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CM once again reviews police deployment at sensitive polling stations

Justice (retd) Maqbool Bagar chaired 30th Provincial Apex Committee meeting at CM House to review election arrangements and national action

isters, Brig. (retd) Haris Nawaz, Omar Soomro, Ahmad Shah, Corps Commander Lt. Gen Babar Iftikhar, Chief Secretary Dr Fakhre Alam, DG Rangers Major Gen Azhar Waqas, IG Police Riffat Mukhtar, Advocate General Hassan Akbar, Chairman P&D Shakil Mangnejo, Home Secretary Iqbal Memon, PG

committee was informed that there would be a total of 19,008 polling stations, including 5,657 normal, 6,550 sensitive, and 6,801 highly sensitive ones.

The meeting was attended by provincial minMukhtar shared the police IG Police Riffat deployment criteria, stating that four police personnel would be deployed at a normal polling station, five at a sensitive one, and seven at a highly sensitive polling station.

> deployed at the polling stations, including 95,400 at the normal polling stations, 10,648 in the QRF

KARACHI (APP): Care- chief minister reviewed Army would be deployed taker Chief Minister Sindh the arrangements for the for QRF duties at selected upcoming election. The highly sensitive polling stations, in addition to the police force.

Corps Commander Karachi Lt. Gen. Babar Iftikhar informed the CM that army troops had been dispatched all over the province to serve as the third tier during the general elections.

The chief minister expressed his satisfaction with the election arrangements and mentioned that he had personally visited A total of 143,156 the divisional headquarpolice personnel would be ters of the province to review the arrangements. The regional election commissioners present at the meeting also expressed their sat-Police, and 37,108 in the isfaction with all the ar-



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

Federal Cabinet approves restructuring of PIA

The Federal Cabinet on Tuesday approved the restructuring of Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) on the recommendation of the Privatization Division.

The cabinet, in its previous meeting approved the appointment of a financial advisor for financial and administrative restructuring of the airlines.

The cabinet, in a meeting chaired by Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar was told that the financial advisor had formulated a financial restructuring plan of PIA in line with international precedents under which the

ISLAMABAD (APP): two companies, Top-Co and Hold-Co.

PIA's core operations of engineering, ground handling, cargo, flight kitchen and training will be incorporated into Top-Co while other entities such as Precision Engineering Complex, PIA Investment Limited and others subsidiaries and properties will be incorporated in Hold-Co. These measures will help attract

capital investors to PIA. The cabinet also directed the cabinet subcommittee Privatization to deal with the matters related to settlement of governmentowned enterprises with



KASUR: PML (N) Quaid Nawaz Sharif, President Shahbaz Sharif and Chief Organizer Maryam Nawaz expressing solidarity during a public meeting in connection with general elections.

Nawaz vows to make Pakistan 'Asian Tiger'

KASUR (INP); Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) chief Nawaz Sharif says he will make the country an 'Asian Tiger' as the youth is supporting the former ruling party.

Addressing a rally on the last day of the election campaign in Khudian, the former prime minister said, "If our government were in power, every person here would have a job." "We have to come out of this era; we have to make the country an Asian Tiger'. Shehbaz Sharif should utilise this passion for Pakistan and change the country's destiny," said Nawaz.

The PML-N leader said that their government would build roads in Khudian better than those in Paris; there should be available for Rs4.

universities for the youth here, and they should have laptops and computers in their hands. Nawaz Sharif said that

their government would provide jobs to the youth of Khudian.

The former prime minister also promised to build stadium is Khudian. He said that he would bring Shehbaz Sharif to inaugurate it, and they would play the opening match in this stadium." He said, "Those who used to say that the youth will get 10 million jobs, where are those jobs and where have the houses

Nawaz Sharif said. "Vegetables were available at Rs10 per kg during my tenure as PM, roti was

US continuing to monitor Pakistan' electoral process closely: State Dept

ISLAMABAD (APP): With just two days to go for Pakistan's general elec-tions, the United States is continuing to monitor the country's electoral process "quite closely", a State De-partment spokesperson said Monday.

The department's Principal Deputy Spokes-person, Vedant Patel, said, We're continuing to monitor Pakistan's electoral process quite closely, and as we have said, we want to see that process takes place in a way that facilitates broad participation with respect for freedom of expression. assembly, and associa-

Security forces kill two terrorists in North Waziristan

RAWALPINDI (Online): Two terrorists including terrorist ring leader Ayubullah alias Mansoor were killed in an intelligence based operation by security forces in North Waziristan.

According to the ISPR, weapons, ammunition and explosives were also recovered from the terrorists who remained actively involved in numerous terrorist activities including target killing as well as extortion and abduction of innocent civilians.

Sanitization operation is being conducted to eliminate any other terrorist in the area.



LARKANA (INP): Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari said on Monday old politicians put the country in danger by involving in the poli-

tics of hate. He made this remark while addressing an electoral rally. The former foreign minister added that the people of the city have always stood with the Bhutto fam-

ne PPP chief men-tioned that old politicians did not know anything besides divisionary politics, adding the people should better get rid of this traditional

When a person from Larkana becomes

The Age of

the prime minister, the country becomes a nuclear power and the country developes leaps bounds.

eople should give me votes as the country has not seen a Larkana PM for a long time," he added. e PPP chief said the

economy suffered immeasurably due to the stubbornness and ego of the old politicians as they have introduced the abuse culture in politics.

said, "people are well aware who wants to become PM for the fourth time despite getting enough opportunity to provide people the basic necessities

Pakistan strongly condemns terrorist attack in Istanbul

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan on Tuesday strongly condemned the terrorist attack targeting the Courthouse complex in Istanbul. "We extend our heart-

felt condolences to the brotherly people and gov-ernment of Turkiye and pray for the swift and complete recovery of those injured in this heinous attack. Our thoughts and prayers are with the bereaved families," the Foreign Office spokesperson said in a statement.

According to Turkish media, two shooters attempting to attack a checkpoint outside a courthouse in Istanbul were captured

"Today, there has been an attempted terrorist attack at the security checkpoint in front of the C Gate of Caglayan Courthouse," Interior Minister Ali Yerlikaya said on X after the attack that left six people injured, including three po-

OGRA scales

up gas tariff

ISLAMABAD (Online): OGRA has scaled up sui gas

has been increased by 35.1

percent from February 02

and Sui Southern by 8.5

fication on enhancement of

tariff to government for

tion the average cost of gas

has been increased from Rs

1238.68 to Rs 1673.82 per

Sui Northern has been

OGRA has enhanced

The average cost of

MMBTU on Sui Northern

allowed to recover more Rs

180 billion from consum-

tariff of Sui Southern by 8.5

Sui Southern gas has been

increased from Rs 1350.68

to Rs 1466.40 per

Sindh information

dept. sets up

Election Cell

KARACHI (APP): Sindh

Information Department on

Tuesday, established an

Election Cell to ensure pro-

vision of authentic and reli-

able information regarding the general elections 2024 to

the journalists. The election

cell headed by Director Gen-

eral Public Relations of In-

formation Department gov-

ernment of Sindh will work

from February 7 to 9, 2024,

said a statement issued here.

tinuously for three days for

provision of authentic infor-

mation to the journalists re-

garding the elections, it

stated. The directors.

deputy directors and infor-

mation officers of Sindh In-

formation Department will

be deputed in the election

cell while election cells has

also been established at the

divisional level for the pur-

poses those would be headed

by the directors concerned.

The cell will work con-

OGRA has sent noti-

According to notifica-

Tariff of Sui Northern

tariff enormously.

implementation.

percent

system.

percent

Best arrangements made to ensure peaceful election, PM tells international observers

Says now it is the turn of the people of Pakistan to exercise their democratic right to vote; Caretaker government has fulfilled its responsibilities.

ISLAMABAD (APP): eral elections on 8th Febru-Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Tuesday said that despite numerous challenges, the best possible arrangements had been made to ensure peaceful and seamless conduct of elections on polling day, across the country.

He was talking to a delegation of the Commonwealth Observer Group (COG), led by former President of Nigeria Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, who called on him, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

The meeting was part of the COG's interaction with various stakeholders ahead of the upcoming gen- to vote, he added.

ary, 2024.

The prime minister welcomed the COG delegation and said that Pakistan was proud to honour its commitment as a Commonwealth member state by inviting independent international observers to witness the general elections.

He also highlighted that the caretaker government had fulfilled its responsibilities to run the day-to-day affairs of the state and create a conducive environment ahead of the elections. Now it was the turn of the people of Pakistan to exercise their democratic right



ISLAMABAD: Chairperson of the Common Wealth Observer Group for General Election H.E.Dr Goodluck Ebele Jonathan along with the delegation called on Caretaker Prime Minister, Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar.

ECP to announce unofficial results of all 859 constituencies till Feb 9

nounce unofficial results of all 859 constituencies of the National and Provincial Assemblies on February 9 which will be issued by the Returning Officers.

completed all the arrangements to conduct free, fair and transparent general elections across the country on February 8," the ECP spokesman told APP.

He said the ECP has completed the printing of 260 million ballot papers for all constituencies in the country ahead of the 2024 general elections. The spokesman said the National Assembly ballots are identifiable by green paper, whereas Provincial Assembly ballots are printed on white paper. Except for some districts, the distribution of printed ballot papers has been finalized

The printing, which

ISLAMABAD (APP): In compliance with a Su-The Election Commission preme Court directive, balof Pakistan (ECP) will an- lot papers for 11 National Assembly and five Provin cial Assembly constituencies underwent reprinting, with the original ones set for destruction as per the court order, he said.

The ECP has already

across the nation.

commenced on January 14, concluded by February 3.

He said that this time a total of 260 million ballot papers were printed, reflecting a 54.74% rise in candidates compared to the 2018 elections. Despite a 195% surge in demand for special paper, effective management led to a reduction from 2400 tonnes to 2177 tonnes.

The distribution of printed ballot papers comrises 5% single-column, 50% double-column, 30% three-column, 11.15% fourcolumn, and 2.4% five-column formats, gearing up for the scheduled February 8 polls. Political parties and independent candidates are actively participating in campaigns, with the election drive slated to conclude on February 6 at 12 pm.



ter, Ahmad Shah addresses to media persons during press conference held at Sindh Assembly build-

Mayor Karachi inspects under-construction building of KIHD's nursing school

(APP):

Mayor Karachi Barrister Murtaza Wahab on Tuesday inspected the under-construction building of the Nursing School of Karachi Institute of Heart Diseases (KIHD) and issued on the spot instructions to the officers concerned.

KARACHI

While talking to media persons on the unscheduled visit to the Nursing school, the Mayor Karachi said that he will continue to work for the

and its institutions. Municipal solar park is being developed in Kidney Hill Park, he added.

betterment of the city

Municipal Commissioner S. M Afzal Zaidi, PPP, Deputy Parliamentary leader in the City Council Dil Muhammad and other officers were also present at the

He said the citizens of Karachi need better and quality medical facilities.

ing a ceremony in connection with starting of IT classes at Governor House. Sindh police chalks out contingency plan for general elections

KARACHI (INP): The Sindh police have chalked out a contingency plan for the February 8 general elections, with 143,156 police personnel and volunteers deployed for security

across the province. According to a report submitted to Inspector-General of Police (IGP) Riffat Mukhtar Raja on Tuesday, a total of 14,052 polling buildings and 19,008

polling stations categorised as the most sensitive, sensitive and normal. There were a total of 6.801 most sensitive, 6,550 sensitive and 5,657 normal

polling stations, the report It said 143,156 police personnel and volunteers would be deployed for the security of all polling sta-

tions, buildings and polling material across the province. Out of a fotal of 143,156 policemen/volunteers, 95,400 would be deployed for security of polling stations, 10,648 personnel would be part of the would be volunteers/private security guards who would perform security Read More: Election

KARACHI: Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori addressing students dur

2024: Curtains fall on election activities tonight All is set for holding general elections in Paki-

stan, scheduled for February 8, 2024, with over 128 million male and female voters expected to exercise their voting rights. According to Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP), 5,121 candidates are

in the race for the National Assembly seats, of which 4,807 are males and 312 females. Two transgenders are also contesting the polls. For the four provincial assemblies of Sindh, Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), and Balochistan, a total of 12,695 candidates are contesting for the polls, out of which 12,123 are males and 570 are women.

There are a total of 128,585,760 registered voters in the country, out of which Punjab has the most. 73, 207.896.



KARACHI: Inspector General Police (IGP) Sindh, Dr. Riffat Mukhtar Raja presides over a high-level meeting regarding the control of law and order situation on the occasion General Election 2024, held at CPO Headquarters in Karachi.

Daily Aoice of Masse Independent

Terrorism challenge

The new government that takes over after Thursday's general election will have the briefest of honeymoon periods, with the immediate task of formulating a cogent counterterrorism policy lying before it. Acts of terrorism continue unabated, particularly targeting police and military personnel, as the attack on the Chaudhwan police station in KP's D.I. Khan early on Monday shows. At least 10 police personnel were martyred in the attack, which officials say was launched from multiple directions by over 30 terrorists.

A military check post in nearby Daraban was stormed by militants last December, causing over 20 fatalities. That was apparently the deadliest single attack on military men last year. The Daraban atrocity was claimed by the Tehreek-i-Jihad Pakistan, an alibi used by the banned TTP, which emerged last

This particular part of KP, as well as neighbouring areas of Balochistan and Punjab, were beset by terrorist violence throughout 2023. The new administration needs to ensure this grim trend does not continue in the current year. Overall, 2023 was a blood-soaked year, with some figures citing over 1,500 terrorism-related fatalities.

The challenge is two-tiered: to secure Pakistan and ensure no part of the country is available for terrorist outfits to establish themselves, while the other goal must be to prevent militants from creating sanctuaries in Afghanistan.

The new government, together with the security establishment and provincial set-ups, must hammer out a failsafe plan to secure the country, particularly those parts of KP and Balochistan suffering from frequent terrorist attacks.

The basic structure exists in the form of the National Action Plan. The key is to update it as per the requirements of the day, and implement it. Furthermore, dealing with militancy should be a onewindow operation, preferably led by Nacta with input from all stakeholders.

As for the issue of terrorist sanctuaries in Afghanistan, the UN has validated Pakistan's concerns about training camps on Afghan soil used by Al Qaeda and the TTP to foment trouble in Pakistan. The Afghan Taliban need to shut down these facilities, or else bilateral ties will suffer. Either the Taliban should stop the attacks or relocate terrorists away from the Pakistani border so that they are not able to spill blood in this country. The Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson recently remarked that the Afghan Taliban need to "firmly combat all forms of terrorist forces". This is the message that should be communicated from Islamabad, Beijing and all other regional capitals to Kabul's current rulers. Unless the new dispensation in Islamabad tackles terrorism head-on, economic stability and social cohesion will be very difficult to achieve. The security forces should also dedicate all their energies to eliminating the terrorist threat, and protecting the lives of

civil and military personnel on the front line.

Will of the people

Rida Hosain

In his autobiography Friends Not Masters, Ayub Khan wrote "our people are mostly uneducated and our politicians not so scrupulous. The people are capable of doing great things, but they can also be easily misled. Unfettered democracy deputy commissioner can, therefore, prove would withdraw the decase with most dicta- would set it aside, or the tors, the field marshal held deep disdain for politicians, as well as the judgement of the Pakistan this past year, it

This utterly misguided narrative carries the essence of which is that the people simply do not know what is good for them.

Historically, those interfering in the democratic process always find a justification, ie, political and economic stability, good governance, peace and order, or the genius' of the people. Every supposed 'reason' is a cover for undemocratic interventions, whether overt or covert.

wrong which justifies the dismantling going on today. The Constitution in the country. It found guarantees that every citi- that PTI failed to hold inzen shall have the right tra-party elections, and to form or be a member of would, therefore, lose its a political party. The election symbol. The courts have held that the most inexplicable part of right to form a political party includes the right to function as a political party. In violation of these rights, across provinces, there has been a crackdown on PTI workers. Attempts have been nothing except hurt the made to disrupt the election campaign of PTI candidates. Even virtual events have been met

with internet disruption. The maintenance of public order laws have Sattar observed that be- favour of enfranchisetween May and Septem- ment rather than disenber 2023, the "over- franchisement"

whelming majority" of ders that were challenged before Islamabad High Court, not one order has been upheld as having been passed in accordance with law," per Justice Sattar. Not one detention order. Either the dangerous". As is the tention order, or the court detention period would

> For anyone living in would be no surprise that the ECP took particular interest in the PTI's intraparty elections. The Peshawar High Court rightly restored PTI's election symbol, and held that the ECP could not question the intra-party election process. Instead of accepting the decision of the Peshawar High Court, the ECP was so determined that it took the matter right up to the Su-

preme Court. Then, in a quest to supposedly uphold democracy within political There is no past parties, the Supreme Court was seen to undermine the electoral process this decision was that the law does not expressly contemplate depriving a political party of its election symbol on account of intra-party elections. This decision has done ordinary voter. This was not a case about an individual or a political party, it was about the disenfranchisement of millions of voters. Weeks after this regretbeen used to keep politi-cians in custody. In the Mansoor Ali Shah was detailed judgement set- entirely correct in holdting aside various deten- ing, "electoral laws

detainees were either the elections, convicleaders or members of the tions in one case after PTI. "Of the detention or- another are being announced. In the cipher case, Imran Khan and Shah Mahmood Oureshi were denied the right to be represented by the counsel of their choice, and, instead, represented by state counsel. In the Toshakhana reference, the judge closed the right to cross-examine witnesses. At the heart of a fair trial is the right to be represented by the counsel of one's

Mere days before

choice, and to properly defend oneself. Hearings have been conducted well past court hours, and the great urgency with which these convictions are being announced is beyond any reasonable justification. It is clear that there has been no fair, impartial process in these cases. The conviction in

the 'unlawful marriage' case manifests the tragic extent of the weaponisation of justice. Unjustifiable aspersions have been cast on a woman's character, and individuals have been forced into a courtroom to defend private decisions they made. The decision attacks the right to dignity, which the Constitution and the Supreme Court distinctly provide is an absolute right. There can be no restrictions on the right to dignity. Those adamant on overriding the will of the people continue with their dismantling, instil fear, mock the voter, and make it seem that it is not worth one's while to exercise their right to vote. But everyone must cast their vote on Feb 8. It is the day the people have a chance to make their voice heard, and tion orders, Justice Babar must be interpreted in for the future of our country, it is something we must all do. -- Cour-

Poll manifestos

Dr Niaz Murtaza

Elections can rejuvenate nations if they are fair, parties present strong ideas and teams to the masses competitively and the winners have a strong mandate to take the country forward. Thursday's polls may be among our most rigged, more so after Imran Khan's dubious convictions last week. Opinion polls suggest a hung assembly. Thus, we may have a rigged and weak new government. This leaves the issue of whether parties have strong ideas and teams. To convince discerning voters, party

manifestos present an in-depth analysis of why people suffer on account of major issues and the rightly of merging inbest way of addressing vestment, industries them permanently. In the current scenario, a ministry of economy, where we face huge economic and security challenges and, with the rest of the world, the impact of climate posals for exports, in- more time to develop change, there must be a special focus on these However, they fall short areas. I reviewed the of a new and coherent dates who can win. So, 2024 manifestos of the economic strategy that PTI, PML-N and PPP on such key points. All three were issued days tion to attain sustainable for them. Readers are before the elections, re- and equitable progress. flecting the limited role All three lack strong ideas play in our polls economic teams to as against catchy slogans and patronage flows. But all are better than their 2018 iterations in terms of length, presentation and coverage. This is especially credible for the PTI, which has the longest and most comprehensive one, despite the state

crackdown it faces. The shortest is the wasted on large Sharif photos. It is bereft of any root causes of our longterm or current problems, jumping straight into

and security problems. As expected, the PTI's reflects heavy religious pro-poor rhetoric, its socialist origins nixed long

economic ideas. It prom-

ises the sky on increasing income, social seraims to increase investment and tax revenues for this purpose. But it hardly contains any concrete ideas on how ideas in some economic areas. The PML-N talks and commerce to create have some concrete procan remove the threat of default and high inflatranslate ideas into sucalienated talent by its family-centric politics.

threat, insecurity due to terrorism by TTP and Baloch militants, or their root causes such as so-PML-N's, much of it cietal extremism and genuine Baloch complaints. The PPP talks in-depth analysis of the of its Balochistan package that proved inadpreambles that mention plaints or talking to be a crash landing. inequities as a root cause Baloch groups or end- Courtesy Dawn

of our problems and re- ing societal extremism. flect on our economic On the mother of all our problems — civilian supremacy — the PML-N has removed the mild ideology, but without talk of its 2018 manilinking it to concrete polifesto but now PTI incies. The PPP's reflects cludes it mildly. Our no ideology despite its Constitution needs an overhaul as many anomalies have been unearthed in it in recent The PPP's is the years. But the three weakest on concrete only mention limited changes. Lack of space does not let me review the other areas in their vices and housing, and manifestos. Readers must read them to form informed views.

If the larger parties lack strong ideas, what is the alternative? The it would do so. The manifestos of small leftmust other two present more ist outfits like the meso-level concrete Awami Workers Party, National Democratic Move-ment Haqooq-i-Khalq party provide detailed analysis of the root causes of deprivation due to ineqwhich must also include uities embedded in capiplanning and IT. The talism. But as small and PTI and PML-N both new parties with limited resources, they need vestment, industry, etc. concrete ideas and field large numbers of canditheir impact on these polls will be minimal, though I will still vote encouraged to look more closely at such parties. Thus, we may get a weak and rigged cessful strategies. The new regime that lacks PTI has lost its capacity strong ideas and teams due to the crackdown it and is heavily depenfaces, while PML-N has dent on the security establishment and other elites. It will lack the The three say little strong links to or man-on our second biggest date from the masses to date from the masses to challenge elites and make fundamental changes in our elite-dominated political and economic order. So, we may go from one weak and rigged hybrid regime to another that adds to our mounting problems and equate even the last kicks the can further time. But there is little into the future. This sectoral promises. The talk by the parties on cannot go on forever PTI's and PPP's contain solving Baloch com- and ultimately there may

Commerce News

Minister inaugurates country's first e-Rozgar Center

Telecommunications Dr. Umar Saif Tuesday

first e-Rozgar Center in collaboration of Excel Consulting Services.

workstations in the future. Additional Secretary

Information Imam, Project Director a significant number from Amir Ahmed, Chairman EC the existing 1.5 million and Services, Nazir Qureshi, upcoming new freelancers officials from MoITT, inaugurated the country's NTS, PSEB and a large number of freelancers were minister said. present on the occasion.

can work independently at very low rates"

He said, the best sulting Services.

Speaking on the facilities including high-The center boasts occasion, Dr. Umar Saif speed internet, UPS, around 100 workstations said that with the training centers, individual fully equipped with state- establishment of the cabins, meeting rooms and of-the-art facilities tailored for freelancers, with plans setting up 10,000 e-rozgar start-ups had been to expand to 300 centers across the country provided to freelancers.

now begun officially. The minister said that "We have also with the completion of the

ISLAMABAD (APP): MoITT Ayesha Moriani, fulfilled another promise great project, IT exports Caretaker Federal Minister Member IT Syed Junaid made to the people, where would be increased soon by \$10 billion annually and under public-private partnership, these centers would also be able to significantly increase the capacity and income of freelancers.He said, the Pakistan Software Export Board (PSEB) would be responsible for providing freelancers and required technical support for these centers.Dr. Umar Saif said that as promised, e-rozgar centers in other cities were also nearing completion.



Mullick in a group photo with the organizers and participants of the event organized by Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry in connection with Kashmir Solidarity Day in Islamabad.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for IT & Telecom Dr. Umar Saif inaugurates Pakistan's First Private Sector E-Rozgaar Center managed by EC Services in association with NTS.

Zong 4G holds Annual Business Conference to set strategic roadmap for 2024

ISLAMABAD (APP): During the Annual Business Conference, focused on the theme "Elevate Core dedication to placing its Capabilities, Strive for employees at the forefront Excellence," Zong 4G of its operations was celebrated its notable accomplishments in 2023 and revealed its strategic roadmap for 2024. The Chairman and CEO, Huo Junli praised the employees for their exceptional efforts that resulted in the company's positive growth, creating over 47 million satisfied and happy

Huo Junli reaffirmed that Zong 4G's industry success is attributed to the unwavering commitment and resilience of its employees,

propelling the company to greater heights. Even in challenging times, Zong's strengthened, accompanied by various initiatives for their well-being

"Furthermore, he said that in 2024, the company must sustain the momentum of digital and intelligent transformation to achieve the vision of a Digital Pakistan. The commitment extends to actively contributing to the highquality joint development of the 'Belt and Road' and the 'China-Pakistan Economic Corridor'

FESCO to ensure uninterrupted power supply on election day

FAISALABAD (APP) Faisalabad Electric Supply Company (FESCO) has chalked out a plan to ensure uninterrupted power supply to all polling station areas on general elections 2024. FESCO spokesman Tahir Sheikh said on Tuesday the company had set up a monitoring cell at FESCO Headquarters where Chief Executive Officer Engineer Muhammad Amir would monitor all electricity related issues.He said that circle officers and SEs of all circles were issued necessary directions to ensure uninterrupted electricity supply across the region on election day

awareness to protect Info on digital accounts ISLAMABAD (APP): ensuring a safer internet Director General of the that meets their educational P a k i s t a n needs and promotes needs and promotes positive online interactions, adding that

'Safer Internet Day'

PTADG stresses public

Telecommunication Authority (PTA), Ahmed Shamim Pirzada Tuesday on 'Safer Internet' Day emphasized to create media awareness among the general public for the responsible and safe use of social media platforms.

Talking to the PTV news, he said that while dialogue alive on creating a acknowledging the digital impact on children, the safer space for children, PTA is dedicated to he added.

from clicking on links from unknown numbers as well as unknown senders. "Keeping the digital safe is a shared responsibility, and all the stakeholders need to come together to keep the

the public urged to refrain

Pak earns US \$280m from travel services' export in Jul-Nov

ISLAMABAD (APP): under review, personal providing different travel services in various countries during the first five months of the current fiscal year 2023-24. This shows a decrease of 19.03 percent as compared to the US \$347.001 million worth same services provided during the corresponding months of the last fiscal year 2022-23, the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS)

During the months

reported.

Pakistan earned US travel services also \$280.981 million by decreased by 19.80 per cent, from US \$344.211 million last year to US \$276.071 million during July-November 2023. Among these personal services, the exports of health-related expenditure rose by 372.48 per cent while the education-related expenditure increased by 83.25 per cent.

In addition, the other personal services witnessed a decline of 22.31 per cent.

President Alvi directs Postal Life to pay Rs 5 mln to heirs of insurance policyholder ISLAMABAD (APP): deceased father had complaint with the Wafaqi

President Dr Arif Alvi Tuesday directed Postal Life Insurance to pay the death insurance claim of Rs million against an annual 5 million to the legal heirs of the deceased policyholder within 30 days.

He gave these directions while deciding upon a representation filed by the Postal Life Insurance (PLI) against the decision of Wafaqi Mohtasib directing it to pay the death insurance claim, a President Secretariat

public holiday

on February 8

press release said. As per details, complainant Abdul Aziz's SBP announces

KARACHI (APP): The State Bank of Pakistan, Tuesday, announced a public holiday on February 8, 2024 to facilitate voters

on the polling day. The central bank, in a statement issued here, stated that SPB will remain closed on February 8, 2024 (Thursday) being a public holiday in the country as notified by the Election Commission of Pakistan to enable the voters to exercise their right of franchise freely and conveniently in General

Election, 2024

obtained an insurance policy from PLI for the sum assured of Rs 5 premium of Rs 448,600 in

After his father died in 2015, PLI refused to pay the death insurance claim on the pretext that the deceased had concealed material facts about his date of birth and the pre-insurance ailment of diabetes at the time of amounted obtaining the insurance maladministration.

Moĥtasib to seek relief Wafaqi Mohtasib held that the deceased had purchased the insurance policy as per his date of birth mentioned on CNIC and that PLI had issued the insurance policy after accepting the requisite

The Mohtasib held that the denial by the insurance agency to honour the claim of the complainant

Afterwards, PLI filed Feeling aggrieved, the son (complainant) filed a a representation against this decision with the president.

PSX stays bullish, gains 796 more points

Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) witnessed bullish trend on Tuesday, gaining 796.10 points, a positive change of 1.26 per cent, closing at 63,799.02 points against 63,002.92 points the previous trading day.

compared to 263,547,879 shares valuing Rs. 10.730 billion the last day.

Some 336 companies transacted their shares in closing at Rs.2,316.57

ISLAMABAD (APP): the stock market; 230 of The 100-index of the them recorded gains and 79 sustained losses, whereas the share prices of 27 remained unchanged.

The three top-trading companies were PIAC(A) with 47,061,500 shares at Rs.10.84 per share, Oil and Gas Development with the previous trauming day.

A total of 23,123,662 shares at 330,921,598 shares valuing Rs.155.57 per share and Control of per share. Mari Petroleum Company Limited witnessed a maximum increase of Rs.77.73 per share price,

CM chairs meeting on election preparations, emphasises transparency, security measures

Caretaker Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi chaired an important meeting at the Chief Minister's Office on Tuesday to discuss election arrangements in the

attendees, Naqvi emphasized that internet and mobile services will operational throughout the province on interruption. He instructed for the commencement of city cleaning activities immediately after dawn on February 9, with banners and posters to be removed from all areas by the end of the day. Secretaries concerned were tasked with monitoring the directed for the activation and other officials.

removal process and of control rooms and the reporting the completion of the task by evening on February 9.

Highlighting the importance election duties in the field. as a team.

He noted the installation of 32,000 CCTV cameras at polling stations and emphasized Inspector the need to complete the Police, Naqvi commended the the procurement of CCTV

E m p h a s i s i n g adherence to SOPs and the Election Commission's

LAHORE: Provincial Election Commissioner

Punjab Ejaz Anwar Chauhan addressing a press

MS chairs meeting

regarding general

election arrangements

been issued regarding can- of all the necessary equip-

cellation holidays of all civil ment in the accident.

briefing in the Provincial Election Office.

HYDERABAD (APP):

The Medical Superinten-

dent (MS) of Liaquat Uni-

versity Medical Superinten-

dent Hyderabad Jamshoro

has said that regarding the general elections 2024 to be

ing with In-charges of dif-

ferent department of differ-

ent departments he said

that on the directives of the

Director General Health

Hyderabad circular has

Addressing the meet-

held across the country.

He stressed that of ensuring peaceful and fair transparency, Naqvi urged elections is a national district administrative responsibility, urging officers to actively oversee everyone to work together

The meeting was attended by Chief Secretary Punjab, General Provincial installation by midnight. Election Commissioner, Additional Interior Punjab government for Secretary, Interior saving 1 billion rupees in Secretary, Secretaries from Local Government, Transport, Finance, CCPO, MD Punjab Safe Authority, Cities Commissioner Lahore, code of conduct, Naqvi Deputy Commissioner,

CS, IGP inspect polling arrangements in Haripur

PESHAWAR (APP): To ensure the peaceful conduct of general election, Chief Secretary Khvber Pakhtunkhwa Nadeem Aslam Chaudhry and IGP, Akhtar Havat Gandapur on Monday paid a visit to Haripur district.

On the occasion DPO Haripur, Muhammad Umar Khan, DC Haripur, Khan Muhammad, SP Investigation Haripur, Amjad Hussain and district officers were present on the occasion, said an official press release.
DPO Har

Haripur Muhammad Umar Khan gave a detailed briefing to the CS and IGP on the security arrangements for the general election.

The Chief Secretary and IGP paid a visit to the polling station established at Post Graduate College Haripur and inspected the security arrangements.

The Chief Secretary directed the district administration to ensure a peaceful atmosphere and conduct of free, fair and transparent polling on the election day.



presented "Karpan" by representative of Sikh Community during his visit to Kartarpur.

CM KP chairs meeting

Cabinet takes number of decisions pertaining to issues of day-to-day affairs of Province

Independent Report

PESHAWAR: The Caretaker Cabinet of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa which met here Tuesday afternoon under the chairmanship Chief Minister Syed Arshad Hussain Shah took a large number of decisions pertaining to the issues of day-to-day affairs of the Province and of urgent na-

The meeting was actively participated by the cabinet members, the Chief Secretary and ad-

Independent Report

RAWALPINDI: Caretaker

Provincial Minister for

Primary and Secondary

Health, Punjab Dr Jamal

Nasir on Tuesday said that

Rs 65 million would be spent

on the renovation of the

Nursing Hostel while

revamping the College of

Nursing would be completed

views while inaugurating the

renovation of the Nursing

Hostel and College of

Nursing at Benazir Bhutto

Hospital (BBH).

He expressed these

at the cost of Rs 40 mln.

the Province. The cabinet approve the hiring of transactional Advisor / Legal Consultant for negotiations of agreements regarding private public partnerships with different entities and in this regard authorized the office of Advocate General of the Province.

It approved exemption from section 22-A of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Public Procurement Regulatory Authority Act 2012 enabling the Provincial Culministrative secretaries of ture and Tourism Depart-

completed in a month while

the renovation work of Nursing Hostel would be

Later, the provincial minister visited Holy Family

Hospital (HFH) along with

Commissioner Rawalpindi

Liaqat Ali Chatha. He said that

after the completion of the

revamping and renovation

work of the hospital,

and Gynecology wards of

that as many as 100 hospitals

The minister informed

the HFH at the earliest.

completed in April.

ment to out-source the PTDC properties under Public Private Partnership mode. As a result of 18th Constitutional Amendment in 2010 Federal Ministry of Tourism having been devolved to the provinces, 19 different properties of PTDC were handed over to the Tourism Department of

Province. outsourcing of these properties to local and international investors will be made under the guidance of Special Investment Facili tation Council.

ANF recovers 724 kg drugs in 11 operations RAWALPĪNDI (APP):

Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) while conducting 11 operations recovered over 724 kg drugs and arrested nine accused, said an ANF Headquarters spokesman here on Tuesday.

He informed that 746 grams hashish was recovered from a passenger going to Sharjah from Islamabad Airport.

heroin-filled immediate steps were being capsules were recovered from a passenger going to Dubai from Islamabad taken to activate the PEADS Airport

159 grams hashish was recovered from two passengers going to China at Karachi Airport.

Mohsin Naqvi visits **Kartarpur Corridor**

Caretaker Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi on Tuesday visited the Kartarpur Corridor and explored various artifacts related to Baba Gurunanak Dev Ji.

Provincial ministers, Chief Secretary, Inspector General of Police, and senior officers, also accompanied the CM. They were received and warmly welcomed by prominent members of the Sikh community at Gurudwara Sahib, said a handout issued here.

During his visit, the chief minister received a briefing on Gurdwara Sahib Kartarpur and participated in the prayer ceremony, also taking time to observe rewarding the cooks.

LAHORE (APP): Punjab the historical well. He was honored and presented with a 'kirpan', and interacted with members of the Sikh community from India, including Lalila Agarwal from Delhi, who expressed gratitude for the facilities provided to the Sikh community in

Punjab. Posing photographs with the Sikh community, the CM extended compassion towards a special person, engaging in a lengthy conversation. He made a special visit to the 'Langar Hall', where he dined with the Sikh community, commending the quality of the food and personally



MIRO KHAN: Peoples Party (PPP) Candidate for PS-15 Constituency, Nisar Ahmed Khuhro addresses to gathering during a corner meeting as a part of election campaign in connection of the General Election 2024 coming ahead, in Miro Khan.

Preparations complete for general elections in Punjab: Ijaz Chohan

Provincial Election Commissioner (PEC) Punjab Ijaz Anwar Chohan said on Tuesday that all preparations had been finalized for general elections in Punjab.

Speaking at a press conference, he said that printing of ballot papers had been completed and delivered to all district returning officers in the province.

He said that on February 7, the returning officers would ensure the receiving of election to enhance the electoral material, including ballot process.

papers, by the presiding officers, besides polling stations' readiness.

He said security, communication and transport plans had been chalked out for the elections, adding that police and personnel would perform duties to maintain law and order at polling stations.

He emphasized the Election Commission's commitment to fulfilling its constitutional obligations, highlighting ongoing efforts

Dr Jamal said that the had been renovated across College of Nursing would be the Punjab province. International News

Dr Jamal inaugurates

renovation work of

BBH nursing college

Blinken seeks progress on Gaza cease-fire-for-hostages deal in meetings with Egyptian mediators

hospitals Hyderabad and

Jamshoro doctors, para-

medical and nursing staff

including other employees

of the hospital have been

immediately cancelled. Ac-

tion will also be taken against the staff who are late

on duty.

MS Dr Shahid Islam

Junejo directed the In-

charges of all the depart-

ments present in the meet-

ing and said that they

should ensure the presence

Monitoring Desk CAIRO: U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken was in Cairo on Tuesday for a meeting with Egyptian leaders that U.S. officials said would concentrate on negotiating a cease-fire in the Israel-Hamas war in exchange for the release of hostages held by the mili-

Blinken's visit also comes amid growing concerns in Egypt about Israel's stated intentions to expand the combat in Gaza to areas on the Egyptian border that are crammed with displaced Palestinians.

Israel's defense minister has said Israel's offensive will eventually reach the town of Rafah, on the Egyptian border, where

more than half of Gaza's 2.3 million people have sought refuge and are now living in increasingly miserable conditions. U.N. humanitarian monitors said Tuesday that Israeli evacuation orders now cover two-thirds of Gaza's territory, driving thousands more people every day toward the border

Egypt has warned that an Israeli deployment along the border would threaten the peace treaty the two countries signed over four decades ago. Egypt fears an expansion of combat to the Rafah area tinian civilians across the border, a scenario Egypt has said it is determined to prevent. Blinken, who was

Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi, has said repeatedly that Palestinians must not be forced out of Gaza. During his latest trip, Blinken is seeking progress on a cease-fire deal, on potential normalization of relations between Israel and Saudi Arabia, and on preventing an escalation of regional fighting. On all three fronts,

Blinken faces major challenges. Hamas and Israel are publicly at odds over key elements of a potential truce. Israel has dismissed the United States' calls for could push terrified Pales- a path to a Palestinian state, and Iran's militant allies in the region have shown little sign of being deterred by U.S. strikes.



Rain falls over cars stuck by a mudslide, caused by an ongoing rain storm in Studio City, California.

Britain's King Charles diagnosed with cancer: **Buckingham Palace**

Monitoring Desk LONDON: Britain's King Charles has been diagnosed with a form of cancer and the 75-year-old will postpone public-facing duties while he undergoes treatment, Buckingham Palace

said on Monday. Charles, who became king in September 2022 following the death of his mother Queen Elizabeth, is "wholly positive" about his treatment and looks forward to returning to full public duty as soon as possible, the palace said.

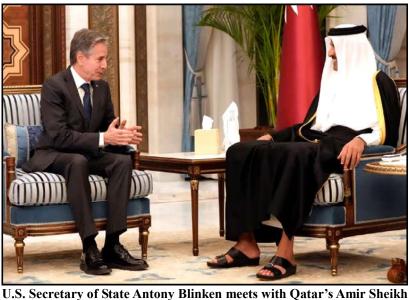
Charles spent three nights in the hospital last month where he underwent a corrective procedure for an enlarged prostate.

The palace said a separate issue of concern was spotted during the hospital visit but did not give any further details beyond saying the king had a "form of cancer". A royal source said that it was not prostate cancer. "His majesty has today commenced a schedule of regular treatments. during which time he has been advised by doctors to postpone public-facing duties."

UN chief sets up body to probe Israeli allegations

Monitoring Desk INITED NATIONS: UN ecretary-General António Guterres established an independent body on Monday to scrutinise allegations regarding neutrality of the Inited Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA).

Guterres, in consultation with UNRWA Commissioner General Philippe Lazzarini, has assigned the leadership of this crucial review to Catherine Colonna, a former foreign affairs minister of France. The panel will collaborate with three reputable research organizations -the Raoul Wallenberg Institute in Sweden, the Chr. Michelsen Institute in Norway, and the Danish Institute for Human Rights. In a statement released in New York, the UN chief emphasised the importance of this review, stating, "The Review Group's mandate is to assess whether the Agency is doing everything within its power to ensure neutrality and to respond to allegations of serious breaches when they are made.



Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani at Lusail Palace, in Doha, Qatar.

Two-state solution only path to peace, Scholz tells Netanyahu

Monitoring Desk BERLIN: German Chancel-

lor Olaf Scholz told Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in a phone call on Monday that a two-state solution with the Palestinians was the only path to lasting peace in the region.

From the view of the government, only a negotiated two-state solution would open up the prospect of a sustainable solution to the Middle East conflict.

This must apply to velop both Gaza and the West tions'

Bank," Scholz said, according to a statement issued by his spokesman.

Meanwhile, Russian President Vladimir Putin held a telephone conversation with his counterpart from the UAE Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Russia said on Monday.

The presidents discussed the situation around Ukraine and Gaza and agreed on the "further development of friendly rela-

Police shoot dead two 'terrorists' outside Istanbul court: minister

Monitoring Desk ISTANBUL: Turkish po-

lice on Tuesday shot dead a man and a woman belonging to a leftist "terrorist" organisation who attacked a security checkpoint outside Istanbul's main courthouse, injuring six people, officials said.

Interior Minister Ali Yerlikaya said the assailants were members of the Revolutionary People's Liberation Party-Front (DHKP-C) — a fringe leftist group that has staged periodic attacks in Turkiye since the 1980s. The group issued no initial claim of responsibility. "While the terrorists who attempted to attack were neutralised, six people, including three police officers and three citizens, were injured," Yerlikaya said in a

Justice Minister Yilmaz Tunc said "heroic police officers prevented a treacherous attack", adding that prosecutors had launched a "multi-faceted investigation". Images from the scene showed two bodies lying on the ground outside the main entrance of the Caglayan courthouse

social media statement.

Over 100 Palestinians martyred by Israeli forces in Gaza

GAZA (Online): More than one hundred Palestinians have been martyred in unabated Israeli aggression in the Gaza Strip during the last twenty four hours. According to medical sources, thousands of civilians are buried under the rubble, but the Israeli forces are blocking access of ambulance crews and civil defense teams attempting to reach them. They said that the ongoing Israeli aggression against the Gaza Strip had resulted in the deaths.

UK-owned cargo ship damaged in drone attack off Yemen

DUBAI (INP): A British owned cargo ship was damaged in a drone attack off rebel-held Yemen, a maritime security firm said on Tuesday, the latest in dozens of incidents in the Red

Barbados flagged ship "reportedly incurred minor damage on the port side" in an attack west of Hodeida British firm Ambrey said, adding that there were no injuries.

8 dead, 80 injured in India firework factory explosion: officials Chief Minister Mohan

injured on Tuesday in a giant explosion at a firework factory in India that saw balls of flames soar into the sky, officials said.

Footage on Indian television showed a tower of flame after the explosion at the firecracker plant, with dozens of ambulances sent and army helicopters called in to evacuate the wounded.

Senior district police Rajesĥwari Mahobia told AFP there were "eight deaths so far and around 80 injured", at the factory in Harda in Madhya Pradesh state, adding that "the death toll is likely to go up" Images from the fac-

tory site showed a wasteland of blackened and smok-Madhya Pradesh a bigger hospital.

Yadav said reports of the explosion were "very sad news" and said medics at burn units in nearby major hospitals were called to make "necessary prepara-

"Ambulances are being rushed to Harda from the surrounding areas, and the army has been contacted to arrange for helicopters," Yadav said in a post on X, formerly Twitter. At least 20 ambulances were at the site, with 50 more being sent to help those injured, he added. Manish Sharma, a surgeon at the Harda district hospital, said the centre was flooded with a stream of casualties. "We have eight deaths at our hospital, a total of 90 people were admitted here so far and we have referred 15 of them to

Ukraine's Donetsk region pounded by up to 2,500 Russian strikes daily - governor

Monitoring Desk DONETSK REGION:

Russia is firing between 1,500 and 2,500 shells and rockets at Ukraine's warravaged Donetsk region every day and is targeting critical infrastructure to make it harder for people to remain there in winter, its governor told Reuters. The eastern province,

57% of which is occupied by Russia, has been at the forefront of war since 2014, when Russian-backed proxies seized the region's capital city, also called Donetsk, as well as many other large towns.

Since Russia launched a full-scale invasion in 2022, this has been where many of the war's most vicious and protracted battles have occurred.

"The enemy shells (the region) from 1,500 to 2,500 times a day," Governor Vadym Filashkin said in an interview on Friday, adding he believed Moscow was still aiming to capture the entire region.

"The enemy's shelling is this dense, this heavy, most every day.

The governor said the Kurakhove power plant, one of the region's few remaining large-scale sources of electricity generation, had been forced to close a week ago due to Russian shelling. He said this was part of a wider campaign.

'The enemy is trying destroy critical infrastructure objects so that people find it difficult to remain in the region in win-

Filashkin said the town of Avdiivka, home to the largest coking plant in Europe and the target of a massive Russian assault since October last year, was "95-98% gone." "The enemy dropped about 200 guided aerial bombs on Avdiivka alone over the (last month). They are to-

tally destroying it," he said. Local authorities say the number of civilians in the town has dwindled to

less than 1,000.

Indian actions in Kashmir constitute 'crimes against humanity': Masood Khan

Pakistan's Ambassador to the United States, Masood Khan, Monday termed India's repressive actions in Kashmir as crimes against humanity, and called on the international community to save the Kashmiri people.

"The Kashmiris are the most disenfranchised people on the face of the earth; they are victims of genocide, crimes against humanity and ethnic cleansing," he said at a special event to observe Kashmir Solidarity Day at the Embassy of Pakistan Washing-

"We feel the pain of our Kashmiri brothers and sisters—their wounds are our wounds," he said.

Masood Khan said that people of Pakistan have made huge sacrifices in fighting the case of Kashmir since the inception of the country. "We are not fighting for a piece of a land but we are fighting for the past seven decades because it is a moral responsibility upon us," he said.

the inalienable right to selfdetermination of our Kashmiri brothers that was promised to them by the UN Security Council and by the international community." "Kashmir is a powder keg in South Asia that threatens regional peace and stability," the ambassador added.

"It is the responsibil- Hussain Syed, in a video ity of international community to save them. I appeal to your conscience. We appeal to your convening power to come to the rescue of the people of illegally occupied Jammu & Kash-

The chief guest at the event, Lars Rise, a former and resilience of Kashmiri Member of Norwegian Parliament, said, "We must steadfast in their indigstand and protest for the enous, spontaneous and right to self-determination

of the Kashmiri people."
"It is a sad day that even after 77 years we are still talking about lack of this right," he said. Rise said that there

was denial of basic human rights and communication blockade in Indian occupied



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar chairs a meeting of the Caretaker Federal Cabinet, in the Federal Capital.

Gohar Ejaz pledges to ensure robust security for upcoming polls-2024

Over 120mln to exercise right of vote to elect representatives: Solangi

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Interior Minister, Dr. Goher Ejaz, on Tuesday expressed his commitment to ensure robust security for upcoming general elections scheduled to be held on February 8.

Speaking at a joint press conference, he outlined the government's comprehensive preparations in place for the upcoming elections.

The minister was flanked by Caretaker Information Minister Murtaza Solangi, and Federal Secretary for Interior, Aftab Akbar Durrani.

Highlighting the security measures, Dr. Ejaz assured that there would be

no compromise on main-taining law and order during the elections. He underscored the

collaboration between security agencies and the administration to prevent any unlawful interference

Dr Ejaz emphasized the presence of trained commandos in Balochistan and the support of the armed forces in ensuring the safety of the electoral pro-

Providing an overview of the election preparations, the interior minister shared that out of 90,777 polling stations across the country, 44,000 were declared normal, 29,985 deemed sensitive, and 16,766 labeled as highly

He reassured the public that security would be deployed in three levels, with 7 to 8 law enforcers stationed at each polling

Despite concerns and challenges, Dr. Ejaz expressed hope for a "transparent", and peaceful elec-

He urged the public to exercise their right to vote with confidence, acknowledging the dedication of the 511,000-strong police force guarding the poling sta-

The minister re-counted his visits to Karachi and Balochistan,

addressing specific challenges in each region. **PPP** believes

Only PPP can pull in politics of country from all economic principle: Kaira ÎSLAMABAD (APP): Pa-

kistan Peoples Party (PPP) central leader Qamar Zaman Kaira on Tuesday highlighted the party's commitment to principles and service rather than seeking votes based on community or division. Talking to a private

news channel, he empha-

sized the importance of political ethics and criticized the transformation of politics into mere rivalries. He highlighted that throughout his election

campaign, he refrained from criticizing any political party or opponent, adhering to "Bhutto's values." Expressing concern over the prevalent trend of

transforming politics into rivalries, Kaira emphasized the detrimental impact on Pakistan's political culture. He criticized the Pa-

kistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) for the current situation, attributing it to their own actions and misdeeds.

CTD, police conduct joint operation to ensure security on polling day

KARACHI (INP): The Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) and police conducted joint search and combing operation in different areas of the metropolis to ensure security on poll-

ing day. Spokesman of CTD said that search and combing operation was jointly conducted by CTD and police at suspected localities of Karachi.

He said that the operation was aimed to evade any unfortunate incident on the occasion of the general elections and search app device was used during operations in suspected areas.

The CTD spokesman said that combing operation was conducted in Nava Colony, Macchar Colony Lyari, Saddar and surround ing areas.

A group of kidnapped

MIRPŪR MATHELO: A group of armed robbers kidnapped three people from the national highway, the kidnappers belong to Mirpur Mathelo, the heirs of the abductees protested in the city, abducted from Ghotki district within a month.

The number abductees has increased to 17, one injured, the heirs of the abductees, on the call of Hindu Panjait and political social leaders, Mirpur Mathelo main shutter down strike, rally, protest demonstration outside SSP Ghotki's office, chanting slo-

CDWP recommends Rs 23.8b project for automated indus basin irrigation system

Working Party (CDWP), has recommended Rs 23.8 billion project for automated Indus Basin Irrigation system. The CDWP was convened under the chairmanship of Deputy Chairman Planning Commission, Dr Muhammad Jahanzeb Khan, said a press release issued here Tuesday. The CDWP discussed

vital projects related to the energy, transport and communication, and water resource sectors. The forum also recommended the revised PC-1 titled Installation of Telemetry System for Real Time Discharge Monitoring at 27 key sites on Indus Basin Irrigation system, presented by the Ministry of Water Resources with a total cost of Rs. 23,834.707 million, to the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) for con-

Indus Basin Irrigation system is proposed to be

Rs.500 million would be sponsored by IRSA through its resources. The project is under the ownership of the Indus River System Authority (IRSA), with execution responsibilities given to the Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA). After two year post completion period, IRSA will take over the operation and maintenance of this transformative

Currently, the Indus Basin Irrigation water management system operates on manual procedures.

Decisions regarding water distribution rely on manual calculations at barrages and information obtained through traditional means like phone or fax. The absence of automated monitoring system has led to a situation where gate positions are unknown, causing control issues for provincial irrigation departments and potential interprovincial disputes.



mittee (Chairman JCSC) General Sahir Shamshad Mirza, called on Prince Khalid Bin Salman Bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud during his official visit to KSA.

CJCSC, Saudi Defence Minister discuss strategic issues, defence cooperation RAWALPINDI (INP): brotherly countries came

Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCSC) General Sahir Shamshad Mirza called on Saudi Defence Minister Prince Khalid Bin Salman Bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, Inter Service Public Relations (ISPR) said on Tuesday.

According to the military's media wing, strategic, security issues and opportunities to enhance defence coopera-

under the discussion during the meeting. The meeting of Gen

Sahir Shamshad Mirza with the Saudi Defence Minister was held during his official visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in connection with the Second World Defence Show. The CJCSC also vis-

ited stalls of different organisations from Pakistan and inaugurated Al-Fatahtion between the two II Missile stall at the event.

SHC expresses annoyance over repeated closure of internet service

KARACHI (Online): Sindh the matter will become all High Court (SHC) has expressed annoyance over repeated closure and suspension of internet service across the country. The petition filed in

SHC against repeated closure and suspension of internet service in the country came up for hearing before single bench of SHC led by the Chief Justice Aqeel Ahmad Abbasi Tuesday. The CJ SHC remarked

during the hearing that If our internet does not run then how will it have run any where else. It seems as if

right after election.

The court issued stay order regarding restoration of the internet service uninterrupted across the country besides issuing orders for continuing mobile internet service across the country uninterrupted. The court adjourned

the hearing till February 21 due to non presence of PTA counsel

It is pertinent to mention here Independent candidate Jibran Nasir advocate from PS-110 had filed



Hafiz Naeem-ur-Rehman addresses during a rally as a part of Election Campaign in connection of General Election 2024, in Hyderabad.

Rangers, police hold flag march to review security for Feb 8

Larkana Police and Shahbaz Rangers on Tuesday conducted a flag march in different localities of the city as show of power and vigilance for the general elections 2024, being held on February 8.

According to district police spokesman, the flag march was organized to ensure a peaceful atmosphere for upcoming elections. Law enforcing agencies (LEAs), are fully alert to protect the life of the citizens preparing to vote in the general elections 2024. A large number of

Larkana Police and Sindh Rangers' vehicles, 15 Helper's motorcycles were found taking round in different locations. The flag march started from PTS Larkana and after patrolling the entire city includ-

ing Sheikh Zayed Chowk, GT Road, Shireen Amir Begum Overhead Bridge, Begum Nusrat Bhutto Overhead Bridge, Sir Shahnawaz Bhutto Road, Allama MashriqiRoad, and Hayat Muhammad Khan Sherpai Road, the flag march concluded at SSP chowk.

SSP Larkana Syed Abdul Raheem Sherazi, led the rangers along with ASP City Larkana Atif Amir and officials of Shahbaz Rangers Larkana during the flag march activity made in their respective jurisdic-

Later, talking to the newsmen, SSP Syed Abdul Raheem Sherazi said that a comprehensive security plan has been prepared to meet any emergency situation during the general elec-



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Interior, Dr. Gohar Ejaz and Murtaza Solangi, Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting addressing a press conference, in Islamabad.

Shazia Mari calls for Fair Elections, condemns violence

HYDERABAD (APP): The Pakistan Peoples Party's Central Information Secretary and PPP candidate for NA 209 Sanghar I, Shazia Atta Mari has demanded the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) ensure peaceful and transparent conduct of general elections in district Sanghar and across the country.

She said that the ECP should also ensure the protection of voters' lives and property. She expressed these views while holding a press conference at Birani House on Tuesday.

Shazia said we believe that the first stage of democracy is holding general elections and people have the right to choose their representatives according to their opinion. There was an enthusiastic election campaign on behalf of PPP across the country, while Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, Asifa Bhutto Zardari, AsifAli Zardari and PPP leadership have conducted a vigorous election

campaign in every district, she added.

Shazia further stated that PPP was the only political party that initiated the election campaign first and demanded the ECP to announce the election date. The Peoples Party has been demanding a level playing field since the beginning. She said a historic rally was held in Karachi under the leadership of Bilawal Bhutto, the people of Karachi gave him a historic welcome. The people of Karachi want to see progress and prosperity in

To a question about the possibility of joining hands with the PML (N) after the elections, she replied that if democratic means are adopted, then consideration can be given to working together. She stated that whoever desires to conspire will not be allowed to succeed. She also strongly condemned the



KARACHI: Mayor Karachi Barrister Murtaza Wahab talking to media during his visit to underconstruction Nursing School building at Karachi Institute of Heart Disease (KIHD).

DIG reviews security plan for elections 2024

MÎRPURKHAS (APP): Deputy Inspector General (DIG), Police Mirpurkhas range Tanveer Alam Odho, has finalized the security plan made for holding peaceful general elections being held on February 8, 2024.

Giving a briefing to the Aiwan-e-Sahafat delegation at the police complex here on Tuesday, DIG said that 12,618 police officers and personnel including volunteer police, have been deployed to ensure the security of 1958 polling stations of districts of Mirpurkhas division, Umerkot and Tharparkar. He said that 341

highly sensitive and 742 sensitive polling stations are also included in the Mirpurkhas division. He said that two SSPs have been posted from other

districts, while one senior superintendent of police would be deployed for Umerkot and one SSP to be

posted in Mirpurkhas area The DIG said that some seven policemen would be deployed at highly sensitive polling stations, while five policemen are responsible to ensure security for sensitive polling stations. He added that four policemen would take the responsibility of normal polling stations. The DIG said that according to a policy of the Election Commission of Pakistan, the volunteers, including women and various present and retired employees would be appointed without uniform. He said that Quick Response Force comprising 500 police personnel has been deployed to deal with any emergency during polling. He further informed that

as many as 2620 lady health

workers are included in the

Lady Volunteer Police and

they had been trained for the

purpose

NADRA extends office timings ahead of elections 2024

very important voices from

message, said that the situ-

ation in Kashmir coincided

with the Israeli killings in

Gaza. He said that India has

been exposed as a state

sponsor of cross border ter-

rorism, and its transforma-

tion into a Hindutva state.

widespread struggle for

their inalienable right to

Syed, Attorney at Law,

underscored the need for

'empowered mindset' at

international level that

could assess what needs to

Mowahid Hussain

self-determination.

He lauded the courage

Senator Mushahid

Kashmir," Rise said.

KARACHI (INP): The National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) has announced the immediate acquisition of Computerized National Identity Cards (CNICs) as general elections are around the corner, says in media

According to details, NADRA has said that by giving normal, urgent or executive fees, the applicant can receive the ID card from NADRA offices during office

hours on February 6 and 7. Meanwhile, the working hours of all NADRA delivery centers across the country have been increased by three

Well-known social activist Fareed Ahmed Chandio joined JUI-F by leaving PPP

Independent Report HIKARPUR: The head of Chandio Community the prominent Social Activist Fareed Ahmed Chandio joined the Jamiat Ulma-e-Íslam-JUI (F) with his community persons, relatives and friends by leaving Pakistan People's Party-PPP here at Shikarpur Press Club Shikarpur before the JUI-F Sindh General Secretary and JUI Candidate for NA-193 Shikarpur Allama Rashid Mehmood

According to details, the resident of Haji Latif Shah Muhalla Shikarpur, Fareed Ahmed Chandio the well-known person of Chandio Community joined JUI-F and expressed his support with the JUI candidates in Shikarpur and appealed to their community to vote them on "Kitaab" for JUI-F.

Karachi Sabzi Mandi submerged in rainwater

KARACHI (INP): Following heavy rain in Karachi, the city's Sabzi Mandi (Vegetable Market) is still submerged in rainwater, as authorities failed to drain out the water.

According to details, the accumulated rainwater in Sabzi Mandi is creating problems for the masses coming to the mandi for trade. Meanwhile, the drivers of vehicles loaded with vegetables and fruits are also finding it hard to deliver the

goods.

The trades of the Karachi Sabzi Mandi are also complaining about the sharp decline in their business due to unhygienic conditions.

crises: Asifa Bhutto HYDERABAD (APP): workers in large numbers. PPP's election campaigner Asifa Bhutto Zardari has The rally after marching through city roads arrived at Sanghar Road where

said that PPP is the only party that can pull out country from all crises as it has the full manifesto of betterment of the economy and providing rights of the common man. Addressing a campaign rally on the last day of campaigning, Asifa Bhutto Zardari said that Bilawal Bhutto Zardari could become Prime Minister and pull the country from challenges. The rally that commenced from Bilawal Chowk was led by Asifa Bhutto Zardari and Dr Azra Fazal Pechohu and

showered flowers on the leaders Asifa, addressing the rally said that Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has always talked of the common man and their rights. She said that the PPP knows that the country is a victim of economic problems, which was added in the manifesto to resolve first. She said that impor-

workers mostly women

tant points of the PPP manifesto are the elimination of inflation, restoration of the economy and delivery of



ISLAMABAD: Chief of the Navel Staf Admiral Naveed Ashraf exchanging views with Ihab Mohamed Abdulhamid Hassan Abassador of Egypt at Navel

JUI-F will sweep the Shikarpur with the Support of vote By Adeel Ahmed SHIKARPUR: The Jamiat Ulma-e-Islam-JUI (F) Candi-

dates of NA- 193 and PS-07 Shikarpur expressed their suspecting of severe disputes and Blood Shedding during the Election on 08th February 2024 as their opponent candidates wants to get rigging in Poll, they added.

This was stated by the JUI-F Candidates for NA-193 Moulana Rashid Mehmood Soomro and PS-07 Agha Taimoor Khan Pathan during a Joint Press Conference



held at Shikarpur Press Club Shikarpur here on Tuesday and allegedly said that they were informed that their PPP opponent candidates wants to destroy the peace as one of most wanted notorious notified bandit carrying RS.05 million bounty is available at Shikarpur House for blood shedding during the Poll. Not only this but they know that at Wazirabad outlaws are busy in setting their weapons and the ammunition is being collected there as to use for destroy the peace and spread fear on Election Day.

They on the occasion said that Jamiat Ulma-e-Islam-JUÍ believes in peace and always played their vital role to maintain and improve the law and order situation in Sindh by following the all rules and regulations and remained peace lover.



KARACHI: Election Commission officials prepare election material to be shipped to the polling stations ahead of the general election, in Provincial Capital.

armed robbers three people Independent Report

gans against Ghotki police.

Demand for the recovery of the hostages within 24 hours, according to the details, kidnapping for ransom incidents are increasing day by day in Ghotki