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Vows to deal with terrorists with full might No one will be allowed to sabotage elections: Military top brass

RAWALPINDI (APP): citizens who have laid their Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Syed stability in the country. Asim Munir on Wednesday said that Pakistan's sovereignty and territorial integrity were sacrosanct and inviolable.

"Pakistan believes in peaceful co-existence with all states, however, there would never be any compromise over country's sovereignty, national honour and aspirations of Pakistani people," he said while chairing the 262nd Corps Commanders' Conference (CCC) at the General Headquarters.

According to an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release, the forum paid rich tribute to the supreme sacrifices of Shuhada (martyrs), includ- and its use of state appaing officers and men of the ratus for killing spree Armed Forces, law en- around the world," the fo-



ISLAMABAD: Advisor to PM on Aviation Air Marshal (R) Farhat Hussain Khan called on caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar.

Nothing educates & illuminates better

The forum resolved that terrorists, their facilitators and abettors, working on behest of hostile forces to destabilise Pakistan, would be dealt with full might of the state. The conference was briefed on the callous Indian campaign of extra-territorial and extra-judicial killings, perpetuating state-sponsored terrorism and targeting Pakistani citizens. It agreed that blatant violation of international laws by India and its real face be exposed to the world.

The international community has already shown serious concerns over the criminal behaviour of India

Accountability Court (AC) Islamabad has awarded 14 years Rigorous Imprisonment (RĬ) each to Imran Khan and his wife Bushra Bibi and fined Rs787 mil-

lion each in Toshakhana ref-The accused have been declared disqualified for holding any public office for 10 years. Under NAB ordinance the two accused will not be able to make any financial dealing with any

bank or financial institution. On reaching jail Bushra Bibi was arrested under court's decision.

NAB deputy prosecutor General Sardar Muzaffar Abbasi was present in the court along

Independent candidate for NA-8 Bajaur shot dead

PESHAWAR



RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Syed Asim Munir chairing the 262nd Corps Commanders' Conference (CČC) at the General Headquarters.

Toshakhana reference: Imran, Bushra sentenced to 14 years

Both barred from holding public office for 10 years, fined Rs787m each; Bushra Bibi 'put under house arrest' as Bani Gala declared sub-jail

> hearing the two accused be called in the court. Jail authorities presented both the accused in court.

The court while addressing Imran Khan inquired Khan Sahb have you repared statement under 342. Imran Khan replied yes he has prepared. But first let my lawyers and Bushra Begum come. I will file my statement. The court said you should file your statement in the court as we have to move ahead IN the proceedings.

Upon it former Prime Minister said why the court is in haste . Islamabad High Court has already rejected our plea for stay order. I have been called by assistant su-

(APP)

RAWALPINDI (Online): with his team. The court perintendent jail for mark-Judge Muhammad Bashir of ordered at the inception of ing my attendance. Women police ar-The PTI founder left for rested her. Earlier in the day, Accountability Judge Mohammad Bashir senhis barrack after saying this.

The court sent message for calling Imran Khan again. Assistant Superintendent Jail told the court

his wife Bushra Bibi to 14 Imran Khan is not ready to years in jail in the come to court. The court af-Toshakhana case. ter some time, decided to also been disqualified for 10 announce the verdict.

years while a fine of Rs1.573 billion has also Meanwhile Bushra Bibi wife of PTI founder Imran Khan has presented been imposed on the couple. herself for arrest in Toshakhana case. Followthe case the court recorded statement of Bushra Bibi ing the announcement of under 342 in regard to ques-tionnaire containing 25 awarding sentence to Bushra Bibi and Imran Khan in Tosha Khana case, questions.

wife of PTI founder decided to present herself for arrest



We don't want to give such order which causes delay in election: SC

schedule for small period. EC should have known that

papers are accepted at this

stage then the election can delay in the constituency.

The process of printing of

ballot papers has been com-

pleted. In several districts

the process of sending bal-

t papers is underway.

the SC 260 million ballot

papers have been printed

for 850 constituencies. 850

Special secretary told

Special secretary EC told the court if nomination

appeals have to be filed.

ISLAMABAD (Online): tioned from special secre-supreme Court (SC) during tary why the EC has kept the hearing of the case related to acceptance of nomination papers has remarked we donot want to give such order which causes delay in the election.

Appeal of candidate from PP-224 regarding acceptance of his nomination papers came up for hearing before single bench of SC led by Justice Jamal Mandokhel here Wednesdav

Special secretary Elec-tion Commission (EC) appeared in the court. The court remarked

tons paper was sought for during the hearing of the the previous election and case petitioner filed appeal 2170 tons paper has been late by 12 days. Permission sought for this election. 2400 tons paper was needed being the candidates in large number. The size of

for election could have been given had the appeal been filed in time. We donot want to give such decision which ballot papers has been recauses delay in the election. duced to meet the need of Justice Jamal quespaper



Zardari is addressing the election rally of Pakistan People's Party in Malakand district.

CM seeks report of different subversive acts; directs to improve security arrangements further

Independent Report

Mir Ali Mardan Khan

timely action taken by the law enforcement agencies in

He said that all the institutions are active to foil

general elections in

sources are being mobilized

conspiracy of keeping the

people away from the elec-

for restoration of peace.

He also said that all re-

He asserted that no

He urged the masses to

Balochistan.

QUETTA: The caretaker response to these incidents. Chief Minister Balochistan,

The lawyers for Imran Khan had filed petition to court to restore the right to

tenced the former prime

minister Imran Khan and

The PTI founder has

During the hearing of

than cinema: Solangi

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting and Parliamentary Affairs Murtaza Solangi on Wednesday underlined the need for promoting cinemas in the country to foster cultural values of tolerance and harmony in the society

Addressing the screening ceremony of a Kazakh ture and Heritage Jamal movie at the Pakistan Na-Shah for inviting him to tional Council of Arts, he speak on the screening of "Kazakh Khanate". said, "Nothing impresses,

Maryam continues to fire salvos at Imran

NAROWAL (INP): Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz Senior Vice President and chief organiser Maryam Nawaz on Wednesday took jibe at the embattled PTI founder who, she said, spread evil in the country.

Speaking to constituents in Narowal, she applauded the large crowd that gathered over there. She said she was eagerly waiting for her visit to Narowal.

She said many conspiracies were hatched against



Nawaz Sharif, asking what injustice did not happen to him

She claimed, "One by one all the enemies of Nawaz Sharif are getting exposed as today people see all cases against the PML-N supremo as just conspiracies to keep him out of power.'

Speaking about Bushra Bibi, she said she was not elated about the arrest of the former premier's wife. She, however, recalled the time when she had spent time in prison emphasising she too was someone's wife.

'The PML-N has not seen as much relief as they (PTI) are getting from courts today," she claimed.

Tosha khana case judgement proved: no one is above law, says Jan Achakzai

Jan Achakzai main-

tained that we welcome

the judgment of court and

said that the judgment has

proved that no one can get

away with abusing the

trust of people. The care-

taker Minister for Infor-

has taken it's course.

sured

Independent Report

QUETTA: The caretaker Provincial Minister for Information, Jan Achakzai has stated that the Tosha khana case has proved that no one is above the law.

This was stated by the mation also said that PTI caretaker Provincial Minfounder has the option of ister for Information on his social media account X, in reaction on the judgment of court of law against the PTI founder and his spouse in the Tosha khana case.

Rehan Zeb, an independent educates and illuminates candidate for the National better than cinema. Prob-Assembly seat NA-8, ably hundreds of high-Bajaur was shot dead by pitch, hyperbolic and hyper unknown assailants on ventilating speeches cannot Wednesday. educate you like this movie, Police said Rehan Zab I am sure, can educate and

along with his friends was sensitize you better." going for his election cam-He expressed gratitude paign in Bajaur when armed to the ambassador of nen fired at them near Kazakhstan in Pakistan and Siddique Phatak. Caretaker Minister for Cul-Rehan Zeb and his

three two friends sustained bullet injuries in the firing and were rushed to Tehsil Headquarters Hospital in Khar where he succumbed

to injuries. Rehan Zeb was an ac-tive worker of Pakistan Tehreek e Insaf and was contesting from NA-8 as an independent candidate after having some rifts with party leadership for not al-

e held in jail

QUETTA: The caretaker otting him the party ticket. A large number of his Provincial Minister for upporters and relatives Home, Mir Zubair Jamali gathered in front of Tehsil has reiterated the interim Headquarters Hospital government's resolve to Khar after hearing the tragic empower the womenfolk news of Rehan Zeb's death. economically. The Provincial Minis-

Trials of May 9 ter was speaking at the ceremony organized in colcases will be laboration with the Naheld in jail tional Commission on Sta-SLAMABAD (Online): tus of Women (NCSW) Frials of May 9 cases will here on Wednesday.

Chairperson The 367 accused including NCSW, Ms Nilofar mran Khan have been Bakhtiar was also present summoned in Adiala jail. on the occasion.

Independent Report

Notification regarding The consultation was jail trial of cases pertainheld with provincial stakeing to May 9 siege and holders in Quetta on the arson, riots has been ispreparation of the National sued. The accused have report on "Need Analysis been summoned in Adiala for financing and strengthjail. According to media reening institutions with a ports Sadaqat Abbasi, gender perspective for Jmar Tanvir Butt and empowerment of Women Wasim Qayyum Abbasi and girls". have become approvers. This report is aimed to

They have recorded their statements under 364. be presented by the com-The judicial remand of Sheikh Rashid has been extended upto February 6.

Order has been issued to all persons accused in May 9 incident to come to Ádiala jail from May 6 in connection with jail

trial The hearing of May 9 cases against PTI founder and Šhah Mehmood Qureshi will also take place in Adiala jail. Notices of jail

trial have been issued to relief I.e., appeal against SHOs and investigation ofthe judgment, but the law ficers of all police stations. Copies will be distributed He said that no counamong the accused in con-

try can progress until nection with indictment of provision of justice is encases on February 6.



QUETTA: Balochistan Caretaker Minister for Home and Tribal Affairs Mir Muhammad Zubair Jamali addressing a consultation on gender issue organized by National Commission on the Status of Women.

NCSW holds pre-NCSW 68 consultation with provincial stakeholders: Zubair Jamali reiterates interim Govt's resolve to empower women economically

perspective.

pression.

women.

Chairperson NCSW Ms Nilofar Bakhtiar says females are deprived of fundamental rights of equal opportunities for education, health, and economic growth

> mission in CSW68 to be He said that there is a held this year from March major role of women in our 11th to 22nd on the theme: economy.

> "Accelerating the achieve-However their role is not formally recognised ment of gender equality and the empowerment of all due to lack of conducive en women and girls by advironment.

> dressing poverty and The caretaker Home strengthening institutions Minister Muhammad and financing with a gender Zubair, applauded the efforts of NCSW.

> > that

Addressing the gather-He stated women in Balochistan are ing, Mir Zubair Jamali said that the women are proprogressive, viable, and vided wholehearted opporperforming their roles in evtunity of freedom of exery area.

Our government is He thanked the Chaircommitted to eradicating person Balochistan Compoverty and providing our mission on Status of Women people with equal opporand all United Nations parttunities to grow. We do beners including UN-Women, lieve communities cannot UNICEF, UNDP and othend poverty without geners for extending cooperader equality. Education, votion to empower the cational training, and health facilities for women are our He said that women emphasis. The Chairperson of

represent almost half of the country's population as NCSW also addressed the such they would have to be gathering and highlighted encouraged besides highthe overall functioning of lighting their capabilities. her institution.



Chaudhry Amir Ajmal along with officers and soldiers of FC Balochistan and Pakistan Army paid their final respects to the Martyrs of Mach and Kolpur, at Headquarters FC Balochistan (North) in Ouetta.

Domki has sought report every conspiracy of sabo of different incidents of tertaging national process of rorism at the election offices of political leaders and public places in different areas of the province.

The caretaker Chief Minister directed to the Provincial Home Department to improve security arrangements further.

tion process would succeed at all and all available re-While taking notice of the incidents of terrorism in sources would be mobilized different areas of the provfor protection of life and ince, the caretaker Chief property of the people. Minister directed to the Chief Secretary Balochistan take wholehearted part in and Home Department to the election process and prepare effective security thus elect their representatives through democratic strategy

He also appreciated the procedure.



KHARAN: President Balochistan National Party Sardar Akhtar Jan Mengal addressing a public meeting in connection with general elections

Bilawal vows to bury old politics of revenge, divisiveness

MALAKAND (INP): Pa- Insaf (PTI) founder and kistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Wednesday resolved to start a process of reconciliation in the countrv by burying 'old politics of revenge, divisiveness and hatred' if his party is voted to power in Feb 8 elections

Addressing an election rally in Malakand, the former foreign minister hit out at Pakistan Tehreek-e-

PML-N supremo Nawaz Sharif for their politics of revenge and divisiveness.

He said Mr Sharif had vowed to fight for the sanctity of vote but the situation was other way around in this election.

Bilawal said the former PTI chairman used to call the political opponents thieves, adding that if the people attached to the PTI founder were "angels"

PPP election offices, candidates attacked with hand grenades in Quetta, Kech and Mangochar

Independent Report QUETTA: The election offices of Pakistan Peoples' party (PPP) were attacked with hand grenades by unknown assailants in Quetta, Mangochar area of Kalat and Buleda of Kech on Wednesday.

According to the rehospital. ports, five persons were injured when some unthe workers of PPP. known assailants hurled a hand grenade at the election office of PPP located on Sariab road PPP election office in

from the scene after hurling the hand grenade. The rescue teams and police reached the spot and shifted the injured to the civil hospital for treatment. An emergency was already declared in the civil

Those injured in the explosion are stated to be nade in Buleda area of Kech Similarly, a hand grenade was also hurled at the

the same day. While the device went off with the big bang, no loss of life was reported in the incident.

The assailants fled Mangochar area of Kalat the same afternoon. The explosive device

went off just close to the election office. However,

no loss of life was reported in the explosion. Moreover, the residence of PPP candidate Mir Zahoor Buledi also came under attack of hand gre-



bal level.

ment

zens' rights"

OPINION

Daily **Independent**

mind you, help to place tinians. The devotion to

Daily A oice of Masse, Independent

Cipher case result

The writing had been on the wall. Given how hastily the special court, appointed under the Official Secrets Act, had been proceeding in the cipher case trial, seemingly without regard for due process, a rushed verdict had been expected.

It was delivered yesterday, a week before the country heads to polls, with sentences of 10 years' imprisonment for both former prime minister Imran Khan and former foreign minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi. Special Court Judge Abul Hasnat Zulqarnain, who oversaw the proceedings inside Adiala Jail, read out the verdict even as the accused now convicts — were protesting the denial of their trial rights.

It bears noting that the Islamabad High Court had ordered retrials of this same case on two previous occasions, noting each time glaring procedural irregularities in how it was being conducted. The third attempt doesn't seem to have gone differently, and many observers predict the higher courts may not be charitable towards the special court whenever the verdict goes into appeal. Given the IHC's earlier rebukes, it is worth asking what the special court was seeking to accomplish by concluding the matter so hastily. Considering that the death penalty had been sought against both politicians, the situation called for far more restraint.

Instead, there were some bizarre developments over the weekend: the judge appointed state counsel for the defendants without their consent, and later reportedly denied the defendants their right to cross-examine the prosecution's witnesses. Meanwhile, the legal teams appointed by the two accused complained that they were repeatedly denied access to the proceedings.

To top it off, on Monday, the case was wrapped up at breakneck speed in a marathon session that ran till well into the night. Everything made it seem as if some kind of deadline had been set for the trial to be concluded and a verdict issued.

From Mr Khan waving a paper from the podium as he addressed a large political gathering, claiming that he had unearthed a conspiracy against his government, to his conviction for divulging state secrets, the cipher saga will be remembered as a sorry episode in our diplomatic, legal and political history.

A diplomatic faux pas was needlessly dragged into a political dispute. The immediate fallout saw already soured relations with the US deteriorate further, and for no meaningful purpose.

Politically, the conspiracy narrative proved less useful in bolstering public sympathy for the PTI than its political opponents' failure to manage the precarious economic situation they inherited from its ouster. Lastly, whatever case there may have been against Mr Khan and Mr Qureshi, it was weakened irreparably by conducting the trial in haste. What good did any of it achieve? One can only marvel at the short-sightedness displayed by all actors in this sordid drama.

Changing India

Javid Husain Two critical developdeadly anti-Muslim atments are radically transtacks.

forming India, with far-The official consereaching implications for cration of the Ram temple its minorities, the region, on the site of Babri and the world at large. Masjid in Ayodhya un-The first and foreder Modi's leadership is most is the transformation of a secular India, as envisioned by its foundtion of the Hindutva ing fathers, into a Hindu rashtra driven by Hindutva. The second mosques with temples at

development is the rapid many other sites. economic growth of În-The growing sway dia over the past three of Hindutva in India is decades, which has catanot only bad news for pulted its economy to the fifth position at the glominorities in the country, it is also the harbinger of The growing sway a belligerent approach

of Hindutva in India unby New Delhi towards its der the leadership of the neighbours in pursuit of Modi-led BJP, which is its hegemonic designs in closely allied with RSS, South Asia and the Ingives shrinking political dian Ocean region. Unand social space to nonder Modi, one can expect Hindu religious minori-India to pursue a hardties, which are facing increasing difficulties in relations with Pakistan.

leading their lives ac-The annexation of cording to their own sooccupied Kashmir by Incial and religious cus- dia in August 2019, in oms, besides discriminaviolation of UN Security tion generally. Council resolutions, was This is not surprising if one looks at the

belligerent approach, as philosophy of RSS as dewas the earlier Indian air tential of the two counfined by its founder, V.D. attack on Balakot. Savarkar, and his succes-Indian support to sors. For instance, M.S. terrorist groups in

Golwalkar, the second Balochistan and its ne-RSS supreme leader, farious designs stressed that non-Hindu against Pakistan's seminorities "must cease to curity were established be foreigners, or may by the arrest of Indian stay in the country agent Kulbhushan wholly subordinated to Jadhav in March 2016. the Hindu nation, claim-India has also been foling nothing, deserving lowing a long-term no privileges, far less policy of weakening any preferential treat-Pakistan's friendly re-— not even citilations with Iran by attempting to exploit Pa-The statements and kistan-Iran policy dif-

policy decisions of the ferences on Afghani-Modi-led BJP governstan, cross-border terment and its leaders rorism, and sectarian clearly reflect this policy issues

of Hindutva in action. There have been that both Iran and Pakifrequent reports of mob attacks on Muslims and to come to grips with their persecution; in the machinations of Insome cases, there has dia and some non-rebeen a tragic loss of lives gional powers in exacwith the connivance of erbating their bilateral threat to its security local officials. As chief tensions on account of emanating from India. minister of Gujarat, Prime the issue of cross-bor- - Courtesy Dawn

Minister Narendra Modi der terrorism as rewas implicated in the flected by the recent exchange of air strikes between them.

Hopefully, the recent visit of the Iranian foreign minister to Islamabad would lead to the strengthening of the latest example of the Pakistan-Iran cooperacontinued implementa- tion in combating crossborder terrorism as anagenda. BJP activists are nounced by the foreign agitating to replace ministers of the two countries. India's rapid eco-

nomic growth provides it with the resources for the build-up of its milithe Muslims and other tary might and the realisation of its hegemonic designs in South Asia and the Indian Ocean region. According to IMF

estimates, India's GDP was estimated to be \$3.73 trillion in 2023 as against \$341 billion only for Pakistan. This line policy in handling its enabled India to increase its defence budget to \$81.4bn as against \$10.3bn for Pakistan in 2022, according to the research institute Sipri. The huge a clear example of this and growing difference between the power po-

tries could have serious consequences for Pakistan's security. Pakistan, therefore, cannot afford to lower

its guard in the management of its relations with India. We should avoid the mistakes of the two extremes of appeasement, which will merely embolden India, and a high-risk and adventurist policy which will prove to be counterproductive as our Kargil experience shows

Instead, Pakistan should adopt a long-term approach for the It is unfortunate realisation of its own strategic goals based stan in the past failed on the synthesis of the political, economic, diplomatic, and military dimensions of policy in facing the enduring

Once the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in The Hague endorsed the substance of South Africa's case against Israel (albeit not in its entirety) last week, the Zionist project's international collaborators were as desperate for a distraction as Israel. The latter promptly provided it with the allegation that a dozen UNRWA employees participated in the Oct 7 atrocities in southern Is-

rael Led by the US, Germany and UK, a number of Western nations and their allies suspended their crucial funding to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency, which was set up in 1949, in the wake of the Nakba, to provide means of subsistence to Palestinian refugees. These include basic education, primary healthcare and other vital services. Its operations stretch from Gaza and East Jerusalem to the West Bank, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria. A secondary distrac-

tion was provided by a drone attack that killed three US personnel and injured dozens in Jordan. US media reports suggest the drone wasn't intercepted based on the suspicion that it might be 'friendly' (Israeli), and that the US authorities had no idea where it came from, although they showed no hesitation in blaming 'Iranian-allied' militias and vowing vengeance. That's the latter-day equivalent of the muchmocked command to attitude towards Euro-'round up the usual suspects', but perhaps the bigger question is why chambers there should be a US military base where Jordan's borders meet those of Syria and Iraq — or anywhere else in the coun-

'Guilty until proved lebensraum innocent' also applies to UNRWA, which has previously been accused by lesser beings, the first ap-Israel of preaching hatred plying to European Jews in its schools — which, and the second to Pales-

Israel über alles

Mahir Ali

the Palestinians among the best-educated Arab populations. The accusation cannot be taken seriously in a milieu where reciting the true history of Israel as a colonial-settler society is deemed antisemitic, and there is no equivalent focus on the pernicious nonsense cent minds of Israeli schoolchildren.

UNRWA has suspended nine of its accused employees pending an internal probe, and two others are among the dozens of staff killed in Israel's latest invasion of Gaza. It is distressing that had turned the tide the accusations involving 0.01pc of its 13,000

deemed sufficient by so many Western states to cut off funding to one of the only organisations Israelis. that may be able to avert a famine. All too many of them, meanwhile, continue to arm and diplomatically abet the perpetrators of what the ICJ

deems a potential genocide That impression was consolidated on Sunday when 11 members of the

Netanyahu cabinet attended a congregation in Jerusalem tagged the Victory of Israel Conference: Settlement Brings Security', which called for the 'voluntary migration' of Palestinians away from the Gaza Strip. That not only defies the ICJ's interim injunction against incitement to genocide, but also reflects the Nazi pean Jews before the the pecuniary and moral Germans opted for gas

Notwithstanding the 'never again' slogan of 80 years ago, the Zionists brought with them to the 'promised land' the alles remains intact concepts Nazi of and untermenschen — territorial expansion and

their would-be exterminators stretched to hiring one of Hitler's leading henchmen, Otto Skorzeny, as a Mossad hitman — after he had, equally deplorably, served as military adviser to Egypt's Gamal Abdel Nasser. It was the Nazi

drummed into the inno- regime's expansionism, rather than the related Judeocide, that propelled the British and eventually joint Anglo-American response — alth-ou--gh the latter was also instigated by the Soviet advance into Eastern Europe after the Red Army against the Wehr-m-acht. It remains to be seen how employees, whether or not true, have been For-ces will go before any nation other than the dispersed Pales-tinians steps up to challenge the

The resistance so far has been restricted to socalled non-state actors. Saudi Arabia remains keen on establishing formal ties with Israel. Arab and other Muslim states have vaguely backed South Africa's case at the ICJ, but none of them has officially signed up as a party to the dispute, as Germany has disgustingly done on behalf of Israel, even as it staves off its own neo-Nazis.

Whatever the ICJ's verdict, it is likely to come too late to halt the genocide. It may depend on how far Israel goes henceforth, but its establishment is accustomed to defying UN injunctions — as long as assistance from the US and the rest of the West remains intact. It does not have much to worry about on that score. Its self-conception of uber among its acolytes, whose every action is directed towards enabling Israel to achieve its clearly genocidal and arguably Nazi-like aims. -- Courtesy Dawn

Gohar urges private sector to help achieve \$100 billion exports target in 5 years

Also says government to increase FDI for boosting country's economy

ISLAMABAD (APP): Bakhtawari, an ICCI news occasion, ICCI President Caretaker Minister for release said. Commerce and Interior Dr Gohar Ejaz on Wednesday said that the government intended to take the government in accelerating centre and a new industrial exports to US\$ 100 billion the in next 5 years and the development. business community business community cooperate in that regard. should play an active role should also take an active in achieving the target. part in corporate social Pakistan needed to boost exports to improve its address issues of the poor economy, and for that the segments of the society private sector should focus and promote welfare on diversification, he activities in the country, he added

The minister was talking to an delegation of that he would cooperate in Islamabad Chamber of resolving the key issues of Commerce and Industry the businessmen to (ICCI) that called on him facilitate them in business led by its Ahsan Zafar promotion. Speaking on the

Independent Report

Commercial Session of

Pakistan consulate General

ISLAMABAD:

Ahsan Bakhtawari said He said that the that the Chamber was business community making efforts for the should partner with the establishment of an expo economic estate in the region and The urged the government to

He also urged for ICCI giving the representation in the responsibility activities to Export Development Fund, besides setting up a facilitation desk of the Passport Office at its office and a separate immigration counter at

Gohar Ejaz assured airports for the taxpayers. ICCI Senior Vice President Faad Waheed requested the government to announce a special package.

> 04 paisa against dollar ISLAMABAD (APP): The Rupee on Wednesday gained 4 paisa against the US Dollar in the interbank trading and closed at Rs 279.50 against the previous day's closing of Rs 279.54. However, according to the Forex Association of Pakistan (FAP), the buying

Rupee gains

and selling rates of the dollar in the open market stood at Rs 279.8 and Rs

experienced a notable stabilization during the first Euro decreased by 35 half of the current fiscal paisa to close at Rs year (2023-24), owing to 302.33 against the last implementation of effective day's closing of Rs 302.68, according to the State Bank of Pakistan measures and prudent policies by the interim (SBP). The Japanese Yen government that played a pivotal role in achieving remained unchanged and closed at Rs 1.89. this milestone. whereas a decrease of 59 FY2024 has ended with paisa was witnessed in the exchange rate of the economic stabilization. British Pound, which traded at Rs 354.26 The effective measures and prudent policies helped

compared to the last closing of Rs 354.85. The exchange rates of the Emirates Dirham and the Saudi Riyal decreased by 02 paisa each to close at Rs 76.09 and Rs 74.52.



Commerce News

KARACHI: Federal Minister for Interior, Commerce, Industries, Overseas Pakistanis and Investment, Dr. Gohar Ejaz addressing to foreign and local investors at Overseas Chamber of Commerce and Industry Karachi.

Ambassador Blome savs: US, Pakistan working together for adaptation climate-smart agricultural practices commitments in 2023 mean

streams.

practices

stabilize

expanding

"Joint efforts aim to assist farmers in adopting climate-smart agricultural Good market new

ISLAMABAD (Online): addressing an event He said, "We established U.S. Ambassador to organized to celebrate the model plots with select Pakistan, Donald Blome Pakistan Agricultural farmers and private said on Wednesday that Development project, a sector service providers the United States and 20.9 million dollar US to demonstrate the sector service providers initiative with a wide created for 600 women in Khairpur and Sindh through

"Together, we establishment of three provided 63,000 farmers date-pitting centers," he

Agriculture production

added. Pakistan Agricultural Development grants

the

says adding on the fiscal side, the revenue performance 15 encouraging, however, there is significant pressure on expenditures attributed higher markup to payments.

growth in the second "Despite this, the government is taking measures to manage non-It is apparent from better growth prospects in markup spending, which is the real sector visible in evidenced by continuous improvement in primary month-on-month (MoM) increase in Large Scale surplus," adds. it According to the report, Manufacturing (LSM) growth, an improvement in Pakistan has recently high-frequency indicators received a tranche and better crop prospects. equivalent to US\$ 705.6 million, following the Despite the challenges, external stability has been successful completion of

the first review by the estimated area of 9.160 Executive Board of million International Monetary surpassing the sowing Fund (IMF) under Stand by Arrangements (SBA), which is providing market confidence and exchange rate stability.

The report predicted that economic activities would further strengthen during second half of FY2024 – contingent on the continuation of sound and prudent economic policies which will gear toward achieving the set growth target for the current fiscal year.

The report highlights the performance of agriculture sector saying, wheat crop for Rabi 2023-24has been cultivated on an on a MoM basis.

hectares, target of 8.998 million hectares by 1.8 percent to achieve the production target of 32.12 million tonnes.

During Jul-Dec FY2024, the agriculture credit disbursement reached to Rs 1105.8 billion as compared to Rs 842.4 billion last year, an increase of 31.3 percent. According to the report, Large Scale Manufacturing (LSM) during November 2023, increased by 1.6 percent on YoY basis against the decline of 4.9 percent in the same month last year. While

Pakistan are Department of benefits of these collaboratively striving Agriculture-funded practices. Jobs have been to provide farmers, initiative with a wide ranchers, and foresters array of impressive with innovative revenue accomplishments.

with training on using while Practices. We introduce options and ensuring techniques and improved

of

"The first half of

macroeconomic situation,

leading to a gradual

improvement in economic

activities," says Monthly

Economic Update and

government's

the

quarter

ADB committed record climate finance of almost \$10 billion in 2023 cumulative adaptation financing from 2019 to

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Asian Development 2023 - surpassing its target Bank (ADB) committed a record amount of climate of \$9 billion in 2019 - 2024 finance in 2023 to help its a year early," an ADB press developing member countries (DMCs) in Asia member release said on Wednesday. and the Pacific cut adaptation financing was greenhouse gas emissions critical in Asia and the and adapt to the impacts Pacific which was experiencing more extreme of a warming planet. The ADB committed \$9.8 billion in climate finance rains, from its own resources last year – \$5.5 billion for remained a fraction of what mitigation and \$4.3 billion for adaptation – a more than 46% increase on its 2022 climate financing commitments.

threatens the future of all development. 2023 was the hottest year on record and "The bank's climate saw a swath of extreme. finance deadly climate impacts in our region," said ADB President Masatsugu that the ADB has provided more than \$10.4 billion in Asakawa.

The ADB said that

heat, droughts, and heavy

was required. "Climate change

but

where



enabled farmers to build ISLAMABAD: Awoman is buying flowers at flower market in sector F-6 during rainy weather in the

Saudi Arabia is most potential market for **Pakistan's exports** the session In his remarks, Mr Atif Ikram Sheikh, President FPCCI indicated Jeddah organized an that Saudi Arabia is the

trade

The

added

Atif Ikram says:

Pakistani businessmen Pakistan's exports of based in Saudi Arabia and Saudi Importers on the occasion of visit of Mr. Atif Ikram Sheikh, President of the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce regular interaction of and Industry (FPCCI) to Saudi Arabia. Mr. Khalid Majid, Consul General of Pakistan alongwith other trade fairs and exhibition senior Officials of the can enhance Pakistan's Consulate and Commercial

Section were also attended

interactive session with most potential market for cereal. pharmaceutical, medical equipment, leather, fruits and vegetable etc.

281.5 respectively. The price of the

textile.

Aggressive market. business community. exchange of trade delegations and holding of share in Saudi Arabia

Federal Capital. Macroeconomic stabilization leads to improvement: Report

fairer prices for their post-harvest storage and high-efficiency drip produce," he said while processing," he added. irrigation systems. ISLAMABAD (APP): Outlook for January 2024 observed as evident from a The country's economy

2.13% in the first quarter

expectations for continued

FY2024,

released by finance surplus in the current ministry here Wednesday. account in December, it According to the report, this persistent uptick in economic indicators has resulted in improved GDP growth of

with

ndependent

Thursday February 01, 2024

National News

Page 03

mankind. He emphasized

that we should take guidance from Seerat

Tayyaba (Peace be Upon

CM Naqvi inaugurates first govt cancer care hospital

hospital.

Punjab Police will never

forget eternal sacrifice of

Independent Report LAHORE: The first cancer hospital at the government level has been made operational on the special direction of Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab

Mohsin Naqvi. The CM inaugurated the Mayo Cancer Care Hospital at Manawan, here of the patients. The CM reviewed the treatment on Wednesday. Mohsin Naqvi while

announcing to provide free treatment facility to the patients in the cancer hospital revealed that every patient will be provided free treatment and no patient suffering from any stage will be denied treatment in the first government cancer hospital. For the time being, the cancer hospital comprises 100-beds and will be increased up to 1000-beds in the coming few years. The CM visited the cancer hospital and reviewed facilities being

Independent Report

LAHORE: IG Punjab Dr. Usman Anwar visited Qila

Gujjar Singh Police Lines,

attended the funeral prayers of Shaheed Constable Muhammad

Arshad of Lahore Police. Regional Directorate

Narcotics Force Brigadier

Sikandar Hayat, CCPO Lahore Bilal Siddique

Kamyana and other senior officers also offered the

Lahore 31th January

Anti-

Commander

prayer.

provided to the patients. King Edward Medical He obtained a token from College University. A state the machine and ordered to of the art hospital has been built for the treatment of simplify the automated system, adding that besides cancer patients at the government level, he added. English writing, Urdu writing should also be displayed on the token

The CM apprised that the cancer treatment is machine for the facilitation highly expensive which a common man cannot afford, adding that free treatment will be provided to the mechanism of the cancer patients and monitored the patients in this hospital. It is a dire need of the people whole Chemotherapy mechanism. He visited the of Punjab to have a highroom for collecting blood quality cancer hospital at samples and also planted a the government level. It is sapling in the lawn of the the

Mohsin Naqvi issued government to provide a directions to write in the state of the art hospital for Urdu language on the sign cancer patients at the boards for the facilitation government level, he added. CM Naqvi while of patients. He revealed that Chemotherapy and surgery will be carried out addressing the inaugural ceremony of the Mayo Cancer Care Hospital in the cancer hospital. All the administrative and apprised that the first

financial affairs of the complete cancer care hospital of Punjab has been cancer hospital have been handed over entirely to the established.

LAHORE: Caretaker Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi cutting the ribbon to inaugurate Mayo Cancer Care Hospital Manawa. foremos responsibility of the **CM KP directs to** compliance with

Urban Mobility Plan Independent Report A B B O T T A B A D : Caretaker Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Justice ® Syed Arshad Hussain Shah chaired a meeting in Islamabad to Commissioner deliberate on the Urban

Mobility Plan concerning divisional headquarter reviews law, order situation Abbottabad.

In the meeting, senior officials from the National Highways Authority FAISALABAD (APP) Highways (NHA), Commission, as well as also present.

Cities

link meeting in connection with connection with general election, here

(CPO) Capt (retd) Muhammad Ali Zia. Active squad of police also

IG Punjab Dr. Usman Anwar while paying tribute to Constable Muhammad Arshad's meeting video-link. The

commissioner and officers of lawenforcement agencies were also present.

for constructing an interchange along the Hazara Motorway to facilitate Abbottabad City. NHA has outlined plans to establish an interchange linking Abbottabad and Sherwan Road, while the PC-1 for the proposed project has also been approved by the C&W Department. In addition to the Planning

interchange, the project pertinent federal and encompasses the provincial officials were construction of a flyover and tunnel.

KP CIP official pays surprise visit to inspect ongoing dev. projects

PESHAWAR (APP): (CIU) Mardan, Engineer Project Director of Muhammad Khalil Akbar, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa PMCSC Engineer, Arshid Qayum Improvement Project (KP CIP), Syed Babar; General Manager of Zafar Ali Shah, on Wednesday paid a surprise visit to a sewerage Matracon, Imran Haider, and Deputy Manager of the Project, Qasim treatment plant executed Mumtaz Awan. in Mardan and inspected

During the meeting, the General Manager of ongoing developmental WSSCM and Chief Engineer of CIU Mardan, He chaired a meeting Engineer Muhammad Khalil Akbar, briefed the Mian Project Director about the Engineer of Cities ongoing development

International News

Ghulam Shah Police Station on Wednesday. According to initial reports, The Lakhi Police

with the help of villagers caught the two robbers after an encounter took place between the outlaws and the police and arrested the two robbers identified as Abdul Qadeer Shar and Syed Musharaf Ali Shah in injured condition and also recovered two pistols from their

Two outlaws

arrested by

Shikarpur

Police

Our Correspondent

Suspect killed in police

encounter

PESHAWAR (APP): The suspect, identified as Mujahid, son of Sabz Ali, Wednesday inaugurated who had escaped after shooting and killing Constable Amir Ghulam reconstruction upgradation of Liaqat Memorial Hospital Kohat to be completed with an by taking out a gun from the clerk's room under the estimated cost of Rs. 2 pretext of using the billion. washroom, was killed in a Superintendent LMH, l Dr. police encounter at Safan check post, Badaber. Hashim Jamshed Syed,

SSP Syed Ashfaq Anwar and Superintendent of Police Operations.

Principal Kohat Medical

Musarat Jabeen and Dr. municipal services.

Punjab Governor says: Prophet Muhammad (SAWW) life and teachings are source of guidance for all mankind

Independent Report LAHORE: Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman today attended the "Serat-ul-Nabi (SAW)" prize distribution ceremony at Al Hamra Hall Mall Road Lahore as a special guest. Speaking on this

Him) in order to build a society based on love,tolerance, and brotherhood. Governor Punjab appreciated the author of the book, Rai occasion, Punjab Governor Manzoor Nasir, and said that he did a commendable Muhammad Balighur Rehman said that love and work by writing a very reverence for Prophet simple and easy to understand book on the Prophet's (PBUH) life and Muhammad (Peace be Upon Him) is a part of every Muslim's faith. teachings . Governor Punjab also appreciated Governor Punjab said that Prophet Muhammad's life the efforts of Rai Manzoor and teachings are the Nasir for organizing the source of guidance for all first unique competition.



LAHORE: Governor of Punjab Muhammad Baligh Ur Rehman, giving check to winner Muhammad Ismail during International Competition Seeratun-Nabi (Peace Be Upon Him) at Al-Hamra Hall, in Provincial Capital.

Bangash inaugurates Reconstruction and upgradation of LMH

and

Independent Report Fauzia Gul also addressed PESHAWAR: Khyber the inauguration ceremony Pakhtunkhwa Caretaker and thanked the finance Minister for Finance, Ahmad Rasool Bangash on minister for taking a keen interest in the affairs of the hospital. formally The minister also the

inaugurated the Town Municipal Administration (TMA) Shabistan Plaza with a cost of Rs. 432 million. On the occasion, Tehsil Mayor Kohat, Qari Sher Zaman and Town Municipal Muhammad Officer, Shoaib briefed the provincial University Professor Dr. minister regarding

Admin Lahore Muntazar Mehdi, DIG Investigation Imran Kishwar, SSP Discipline Lahore Sohaib Ashraf, Lahore Police SSPs, SPs and ANF officers were also present in the funeral prayer. Muhammad Arshad, a constable posted at Achhra Police Station, was martyred by the firing of a drug dealer. IG Punjab saluted the body of Constable Muhammad Arshad, laid floral wreath.

2024: Inspector General Police Punjab Dr. Usman Anwar attended the funeral prayer of martyred Constable Muhammad saluted the martyr. Arshad of Lahore Police at Police Lines Qila Gujar Singh. Regional Directorate Commander Anti-Narcotics Force Brigadier Sikandar Hayat, CCPO Kamyana, DIG Organized Commander Anti-eternal sacrifice said that Constable Muhammad Arshad made the department proud by sacrificing his life in the line Crime Unit Captain Retired of duty.

Prayers were prayed for the high ranks of constable Muhammad Arshad's soul,

constable Arshad: IGP Commissioner Silwat Saeed has said that Liaqat Ali Malik, DIG law and order should be the first priority of the administration. She was presiding over a video-

general election, nere on Wednesday. The meeting was attended by Regional Police officer (RPO) Dr Muhammad Abid, D e p u t y C om m i s s i o n e r Faisalabad Abdullah Navyar Sheikh and Nayyar Sheikh, and Capital Police Officer

The deputy commissioners of Jhang, Chiniot and Toba Tek Singh participated in the progress there. through election

attended by Director Technical, Muhammad Shakeel, Chief Implementation Unit works.

The meeting focused on the approved strategies SHIKARPUR: Shikarpur Police succeeded in arresting of two snatchers/ outlaws in injured condition after an police encounter took place near Shar Laaro in the jurisdiction of Lakhi

possession. Resident

Biden says he's decided response to Jordan strike

Monitoring Desk WASHINGTON: US President Joe Biden said on Tuesday he had decided on a response to a drone strike that killed three American troops in Jordan but said he did not want a wider war in the Middle East.

Facing growing pressure in an election year, Biden said he held Iran responsible for supplying the weapons to the people who carried out the deadly attack on a military base.

The White House warned that "multiple actions" were likely in retaliation for the first fatal attack on US forces in the region since the Gaza crisis broke out in October, but gave no further details. Biden, 81, who was hitting the campaign trail in

9A Sea Guardian and Sky

Guardian drones to India

until New Delhi carries

out a "meaningful inves-

tigation" into the con-

spiracy to assassinate

Sikh leader, Gurpatwant

Pannun, who hold dual

US and Canadian citizen-

ship, is a New York-based

activist of Khalistan

movement - the struggle

for independent home-

land for Ŝikhs by separat-

that the proposed \$3 bil-

lion purchase includes 15

Sea Guardian drones for

the Indian Navy, while

the Indian Air Force and

Army are supposed to get eight Sky Guardian

drones each. The report

said that Washington has

buy six Boeing P-81

long-range maritime pa-

also held back smaller islative

trol aircraft. These are to having said.

The Wire reported

ing Punjab from India.

Gurpatwant Singh

Singh Pannun.

the

US blocks \$3-b drone sale to India

until 'meaningful investigation' of

plot to kill Sikh leader

operates.

Minister

to high gear.

blamed Iran-backed militias border, with some urging for the attack which has direct strikes on Iran itself. further raised fears of a re-But Biden's administration believes hitting Iragional conflict.

"Yes," Biden told renian territory could cause the region to erupt, with porters at the White House when asked if he had de- strikes on Iranian-backed cided on his response, but militias and possibly on Irahe did not give details on nian Revolutionary Guard facilities in other countries what actions he would take. more likely, US media re-"I don't think we need

a wider war in the Middle ported. East. That's not what I'm "It's very possible that what you'll see is a tiered looking for," he added when asked about fears that takapproach here, not just a ing on Iran could inflame a single action but potentially broader conflagration. multiple actions," National Iran has denied any Security Council spokeslinks to the drone strike, and said it was not seeking an

expansion of conflict, ei-One. Republicans have Antony Blinken said that urged the Democrat to punthe response "could be ish Iran for the drone strike multi-leveled, come in on a US military facility stages, and be sustained Florida, has previously near the Jordanian-Syrian

man John Kirby told reporters aboard Air Force Secretary of State over time.

Japan earthquake survivors battle unsanitary conditions with

no running water **Monitoring Desk**

NEW DELHI (INP): The supplement 12 P-8I US government has held Poseidon aircraft that back delivery of 31 MQ- the Indian Navy already SUZU: A month on from a huge earthquake that struck Ironically, the In-Japan's west coast, survivors are battling freezing and unsanitary conditions while tens of thousands of homes remain without running water.

Some areas in the isolated Noto peninsula may not have water restored for another two months, the government of Ishikawa prefecture said, adding to risks for those living in cramped evacuation centres where authorities say respiratory infections and gastroenteritis have been detected "There's no water, so

we can't wash our clothes or bathe," said Yoshio Binsaki, a 68-year-old resident of the battered coastal town of Suzu, as he pre-pared to haul a 20 litre (5.3 J.S. gallon) water tank to his car to take home. More than 230 people died in the magnitude 7.6 quake, Japan's deadliest in eight years, which also left 44,000 homes fully or partially de-stroyed while 40,000 have no running water.

DOHA: Several unidentified Palestinians were laid to rest at a mass burial in Gaza on Tuesday after Israeli authorities handed over bodies they had been holding in Israel.

flight MH17 in 2014.

Kviv says Russia also

violated a human rights

treaty by discriminating

against ethnic Tatars and

Ukrainians in Crimea, the

peninsula that Russia de-

clared annexed from

Ukraine in 2014.

handover or on the assertion that some corpses had been dug up 'They were buried anonymously following

Many onlookers covered their noses with masks as about 100 bodies were placed in graves in the southern city of Rafah before bulldozers piled sand on them. Palestinian officials said the bodies included victims of the war and corpses that had been dug up as Israeli forces but at the time being

World Court to rule on Russian violation of international treaties in Ukraine

Monitoring Desk International Court of Justice THE HAGUE: The United to find Russia guilty of breach-Nations' top court will rule on Wednesday on whether Russia violated an anti-terit to pay reparations. rorism treaty by funding pro-Russian separatists in

In a hearing at the court in The Hague last June, Ukraine, including those who shot down Malaysia Airlines

> "blatant lies" Lawyers for Moscow denied systematic human rights abuses in Ukrainian territory that it occupies and rejected the accusation that it violated the UN treaty against the financing

Ukraine had asked the of terrorism

in Gaza in 24 hours, **Health Ministry says** has rejected two key de-**Monitoring Desk** NEW YORK: Gaza's mands made by Hamas

150 people are killed

people have been killed in the territory in the last were wounded as Israeli forces continue to battle militants, even in the northern part of the territory

The north, where entire neighborhoods have been flattened, was the initial target of Israel's ground offensive in late October.

Israel's military said Wednesday that its forces killed more than 15 Hamas militants in northern Gaza over the past day and targeted militant infrastructure in a school

Taiwan holds military drills to defend against the threat of a Chinese invasion

Monitoring Desk KAOHSIUNG: Almost every day, Chinese warships sail in waters around Taiwan and warplanes fly toward the island before turning back. What if they suddenly attacked?

Taiwan's military conducted a two-day exercise at sea, on land and in the air this week to practice defending against such a surprise attack. As journalists looked on from fast escort boats, a mine layer released at least a half dozen dummy mines from a chute in its

Maj. Gen. Sun Lifang, the chief defense ministry spokesperson, told reporters at Zuoying Naval Base in southern Taiwan that China's recent actions threaten to spark a conflict that could have devastating effects on the entire region, where billions of dollars in trade pass the 160 kilometer- (100 mile)-wide waterway separating Taiwan

"Any unilateral irrational action could very easily escalate tensions and sabotage stability in the Taiwan Strait region," Sun said. "So the Chinese Communists should immediately cease these sorts of undermining actions.'

China claims the selfgoverning island of 23 million people as its own territory and says it must come under Beijing's control. The long-running divide is a flashpoint in U.S.-China relations. As relations between the rivals have deteriorated in recent years, fears have grown that America could get pulled into a war if hostilities break out. Later in the day, journalists witnessed a simulated attack by China at a military base in the eastern

county of Taitung. Troops in red helmets representing the People's Liberation Army parachuted in, while Taiwanese army drones buzzed overhead

dian Ministry of Defence's internal approval for the nowstalled drone procurement came in June 2023 a week before Prime Narendra Modi's state visit to Washington. This was

also the time when the conspiracy to kill Pannun - set in motion by an Indian security of-

ficial named CC1, according to a federal indictment made public last November - shifted

Today, "the pur-chase is stuck in the US Congress because of anger over the brazen attempt to assassinate Pannun. US representatives have frozen the legmovement Indian acquisitions, in-cluding a proposal to with the sale," the Wire quoted a highly-placed source in Washington as



President of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) Judge Joan Donoghue speaks during a hearing in a case whereby Ukraine accused Russia of violating an anti-terrorism treaty by funding pro-Russian forces, including militias who shot down the Malaysia Airlines flight MH17, and discrimination, in The Hague, Netherlands US says fentanyl

Israel returns 100 bodies to Gaza authorities

Monitoring Desk pushed through Gaza. Israel did not comment on the

> Islamic Sharia. We don't know where they were injured or even their names," said Abu Taha, a doctor, at the scene. The bodies were photographed before burial and the victims' injuries documented, he said. "God willing, after the war ends, DNA and other tests will happen

Health Ministry says 150

Medical

in indirect cease-fire talks, saying that Israel will not withdraw from 24 hours and another 313 the Gaza Strip or release thousands of jailed militants

The latest deaths bring the Palestinian death toll from Israel's offensive to 26,900, according to the Hamas-controlled Health Ministry. It does not distinguish between civilian and combatant deaths but says most of those killed were women and children.

Hamas' Oct. 7 attack in southern Israel that sparked the war killed 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and about 250 people were taken hos-Israeli Prime Minis-ter Benjamin Netanyahu authorities.

'meaningful' Monitoring Desk BEIJING: Talks between the US and Chinese officials on stemming the flow of chemicals used for the pro duction of deadly fentanyl have been "substantive" but "much more" needs to

talks with China

be done, the head of the White House delegation to Beijing said on Wednesday Washington hopes for deeper law enforcement

cooperation, including on tackling illicit finance, and wants Beijing to put further

controls on the chemicals that can be used to make fentanyl, said Deputy Assistant to the President. Neuralink has installed brain

implant in first

Monitoring Desk SAN FRANCISCO: Elon Musk said on Tuesday his Neuralink startup had installed a brain implant in its

'promising" initial results. The neurotechnology rological disorders like ALS or Parkinson's. from China.

ing obligations under the two UN treaties, which both countries have signed, and to order Russia dismissed Ukraine's allegations as fiction and

tion is to supercharge human capabilities, treat neu-

stern.

human patient: **Elon Musk**

first human patient with

company co-founded by Musk in 2016 aims to build direct communication channels between the brain and computers. The ambi-

Daily **independent**, Hub

President Dr. Alvi says Youth may play active role for overall progress & development

President Dr Arif Alvi on Wednesday said youth could play a pivotal role in transforming the destiny of the country through optimum utilization of intellect, morality and educa-

He said the country required strong leadership and appropriate use of intellect and expressed the optimism that youth was fully capable of playing an active role in the overall progress and development.

Addressing the convocation of Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU), the president said education and health had a vital role in the robust development of China and added Pakistan ought to follow the Chinese model to materialize the goals of rapid development

Calling the passed-out AIOU graduates as elite of the country, he said they had the distinction to secure a graduate degree in a country where 44% or more than 26 million children were still out of school. He pointed out that all the re-

ISLAMABAD (APP): gional countries had 98% the exploitation of wealth ratio of school-going chil- in the world to ensure a person his due right, evendren "In order to accomtually leading to peace and

modate all out-of-school unity children, the government will have to build 50,000 graduates to continue the additional schools which is struggle for the pursuit of not an easy task, keeping knowledge in practical life. in view the resource availability," he added. women graduates to opt for

He pointed out that the practical life even after around 300,000 mosques in getting married. the country could be utiof technology, women lized to educate the out-ofcould simultaneously manschool children.

President Alvi regretage their jobs and family ted there had been no sense life of sympathy with human-Pakistan was declared as ity though the developed world posed itself as champion of democracy. He said the world was

now just going after the dent strategies of the govvested interests, as zero sympathy was being shown by the West amid the atrocities with innocent people of Gaza.

He said Pakistan intended to get the Kashmir issue resolved at United Nations platform but despite the lapse of over 70 vears, the issue still remained unresolved.

He called for an end to als to the fresh students.

Chinese envoy lauds PAF's steadfast determination for balance of power in region

ISLAMABAD (APP): Ambassador of the People's Republic of China, Jiang Zaidong, called on Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu here on Wednesday. The Chinese ambassa-

He also asked the dor lauded the steadfast determination of PAF leadership to ensure balance of power in the region. He said in today's era During the meeting,

matters pertaining to evolving geo-strategic environment and regional developments were discussed, a The president said Pakistan Air Force (PAF) news release said.

world's 5th best-performing country during COVID-19 due to timely and pru-

ernment. Recalling the leadership's decision to es-tablish the AIOU in 1970s, the president said the university had been playing a key and leading role in imparting education to the people, especially in remote areas. Earlier, the president

He advised passed-out

conferred degrees and med-



WASHINGTON: Raja Nasir Ali Khan Maqpoon, Minister for Planning & Development Gilgit-Baltistan called on Ambassador to the United States Masood Khan in Washington DC.

Pak pavilion at New York's tourism show captivated visitors: Masood

WASHINGTON (APP): tural and tourism potential, Pakistan's Ambassador to the U.S., Masood Khan, Tuesday congratulated the visiting Gilgit-Baltistan's Planning Minister, Raja Nasir Ali Khan, over the success of Pakistan pavilion at the weekend's Travel & Adventure Show'

in New York, saying it cantrole in cultivating betwould take the county's ter people-to-people ties rich tourism potential to the and linkages between Pakilevel

according to an embassy

press release. "It augers well not only for the tourism industry but also for the image building of the country," he said.

"Tourism industry of also said that various steps Pakistan can play a signifistan and the United State

past potential of the country. The GB planning minister said that US tourists were the second highest in numbers visiting

Gilgit-Baltistan annually for eco- and adventuretourism, among others. He were being taken to improve infrastructure and facilitate nally going to be held on the foreign visitors.

In this context, the ninister said that GB Go

broad contours of the PAF's modernization drive in order to transform Pakistan Air Force into a Next Generation Air Force through induction of niche technologies with a special focus on indigenization and revamping of training.

Highlighting the sigof nificance the longstanding strategic partnership between the two countries, he emphasized that the PAF leadership wished to further deepen the existing aviation cooperation and exchanges with

China in the fields of human resource and technol-



ogy so as to jointly address The dignitaries undershared security challenges. scored the necessity of revitalizing the framework for He further

operational training across said,"Pakistan values its all domains, emphasizing strong diplomatic, economic, defence relationship and timethe paramount importance of preparedness and seamtested friendship with China which are based on converless coordination in the face gence on all important issues of evolving security challenges. The Air Chief shared relating to regional peace.

Shehbaz says: PML-N high on popularity graph

AHORE (APP): Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) President Shehbaz Sharif has claimed that his party's popularity graph among people is still high, despite its active participation in the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) government in the

Talking to digital media representatives here on Wednesday, he emphasised the importance of February-8 elections and highlighted its vitality for the country's economic and social fabric. Amid numerous challenges confronting Pakistan, Shehbaz believed that general election was fi-

stakeholders to learn from country's political history and set aside their personal interests and make collective efforts for achieving the unmet developmental goals of Pakistan by exploring its great potential in various fields. Shehbaz Sharif cited that hardworking nations find a niche at international level, asserting that keeping in view Pakistan's current internal and external challenges, "we all have to get united to face these chalnges firmly"

He claimed that during the PML-N government in 1990s, Pakistan had been outperforming India in various fields, and called for assessing all those factors scheduled date, wherein the which landed the country fate of Pakistan would be in the current situation.



ISLAMABAD: President Dr. Arif Alvi addressing the convocation of Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) at Jinnah Convention Centre.

Aneeq Ahmed says: Holy Prophet (SAWW) Seerah must for Quran's comprehension

Those doing the job of

'Today, we must re-

also spoke at the event.

Alvi, Head of Department

of Islamic Thought and Culture at NUML, high-

lighted that the descent of

the Holy Quran and the

prophethood of Prophet

Muhammad (Peace Be

Upon Him) transformed

purpose of establishing the

Seerat Chair was to help

students to follow the

Seerat Tayyiba in their prac-tical lives. "Accepting reli-

gion and adopting Seerat are

one and the same," he

Vice-Chancellor of Federal

Urdu University, remarked

that the Western culture

was having negative im-

pacts on young generation.

Holy Quran and Sunnah

was essential for all depart-

ments of Urdu University.

sented to the dignitaries at

the conclusion of the event

She said teaching the

Shields were pre-

Dr. Rubina Mushtaq.

added

He mentioned that the

the course of the world.

Dr. Mustafeez Ahmad

ISLAMABAD (APP): his life was essential for Federal Minister for Relileadership, he added. gious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony Aneeq Ahmed on preaching Islam should align their conversations Wednesday stressed for following the Seerah of and discussion with the Holy Prophet Muhammad Holy Ouran and Seerat (SAWW) in true sense in order to have a full compre-Tayyiba, as both had been leading the human mindset hension of the Holy Quran. and would continue to do Addressing the inaugutill the end of time, he added

ral ceremony of the Seerat Chair at Federal Urdu Uniflect on whether we are disloyal to our Prophet (Peace versity, he said that truth was the basic trait of Seerat. Be Upon Him). Our religion Follow the truth, speak the is complete, containing solutions to all issues. Knowltruth and its implementaedge and action are both tion in every sphere of life necessary," he said, adding were the lessons derived from the Holy Prophet's that students must be made Seerah, he added. aware of challenges such as

The minister said the secularism, artificial intelliestablishment of the Secrat gence, and contemporary Chair at the Urdu Univerissues. Minister Aneeq said sity was a commendable it was imperative to include initiative for guiding the new a Seerat book in the curricugeneration. lum from primary's to

The greatness of master's level. Muhammad Prophet Rubina Mushtaq, Dr. (Peace Be Upon Him) would continue to be articu-Mustafafeez Ahmad Alvi. lated until the Day of Judg-Dr. Ahtesham-ul-Haq, and Dr. Hafiz Abdul Rashid ment, and familiarity with



Vice-Chancellor Dr.

QUETTA: Inspector General of Police Balochistan Abdul Khaliq Sheikh enquiring about health of policemen injured in Mach attack.

PTA intensifies | Zmarak Achakzai demands crackdown on ECP to take notice of illegal issuance firing on ANP's workers of SIMs

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) in close col-laboration with the Federal

National Party (ANP) Engineer Zmarak leader and former Provin- Khan Achakzai said that National Party (ANP)

OUETTA (APP)-Awami dent in Mezai Stop.

cial Minister and candidate nolitical opponents fired

Thursday February 01, 2024

ing with the minister at Pakistan Embassy, Ambassador Masood Khan said the pavilion, which he inaugurated on Saturday, captivated the global community and evinced keen interest in Pakistan's rich cul-

the Pakistani envoy added. Raja Nasir Khan thanked the Ambassador for the support provided by the Consulate General in New York and Pakistan Embassy, Washington, in successfully showcasing the tourism

ernment was focusing on establishing IT parks, incubation centers, vocational institutes and winter sports for the youth. Equal attention was being paid to girls' education, providing them with sports facilities.

QUETTA: Conservator of Forest Monitoring Upscaling of Green Pakistan Program Umar Farooq Kakar presenting a shield to Director **General Public Relations Balochistan Muhammad** Noor Khetran.

NAB Balochistan lucky to have hard working staff, says Director General

Commendation certificates distributed among employees

Independent Report QUETTA: The Director General National Accountability Bureau (NAB) Balochistan, Zafar Iqbal Khan has stated that the NAB is very lucky to have very hardworking and dedicated staff.

The DG NAB was addressing the ceremony arranged for distribution of meritorious certificates in recognition of outstanding performance of the Bureau's employees here on Wednesday.

The commendation certificates were distributed among the employees for outstanding performance during the year 2023.

The DG NAB (Balochistan) Zafar Iqbal Khan, Deputy Prosecutor

General Accountability Jaffar Raza Khan, Director NAB Dr. Muhammad Rashad, Officers of NAB and other employees participated in the ceremony. The Director NAB Dr. Muhammad Rashad, in his inaugural speech, wel-

comed the audience and shared the run of events of the ceremony. Thereafter, Director General NAB, in his address, appreciated the efforts of NAB officials. He said that development of any department is directly linked to the performance

and hardworking of its employees. NAB (Balochistan) is very lucky was that it has very hard work ing staff. He said that merit is the scale to measure capability of any individual.

QUETTA: Director General NAB Zafar Iqbal Khan and Director NAB Dr. Muhammad Arshad addressing a appreciation certificate distribution ceremony among employees on their best performance in 2023.

determined by its people through their constitutional right to vote.

He called upon all

Mach attack martyrs funeral prayers held, says ISPR

RAWALPINDI (APP): The funeral prayers of the Mach attack martyrs were held at leadquarters

Balochistan (North) Quetta who embraced martyrdom while fighting the terrorists in Mach, Bolan on the night of January 29 and The funeral prayers of

martyred soldiers identified as Lance Naik Rehmat Illah, age 30 years, resident of dis-trict Dera Ghazi Chan and Sepoy Muhammad Zaman, age 28 years, resident of district Tank were offered in Headquarters FC Balochistan (North), an Inter Services

Public Relations (ISPR) news release said on Wednesday **Collier dies** after

landslide hits **Duki coalmine** DUKI (INP): A collier was killed by a landslide in a coalmine in Duki, a district

of Baluchistan, on Wednesday According to rescue sources, the body of the deceased miner was shifted to the Civil Hospital in Duki for necessary procedures

The deceased miner identified Naseebullah son of Abdul Kareem, resident of district Qila Saifullah, hospital sources said.



split milk.

QUETTA: Additional Chief Secretary Home Zahid Saleem meeting with caretaker Home Minister Captain (retd) Mir Muhammad Zubair Jamali.

Zubair Jamali says War against terrorism to remain continue till restoration of peace

Independent Report out such terrorism inci-QUETTA: The caretaker dents.

Provincial Leader of

He pledged that our Provincial Minister for war against terrorism Home and Tribal Affairs, would remain continued till Mir Muhammad Zubair complete restoration of Jamali has condemned the hand grenade attack at peace in the province. The Minister Home

Sariab road Quetta. said that no one would be In an official condemallowed to spoil the law and nation statement issued order situation in the provhere on Wednesday, the caretaker Minister Home ince. Mir Zubair Jamali prayed for early recovery said that the miscreants of those injured in the Sariab road blast. can't weaken the morale of general public by carrying

Sardar Jogezai thanks **TNFJ** for supporting **PPP** in election

QUETTA- (APP)-Paki-Sardar Tariq Ahmad Jafri. stan People's Party (PPP)'s Balochistan Information PPP, Engineer Hadi Askari, Secretary Sardar Sarbuland Information Secretary of Jogezai said that the doors Tehreek Nafaz Jafaria Balochistan. Ghulam Mustafa, President of of PPP were open to all political parties.

win in the elections to be held on February 8, he said

He also thanked Tehreek Nafaz Fiqa Jafaria (TNFJ) for supporting the candidates of the PPP.

Information Secretary

He expressed these party. views on Wednesday while addressing a press conference at the office of the PPP Hazara Town along with

"We have to learn from the past; nothing will Investigation Agency (FIA) cyber crime circle, conbe done by crying over the ducted raid against the BISP outlet at Sharqpur involved in activation of SIMs illegally.

During the raid, 28 ac tive SIMs were discovered The FIA team confiscated active SIMs along with 01 HBL Konnect device as evidence, said a news release.

In the joint operation, a person was apprehended by the FIA team. FIA is currently investigating the matter.

PTA had filed a complaint regarding illegal issuance of SIMs by the sale channel. The raids are part of PTA's ongoing efforts to prevent the circumvention of the Multi-Finger Biometric Verification System (MBVS). This unwavering commitment underscores the authority's dedication to eradicate illegal issuance of SIMs, the news release added.

PML-N manifesto development of Pak: Noorullah

QUETTA (APP): Pakistan Muslim League-N (PML-N)'s candidate from con-stituency PB-44 Haji Mir Noorullah Lehri, candidate from constituency NA 26 Arz Muhammad Bareacl said that the manifesto of the PML-N was the devel-

opment of Pakistan and prosperity of people. They said that the PML-N would win the February 8 election and implement the election manifesto, Muslim League-N has the solution to all the problems of Pakistan.

They expressed these views while addressing a ceremony organized here on Wednesday for joining of Balochistan National Party (BNP)'s leader Babu Murad Bangulzai resigning from BNP.

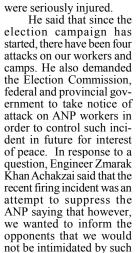
Tehreek Nifaz Fiqa Earlier, Babu Murad Jafaria Balochistan Infor-Bangulzai along with hunmation Secretary Sardar dreds of his colleagues an-Tariq Ahmad Jafari said nounced to join Pakistan that the chairman of the Muslim League-N after re PPP Bilawal Bhutto signing BNP. Zardari met with the cen-

Babu Murad Bangalzai said that BNP had gotten tral leaders of the movement and appealed to supvotes and made false promport the candidates of the ises to the people in the 2018 elections, despite re-On which Tehreek ceiving funds of billions of Nafaz Fiqa Jafaria anrupees, they did not serve nounced its support for the the people due to which candidates of Pakistan people were disappointed

on our party workers in from PB-50 Constituency Engineer Zmarak Khan Mezai Stop, as a result of Achakzai on Wednesday which one worker of ANP Zahoor Ahmed martyred said that a worker of ANP was martyred and another and another Moin Khan was injured due to firing by opponents in Mezai stop.

He demanded the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) to take notice of the firing on our workers and the accused involved in the incident should be immediately arrested and brought to justice saying that ANP adhered to the philosophy of non-violence but could not allow anyone to attack workers.

He expressed these views along with ANP leader Dawood Khan Achakzai while talking to journalists on the occasion of visiting the worker who was injured in civil hospital after the shooting incihigh tactics.





QUETTA: Peoples Party (PPP) Leader, Ali Madad Jattak addresses to media persons during press conference, in Quetta.

Death of candidates Elections postponed in 3 constituencies of KPK

By M.Ilyas PESHAWAR - Notification

of postponement of elections in 3 constituencies of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has been issued due to the death of candidates.

Due to the postponement of the elections, a notification was issued.

According to the de-tails, due to the murder of independent candidate Rehan Zaib Khan in NA-8 and PK-22 Bajaur and the death of ANP's Asmatullah Khattak in PK-91 Kohat, the notification was issued to postponed the elections. It has been reported that the Returning Officer has issued a formal announcement of the cancel-

lation of the election be-

cause under Clause 73 of the

Election Act, the election is

postponed due to the death of the candidate after the issue of election marks.

It is learned that 13 candidates including Asmatullah Khattak were participating from PK-91 Kohat and former senator Abbas Afridi is also a candidate from PK-91, died due to falls, he was an ANP aspirant from PK-91 Kohat. On the other hand, Rehan Zaib Khan, an activist of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaaf and contesting as an independent candidate from NA-8 and PK-22 Bajaur killed, police sources say that Rehan Zaib Khan was shot by unknown persons near Siddiqabad, as a result of the firing, Rehan Zaib Khan was seriously injured, Rehan Zaib Khan was shifted to the hospital in critical condition.

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People's Party.

