Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Limited (SNGPL), it is disheartening people continue to neglect these guidelines, leading to the loss of

precious human lives. This was the fifth incident of gas leakage in the district of Abbottabad where 12 people lost their lives.



global forums: Governor **Independent Report** LAHORE: Punjab Governor Muhammad

Balighur Rehman said on Monday that Pakistan has always played its role in keeping the issue of Kashmir alive at all forums of the world including the United Nations Organization (UNO) and Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).

He was addressing the ceremony in connection with Kashmir Solidarity Day organized by Punjab

unique idea of involving

school children in the

promotion of green cover

by launching an 'Own a Tree' plantation

Tree' plantation programme has shown an

encouraging response of fostering a strong bond of

attachment between minors

and the plants planted with

was carried out by the World

The plantation drive

their nameplates.

Health

Department of Information observing Kashmir and Culture here at Al-Solidarity Day against Hamra Arts Council where Secretary Information Daniyal Saleem Gilani, Director General Public Relations Punjab, Rubina Afzal, Kashmiri Hurriyat leader Mushtaq Mehmood and a large number of people from different walks of life were present. The Governor said

that today Pakistanis and millions of Kashmiris living around the world, are

Department of Khyber

Pakhtunkhwa by involving

school children in planting

saplings within the premises

of four Basic Health Units

(BHUs) in Charsadda district. "The activity was

held on April 7, 2023, in connection with the

observance of World Health

Day (WHD) April which

also marks the anniversary

of the founding of the World

India's invasion and illegal occupation of the state of Jammu and Kashmir. He added that the purpose of observing this day is to draw the attention of the international community towards the Indian usurpation and oppression of the occupied state of Jammu and Kashmir so that the oppressed Kashmiris get their right to self-determination.

Kashmir Solidarity Exhibition starts in Bahawalpur

BAHAWALPUR (APP): A three-day Kashmir Solidarity Exhibition has Kashmir started at the art gallery of Bahawalpur Arts Council here.President, Board of Management, Bahawalpur Arts Council, Prof-Dr. Aslam Adeeb along with Director, Bahawalpur Arts Council, Sajjad Ĥussain inaugurated the Kashmir Solidarity Exhibition at the Arts Council premises. It was a pictorial exhibition displaying pictures and photos of

victimized by Indian forces.

Turkey completes

new homes in

area hit by

devastating

earthquake

ANKARA (Înternews)

Turkey on Saturday

handed over keys to

newly-completed homes

to some of those left home-

less after last year's dev-

astating earthquake, one

year after the country's

deadliest disaster in its

modern history.
Powerful quakes on

Feb. 6, 2023 in southern

Turkey killed more than

50,000 people in 11 prov-

inces and left millions

CM Punjab inaugurates upgraded BVH, safe city project in Bahawalpur

Independent Report

B A H A W A L P U R : Caretaker Chief Minister of Punjab Mohsin Nagvi arrived in Bahawalpur on Sunday for the inauguration of the OPD, Surgical Ward pgradation Project at Victoria Hospital. He also inaugurated

Bahawalpur. inaugurated the upgraded building of the Civil Lines Polic Station. Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi also virtually inaugurated other model police stations of Bahawalpur. He visited the wards of Bahawal Victoria Hospital. He also inspected the Medical

to the patients, doctors, and paramedical staff. Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi said, "This is your hospital, take care of this lovely building."

Talking to the media he said that Bahawal Victoria Hospital was built in 1906, and renovating the the Safe City project in old building was a difficult task. The team of the Department of Buildings and Communications is credited with upgrading the historical building of Bahawal Victoria Hospital beautifully.

If a new hospital is built, it will not be as upgraded as Bahawal Victoria Hospital. The old Emergency, Plastic Surgery, and ENT wards. He talked been completely renovated.



MUZAFFARABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar being presented guard of honor upon his arrival at AJK Legislative Assembly.

Two more children succumb to pneumonia in Punjab

Maldives vows to boost

defences after telling

LAHORE Pneumonia claimed two whereas Lahore only more lives of children reported 58 deaths and during the past 24 hours

in Punjab. Punjab pneumonia reported during the last the winter season. 24 hours.

The authorities said Lahore logged 177 fresh cases of It can manifest after pneumonia during the last 24 hours.

318 pneumonia-related Typically, pneumonia is

(INP): reported in the province 4,050 cases.

Health According to the attribute the rapid ijab Health increase in cases and Department, a total of deaths in Punjab to the 605 new cases of environmental pollution were caused by smog during

Pneumonia is an infection in the lungs, often caused by viruses. symptoms of a cold or flu and can range from Punjab has reported mild to severe. Kashmiris who were deaths, while over more common in children 20,872 cases have been aged five or younger.

International News

Organization Health Organization with the (WHO) in 1948."

Children-plants

WHO's 'Own a Tree'

initiative fosters strong

bond of attachment

PESHAWAR (APP): The cooperation of the Health

127 more Palestinians killed as fighting rages in Gaza

of thousands of Kashmiris

were martyred, children

orphaned and women were

He said that India's

sexually abused at IIOJK.

involvement in state

terrorism and human rights

abuses were serious threats

to the world and regional

peace. Paying rich tributes

to sacrifices, bravery and

the Governor said that

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

GAZA (INP): Battles raged dergarten where families compound contained modin Gaza's south Sunday ahead of another visit to the region by US Secretary of State Antony Blinken in a bid to secure a new truce as the Israel-Hamas war approaches its fifth month.

Blinken set off Sunday on what is his fifth Mideast trip since the October 7 attack by Hamas that set off the crisis.

He is expected to begin his trip on Monday in Saudi Arabia before visits to Israel, Egypt and Qatar. The health ministry in Hamas-ruled Gaza said at least 127 people were

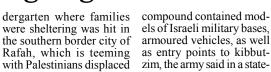
The Hamas govern-

were sheltering was hit in with Palestinians displaced by the war.

There is no safe place in the Gaza Strip, from army "neutralised" several morth to south," displaced militants, it said. man Mohammed Kloub told foreign media in Rafah, which according to UN figures now hosts more than half of Gaza's population.

Israel has warned its ground forces could advance on Rafah as part of Hamas. Israel's army said its forces had raided a Hamas training facility in killed in Israeli strikes in the previous 24 hours in the Khan Yunis where militants prepared for the October 7

Al-Qadisiya



During the raid, the

The Palestine Red Crescent Society said that at the nearby Al-Amal hospital there were "alarming signs (of) a humanitarian disaster... after 14 days of continuous siege"

Israeli Prime Minisits campaign to eliminate ter Benjamin Netanyahu said the army had "destroyed 17 of 24 (Hamas) battalions. Most of the remaining battalions are in the southern Strip and in Rafah, and we will deal with them.'

> **Philippines** ready to use forces' to quell any secession attempt-official

MANILĀ (Internews): The Philippine government is ready to use "authority and forces" against attempts to divide the nation, a security official said Sunday, after former President Rodrigo Duterte threatened to separate some southern islands from the rest of the archipelago. Duterte has called for the independence of his hometown Mindanao from the Philippines as his alliance with President Ferdinand Marcos Jr disintegrated this week over disagreements around efforts

to amend the constitution. Ano said calls for secession could reverse the gains of the government's peace deal with former separatist groups.

Violence and conflict had plagued Mindanao for decades as the government battled insurgents and extremists, which has discouraged investments and left many villages in poverty.

The region's largest rebel group, the Moro Is-lamic Liberation Front (MILF), had signed a peace agreement with the Philippine government in 2014.



Khalid International Airport, in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

US intends further strikes on Iran-backed groups

Palestinian agency

WASHINGTON (INP): The United States intends to launch further strikes at Iran-backed groups in the Middle East, the White House national security adviser said on Sunday, after hitting Tehran-aligned factions in Iraq, Syria and Yemen over the last two

The United States and Britain unleashed attacks against 36 Houthi targets in Yemen, a day after the U.S. military hit Tehran-backed groups in Iraq and Syria in retaliation for a deadly attack on U.S. troops in Jordan. "We intend to take additional strikes, and additional action, to continue to send a clear message that the United States will respond when our forces are attacked, when our people are killed," White House National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan told NBC's "Meet the Press' program on Sunday.

The strikes are the latest blows in a conflict that has spread into the Middle East since Oct. 7, when the Iran-backed Palestinian militant group Hamas stormed Israel from the Gaza Strip, igniting war.

Australia PM says government Russian 'examining' claims against UN cosmonaut sets record for most time in space

Monitoring Desk MOSCOW: Russian cosmonaut Oleg Kononenko on Sunday set a world record for total time spent in space, surpassing his compatriot Gennady Padalka who logged more than 878 days in orbit, Russia's space

corporation said. At 0830 Kononenko broke the record, Roscosmos said. Kononenko is expected to reach a total of 1 000 days in space on June 5 and by late September he will have clocked 1,110 days.

vowed on Monday after ordering Indian troops to withdraw from the archi-Mohamed Muizzu said in his first address to parliament he would turn

the modest Maldivian National Defence Force (MNDF) into a modern military capable of patrolling its seas, which straddle key global shipping lanes. The pro-China leader

Monitoring Desk

MALE: The small but stra-

tegically placed Maldives

will strengthen its military

to defend its vast maritime

territory, the new president

reiterated that India will begin withdrawing its troops operating three maritime reconnaissance aircraft from March 10 and complete the process within two months.

Indian troops to leave pelago to be within its

However, the Maldives has shifted into the orbit of China — its largest external creditor – with September's election of Muizzu, who demanded

the Indian troops leave. "I believe that the modern military capability to defend the country by road, sea and air should be strengthened in the Maldives," Muizzu said. 'We have started to do that now." He said the MNDF will soon be able to conduct surveillance of the country's 900,000 square kilometre (347,000 square mile) Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) around the clock. The Maldives accused India's coastguard last week of entering the north of its EEZ and intimi-

New Delhi considers dating three Maldivian fishthe Indian Ocean archi- ing vessels.

'Unprecedented catastrophe' in Chile as wildfires kill 51

Monitoring Desk VIA MAR: Chileans on Sunday feared a rise in the death toll from wildfires blazing across the South American country that have already killed at least 51 people, leaving bodies in the street and homes gutted.

Authorities warned of "complicated" conditions as they battled fires in the coastal tourist region of Valparaiso amid an intense summer heat wave, with temperatures soaring to 40 degrees Celsius over the weekend. Dense gray smoke

blanketed the city of Vina del Mar on the country's central coast Saturday, forcing residents to flee.

The fires are being

driven by a summer heatwave and drought affecting the southern part of South America caused by the El Nino weather phenomenon, as scientists warn that a warming planet has increased the

risk of natural disasters such as intense heat and

The rising temperatures threaten to engulf more of South America, as brigades in Argentina have been fighting a fire that has consumed more than 3,000 hectares in Los Alerces National Park, famed for its beauty and biodiversity, since January 25.

Rosana Avendano, a 63-year-old kitchen assistant, was away from home when the fire began to sweep through the El Olivar neighbourhood, where she lives with her husband.

"It was terrible because I couldn't get (to my house). The fire came here... we lost everything, Avendano said.

"My husband was lying down and began to feel the heat of the fire coming and he ran away. She feared the worst for hours, but eventually was able to contact her spouse.

Palestinian children wait to receive food cooked by a

charity kitchen amid shortages of food supplies, as the ongoing conflict between Israel and the Palestinian Islamist group Hamas continues, in Rafah, in the southern Gaza Strip.

2 killed in Bangladesh as fighting rages on **Myanmar border: police**

Monitoring Desk DHAKA: At least two people were killed in Bangladesh on Monday after mortar shells fired from Myanmar during clashes there landed in a village across the border, police

seen frequent clashes since

November when rebel

Arakan Army fighters

ended a ceasefire that had

largely held since a 2021

at around 2:15pm (0815 GMT) in the firing at Jalpaitoli village," local police chief Abdul Mannan told AFP.

Police Bangladeshi woman, named 48-year-old Hosne Ara, and Parts of Myanmar an unnamed ethnic near the 270-kilometre bor- Rohingya man had been

der with Bangladesh have killed. "They were sitting in the kitchen ... when a mortar hit the place," Ara's daughter-in-law said, too distraught to give her name.

Monitoring Desk SYDNEY: Australia's

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese said on Sunday his government was probing claims that some staff of the U.N. Palestinian refugee agency (UNRWA) were involved in the Oct. 7 Hamas attacks on Israel, after Australia paused funding to the aid agency last month.

Australia is one of several countries to have halted funding for UNRWA, a critical source of support in Gaza, after Israeli claims of U.N. employees' complicity with

"We're examining it, along with other like-minded countries like Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States. We want that to be resolved," Albanese told the Australian Broadcasting Corp regarding the allegations, according to a tran-

Albanese said his government wanted to make sure the accusations were "fully examined" so that all funding was "going to the purpose

Participation of youth vital to strengthen democracy, political system: PM

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Monday said youth should be engaged in the political system and their energies should be utilized for strengthening democracy in

Speaking during a podcast, he said political parties should be democratic minded to fortify democracy in the country.

Political parties in government should improve their performance to gain political space in the country, he added.

The prime minister said leadership of the political parties should be elected in a democratic manner in order to take democmocracy was facing many challenges in Pakistan due to different reasons and weaknesses in the structure of the civil institutions.

He said the Afghan refugees lived in Pakistan for decades, and used the health and education services and the infrastructure of Pakistan and their businessmen earned billions of dollars through the Afghan transit trade.

The prime minister asserted that Pakistan wanted a friendly government in Afghanistan as was the desire of other countries in the region.

He was of the view that the government of Taliban was formed in Afghanistan after the world

RIYADH: Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCSC), General Sahir

Shamshad Mirza unveiled the Fatah-II Multiple Launch Rocket System

Solangi says

Kashmiris created new history

of courage, steadfastness

against Indian oppression

people, he said their fourth

generation was waging

struggle against Indian op-

pression and the time was

not far when they will get

rid of illegal Indian occupa-

tion. He said that at the time

of partition of the subcon-

tinent, India illegally an-

nexed the state of Jammu

tions through its several

site along with Deputy Di-

rector of National Highway

sion, the Assistant Com-

missioner said that work

has been started on resto-

ration of the diversion pas-

sage of the Hub river af-

fected due to the recent

ministration is taking steps

for resolving the public is-

sues in Hub.

LAHORE: Jamat-e-Islami (JI) Chief, Siraj-ul-Haq

joints hands with other leaders during

demonstration rally to express solidarity with the

people of Indian occupied Jammu and Kashmir

(IOJK) and condemn brutality of Indian Army in

Kashmir on the occasion of "Kashmir Solidarity

General elections should be

peaceful in country, insists

Senator Allama Sajid Mir

Day", held at Mall road in Lahore.

Independent Report

Markazi Jamiat Ahle

Hadith, Senator Allama

Sajid Mir has stressed that

the upcoming general elec-

tions should be conducted

peacefully and the demo-

the country.

cratic government is need of

addressing a press confer-

ence here at the Quetta

candidate of Jamiat Ahle

Hadith, Maulana Masood

press club on Monday.

Senator Sajid Mir was

On the occasion, the

He said that the ad-

Speaking on the occa-

Authority Muhammad Sami.

He said, "United Na-

and Kashmir.

(MRLS), at World Defense Show (WDS) 2024 in Riyadh.

ISLAMABAD (APP): sacrifices of the Kashmiri

Work continues on

restoration of diversion

on Hub river bridge

Caretaker Federal Minister

for Information, Broad-

casting and Parliamentary

Affairs Murtaza Solangi

Monday said that every

generation of Kashmir had

created a new story of cour-

age, bravery and steadfast-

ness by resisting illegal

Indian occupation of their

Delivering his speech at Kashmir Solidarity Day

rally here he said the people

of Kashmir had been rais-

ing their voice against sla-

Independent Report

QUETTA: The work has

been started on restoration

of the diversion built on

the Hub river bridge in

Hub, on war footing

sistant Commissioner Hub,

Syed Samiullah Agha, the

heavy machinery has been

made available at the site

missioner Hub visited the

after the flood water re-

cedes in the area.

According to the As-

The Assistant Com-

Paying tributes to the

He said the idea of de-squandered its opportunibelonged to a mainstream ties despite spending \$ 2 political party but were trillion. part of the proscribed or-He said the Taliban ganizations in the province, forcefully took over the he added.

government as the United States and NATO abangroups in Balochistan doned Afghanistan. wanted to carve out a new To a question, he said country on the basis of idenduring his tenure, he intertity and through armed acted with the students struggle, and they had declared a war on the state of from the educational insti-

tutions of Balochistan,

Azad Kashmir, Khyber

views with them and lis-

tened to their perspectives.

armed insurgents were

masquerading as civil society and speaking the lan-

guage of human rights for

achieving a certain goal.

He said in Balochistan,

Those elements never

The stance of those Pakhtunkhwa, Sindh and elements was against mo-Balochistan, and shared his rality, and the Constitution and laws of Pakistan, he remarked.

The prime minister said most of the people left the country for better jobs and due to economic reasons, however, millions of youth saw their future in



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Information & Broadcasting, Murtaza Solangi leading Kashmir Solidarity Day Walk from Foreign Office Gate, Constitution Avenue to D-Chowk in front of Parliament House organized by Ministry of Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit-Baltistan.

Minister lauds Pakistan Rangers' performance, professionalism

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister for Interior, Dr Gohar Ijaz on Monday visited the Pakistan Rangers (Punjab) headquarters and appreciated the professionalism and performance of the

Director General Pakistan Rangers Punjab Major General Atif bin Akram welcomed the interior minister, who placed the flowers on the martyrs' memorial and recited Fatiha, said a news release issued here. The interior minister offered a special prayer for the martyrs of Kashmir in connection with Kashmir Solidarity Day besides the Rangers Martyrs. He was briefed on the professional affairs of Pakistan Rangers

Major General Atif bin Akram said that Pakistan Rangers Punjab will leave no stone unturned in the performance of profes-

language

PML-N leader's language.

purchasing votes.

N candidate.



JEDDAH: The OIC Secretary General, H.E. Hissein Brahim Taha graced the Kashmir Solidarity Day event as a 'Chief Guest', organized by the Permanent Mission of Pakistan to OIC at the OIC Secretariat.

Bilawal vows to change Karachi's fortune in five years if PPP elected

KARACHI (INP): Paki-stan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari on Monday stated that if the people of Karachi elected PPP candidates from at least 20 National Assembly seats, the city's landscape will change

within five years.
The Pakistan's financial capital 22 and 47 national and provincial assembly seats, respectively.
As part of his electoral

campaign, Bilawal addressed the public in various areas of Karachi today, delivering speeches in the form of rallies.

Speaking at a gathering in Keamari's PT Ground, he expressed his

emphasising the potential changes that could occur if the people choose PPP representatives.
"If the people of

Karachi elect my representatives, then like local government, the provincial government will also be in our hands, and with your votes, even the federal government will be in our hands," Bilawal declared during his speech.

"Give 20 [NA] seats to PPP, and then within five years, we will change Karachi. We will form our government at the federal level and work on historic projects in Karachi. This city will be given representation as it deserves.



for Human Rights and Women Empowerment, Mushaal Hussein Mullick addressing at a poster exhibition organized by National College of Arts

(NCA) in connection with Kashmir Solidarity Day. Streets of Barcelona, Paris echo with 'Free Kashmir'

The streets of Barcelona, in a powerful display of unity, echoed with 'Free Kashmir' and 'Free Palestine' slogans as the Kashmiri diaspora and their allies gathered for the annual 'Kashmir Soli-

Media Service, the event, organized by leaders such as Fahim Kayani of Tehreek-e-Kashmir UK, drew attention to the intertwined struggles of Kashmiris and Palestinians

dressing the crowd, stressed the common goal of liberation from illegal occupations. He highlighted the historical ties between the occupied territories, where India and Israel, as occupiers and allies, have faced united resistance. British MP Yasmin tional law. She pledged to advocate for their cause in

viate the suffering in both Kashmir and Gaza. Safa Chaudary, a Spanish human rights activist, passionately spoke about

the shared resistance against occupation forces in Kashmir and Palestine. She confidently asserted that the oppressors would fail, as the global community stood firmly with the aspirations of both

ish songwriter, and various leaders, along with representatives from Pakistan and Spain, reiterated their commitment to the ongoing

OIC reiterates call for **PPP slams** threats hurled peaceful settlement of by PML-N's Kashmir issue as per Ataullah Tarar **UNSC** resolutions ISLAMABAD (INP): Slamming PML-N candi-

date from a Lahore constituency Ataullah Tarar for hurling threats at her Organisation of Islamic Coparty's voters, PPP Senaoperation (OIC) on Montor Palwasha Khan on day reiterated its call for a Monday asked the PMLjust and peaceful settle-N to make its stance clear ment of the Kashmir issue on its leader's aggressive in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the Addressing a press United Nations Security conference in Islamabad, she Council.

appealed to the Election OIC Secretary-Gen-Commission of Pakistan eral Hissein Brahim Taha (ECP) to take notice of the said this while addressing at a photo exhibition held She said the reason in the OIC premises to highwhy Tarar had resorted to light gross human rights viosuch tactics was because he lations in the Indian Illegally knew fully well that he Occupied Jammu and Kashwould taste defeat in the mir (ÎIOJK).

She claimed that the Taha also expressed PML-N had the habit of the OIC's pleasure in hosting the event organized by "Do you think that the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to the OIC on the

you can browbeat the PPP by hurling threats? Palwasha asked the PML occasion of "Kashmir Solidarity Day"

It appeared, she went on to say, as if Tarar had watched an Indian movie. "The language he is using is not expected from a civi lized man," she added. The PPP senator said

that Tarar should be mindful of the fact that the people hold the PML-N accountable in the elections session of the Council of Kashmir

JEDDAH (APP): The Foreign Ministers held in March last year in Nouakchott, Islamic Republic of Mauritania, the Council urged India to reverse all illegal and unilateral measures taken on or after 5th August 2019; stop the gross, systematic and widespread human rights abuses in the Indian occupied Jammu and Kashmir; and allow unrestricted access to UN Special Procedures, international media and indepen-

> Hissein Taha also recalled the visit undertaken by his Special Representative for Jammu and Kashmir, Ambassador Yousef AlDobeay to the Azad Jammu and Kash-

dent observers to visit the

occupied Jammu and Kash-

He reiterated the call He also reiterated the message that the OIC refor the full implementation of the relevant UN resolu- mained fully committed tions, which emphasized to working with all relevant stakeholders to find the right to self-determination for the people of Kasha peaceful and just solution that respects the The secretary-general rights and aspirations of recalled that during the 49th the deserving people of



RAWALPINDI: A convoy of army patrols at Rawal road in the city ahead of the upcoming general elections.

Solangi flays terrorist attack on police station in DI Khan

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Federal Ministér for Information, Broadcasting, and Parliamentary Affairs Murtaza Solangi strongly condemned the terrorist attack on the po-lice station in DI Khan on

In a statement, the caretaker minister expressed sorrow over the martyrdom of 10 police personnel in the terrorist incident and condoled with the bereaved families of the

JI to continue unwavering support to freedom struggles of Kashmir, Palestine: Siraj ISLAMABAD (INP): of Jamaat-e-Islami to the

Ameer Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) Pakistan, Siraj-ul-Haq on Monday clarified that party's steadfast commit-ment to the freedom struggles of Kashmir and Palestine.

He emphasized the need for a strong political stance and expressed the party's top priority the independence of Kashmir.

while talking to PTV News. Siraj-ul-Haq affirmed the unwavering dedication

freedom causes of both Kashmir and Palestine. He urged politicians to adopt a solid stance on the issues of Kashmir and Pal-

The JI chief assured that the Pakistani nation would persist in providing unyielding support to the people of Kashmir.

Responding to a question, he said JI has a comprehensive plan for Karachi if elected.

Pakistan Navy rescue 9 Indian seamen stranded at sea

ISLAMABAD (PR): Pakistan Navy in coordination Security Agency saved the sea. An Ocean Tug SAS-5

no electrical supply.

In early morning of 04 Feb 24, Pakistan Navy with Pakistan Maritime Joint Maritime Information and Coordination Center lives of 9 Indian seamen at (JMICC) received a distress signal from the Ocean.



Nevis was disabled for last few days near the Indian coast at a pisition 167 NM South East of Karachi. The Sharjah, UAE. tug suffered a failure of its electric generators and had

The Tug began its voyage from Indian port of Debhol at Maharashtra on 1st Feb 24 and was heading to

Upon receipt of information, Pakistan Navy in provided to the fatigued coordination with HQ crew of the Tug.

PMSA generated response to initiate a Search & camp; Rescue Operation to provide assistance to the stranded Tug. Initially, PN Long Range Maritime Patrol Aircraft was tasked to locate the tug at sea followed by a Search and Rescue operation by Pakistan Maritime Security Ship (PMSS) KASHMIR which was deployed on routine Maritime Security Operations in the area.

Upon reaching the distressed Tug, PMSS KASH-MIR secured the Tug alongside and after three hours of strenuous repair efforts the defect was rectified. Besides technical assistance, facilities, fresh water and cooked meals were also

Madni announced to withdraw in favour of JUI Chief Maulana Fazalur Rehman on the NA-265.

He also stressed the Senator Sajid Sajid Mir said attempts were made to cre-

ate hatred in the elections. Referring withdrawal of candidate of his party, Sajid Mir mentioned that Maulana Madni has with-

drawn his candidature on request of Maulana Abdul Ghafoor Haideri. Referring the Kashmiri solidarity day,

Sajid Mir said that the voice of Islamic world on the Kashmir issue is just silent, which is questionable. He stressed the need to resolve the Kashmir issue in accordance with the resolutions of United Na-

He also condemned the barbarism of Israel against the Palestinians saying that no one took action on the cruelties unleashed against the innocent Pales-

need to resolve the issue of missing persons in the

He urged the concerned authorities to punish those if committed crime against the state.

resolutions had promised to and it would continue its hold a free plebiscite so that moral, diplomatic and pothey can decide whether litical support for their just very since 1931 during the they would join Pakistan or cause till realization of their dream of freedom from In-People of IIOJ&K dian clutches."

a graveyard."

IPP wants a stable govt after general polls: Tareen

were constantly raising

their voice for their right to

condemning Kashmiris

genocide at the hands of

Indian occupation forces,

said, "India cannot be al-

lowed to turn Kashmir into

stan always stood with the

Kashmiri people for their

right to self-determination

He reiterated, "Paki-

The minister strongly

self-determination.

Istehkam-e-Pakistan Party (IPP) Chief Jahangir Khan Tareen has said that IPP wanted a stable government after general elections 2024 which must complete its five-year term.

Addressing an election rally in Lodhran on Monday, Jahangir Tareen wished that as a result of the general elections a strong government should be formed as a weak one always caused problems and uncer-

tainty in the country. He said the culture of rumors against the governments in Pakistan is not a good omen and desired a government which must complete its five years in

> Jahangir Tareen said this time Lodhran election will be historic and the IPP will win with big margin. Elaborating his political agenda if voted into power, Tareen reaffirmed that his party would work on improving economic indicators to address unemployment as well as increase the salaries of those who are already employed.

Faculty members of Pak, China **Vocational Institute to get** training from China

GWADAR (INP): Pakistan China Vocational and Technical Institute (PCV&TI) has announced to send its faculty members (lecturers and instructors) to China for a 6-month training program in March this year. Shandong Institute of Commerce and Technology,

which is among the four stakeholders of the Institute will host the visiting faculty, according to a report published by Gwadar Pro on Monday. Last month the Institute had hired the services of 16 teachers in fields of Maritime Business and Port Management, Software/Information Technology, Ecommerce, Tourism and Hotel Management, Electrical Engineering, Mechanical engineering, English, Mathmatics, Statistics and Chinese language.

& 'Free Palestine' slogans Qureshi lent her support, affirming the right to self-

darity Day' march. According to Kashmir

for self-determination. Fahim Kayani, addetermination Kashmiris under internathe British Parliament and called for a ceasefire to alle-

Turgay Evern, a Turk-