

Ph: 2841470/2841473 REG: No. BC-116 B/ID-445 Vol: XXV No. 221, Ramzan 20, 1445 AH Sunday March 31, 2024 Pages 08, Price Rs. 15

Ex-CJP Tassaduq Jillani to head Inquiry Commission to probe IHC Judges' allegations

Cabinet approves constitution of inquiry commission to probe allegations of spy agencies' meddling in judicial affairs; Issues commission ToRs, repudiates allegations of IHC judges, declares them to be "inappropriate"; Inquiry commission would submit its report in 60 days, say sources; PTI denounces inquiry

commission under chairmanship of Tasadduq Hussain Jilani

LAHORE (APP): The federal cabinet on Saturday approved constitution of an Inquiry Commission headed by former Chief Justice of Pakistan Tassaduq Hussain Jilani to probe the contents of the letter written by six judges of the Islamabad High

Court. The cabinet meeting chaired by Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif considered the contents of a letter written by six judges of the IHC in details, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

The meeting was told that under an announcement of the full court meeting of Supreme Court, a proposal over constitution of a commission was agreed in a meeting between the CJP and the prime minis-



as well.

Aurangzeb meeting with Sindh Chief Minister Sved Murad Ali Shah

One dead. 14 others need reforms in the province.

The meeting also ap-proved Terms of Reference under unanimous opinion (TORs) under which the inquiry commission would fully probe the allegations levelled by the IHC judges and decide whether these were correct or otherwise.

It would investigate whether any personnel was directly responsible for interfering into the judicial matters. The commission under its findings would recommend proceedings against anyone from the agency, department or government if found involved into such issue. It could, if found

necessary during the course of its proceedings, probe other related issues The meeting while rejecting the allegations regarding interference by the executive, termed it inap-

said that they firmly believed in the separation of powers among the state institutions under the 1973 Constitution of Pakistan. The prime minister

while reiterating his strong Minister belief in the freedom of judiciary and constitutional jurisidiction, also took the members of the cabinet into confidence about his meeting with the chief justice. The cabinet comthe relevant ministries. pletely endorsed the prime

minister's decisions and steps taken so far. Meanwhile te Pakistan

Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) on Saturday denounced the inquiry commission under the chairmanship of former chief justice of Pakistan out wasting time. (CJP) Tasadduq Hussain

Jilani, formed after the Islamabad High Court's (IHC) judges' letter. he said the ministries concerned should evolve mechanisms, hire human **Reform Cell** resources and formulate

established for targets, he added. "Responsibility with accountability will be the bringing reforms

in various sectors hallmark of the five-year **Independent Report** roadmap as no system in the world can progress without it," he opined. The prime minister QUETTA: The government Balochistan has established reform cell under lead-

said that for this purpose, ership of Chief Secretary. all the available resources According to an official and tools should be exhandout issued here on Satplored besides, those not urday, the reform cell would available immediately be be compromised nine memprocured. bers. The reform cell would He said that to over- selves. determine as which sectors

come delays and red tape, a forum like the Special In-

LAHORE (APP): Prime vestment Facilitation Council (SIFC) was available. Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Saturday adding for the hiring of global consultants, the rel-evant rules should also be urged his cabinet members to immediately commence work towards achieving the followed. targets set in a five-year The prime minister

roadmap as shared with all stressed for utilization of the country's talented hu-Addressing a meeting of man resources for achievthe cabinet, the prime min-ister said that he had shared ing the targets. He also urged the ministries to broad parameters of the adopt innovative tools and thinking, besides, reducing the file work burden. five-year plan with the relevant ministries by setting

various targets to be We have a five-year achieved immediately withterm to transform the economic situation of the coun-Under the parameters, try, but for that purpose, we have to commence our respective work immedi-

ately," he emphasised. To achieve self-suffistrategies to meet the set ciency, the prime minister said that they had to reduce the burden of foreign debts,

increase GDP. create jobs. develop agriculture and IT sectors, bring reforms in the energy sector and end smug-

gling. When the wheel of economy moved on, the country would achieve progress, he said, adding that for economic stability, they have to take the required initiatives them-

May 9 riots: **ATC sentences 51 accused** to five-year in prison

The ATC will issue a

According to the po-

GUJRANWALA (Agencies): An anti-terrorism court (ATC) in Gujranwala on Saturday awarded fiveyear imprisonment each to 51 accused who were found involved in the May 9 riots last year.

were arrested after geo-The ATC judge Natasha Naseem Supra charge sheet. conducted the hearing of a case related to vandalism detailed verdict later. and arson at Gujranwala Cantt in which 23 PTI leadlice, no prominent PTI ers, including the party founder Imran Khan and leader or party office bearer is among the 51 con-Vice Chairman Shah victs who were awarded Mahmood Qureshi, as well sentences today. as over 400 suspects had been nominated.

While announcing a in the case and more than short verdict, the court 200 unidentified suspects. gave a five-year jail-term The number of nominated each to the accused politipersons reached over 400 cal workers who were arafter the police interrorested from the vandalism gated the suspects. site while some of them

During the trial, 199 witnesses recorded testifencing, as per the police monies in the court.

Moreover, Gujranwala police also questioned the incarcerated PTI founder and Qureshi at Adiala Jail in the Gujranwala Cantt vandalism and arson case. However, the former premier did not cooperate with the investigators, according Initially, the police had nominated 23 PTI leaders lawyers to submit reply.

An empowered commission needed to be formed on issue of missing persons, emphasizes CJ BHC





LAHORE: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a meeting of the Federal Cabinet

PM prods cabinet members to immediately move towards meeting 5-year roadmap targets

injured in Harnai blast

QUETTA (INP): A bomb Harnai-Daki road, Quetta. blast was reported near the gas company vehicle in Quetta, resulting in the loss of one life and injuries to 14 others.

According to the deputy commissioner of Harnai, as many as one individual died while 14 others injured after a blast near area to apprehend the susa gas company vehicle at pects.

CM Sarfaraz Bugti says **People of Balochistan and** security forces are united against peace enemies

Independent Report tigations. QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has cowardly act of terrorists. strongly condemned the explosion took place in Harnai and sought report from the Home department about the terrorism act.

In a condemnation statement issued here on Saturday, the Chief Minister said that the incident of terrorism is strongly condemnable

He directed to the authorities to present immediate report about the inci- medical treatment facilities dent after thorough inves- to all the injured of blast.

The rescue officials swiftly reached the spot and started shifting the injured individuals to the district the headquarters hospital for immediate medical assistance.

Meanwhile, the law enforcers cordoned off the

ited their nomination papers for the 48 vacant Senate seats. The final list of candi-

dates from Returning Offic-ers shows that out of 18 elected unopposed, seven are from Punjab's general seats. Similarly, in Balochistan, senators for

seven general seats, two women seats, and two Ulema/ The Chief Minister technocrat seats have won without any opposition. said that Harnai blast is a

A spokesperson for the Election Commission of He said that the people of Balochistan and security Pakistan (ECP) announced forces are standing against that preparations have been completed for conducting the peace enemies unitedly He said that the peace elections on April 2 to fill 30 vacant seats. Ballot pawould prevail finally in the pers have been printed, and He also asserted that transportation of election materials to returning offic-

those shedding blood of iners has also been finalized nocent people wouldn't be The elections would be held spared at all. Moreover, he directed to the concerned on 29 General, eight authorities to provide best women, nine technocrat/ Ulema and two non-Muslim seats

Lawyers' organizations reject Govt's commission on IHC judges letter issue Independent Report

war against terrorists.

QUETTA: The Balochistan lawyers' organizations have rejected the commission formed $ilde{b}$ y the federal government about the issue of letter written by the judges of Islamabad High Court. joint meeting of the lawyers organizations was held under presidentship of member of Pakistan Bar Council, Munir Ahmed Kakar here on Saturday.

The lawyers organizations vehemently rejected the government's commission with consensus. According to a press release issued in this regard, the commission formed led by any retired judge is unacceptable. It was demanded that full court should hear matter after taking suomoto notice.

It was vowed that the lawyers of province would not let affected the independence of judiciary. Moreover, the joint meeting of the lawyers organizations was convened on April 2, 2024. The future course of action would be decided in the next meeting of lawyers.



KARACHI: Member Balochistan Assembly Mir Liaquat Lehri and Mir Zulfiqar Ali Lehri meeting with Sindh Minister for Prisons Ali Hassan Zardari

18 Senators elected unopposed in upcoming

Senate elections SLAMABAD (APP) Eighteen candidates have been elected unopposed as senators out of a total of 147 aspirants who depos-



LAHORE: Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Attaullah Tarar is talking to the media at Gwalmandi.

Targets in writing have been given to ministries for first time in history of country: Attaullah

Party workers played important role in continuity of democracy: Tarar

LAHORE (Online): Infor-

He claimed rupee has mation Minister Atta strengthened following the Uallah Tarar has said imagreement with IMF. In proving the economy is top the past the governments priority of government. were not facing such "Targets in writing have probelems. The economic been assigned to the minisproblems came during the tries for the first time in the four years tenure of PTI history of the country. founder. These targets include elimination of unemployment,

He reiterated PML-N has always done the polidecrease in inflation and tics of service to people and resolution of economic it has kept standing by becoming voice of its work-ers. PML-N worker

He remarked stability is coming in the country slowly and gradually. Its

effects will soon come to

Imran appoints focal persons for prison meetings after SOPs agreement

RAWALPINDI (INP): Pa- ter Gohar Ali Khan, Sher kistan Tehreek-e-Ínsaf Afzal Marwat, and Barris-(PTI) leader Imran Khan ter Umeer Niazi will overhas appointed Barrister see the organization of these meetings as per the Gohar, Sher Afzal Marwat, and Barrister Umeer Niazi agreed protocols. as focal persons for conducting meetings in prison.

Saturday.

This decision comes following the establishment of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) between Imran Khan and the Superintendent of Adiala Jail, under which both parties have mutually agreed and signed

According to the SOPs, three focal persons have been designated by Imran Khan to facilitate meetings in the jail. Barris-

problems, he said this while talking to media men here Chaudhry Attique stood by party be they courts, Continued on page 2

Independent Report with fellow judges and us and no compro-QUETTA: The Chief other staff. The

Justice Balochistan High Court, Mr. Jus-Muhammad Hashim Khan Kakar has emphasized that the issue of missing persons is a serious issue and as such there is a need to form an empowered com-

mission to address it. Mr. Justice Muhammad Hashim Kakar was addressing the inauguration ceremony of Judicial Complex in Surab on

Saturday. The CJ said that delay in development projects as well as violation of merit and sale and purchase of vacancies the wouldn't be tolerated.

He said that this land is like mother for

Pak HC attends Presidential reception

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan High Commissioner Rukhsana Afzaal has attended the annual diplomatic reception hosted by President of Republic of Tharman Singapore Shanmugaratnam and Madam Jane Yumiko Ittogi.

. Tharman's Official Instagram, a post on X said

> She also met Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong at the Presidential Palace.

Heavy rainfall claims seven lives in KP

PESHAWAR (APP): As many as seven people died and nine others were Under the SOPs, each injured due to last day's focal person will nominate rain in Khyber two individuals for meet-Pakhtunkhwa (KP), Dr. ings with Imran Khan in Khateer Ahmed, Director jail. These meetings are General (DG) Rescue scheduled to take place 1122 told media men here twice a week, with Tueson Saturday.

days reserved for meetings DG said that four with Imran Khan's family people who died in varimembers and Thursdays ous accidents are less for interactions with lawthan 10 years old. Roof yers and other political figcollapse incidents ocures. However, any meetcurred in Peshawar, ing requested under court Nowshera, Shangla, Bannu and Bajaur, he orders will be subject to Imran Khan's consent. said.

mise would be made smartly turned out on its sanctity and dignity at all. He ancontingent of police nounced that the presented guard of doors of judiciary are honour to the Chief open for everyone Justice. without any discrimigurated the new buildnation. ing of Judicial complex

He said that he believes in distribution of powers and all judges of the High Court should consider them completely empowered.

He also said that we are determined to provide Justice to the masses in remote areas of the province. He declared Sorab

as session.

Earlier, the Chief Justice was received by the Commissioner Kalat, Ali Akbar Baloch upon his arrival along



He formally inau-

Also accompanied

Surab.



SINGAPORE: Pakistan's High Commissioner in Singapore, Ms Rukhsana Afzaal in a photo with President of Singapore Tharman Shanmugaratnam and Madam Jane in the Annual Diplomatic Reception, hosted by the Singaporean President

Trial of civilians in military courts case: SC amends Dec 13 order

Supreme Court (SC) while issuing order in respect of trial of civilians in military court case has amended December 13 order on restraining military courts from announcing decision. It has been said in the order that Attorney General (AG) told during the hear-

ing 105 cases are pending hearing in military courts. Some in the cases of 15 to 20 persons can be acquitted. A 6-member larger bench presided over by Justice Amin ud Din had

heard the case.

ISLAMABAD (Online): the order issued by them that as per Attorney General (AG) some cases are of lesser punishment.

AG told the court too that the period of detention of the accused will also be included in case sentence is given

AG requested that permission be given for announcing the decision of acquittal or lesser sentence Counsel of no party

opposed the amendment to extent of AG plea.

Military courts can announce the decision in acquittal and lesser sentence It was further said in cases

High Commissioner's photo was posted on President on Saturday



Daily Aoice of Masse Independent Quetta

Sunday March 31, 2024

personal publicity.

decision on the plea.

The researchers di-

vided the world into

reached at least the 95th

Miscellaneous

Climate change is slowing heat waves, a phenomenon visible in Pakistan too

LAHORE (INP): Paki- lished in Science Adstan is experiencing ris-ing temperatures and longer heat waves at a time when the number of rainy days have also reduced. Extreme temperatures are having serious impacts on urban centres which lack greenbelts to help

minimise the sufferings. At the top of that, our construction has nothing to the weather trends and climate, resulting in generating an oven effect in the cities.

On the other hand, the higher temperatures and heatwaves are also affecting the agriculture sector badly, pointing to an urgent need to modify the existing crop

pattern. With Pakistan going through the worst eco-nomic crisis in its history, climate change poses a serious threat to the country which must ensure food security for its 240 million people who have been crushed by a record high inflation amid shrinking pur-

Pakistan vances and reported has confirmed this trend, saying that climate change is causing three dimensional-grid cells and defined heat heatwaves to slow to a waves as a million crawl, exposing humans square kilometre zones to extreme temperatures for longer than ever bewhere temperatures fore.

percentile of the local While previous rehistorical maximum search has found climate temperature. change is causing They then measured heatwaves to become their movement over time in order to deterlonger, more frequent and more intense, the new paper differed by mine how fast the hot air was moving. They also used clitreating heatwaves as mate models to deter-mine what the results distinct weather patterns that move along air cur-rents, just as storms do. would have looked like

For every decade beabsent human-caused tween 1979 and 2020, reclimate change, and found manmade factors searchers found heatwaves slowed loomed large. "It's pretty clear to us down by an average of that a dominant factor here to explain this trend five miles (eight kilometres) an hour per is anthropogenic forc-

day. "If a heatwave is ing, the greenhouse gas," said Zhang. The changes have accelerated in particular moving slower, that means heat can stay in a region longer, so that has effects on communities," since 1997 and in addisenior author Wei Zhang tion to human causes, of Utah State University weakening upper atmotold. - the comments spheric air circulation chasing power. A latest study pub-clearly describe the expe-rience we are having in may play a part, the paper said

Nawaz Sharif's picture on Kisan Card challenged in LHC

LAHORE (INP): The deapproval to the 'Nawaz cision to emboss former Sharif Kisan Card Project' prime minister Nawaz Sharif's picture on Kisan Card in Punjab has been challenged in Lahore High ers in the province.

Court (LHC). The applicant Mashkoor Hussain in his plea stated that CM Maryam Nawaz has okayed to emboss the picture of Nawaz Sharif on a Kisan Card but the public loans on easy terms. This loan will be worth Rs150 funds cannot be used for Using the national trea-

sury for personal publicity is a violation of the Supreme Court's verdict, the plea stated and urged the court to stay the decision until a Punjab Chief Minister (CM) Maryam Nawaz gave farmers, she added

Army, Wapda enter semi-finals in All Pakistan Ramadan Cup **Basketball Tournament**

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pasix points. In the second kistan Army and Wapda quarterfinal match Wapda moved into the semi-finals in the Departmental cat-egory of All Pakistan 3x3 Ramadan Cup Basketball (A) overpowered Police Greens in another one-sided game by 22-10 points. Zain ul Hasan scored 10 points and Ali Raza scored 7 Tournament here at outdoor basketball courts of Paki-stan Sports Complex Islamabad organized by Federal Basketball Associa-tion (FBBA). The tournament is or-

ganized under the umbrella of Pakistan Basketball Federation (PBBF) with the support of Pakistan Sports Board (PSB). Army Greens, who are

having the services of some young players, recorded victory against the Navy by 21-8 points and qualified for the semi-final round. Army's Shiraz Aslam scored nine points while Muhammad Usman scored

PM prods cabinet members to....

tion

Continued from page 1

The prime minister said that FBR digitalization plan was underway. About Rs27 billion were stuck in the appellate courts and for expeditious disposal of these cases, they would bring competent judges with enhanced incentives, he added.

He said the Chief Justice of Pakistan, during a recent meeting with him, tion between the two counhad also assured of comte support in this regard

aimed at uplifting the agriculture sector and socioeconomic condition of farm-The chief minister presided over the meeting related to agricultural reforms here. She said that under the Kisan card 500,000 small farmers would be given

billion and given in one year. Farmers would also be given loans of Rs30,000 for per acre land for purchase of seeds, fertilizers and pesticides. Under the Nawaz Sharif Kisan Card different types of subsidy would also be provided to



CM Punjab stresses collective efforts for environmental sustainability

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif on Saturday emphasized the significance of collaborative endeavours in ensuring a clean environment for future generations. In her message on In-

ternational Day of Zero Waste, she stressed the adoption of sustainable products, and advocating for strategies aimed at curbing food wastage. The CM said every day

should be celebrated as Zero Waste Day, adding that today there is a greater need liness in every city, village, secure to consider the importance and neighborhood, the CM achieved. today there is a greater need

of responsible use of essen-tial commodities and waste management. Maryam Nawaz said

the world grapples with a myriad of environmental challenges, necessitating the transition to an industrialized economy that optimizes resource usage while

repaired, donated, or repurposed. Do not throw minimizing waste generation. People should adopt eco-friendly alternatives by recyclables in the trash, and reducing single-use plastics, sorting waste is essential, she added. she suggested and hoped Emphasizing her com-

that by working together, a mitment to ensuring cleanhealthy environment and a secure future can be

vised

highlighted that compre-

hensive waste management

system is being introduced

in all major cities of Punjab,

saying that for the first

time, a sustainable and

effective system of vil-

lage sanitation is being de-

Old items need to be

Page

02

JKLF pays homage to Ashfaq Majeed Wani, other Kashmiri martyrs

SRINAGAR (INP): The Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) has paid glowing tributes to prominent resistance leaders Ashfaq Majeed Wani, Shabbir Siddiqui, Basharat Raza, and other martyrs of Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

According to Kashmir Media Service, Ashfaq Majeed Wani was martyred by the Indian troops in Hawal area of Srinagar on 30 March 1990. Six years later, on the same day, the troops martyred Shabbir Siddiqui and others including Shafi Mir, Mubarak Lone, Mudassir Lone, Iqbal Sufi, Muhammad Hanif, Nasir, Bashir Ahmed Khan, Dawood Khan, Muhammad Sikandar Khan, Abdul Majeed Mir, Bashir Ahmed Hatim, Arif, Gulab Khan, Riyaz Khan, Abdur Rasheed Reshi, Abdur Rasheed Mir, Manzoor Ahmed Khan and Muzaffar in Dargah Hazratbal area of Srinagar. n 24 March 1996, the troops martyred JKLF leaders including Basharat Raza, Salman Yawar alias Mushtaq Malik, Dilawar Khan, Wasim Colonel, Tipu Sultan, Mushtaq Sufi, Naseeruddin, Salman Abdul Rashid Shah, Sajjad Ahmed and Mir Akbar. The JKLF spokesman Muhammad Rafiq Dar in a statement in Islamabad paying homage to all the martyrs said that the great sacrifices of the martyrs was a valuable asset of the freedom movement.



ABBOTTABAD: Rescue Special Disaster Team officials along with Wapda officials are busy to clear the road after heavy power line has fallen on Hazara Motorway road in Abbottabad

Targets in writing have been...

Continued from page 1

kutcheries or police stations. He stood with party tions of the country were in political time. The selfless workers

never bargain over their con-

To a question he replied Athletic Club in that the economic condimuch better in the previous governments of the PML-

final run towards La Liga title PARIS (INP): La Liga lead-

Leaders Real

Madrid face

points for Wapda A. In the third quarter final, Wapda Greens defeated Police Blues by 22-9 points while Army (A) won against Wapda Red by 21-17 points. In the women's category quarter-final matches, Army players were far better against AK Club weared blue shirts loading 0 points as the

ter-final, Lions C defeated Night Blues by 4-13 points.

were the heroes of the na-

said on 26 March, an un-

fortunate horrifying inci-

dent occurred in Bisham in

which five Chinese and one

Pakistan that did not want

that Pak-China friendship

should progress, adding

that the bilateral coopera-

tries in different fields was

He said the enemies of

local were killed.

The prime minister

leading 9 points as the match was concluded with 17-8 points. Army player Aamina Mohsin scored 10 and Aiman Riaz scored 5 points. In the second quar-

science, he added.

APP adds: Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar said on Saturday that workers of political parties had an important role in the continuity of democratic process in the country.

Talking to media after visiting the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz deceased worker Attique Chaudhry's residence, he said PML-N had always done politics of service and it had always remained voice of its workers.

Be it courts, ketcheries or police stations, Atiq Chaudhry always stood with the party everywhere, Attaullah Tarar remarked.

'Political workers are our asset, we have achieved success because of activists like Attique Chaudhry," he said.

held.

term goals.

documents.

people.

Appreciating the services of late Attique Chaudhry, Tarar said he was a selfless worker of the party who stood by the party even in most difficult times.

He said that sincere workers never compromise on principles and never sell their loyalties for petty benefits.

The minister said that faces of those who support one in difficult times were always remembered. He said he had met chil-

dren and widow to condole the death of Attique Chaudhry

Attaullah Tarar said he had always raised the voice for workers of the party and their rights will be protected

During the four year Athletic Bilbao as the Spantenure of founder PTI, there was an economic meltdown so in the last 16-months PDM rule there had been son more focus on economic recovery.

ing free of Catalan minnows He said that the PML Girona before the interna-N faced problems and diftional break, but Ernesto ficulties and workers were always party's asset. Valverde's high-flying Ath-

He said regarding the letic will be tricky opposition at the Santiago education and employment of Attique Chaudhry's chil-Bernabeu. The Basque side, in the Copa del Rey final, are dren, the party would do suitable arrangements and fighting to secure a top-four his family will never be left alone.

finish and a return to Champions League football next The minister said the first priority of the governseason Athletic are fourth, a ment was to improve the point clear of Diego economy.

Simeone's Atletico in fifth, He said today an imwho face Villarreal on portant meeting of the Federal Cabinet was being Monday. Madrid have a comfort-

able eight-point lead on de-A few days ago, the fending La Liga champions prime minister had given Barcelona with nine targets to all the ministries matches remaining and if in written form, which inthey can beat Athletic, they cluded short-term and longwill be confident of holding on to claim a third title in The prime minister has

now decided to hold all the five seasons. The Catalans have ministries accountable.

For the first time in the found form in recent weeks after coach Xavi Hernandez history of Pakistan, the said he would walk away ministries have been asat the end of the season, and signed goals in written face Las Palmas at home on These goals included Saturday.

Barcelona are unbeaten ending unemployment, rein 10 matches and thumped ducing inflation and solving Atletico 3-0 at the economic problems of the Metropolitano stadium in their last outing, showing He said Prime Minis-Madrid they would not reter Shehbaz Sharif will dislinguish their crown withcuss this in the Federal out a fight. All the players Cabinet meeting today. All are giving their best and are the ministries will be anat their best level," warned swerable for their perfor-Xavi before the interna-

exem ers Real Madrid will host

The prime minister noted that efforts should be ish top flight ramps up for made for reducing the offian exciting end to the seacial expenditures. He said achieving \$25 billion IT ex-Madrid have a firm grip port target was not unfeaon the title race after shak-

sible. The prime minister also appreciated the interim government for recovering Rs58 billion rupees in power sector and said that for the first time in the country's history, such a target was achieved in the

shortest term. The prime minister also assured to provide all possible resources for the defence of the country, adding that shaheed officers and personnel of the armed forces and security forces

for monetary gains, depriv-

ing thousands of films lov-

ers from infotainment ser-

once known as the city of

cinemas, theaters and art-

ists, have started losing one

of its prime entertainment

tools including the decades'

old cinemas after it was

mostly converted into trade

and commercial plazas due

to commercialization.

mushroom growth of social

Produced many na-

media and terrorism.

Peshawar, which was

vices

The prime minister said that they stood with the Chinese government and the people over the tragic incident.

He recounted that he had visited the Chinese embassy and conveyed to the Chinese President, Premier and the Chinese people their condolences on behalf of the entire Pakistani nation The Chinese leadership

was assured that the investigation would be carried out immediately and the responsible would get exemplary punishment, he added. The prime minister reiterated that they would not rest till the elimination

QUETTA: Chief Guest Former DGPR Prince Farhat Ahmadzai hitting the target in archery event in connection with Sports Festival 2024, held in Quetta

producer and artist said

Pashto culture and vulgar-

ity. He said that a quality

film requires around Rs 10

Despite affected by

Dying Cinemas: A victim of commercialization in KP

PESHAWAR (APP): Notmercial centers viz a viz withstanding to the pace of hotels.

of terrorism.

mostly deserted due to unavailability of new films, high-production film-cost, pathetic seating facilities and lackluster approach of the government towards film and entertainment in-

dustry in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. "Whenever I come from UAE to my home city,

I use to watch a Pashtu movie at Firdus cinema on every Eidul Fitre celebrations. I am extremely disappointed to see the de-

molished Firdus cinema where a trade Plaza was constructed, resulting deprivation of thousands of fans of entertainment," said a Peshawari born UAE transporter, Janisar Khan while taking to APP. He said it was heart-

breaking that still no announcement regarding a new Pashto or Urdu film to be released on Eidul Fitre was made. "Peshawar is a home of artists and musicians. On every Eid holidays, I came to this ancient city to watch my favorite Pashto films at Arshad Cinema after closure of two cinemas includ-'Taj' cinema in ing

As many as seven cinemas out of 15 cinemas in Mardan," said Muhammad Peshawar were razed to Ishaq (45), a Pashto film ground including the oldest cinema houses including lover and resident of (Firdus), Katlang Mardan. Shabistan Palwasha, Capital, Falak "When I visited Sair, Novelty, Metro, Peshawar for my favorite Sabrina and Ihsrat - con-'Titanic' English movie and verted into trade and com-Pashto film 'Orbal' in my

student life at Capital Cinema on Arab Road, it was tremely heartening that today's this oldest cinema of Peshawar is no more," he said

Ishaq said that he along million investment while with friends was planning most of film producers to move to Rawalpindi and were being asked for pro-Lahore to watch some new duction of a Pashto movie movies in a relatively betat Rs two million cost ter cinema environment there on Eidul Fitre celebraproduce a quality Pashto tions. Besides Peshawar, movie four cinemas in Nowshera were also became victims of commercialization and due to vast viewership in trade, he said.

Pakistan mostly in KP, Shafiqur Rehman, a Karachi and Afghanistan. journalist and resident of He recalled that when a Malakand said that he came Pashto film was finally reto Peshawar to watch his leased in the city in the favorite Pashto movie as all past, thousands of film the cinemas except Swat lovers with beat drums were closed prior of gathered outside the cin-Ramazan, adding there was ema houses and cheered in no cinema in Charsadda favour of their favourite hero that was now hardly district

Gohar Khan Yousafzai, seen today in Peshawar. manager Sabrina Cinema "Our cultural values and Peshawar told the news minimal wages discourage agency that prior of new talent from joining the Ramazan he screened two film industry. shows daily of a Pashto movie by charging only terrorism, he said local film Rs250 per ticket, adding producers and cinema there are hardly 50 people owners remained resilient in the cinema hall which is highly discouraging. He functional even in most difsaid the rising monthly ficult times and provided electricity and gas bills, entertainment to people. salaries of staff and prop-He urged the KP governerty taxes have added to ment to support those who believed in quality work and financial difficulties of cinprovide financial incentives ema owners in KP.

Shahid Khan, an emiinevitable to revive film innent Pashto film director. dustry in KP.

"We urged the provinthat one of the reasons of cial government to exempt wages to the artist commuwrong presentation of nity enabling them to produce quality films like Orbal, Khana Badosh, Alzam and Deedan imperative for knowledge based society," he said.

Renowned psychiatrist and former principal of Khyber Medical College, which was insufficient to Professor Dr Khalid Mufti said one of the reasons for the rising trend of intoler-He said Pashto films ance and violence in the sohave high profit potential ciety was dying cinemas

culture. Terming cinema as an effective tool for nation building and expanding the country's soft image globally, he said that quality films have the widest impact among all art forms including dramas, stage and theaters

Pride of performance and pasto ghazals maestro Khayal Muhammad said that revival of cinemas was imperative to promote entertainment industry besides protecting youth from wrong hands

He admitted that social media have also adversely affected cinemas and kept cinema houses culture and demanded construction of new cinemas and exemption of taxes and customs duties on films equipment besides jobs security to films makers, producers and artists for sustainable promotion of performing arts in Pakistan

LARKANA: Activists of Awami Tehreek are holding protest rally for recov-

ery of innocent hindu girl Priya Kumari and other missing people, held at Jinnah Bagh in Larkana



commercialization, several Other cinemas includes jam-packed. I left with no dying cinemas was its poor cinemas from excessive Arshad Cinema, Sabreena, cinemas in Peshawar were chance but to purchase an stories content and out- taxation and provide better bulldozed in recent years dated cinematography, Aaeena, Naz and Shama are advance ticket. It was ex-

Independent

AJK PM voices concern over worsening political, HR situation in IIOJK

ISLAMABAD (APP): Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwarul Haq has expressed serious concerns over the worsening political and human rights situation in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

The AJK PM addressing an Iftar dinner hosted in honour of journalists in Muzaffarabad last night said violations of human rights, forced disappearances, bloodshed and violence and killing of innocent people by the Indian occupation forces have become a daily routine in the occu-

pied territory. Referring to India's mir cause, adding his gov-August 5, 2019, illegal ac- ernment will continue protions, Chaudhry Anwarul Haq said that the move was out rightly rejected by the people of Kashmir and Pakistan as well as the civilised nations of the

world. He said that as per the international covenants, the Kashmiris have the right to defend themselves and their dia. motherland. "Kashmiris has a long history of using will never compromise on their freedom.' anti-Muslim and anti-Paki-

Highlighting the role stan rhetoric as a tool to of mainstream media, the achieve its political goals AJK PM said that journal- and push forward its ists can play an important agenda

role in promoting the Kashernment will continue promoting the just cause of

Kashmiris. The AJK PM also said that as the elections in India were drawing nearer, Modi and his Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) would resort to anti-Muslim rhetoric to whip up the nationalist sentiment in In-

release said. He also served as Pakistan's ambassador to Germany, Italy, Bosnia & Herzegovina, and Bahrain, as well as Pakistan's Perma-He said that the BJP nent Representative to Food and Agriculture Organiza-tion (FAO), International Fund for Agricultural Devel-opment (IFAD).

Jauhar Saleem appointed as

President IR ISLAMABAD (APP): Ambassador Jauhar Saleem

has been appointed as President of the Institute of Regional Studies (IRS). Ambassador Saleem

has previously worked at

the highest echelons of Pa-

kistan Foreign Service, including as Foreign Secretary, Special Secretary Additional Foreign Secretary, Head of the Foreign Service Academy and Director General for European affairs, a news

CAPITALNEWS

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Vietnam to Pakistan NguyenTien Phong distributing Iftar food among the people for breaks their fasting in the Holy month of Ramadan, at sector F-8 in the Federal Capital.



General of Police (IGP) Islamabad Dr Akbar Nasir Khan at Central Police Officer Islamabad.

Farewell ceremony held in honor of former IGP Islamabad Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: According to the details, a farewell ceremony was held in honor of former Inspector General of Police (IGP) Islamabad Dr Akbar Nasir Khan at Central Police Officer Islamabad, a public relations officer said.

He said that, on this occasion Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan met all the police officers and officials at the Central Police Office (CPO) Islamabd.

In his message, he said that two years ago, when I assumed the command of very clearly that

outstanding work for the law without violence. citizens of Islamabad and for the foreign visitors in Islamabad.

I am also thankful to all our senior police officers who have worked side by side with their lower subordinates in the discharge of their duties without distinction of rank. I am personally grateful to my current and former officers.

Our aim in the federal capital was to establish the rule of law and protect it from the ambitions of miscreants. To achieve this aim, worked hard.

The development of Pakistan also depends on

the implementation of the law. I am grateful to my entire team and also to the Prime Minister of Pakistan, the Federal Ministers, the Ministry of Interior, District Administration, and other law enforcement agencies that together we have ensured the peace of the federal capital.

I hope that my team will continue their efforts to achieve this lofty goal with the incoming Chief of the officers and officials of Police. Dr. Akbar Nasir this force, I had decided two all divisions in Islamabad Khan paid homage to the police martyrs and veterans

ISLAMABAD (APP): warm welcome to the guests Ethiopian Ambassador to upon their arrival at his resi-Pakistan Jemal Beker dence in Islamabad.

Ambassador hosts Iftar banquet

for 'Freinds of Ethiopia'

Abdula has hosted an Iftar Speaking on the occabanquet for Parliamentarsion, Ambassador Jemal ians, government officials. Beker Abdula congratulated diplomatic corps, ambassathe Muslims in Ethiopia. dors. Ethiopian Diaspora Pakistan and all over the world on the holy month of Ramazan that brought and many prominent figures from the civil society and media of Pakistan. blessings for everyone in this globe. He said Pakistan

Prominent guests in-cluding Senator Mushahid was a country of generous people who loved to share Hussain, Senior Parliamentarian Romina Khursheed with others around them in a deep sense of compas-sion, affability and affec-Alam, Africa-Pakistan Association President Zafar Bakhtawari, High Commistion sioner of Mauritius in Pa-

The ambassador also kistan, Rashidally Soobadar and COMSATS Executive spoke about Ethiopia and its linguistic, social, reli-Director Nafees Zakaria gious and cultural diversity. Addis Ababa, the Capital of Ambassador Jemal Beker Abdula accorded a street Iftar on a regular ba-

PML-N issues party ticket to Falik Sher for by-elections

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) has issued a party ticket to Falik Sher Awan for the byelections in the Chakwal-Cum-Talagang constitu-ency of Punjab's provincial assembly, PP-22.

graced the Iftar dinner.

In the February 8 elections, PML-N's Sardar Ghulam Abbas won the seat with 61,714 votes, surpassing his closest rival,

54,077 votes

Nisar Ahmed, who secured

Sardar Ghulam Abbas vacated his provincial assembly seat after winning the election for the National Assembly constitu-

encyNA-59 Talagang-Cum-Chakwal with 141,680 votes, while also retaining his National Assembly

Ahmed, who bagged

129,716 votes.

According to the unofficial result issued by the Returning Officer/ECP, his runner-up was indepenfrom 21st to 2 independent candidate dent candidate Roman

sis giving a festive look during the holy month of Ramazan, he noted.

The Ambassador also spoke about social, cultural. political and economic similarities between the Federal Minister's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and the Islamic With a distinguished career Republic of Pakistan. in public service and a pas-

He said both countries were heirs of ancient civilizations and shared the values of peace, justice, equality and democracy.

pressed gratitude to all the guests for gracing the Iftar dinner with their esteemed presence and stressed that such gatherings were meant to further strengthen the already flourishing bilateral relations between the two countries.

Mahfil Shabeena to start at Faisal Masjid from Sunday

ISLAMABAD (APP) Mahfil Shabeena would start at Faisal Masjid from Sunday organized by the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony. According to the Ministry's Spokesperson Muhammad Umar Butt Mahfil Shabeena would continue for seven consecutive days from Isha prayer to midnight. He said Mahfil

in the last Ashra of sacred

Int'l Day of

Zero Waste

observed

across globe

adopted a resolution to proclaim 30th March as In-

ternational Day of Zero

Waste. The day highlighted

country. Shabeena would continue

Rana Mashhood takes charge as Chairman of **PM Youth Programme**

ISLAMABAD (Online): ture where every young The appointment of Rana person has access to oppor-Mashhood Ahmed Khan as tunities for growth, educathe Chairman of Prime tion, and employment, re-Youth gardless of their background Programme has been made. or circumstances.

Page

03

"I am honored to have been entrusted with this responsibility," said Mashhood. "I am fully committed to working tirelessly to ensure that the Prime Minister's Youth Mashhood's appoint- Programme becomes a beament underscores the con of hope and opportunity for the youth of our



FDE draws criticism

of Principal

sion for youth empowerment, Rana

Mashhood brings a wealth

of experience and dedication

government's commitment

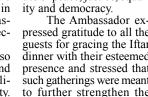
education and advocacy

makes him uniquely suited

to his new role.

nation. Together, we will ment and well-being of the strive to create a brighter youth of the nation. His future for generations to extensive background in come.

Under Mashhood's leadership, the Prime to lead initiatives aimed at Minister's Youth Programme is poised to harnessing the potential of young minds across the embark on a new chapter of innovation and In assuming this cru-cial position, Rana coupled with his proven Mashhood has expressed track record of leadership his unwavering commit- and advocacy, will unment to serve the youth doubtedly steer the with utmost dedication and programme towards greater farvor. He envisions a fu- success and impact



there will be no discrimination between senior police officers and officials, and the law should be followed. Today I am leaving this place with great pride, knowing that all my offic-ers and officials have done proudly by following the

Islamabad Police has set the standard for the entire police force of Pakistan in

My message to the and said that we are here Islamabad Capital Police on today thanks to these marmy way out is that the tyrs and veterans. Our Ghazis also continued to play their role for the betterment of this society and tried to counter anti-national elements.

IHC wraps up intra court 22nd death anniversary appeal to include Nazra of poet, writer Quran in syllabus of schools Sehba observed

ISLAMABAD (Online): was compulsory Quran Islamabad High Court (IHC) has wrapped up the intra court appeal to in-clude Nazra Quran in the syllabus of schools.

The court has given this decision on reply from ministry of education.

Justice Mohsin Akhtar Kiyani and Justice Sardar Ijaz Ishaq of IHC announced the decision on intra court appeal with reference to inclusion of teachings of Holy Quran in the syllabus of schools.

IHC made it clear in director legal of ministry of the decision that ministry education file of education was asked of the books.

Rain, thunderstorm cause tripping & faults on over 80 feeders: IESCO

Quran.

ISLAMABAD (APP): Mor, Racecourse, Muslim Stormy winds, thunder- Abad, Fatah Jhang, Hassan storm, and rain on Saturday evening in jurisdiction of Islamabad Electric Supply Company caused tripping and faults on over 80 feeders in various circles of the company.

The affected feeders Kashmir Road Chakri, New were included I-10/2, Bari Rawat etc. He said opera-Imam, Khana Dak, G 10/3, H-8, Lohi Bhair, Shahdara, Scheme 2, F 10/3, Peshawar would be started after rain.

teachings included in the SLAMABAD (APP): syllabus under 2017-act. It was told that Ouran teachings have been included in the syllabus. According to the court, National Syllabus

Council Secretariat has issued NOC for Nazra Ouran and translation of Islamabad Private Education Authority issued

letters to the private educational institutions for implementation. Deputy education filed 7 volumes

Abdal, Radio Pakistan and

Siadpur, said spokesperson

of IESCO. He said that

faults and tripping were also

reported from Sadiqabad,

Shams Colony, Muammadi

Chowk, Dhok Syedian,

ISLAMABAD: Picnickers are enjoying boating at Rawal Dam during pleas-

ant weather after the rain, in the Federal Capital.

The twenty-second death anniversary of renowned poet, writer and editor Sehba Lakhnavi was observed on Saturday. Sehba Lakhnavi,

whose real name was Syed Sharaft Ali, was born on December 25, 1919, in Bhopal

state. After the establishment of Pakistan, he settled in Karachi and started "Afkar' magazine in 1951 that was published continuously for 57 years without any interrup-

tion. Sehba Lakhnavi's poetry collections were published under the names of "Mah Parav" and "Zir Paray" and "Zir Asman", while her prose books included Meray Khwabon ki Sarzameen", "Iqbal Aur Bhopal", "Majaz Aik Ahang", "Armaghan e Majnu", "Rais Amrohavi Fun o Shaksiat and "Manto

Aik Kitab". Sehba Lakhnavi tion teams have been alerted died in Karachi on and soon restoration work this day in 2002.

Islamabad has adjourned the hearing of two cases re-Tarnol lated to May 9 incident

May 9 incident:

Court adjourns hearing

of two cases against PTI

founder others till Apr 30

against PTI founder, Shah Mehmood Qureshi and others till April 30. Judicial magistrate

Shabbir Bhatti heard the case cases in District and Sessions Courts Islamabad Saturday. Lawyer Sardar

Masroof appeared in the court on behalf of PTI founder and Shah Mehmood Qureshi. The court adjourned

the hearing till April 30. It is pertinent to men-

ISLAMABAD (APP): The International Day of Zero Waste was observed ISLAMABAD (Online): tion here two cases are reg-District and Sessions Court istered against PTI founder globally including Pakistan on Saturday. On 14th De-cember 2022, the United and others in police station Nations General Assembly

PTI had held country wide protest over arrest of PTI founder from the pre-mises of IHC on May 9 last year in Al-Qadir Trust

both the importance of bol-During this protest stering waste management PML-N office located in globally and the need to promote sustainable consump-Model town Lahore was set tion and production patterns. ablaze and military. civilians The waste pollution signifiand private installations cantly threatens well-being were torched. Enormous loss was caused to governof humans and their economic prosperity. It acceler-ates the triple planetary crisis ment and public properties.

At least 8 persons were killed and 290 were injured of climate change, nature and biodiversity loss pollution during this protest.

Presence of over 1 million troops has turned IIOJK into living hell

air prison where all the basic rights of the people have been usurped. According to Kashmir Media Service, political experts and Kashmir watchers in their interviews in Srinagar said that the presence of over one million Indian troops deployed across Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu

right to life. They deplored

ing killed, tortured, and arrested by Indian troops daily. They said that Indian troops have committed scores of massacres in the occupied territory to intimidate the Kashmiri people into submission. The political experts and Kashmir watchers pointed out that the people of IIOJK have been victims of Indian state terrorism for over 7 decades and 96,290 Kashmiris had fallen.

ISLAMABAD (APP): reaucratic absurdity that Amidst a backdrop of con-fusion and discontent, recent transfers within the Federal Government Colleges have left the teachers in tension.

> According to a notification, the Federal Directorate of Education (FDE) has recently reshuffled many principals and associate professors drawing widespread criticism from the teaching community.

One such case in-volves Ms. Shabana Tabasum, a professor at Islamabad Model College for Girls (IMCG) F-7/2 (Postgraduate), who was inexplicably transferred to IMCG (PG) F-7/4, only to be assigned temporary duty back at her original institu-

tion, IMCG (PG) F-7/2. This transfer raises serious questions about the decision-making process within the FDE. Why transfer a professor to a different institution, only to have them perform duties back at their original posting? It's tence of those orchestrat-a textbook example of bu-ing these transfers.

Such decisions have raised eyebrows and drawn criticism from within the academic community, casting doubts on the compe-

Wanted accused arrested involved in murder case

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: According to the details, the Islamabad Capital Police Koral police

station and Homicide Unit police teams have arrested an absconder involved in a murder case, a public relations officer said. He said that the Koral

police station received an application from a citizen who stated that she is a resident of Sharifabad, Islamabad and the accused Nadeem Akhtar injured his husband namely Raqib Akhtar who succumbed to their injuries and died in the hospital.

Upon receiving the application, the Koral police team registered an FIR no. 327. Following this incident a special investigation team was constituted. The police teams utilized all available resources and used technical and scientific methods and arrested a gard.

sion is the case of Ms. Rozina Fahim, originally stationed at IMCG (PG) G-10/4 but temporarily serving as Principal at the Federal Government College of Home Economics & Management Sciences F-11/1. She has now been

transferred to fill the vacant post left by Ms. Tabasum at IMCG (PG) F-7/4, while continuing her temporary duty at the FGCHE&MS, F-11/1.

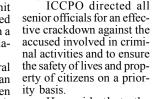
serves no purpose other than to confuse and incon-

Adding to the confu-

venience professors.

The domino effect continues as Ms. Sadia Ibrar, previously posted at IMCG (PG) F-7/4, finds herself relocated to IMCG (PG) G-10/4 to accommodate a junior associate professor as principal.





He said that the Islamabad Capital Police adopts a zero-tolerance policy against violence, including injustices and crimes, and the accused involved in it will be brought to justice by taking strict legal action against them.

He further directed all officers and officials to intensify the crackdown against the criminal elements. "Safety and security of the citizens is our foremost priority and no laxity will be tolerated in this re-

Kashmir (IIOJK) had al-ISLAMABAD (APP): that the Kashmiris are be-Narendra Modi led Indian ready made the life of the government has turned oc-Kashmiri people a hell. The political experts and Kashcupied Jammu and Kashmir mir watchers spoke on the into world's largest open-

condition of remaining anonymous to evade reprisal from the Indian authorities. The political experts and Kashmir watchers said IIOJK has become the most militarised zone on this planet where India has snatched all basic rights of the people including the

over baffling transfers

month.



ISLAMABAD: Women are buying bangles at Karachi Company market, in the Federal Capital, ahead of upcoming Eid-Ul-Fitr.

Page 04

OPINION

Daily **Independent**



Sunday March 31, 2024

Dashed hopes

Disappointment prevails in some quarters of the legal fraternity. Among those who seem particularly disturbed are lawyers who had hailed the change of guard at the Supreme Court last year as the beginning of a has garnered praise for new era of judicial independence.

This week, when it emerged commentary and thorthat six sitting judges of the Islamabad High Court had addressed a complaint to the chief justice of Pakistan detailing repeated interference by intelligence operatives in the judiciary's workings — including attempts to spy on, threaten and intimidate judges — the expectation was that the Supreme Court would take a firm stand.

Considering that it has been facing criticism for 'ignoring' the executive's growing list of human and civil rights abuses, and for failing to stop the frequent violations of court orders as well as laws and the Constitution, many were expecting that the apex court would put its foot down on interference of the Wafaqi Mohtasib is in the judiciary's inner workings. Sadly, instead of taking action, the Supreme Court on Thursday passed the buck to the government. With the court's consent, the concerns highlighted by the IHC judges will now be investigated by an inquiry commission — which is to be headed by a retired judge, and whose formation, composition and terms of reference are going to be decided by the federal cabinet.

Since the announcement, and rectify any injustice of human rights and achiev-

Political prism's insight into Pakistan's political dynamics

By Aiman Khattak governance. By focus-

In the current age of face-level political hapwidespread penings, but also analyzdisinformation, it can be ing the underlying social challenging to discern dynamics and chalthe truth, especially lenges faced by Pakiwhen trying to grasp the stan, Political Prism ofcomplex political dynamfers a subtle perspective ics of Pakistan. Howthat goes beyond mere ever, in the midst of this uncertainty, a recently headlines. Through its dedication to showcase established website, Political Prism, has risen as positive transformations, explore the comtrustworthy source ofplexities of the social fering genuine insights contract, and shedding into Pakistan's political landscape. This platform light on the genuine obstacles progress, this platform its dedication for providserves as a vital resource ing unbiased and true for those looking to navireporting, engaging gate the complexities of Pakistani politics with ough analysis setting itself apart as a source of clarity and insight. With reliability in the world of an aim to advocate for political news and infor- constructive changes mation. Political Prism and foster socio-ecoemerges as a reliable nomic progress, Political source of truth and un-Prism stands out as a biased reporting. With a guiding light in the realm of political analysis, ofsteadfast commitment to present a positive view fering a comprehensive and thoughtful apof the country's political proach to understand landscape and dynamics, this website has sothe dynamics shaping the nation's future lidified its reputation as a trusted and reliable

source for those who Prism's indepth cover- ment is highly valued. seek a deeper under- age serves as a gateway The website offers a personalized and engag- tioning here that while Pakistani politics

standing of the nation's for readers to delve into feedback option to enthe multifaceted layers ing on not just the surof Pakistan's political dynamics. By thoroughly exploring the complex dynamics that underpin the nation's political discourse, the website not only aims to inform but also to empower its audience. Through in-depth analysis and thoughtful commentary, the platform strives to foster an informed and engaged public. Additionally, through its informative hindering articles and analysis, Political Prism empowers its readers with knowledge and encourages civic engagement. It believes in the importance of an informed citizenry for a thriving democracy. The website also promotes accountability, transparency, and a stronger democratic framework in Pakistan. It holds those in power accountable and strives to create an environment where the truth can prevail Moreover, at Politi-

Similarly, Political cal Prism, reader engage-

courage its readers to express their ideas, opinions and suggestions ensuring that their voices are heard and respected. Furthermore, individuals have the opportunity to actively contribute to the platform by voluntarily submitting their own content. This inclusive approach encourages a diverse community, align itself with any powhere a variety of perlitical party, ensuring spectives can be shared. that readers receive un-

Structured into four biased information and distinct categories - Seanalysis. Notably, Politicurity, Social Contract, cal Prism actively as-India and General, the sesses and analyzes website offers a userthreats to national secufriendly experience for readers seeking information according to their interests. This thoughtsights into safeguarding ful segmentation not the nation's interests. only enhances the acces-The website also places sibility of the website significant emphasis on understanding but also allows users to navigate uninterruptevaluating international edly through the diverse relations, including diprange of topics covered. lomatic affairs, regional By categorizing content conflicts, and global partin this manner, the nerships. This global website ensures that perspective enhances the readers understandreaders can efficiently access the information ing of Pakistan's position in the international most relevant to them, which facilitate a more

ing browsing experience. Political Prism has made Furthermore, Politi- remarkable progress in a cal Prism recognizes the short amount of time, importance of the youth there is always room for in shaping the future of improvement. Continu-Pakistan. It prioritizes the ous efforts can be made voices of young writers, to enhance the user exoffering them a platform perience, expand coverage areas, and engage a to express their perspectives on political matters. wider audience. The Moreover, the platform website acknowledges this maintains a neutral and remains committed to stance and does not evolving and growing to better serve its readers.

To sum up, in a time when reliable sources of information are crucial, Political Prism has emerged as a trustworthy platform for understanding the political landrity, including emerging scape of Pakistan. Its risks and challenges. It commitment to unbiased provides valuable in- reporting, comprehensive analysis, and fostering civic engagement sets it apart. While there is still work to be done, Political Prism has already achieved a great deal in a short span of time. With its dedication to transparency, accountability and providing true insights, Political Prism is poised to become an indispensable resource for those seeking a nuarena. It is worth men- anced perspective on

and

Wafaqi Mohtasib: enhancing outreach and accessibility

By Syed M. Ilyas complaints.

Accessibility and outreach have been recognized as the most essential characteristics of any Ombuds Institution, according to the UN Resolutions. Mindful of this aspect, the Institution attaching a great deal of significance to providing administrative justice to the people speedily and absolutely free of cost, virtually at their doorsteps, in line with the provisions of Article 37(d)of the Constitution.

Popularly known as employees also fall in the the poor man's court the category of mal-administra-Institution of the Wafaqi tion. Mal-administration Mohtasib is doing a and bad governance are two Yeoman's service with regard to speedy and free of cost resolution of the public complaints against mal-24th January, 1983 through

sides of the same coin. Both breed in an environment of favoritism, discrimination and corruption where merit administration. Set up on is the first causality. Addressing mal-admina Presidential Order to di- istration, therefore, is a higher than the preceding evant information and staagnose, investigate, redress means to ensuring sanctity

resolved the complaints of that the complaints received The term mal-adminismore than 2.1 million online during the outgoing tration has been defined in households. What is most the President's Order essignificant is the fact that tablishing the Institution as one does not need to hire a a decision, process, recomlawyer or to pay any kind mendation and it includes of fee to get his or her coman act of omission or complaint redressed through

mission which is contrary his office Initially, it had only four to law, rules or regulations Regional Offices respecor is a departure from the established practice or protively at all the provincial cedure. Neglect, inattenheadquarters of the countion, delay and inefficiency try. Today, besides the Head Office at Islamabad, in the administration or discharge of duties and reit has 17 Regional Offices sponsibilities on the part of and 04 Complaints Collecany Agency or any of its tion Centers, covering almost the entire the length and breadth of the country. Opening of new offices in the AJK and GB are also under active consideration. This office received and processed a record number of complaints during the year 2023, numbering at

year 2023 recorded an increase of 47% over the figure of 2022. The office has one of the latest IT facilities, depicting state of the art technology at the WMS. It is fully cognizant of the fact that the registration of complaints through the mobile apps/WhatsApp etc is on the rise as it provides

ease of use and facility to the general public. Moreover, the Institution's revamped website with Urdu rendering of essential information is yet another source facilitating the public, especially those who are year. Out of these 193,030,

not familiar with the English language. To facilitate the petitioners further, online hearing facilities are also available to the public. A helpline # i.e. 1055 is also 194,106, which is a 18% there for seeking any reltus of their respective comcomplaints were disposed plaints. The Institution widened the scope of its activi-

vestigation Officers on pre-announced dates and local/district administrapresence of the officials of the administration have contributed significantly in this regard, thereby generating greater awareness Wafaqi about the Mohtasib's Office. As an extension of the OCR system, the Wafaqi Mohtasib and authorized Officers are Katcheries" for on-the-spot resolution of the complaints of the aggrieved citizens. This forum is available to and to get administrative justice on the spot.

issue of public importance access to justice is rather The OCR project was ficers are also used for launched to provide speedy greater interaction with redressal of the complaints the media, which helped at the doorsteps of the in raising awareness about people. During 2023, the the public regarding the

tion abbreviated as OCR. The Khuli Katcheries The field visits of the In- mechanism is being followed in a fairly regulated manner in the remote areas their interaction with the of the country. During 2023 alone, Khuli Katcheries tion, Press and media in were held in 19 remote districts including Karak, Hangu, Bannu, Kohlu, Turbat, Shangla, Dargai and alike. The OCR and Khuli

Katcheries are proving to be very beneficial to the general public since the mechanism is instrumental in redressing public complaints also holding "Khuli in a prompt and hassle-free manner, mostly on the spot. These are especially suitable for people belonging to the remote and far-flung arall and sundry to raise any eas of the country, where difficult. The OCR visits of the Investigating Of-

many have been wondering whether a retired judge can effectively cross-examine sitting itself as a premier agency high court justices and, more of administrative account-proved to be a boon for the ably increasing the importantly, serving generals who may, directly or indirectly, be responsible for the serious misconduct their departments are allegedly involved in. Others have pointed out that the current government comprises individuals who either seem to be beneficiaries of the intelligence agencies' alleged interference in judicial matters, or are responsible for these agencies' actions by virtue of their ministries. How, then, can the court expect them to conduct an impartial inquiry? These are valid concerns.

A press release issued by the Supreme Court on Thursday noted that "The CJP clearly stated [in his meeting with the exacerbating economic government] that interference by the executive in the affairs and judicial workings of judges will not be tolerated and under no circumstances can the independence of the judiciary be the relentless upward traallowed to be compromised".

Yet, the Supreme Court's actions seem to belie a more accommodative approach. The IHC judges had merely asked for a judicial convention to discuss their ordeal, as well as directions from the Supreme Judicial Council on what judges ought to do when they face threats and coercion from the executive branch of the state.

Instead, the Supreme Court seems to have washed its hands of the matter by inviting the government to take over the the economy and society inquiry. This course of action seems to run contrary to what one would expect from an independent judiciary jealously guarding its domain. It must, therefore, be reconsidered.

done to a person through ing the ultimate goals of mal-administration, it has, good governance and the over the years, established rule of law. The Office of the Wafaqi Mohtasib has ability, committed to people. During the last 41 speedy redressal of public years of its existence, it has

of, which is 22% higher than the previous year. Greater reliance on IT

tools has helped in remarkinstitution's outreach. It can be gauged from the fact

Economic Realities: Pakistan's battle against inflation during Ramadan



By M. Mohsin Iqbal As Ramadan started in tionary trends. Pakistan, concerns over rising inflation intensify, posing significant challenges for policymakers and the populace alike.

Despite concerted efforts, the trajectory of inflation remains largely unchecked, casting a shadow over the festive spirit and hardships.

Price hiking, a persistent challenge in Pakistan, continues to exert significant strain on the economy and households nationwide. From essential commodities to basic services, jectory of prices undermines purchasing power, exacerbates poverty, and fosters economic instability. In recent years, Pakistan has grappled with a steady uptick in inflation

rates, with the holy month of Ramadan serving as a notable period of exacerbated economic strain. During this time, prices of essential commodities, including food items, skyrocket, placing immense burdens on consumers, particularly those from lower-income brackets. Despite sporadic interventions and policy measures, the inflationary pressures persist, posing multifaceted challenges to

at large. Several interconnected factors contribute to the surge in inflation during Ramadan in Pakistan. Inefficient supply chains, compounded by logistical challenges and disruptions, often lead to sup-

ply shortages and bottle-necks, driving up prices of ensure affordability of esessential goods. Increased sential commodities for demand for food items and consumers

Adopting prudent fisconsumer goods during Ramadan exerts upward pressure on prices, as producers and retailers capitalize on heightened consumption patterns, further exacerbating infla-Escalating energy

costs, including electricity and fuel prices, inflate production and transportation expenses, subsequently translating into higher prices for goods and services across the board. Policy inefficiencies, including inconsistent monetary and fiscal measures, coupled with structural deficiencies in governance and regulation, hinder effective inflation management strategies, perpetuating economic instability. Global economic volatility, fluctuating exchange rates, and international commodity price fluctuations exert indirect pressure on Pakistan's economy, amplifying in-

flationary tendencies and exacerbating price hiking dynamics. Speculative pricing practices, driven tribute to inflationary pressures. Moreover, fosby market speculation, hoarding, and artificial scarcity creation, exacertering public awareness bate price volatility and and promoting consumer undermine consumer weleducation are integral to fare, perpetuating inflaempowering individuals tionary pressures. To mitiand communities to navigate the adverse impacts gate inflationary pressures and safeguard their socioof inflation, particularly economic well-being durduring Ramadan, coning Ramadan and beyond. certed efforts and targeted interventions are impera-Addressing the scourge of tive. Enhancing the effiprice hiking in Pakistan ciency and resilience of requires a concerted and supply chains through multifaceted approach eninfrastructural improvecompassing structural rements, technology integraforms, policy interventions, and social safety tion, and streamlined logistics can alleviate supnets. Likewise, sustained efforts and political will ly constraints and stabilize prices. Implementing are imperative to translate robust price control these solutions into tangible mechanisms and intensioutcomes ensuring affordability

and prosperity for all seg-

ments of society

fying market monitoring

initiatives can curb specu-

cal policies, including rationalizing taxes and subsidies, reallocating resources towards social safety nets, and enhancing agricultural productivity, can alleviate inflationary pressures and foster economic sustainability.

Identifying responsibility for price hiking in Pakistan involves a complex interplay of factors involving both internal and external stakeholders The government bears significant responsibility for ensuring economic stability and regulating prices through effective policy formulation and implementation. Regulatory bodies tasked with overseeing various sectors play a pivotal role in monitoring market dynamics, enforcing regulations, and curbing anti-competitive practices. Private sector entities influence prices through production, distribution, and pricing decisions, while global economic trends and consumer behavior also con-

lives in the line of duty (including a journalist and a cameraman in southern Lebanon) we also saw many poets and writers in Gaza die. The poet Refaat Alareer died in a bombardment; his famous poem If Must Die went viral in the days following his death. People used his words — "If I must die/

you must live/ to Tell my story/ To sell my things" to signify the depth of their mourning, their determination to bear witness, and to express the sadness and anger they felt at the continued destruction of innocent lives. In a country as tur-

bulent as Pakistan, writing, literature, reading, and the arts are not merely pursuits of leisure or entertainment, or the pursuits of the well-off. In all times and all places, but especially in the Global South, art is the soul of resistance. Writers, poets, artists and musicians express defiance and resilience, and through their words and images, stories and songs, ordinary citi-

Gujranwala, Hyderabad, ties relating to the complaint resolution by launch-Lahore, Multan and Sukkur ing a project in January undertook OCR visits to federal authorities without 2016 by the name of Outreach Complaint Resolu- helped resolve 3149 cases.

Regional Offices at availability of the quasi-iu Bahawalpur, D.I.Khan, dicial forum and its easy accessibility for resolving their complaints against the various remote areas and any cost or services of a lawyer.

War, art and truth

Bina Shah

It's a question that writlittle mercy. ers and artists have always asked themselves: in brary in Paris remained times of difficulty, stress, defiantly open during chaos and darkness, what World War II; its motto, role can art and literature serve humanity? In Paki-Libris' stan, we seem to always ness of war, the light of be navigating through chalbooks" — resonates in lenging political, social countries like Pakistan, and economic periods; which have endured nuthere is a profound need merous wars and seem to for art, literature, and varibe in a state of conflict. ous forms of creative ex-We are not the only nation

pression to sustain us. at war with itself, or to The outbreak of war have endured wars, coups, in Gaza in October 2023 political assassinations, became a stark backdrop authoritarianism, and terto our everyday lives, inrorism. The Four Horseundating us with harrowmen of the Apocalypse ing images across televiwar, pestilence, death and sion and social media, famine — seem to have lending extreme urgency built their stables in counto the necessity of art tries like ours. during difficult times. As Like other times in we witnessed the valour other countries, Pakistan's of journalists in Gaza, rich tradition of resistance with several losing their literature bloomed in the shadow of political repression, summoning courage and hope that has attained a version of immortality. Faiz Ahmed Faiz was imprisoned twice in the 1950s for his democratic beliefs; he wrote his poetry collections in solitary confinement. He died in 1984 but today Faiz's words are chanted at rallies, discussed in gatherings, and studied by young people in classrooms all

over Pakistan. Fahmida Riaz, whose art challenged patriarchy, authoritarianism and the dictatorship of Gen Zia raised the cry of resistance in her debut poetry collection Torn Bodies, one that inspires young women today. Kishwar Naheed's poem We Sinful Women will always be a powerful voice of the Pakistani women who refuse to silently bear their oppression in the name of patriarchy. The literature of our

write a people's history for future generations, more real than the official narratives of history books. Writing is the necessary art when the wars larger region contains sigare over and the time has nificant, important novels come to heal. -- Courtesy that bear witness to the military conflicts, politi-Dawn

zens gain the strength to cal turmoil and social upchallenge the forces that heavals our country has rule their lives with such faced. Bapsi Sidhwa's Cracking India (originally titled Ice Candy Man), The American Lilater adapted into the film Earth, chronicled the horrors of partition, the sec-Atrium post Bellum ex tarian violence, migration, and the refugee crisis that "After the darkensued. Similarly, works like Moni Mohsin's The

End of Innocence touch

upon the trauma of the

1971 war, our second par-

tition. Bangladeshi au--thor Tehmina Anam explores the Bang-ladeshi war from the other side in her acclaimed novels A Golden Age and The Good Mus-lim. Pakistanis sho-uld read other perspectives in order to understand and have empathy for the people who suffered greatly in violent conflict against us. We can cast a wider net too: Nigerian writer Chimimanda Ngoze Adichie's Half of a Yellow Sun about the Biafran War; Afghan-American writer Jamil Jan Kochai's 99 Nights in Logar; The Seven Moons of MaaliAlmeida by Sri Lanka's Booker Prize winner Shehan Karunatilaka help us connect to the same catastrophes in different lands.

When writers witness

historical defeats, brutal

regimes or national disas-

ters, they are as over-

whelmed as anyone else.

But they transmute those

grand events into a study

of how the hardest of

times affect the lives of

ordinary women and men.

Writing becomes not just

an artist's comfort or

mode of expression, but a

method of catharsis, purg-

ing and cleansing them

from all the horror. They

Daily Aoice of Masse Independent

Sunday March 31, 2024

CM Punjab orders grand operation against electricity theft, smuggling, hoarding

Says whoever is found involved in power theft, smuggling and hoarding, should not be given any relief

Independent Report LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif, chairing a meeting of the Energy Department here on Saturday, directed to adopt zero-tolerance policy against electricity theft, smuggling and

hoarding. The CM directed authorities concerned to conduct a grand operation across the province against electricity theft, smuggling and hoarding and to implement a policy devised in a meeting chaired by the Prime Minister yesterday.

fix targets in this regard, after the expiry of one

month deadline. Every connection including industries, factories, shops, houses, shopping malls would be checked, authorities would be responsible in case of any failure, she warned. The CM said

whoever is found involved in power theft, smuggling and hoarding, should not be given any relief. She also directed to legislate for The CM directed to theft is already a

The CM said that action would also be taken governmen against officials involved in electricity theft, adding she stressed. The relevant that black sheep within the system should be identified and tried under the relevant laws.

The chief minister said the Ministry of Energy will also monitor all electricity distribution companies (DISCOs) of the province. She directed severe punishment and to form a task force of the heavy fines for the experts and government complete elimination of representatives to devise electricity theft. She an effective strategy to highlighted that electricity curb this menace. This task force would monitor the cognizable offense. So, Ministry of Power, the and present a compliance arrests and immediate performance of DISCOs report on their completion punishment should be and the operation against power theft.

IGP Punjab

visited

Chinese

Consulate

(APP)

AHORE

RAMADAN 2024 CHILDREN'S IFTAR PROGRAM AND STRIBUTION

ensured.

KARACHI: Governor of Sindh Muhammad Kamran Khan Tessori, Chief Minister Sindh Syed Murad Ali Shah, Consul General of Turkey Jamal Sangho posing for a group photograph along with children during Ramadan Children Iftar program ceremony, in the Provincial Capital.

Punjab govt focusing on solving problems of people: Azma Bukhari

LAHORE (APP): Punjab government would provide Information Minister Azma Bukhari said on Saturday that the Punjab government was focusing on solving the problems of the people of Punjab and in this regard various added. initiatives had been taken during one month.

services at doorsteps. The Safe Cities Project started by Shehbaz Sharif would now be launched in 18 more districts in Punjab," she Shiren

He expressed deep grief and sorrow over the She said roads would death of Chinese citizens be constructed in Punjab at in Shangla suicide attack.

of Climate Change. The Prime Minister was briefed on the progress on the policies and projects related to climate change. He said climate change was a very important issue, adding Pakistan was among the countries that had least role in climate destruction but was the most affected by climate change

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Prime Minister Shehbaz

Sharif Saturday directed

the formation of a

committee to identify

problems related to climate

change and to tackle them.

meeting regarding Ministry

He was chairing a

CM Punjab message Every day should be celebrated as **Zero Waste Day**

PM directs formation

of committee on

climate change

He

and

Attaullah

the meeting.

comprehensive

effective strategy was

needed to counter the

effects of climate change.

related to agriculture,

energy, water, infrastructure and other

sectors, he added. Minister for Information

Minister for Planning

and Development Ahsan

Iqbal, Minister for

Economic Affairs Ahad

Cheema, high level

officials of relevant

departments and experts

of climate change attended

said

Climate change was

Broadcasting

Tarar.

and

LAHORE: "Every day should be celebrated as Zero Waste Day," said Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif in her message on "Zero Waste Day." She added,"Today there is a greater need to consider the importance of responsible of use commodities and waste management."

Inspector General of Police Chief Madam (IGP) Punjab Dr Usman Anwar visited the Chinese world is facing numerous Consulate Lahore and met environmental challenges. Consul General Zhao We need an industrialized economy where resources are used efficiently and waste is generated to a minimum." She said,"People should adopt

plastics." Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif said,"Comprehensive waste management system is being introduced in all major cities of Punjab." She added,"For the first time, a sustainable and effective system of village sanitation is being devised." Madam Chief Minister said,"It is my commitment to see every city, village and neighborhood clean." She effort we can give our children a clean environment. We must

choose sustainable products and plan to reduce food waste.' Chief Madam Minister said,"Old items

CM, Japan ambassador discuss progress of **Rs8.5bn JICA projects**

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah in his meeting with Ambassador at the advanced stage. He of Japan Mr WADA added Mitsuhiro discussed the development projects launched with the support construction of Japan International Cooperation Agency been finalised. (JICA) for Rs8500.5 million. The meeting was that in the first phase, 11 attended by the Consul General of Japan Mr being Tahara, and First Secretary Mr Fukuda while the chief minister was assisted by his Principal Secretary Agha Wasif, Chairman P&D Najam Shah and Secretary Investment Mureed Rahmoo. The main components of the project include civil

ational

ews

LAHORE: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a meeting regarding climate change.

The chief minister said that the JICA project works and procurement of reconstruct of upgradation of Girls furniture. The Ambassador damaged fu Schools into Elementary of Japan said that the be replaced.

Woman killed, three hurt in road mishap

BUREWALA (APP): A woman was killed while three others sustained injuries due to collision between passenger van and loading vehicle at Multan

According to details, passenger van was coming to Burewala from Multan and suddenly collided with a shahzore vehicle near Pakhi Morr while overtaking.

As a result, 48 years old Shahida Bibi died on the spot. While Muhammad Afzal, Ali Haider and Mushtaq

Rescue 1122 shifted

project was most important. Schools in rural areas has been launched for therefore it needed to be Rs2,287.24 million and was expedited.Discussing the program for Flood Response added that the prequalification of the Through Reconstruction of Education Facilities the CM contractor and bids for said that the project has been initiated with the assistance and completion of works have of JICA in 9 districts- three in Mirpurkhas Division, two each in Nawabshah and It was pointed out

Khairpur, one each in elementary schools were Sukkur and Ghotki. constructed, The project has been including seven in Khairpur district and four launched for Rs1.566 billion, including Rs1.42 in Naushehroferoze.In the second phase construction of elementary schools in Sukkur, Larkana and Malir Karachi would be taken up.

billion of JICA and Rs142.41 million of Sindh government share. Under the project primary school buildings badly damaged by the floods and heavy being rains are reconstructed. furniture. The Ambassador damaged furniture would

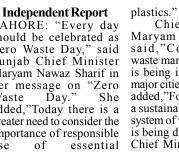
Page

05



LAHORE: Provincial Information Minister Uzma Bukhari briefing media persons about one month progress of Punjab Government at Punjab Assembly.

KPFoodAuthority's crackdown continues



Minister highlighted,"The added,"With collective

road.

Ahmad sustained injuries.

about the one month performance of the Punjab government here, she said that 6.4 million families were being facilitated under the Ramazan Nigheban package as per the vision of Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz.

She said that the Punjab government had decided to conduct a survey of poor people in three months. Azma Bukhari said that 90 days target had been given for making neat and clean Punjab and work in this regard was ongoing.

She said, "Maryam Nawaz believes in taking practical measures and not on hollow slogans.

A free wifi project is property-related problems being started again and the of expats.



essential items.

LAHORE: Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Attaullah Tarar offering Fateha and condoling death of PML-N worker Chaudhry Ateeq along with Rana Mashhood Ahmed and Syed Tauseef Shah at his residence.

Rescuers urged to maintain high standards

Dr. Rizwan Naseer

said that Rescue 1122,

which started from Lahore

in 2004, was functional in

in other provinces of

rescued 14.5 million emergency victims while

The

service

LAHORE (APP): Emergency Services Secretary Dr Rizwan Naseer welcomed 623 rescuers recruited for all districts of Punjab and provinces of Sindh and Balochistan at the Pakistan. The service has Services Emergency Se Academy, Lahore.

Addressing the newly recruited rescuers of Sindh and Balochistan at the minutes. Emergency Services Academy (ESA) Thokar Niaz Baig here on Saturday, he congratulates them on becoming a part of the Rescue 1122 life-saving Emergency Service.

Dr. Rizwan Naseer said, "you are going to join achievement a service, which has a short history but with many achievements." He advised the newly recruited rescuers to treat emergency victims with professional and manners and follow high standards

While briefing media a cost of billion of rupees. DIG Special Protection Azma Bukhari said that free Unit Muntizar Mehdi, AIG Operations Punjab Dr. medicines were available in Asad Ijaz Malhi, Chinese emergency of all public Consulate officers were hospitals across the province, adding that also present. During the meeting, ongoing projects under CPEC in Punjab, hepatitis patients would get their medicines in their homes.She said for the first security issues of Chinese time prices of essential citizens were discussed. items were reducing in Punjab.

IG Punjab said that the security of Chinese Under the Green experts and citizens is the Punjab Programme, 1.8 first priority in the context million saplings had been of CPEC projects, District planted in one day across police and PHP patrolling on all routes of movement the province, she said and added that a new of Chinese nationals has mechanism was being been made more stringent brought to control prices of and effective. He said that checking of suspicious persons and vehicles is She said that steps

being ensured through were being taken to solve special police posts on the of Chinese routes residents.

The Chinese Consul General expressed satisfaction and confidence in the security of Chinese experts and citizens working on various projects provided by Punjab Police. Chinese Consul General Zhao Shiren said that Punjab Police is providing the best security to Chinese on various citizens projects including CPEC.

ANF recovers over 1750 kg drugs in nine operations Battagram RAWÂLPINDI (APP) Anti-Narcotics Force

Bazar Swabi. (ANF) while conducting nine operations across the country managed to recover over 1750 kg drugs and 25000 intoxicated tablets and arrested eight

accused, said an ANF Headquarters spokesman here on Saturday. He informed that 25,000 intoxicated tablets were recovered from a

maintaining its average response time of 7 Jeddah-bound female passenger netted at maintained the standard in Îslamabad Airport.

all districts of Punjab. The In another operation, 2.2 kg Ice was recovered Motorbike Ambulance Service (MAS) has from a parcel being sent to responded to 2,069,008 Greece from Sialkot with 4 minutes average Courier Office. 1425 kg response time, which is an hashish was recovered from Toba Achakzai in even internationally and the Qilla Abdullah.225 kg first modern Rescue Fire hashish was recovered Service has saved losses from two suspects arrested worth over 642 billion by near Western Bypass improving response time Quetta. 100 kg opium was professional recovered from Nokundi firefighting on modern lines, he added. Chagai area and 45 kg hashish was recovered.

eco-friendly alternatives need to be repaired, by reducing single-use donated, or repurposed. the injured to District Headquarters hospital. by reducing single-use donated, or repurposed.



PESHAWAR: A delegation of Eunuchs meeting with Khyber Pakhtunkhawa Governor Haji Ghulam Ali to describe their problems. Mayor Peshawar Haji Zubair Ali is also present.

Major operations of FIA Peshawar Zone continue against sales of fake drugs

PESHAWAR (APP): The (DRAP) authorities sealed major operations of the fake and unregistered Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) Peshawar medicines on the spot and sent them to the laboratory. He said that Zone continued as six inquiries have been several medical stores were registered against the also sealed and inquiries elements involved in the have been registered sale of fake medicines, a FIA spokesman said here against the accused. He said that in the

Saturday. The raids were light of the report of DRAP conducted by Composite officials, cases will be Circle Mardan and Abbottabad, the registered against the accused and arrests will be spokesman of FIA said. made. He said that special adding, it was conducted at raid teams have been various medical stores formed by FIA in all circles located in Thakot. to tighten the grip against Bazar. the elements involved in Abbottabad, and Topi the sale of fake and unregistered medicines.

He said that a large The official said that number of fake and Peshawar raid teams are unregistered medicines conducting joint operations with DRAP officials and were recovered during the raids and Drug Regulatory all resources are being used

Falak Noor, held at Karachi press club.

TANK (APP): District Police Officer Tank Abdus Salam Khalid offered condolence to the family of a martyred cop at Garra Budha village on Saturday. A police spokesman said that the DPO visited the house of Police constable Akbar Ali who

had been martyred the other day, met the family members there, and offered fateha for the soul of the

DPO Tank

visits martyred

cop's house

martyr. The DPO assured his family members of continued support of the police department and said, that when these defenders of the nation sacrifice their lives for their soil and people, they are not dead they are alive, and their services are always remembered by living nations. He vowed to continue the war against terrorism till the complete

Independent Report PESHÂWAR: Malakand Food Safety Authority team checked milk and other food items with modern mobile food testing lab at Swat Expressway. More than 3,000 litres of substandard and adulterated milk was destroyed, spokesperson and

Saturday. 250 packs of nonlabled and substandard ice cream was also recovered from a vehicle and destroyed by imposing heavy fines. During the operation conducted by the Food Authority and the Cantonment Board in Nowshera Cantt, several bakeries and its production units were checked and sealed four bakeries for poor hygiene and sanitation conditions.

About 12000 liters of syrup, 10 kg of dye, 200

liters of oil, 10 kg of besan The and 125 kg of syrup were seized from the bakery units and destroyed on the spot. Dir lower team also conducted inspections in

various markets wherein more than 65 kg of expired food items were exported destroyed, spokesperson said.

Heavy fines have been imposed on owners for violating hygiene rules, spokesperson said, adding, Food safety teams should speed up operations against adulteration mafia across the province, directed by Director General Food Authority Wasif Saeed.

Citizens should also timely inform the Food Authority against violation of hygiene rules and non-standard foodstuff businesses, Wasif Saeed said.



PESHAWAR: Beautiful eye-catching view of light rain and hailstorm in Peshawar

Swati challenges EC decision of linking Senate polls in KP

PTI leader Azam Swati has challenged in court the Senate election matter decision of linking Senate and issued decision election in KP to oath without hearing. taking on reserved seats.

The petitioner has High Court (PHC) through Ali Azeem Afridi advocate.

According to petition Senate election process will be affected due to this decision of Election Commission (EC).

Ensuring Senate election on time is KARACHI: Members of Karakoram National Movement are holding protest constitutional demonstration for demanding Justice for Inara and recovery of missing girl responsibility of the EC. It has been said in the

PESHAWAR (Online): petition that EC has not heard candidates in

The members who were heard have been filed petition in Peshawar elected just now and they have not taken oath. The petitioner Azam Swat is candidate in Senate election. He was not heard.

Azam Swat took this plea in the petition that delaying Senate election in KP is illegal.

Petitioner has requested the court to nullify EC March 26 decision and ensure Senate polls on April 02 in KP.



Daily Aoice of Masse Independent Sunday March 31, 2024

Pak-Iraq trade via Gwadar, **Basra seaports to further** boost bilateral ties: Envoy

ISLAMABAD (INP): Ambassador of Iraq to Pakistan, Hamid Abbas Lafta has trade between Pakistan and Iraq through Gwadar and Basra seaports would be further strengthened bilateral relations between the two countries taking them to new heights.

committed to foster their multilateral relationship and that Pakistani manpower has a vast spectrum in the fields of agriculture, medical and petro-chemical in Iraq.³

He said that the two countries also enjoy exemplary ties in the field of defence and that Iraq has recently procured a complete package of Super Mushahk from Pakistan.

The Ambassador was talking to a delegation of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) led by its President Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari which called on him here avail these opportunities.

on Saturday. Lafta said that both the always countries demonstrate complete harmony at regional and international forums, adding that Iraq is a ions between the two htries taking them to heights. "The two sides are of promote ties with all the

> countries Although both Pakistan and Iraq were bonded in relationship yet the trade level which needed to be enhanced and for this direct mentioned.

The envoy further said that the Iraqi government has unveiled its national action plan for also enjoys the tourism the investments and the potential especially the Pakistani businessmen have to come forward to Iraqi side must grasp this

Hamid Abbas further Envoy Hamid Abbas said that the doors of his embassy are open for the business community of Pakistan in particular for the ICCI and that the Embassy will feel pride in sharing the Iraq's business opportunities with the Chamber for the benefit the business community

Speaking on the occasion, President ICCI Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari said that despite having a strong huge potential by both the sides, the trade volume was relations were at the lowest not up to the mark and to overcome the problem connectivity purpose the Chambers of between the two brotherly both the sides can play a countries was much significant role, he needed. He said that along-

with other multiple investment opportunities in different areas Pakistan northern areas, thereby the opportunity also.

growth

the

LAHORE: A vendor is displaying bangles at his shop attraction for customers ahead of the upcoming festival of Eid al-Fitr, in the Provincial Capital.

Navigating Carbon Market pathway to Pakistan's sustainable development

posed by climate change while sustaining economic incentivize the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, A training workshop on understanding carbon thereby mitigating the impact of carbon dioxide on the environment. Dr. Suleri poignantly noted that our very existence, ecology, food security, and livelihoods hinge on our collective efforts to preserve the environment. The transition to renewable energy, while technologically feasible,

Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Executive Director terms of infrastructure of carbon development, necessitating within a phased approach. The United States'

fine of Rs. 49.6mn

PESHAWAR (APP): Sui the replacement of old rotten lines.

replacing 60 km of old lines is going on, which has not only reduced the gas losses, but has also improved the pressure and delivery of gas.

Regional Manager Sui Akif Noor said that for the provision of gas in Ramadan and for quick

room is working in which

policies, serves as an illustrative model. It sets a precedent for establishing emission quotas and allows industries with surplus allowances to sell them, creating a market-driven approach to environmental conservation.Pakistan's journey towards establishing a robust carbon market is underway, with policies under review and

discussions at the Climate Change Council. The private sector's existing mechanisms provide a foundation upon which to build. The integration of such market-based approaches into Pakistan's policy framework can catalyze sustainable development, ensuring that the nation's exports remain competitive in the face of the European Union's Carbon Border Adjustment

RCCI office will remain open on Sunday for renewal of

membership

RAWALPINDI (APP) membership The department of Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) will remain open on Sunday to facilitate the members for membership renewal process as March 31 is the

last date for renewal.

Agriculture Secretary broken before cotton Iftikhar Ali Sahoo said on cultivation so that the

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Hardpan soil should be

LAHORE (APP): Lahore Monthly Advance Tax for Chamber of Commerce and all traders and It Industry (LCCI) Saturday shopkeepers. gave its feedback on SRO pertinent to mention that 420(I)/2024 dated 21st majority of shopkeepers March 2024 and hoped that rely on lawyers for tax by LCCI would be given requirement will impose

LAHORE: Tailor busy stitching clothes for upcoming Eid ul Fitr festival.

LCCI gives feedback Shanghai home to 92,000 to Finance Minister 5G base on SRO 420(I)/2024 stations

ISLAMABAD (APP) China's financial hub Shanghai has built 92,000 5G base stations so far,

local authorities said. By the end of 2023, 38.5 percent of the city's the suggestions put-forth filing. The monthly filing | mobile communication base stations were 5G. due consideration and administrative burdens and Shanghai recorded a

ISLAMABAD (APP): carbon tax in 2010 and with its cap-and-trade ongoing negotiations with The concept of carbon trading is not just a the International Monetary Fund (IMF) highlight the buzzword in the global environmental discourse; it complexities and the urgent is a critical mechanism for need for effective policy countries like Pakistan to instruments in this domain. The primary goal of address the challenges carbon trading is to

OMMERCE NEWS

Banks need to ensure lending to priority sectors' SMEs to stimulate growth: FRIA

overcome the existing challenges and bottlenecks hindering the growth of these vital sectors.

Page

06

He reiterated the FRIA's commitment to working closely with the banking sector to address the financing needs of on Saturday, he said that priority sectors and ensure effective implementation of the proposed strategies and agenda to strategize and lending to priority sectors initiatives.

Shahbaz Aslam highlighted the SBP's role growth and development in in providing regulatory Aslam support, policy guidance pointed out the and financial incentives to government's ongoing encourage banks to expand encourage banks to expand efforts to promote economic stability, fiscal their financing activities in alignment with the government's priorities. discipline, and sustainable

He said that despite the significant importance, over 5 million SMEs have been facing a huge credit gap, receiving only 7 percent of private sector credit, far below than neighboring countries like namely agriculture and Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs). The SVC FRIA requested the Pakistan Panka to load a task force Bangladesh (25 percent) and India (18 percent), with the State Bank committing to increase SME credit share to 17 percent by 2023. To achieve this, we must advocate for targeted and government, and relevant fixed SME allocations in stakeholders, with the concessional financing primary objective to schemes.





Secretary Agric says:

All possible steps being

taken to meet cotton

production targets



we need to set our primary

enhance financing and

to stimulate economic

He emphasized the critical role of the banking

sector in supporting the

government's development

agenda and urged the banks

to increase financing and

lending to priority sectors,

Banks to lead a task force

comprising representatives

from the banking sector,

Shahbaz

Pakistan.

growth.



market mechanisms, held in collaboration with the Embassy of Denmark and Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), signifies a pivotal step towards integrating Pakistan into the global carbon economy. faces significant hurdles in

SDPI, emphasized the novelty marketing Pakistan's climate change implementation of an dialogue. The unsuccessful

attempt to implement a emissions trading system, **SNGPL collects**

Northern Gas Pipelines Limited (SNGPL)

authorities in Mardan Region on Saturday collected a fine of Rs. 49.6 million in a campaign According to the sources of Sui Northern

Gas Pipelines, the fine was imposed on 514 consumers who had tempered their meters while another 229 resolution of customers' complaints, a situation

Mechanism (CBAM).

This year, the work of

incorporated into the draft scheme prior to its implementation.

In this connection, the LCCI President Kashif Anwar has written a letter to Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Muhammad Aurangzeb, according to the Chamber's spokesman here Saturday.

In the letter, the LCCI President Kashif Anwar said that Lahore Chamber is fully committed in supporting the government in its efforts to register the shopkeepers and promoting documentation in the economy.

Kashif Ánwar said Scheme

increase the cost of doing business due to additional 5G mobile phone users during this period, up legal fees and penalties for traders. He recommended nearly 40 percent year on Annual/Bi-Annual year, and accounting for payment of Advance Tax 40.8 percent of Shanghai's to alleviate these concerns. total mobile phone users, The LCCI President

according to the Shanghai added that the scheme Communications Administration, ecns reported.Meanwhile, more 11.5 million than households in Shanghai had access to the internet through fiber-optic cables in 2023, of which about 2.7 million households could browse the internet with a fixed broadband speed of 1,000 Mbps or above, said the administration.

that the draft Tajir Dost taxed on unrealized proposes income. **SCCI VP condemns**

terror attack on

Chinese nationals

the

development

proposes calculating tax based on the trader's annual rental value, equivalent to 10 percent of the fair market value of business premises. "We are of the view that using Rental Value or Area for tax calculation lacks rationality, as it has no link with turnover and may result in businesses being

FCCI to remain open today for renewal of membership FAISALABAD (APP) Renewal of membership

SIALKOT (APP): Vice nationals and a Pakistani President Sialkot Chamber driver, is a reprehensible act of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) Amer Majeed Sheikh vehemently condemned the heinous terror attack targeting Chinese nationals in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

in a statement, Vice President SCCI Amer Majeed Sheikh expressed his deepest condolences to the families of the victims and said that the business community of Sialkot stood in solidarity with the Chinese nation during this difficult time

He further said that the attack, which claimed prosperity of Pakistan. the lives of five Chinese

campaign of the Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce and driver, is a reprehensible act of violence that not only Industry (FCCI) for the year 2024-25 is going on undermines the safety and and the chamber office security of foreign would remain open on investors and workers in Sunday, March 31, as well Pakistan but also threatens which is the last date for longstanding friendship and cooperation between Pakistan and

China On behalf of the industry of Sialkot that is deeply invested in fostering economic ties with China, the Vice President recognized the invaluable contributions of Chinese companies and workers to the

renewal of membership. According to an FCCI spokesman, the chamber had made the best possible arrangements to facilitate its members and in this

connection, the offices of FCCI would remain open from 9 a.m. till midnight 12 a.m. on Sunday. The members failing

to renew their membership could not cast their vote in and the coming election of the FCCI, he added.

National

enabling

Pakistani

collaboration



KARACHI: A worker prepares vermicelli's which is used in a traditional sweet dish popularly consumed during the holy month of Ramadan at a factory, in the Provincial Capital.

were found to have got total of over 18.7 million direct gas connections.

against gas thieves.

an officer is on duty around Under the supervision of Regional the clock, for gas theft and Manager Sui Gas Mardan other complaints. Region Akif Noor, all possible efforts and resources are being used to

Citizens should report on the helpline 1199. The name of the reduce gas losses. informer of gas theft will One of the reasons for be kept confidential, he concluded the reduction in losses is

KARACHI: Women busy in shopping for upcoming Eid-ul-Fitr at Lines Area.

NTUF and RR agree to revolutionize T2T recycling industry

FAISALABAD (APP): untapped market potential Textile remains and by scaling University Faisalabad recycling initiatives we (NTUF) and Reverse Resources (RR) in could unlock economic and environmental benefits. with Similarly, this project KnowTex have agreed to would target quality textile revolutionize Textile-to-Textile (T2T) recycling waste in addition to handling informal waste of industry in Pakistan. textile sector. He said that According to a spokesman for NTUF, both a substantial amount of high-quality textile waste institutions would strive to still ends up in low-value establish a structured applications while highend recyclers actively seek framework for managing textile waste besides feedstock. The brands lack visibility into the fate o ensuring transparency and verifiable their discarded textiles. traceability in the recycling Similarly, the information waste handling sector faces numerous challenges due to process. He said that the project would have very critical link between textile beneficial impact for local industry. It would also waste supply recycling destinations. help address various Leakage within this sector legislative requirements of textiles poses a significant obstacle importing countries besides solving the biggest in supply chain compliance and transparent T2T recycling, he added. challenges of textile waste recycling of Pakistan in He further said that addition to providing many

opportunities. It would help harness untapped potential as textile waste by establishing a digitally despite the growth of Pakistan's textile recycling significant verifiable trace. industry,

In a statement Rafiq President RCCI said that they had already intimated and advised the members to get the chamber's membership renewed on or before the last date. Members have to submit the required

documents, and deposit the prescribed fee, he said.

miscellaneous duties of various wings of the Agriculture Department had been abolished so that they could properly help farmers in sowing and cotton picking process.

He presided over the first meeting of 'Cotton Campaign 2024', which reviewed the basic issues, challenges and targets, said a press release issued here. He ordered for taking

on board the Irrigation Department officials and issuing an advisory for farmers, keeping in view the weather forecast for the next 15 days.

He said that digital monitoring of the field staff would be done and this year the campaign should be conducted with more passion than last year, so that cotton production targets could be achieved. South Punjab

Agriculture Secretary Saqib Ali Ateel told the meeting that integrated pest management (IPM) model should be adopted for controlling cotton pests.

could be met, he added.

Punjab Agriculture Secretary Iftikhar Ali Sahoo expressed dissatisfaction over the arrangement at Fair Price Shop and directed officials concerned to improve facilities.

He paid a surprise visit to the Agriculture Department's Agricultural Fair Price Shop, here on Saturday.

He instructed the staff to improve their performance and ensure convenience for citizens in purchase of different items n the bazaar. He stressed importance of reaching out to the public in the best possible manner as per vision of Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif. He also ordered to increase the number of counters for citizens and to allocate separate portions for women. He maintained that all items in the Fair Price Shops should be abundantly available from 9 am to 5 pm, with no shortage of any item.



MULTAN: A vendor displaying seasonal fruit Mulberry to attract customers.

Incentives for taxpayers to help promote tax culture: FCCI chief

FAISALABAD (APP): President Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FCCI) Dr Khurram Tariq has said that giving multiple incentives to major taxpayers would help promote tax culture in the country.In a statement issued here on Saturday, he appreciated the government's decision to issue blue passports and honorary grant ambassador's status to taxpayers as a positive "It will not only step. expand the tax base but also reduce the burden on

the existing taxpayers," he said and added that the decision would play a major role in improving overall economic health of the country.He also appreciated the decision to recognise taxpayers as national heroes and said that it would help Pakistan come out of the persistent economic crises. He said that honorary ambassadors would play their role in increasing exports with full dedication in addition to highlighting the soft image of Pakistan at the global level

ISLAMABAD (APP): The per tola price of 24 karat gold witnessed no change and was sold at Rs.234,800 on Saturday. The price of 10 grams of 24 karat gold and 10 gram 22 karat gold also remained stagnant at Rs.201,303 and Rs.184,528 respectively,

Gold rates

remain

unchanged

the All Sindh Sarafa Jewellers Association reported.The price of per tola and ten gram silver also witnessed no change and was trade at Rs.2,600 and Rs.2,211.93 respectively. The price of gold in the international market remained constant at \$.2,254, the Association reported.

RTA slaps fines, recovers amount charged in excess fares by transporters HYDERABAD (APP) The Regional Transport Authority (RTA) here on Saturday imposed fines and returned money to

both institutions would struggle to create a formalized structure for the demand and supply of charged excess fares by the

and

passengers who were

transports.

Daily Noice of Masse,

International News

Page 07

Israeli strikes kill 40 in Syria's Aleppo

around

war

spokesman

Three

Monitoring Desk BEIRUT: Israel carried out its deadliest strikes in months on northern Syria's Aleppo province.

Israel has ramped up airstrikes in Syria against raeli strikes hit several both the Lebanese areas in the southeastern Hezbollah militia and the part of Aleppo province Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) in recent months. The Israeli military

also claimed on Friday it had killed Ali Abed Akhsan Naim, deputy commander Hezbollah's rocket and missiles unit, in an airstrike in Lebanon. The UK-based Syr-

ian Observatory for Human Rights said the Israeli attack targeted an area 'near rockets depots belonging to Lebanese group Hezbollah"

"At least 36 soldiers

were killed and dozens commander wounded," it said, adding brother had been killed in that six Hezbollah fightan Israeli strike on southers were also killed. ern Lebanon in Novem-

However, Syria's ber, one of the sources defence ministry said Is- said. An Israeli strike on raeli strikes hit several southern Lebanon on Friday killed a Hezbollah fighter, sources in Leba-1:45am non said. (2245GMT on Thurs-day), killing civilians and Moscow on Friday condemned what it said military personnel.

were "completely unac-In a post on X, Iraceptable" and provocanian foreign ministry tive Israeli strikes on Nasser Syria. "Such aggressive ac-Kanaani said Israel's at-

tions against the Syrian tacks on Syria were a "blatant and desperate at-Arab Republic, which tempt" to expand the constitute a flagrant violation of the country's security sovereignty and the basic sources told Reuters that norms of international law, are categorically un-acceptable," Russia's for-33 Syrians and five Hezbollah fighters had been killed in the strikes. eign ministry spokes-One of the Hezbollah woman Maria Zakharova fighters was a local field said in a statement.



A view of residential buildings damaged during a Russian missile strike in Kamianske, a city in Ukraine's Dnipropetrovsk region.

Blackouts hit 3 Ukraine areas after **Russian attack**

Monitoring Desk Dnipropetrovsk KYIV: Ukraine imposed Zaporizhzhia emergency blackouts on three regions after Russia fired dozens of missiles and drones at its power stations late night.

Moscow has stepped p its aerial bombardment of Ukraine in recent weeks, targeting energy infrastructure in response to deadly Ukrainian assaults on Russia's border regions.

National grid operator Ukrenergo said its dispatch centre was "forced to apply emergency blackout chedules in the regions of

evening". Restrictions were already in place in the major cities of Kharkiv and Kryvyi Rih following a Russian strike last week. "Consumers in other regions are asked to use electricity sparingly and con-sciously," Ukrenergo warned. The attacks come

at a difficult time for Ukraine, which is facing critical shortages of air defences to protect its skies and ammunition to defend the front lines

Gaza fisherman braves Israeli navy fire to support his family

GAZA: Before the Gaza war, Palestinian fisherman Jalal Qaraan navigated his small boat for long distances in search of a good catch. These days he says merely casting his nets could be deadly if he draws the

Israeli airstrikes and shelling have reduced large swathes of the densely populated coastal Gaza Strip to rubble and killed more than 32,000 Palestinians as the war with the Palestinian Islamist group Hamas rages.

There are also plenty of dangers at sea for fishermen like Qaraan, who must nevertheless support his family. When we attempt to

go out.. we are besieged with gunfire, bombarded with shells, sound bombs. It's always a risk, entering the water is a risk," he said as he pulled his boat to shore after catching a few fish. There is not a day that goes by without them coming at us. It's all fear and terror, but despite this, I go in to be able to provide a secure liv-

ing for my children.

Monitoring Desk KUALA LUMPUR: Maand Kirovograd until the laysian authorities have arrested three people suspected of supplying firearms to a 36-year-old man carrying an Israeli passport, who was detained this week at a hotel in Kuala Lumpur, police said on Saturday. The

Malaysia arrests

three suspected

of supplying

Israeli man

with firearms

man, arrested with a bag con-WASHINGTON: Annelle taining six handguns and 200 Sheline, the second US bullets, had arrived at Kuala Lumpur International Air-State Department official to resign over the Gaza port from the United Arab Emirates on March 12 using conflict, cited her unwillwhat authorities believed to ingness to be associated be a fake French passport. with a government "en-

Erdogan to visit US on May 9, security official says Monitoring Desk Americans now oppose the conflict, with 55 per cent

ANKARA: Turkiye's President Tayyip Erdogan will visit the United States on May 9 a Turkish security official said, setting the stage for his first White House meeting during the Biden

Administration. The Washington visit would be Erdogan's first since 2019 when he met then-president Donald Trump, with whom he en joyed good personal ties. Since President Joe Biden's 2020 election.

Biden warns Russia of 'costs' on journalist's arrest anniversary

Monitoring Desk

arrested on spying charges

in Russia since the Cold

War when he was detained

by the Federal Security Ser-

vice (FSB) on March 29 last

parents, I will never give up

hope either. We will con-

tinue working every day to secure his release," Biden

said in a statement released

by the White House that

called the journalist's deten-

Palestinian enclave.

scores mounting disillu-sionment with the Biden

administration's Middle

East policy, particularly as

recent Gallup polls indicate

a significant majority of

against and 36 per cent in

Sheline, a State Depar-tment official focus-

ing on human rights in the

Middle East, resigned on

Wednesday in protest over

US policy toward Israel, as

she stated in interviews with CNN, NBC News,

and other media outlets.

favour

"As I have told Evan's

Russia.

year.

WASHINGTON "We will continue to denounce and impose costs Presi-dent Joe Biden said for Russia's appalling atthe US will impose costs tempts to use Americans as for Russia's "appalling atbargaining chips," Biden tempts" to use Americans as bargaining chips in a added. The Kremlin said on statement to mark the first anniversary of Wall Street Journal repor-ter Evan Gersh-kovich's arrest in

Thursday complete silence was needed when it came to discussions about Gershkovich. possible prisoner ex-Gershkovich, 32, became the first US journalist

The reporter, the Journal and the US government all deny he is a spy. The FSB, the main successor to the Soviet-era KGB, said Gershkovich had been trying to obtain military secrets.

He has now spent a year at Moscow's high-se-curity Lefortovo prison, which is closely associated with the FSB, and his detention has been extended tion "wholly unjust and il- to June 30.

Another US official quits after differences over Israel policy **Monitoring Desk**

cerns, she cited the escalating death toll in Gaza, which had surpassed 32,000, and the looming threat of famine, saying she no longer wanted to be affiliated with a government that was "enabling what has credibly been described as abling... genocide" in the genocide" in the Palestinian territories. Her departure under-

She was referring to a recent report by Francesca P. Albanese, the UN Special Rapporteur on the occupied Palestinian territories, which stated there were "reasonable grounds to believe Israel has committed genocide in its war on Gaza.

On Sunday, a Democratic lawmaker from New York, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, also defended her earlier remarks accusing Israel of genocide against the Palestinian people and advocating for cuts to US military aid until humanitarian Expressing her con- relief flows freely in Gaza.

Venezuela's huge diaspora struggles to register to vote Monitoring Desk BUENOS AIRES: Millions said Venezuelan Adriana Flores outside the consulate of Venezuelans who fled in Buenos Aires. The United Nations economic misery in their country could find themestimates that almost eight selves unable to vote in key million Venezuelans have July presidential elections, fled their country since 2014 as complaints mount over the year after Maduro hurdles at consulates abroad took office. for those seeking to register. sis marked by runaway in-"We want to vote, we flation and food and mediwant to vote!" chanted a small group of Venezuelans population into misery. The Venezuelan civil protesting outside their consulate in Argentina's capirights NGO Sumate estital in recent days, holding mates that 5.2 million citimock-ups of urns and ballot papers after being unable to sign up. register to vote for the first Election registration time or update their inforwas meant to start on mation from abroad. The last time the elec-March 18 and will run for a toral register was updated **Court extends** month, before the July 28 vote in which President Kejriwal's Nicolas Maduro is seeking when only 107.000 Venezua third term. custody until But in some countries abroad. In Colombia, which is in Latin America and Europe, the process hasn't home to 2.8 million Venezu-**Monitoring Desk** even started yet. "Each consulate has its demands which they yet been able to sign up, communicate verbally, there is nothing official ... no uniform criteria" to register,

Central and Eastern European countries mark 20 years in ÑATO with focus on war in Ukraine

Monitoring Desk

Military airbase hosting Spanish and

Japanese health ministry officials head to search a Kobayashi Pharmaceutical Co. factory in Osaka.

landed back in 2004. "We

any challenges together."

VILNIUS: Several central and Eastern European countries began marking the 20th anniversary of the largest expansion of the NATO military alliance when formerly socialist countries became members

of the bloc. aircraft membership of the Alliance roared over the Lithuanian to 26. The seven nations capital Vilnius. At the main started accession negotiations soon after the collapse

Taiwan's navy chief to visit US next week, sources say

Monitoring Desk will always have a strong, WASHINGTON: Taiwan's navy chief, Tang Hua, will visit the United States supportive Alliance family by our side, and we will face from next week to attend a Bulgaria, Estonia, military ceremony and dis-Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, cuss how to boost bilateral Slovakia, and Slovenia naval cooperation as China joined NATO on March 29 raises threats toward the in 2004, bringing the total island, six people briefed on the trip said. While Taiwan and the

United States have a close relationship it is unofficial

Monitoring Desk

wrath of the Israeli navy.

Portuguese fighter jets tasked with NATO air policing missions in the Baltic region, officials gathered to commemorate the event.

"Russia's new bloody terror in Europe is contributing to the growth of instability and threats around the world. However, we in Lithuania are calm because we know that we will never be alone again," said President Gitanas Nauseda, standing near the runway where the first NATO jets defense.

France to boost Olympics security with foreign military, police support

earlier

Monitoring Desk PARIS: France has asked about 45 foreign countries to contribute several thousand extra military, police and civilian personnel to help safe-guard the Paris Olympics this summer, government sources said, amid a complex geopolitical and security outlook

The country plans to deploy about 45,000 French police and security forces, 20,000 private security personnel and around 15,000 military each day to protect an event that will see millions of sports fans and tourists stay in the country for several weeks at the height of summer. Wars in Ukraine and the Middle East as well as a threat of terrorist attacks have forced the French government to raise its security alert to its highest level in recent days

of the Soviet Union and eventually were invited to join at the Prague Summit in November 2002. Another group of former Soviet satellites including Poland and the Czech Republic had been admitted several years Most of the former

"The security context.

particularly in recent

weeks, means that there is

extreme vigilance regarding

the security of these Olym-

pic Games," said a French military official. It is not

uncommon for international

sporting events to see for-

eign police invited to help

manage the large numbers

of foreign visitors, but it is

rarer to ask for military as-

sistance. At the last soccer

and anti-drone personnel.

visit Hawaii, home of the US Indo-Pacific Command. Soviet Republics that for a Pacific Fleet changejoined NATÔ at the turn of of-command ceremony. the millennium spend more Three of them said Tang than the required 2% of was then expected to attend gross domestic product on the April 8-10 Sea-Air-Space conference near

Washington and that talks were under way to arrange a meeting with the US chief of naval operations.

two bodies from **Baltimore bridge**

Monitoring Desk BALTIMORE: The bodies

of two construction workers were found in the cold waters of Baltimore harbour, trapped in their red pick-up truck after a giant cargo ship slammed into the bridge they had been filling potholes on, causing a thunderous collapse.

World Cup in Qatar, France Maryland police announced the grim discovery did provide military support to the local authorities at a press conference, addin the form of sniffer dogs ing that sonar shows what they believe are more ve-According to a French government and an hicles trapped within the concrete and twisted steel interior ministry source, a debris of the Francis Scott request was made in Janu-Key Bridge.

ary to about 45 countries Six of the eight-man to help reinforce capacity construction crew are bewith more than 2,000 lieved to have been killed, with four bodies yet to be people, both military and found



Self-defence brigades sowing terror in

said

airport.

Haiti, says UN report **Monitoring Desk** these practices are outra-GENEVA: Gang violence in Haiti has killed over 1,500 people so far this year, including many chil-dren, while dozens have been lynched, stoned or burned alive by so-called self-defence brigades, the

UN human rights office country. Haiti's shattering gang wars have intensified in recent weeks with heavilyarmed rivals unleashing fresh waves of attacks, including raids on police stations and the international port for the police or rival gangs. Others have been

killed in the street by snip-ers or in crossfire, the UN Prime Minister Ariel Henry announced his resignation on March 11. "All report said.

Dengue is sweeping

early this year

officials said.

Monitoring Desk

That tally is three

zation in the Americas.

NEW DELHI: An Indian geous and must stop at court extended the custody once," the United Nations of opposition leader and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal until April High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Turk said in a statement released alongside a UN report describing the "cataclysmic" situation in the Caribbean

The report documents 4,451 killings last year and 1,554 through to March 22 as violence has escalated. Some people have been killed in their homes in reprisal for their alleged supcustody.

Indian Navy rescues Iranian fishing vessel hijacked by pirates Monitoring Desk

April 1

NEW DELHI: The Indian Navy said it had freed a hijacked Iranian fishing vessel from nine armed pirates in the Arabian Sea, Last year, there were rescuing its crew un a record 4.5 million cases in harmed

the region, and PAHO offi-The fishing vessel, Alcials said they expect this Kambar 786, was southyear will set a new record. west of the Yemeni island of Socotra on March 28 Usually dengue spikes during the wet season, when it was reported to which is still months away. have been boarded by pi-And some areas are reportrates, according to a stateing dengue for the first time, ment from the navy late on Friday

The ship was inter-cepted by the INS Sumedha The dengue virus is spread to people when they are bitten by infected and INS Trishul, leading to mosquitoes. Driving the "over 12 hours of intense surge are rising temperacoercive tactical measures tures, rapid urbanization, forcing the pirates to sur droughts and floods linked render, the navy said.

The past decade has seen a severe economic cricine shortages, plunging the

zens abroad will have to

was for the 2018 elections elans signed up from

elans, registration opened a week late, and no one has said opposition figure Eduardo Battistini, who lives in the country.

9 detained in Tajikistan in relation to Moscow concert hall attack, Russian state media report

Monitoring Desk MOSCOW: Nine people have been detained by Tajikistan's state security service over suspected contact with the perpetrators of last week's attack by gunmen on a suburban Moscow concert hall that killed 144 people, Russian state news agency RIA

Novosti said. "Nine residents of the Vakhdat district were detained for contact with the persons who committed the terrorist attack at Crocus City Hall on March 22," the agency reported, citing information from an un-

source named in Tajikistan's special services, who said that Russian security forces were also involved in the operation to detain the suspects. Those detained are also suspected of having connections with the Islamic State group, accord-

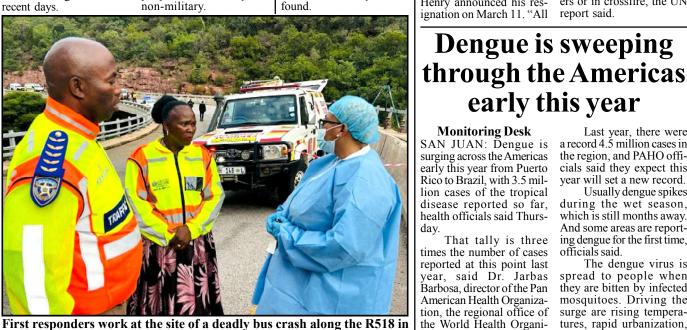
ing to RIA Novosti. Russia's Investigative Committee said Thursday it had detained another suspect in relation to the raid

on Crocus City Hall, on suspicion of being involved in financing the attack. It did not give further details of the suspect's identity or alleged actions.

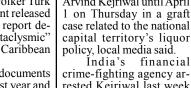
Russian officials previously said that 11 suspects had been arrested, including four who allegedly carried out the attack. Those four, identified as Tajik nationals, appeared in a Moscow court on Sunday on terrorism charges and showed signs of severe beatings. One appeared to be barely conscious during

the hearing. The Investigative Committee statement said it has "confirmed data that the perpetrators of the terrorist attack received significant amounts of money and cryptocurrency from Ukraine, which were used in preparing the crime."

Ukraine denies involvement and its officials claim that Moscow is pushing the allegation as a pretext to intensify its fighting in Ukraine.



First responders work at the site of a deadly bus crash along the R518 in Waterberg District, Limpopo Province, South Africa.



rested Kejriwal last week in connection with corruption allegations related to the city's liquor policy and he was remanded to its

Daily **Independent**, Quetta

Sunday March 31, 2024

Pakistan wants to further enhance bilateral coop. with Russia: PM

Prime Muhammad Shehbaz tragic hour. Sharif on Saturday while noting the historic cordial ties between Pakistan and Russia, said that Pakistan wanted to enhance bilateral cooperation with Russia in a number of areas particularly in energy, trade and investment

The prime minister stressed the need for early expressed deep condolences on the loss of precious lives in the Crocus City Hall attack outside due to be hosted by Russia Moscow last week and said

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan stood in solidar-Minister ity with Russia at this sian side to send a delega-

tion to Pakistan to hold dis-The prime minister cussions with their counterexpressed these views dur- parts to identify ways to ing a meeting with Ambasenhance the existing level of trade and investment ties sador of the Russian Federation Albert P. Khorev between the two countries. who called on him, PM Oftheir meeting on the sidefice Media Wing said in a press release. lines of the Shanghai Coop-The prime minister

Organization eration Summit (SCO) Samarkand in 2022, the convening of the 9th session of the Inter-governprime minister reiterated mental Commission (IGC), his invitation to President Putin to undertake an official visit to Pakistan at his

He also urged the Rusearliest convenience. He also thanked President Vladimir Putin for the congratulatory message sent to him on his re-election

The Russian ambassador assured the prime min-While fondly recalling ister that Russia wanted to build stronger ties with Pakistan and said that, in addition to energy, trade and investment, Russia was also keen to enhance cooperation in education and culture

Both countries are also actively involved in SCO.



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Russian Federation Amb. Albert P. Khorev calls on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.



later this year

OUETTA: PPP leader Malik Hameed Kakar and others in a group photo with newly elected Senator of PPP Sardar Umar Gorgaj.

US President's letter emphasizes bilateral ties, not congratulations

PESHAWAR (INP): Farhatullah Babar, a prominent leader of the Pakistan People's Party, has highlighted an intriguing aspect of the letter penned by US President Joe Biden to Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif. According to Babar, President Biden's letter did not include explicit congratulations to Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on assuming office.

Taking on Twitter (X), Babar expressed concern over this omission, suggesting it conveys a subtle yet disconcerting message. He relations had soured conquestioned the reasons behind this oversight, of communication between prompting speculation Khan and the American leadership.

Former Federal Information Minister Murtaza Solangi weighed in on the matter, asserting that Presi-dent Biden did indeed exbrother. tend congratulations to Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in his letter. However, Solangi emphasized that the absence of congratulations is not the focal point; rather, the signifi-

cance lies in the diplomatic milestone achieved through this communication. During the tenure of

former Prime Minister Imran Khan, Pakistan-US siderably, marked by a lack

Pervaiz welcomes Aseefa to NA LAHORE (APP): Pakistan Peoples Party Central

Punjab President and

Finance Minister assures Sindh govt of full support to boost agriculture sector

Independent Report KARACHI (INP): Federal Minister for Finance Muhammad Aurangzeb and Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah have agreed to collaborate to attract foreign investment and boost exports, enhancing the financial stability of the province in general and of the country in particular

This was settled during a meeting between the two here at CM House on Saturday. The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary to CM Agha Wasif, Additional Secretary Ministry of Finance Amjad Mahmood, and Provincial Secretary Finance Favaz Jatoi, according to a CM's

Sherry Rehman said she

was heartbroken to hear

about the heinous and in-

humane act of killing an in-

rights and our traditions,"

"The murder of Maria

nocent woman.

Syed Murad Ali Shah pointed out that his government has always paid its electricity bills on time, and if any outstanding bills needed to be reconciled, the federal government should have brought the issue to their attention instead of making at-source deductions. The chief minister also said that the FBR after

reading a news item of the cars registered in Sindh from 1948 to 2015 had deducted Rs6 billion of the province at source. Despite the resolution of the issue still the amount has not been refunded. Finance Minister

Muhammad Aurangzeb told the chief minister that he was working to develop

Sherry demands exemplary punishment for girl's killers

HYDERABAD (INP): Pa- she said

atrocities

kistan People's Party (PPP) leader and Senator Sherry Rehman has condemned the brutal murder in shame. of 22-year-old Toba Tek Singh girl Maria allegedly by her brother and father. In her statement, Senator

She said the video circulating on social media had made everyone hang head "It should not be con-

sidered a normal incident and its terrible nature should not be neglected. Instead, a transparent investigation into this murder should be held to punish all those involved," she demanded. Rehman added that everyone was by her brother and father is feeling sad for Maria and a violation of basic human all the victims of such

a proper professional working relationship between the federal and provincial

on

organizations. 'The federal and pro vincial organizations and institutions have to work together, learn from each other's expertise, support each other for growth and cooperate for collective uplift and development," he

He assured the chief minister that the at-source deduction issue would be resolved amicably. The CM and the federal finance minister also discussed the price escalation of industrial gas. The chief minister said that the industrialists were quite upset with the increase in industrial gas prices

1st consignment of high breed cattle reaches from Brazil

KARACHI (INP): The first consignment of high breed cattle imported from Brazil under Special Investment Council (SIFC) has reached Pakistan. This process will contribute to the improvement of the Green Pakistan Livestock Initiative (GPLI) established under the SIFC. These cattle with superior genetic characteristics will be supplied to local farmers for meat and milk requirements. The imported cattle of nine breeds include local breeds of Pakistan and Brazilian breeds.

Denying medical treatment to a patient **Private hospital** removed from panel of Health Card

Independent Report QUETTA: A famous private hospital of Quetta has been removed from the panel of Health Card on denying medical treatment to a patient on Health Card. The meeting of Health Card Utilization Committee was held under the chair of Medical Superintendent of Sandeman Civil Hospi-

the tal Quetta Dr. Ishaq Panezai Saturday. The meeting was attended by Professor Dr.

Uzma Sohail, Professor Dr. Abdul Ghaffar, Associate Professor Dr. Fazalur Rehman, Assistant Professor Dr. Asmat Achakzai Director Admir Balochistan Health Card, Dr Ahmed Wali and other concerned. The meeting discussed about the issues being created in facilitation of Health Card Programme. The meeting stressed the need to remove the hurdles in provision of Health Card facility.



QUETTA: Members of Traders and Shopkeepers Alliance are holding protest demonstration for acceptance of their demands, held at Bacha Khan Chowk in Quetta.

JAC of UoB announces to stage dharna on April 2 in front of BA has released Rs. 25 crore

Independent Report QUETTA: The Joint Action Committee (JAC) of University of Balochistan (UoB) has announced to stage dharna (protest sit- salaries and pension of the

and 50 lakh on account of the salaries of employees. It was stated that Rs. 1.25 billion is required for

in) in front of the Provin- employees and pensioners cial Assembly on April 2, of the university. 2024. The JAC demanded

of the authorities

HRCP takes notice of Maria murder case TOBA TEK SINGH (INP) The National Commission of Human Rights (NCHR) on Saturday took notice of spokesman. the gruesome murder of

Maria Bibi, who was choked to death by her According to the de-tails, the NCHR in a statement reacted swiftly to the

murder case, promptly assuming the role of a party in the proceedings. Muhammad Khalid,

the Coordinator of NCHR Punjab, took a proactive approach by personally visiting the scene of the in-cident in Toba Tek Singh.

During his visit, Khalid diligently recorded statements from residents re-garding the murder incident.

Palestinians, Kashmiris

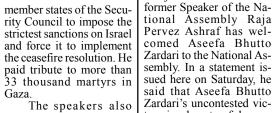
Rally in Muzaffarabad

to express solidarity with

M U Z A F F A R A B A D member states of the Secu-(INP): A "Solidarity Palestine and Jammu Kashmir Rally" was organized in Muzaffarabad under the auspices of the refugees of Jammu and Kashmir, in which they demanded the establishment of an independent Palestinian state and the right to self-determination for the Kashmiri people.

The rally started from the Old Secretariat and ended at Burhan Wani Shaheed Chowk. The participants of the rally chanted anti-Israel and pro-Palestine and anti-India and pro-freedom slogans.

The speakers denounced the massacre of able solution to the innocent civilians in Pales- Jammu and Kashmir contine and demanded the flict.



Zardari's uncontested victory is a beauty of democrejected the Indian miliracy. Congratulating her on tary occupation of being elected as a Member Jammu and Kashmir and of the National Assembly said India cannot keep the under Article 207. Kashmiri people en-

Zulfi withdraws

senate candidacy, They called upon the United Nations to ensure puts party first the implementation of its ATTOCK (INP): In a suradopted resolutions for a prising turn of events, Pajust, lasting and sustainkistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Zulfi Bukhari has withdrawn his candidacy for the upcoming Sen-

ate elections. This decision comes amidst legal challenges surrounding the confirmation of his nomination

Bukhari alleged that his nomination faced "false and illegal hurdles," despite possessing the necessary legal documentation. While his lawyer, Salman Akram Raja, expressed confidence in a legal victory, Bukhari grappled with the potential consequences of contesting

The administrator said

OUETTA: Heavy machinery removes garbage at the confirmations of his fellow PTI nominees, Allama Raja Nasir Abbas and Hamid Khan.

(PTI) leader and former federal minister Murad Saeed have been approved. The Appellate Tribunal has issued a written verdict in this regard. The tribunal rejected all the eight objections

PESHAWAR

against the PTI leader. The tribunal, in its verdict, said the signatures of the attester and endorser on the

kistan Tehreek-e-Insaf posed by the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP). In the written ruling, it was said that absconders had the right to contest the elections. "Papers cannot be rejected on the basis of absconding. The tribunal said Murad Saeed had also revealed his assets. The verdict said documents were submitted by Murad Saeed

papers were genuine. which are correct. **Bilawal extends warm** Easter greeting to **Christian community**

including Pakistan, emphasizing the importance of peaceful coexistence globally. According to the press release issued by Media Cell Bilawal House, he said that the Easter, with

its profound message of hope, and renewal holds significant importance not only in the spiritual realm but also in the political landscape. Bilawal Bhutto expressed his heartfelt appreciation for the unwavering patriotism of Pakistan's Christian community on this auspicious occasion, acknowledging their invaluable contributions to education and healthcare.



ing of Balochistan Health Utilization Committee

According to the Joint Action Committee, payment of the salaries and the teachers, officers and employees of the University are deprived of the salaries for last three months.

pensions of the employees and pensioners of the university immediately. Otherwise, strong pro-

It was mentioned that test would be lodged against the Provincial government the issue, it was announced.

Rain, hailstorm hit parts of Balochistan, KP, Punjab cities

OUETTA (INP): Different personnel to remain preplaces in the country were lashed by rain and hailstorms on Saturday morning, bringing down the temperatures and bringing smiles on people's faces in the holy month of Ramadan. Different parts of

the weather cooler but also

created a flood-like situa-

tion in cities like Peshawar,

pared to deal with any eventuality. "All resources should be utilized to cope with any untoward incident. he stressed, adding that timely assistance and relief should be ensured.

Necessary measures should be taken to open the Balochistan, Khyber roads which may be closed Pakhtunkhwa (KP), Azad due to rains and snowfall Jammu and Kashmir (AJK), and Punjab received and availability of small and large machinery and manpower should be enrain which not only turned sured," the CM directed. The situation was same in Balochistan where rain and the capital of KP, prompt-ing the provincial Chief hailstorms pounded the provincial capital Quetta Minister (CM) Ali Amin and other cities, again turning the weather chilly in

Gandapur to direct the PDMA and the rescue these areas.

Neelum Jhelum HPP achieves peak generation of 969MW

Neelum Jhelum Hydroelectric Project (NJHPP) reached its peak generation capacity of 969 MW.

This milestone comes after the project resumed full operation earlier this month, following the successful inspection and remedial works in the tail race tunnel (TRT), Gwadar Pro reported on Saturday.

Before the resumption, an international panel of experts inspected the TRT and described the rehabilitation work carried out by China Gezhouba Group Company (CGGC) as 'satisfactory

NJHPP is continuously in operation as per the availability of water and contributing electricity to the National Grid, espe-cially during Sehr and Iftar

ISLAMABAD (INP): In a NJHPP was halted on significant achievement, the January 10, 2024 for the inspection of the rehabili-tated TRT. The detailed inspection was successfully carried out prior to the resumption of generation from the project early this month. Neelum Jhelum is a unique hydropower project with 90% being under-ground under high mountains overburden.

The project, completed in 2018 on River Neelum in Azad Jammu and Kashmir, comprises a Dam at Nauseri, an underground waterway system consist-ing of 52-Km long tunnels and an underground pow-erhouse at Chattar Kalas with four power generating units of 242.25 MW each.

With an average annual energy generation of 4.6 billion units, NJHPP has so far generated 19.562 billion of the holy month of units of green and clean elec-Ramadan, according to an tricity, thus significantly official statement of contributing to meeting the WAPDA issued on Friday. electricity requirements of The operation of the country.





slaved for long through

military force and terror

ist activities.

garbage dump during cleanliness drive under the supervision of Metropolitan Corporation, at Nawan Kali in Quetta.

QMC to plant olive trees on PPP basis to address environmental issues

QUETTA (APP): Quetta Metropolitan Corporation (QMC) has decided to plant olive trees on public private partnership basis to reduce pollution, address environmental issues and boost the green cover in the provincial capital.

Talking to APP, Ad-Quetta ministrator Hamza Muhammad Shafqaat said that state land would be allocated on lease to private firms for olive trees plantation at various sites specified in Quetta.

According to the plan, resource management tasks such as silviculture inventories, planning, reforestation, monitoring and harvesting of crops would be carried out by the private sector.

tation would generate direct and indirect socioeconomic, authority would enhance ecological and environmental benefits for the local unique techniques. people. The initiative would available resources would also help to keep the land

be utilized to protect the of Quetta free from illegal natural resources which encroachments and conwere necessary for preservstructions, and to make the ing green environment. Hamza Shaqaat emenvironment more beautiful phasized the need of forand attractive.

He said the tree plan- atmosphere.

The Quetta adminismation of Parks and Hortitration has also plan to esculture Authority (PHA) in tablish 'Miyawaki forest' at the province to add greendifferent places of the city erv and preserve provincial to reduce city's increasing horticulture. temperature.

He said more efforts He said, the aggressive are needed to maintain and plantation would help in renovate the public parks controlling the growing enon the modern lines in a bid vironmental pollution and to provide a recreational it will also be useful for opportunity to its resi-boosting oxygen level in the dents.

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has extended warm Easter greet-He said that the civic ings to the Christian comforestation through such munity across the world.

tribunal issues verdict BANNU (INP): In a tragic incident, three children died (INP): Murad Saeed has deposited in wall collapse incident in the jurisdiction of Ghauri Nomination papers of Pathe penalty amount im-

The first consignment of high breed cattle imported from Brazil under Spe

cial Investment Council (SIFC) reaches Pakistan.

Murad Saeed allowed to

contest Senate election,

through power of attorney

Wala police station Bannu As per details, the in-cident occurred in Muawia Kala where a wall collapsed due to torrential rains in Bannu district. According to Rescue 1122, the tragic incident left three chil

dren dead whereas one other sustained injuries. The rescue officials stated that the eight to ten-year-old children's dead bodies have been shifted to the district headquarters hospital.

Police arrest

notorious

Lyari gang war

commander

in Karachi

ISLAMABAD (APP)

The notorious commander

Faisal Mulla, was arrested

in injured condition after an

encounter during the raid on

Saturday. According to a pri

vate news channel, Senior Su

perintendent of Police (SSP)

City, Amjad Hayat said that

the police conducted a raid and

arrested a notorious criminal

Three children

die in wall

collapse incident