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ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif visited the residence of President-elect Asif Ali Zardari to congratulate him on his victory in the presidential elections.

President Asif Ali Zardari to resolve issues of Balochistan, maintains Mir SarfrazAhmed Bugti

Mir Sarfraz Bugti congratulates Asif Ali Zardari on his election as President of Pakistan for 2nd time; describes Zardari's victory from Balochistan Assembly as historic; thanks all MPAs on overwhelming support to PPP's central leader

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir President Zardari would Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has described the success of and prosperity of the prov-Asif Ali Zardari from Balochistan Assembly as historic and said that he (Zardari) secured 47 votes.

In an official statement issued here on Saturday, the Chief Minister congratulated Asif Ali Zardari on his election as President and said that it is victory of the democracy once again.

He said that Asif nouncement of result of Zardari has always soft presidential election in the corner for the province and

Aghaz Haqooq Balochistan backage. casting votes in favour of Asif Ali Zardari. He said take steps for development ince besides resolving its issues

The Chief Minister also hoped that Pakistan would be put on path of development with unity and consensus of the federating units. Meanwhile, while

speaking to the media persons soon after the anprovincial assembly on SatZardari gets elected as president for historic second time with overwhelming majority

Coalition's candidate garners 411 votes while PTI-backed Achakzai bags 181 votes from electoral college; CJP Isa will administer oath to President-elect today

ISLAMABAD (APP): Asif Ali Zardari, President of Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentarians (PPPP), on Saturday received majority votes of the electoral college, comprising the parliament and provincial assemblies, paving way for him to assume the office of President of Pakistan, for the historic second time in country's parliamentary history

The members of the ruling alliance supported the former president and PPP stalwart Asif Ali Zardari against Pakhtunkhwa Milli Awami Party (PkMAP) Chairman Mahmood Khan Achakzai, who was backed by Sunni

Ittehad Council (SIC). He will serve the country as the 14th elected Zardari, is the chairman of

President of the country. WHO IS ASIF ALI

ZARDARI? Asif Ali Zardari, is the vidower of Pakistan's first female prime minister Shaheed Benazir Bhutto. Born on July 26, 1955, in Karachi, Asif Ali Zardari is the son of Hakim Ali Zardari, a tribal chief and prominent landowner. Zardari served as the 11th president of Pakistan

from 2008 to 2013 and was the first politician to complete a full term in office. He has been a member of the national assembly of Pakistan since August 2018

Since December 27, 2007 assassination of former prime minister Benazir Bhutto, he had been leading the PPP. His son, Bilawal Bhutto her government.

Zardari served as a

Fully prepared to defend motherland against full spectrum of threats: COAS

Gen Munir visits training area near Rahim Yar Khan, interacts with troops

Defence, and Anti-Tank Independent Report Guided Missiles. RAWALPINDI: Chief of

Pakistan Air Force Army Staff, General Syed Aircrafts also participated Asim Munir has expressed in the exercise. The exercise also incor-

the resolve that Pakistan Armed Forces, with supporated Electronic Warfare port of the nation, are fully capabilities and Informaprepared to defend the tertion Operations required to ritorial integrity and soversubdue enemy's communieignty of motherland cations capabilities and against full spectrum of disinformation campaign during war. He was interacting with

The Army Chief spent the troops engaged in the complete day with the Field Exercise "Shamsheer-



member of the National Party following the assas-Assembly from 1990 to sination of his wife. 1993 and from 1993 to HIS ACHIEVE-1996. After Benazir MENTS Bhutto's return to power in Under 18th Amend-1993, he served as minister ment, he gave away the of the environment (1993presidential powers to 96) and federal minister for strengthen parliamentary investment (1995-96) in democracy and bolstered

provincial autonomy, On January 2008, he coined political reconciliwas elected as Co-Chairation, helped policies man Pakistan Peoples that encompassed free- Plan 2011.

dom of media, revolutionized telecommunications, revived Pakistan's energy sector, opened Pakistan to foreign direct investment and strengthen state-owned enterprises.

The PPP government under his leadership got a consensus among all the political parties on the seventh NFC award which increased the provinces' financial autonomy.

The PPP-led government also unveiled the Aghaz-i-Huqooq-i-Balochistan package aimed at improving the situation

in the province. To eradicate crippling polio disease from the country, President Asif Ali Zardari also launched Pakistan's National Emergency Action



RAHIM YAR KHAN: Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Syed Asim Munir, shouting Nara-e-Takbeer during Field Exercise *Shamsheer-e-Sehra

joint candidate of ruling

He believed that the that Prsident Zardari has got historic victory from Balochistan Assembly. He said that Asif Ali Zardari would visit the

province soon, and we would take up the issues of province with him. He said that PPP believes in taking all pollical parties along. He said that Asif Ali Zardari knows very well about the issues

of province including poverty and backwardness. Moreover, it is also his (Zardari) agenda to bring smaller units of the counannounced special packages urday, the Chief Minister try at par others, he added.

threat

Prime

Muhammad

the second time.

Sharif paid a visit to the resi-

Islamabad today and con-

gratulated him on his elec-

tion as head of the state for

pressed good wishes for Asif Ali Zardari.

Zardari thanked Shehbaz

Sharif for support in the

Sharif on Saturday con-

gratulated Asif Ali Zardari,

President of PPPP, on his

Abdul Malik Baloch has

stated that although we

have decided to vote to Pa-

kistan Peoples Party (PPP)

candidate Asif Ali Zardari,

still his party would sit in

speaking to the media per-

sons before the process of

polling for the Presidential

election in the provincial

assembly on Saturday.

The NP president was

the opposition.

Presidential elections.

Prime

Muhammad

The Prime Minister ex-

President-elect Asif Ali

Minister

Shehbaz

thanl Continued on pag 2 constitutional package of the provincial assembly on



ISLAMABAD: Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Bugti and MPAs handing over result copy of presidential elections in Balochistan Assembly to President-elect Asif Ali Zardari

15 members of assembly abstain from polling process: Asif Ali Zardari secures 47 votes out of 62 from **Balochistan Assembly**

Sunni Ittehad Council's candidate Mehmood Khan Achakzai didn't get any vote

Independent Report QUETTA: The candidate of Pakistan Peoples' Party (PPP) and ally parties, Asif Ali Zardari secured in all 47 votes from the Balochistan's provincial assembly on Saturday.

The Sunni Ittehad

10 terrorists killed in operations in NW: ISPR

Independent Report RAWALPINDI: On 8-9 March 2024, ten terrorists were sent to hell, while three were injured in two separate engagements by the security forces in North Waziristan District.

Four terrorists were sent to hell during an intelligence based operation on 8 March. Whereas, during the follow up sanitization operation, four more terrorists were successfully neutralized by the security forces.

In a separate operation in North Waziristan District, movement of five terrorists, who were trying to

was attended by PM Council's candidate Shehhaz Sharif, speaker Mehmood Khan Achakzai National Assembly Sardar didn't get any vote from the Ayyaz Sadiq, Ishaq Dar, assembly. Rana Sana Ullah and other The Chief Justice of senior leaders.

Balochistan High Court, Consultation was Mr. Justice Naeem Akhtar made on government mak-Afghan, who performed as ing and organization of Continued on page 2 federal cabinet in the meet-

ing. Consultation was also made on the matters related to allied parties. Ishaq Dar informed Nawaz Sharif about the

Informal

meeting held

under Nawaz

ISLAMABAD (Online)

An informal meeting was

held under PML-N Quaid

Nawaz Sharif in Prime

Minister (PM) chamber

parliament house which

infiltrate Pakistan-Afghanitalks with allied parties. stan border, was picked up As per sources Nawaz

by the security forces. Af-Sharif said presidential ter an intense fire exchange, election phase will be two terrorists, Terrorist completed today. PM Hazrat Umer & Terrorist Sahb you should set up Rehman Niaz were also cabinet soon and start sent to hell, while three implementation of maniother terrorists got injured. festo. We are facing Pakistan has consismountains high chal-

tently been asking Interim lenges. People have Afghan Government to enpinned high hopes on us. sure effective border man-Decrease in inflation is inagement on their side of the evitable. border. Interim Afghan Consultation was also Government is expected to made to include PPP in

fulfill its obligations and cabinet. deny the use of Afghan soil Shehbaz Sharif said he by terrorists for perpetuwould make request again ating acts of terrorism to Asif Zardari after he is elected as president.

Sehra" in training area near troops in the exercise area and lauded the training stan-Rahim Yar Khan. dards, operational pre-

According to ISPR, the aim of the exercise was to enhance professional skills and battlefield procedures required to meet future challenges in operational environment.

The Chief of Army Staff witnessed integrated fire and battle maneuvers of various elements including Armour, Infantry, Mecha-nized Infantry, Artillery, Air Training and Evaluation.

paredness and high morale of all ranks. e emphasized that Armed Forces should always remain prepared against any misadventure by the enemy.

Earlier, on arrival in the field area, the Chief of Army Staff was received by Corps Commander Karachi

PM expresses good wishes for President-elect

(APP): President of Pakistan, for a ISLAMABAD Minister second term. Shehbaz

The prime minister said that the members of the National Assembly, Senate dence of President-elect Asif Ali Zardari in and the four provincial assemblies had reposed con-fidence in Asif Ali Zardari. "President Asif Ali Zardari will be a symbol of

strength of federation," PM Office Media Wing, in a press release, quoted the

prime minister as saying. The prime minister as saying. The prime minister also expressed the hope that Asif Ali Zardari, as President of Pakistan, would perform his constitutional duties amicably as his election to the office was a continuation of the election to the office of democratic norms.

Although decides to vote to Zardari: NP to sit on opposition benches in provincial assembly: Dr. Malik Independent Report

sition in the provincial assembly. QUETTA: The President However, on the matter National Party (NP), Dr.

of presidential election, there was divided opinion, Dr. Abdul Malik Baloch maintained. He said that since our party is a democratic party. There was lot of deliberations on the matter as to whom to cast vote in the presidential election. After deliberations. majority of the members of party decided to vote to Asif Ali Zardari in the election. he added. He said that we

decided to vote to Asif Ali He made it clear that Zardari on condition of there is no confusion and doubt that National party implementation on our eight points.

Imran Khan gives call of protest against election results todav

RAWALPINDI (INP): Detained founder of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Imran Khan gave a call of nationwide protest demonstrations against election results on Sunday, March

PTI leadership said that the party works should As presidential election results poured in from all legdemonstrate against the rigging in general elections 2024 on Sunday. islative assemblies, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)

They said that this direction is given by the PTI founder Imran Khan from Adiala Jail to the workers that they should hold proviews that the country has witnessed "first of its kind of poll" for the coveted post without "horse-tradtests against snatching of reserved seats of the Sunni Ittehad Council.

We reject 'so-called presidential election', says Omar Ayub ISLAMABAD (INP): PTI leader Omar Ayub has said

that Asif Ali Zardari's election should be declared null and void "We reject the socalled presidential election," PTI leader said. "Asif Ali Zardari has been an aged and ailing person, a mentally fit person should be elected for this office,'

Omar Ayub said. Ayub demanded an immediate release of the PTI's founder and Bushra Bibi from jail. "Our assembly seats were snatched in a daylight robbery," he claimed

"Issuing pro-state or anti-state certificates is not in the hand of the Speaker or any other person. The authority of issuing this certificate is mandated by people," PTI leader said tice Balochistan High while criticizing a statement Akhtar Afghan as presiding of Ayaz Sadiq, the Speaker officer for the presidential of the National Assembly. election in provincial as-

He alleged that Form 47 of election results have been sembly here on Saturday. changed. "We challenge them to hold elections on these constituencies again. It will sift the true from the false," Ayub claimed.

'No horse-trading': Achakzai accepts defeat, congratulates Żardari on winning presidential race

Thanks PTI, allies for backing him; opposes taking parliamentary conflicts to judiciary; Urges collaboration amongst parties in national interests; Ready to render any sacrifice for sanctity of parliament: PkMAP chief.

ISLAMABAD (Agencies): Zardari. Accepting his defeat against Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) nominee Zardari in the presidential backed Sunni Ittehad Counrace. Achakzai told reportcil (SIC) candidate Mahmood Khan Achakzai ers that it was a unique election in which "horse-tradon Saturday expressed his ing" was not witnessed.

He congratulated Zardari on becoming the president of Pakistan for a second term and termed it ing" in which he contested the "beginning of a new era"

Continued on page 2



QUETTA: Senior Judge Balochistan High Court Mr. Justice Hashim Khan Kakar presenting bouquet to Chief Justice Balochistan High Court Mr. Justice Naeem Akhtar Afghan during a farewell ceremony

CJ BHC Justice Naeem performs as Presiding Officer for presidential election in BA

Independent Report QUETTA: The Chief Jus-Kakar and Mr. Justice Ejaz Swati

Later, he acted as Pre-Court, Mr. Justice Naeem siding Officer in the assembly Hall which was declared as the polling station for presidential election.

It may be mentioned The Chief Justice High here that the member of Court reached the provinprovincial assembly, Ali Madad Jatak performed as cial assembly along with the senior judge Mr. Justice polling agent of Asif Ali Zardari.



Presidential candidates Asif Ali Zardari, Mehmood Khan Achakzai, Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif, Nawaz Sharif, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, Umar Ayub and Chief Minister Balochistan Safaraz Ahmed Bugti casting their votes during presidential elections

ndependent Quetta

Sunday March 10, 2024

Govt issues schedule for

office timings during

Miscellaneous

NA Speaker & Deputy Speaker Zardari on election as President

Election Asif Ali Zardari as 2nd time President indicative of his democratic and progressive vision for Pakistan says NA Speaker

By Czechangez Khan Jadoon

ISLAMABAD: Speaker National Assembly of Pakistan Mr. Ayaz Sadiq and Deputy Speaker National Assembly of Pakistan Syed Ghulam Mustafa Shah warmly felicitated and tolerance. While re-Mr.Asif Ali Zardari on his minding about his achievesuccessful election as President of Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

They expressed their amendment which revived believe that seasoned and 1973 to its original spirit visionary Mr. Asif Ali of pluralism and au-Zardari as President of Islamic Republic of Pakistan

the cause of democracy in country Speaker Mr.Ayaz spirit Sadiq has said that Mr.Asif

Deputy Speaker Na-Ali Zardari would continue tional Assembly Syed to steer country out of Ghulam Mustafa Shah also present challenges through said that successful elechis policies of inclusion tion of Mr.Asif Ali Zardari as President of Islamic Republic of Paments as President of Iskistan is indicative of his lamic Republic of Pakistan, democratic and progressive he said that it was 18th vision He said that Mr.Asif

Ali Zardari as President of Islamic Republic of Pakistan is capable to lead He also emphasized this nation on the path

Ramadan ISLAMABAD (Online): Federal government has prosperity by furthering lenges which need politiissued new schedule of cal unity and following deoffice timings for federal mocracy in their true offices

All federal office, working on 5-day a week, in the capital city will operate from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm from Monday to Thursday while they will close at 12:30 on Fridays.

For offices operating six days a week, the timings for Ramadan will be from 9 am to 2 pm on regular days. However, on Fridays, These offices will close at 12.30 pm on Fri-

day. Establishment division has issued notification regarding office timings for Ramadan

RAHIM YAR KHAN: Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Syed Asim Munir, briefed about Field Exercise Shamsheer-e-Sehra, at Rahim Yar Khan

Senator Faisal Saleem becomes first Pakistani on IMF, World Bank boards

ISLAMABAD (INP): In a World Bank is a significant milestone, as he joins the historic development for Pakistan, Senator Faisal Saleem has been elected as a member of the Boards of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank. This marks the first time in the country's history that a Pakistani parliamentarian has attained

such a position of influence within these prestigious international institutions. Senator Saleem, repre-

Khyber senting Pakhtunkhwa, ascended to the upper house in March 2021 and is slated to serve until March 2027. His elec-

ranks of influential figures from around the globe in formulating recommendations for poverty alleviation and economic stability. With 140 countries worldwide participating in the Parliamentary Network on the IMF and the World

islature. Bank, Senator Saleem's appointment underscores whole is mobilizing to pri-Pakistan's growing promioritize high-quality develnence on the global stage. opment, emphasizing the His role is expected to contribute to shaping policy discussions and reforms aimed at addressing pressing economic challenges Board of the IMF and the development.

Four KP players excel in South Asian Junior Badminton

minton Peshawar Muhammad Khan, Hayat Ullah and Malik Faraz and Bushra. Talking to APP, inter-

who represented Pakistan in the Canadian Open Badminton Championship Syed Sadaqat Shah appreciated the players of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for

onship Islamabad-2024

gold, four silver and four

bronze medals of the jun-

ior players of Directorate

General Badminton Acad-

emy needed much appre-

ciation. He also appreci-

ated the coaches who did

hard work with the junior

government making process

province after conduct of e Senate elections.

PML-N would make deci-

sion about the cabinet mem-

He said that a joint committee of PPP and

He said winning one

their remarkable performances in the recently

Forces' as inspiring for BRI BEIJING (INP): "New of development in Pakistan, including infrastructure, ag-Quality Productive Forces" riculture, energy, space scihave emerged as a central ence, and artificial intellifocus for Chinese delegates and members during the gence research and developsecond session of the 14th ment, keeping a close eye National People's Conon the Chinese Two Sesgress, China's national leg-

sions and conducting corresponding policy research Chinese society as a has long been a norm among scholars and elites, including Mian Abrar.

Pakistani Scholars view

'New Quality Productivity

"I think the core structures for future development remain modernized industrial systems. The new concept emphasizes that innovation must lead the way in cultivating new quality productive forces, as advanced productivity moves away from traditional economic growth

models and paths of productivity development. It is characterized by high technology, high efficiency, and high quality, aligning with the new development philosophy,' remarked Mian Abrar.

"It is worth noting that the development of new

cal realities, tailoring initiatives to suit regional resources, industrial foundations, and research capabilities in China.

Page

02

This careful promotion of new industries, models, and drivers holds significant guidance for the joint building of the Belt and Road Initiative. Countries along the Belt and Road, including Pakistan, should, based on their own national conditions, choose the most suitable path for their de-

velopment," he added. "The development of 'New Quality Productive Forces' proposed in China also entails discourse on China's international cooperation, emphasizing proactive alignment with high-

standard international economic and trade norms, steadily expanding institutional openness, enhancing the linkage between China's domestic and international markets, and consolidating the foundation of foreign trade and in-

This sends a positive

Pakistanis for allegedly also called for more measures to build a modern industrial system with advanced Balkan manufacturing as the backbone. Firstly, it involves rejuvenating tra-

Squad ditional industries and facilitating their transformation towards high-end, intelligent and environmentally ports

friendly practices, China Daily reported. industries should be strengthened fellow nationals and allegapetitive edge and lead-

smuggling migrants ROME (INP): The Italian authorities detained nine Pakistani nationals last week for allegedly smuggling migrants along the of

road SchengenVisaInfo reported They were arrested after Tuscany's Siena Flying exposed organisation allegedly dedi-

Italy detains nine

cated to facilitating illegal migration along the Balkan route, SchengenVisaInfo re-The Italian news agency, Ansa, reported that all individuals detained face

charges related to organising the illegal entry of multiple

the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa players part of the South Asian Junior

Badminton Championship recently played at Islamabad, got one gold, four silver and as many bronze medals. In the Pakistan team,

and bronze medal and

double, Qari Muhammad

Umar claimed bronze medal

in mixed double U17 and

bagged silver medal in U-

17 mixed team event and

bronze medal in the U15

team event. All these play-

ers trained and coach un-

der the two prominent in-

ternational coaches of the players.

President Asif Ali Zardari to resolve...

dress them.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa players performed brilliantly. In the double Under-17 final, Fahad Ahmad won 1 gold medal, in U15 Abdul Haseeb Khan won silver in singles, Ryan concluded South Asian Junior Badminton Cham-Khan won silver medals

need to intensify innovation, nurture emerging industries, adopt forwardthinking strategies for developing future-oriented sectors, and enhance the modernized industrial sys-"In the midst of the country's accelerated efforts to foster new growth

drivers and promote high-Academy quality development, de-veloping "New Quality including Nadeem Productive Forces" is the way forward. I believe this

is a path that not only China but also the rest of national badminton player the world should follow,² said Pakistani scholar Mian Abrar, in an interview with China Economic Net.

As collaboration between China and Pakistan penetrates various sectors

quality productive forces vestment does not entail neglecting or abandoning traditional insignal to China's international partners such as Pa-kistan." Mian Abrar added. dustries; rather, it involves pragmatically leveraging lo-



tonomy

ISLAMABAD : Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq meeting with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif

China takes big swings in 6G wireless technology R&D

Kev

ISLAMABAD (APP): China will step up the research and development of 6G wireless technology and launch an "artificial intelligence plus" initiative to leverage AI to promote new industrialization, the country's top industry regulator said.

Jin Zhuanglong, China's minister of industry and information technology, said at the sidelines of the ongoing two sessions in to maintain their com-Beijing that more efforts pe made to proPESHAWAR (APP):Four Directorate General Bad-

mote the deep integration of informatization and industrialization.

"China will moderately advance the construction of 5G netcomputing work, power and other information infrastructure so as to better harness cutting-edge technologies to empower various industries," Jin said.

The senior official said

ing position, while tions of robbery, injuries and attempted extortion. concurrently foster-The investigations into ing the development the smuggling started last of internationally inyear, following a case where fluential Chinese manutwo Pakistani citizens were facturing brands, Jin

assaulted by multiple indiadded. viduals believed to be part "We will also build of the criminal organisation. more national manufac-One of the victims was turing innovation centers, nurture major advanced manufacturing clusters and create model zones for new industrialization," Jin

forcefully held in an apartment located in the centre of Siena. Officials later found that it was an attempted kidnapping aimed to extort more money for his trip to Italy.

Continued from page 1 He particularly referred the initiatives taken by Asif Ali Zardari as the then President in the past such as passage of 18th amend-ment and NFC award be-

sides the Aghaz Haqooq Balochistan Package. He said that the PPP made part of the federal government just to strengthen the state of Pakistan. He said that PPP would be at the forefront whenever Pakistan needs it.

Referring the issues of Balochistan, Chief Minister reiterated to resolve the challenges of governance, law and order and climate change

He said that we have to address three challenges

Achakzai accepts defeat...

which was held in a good He also thanked the

PTI-backed lawmakers for voting in his support, however, he specifically complained about the Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) and the National Party (NP) for not casting their votes despite announcing to sit in the opposition.

"In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), all 90 lawmakers voted for me. was his friend since the for-The PTI lawmakers cast their ballots for me in the presence of cameras. A good trend has been set [...] next matters would be discussed in the parliament," said Achakzai.

He criticised Dr Abdul Malik for promising to vote for him and backtracking later.

"We have to respect the decision of the nation that voted for one party. We [political parties] also have to support each other," the politico said, however, he opposed taking parliamentary conflicts to the judi-

fallen asleep. The PTI-SIC candidate said that the incarcerated PTI founder Imran Khan

mation of the Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM). He detailed that overall 36 parties, including PTI had gathered and discussed the "charter of democracy". "However, I tool: population took parliament's side after distancing myself from the PTI founder after an attack on the parliament, and other events. Achakzai said while point-ing towards May 9 riots

without mentioning them. He added that he is ready to render any sacrifice for the sanctity of the parliament

Quetta under Supervision Miss Bakhthawar Tareen of Balochistan Canoeing Association and in collaboration with the Balochistan Sports Board, the training camp saw participation from over 65 female athletes, including veterans, adhering to the rules set by

the International Canoe Women's Day. Hayatullah Federation (ICF). Khan Durrani expressed International Women's gratitude to the Pakistan Day serves as a global cel-Army's 41 Division and ebration of the social, eco-

security measures to safeguard all participants dur-**Directors Pakistan Canoe** ing the International and Kayak Federation and Women's Day Canoeing HDWŠA for women thanked Hayatullah Khan Training Camp. Durrani for hoisting such a The training camp served as a platform to emgraceful one day canoeing

power women in sports and training camp for women on promote their active parthe eve of International ticipation in canoeing and kayaking, contributing to the ongoing efforts towards gender equality and HLDA for ensuring strict women's empowerment.

cal achievements of kayaking, and rowing women, alongside advocat-Olympic sports for indiing for gender equality. viduals of all genders and The ceremony's Chief ages, both nationally and Guest, Hayatullah Khan internationally. Durrani (Pride of Perfor-The event commenced

promoting canoeing,

with the hoisting of the Pamance), Secretary of the Pakistan Canoe and Kayak kistan National Flag and Federation and founder/ the playing of the National CEO of HDWSA, briefed Anthem at the HDWSA the distinguished guests headquarters, established and athletes about the in 1986 at Hanna Lake, academy's continuous ef-Quetta. While Madam Dr. forts in developing and Tehmina Mehak Jaffar and

he mentioned that we would bring such policies to ad-Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti informed that the ISLAMABAD: Leaders of Pakistan People's Party Aseefa Bhutto Zardari, Bakhtawar Bhutto Zardari, flash victor signs after the newly elected Presiwould be completed in the dent of Pakistan Asif Ali Zardari, at National Assembly, in the Federal Capital

PCKF organizes women's training camp on Int'l Women's Day

nomic, cultural, and politi-

bers and distribution of min-**Independent Report** QUETTA: On 8th March istries in the province. Earlier, while speaking 2024, in commemoration of to media before the polling International Women's process, Chief Minister ex-Day, the Pakistan Canoe pressed the hope that Asif Kayak Federation (PCKF) Ali Zardari would succeed organized a special training from the assembly with camp for women in canoeoverwhelming majority. ing and kayaking. The event He said that Asif Ali took place at Balochistan's Zardari would take all parprestigious Hayat Durrani ties along after becoming CanoeKayak / Water Sports Academy (Pvt. Ltd)





QUETTA: Secretary Forest Abdul Rauf Baloch inaugurating tree plantation campaign by planting a tree

Asif Ali Zardari secures...

Continued from page 1

Presiding Officer for the presidential election, made the announcement after the polling process.

The polling for presidential election was conducted at the provincial assembly. The Chief Justice of Balochistan High Court, Mr. Justice Naeem Akhtar Afghan, who has been elevated as the judge of Supreme Court of Pakistan.

While the time of start of polling was fixed as 10:00 AM, however, the first vote was cast around 15 minutes after the scheduled time.

The process of polling and vote casting remained continued till 04:00 PM. PPP's MPA, Ali Madad Jatak performed as the polling agent of Asif Ali Zardari.

At the outset, in all 47 members of assembly including Chief Minister, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti, Speaker Balochistan Assembly, Abdul Khaliq

Achakzaki, Deputy Speaker, Ms. Ghazal Gola and other members belonging to PPP, PML-N, National Party and Awami National Party cast their votes in the presidential

Colleges Games 2024 took elections. Mir Ali Madad Jatak was the first among members of assembly who cast vote in the provincial as-

sembly. The members of JUI-F, Jama'at-e-Islami, Haq Do Tehreek and BNP-Awam boycotted the proceeding of polling for presidential election.

All 15 members of four parties didn't turn up for casting votes in the House. It may be mentioned here that there are 12 members of assembly belonging to JUI with one each of JL HDT and BNP-A in the provincial assembly.

Additional security arrangements were made on occasion of the polling for presidential election in the provincial assembly

Sindh Colleges Games **Celebrating sporting** environment.

excellence at SZAB **Sports Complex** MIRPURKHAS (APP) The grand prize distribution ceremony for the Sindh

place at the PCB Ground of Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Sports Complex in MirpurKhas on a vibrant on Saturday. Miss Sadaf Anees

Shaikh, the Secretary of

Colleges Education Sindh, highlighted the provincial government's dedicated efforts to foster sports activities across colleges in the region. The Sindh Games,

which commenced on January 20, 2024, spanned 40 days, drawing participation from over 300 colleges representing

Karachi, Hyderabad, Mirpur Khas, Shaheed Benazirabad, Sukkur, and Larkana regions. Director General Colleges Education Sindh Saleh Abbas Rizvi

and the Regional Director Colleges Mirpur Khas.

being faced by the province Continued from page 1 as it was a "rare" poll

at the moment and adding President of the country. ciary

At the conclusion of the

key electoral event, Achakzai urged for collaboration amongst parties in the national interests in

testing times. To a question regarding JUI-F's decision to not take part in the presidential poll, Achakzai replied that Maulana Fazlur Rehman has seemingly

and its sprawling ranch lo-cated at Hanna Lake in

Independent

Sunday March 10, 2024



ISLAMABAD: Group photo of the participants during launch of the fourth Pakistan cohort of "Academy for Women Entrepreneurs" (AWE) program at the Lincoln Reading Lounge at National Library.

gram supports women across the globe in building Library of Pakistan. their own businesses, har-Bettina Malone, Minister Counselor for Public nessing the power of public-private sponsors, local partnerships, and US Ex-change Alumni networks to Affairs, launched this year's cohort of the AWE which is set to empower 150 parhelp their businesses grow. ticipants from Lahore, Rawalpindi/Islamabad, AWE is driving prosperity in communities in

Peshawar, Quetta and Karachi, said a news release. The AWE program is

empowering women to rean entrepreneurship pro-gram that includes peer-to-

ISLAMABAD (APP):

The US Embassy in Paki-

stan has launched the fourth

Pakistan cohort of its

'Academy for Women En-

trepreneurs" (AWE) pro-

gram at the Lincoln Read-

ing Lounge at the National

peer learning and local for all. During her remarks, mentorship, to help partici-Malone spoke about the pants build their own busineed to support women nesses and seek innovative entrepreneurs noting, scaling opportunities. This When women are successworldwide U.S. Departful, communities prosper, ment of State training proand countries thrive.' With mentoring and

APITAL NEWS

US Embassy empowers 150 women

to launch entrepreneurial journeys

entrepreneurs connect with guidance from established funding opportunities, enhance opportunities for Pakistani entrepreneurs, the 150 participants in AWE 2024 will undertake business expansion, and increase the likelihood of ena rigorous three-month trepreneurial success. Five of the US Misonline training program developed by Arizona State sion to Pakistan's Lincoln University's Thunderbird Corners in Lahore, Rawalpindi/Islamabad, School of Global Manage-Peshawar, Quetta and ment and American natural Karachi will lead AWE Pacompany resource

Freeport McMoran. kistan 2024 with support from the Pakistan American

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ness skills and meet weekly

to discuss what they are

learning with experienced

local mentors and US ex-

perts. AWE is designed to

cultivate entrepreneurial

know-how, help women

Ambassador Tirmizi says: Collective efforts required to ensure gender parity

women empowerment."

ISLAMABAD (APP): Ambassador of Pakistan to the United Arab Emirates Faisal Niaz Tirmizi on Saturday emphasized the importance of investing in women's empowerment to accelerate progress. He highlighted that

addressing women's economic disempowerment is key. He underlined the importance of ensuring inclusivity by engaging women in political, economic and cultural spheres.

The ambassador warmly welcomed participants gathered to commemorate International Women's Day at a grand event held at the premises of the Embassy in Abu Dhabi, a press release

He said "This day is a reminder for our collective efforts to achieve gender parity and equality in all spheres of life. The current statistics on gender parity highlight the need for more concrete efforts and measures to achieve our goal of

Tirmizi said that the panelists for joining the event's most special feature session and making it truly was an in-depth interactive meaningful. He said that it panel discussion with inwas a treat to be listening spiring Pakistani women to a bunch of confident with acclaimed successes successful and impactful and accomplishments in Pakistani women who were various fields of life which role models for young included Zulfia Nazir, footwomen and girls to get inball player/fitness Influspiration. encer, Kiran Malik actor/ model/entrepreneur, Mehr

F. Husain author/journalist/ publisher and Shazia Ali Khan filmmaker/professor. The panel discussion was moderated by Saba Karim

The proud Pakistani women stars shared their impactful stories and journeys of untiring struggle, dedication, self-belief and commitment to the passion of what they wanted to

The thrilling life story of each individual to reach the zenith of success in their professional careers and endeavors was undeniably

The ambassador con-

Court confirms bail before arrest of PTI leader Amir in May 9, 10 incidents

Khan

achieve in life.

impressive.

lomats, politicians, and He also appreciated businessmen, said a press Amber, Ms. Sabah Karim release. The diverse partici-Khan, Professor of Anthropation highlighted the broad pology, New York Univerinterest and support for this sity Abu Dhabi, Kiran initiative along with show-casing a collective commit-Kazmi and Haniya Faisal for their efforts and assisment from different sectors tance in making the event a A special document tary showcasing dynamic Pakistani women from diverse fields made by Pakistan's Women Parlia

ferred special thanks to the

mentary Caucus was also shown during the event. Another documentary video highlighting the role of Pakistani women in various walks of life, prepared by Haniya with the assistance of Faisal Hussain, was

felicitates newly elected body of NPC ISLAMÅBAD (APP) Federal Secretary for Information and Broadcasting,

fice bearers of the National

Press Club (NPC) on Sat-

launched to promote sustainable development ISLAMABAD (APP): istence and inclusivity The Silk Routes Forum through cultural exchanges, (SRF) had its launch at a

Silk Routes Forum

local hotel here on Satur-

day, with an aim to pro-

mote sustainable develop-

ment and peaceful coexist-

attendees from various

walks of life, including dip-

The launch attracted

ence in the region.

fostering synergy among diverse communities, and celebrating shared traditions

During the forum, speakers highlighted the importance of its impact on the lasting Pakistan-China relationship. The speakers highlighted the pathways that can bring positive changes including sustainable development, reducing inequalities, and enhancing regional stability.

The Guest of Honor at the Silk Routes Forum launch, Senator Mushaid Husain Syed emphasized the close friendship between China and Pakistan. He commended China's leadership in the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and highlighted it as the most significant diplomatic and developmental initiative of

Senator Syed underscored the importance of the Silk Routes Forum's revival, seeing it as a strategic platform aligned with the BRI which is fostering collaboration and development

Minister.

across the region. Former Caretaker Information Murtaza Solangi stated that the friendship between Pakistan and China is akin to an "all-weather friend-

more than 100 countries. In

Pakistan this program is

ISLAMABAD: Workers of Pakistan People's Party chanting slogans during celebration after the newly elected President of Pakistan Asif Ali Zardari, outside National Assembly, in the Federal Capital.

NCHR organises multi-stakeholder dialogue to discuss issues faced HBWs

ISLAMABAD (APP): Extensive discussion was held on issues faced by women Home-based Workers and the collaborative efforts required to solve these issues, at a dialogue held to commemorate the International Women's Day (IWD), said in a press release issued here on Saturday.

The dialogue was organised by THE United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in collaboration with National Commission for Human Rights (NCHR) partnering with HomeNetPakistan, All Pakistan Women's Association Multan and Multan

Freedom from

India dream

of every

Kashmiri:

APHC

ISLAMABAD (APP):

The All Parties Hurriyet

Conference has said that

freedom from India is the

dream of every Kashmiri

who is facing Indian state

terrorism and political in-

justice and has been living

in a state of fear in occu-

pied Jammu and Kashmir

for the last over seven de-

Media Service, APHC

spokesman Advocate

Ábdul Rashid Minhas in a

statement in Srinagar said

the tension in the region,

which has increased due to

Hindutva communal ideol-

ogy of BJP/RSS in India, is

threatening its neighbors.

He said that the main cause

of tension in South Asia was

the non-resolution of the

lingering Kashmir dispute.

not toeing the line of Hindutva BJP regime and

its anti-Kashmir policies

were being arrested in fake

cases and booked under

draconian laws in IIOJK,

ture in the occupied terri-

that Kashmir was not a bi-

The spokesman said

tory.

Kashmiris

He said that all those

According to Kashmir

cades

Ayyub

Women Chamber of Com- violations, particularly merce and Industry. Aligned with this year's theme of IWD "Invest in Women: Accelerates Progress," the 'Multistakeholder's Dialogue on Investing in Pakistan Home-Based Workers for Accelerated Progress Towards Gender Equality" was aimed at discussing the multi stakeholder approach required for real-world outcomes for the right holders. The speakers at the dialogue highlighted the fact that in Pakistan, homebased workers face a mvriad of challenges amidst

prevalent in the informal economy. They said that this sector is rife with forced or bonded labour, child labour, gender-based discrimination and a pervasive lack of adherence to labour standards, exacerbated by the absence of an enabling environment for women's equal participation in the economy. It was shared that the informal nature of employment in Pakistan including in the textile sector which is Pakistan's largest export industry, from cotton picking to manufacturing, leaves informal workers

ideological politician and a

a backdrop of widespread human rights and labour vulnerable to exploitation.

District and Sessions Court Islamabad confirmed bail before arrest in respect of

ISLAMABAD (Online): Mehmood Kiayni and others in the court.

The court confirmed the bail on completion of lated the newly elected of arguments from the respon-

screened during the event. Info Secretary Shaheera Shahid, congratu-

towards the forum's objectives. The SRF's mission is to bring together governments, NGOs, corporations, and other stakeholders to work collaboratively for a future with sustainable, secure, prosperous, and equitable societies. The SRF emphasized three key goals in its agenda. The first goal of the the 21st century. forum is to achieve sustain-

able and equitable growth by reducing inequalities and promoting balanced re-gional development. The second goal fo-

cuses on advocating for peace and security, highlighting the importance of collective responsibility, ethics, and morality in preventing conflict and human insecurity. Lastly, the forum aims to promote coex- ship.'





PTI leader Amir Masood Mughal in two cases related dents. to May 9 and 10 incidents of siege and riots

Additional district and surety bonds of Rs 50000 sessions judge Tahir Abbas each and one local guaran-Sipra has heard the bail be-

fore arrest pleas. with his counsel Ansar Sangjani.

tor Two cases are regis-Amir Mughal ap- tered against Amir Masood peared in the court along Mughal in police station

NYPD cricket team visits Security Division

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: The New York Police Department's visit. (NYPD) cricket team visited the Security Division and met with the Capital

At the end of the meet-

ing, the delegation pre-

Police Officer Security Division, a public relations officer said

He said that the delegation expressed special

sented the police cap and shield to the CPO Security Division, while the CPO Security Division also presented an honorary police gratitude to Islamabad shield to the delegation and Capital City Police Officer expressed good wishes. university.

Aawaz II celebrates achievements of community engagement

inclusive society.'

how

Aawaz Il organised a twoday learning and experience sharing forum with community leaders, members of Aawaz II forums, and youth volunteers from 15 districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab.

The event highlighted community engagement and behaviour change efforts of Aavwaz 11 in addressing critical issues like gender-based violence, child marriage, tolerance and social cohesion.

Henrietta Hamilton Deputy Development Dime. rector, FCDO in Pakistan emphasized the collective action needed to address complexed challenges of GBV, child marriage and minority rights that has mindsets requires continubeen exacerbated by fac- ous efforts and looked to

ISLAMABAD (APP): tors, "Climate change adds the civil society in Supporting them. complexities to GBV but together we can find long-The government is committed to providing term solutions for a more

greater space for civil society and NGOs to thrive and we hope to collaborate to marginalised communities

tives

tions," Deputy change in attitudes and fare Department Punjab

scale up successful initia-

"A comprehensive from various

I invite citizens to reach out to Social Welfare Department office for sugges Director, Social Wel

Muhammad Shahid.

The court confirmed urday. the bail in two cases against She, in a news statement, felicitated NPC President Azhar Jatoi and other office bearers. The success of the newly elected officials was a manifestation of voters' confidence, she said while reiterating the government's commitment to free press and freedom of expression.

> **QAUAlumni** polls: former students

organise rally ISLAMABAD (APP): grand ceremony was organised under the aegis of the Ouaid-e-Azam University Alumni Founders Group, wherein former students of the university participated to support the group's success in the upcoming university alumni election to be conducted on

April 15. Key officials of the Founders Group participated in the ceremony held at Quaid-e-Azam University on Friday. Wajahat Latif, the Joint Secretary of the

Founders Group, ad-dressed the gathering, highlighting the group's history of service, performance, and development within the

ISLAMABAD: People walk on Margalla hiking trail 3, during Eco-Hike title "Healing Earth" organized by Islamabad Medical & Dental College, in the Federal Capital, Around 800 medical, dental, physical therapy, allied health sciences and nursing students and faculty members participated in the ecohiking event with full zeal and zest.

20th death anniversary Renewed focus on Kashmir freedom struggle urged, as Ayub Thakur remembered

ISLAMABAD (APP): Freedom Movement (WKFM), on the ocassion The freedom of Kashmir, its association with Pakiof his 20th death anniverstan, and the eminence of sary on March 10.

A hybrid seminar, Islam are three aspects of one reality, the struggle for titled 'Kashmir and Global Conscience: A Discussion in the Light of Dr. Ayub which must continue. This was the vision of Dr. Thakur's Life and Services,' was held at IPS, Islamabad, Muhammad Ayub Thakur, whose impact on strengthening the Kashmir moveto remember the iconic figment at the global level has ure of Kashmir freedom struggle. The seminar was been more profound than addressed by a distinany individual or group effort. This was put in words by Prof. Khurshid Ahmad, guished group of scholars and experts, including Khalid Rahman, chairman IPS, Prof. Dr. Fakhr-ul-Isveteran politician, economist, and patron-in-chief of the Institute of Policy Studies (IPS), who comlam, advisor research and academic outreach, IPS, memorated Dr. Ayub Muzzammil Thakur, president WKFM and son of late Dr. Ayub

Thakur, Victoria Schofield.

ISLAMABAD: Visitors enjoying traditional horse cart riding at Lok Virsa during National Women Work Festival, in connection with International Women's Day, in the Federal Capital.

can come after 18th amendment: Rana

Another amendment

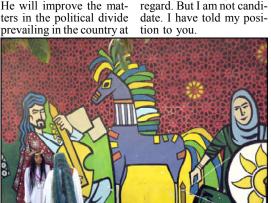
ISLAMABAD (Online): present.

Former Law Minister Rana Treatment will be Sana Ullah has said some given to opposition in conother amendment can come formity with their attitude. after 18th amendment. mein na manoon kisi ko nahi choron ga are his dia-logue. He held Achakzai is

He said this while talking to media men outside parliament here Saturday. He held " I am not

good man. candidate for Senate. Party To a question from will take better decision. I journalist can other amendthink those who have been ment come, he said yes it elected should be given opcan come To a question about portunity.

He went on to say Asif Mohsin Naqvi as candidate Zardari is big name with for Senate he said nothing reference to reconciliation. is in my knowledge in this He will improve the mat-



ISLAMABAD: College students enjoying in front of painting wall at Lok Virsa during National Women Work Festival, in connection with International Women's Day, in the Federal Capital.

ICP takes another important step for citizen convenience

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: The Safe City E-Challan system has been integrated with the EasyPaisa app, allowing citizens to easily pay their Challans through EasyPaisa, JS Bank Wallet, JazzCash mobile apps, and NBP Digital. Strict legal

action will be taken against defaulters who do not pay their challans. According to details, following the special directions of Islamabad Capital

City Police Officer adding that this practice (ICCPO), Dr. Akbar Nasir had become a common fea-Khan, Safe City Islamabad has ensured the implementation of traffic laws under the E-Challan system, issuing thousands of Challans lateral issue between India for various violations so far, and Pakistan but a matter a public relations officer of right to self-determina-

tion of millions of said

formed by Islamabad Capital Police are ensuring the completion of challans at the registered addresses of drivers violating traffic laws to ensure the effective restoration of the city's rel-

evant traffic system. Moreover, E-Challan defaulters will be deprived of all facilities provided by the police without paying their challans.

Meanwhile, E-Challan defaulters' vehicles are being traced through Safe City cameras to fulfill legal requirements.

Additionally, the Safe City E-Challan system has been integrated with EasyPaisa, allowing citizens to pay their fines through EasyPaisa, JazzCash mobile app, JS Bank Wallet, and NBP Digi-

He said that the teams tal

Thakur, Kashmiri political activist and founder of London-based World Kashmir

Chairperson National

policy is currently being drafted with support from

of Child. and differences between

them.Today, it is not just me standing here before academia and representayou but many others like

Rabia Javeri Agha, Chairperson National Commission on Human Rights highlighted that

Commission on the Rights

to be safe and protected, we need to integrate these communities into society and reduce the distances

Faizi, transgender rights campaigner from Aawaz II District Forum Toba Tek Singh shared "lf we want

tives & replication to address child rights," urged Ayesha Raza Farooq,

marginalized communities.

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OPINION

Daily **Independent**



Sunday March 10, 2024

Civilian dreams

It is the misfortune of Pakistan's more than 240m citizens that their political leadership simply refuses to learn. The country again stands at a crossroads — but | tenacious figure, unafraid for once, the overwhelming to confront political and majority seems to be in agreement on what the source of and the civil administraits political instability really is.

Even the parties which have been co-opted by the establishment today are uneasy, knowing well they may demeanor and unwaverfind themselves on the receiv- ing resolve have earned ing end before long. One unyielding in the face of adversity. She confronts realisation would compel popular politicians — those to that of a lioness prowhose fortunes' rise and fall tecting her pride, and is are tied to the health of not hesitant to take them Pakistan's democracy — to work together and find a path forward that guarantees their preservation.

Instead, what we see is the heads of 'democratic' parties quibbling over who ought to be more favoured by those efforts, and thorough who have for long sought to preparation, she managed go beyond their mandate. Therein lies the tragedy of Pakistan's dream of 'civilian supremacy' — its biggest role in toppling the Imran champions are usually the first to betray it.

The recent general election Prime Minister. has greatly complicated the situation. It would have been much easier for our political stakeholders had they heeded what this publication and many others had repeatedly urged them to do well public office. Through her before the polls: sit down, she navigated legal chalfind common grounds, and lenges and successfully



By Qamar Bashir

Former Press Secretary to the President; Former Press Minister to the Embassy of Pakistan to France; Former MD, SRBC

tions once again.

father in exile and with much of the PML(N) leadership imprisoned during PTI's government, Maryam Nawaz took on the responsibility of keeping the party alive and ac-

tive. She organized and led massive public gatherings, meticulously planning each event with careful attention to detail. From her attire selection to her elegant gestures, and the incorporation of engaging videos and songs, she captivated the public's attention and successfully galvanized support for the party. Her leadership during this challenging period played a crucial role in maintaining the party's relevance and connection with the people. During the 2024 elecher opponents with a

tion campaign, Maryam fierce determination, akin Nawaz emerged as the frontline leader of the PML(N), spearheading successful public gatherto task with ruthless preings nationwide. With remarkable agility, she tra-Maryam Nawaz emerged as a unifying versed from city to city,

energizing supporters force in orchestrating a with her impassioned coalition against the forspeeches and meticulous midable government led preparation. Her dedicaby Imran Khan. Through tion to detail extended to her eloquence, persuaher attire, always adorned sive arguments, tireless with a firmly placed dupatta on her head, symbolizing her connection to unite previously disparwith tradition and culture. ate factions into the Paki-Each public meeting unstan Democratic Movement (PDM). Her skillful der her stewardship became a resounding sucleadership played a pivotal cess, showcasing her abil-Khan administration, ultiity to inspire and mobilize mately leading to the apthe masses Through her relentpointment of her uncle as

less dedication, astute political insight, adept uti-Maryam Nawaz spared no effort in fiercely lization of modern technology, and effective leadvocating for her father, veraging of social media who had been labeled a platforms, Maryam Nawaz fugitive, an absconder, amassed unprecedented and a convicted criminal, political capital within the resulting in a lifetime dis-PML(N). Surpassing even qualification from holding seasoned stalwarts such as her uncle and father, relentless determination, the natural heir to the family business. legacy of Nawaz Sharif tacilitated his return as a VVIP figure, minimizing and emerged as a leading the first woman Chief success is underscored ing Maryam Nawaz's leadership journey is any potential risks. She re- contender for the future Minister of Punjab signilegal proceedings against country. Her strategic ap- wards gender inclusivity of their political affiliaher father were dismissed, proach and forward-think- in Pakistan's political land-

gibility to contest elec- fied her status as a formidable force within Paki-In the absence of her stani politics, poised to shape its trajectory in the years to come.

nario where the elections were solely between PTI and PML(N), Maryam Nawaz's political prowess could have likely secured a comfortable one-third majority in parliament. However, as a prominent TV anchor noted, these elections were perceived as a contest between the people and the establishment, leading to repercussions for parties seen as aligned with the latter. Consequently, PML(N) suffered setbacks, falling short of the desired onethird majority. This outcome dashed Maryam Nawaz's fervent desire to see Nawaz Sharif return as Prime Minister for a fourth term

Nevertheless, this electoral anomaly resulted in Shahbaz Sharif ascending to the Prime Ministership, thereby automatically positioning Maryam Nawaz as a leading candidate for the role of Chief Minister. Despite the setback at the federal level, this development affirmed her prominent position within the political landscape, potentially paving the way for significant influence and leadership at the provincial level. Maryam Nawaz's ascension to the role of Chief Minister of Punjab marks a historic milestone in Pakistani politics, garnering praise both domestically and internationally. Born in 1973 into one of Pakistan's most influential political dynasties, Maryam initially stayed away from politics until 2013, when her father, Nawaz Sharif, became Prime Minister for the third time. Since then, she has emerged as the apparent political heir of the

Her appoint

nation's past milestone expressing her determina- the agenda, reflecting a with Benazir Bhutto's tion to continue the tradiprime ministership in the tion of female leadership late 1980s and early 1990s. in Punjab. Her accent With her inauguramarks a watershed mo-

Fox News

In a hypothetical sce- tion, Maryam joins a lineage of political leadership within her family, following in the footsteps of her father Nawaz Sharif, his brother Shehbaz, and Shehbaz's son Hamza. Her leadership holds promise for the prosperous and resource-rich province of Punjab, as she embarks on a journey to uphold her family's legacy while carving her path in shaping the province's future. Maryam Nawaz's elevation to the role of Chief Minister of Punjab marks a groundbreaking moment in Pakistan's political history, resonating both at home and abroad. With her leadership, Punjab stands poised to witness a new era of inclusive governance and progressive policies un-

der her stewardship. Her appointment as Chief Minister of Punjab has sparked global attention, with media outlets and commentators weighing in on the significance of her historic achievement. From Arab News to Al Jazeera, various sources have highlighted the groundbreaking nature of her ascent, marking a significant stride for gender representation in Pakistan's political landscape. Described by Nikkei Asia as a female counterpart to Imran Khan in her political assertiveness, Maryam's elevation to this pivotal role symbolizes a depar-

ture from traditional gender norms in Pakistani politics. The Hindu and CNBC characterize it as a triumph for every woman in the nation.

Maryam herself emity between public and private institutions. Simulphasized the importance of her win, declaring it a forms promise state-of-Sharif family, while her victory not just for herself and mother in the region. medications in emergency lofty promises and aspi-The symbolism of her

comprehensive approach to development that prioritizes inclusivity and sustainability.

ment in Pakistan's politi-At the heart of her cal history, paving the vision lies fostering a way for greater gender business-friendly enviequality and empowerronment and implementment in the nation's highing targeted relief meaest offices as reported by sures. She aims to stimulate investment and ease Maryam Nawaz's the burden on citizens.

journey to the chief As the province emminister's office has not braces sustainable pracbeen without challenges, tices and embraces techas noted by DW and The nological advancements, Daily Sun. Facing oppo-Punjab is poised to emerge as a beacon of sition boycotts and enduring personal hardprogress, where ecoships, she has emerged as nomic vibrancy is a resilient and determined matched by social incluleader. As highlighted by sion and environmental The Economic Times, stewardship. Maryam Nawaz stands as a beacon Maryam's focus on governance and dedication to of courage and resilience, driven by an unwavering improving the lives of her love for her father and a constituents signal a departure from divisive polisteadfast commitment to keeping her family united tics, setting a precedent for future female leaders in the face of adversity. in Pakistan. In a bold vi-Her unparalleled determination and fighting spirit sion for Punjab, Maryam Nawaz, the first-ever Chief have become legendary, Minister of Pakistan's inspiring all who witness richest and most prosperher journey. Despite the ous province, sets her intensity of political sights on transforming battles, she has shown the province into a dyremarkable magnanimity namic economic hub. Priby extending olive oritizing the resolution of branches even to her staunchest opponents. longstanding issues

within Lahore and across Her compassion for the province, Maryam the vulnerable segments Nawaz aims to lay a solid of society knows no foundation for growth. bounds, as evidenced by Key strategies include her pledge to deliver a streamlining business Ramadan package diregulations to attract inrectly to the doorsteps of vestors, activating price millions of households. control committees to al-Furthermore, her grasp of leviate inflationary presgovernance is evident in sures, and launching tarthe quality of her adgeted initiatives like the dresses, where she meticulously identifies and "Nighebaan" Ramazan package to support vuladdresses the myriad challenges facing the Education emerges province. She outlines as a cornerstone, with comprehensive solutions and shares her vision for plans to revitalize government school infrastructure development, prosperity, and ensure parity in qualand happiness among the people. While the expectations are high and her taneously, healthcare reconvictions unwavering, only time will bear witness she positioned herself as brothers managed the but for every daughter the-art facilities and free to the fulfillment of her

Maryam Nawaz is widely regarded as a bold and

non-political adversaries, including the judiciary tion. She has demonstrated remarkable courage in standing up to powerful forces, refusing to vield even when faced with threats of arrest or imprisonment. Her fearless her a reputation for being

talk.

Instead, our political parties collectively failed to make mained steadfast until all Prime Ministership of the fies a significant step to- constituents, irrespective public well-being. any sincere effort to that end. Those who were in the state's ultimately securing his eli- ing methods have solidi- scape, echoing the her father's legacy while frastructure are also on lives for the better. 'good books' thought they would get their legitimacy from the polls, while the PTI believed the democratic system, which it had helped weaken with its own hands, would ultimately save it. Neither got what they had depended on.

Though the people of Pakistan managed to deny the powerful what they wanted, Even before the Israelthe powerful also managed to deny the people the outcome ries were subject to horthey wanted. We are, therefore, once again at a stalemate. It would be delusional result, there were two mato call it anything else.

Where do we go now? pation) between 1987 and 2005, which were ruth-there is talk of reconciliation, lessly crushed. The third but how can it be achieved one is ongoing. Internawhen one side believes it has the West and Israel treats the right to power but not the this not only as normal but have acquired one — such means to exercise it, and the and misinformation, and other has the power but sacks journalists who atknows it has not earned the which is seen as pro-Palright to exercise it?

This conflict cannot be eas- changed. One, the Israeli ily reconciled, especially with response has been so barthose supposed to act as arbiters uninterested in getting ians over time did their homework and have develinvolved. However, what other oped a superb social mechoices do our leaders have? dia response to Western Revolutions are unpredictable; and Israeli propaganda. Three, Al Jazeera, reports politics is the art of the pos-on the war round the clock. Fourth, millions of citizens sible. Without compromise, our in a lar-ge number of counpoliticians cannot achieve what tries have demonstr-a-ted they want. It is time they ian resistance (including realised that the problem is not Hamas), and against their their rivalry but the fact that pro-Israeli policies. none of them is free as long as they continue to depend on sponse has not been lim-ited to the Palestinian non-political forces to get in- cause; it has also covered the horrors of the US war volved. The country has been against Iraq, Syria, and Afbitterly divided by their refusal ghanistan, all initiated by to acknowledge this simple with images of the torture truth: they owe it one sincere chambers that the citizens of these countries endured son Hazrat Ismail is the fa-ther of the Arabs, and his will have a tough time creeffort to get along.

Gaza war impact



Arif Hasan Hamas war began on Oct 7. the Palestinian territo-

caused to Western citizens as well was expressed by an American soldier who violations of self-immolated in front of int-ernational law and octhe Israeli embassy in cupation by Israel. As a against the genocide of the jor Intifadas (attempts to Palestinians shake off the Israeli occu-In addition, a better understanding between the

youth in the West and the Arab and Muslim people has developed due to sotional media controlled by cial and Arab media. Words that had no meaning before as 'Nakba', or the catas-trophe of 1948, and also justifies it through lies 'Intifada' or an uprising. tempt to tell the truth, There have also been many films on Islamic and Araestinian. However, post bic civilisations and on the great Arab scholars who Oct 7, some things have laid the foundations of present-day baric that it could not be civilisation.

ignored. Two, the Palestin-Palestinian music, art, architecture, dance, and literature — especially poetry — too, have been screened and discussed. This has blunted the decades of propaganda by the West and Israel of Arabs and Muslims being an inferior and inhumane people, who need to be in favour of the Palestinfeared and suppressed. Al Jazeera and social media have also exposed the hyresp-ective governments' pocrisy and lies of Western media reporting on glo-The social media rebal and regional affairs. It is unlikely that the cred-

ibility of the Western media will ever be restored. Abrahamic religions

and the links between them have also been discussed at the Americans. Details length. It has been pointed out that Hazrat Ibrahim's during and after the wars other son Hazrat Ishaq is tesy Dawn

have also been screened. the father of the Jewish Anchors and commentapeople. Common practices tors also point out that the and the importance of US and its allies failed to claimed common religious achieve their political obspaces have also been a jectives in all three cases, subject of often controverunless the objective was to sial discussion. physically destroy civil in-The existing eco-

frastructure and housing, nomic relationship and leave behind hundreds bet-ween the Middle of thousands of orphaned East's resources and and maimed children fut-ure plans for their exand immense hatred for the ploitation by Israel and its West. The anguish it has allies to establish regional Israeli su---premacy and US hegemony have told the world a lot about the conditions in which we live, ini---tiating fear and Washington in protest conce-rn. It is unlikely that

with this realisation, global politics can ever rev-ert to what it was. The Houthis of Yemen are the only group to have supported the Palestinians directly. The glo-bal telecommunication network passes through the Bab al-Mandab strait which is in Yemeni control. In addition, 12 to 15 per cent of all global trade passes through the strait. The Houthis have targeted ships carrying cargo to and from Israel and have also

believed that parents most threatened to cut off this commonly abduct their communication network children to the Middle from the rest of the world, East, India and Pakistan. thus disabling internet ac-While Pakistan ratified the Hague Convention on Except for the US and Child Abduction in 2016,

Western

its allies, the vast majority it has failed to dispel such of the UN General Assemconcerns, given its failure bly supports a ceasefire in to evolve a comprehensive Palestine. However, the enforcement mechanism. US vetoes every resolution Article 6 of the Convention, for instance, envisthat calls upon Israel to implement one. The world ages the creation of a 'Cenis now divided between those who support the Palestinian cause and those who support the US position. If a larger conflict takes place (involving proxies of China and Russia) — which analysts foresee - Pakistan, because of its strategic location, will be drawn into it. But given its financial dependence on the US and its friendship with China for strategic reasons, its foreign policy

tral Authority'. The purpose of creating such an authority is to streamline applications from aggrieved parents, instead of having a parent agonised by the abduction of their child go through the rigmaroles of approaching

multiple agencies, particularly when they are a stranger to the country their child is taken to. Eight since years the convention's ratification, however, Pakistan is yet to create a 'Central Author-

departments underscorrations by her pledge to serve all commitment to improving marked by hope, determi-

Transportation, so- commitment to serve the

nation, and an unvielding people and transform their

Maryam Nau

Protecting children

nerable communities.

provide an enforcement of the parents and envismechanism could be age a comprehensive supplemented by judicial intervention, judicial endeavours, too, have remained ambivalent. A judgement by the Sindh High Court in 2019, for instance, only mentioned the convention in passing before awarding a minor's custody to the father after raising subjective concerns about the mother's morality. While the Lahore High Court in 2020 passed a comprehensive judgement, elucidating the contours of the convention, the judgement's efficacy remained limited given that it directed the mother to approach the guardians court. The judgement thus, while going far, did not go far enough. Nonetheless, a recent judgement rendered by Justice Zulfiqar Ahmed Khan of the Sindh High Court marks a palpable shift in Pakistan's interac-

tion with the convention. A Pakistani couple, after getting married in the US, had a son who gained American nationality at birth. The couple soon experienced marital discord which culminated in their separation. A court in the US granted the parents joint custody of their son. Violating the arrangement stipulated by the American court, the mother illegally moved the son out of the US, bringing him to Pakistan. Contempt proceedings were initiated against the mother and an arrest warrant was also issued in the US.

Dilating on Pakistan's international human rights obligations, the judgement underscores the importance of preserving children's ties to both parents in the event of the latter's separation, thus, affording the children an environment conducive to their emotional, mental, and physical well-being. Unsurprisingly, treaties including the convention deprecate attempts to

While the failure to sever a child's ties to one mechanism to curtail parental abduction.

Observing that the child in this case was a US national who was surreptitiously brought into Pakistani territory after an American court declared the father fit to serve as his natural guardian, the court concluded that the mother's conduct had flouted the convention. Departing from the ambivalence which has characterised our jurisprudence, the judgement, in what constitu-tes the clearest application of the convention, direc-t--ed the mo-ther to hand over the child to the fa--ther for the purpose of taking him to the US.

During his 2008 president-ial campaign, Barack Obama had declared that he would select judges based on their ability to empathise with different types of litigants. Family disputes often require judges to eschew a mechanical application of the law and rely on their ability to empathise with the litigants before them. The manner in which the court steered the father into withdrawing the contempt application he had filed before an American court to render the warrant against the mother ineffective shows that the judgement's strength lies not only in the legal doctrines it invokes

but in also highlighting the importance of a peopleoriented approach to adjudication While political disputes have dominated our judicial landscape in recent months, the judgement in this case has silently paved the way for parents to be reunited with children forcibly abducted. The judge-

ment may not have saved the world but it may have saved a child's world and sometimes, that's all that justice is about. -- Courtesv Dawn

Mirza Moiz Baig

With nearly nine million

Pakistanis living outside

Pakistan and as a precari-

ous economy compels

many others to search for

greener pastures, the spec-

tre of transnational fami-

lies will become more ubiq-

uitous. While expatriates

often maintain tangential

ties to Pakistan to acquaint

their children with their

cultural and religious mi-

lieu, Pakistan's struggle

with the rule of law also

renders it a hotbed for par-

ents who abduct their chil-

dren to separate them from

their spouses after the

breakdown of marital ties.

in the UK revealed that 71

per cent of its population

A survey conducted

tions. She paid homage to cial welfare, and digital in-

Daily Aoice of Masse Independent

CM Punjab directs relevant depts to take precautionary measures for heavy rains

rural areas.

(NPC) Islamabad.

Chief Minister Maryam effective measures for Nawaz Sharif has directed all relevant departments to take preventive measures to avoid any untoward situation in the face of expected heavy rains in the province.

He directed the Meteorological and other departments concerned to share prediction about increase in severity of stormy rains from March 11 to 14. She said the public should be warned of the situation in advance, adding that help should be taken from the media, social media and mobile alerts service in this regard.

The chief minister directed the agencies like Provincial Disaster Provincial Management Authority (PDMA) Punjab and Rescue 1122 to take effective steps in close coordination with all relevant departments to Press Club Islamabad will ensure public safety. She play a positive role in

LAHORE (APP): Punjab also ordered for taking convenience and welfare of journalists." protection of livestock in Maryam

Nawaz Sharif has directed the Meanwhile, Punjab Punjab health secretary to Chief Minister Maryam immediately start treatment of a brain-tumor Nawaz Sharif has congratulated newlypatient, Farzan, son of Rizwan elected office-bearers of Mohammad Kashif, a resident of the National Press Club Loharanwala in Qila Didar In her message, the CM extended her felicitation to President Singh, Gujranwala.

The chief minister issued these instructions Azhar Jatoi, Vice Presidents Ehtishamul on the recommendations of medical board Haq, Sahar Aslam Khan, constituted for Farzan³ Secretary Nayar Ali, Joint treatment. Secretary Aun Shirazi, Sahar Sh Qureshi, Finance Earlier, the medical board had recommended

Secretary Waqar Abbasi Farzan's treatment abroad. and other office-bearers. But later after further The chief minister research, it assessed that expressed her best wishes the child can be treated in the country. The chief minister for their success in

promoting good journalistic ethics in the directed to immediately country. She added,"It is transfer Farzan to hoped that the newly-Children's Hospital. Best elected body of National treatment facilities should be provided to the child she instructed.



PESHAWAR: Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Ali Amin Khan Gandapur chairing a meeting of Mines and Mineral Development Department.

EngrAmir Muqam urges transparent inquiry into Shangla tragedy

ISLAMABAD (APP): Amir Muqam, President of PML-N Pakhtunkhwa, urged for an only unbiased inquiry into the Shangla incident on February 9, stressing the need to uncover the genuine

Muqam, KP PML (N) address this issue during President, questions PTI's parliamentary sessions.

In response to PTI's accusations, he stated that Khyber the PTI leadership has only now begun politicizing the tragic incident after a month. He emphasized that engaging in blame games will not perpetrators and lead to any meaningful masterminds involved. outcomes Additionally be Talking to media, Amir mentioned his intention to

elections KARACHI (APP): The Sindh Chief Minister, Syed Murad Ali Shah, has exercised his right to vote in the presidential elections capital at the Sindh Assembly here on Saturday.

CM Sindh

casts his vote

for presidential

The process of voting for the presidency will continue until 4 p.m.

of cop in

Tank firing

Gulberg. **KP CM griefs** over martvrdom



PESHAWAR Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Haji Ghulam Ali in a group photo with position holders during 5th convocation of Khyber **Girls Medical** College.

Governor urges doctors to work passionately for humanity

PESHAWAR (APP): The of their children's Governor of Khyber education and said, "It is Pakhtunkhwa, Haji the duty of parents to Ghulam Ali, here on support children in their Saturday, urged young doctors to work educational journey." The governor also professionally highlighted the "efforts of and the government to educate

passionately to mitigate the sufferings of humanity. He was addressing the 5th convocation of Khyber students in every institution is proof that Girls Medical College as a

they are being provided chief guest. The governor also stressed upon doctors equal opportunities for to venture into emerging fields of medical growth and development.' technology and focus serve people, keeping in research to eliminate view their miseries, and diseases for the betterment said that women doctors should provide medical of the ailing community.

Minister, IGP visit **Police Khidmat Centres**

LAHORE (APP): Provincial Minister Primary and Secondary Healthcare Khawaja Imran Nazir, along with IGP Punjab Dr. Usman Anwar, Saturday visited the Police khidmat Centers and Special Initiative Police Stations in provincial

He arrived at Abshar Police Service Centre Shadman and Special Initiative Police Station

The IGP Punjab

centre, police station and Anwar for modernising

Saiban Centre to the infrastructure development

public. He informed the of public service delivery

He also felicitated help to female patients parents on the completion in their homes. licensing, training, modern facilities being provided to citizens including automated system in police stations. He said all service centres, police stations and offices of the

Punjab Police had been equipped with modern infrastructure, technology and IT facilities and the best policing facilities were being provided to citizens in all offices including Police Service Centres, Police Stations, Traffic The IGP Punjab Licensing Centres of briefed the minister about Punjab. The provincial the facilities being minister appreciated efforts of IGP Dr.

already issued. Chief Secretary Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Nadeem Aslam Chaudhry, Principal Secretary to CM Amjad Ali Khan, Secretary Finance Amir Sultan Commissioner, **RPO Multan** hold open court in Lodhran Tareen, Secretary Mines &

already issued.

other relevant quarters at-

MULTAN (APP): Commissioner Multan division Maryam Khan and Regional Police Officer

(RPO) Multan Captain (Retired) Muhammad Suhail Chaudhry Saturday held an open court in district Lodhran to hear girls and said that the problems of the people increased number of girl under open door policy of provincial government.

A large number of people attended the open court where they conveyed their problems to the top He urged doctors to divisional officers of Multan administration and police.

Commissioner Maryam Khan said that open door policy was being practiced in the government departments on the orders of Punjab government to put an end to the traditional redtapism culture and extend relief to the common people. She said that some complaints are resolved on the spot but some take some time and more action.

Islam emphasis women's rights: **Prof Zafar**

LAHORE (APP): At a ceremony held to mark the International Women's Day at Lahore General Hospital on Saturday, Professor Al-Fareed Zafar, Principal of Ameer-Uddin Medical College, emphasised Islam's recognition of women's

rights, citing their inclusion

Police raid

arrested 4

suspected

gamblers

Liaquatabad

KARACHI (APP): In an

operation, the Super Market police station conducted a raid on

confidential information.

resulting in the apprehension of four

individuals engaged in

According to the statement

provided by SSP Central Zeeshan Shafiq Siddiqui,

the raid took place in the Liaquatabad area, where

the Super Market police station apprehended the

suspects red-handed. The

arrested individuals have

been identified as Muneeb

Ahmed, Zohaib, Ali, and

White Coat'

ceremony held

at medical college

SARGODHA (APP): A

white coat ceremony was

activities.

gambling

Khadim.

KP CM Gandapur decides to formulate new mining policy

PESHAWAR (APP): Chief tended the meeting. Minister Khyber The Chief Minister Pakhtunkhwa, Ali Ámin also directed the the officials of the department to Khan Gandapur decided in principle to formulate a complete homework on esnew mining policy in the tablishing a governmentprovince and introduce ru-dimentary reforms in the owned mining company, introducing mechanical mining in the province and an E-bidding system mining sector. Chairing a meeting of the Mines and Mineral De-velopment Department

for the issuance of mineral leases here on Saturday, he di-He further directed rected the high-ups to im-

the officials to shift the enpose a ban on the issuance tire paperwork of the deof mineral leases until the partment to a paperless formulation of the new system policy and submit the de-

Page

05

Ali Amin Gandapur that Khyber said tails of the mining leases Pakhtunkhwa was blessed with precious mineral re-sources and the mineral sector had the potential to generate much revenue for the public exchequer, adding that it was need of the day to ensure prudent and ef-Mineral Development fective use of the mineral Hameedullah Shah and resource to increase revenue



LAHORE: Provincial Minister for Information Uzma Bukhari addressing the media persons outside Punjab Assembly.

PTI MNA's allegation on Maryam Nawaz baseless: Azma

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Information Minister Azma Bukhari on Saturday alleged that MNÅ Shandana Gulzar had launched a campaign against the country's institutions.

Talking to media here, she said that the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf was involved in political point scoring on the death of its information minister said worker Zilleh Shah which was very unfortunate. She that now Shandana Gulzar said that credit goes to law should provide proof of enforcement agencies that that alleged audio leak or a proper investigation was face legal action. She said

Shandana Gulzar was levelling baseless allegations of an audio leak on Maryam Nawaz. "The PML-N does not believe in doing politics on dead bodies. A complaint against

MNA Shandana Gulzar has been lodged in the Federal Investigation Agency," she added. The Punjab

quality of services being

instructions were issued by

of the institutions,

commitment to maintaining

minister inspected facilities catering to the

elderly and residents in care

homes, ensuring the

Additionally, the

Special

their

delayed response to the Shangla incident on February 9, asking about their sudden attention after responsible a month.

significance of the children and the truth about those who lost their lives in the tragedy, likening them to his own sons. Moreover, he expressed remorse for the incident and urged for an immediate inquiry.

In the tragic event that occurred in Shangla on February 9, Amir Mugam said: "we lost two of our brethren/children. We deeply mourn their loss 9 and stand in solidarity with their families during this time of grief."

Pakistan and Dir Scout etc. **Female mental health** vital for socioeconomic development: Dr. Imtiaz

confidence

He

tackling

national progress.

said

Day had a specific theme

every year. This time the

theme for 2024 is "Invest

FAISALABAD (APP): increasing among women Mental health of women is due to various reasons imperative for socioeconomic development of the country as no community can make progress until concentrating on this ticklish issue, said Prof Dr Imtiaz Dogar, Head of the Department of Psychology & Behavioral Sciences Medical Faisalabad University (FMU).

He was addressing a seminar on "Women's Mental Health" held under the aegis of Hometown Community Foundation (HCF) in collaboration with Faisalabad Medical University at Allied Hospital-II (DHQ (DHQ Hospital) here on Saturday.

He said that mental health referred to physical, emotional and spiritual aspects of life. He said that mental problems were



HYDERABAD: Vice Chancellor ISRA University Dr. Ahmad Waliullah kazi is giving away degrees among to the successful graduate student during 21st convocation of ISRA University.

He insisted on a transparent investigation into the incident. Those for PESHAWAR (APP) orchestrating this tragedy Khyber Pakhtunkhwa He stressed the must be held accountable, Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur on Saturday who exploited innocent strongly condemned the lives for political gain must

incident of firing and killing be exposed to the public. of policeman in district Êngr Amir Muqam Tank stated that all evidence, In a statement issued including videos, has been here, the CM expressed shared, and an FIR lodged grief over the martyrdom for the murder of two of the policeman and individuals. He cautioned directed police chief to take against PTI's actions, necessary measures for likening them to the May immediate payment to attacks on state

bereaved family from institutions including Shaheed package. Jinnah House, Radio The Chief Minister also directed the IGP to

take measures for the immediate arrest of the elements involved in the firing.He expressed condolences to the family members of the martyred official and prayed patience for them to bear the loss with fortitude.

Gandapur said the KP including divorce, death of police have made eternal a loved one, physical illness and low income. sacrifices in line of duty and the provincial government would not leave the family The negative emotions such as depression, anger, of the martyr alone.

resentment or anxiety in addition to lack of **PTI leader** further aggravate the situation, he added. summoned by FIA for leveling that International Women's

allegations against Maryam Nawaz

in women: Accelerate LAHORE (Online): FIA progress" with the aim of has summoned PTI leader economic instability. He said that Shandana Gulzar in the matter of leveling allegations against Chief empowerment means how much power you have. "We could empower females by Minister (CM) Punjab Maryam Nawaz . providing them skills

FIA has issue notice which would also help them to be independent and to Shandana Gulzar on the compliant by one Shoaib play dynamic role in Mirza.FIA has directed Shandana Gulzar to appear in FIA Cyber crime reporting centre Lahore on

March 14 for launching campaign to incite people against state authorities. As per FIA notice if

Shandana Gulzar does not appear then it will be considered she has nothing to say in her defence. It is to mention here

has

that Shandana Gulzar has victory for democracy. alleged Maryam Nawaz of released on Saturday, killing PTI worker Zille Shah. Shandana Gulzar Anjum said Maryam Zardari's commitment to Nawaz in here alleged the democratic process, video had issued orders echoing the sentiments of

LAHORE

Chaudhry

to kill Zille Shah.

(APP): Bhutto."President Zardari Munawar Anjum, central deputy democracy of secretary of the Pakistan People's Party, lauded President Asif Ali Zardari's re-election on

Anjum In a statement commended principles in the nation's the late Zulfikar Ali political landscape.

has exemplified the essence emphasising the pivotal role of people, represented through the parliament, as the true architects of law

Highlighting Zardari's reverence for Bhutto's vision and the rule of law, Anjum underscored the significance of democratic

took the oath.

in inheritance laws as a milestone in ending their deprivation.

carried out and the detail that from now onwards the of the incident was brought PML-N would show zero before the public. tolerance policy against She said that MNA fake propaganda.

Minister visits Social Welfare Complex, reviews facilities

provided.

high standards.

LAHORE (APP): Punjab valuable feedback on the Minister for Social Welfare and Bait-ul-Maal Sohail Shaukat Butt visited the Social Welfare Complex the minister to ensure Township, here on cleanliness and efficiency Saturday.

During the visit, he emphasising conducted comprehensive review of the institutions operating within the complex. Detailed briefings were provided by the heads of all institutions, covering various aspects of their

operations.

The

provision of top-notch services. Sohail Shaukat minister Butt reaffirmed the personally engaged with government's commitment residents, addressing their to upgrading facilities concerns and gathering within the institutions.



MULTAN: Commissioner Ms. Maryam Khan cutting the ribbon to inaugurate Jashan-e-Baharan festival organized by PHA at Qasim Bagh.

PTI leader Mehmood files petition in ATC for summoning IG Punjab

LAHORE (Online): PTI leader Mehmood ur Rashid arrested in May 9 incidents has filed miscellaneous petition in Anti Terrorism Court (ATC) requesting the court to summon IG Punjab and 6 other officers as accused.

Mian Mehmood ur Rashid has filed petition in ATC through Sikandar Zulqarnain advocate. The court while

initiating proceedings has sought reply prosecution. from petitioner had taken plea in the petition that police Punjab and other officers.

personnel ASI Hassam Afzal and head-constable Muhammad Khalid recorded their statement in police station Shadman arson, riots case. According to statement police personnel were present in . Zaman Park as PTI workers. As per statement it was decided in Zaman Park that sensitive installations be attacked during PTI founder arrest. The police men provided all information to their The officers. It was taken plea in the petition that IG



LAHORE: Workers of PPP eating sweet during celebration after the newly elected President of Pakistan Asif Ali Zardari, at Mall road.

6 dead, 1,608 injured in 1,485 road accidents in Punjab

Independent Report drivers, 238 pedestrians, LAHORE: At least six and 599 passengers were persons were killed and among the victims. The 1608 injured in 1485 road statistics show that 295 accidents in all 37 districts RTCs were reported in of Punjab during the last Lahore which affected 302 24 hours.

persons placing the Provincial Capital at top of Out of these, 738 people with serious injuries were shifted to the list followed by Faisalabad 101 in with 120 victims and at third Multan different hospitals, while with 92 RTCs and 90 870 victims with minor victims. According to the injuries were treated at the data 1331 motorbikes, 74 incident site by rescue medical teams thus reducing the burden of auto-rickshaws, 179 cars, 33 vans, 18 passenger buses, 25 trucks and 108 Hospitals.

Furthermore, the other types of vehicles and analysis showed those 777 slow-moving carts were drivers, 59 underage involved in the accidents.

Zardari success is victory of democracy: PPP leader

Saturday, and termed it a and governance," added

organized under the auspices of Niazi Medical and Dental Private College here on Saturday.Vice Chancellor, University of

participated as the chief guest in the event. More than 100 male and female students of the 6th batch

Health Sciences, Prof Dr Ahsan Waheed Rathore

Independent Sunday March 10, 2024

OMMERCE NEWS



Kyrgyz envoy for deep economic cooperation, logistics improvement

also present.

bilateral relations.

Ambassador of Kyrgyzstan Ullanbek Totuiaev has emphasized the deep historical, religious, and cultural ties between Kyrgyzstan and Pakistan, highlighting the significant potential for bilateral cooperation across various sectors. He underscored the importance of prioritizing trade, economic relations, and investment, noting the mutual benefits for both nations.

He was speaking to the business community here at the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) on Saturday. LCCI President Kashif Anwar presented the address of welcome while Senior Vice President Zafar Mahmood

Chaudhry, former SVPs Kashif Younas Meher, Amjad Ali Jawa, EC attracting investment and facilitating large-scale projects.

He stressed the members Raja Hassan ongoing efforts to elevate Akhter, Jabbar Khalid, President Kyrgyz Trade economic cooperation House Dr. Shahid Hassan between Kyrgyzstan and and former EC member Pakistan. He said that joint

Husnain Raza Mirza were business forums have been The Ambassador said instrumental in fostering that former Lahore Chamber's SVP Kashif collaboration, with plans for more forums in the Younis Meher has been upcoming year to facilitate appointed as the honorary the participation of major Consul General companies. The Ambassador of Kyrgyzstan and the

markets

highlighted Kyrgyzstan's establishment of the Kyrgyz Trade House in interest in various sectors Lahore was hailed as a such as agriculture, pharmaceuticals, and positive step to enhance textiles from Pakistan, Ambassador Totuiaev while acknowledging emphasized Kyrgyzstan's challenges such as price competitiveness with other conducive investment



climate, with liberal laws

ISLAMABAD: People are busy in buying handmade items at Lok Virsa during National Women Work Festival, in connection with International Women's Day, in the Federal Capital.

Jamil Akhtar inaugurates WAPDA **Hydel Museum**

TARBELA (APP): Member Power Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA), Jamil Akhtar on Saturday inaugurated the WAPDA Hydel Museum at T4 Powerhouse to preserve of pride, and the museum's the heritage of hydropower establishment is a stations.

museum The showcases models of

Engineer Muhammad Tariq PHNOM PENH (Xinhua for their contributions to APP): Cambodia had the establishment of the exported 90,153 tons of museum

milled rice in the first two Akhtar Jamil months of 2024, down 7.2 emphasized that Tarbela is percent from 97,153 tons a role model and a symbol over the same period 2023, said a Cambodia Rice Federation's report commendable initiative. He congratulated GM

released on Saturday. The country earned Nasr Minallah and Chief total revenue

in Muzaffarabad Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK). Chief Census Commissioner Dr. Naeem Uz Zafar (SI) chaired the meeting Dr Naeem Uz Zafar said that Pakistan's

Cambodia's rice

export down

7.2 pct in first

2 months of

2024

01 05.4

The Southeast Asian

ISLAMABAD (APP): percent share in the Gross Pakistan Bureau of Domestic Product (GDP), Statistics (PBS) on and providing is Thursday said that the 7th employment to 37 percent Agriculture Census field of the labor force whereas operation will be held from the livestock share in the July to September 2024 to agriculture is 64 percent, collect latest data on while independently agriculture sector for livestock is contributing 14 evidence-based policy

SIALKOT: Abdul Ghafoor malik President SCCI presenting a shield to

Pakistan Tennis Federation (PTF) President Aisam ul Haq Qureshi at

7th Agricultural Census

field operation to be held

Chamber of Commerce.

planning.In this regard,

sixth meeting on 7th Agricultural Census was

held at PBS regional office

percent in the GDP. He emphasized the participation and cooperation of provincial stake-holders, for successful completion of the field operation for the 7th Agricultural Census.

Member (Support Services/IT) Muhammad Sarwar Gondal (SI), DG (Admin) Dr Amjad Javed

Sandhu, senior officers of economy depends upon PBS, Secretary BoR AJK agriculture as it has 23 focal person for $7^{\rm th}$

Govt. urged to take pragmatic steps for promotion gems sector

PESHAWAR (APP): of gems sector and termed Senior Vice President it a major source of earning foreign exchange.

Sarhad Chamber of Commerce and Industry He emphasized the (SCCI), Sana Ullah has need for provision of urged government to take machinery, financial and pragmatic steps for technical support through provision of latest Export Development equipment, machinery and Fund (EDF) to put the financial and technical gems sector on modern assistance to promote gems lines. sector in Khyber He also praised efforts of GGIP to promote

Pakhtunkhwa. SCCI Senior Vice gems sector and agreed with President was discussing proposais

(GGIP)

Naveed

promotion of gems sector

with Director Gems and

Gemological Institute of

highlighted the significance

Sanaullah

Pakistan

Peshawar,

Maqsood.

in Sep-Oct 2024: PBS Agricultural Census along other senior officers from AJK government also

attended the meeting. PBS while following international best practices under the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (UNFAO) guidelines, has decided to integrate agricultural, livestock, and agricultural machinery censuses, to cover all three under 7th Agricultural Census.

Information that will be collected through Agricultural Census will be utilized for evidence-based policy making therefore, efficient and effective management of human and financial resources are crucial for the census

Pak lawmaker joins IMF, World **Bank Board**

ISLAMABAD (APP): A Pakistani lawmaker Senator Faisal Saleem Rahman has been business of selling dates appointed as a member of has gained momentum across Sindh, with a multiplying number of vendors and stalls. the parliamentary board of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Though big shop owners draw major chunk Bank for the first time in

the history of Pakistan. According to the news aired by a private channel on Saturday, of business but small vendors' sales also sees major jump.

Senator Faisal Saleem A small vendor who Rahman, representing Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, months earns around PKR Ghouri. began his tenure in the

FAO organizes IPC workshop to build stake holders capacity

PESHAWAR (APP): The to assess the severity and Food and Agriculture scale of acute food Organization Thursday jointly organized a nineday training workshop on Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) to enhance capabilities of domestic stake-holders in food security analysis.

UNICEF,

Inayatullah

security landscape.

IPC is a collaborative

initiative designed to

improve food security and

workshop.

insecurity using internationally accepted scientific standards. The primary goal is to provide decision-makers with a thorough, evidence-based analysis of food insecurity situations to guide The workshop was emergency responses as attended by over 70 well as medium and long-

for

participants from federal term policy and provincial government programming. During event, FAO department, NGOs and JN partners including the Representative World Food Programme, Pakistan, Florence Rolle, and Country Director WFP, UNWOMEN. Secretary Coco Ushiyama, FAO Head KP, Farrukh Toirov Relief, Rehabilitation and Settlement Department, and Asghar Jamali of Inayatullah Wasim PDMA Balochistan attended the event as a chief guest of the underscored importance of workshop and termed it an This initiative was opportunity to exchange planned to empower knowledge, build networks

participants with enhanced and work towards a more skills and knowledge resilient and secure future for communities. analysis providing a comprehensive The understanding of the food

emphasized significance of workshop in strengthening domestic capacities for food security analysis and highlighted its role in nutrition analysis. Various identifying most stake-holders collaborate vulnerable populations.



RAWALPINDI: A vendor preparing traditional food item Pheoni in connection with upcoming Holy Fasting Month of Ramadan at Banni Chowk.

Business of dates gains momentum across Sindh

SUKKUR (APP): The Ramazan. The trading increases by more than 100 percent," Lala Abid Khokhar president of the Ghareeb Abad Small Tarders' Association said.

This year, the trading activity has also picked up in the traditional manner, but the prices of dates have increased manifold, said. former President Sukkur sells from PKR 20,000 Chamber of Commerce and worth of dates in other industries (SCCI), Amir

Jabban Hydel Power Station (1937) and the structural model of Tarbela Dam. Additionally, old and unique electromechanical equipment and parts from Jabban, Warsak, Tarbela, Renala, Kurram Garhi, and Chitral power stations are well-organized in the WAPDA member

Power Jamil Akhtar while addressing the inaugural ceremony, highlighted the significance of Tarbela Dam as a major electricity project for the country. He praised the efforts of General Manager (GM) Dam WAPDA Anwar Nasr Minallah and Chief Shah.

Stock markets cautious after US jobs report

Friday as investors digested a jobs report that failed to settle the debate about when the US Federal Reserve could start cutting a clear indication of when interest rates.

The US economy added 275,000 jobs in February, higher than analysts expected and accelerating from January's revised figure.

Stock wavered throughout the session, falling in pre-market trading as the news seemed to suggest the economy is running too hot to justify the Fed easing its monetary stance

But the report also included downward revisions to previous hinting at a more dovish months, as well as a rise in the unemployment rate to coming soon

Engineer Muhammad Tariq million U.S. dollars from for their dedicated efforts the export of the in preserving WAPDA's commodity during the assets. He also emphasized January-February period WAPDA's crucial role in this year, also down 9.9 providing key electricity percent from 72.6 million

supply to the country. At the end of the dollars over the same period 2023, the report inauguration ceremony, said GM Power Nasr Minallah and Chief Engineer O&M country's rice had been Muhammad Tariq also shipped to 50 countries addressed the gathering. The

All three major US

regions by 40 and inaugural exporters, it added. ceremony was attended by According to the GM Hydel Muhammad Ihsanullah, GM Tarbela report, Cambodia exported Powerhouse Nasr Minallah, GM Tarbela 11,083 tons of milled rice to China in the first two months of this year, making the gross revenue of 6.81 million dollars.

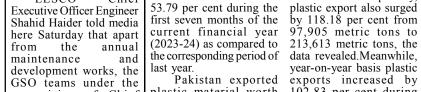
Shahid Haider says: LESCO carries out system

upgradation

LAHORE (APP): Lahore Electric Supply Company indices ended the day lower, while the labor market figures did not give (LESCO) is carrying out a number of works related to the US central bank might strengthening of transmission lines and start lowering interest upgradation of the power "The Fed, having system throughout its five steered the economy with districts Lahore,

\$215mln in 7 months a steady hand thus far, is Sheikhupura, Nankana ISLAMABAD (APP): poised to maintain its Sahib, Kasur and Okara to The export of plastic cautious stance, likely ensure provision of better resisting the clamor for rate materials from the country facilities to consumers. reductions in the immediate witnessed an increase of LESCO Chie

term," said Richard Carter, head of fixed interest research at Quilter Cheviot. Wall Street had from the reached all-time highs maintenance Thursday, lifted by Fed Chair Jerome Powell GSO teams under the supervision of Chief tilt to monetary policy



Engineer O&M (T&G) are doing numerous tasks

last year. Pakistan exported plastic material worth \$215.161 million during July-January (2023-24) as compared to the export of

\$139.909 million during July-January (2022-23), were recorded showing growth of 53.79 \$36.283 million.

LESCO collects Rs 11.03m from 613 defaulters in 24 hours

Lahore Electric Supply (LESCO) Company recovered more than Rs 11.03 million from 613 chronic defaulters in its five districts -Lahore, Sheikhupura, Nankana Sahib, Kasur and Okara -on the 172nd day of its recovery campaign. A LESCO spokesman

told the media on Saturday that Superintending

AHORE (APP): The Engineer (SE) Faizan Butt recovered outstanding dues of Rs 1.70 million from 95 defaulters in Northern Circle, SE Umar Bilal recovered Rs 1.85 million from 72 defaulters in Eastern Circle, SE Shabbir from 59 defaulters in

collected Rs 1.69 million Central Circle, SE Zafferullah Saanghi recovered Rs 1.94 million from 57 defaulters in South.

RAWALPINDI: People purchasing food items in connection with upcoming

per cent, according to the

Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS).

plastic export also surged

by 118.18 per cent from

97,905 metric tons to

data revealed.Meanwhile,

year-on-year basis plastic

exports increased by

102.83 per cent during

January 2024 as compared

to the same month of last

year. The plastic material

exports in January 2024

were recorded at US

In terms of quantity,

Holy Fasting Month of Ramadan at Banni Chowk.

Plastic material export

increases 53.79% to

regarding Pakistani Senate in March establishment of gems city, 2021 and will serve until provision of financial March 2027. This is the first time in the nation's support through EDF and others. On the occasion, history that a legislator has Director GGIP highlighted been appointed to the IMF steps being taken to and World Bank boards Khan strengthen gems and which indicates gemological sector in KP. significant step forward.

Complaint cell

established to

control price

during Ramadan

PESHAWAR (APP):

District Administration

Khal has established a

complaint cell to control

the prices of essential

commodities during

has been set up in Khal

Bazar following directives

of the provincial government to facilitate

people in Holy month of

Ramadan. Masses have

been urged to register their

complaints in the cell which

would be sent to district

administration through an

Gold rates up

by **Rs1,600**

per tola

ISLAMABAD (APP): The per tola price of 24

karat gold increased by

online system.

Rs197,360

Sindh Sarafa Jewellers.

The complaint cell

Ramadan.

150,000 in Ramazan, Zulfiqar Ali Memon, one varieties of dates from of the vendors told APP here on Saturday.

retailers, rush to buy the these healthy dry fruits, commodity before said a Abdullah Pathan. commodity

I order different different countries like Iran, and Afghanistan, as Several people, many people come to buy including wholesalers and a number of packets of

BHC brings together senior businesswomen

ISLAMABAD (APP): Islamabad, British High The Commission (BHC) in Pakistan brought together from across the country to mark Women's Dav

business, and trade to highlight their achievements and discuss shared challenges.'

"The theme for this vear's International Women's Day is: 'Invest in women; progress.' At a trade fair in

female entrepreneurs demonstrated the work they are doing in artificial senior businesswomen intelligence, medical ss the country to the international apps." "Umama Nadir, a "-bore who technology, and smart

According to a news student from Lahore who release, the UK has was selected to be convened women in tech, 'Ambassador for the Day,' Ambassador for the Day, shadowed the High Commissioner during her engagements. British High Commissioner to Pakistan Jane Marriott CMG OBE stated, 'The UK and

Pakistan are working accelerate closely together to further gender equality.



LAHORE: A vendor is displaying Jujube (Bair) attraction for customer alongside a road, in the **Provincial Capital.**

Tunisian economic crisis mutes build-up to Ramazan

TUNIS (AFP/APP): Tunisians are bracing themselves for more

Rs1,600 and was sold at Rs230,200 on Saturday compared to its sale at Rs228,600 on last trading day. The price of 10 grams because it was so crowded", of 24 karat gold also vegetable merchant increased by Rs1,372 to Mohamed Doryi told AFP. "That's not the case today," said the 69-yearfrom Rs195,988 whereas the price of 10 gram 22 karat old, who no longer displays gold went up to Rs180,913 his prices to avoid scaring away potential customers. from Rs179,655, the All Tunisians usually

prepare for Ramadanwhen daytime fasting is followed by festive but month of Ramazan as an economic crisis grips the North African country. In past vears

In past years "you are different, with wouldn't have been able to purchasing power greatly set foot in the market diminished because of soaring prices, a recession and rising unemployment.

"I'm not poor, but I can't do it anymore. My pension doesn't cover my needs," said Fayka, a 65-year-old at Tunis's working-class Bab El Fellah market



KARACHI: A general view of banana section at a fruit and vegetable market is seen as vendors prepare to sell ahead of Muslims' Holy Month of Ramadan, in the Provincial Capital.

NEW YORK (AFP/APP): 3.9 percent from 3.7 Global stocks wobbled percent.

percent.

rates.

Daily A oice of Massey

Sunday March 10, 2024

International News

Page 07

Expansion of Israeli settlements is war crime: UN rights chief

Monitoring Desk GENEVA: Expanding Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories constitutes "a war crime" and risks eliminating any likelihood of a viable Palestinian state, the UN rights chief warned on Friday. Volker Turk said there had been a drastic acceleration in Israeli illegal riod covered by his report settlement building in the occupied West Bank since Nov 1, 2022, to Oct 31, 2023 were added to existing Israeli the Gaza crisis unfolded in settlements in the occupied October. In his statement, the UN high commissioner for human rights said creating and expanding settle-ments amounted to the

transfer by Israel of its own civilian population into occupied territories. "Such transfers

amount to a war crime that may engage the individual

criminal responsibility of pear aligned, to an unprecthose involved," Turk said edented extent, with the goals of the Israeli settler in a report to the UN Human Rights Council. movement to expand long-Israeli plans to build an-

Turk said that during the pe-

-some 24,300 housing units

West Bank.

term control over the West other 3,476 settler homes in Bank, including east Jerusathe occupied West Bank cololem, and to steadily intenies of Maale Adumim, Efrat grate this occupied territory and Kedar "fly in the face of into the state of Israel". international law", he said.

At the same time, Palestinians are being forced from their homes by Israeli settler and state violence, it said. It also pointed to forced evictions, non-issuance of building permits home demolitions and

of imminent

Monitoring Desk

That marks the largest number on record since posed on Palestinians. "Setmonitoring began in 2017. tler violence and settlement-It includes nearly 9,700 related violations have units in east Jerusalem, the reached shocking new lev-UN rights office said. els, and risk eliminating any practical possibility of es-

Turk's report found tablishing a viable Palestin-ian state," Turk warned. that the Israeli government's policies "ap-



Ireland's Taoiseach (Prime Minister) Leo Varadkar walks to cast his vote in a referendum on changes to the Irish constitution called the Family Amendment and the Care Amendment, at Scoil Treasa Naofa in Dublin, Ireland

No Women's Day in Gaza, say mothers of hungry children

Monitoring Desk GAZA CITY: Women's Day? At a tent in Rafah where Um Zaki said she was boiling porridge on an open flame to stave off the hunger of her six children, the holiday passed as a cruel joke.

'Now, all our days look the same. The days of soot from open air cooking feasts, happy occasions,

their mothers, daughters and sisters.

bassy in Russia warned that Now, with Gaza's 2.3 "extremists" had imminent million residents nearly all plans for an attack in Moshomeless and all struggling for survival, it was painful even to think of such things. On a day she would cow, hours after Russian security services said they had foiled a planned shooting at a synagogue by a cell

normally wear makeup, her face was now streaked with from the Afghan arm of the militant Islamic State group. The embassy, which has repeatedly urged all US mass starvation in parts of Gaza". Canada had paused funding amid allegations that fires, Um Zaki said. She started to tell of how her citizens to leave Russia imintimate laundry was strung outside the tent on a mediately, gave no further details about the nature of line for all to see. Another woman near her cried into the threat, but said people the phone: "Women's Dav! should avoid concerts and crowds and be aware of There is no Women's Day in Gaza. In Gaza we are their surroundings close to Doomsday because 'The embassy is monitoring reports that ex-In a statement to tremists have imminent mark the holiday, the Gaza plans to target large gatherhealth ministry said ings in Moscow, to include 60,000 pregnant women in concerts, and US citizens should be advised to avoid the enclave were suffering large gatherings over the from dehydration and next 48 hours," the embassy malnutrition. said on its website.

In a 68-minute address to Cong-ress, Biden, a Democrat, drew sharp contrasts with his Republican rival and gamely challenged Trump's supporters in the chamber during a speech that was watched as much for the 81-year-old president's performance as and criticising Trump for inviting Putin to invade Nato it was for his policy pronations if they did not spend Biden charged Trump more on defence.

Monitoring Desk

US immigration woes.

Canada resumes funding to UNRWA amid

humanitarian crisis in Gaza some UNRWA staff were in-

volved in the Oct 7 attack. With Hussen's announcement, it is the first country to resume funding for UNRWA which employs 13,000 people in Gaza to run schools, healthcare clinics and other social services,

ian aid wasn't final yet.

Monitoring Desk TEHRAN: Iran on Satur-day denounced US tech giant Meta's decision to remove the Facebook and Instagram accounts of its supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, calling it a "violation of freedom of ex-

pression" Instagram Facebook are among the most popular social media platforms for Iranians, but while the government blocks their use, officials in the Islamic Republic have accounts on them.

India busts gang sending citizens to fight for Russia **Monitoring Desk**

and

Commission.

her center-right European

People's Party in Romania's capital,

Bucharest, comes ahead of

June 6-9 elections for the

European Parliament, the

capital,

NEW DELHI: India said it had uncovered a "major human trafficking network" which lured young men to Russia with the promise of jobs only to force them to fight in the war in Ukraine. About 35 men have been sent to Russia in the scheme so far, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) said late on Thurs-

day, an increase from the 20 and to distribute humanitarmen that the Indian foreign ministry had earlier men-The minister said al-though the UN Office of tioned. At least two men who went to Russia expecting to work as "helpers" in the Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) report regarding army have died while fightthe allegations against UNRWA employees ing at the front, their families have said.

Israel strikes landmark residential tower in southern Rafah as truce talks stall

Monitoring Desk RAFAH: Israel struck one of the largest residential towers in Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip on Saturday, residents said, stepping up pressure on the last area of the enclave it has not yet invaded and where over a million displaced Palestinians are sheltering. The 12-floor building

attacks on Israelis.

running down the stairs, some fell, it was chaos. People left their belongings and money," said Mohammad Al-Nabrees, adding that among those who tripped down the stairs during the panicked evacuation was a friend's pregnant wife.

The strike raised alarm among residents of a wider Israeli assault on Rafah, where more than half of was damaged in the strike, Gaza's 2.3 million people and residents said dozens of are sheltering. Israel has said families were made homeit plans to carry out operaless, though no casualties tions in the area, which it were reported. Israel's milihas called Hamas's last bastary said the block was betion. But its pledge to do so ing used by Hamas to plan only after civilians have One of the 300 resievacuated has done little to dents of the tower, which is located some 500 metres quell international concern Five months into Israel's unrelenting air and ground assault (1,600 ft) from the border on Gaza, health authorities

with Egypt, told Reuters say nearly 31,000 Palestin-Israel gave them a 30ians have been killed and thouminute warning to flee the sands more bodies are feared building at night. "People were startled, buried under rubble.

EU's largest party endorses Ursula von der Leven's bid for a second term as EU Commission chief

tional leaders are members of the EPP. **Monitoring Desk** BUCHAREST: The Euro-

As the two-day EPP pean Union's largest politimeeting came to a close cal party on Thursday en-Thursday, von der Leyen dorsed Ursula von der warned of the expected rise Leyen's bid for a second five-year term at the helm of populists in the bloc's upcoming elections and of the bloc's powerful Russia's attempt "to wipe Ukraine off the face of (the) Von der Leyen 's nomination at a gathering of earth.'

"Our peaceful and united Europe is being challenged like never before by populists, by nationalists, by demagogues, whether it's the far right or it's the far left," she said.

EU's only democratically "The names may be elected institution. The endorsement places her different, but the goal is firmly as a frontrunner for the same. They want to the top job in the 27-nation trample on our values and bloc. The EPP is expected to remain the biggest in the never let that happen."

Von der Leyen noted bloc's legislature after the Europe's push to reduce June voting, but von der its dependence on Rus-Leyen's posting would sian energy after President Vladimir Putin ordered still require approval from leaders of the EU's member states. Almost the war in Ukraine two half of the EU's 27 na- years ago.

Indian Home Minister

before the Lok Sabha polls.

Under the CAA, religion is

a basis for granting citizen-

ship. The law specifically

fast-tracks asylum claims

immigrants including Hin-

dus, Jains, Christians,

Sikhs, Buddhists and Parsis

from the neighboring Af-

ghanistan, Bangladesh, and

that a state-wide strike will

The UOFA had said

Droupadi

Pakistan

Protests back in Assam against CAA amid Modi's visit

US embassy warns **Monitoring Desk** attack in Moscow by 'extremists' MOSCOW: The US em-

OTTAWA: Ottawa is resuming funding to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), Canada's Minister for International Development Ahmed Hussen said in an announcement on Friday.

Hussen said the decision was taken in part so that more could be done to urgently respond to the dire needs of Palestinian civilians who are "at a serious risk of mass starvation in parts of

on a building, amid the ongoing conflict between Israel and the Palestinian Islamist group Hamas, in Rafah, in the southern Gaza Strip. Iran slams removal of Khamenei social media accounts

with burying the truth about the Jan 6, 2021, WASHINGTON: President Joe Biden on Thurs-Capitol assault, bowing to Russian President Vladimir day laid out his case for reelection in a fiery State of Putin and blocking a bill to tighten restrictions at the the Union speech that ac-US border with Mexico. On the Middle East, the cused Donald Trump of threatening democracy, kowtowing to Russia and president said he had been torpedoing a bill to tackle working for an immediate

ceasefire to last six weeks between Hamas and Israel, and he warned Israel against using aid to Gaza as a bargaining chip. The greater thrust of his remarks focused on Trump, though Biden did not mention him by name. Biden opened by declaring democracy under threat at home and abroad

ice food. laughter and hope, are all gone because of the war," she told Reuters by phone. "What is Women's Day? We are deprived of the minimal rights, we are deprived of living. Every day women die by Israeli bombs."

of Israel!' International Women's Day, March 8, is typically a major public holiday in the Palestinian territories, when Gaza families put on their finest clothes and flock to hotels and restaurants to celebrate

Women's Day sees rare protests in Afghanistan

Monitoring Desk PARIS: People around the world marked International Women's Day on Friday with protests, demonstrations and celebrations.

Some countries marked the day by voting on - or confirming --- ground-breaking legislation. In Afghanistan, small groups of women staged rare demonstrations in private spaces, after a crackdown by Taliban authorities forced activists off the streets

A handful of women in several provinces gathered to demand restrictions on jobs, travel and education be lifted, said activists from the Purple Saturdays group. Irish voters took part in a double referendum on proposals to modernise the constitution, which could expand the definition of family from those founded on marriage to "durable relationships'

Another proposed change would replace old-

fashioned language around a mother's "duties in the home" with a clause recognising care provided by family members.

In Italy, thousands of people marched in Rome nounced on Friday she will and Milan calling for an end to violence against women following a number of highprofile cases of young women murdered by their boyfriends.

Holding banners, high-profile of scores of dancing and chanting slo-Tory lawmakers to say they gans, about 10,000 people will not seek re-election at gathered in the Italian capithis year's nationwide vote, tal at the Circo Massimo, in which opinion polls prean ancient Roman racing dict a thumping defeat for ground. In Japan, six their party. The Conservacouples marked Internatives have consistently tional Women's Day by filtrailed the main Labour oping a case suing the governposition, led by Kein ment for the right to use different surnames after marriage. Under laws in place since the 19th century, married couples must choose the husband's or the wife's name, and about 95 per cent take the man's, according to 1997 and served as prime the plantiffs' lawyers. minister between 2016

joins Tory MPs quitting before election **Monitoring Desk** LONDON: Former prime minister Theresa May an-

Theresa May

stand down as an MP at the strike in northern Iraq next election, adding to a killed a Kurdistan Workgrowing list from the UK's ers' Party (PKK) comruling Conservatives to abandon leader Rishi Sunak. mander on Friday, Kurdish authorities said, May, 67, is the most raising the death toll from

strikes blamed on Turkey to three. Turkey often carries out ground and air operations in northern Iraq against positions of the PKK, which has waged a decades-long insurgency against the Turkish state. 'Two people were

Starmer, since October 2022 killed and two others and are widely seen as on wounded while they were course to be kicked out of picking herbs after Turkpower after 14 years. May ish warplanes launched has represented the constrikes" on a remote vilstituency of Maidenhead in southeast England since



raid were civilians. Later Friday "a Turk

Taksim Square to mark International Women's Day.

of PKK fighters, killing an and wounding his guard in

northwest Iraq, the counterterrorism services of the autonomous Kurdish region said in a statement. Turkey's armed

forces rarely comment on their operations in Iraq. On February 20, two civilians were killed in a

strike that was also lage in the mountainous blamed on Turkey, secu-Sheladiz region in Dohuk rity and health officials

GUWAHATI (INP): Op- power to suppress us. But the people are firm in their

position parties in Assam staged a protest against the opposition to the CAA and anti-Muslim Citizenship we will continue with our protests," he added. Amendment Act (CAA) as Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's is on a Amit Shah had earlier said visit to the state. that CAA rules would be

The protest sit-in by notified and implemented the 16-member United Opposition Forum, Assam ÚOFA) was held near Kaziranga, where Modi was scheduled to spend of non-Muslim irregular the night after reaching the state on Friday. Modi is on a two-day visit to Assam

UOFA spokesperson Akhil Gogoi said that the CAA is a threat to the identity of the Assamese people, and they will continue protesting it.

be called the very next day State Congress presithe contentious act comes dent Bhupen Kumar Borah, into force, followed by participating in the protest, siege of the the secretariat. said. The government can-It had also submitted a not stifle our voices." Anmemorandum to the Indian other senior Congress President leader, Debabrata Saikia, Murmu, saying they would undertake a democratic also maintained that the protests against the CAA mass movement across the will continue. "The governstate if the CAA is not rement can use all tactics and pealed.

China's NPC Deputy calls for highly skilled talents to promote automobile industry

BEIJING (INP): China's ity. According to a manuautomobile industry is in a facturing talent developcritical period of transforment guide issued by varimation, and the demand for ous departments, includhighly skilled talents is ining the Ministry of Industry and Information Techcreasing.

The talent cultivation nology, it is projected that system also faces new and by 2025, there will be a higher requirements. Yang shortfall of approximately Yongxiu, a deputy to the 14th 30 million skilled workers National People's Congress across ten critical manufac-(NPC), and a senior technituring sectors, including cian for Changchun-based the Energy-Saving and automaker FAW Group in New Energy Automobile Jilin, said in an interview Industry. with China Economic Net. In 2023, China's autotwo sessions, Yang ofmobile industry achieved a fered his suggestions on historic milestone, with building world-class vocational universities to ac-

production and sales figures hitting 30.161 million and 30.094 million units respectively, crossing the 30 mil-lion threshold for the first time

sponse to the current situ-This data, released by ation of the gap in experithe China Association of enced technical and skilled Automobile Manufacturers talents in the automotive (CAAM) on January 11, industry in Jilin. 2024, cements China's status as the global leader in leagues are driving the automobile production and rapid development of doconsumption for the fif-

mestically produced electric vehicles amid the transformation of China's automotive industry.

Thus, at this year's

celerate the cultivation of

highly skilled talent who

can adapt to the develop-

ment of the new era in re-

Yang and his col-



Spain's Vox party leader Santiago Abascal attends a protest by conservative and far-right parties and civil society organizations against Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez at Cibeles Sqaure in Madrid, Spain.

Local media said the two people killed in the

CAN BE FREE

A demonstrator poses beside police barriers before a rally near Istanbul's

lawyer Nitya Ramakrishnan

cided in a hearing in April.

and in the meantime.

agency's custody.

province in northern Iraq, said at the time.

'NIA demanding Rs 1.64 crore

arrest expenses is extortion

said

The NIA made the

Navlakha's bail order given

by the Bombay High Court

Three killed in Iraq Six missing after South **Korean fishing** boat capsizes SEOUL (INP): A South Korean fishing boat carry-

ing nine crew, including seven Indonesians, capsized off the country's southern coast on Saturday, leaving six missing, local

authorities said. The 29-ton vessel overturned in waters 68 kilometres (42 miles) south of an island in the coastal city of Tongyeong on early Saturday morning, according to South Korea's Yonhap news agency. So far three crew members have been rescued but all were unconscious, the Korea Coast Guard's Tongyeong

Murdoch gets engaged at 92 Monitoring Desk

NEW YORK: Rupert Murdoch, 92, has got engaged to his girlfriend, Elena Zhukova, a spokesman said on Thursday, which would mark his fifth trip down the aisle.

The wedding will be held in California, at Murdoch's vineyard and estate, Moraga, a spokesman said. The impending nuptials come just months after Murdoch stepped down as chairman of Fox and News Corp, ending a more than seven-decade career at the helm of a sprawling media empire. The New York Times said Zhukova, who is from Moscow, is 67. She is a retired molecular biologist

teenth year running. However, highly skilled talents are still a raring in the summer, it added.

termed the probe agency's move as "extortion". She requested the court to look into the matter and nullify NIA's demand. "They cannot demand one crore [rupees] from citizens for keeping them in custody," she

The Supreme Court bench said that the validity of the Rs 1.64 crore claim made by NIA will be de-Navlakha will remain in the whom Murdoch began dat-

office told reporters.



ish drone targeted a group intelligence commander the district of Sinjar" in

Daily **Independent**, Quetta

Sunday March 10, 2024

PM thanks leaders for messages of felicitations

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif Saturday thanked Presidents and leaders of different countries for sending him messages of felicitations on his assumption of the office of Prime Min-

In a series of posts on X, he responded to the leaders. He thanked Vladimir Putin, President of the Russian Federation, for his message of felicitations on his election as Prime Minister. "I look forward to forging stronger ties between Pakistan and Russia in the days ahead.'

He said he was delighted to receive congratulatory letter and telephone call from his dear brother Emomali Rahmon, President of Tajikistan. "I thank him for always being a sincere friend of Pakistan and look forward to building stronger ties between Pakistan and Tajikistan together." He thanked Ilham Aliyev, President of Azerbaijan for his warm message of felicitations on his election as Prime Minister of Pakistan. "I also thank H.E. Ali Asadov, Prime Minister of Azerbaijan for his letter of ger bilateral ties and enhance felicitations. Our two naregional cooperation.'

tions enjoy a unique bond of friendship that will grow from strength to strength.3 He said he was grate-

ful to Shavkat Mirziyoyev, President of Uzbekistan, for his thoughtful letter to congratulate him on assuming office of Prime Minister for the second time. "I hope to work closely with him to strengthen relations of Pakistan and Uzbekistan across all spheres.

He also thanked Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, President of Kazakhstan, for his message of prayers and good wishes on his election as Prime Minister. "Pakistan values its relations with your great country and I look forward to working with you to strengthen our bonds of friendship. also look forward to our close cooperation in SCO and ECO." He expressed delight over receiving warm letters of felicitations from Serdar Berdimuhamedov. President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly and Berdimuhamedov, National Leader of the Turkmen People & Chairman of Halk Maslakhaty. "I look forward working to Turkmenistan to build stron-



QUETTA: Chief Executive Officer of Quetta Electric Supply Company (QESCO) and General Manager of Sui Southern Gas Company (SSGC) separately meeting with Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti.

CM directs CEO QESCO & GM SSGC to resolve issues of electricity & sui gas pressure immediately

Mir Sarfraz Bugti directs to avoid suspension of electricity and sui gas supply during month of Ramadanul Mubark; permanent solution be found to issues facing agricultural consumers

Independent Report QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has directed the Chief Executive

Officer of Quetta Electric Company Supply (QESCO) and General Manager of Sui Southern Gas Company (SSGC) to resolve the issues of electricity load shedding and sui gas pressure in the province immediately.

He also directed them Minister on the complaints to avoid suspension of electricity and sui gas supply during the month of Ramadanul Mubark.

These directives were issued by the Chief Minister during meeting of the CEO QESCO and GM province. SSGC who called on him in his chamber located in Provincial Assembly on Satur-

day. It may be mentioned here that the high ups of QESCO and SSGC were summoned by the Chief month.

lodged by the members of assembly during its session on Friday last. The members of asconsumers.

sembly had voiced great concern about the issues of electricity and sui gas in the The Chief Minister

particularly directed to the chief. high ups of QESCO and SSGC to ensure uninterrupted electricity and sui gas supply at the times of Sehr-o-Iftar during the holy

He also directed to find sustainable solution to the electricity issues being faced by the agricultural

Similarly, the issues of electricity should also be resolved sitting together with zamindars, the Chief Minister asked the QESCO

He directed the QESCO chief to present comprehensive report about progress on the related issues in next session.

> **Ruet-e-Hilal** Committee meets tomorrow for Ramazan

PESHAWAR (INP): With the month of Ramazan a couple of days away, Central Ruet-e-Hilal committee will meet on March 11 (Monday) in Peshawar for moon sighting of Ramzan 1445 Hijrah.

The central committee session will be started after He emphasized the Asr Prayers on Monday (29 Shaaban) in Peshawar. Ruet-e-Hilal committee chairman Abdul Khabir Azad will preside over the meeting. The Central Ruete-Hilal Committee will convene meeting in Peshawar along with zonal commit-Pakistan is electing the tees meetings in their respective areas. The committee after the meeting will make announcement about Ramazan moon sighting or otherwise.

Pak advocates

for gender

parity in

developing

countries

NEW YORK (Online): Pa-

kistan has said the plight of

women under foreign occu-

pation, such as Indian Ille-

gally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir and Palestine, is

characterized by a myriad

of challenges, ranging from

systemic oppression to

grave human rights viola-

On electing as President Speaker BA, Sanjrani, Khetran, Langove, Magsis, Nausherwanis, others greet Zardari

Independent Report sembly Sardar Abdul QUETTA: The Speaker Rehman Khetran, Mir Ziaullah Balochistan Assembly, Nawabzada Tariq Magsi, Abdul Khaliq Achakzai, Mir Shoaib Nausherwani senior politician Mir Abdul Karim Nausherwani and members of provincial Assembly have congratulated Asif Ali Zardari on his election as President of Paki-

stan for second time.

and others said that the victory of Zardari in presidential election is victory of democracy. They said that he (Zardari) is a seasoned politician and as such he

Langove,

In their felicitation would play pivotal role for messages issued here on Saturday, the Speaker prodevelopment and prospervincial assembly, former Chairman Sadiq Sanjrani, ity of the province and country. president of BAP and Member National Assem-They also said that

Mr Zardari believes in resolving the issues being bly, Nawabzada Khalid faced by the common men.



QUETTA: A view of large number of lawyers gathering during Quetta Bar Association Election.

Munir discusses with UN chief preparations for upcoming 'Summit of Future'

UNITED NATIONS tion opportunity", aimed at strengthening global gover-nance for the sake of (APP): Pakistan's Ambassador to the United Nations, Munir Akram, dispresent and future generacussed with UN Secretarytions. General Antonio Guterres goal is to agree on a conpreparations for the forthcoming "Summit of the Fucise, action-orientated Outture" when he called on him come Document ("A Pact Friday, according to a press

for the Future") in advance by consensus through interrelease During the meeting, which was held at UN governmental negotiations and endorsed by Heads of Headquarters in New York, State/Government at the they expressed the hope Summit that the Summit's outcome the Pakistani envoy comwould help in responding to the priority needs of the

developing countries. The Summit will be hosted by the UN General Assembly (UNGA) on 22-23 September 2024.

ÚN officials are calling it a "once-in-a-genera- comes."

261ST NEP/ LI ARMY DAY

ISLAMABAD: Chairman National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) Lieutenant General Inam Haider Malik, Ambassador of Nepal to Pakistan Tapas Adhikari and others cutting the cake on the occasion of Nepali Army Day, at a local hotel, in the Federal Capital.

Pakistan's embassy holds well-attended event showcasing country's culture, apparel

ISLAMABAD (APP): 'THIS for Diplomats', a ating a global family of dip-

The Pakistani embassy Fri- non-profit organization lomats, fostering connecday organized an event that promotes international tions, and bringing people showcasing Pakistan's cul- understanding and friend- together to celebrate diverse ship through educational. cultures. You are an inter

Zafar asserts presidential election would be not be fair and free

ISLAMABAD (INP): Ali practices.

Zafar, a leader and senator from the Pakistan about the overall legitimacy Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), has of the electoral process. Senator Irfan Siddiqui claimed that the presidenexpressed optimism about tial election was proceeding today despite a staythe presidential election, anticipating that it would bring development and order by court on reserved

seats prosperity to the nation and He emphasized that this election was controverthe state. sial, lacking the attributes significance of the president of being free and fair. Zafar declared that his party was as a symbol of the federaparticipating in the election tion. Šiddigui also voiced reservations about the and casting votes as a symbol of protest and resilformer president, stating ience, despite concerns that he had not upheld good about its credibility. PTI leader Senator governance and practices

during his tenure. Faisal Javed questioned the 14th head of state, presi-dent today. Polling for transparency of the general elections in 2024. He aspresidential candidate is serted that half of the candidates were ineligible to ongoing in National, four cast votes as they had not provincial assemblies and been elected through fair Senate

moon sighting Javed raised concerns

mended the UN Secretary General's commitment to the sustainable development goals (SGDs) agenda and said that the Guterres' leadership would be pivotal in shaping win-win out-

The officials said the

At Friday's meeting,

Low enrollment rate results in low literacy

tural treasures, traditional clothes, cuisine, and artwork that drew a large number of diplomats representing different countries and officials serving international organizations.

"Peace, security and prosperity are our shared responsibility," Pakistan's Ambassador to the United States, Masood Khan, told the gathering.

The event was organized in collaboration with

WASHINGTON: Embassy of Pakistan welcomed

esteemed guests including diplomats from

different countries alongside distinguished

dignitaries from the IMF, EU, and World Bank to

Marri welcomes Saudi

government's investment

to set up refineries

QUETTA (APP): Former in the development of

Gwadar Port.

country said.

He said, "Saudi Arabia

is our brotherly Islamic

country which has helped

and supported us in times

when Pakistan was facing

economic difficulties'

experience the rich cultural traditions.

Caretaker Chief Minister

Balochistan, Alauddin

Marri has welcomed the

decision taken by the Saudi

government to set up refin-

eries in Gwadar which will

help in eliminating unem-

ployment and strengthen-

ing the development pro-

cess, and prosperity in the

here, he said that the deci-

sion of the Saudi govern-

ment has proved that Paki-

stan and especially

Balochistan is a peaceful

try with the support of

brothers countries, will get

support in dealing with the

said that the Saudi invest-

ment will play an active role

Marri said the coun-

region for investment.

In a statement issued

region.

exchanges with members of ture representing different nations here in the United the diplomatic community in Washington, D.C. Terming it a beginning mats turns these foreigners of a relationship between can connect and understand the Embassy of Pakistan

informational, and cultural

each other's perspective in a and THIS for Diplomats, Masood Khan thanked all better way.," he said. Highlighting the potential for the participants for joining in the celebration of tourism in Pakistan, the Pakistan's culture and apambassador invited participlauded the invaluable role of the organization in cre-

> Pakistan Peoples Partys (PPP's) MPA and former

Memon has congratulated

here on Saturday, Memon recalled that for the first talks.

Zaman Park

LAHORE (Online): Anti Terrorism Court (ATC) has approved bail of journalist Imran Riaz in Zaman Park attack case. Imran Riaz journalist was arrested in the case of attacking police and riots. Police had presented Imran Riaz in ATC Lahore a week before besides request-

the decision of Saudi Arabia will be seen positively by economic challenges. He all Muslim countries and such investment will be continued in the future.

litical forces. PTI's lawyer and leader Sher Afzal Marwat was talking to media regarding the current political situation. He affirmed

that it's not like that the political forces cannot be talked to but there is a difference on the agenda of Sher Afzal stated that

the party will not wait for the crack between government and establishment. He said that PTI's relationship realize this, PTI's leader said that PTI's relationship realize this, with the establishment still asserted that.

Ijaz Chaudhry denied presidential election vote despite production order port within Parliament.

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pa-kistan Tehreek-e-Insaf The Deputy Chair-

(PTI) Ijaz man Senate had previously Senator Chaudhry faced deprivader for Senator Ijaz Chaudhry, currently detion of voting rights in the presidential election despite the issuance of a production order. Initially permitted by

Zafar urged for Chaudhry's the Home Department, immediate release, empha-Senator Chaudhry was presizing the availability of high vented from casting his court orders for his release. vote as prison authorities Expressing concern over Chaudhry's health issues. refused to transport him to Zafar advocated for the for-Islamabad. Consequently, the PTI Senator's absence mation of a medical board prompted slogans of supto assess his condition.

ordered the production or-

tained on judicial remand.

PTI Senator Barrister Ali

Pakistan Peoples tions Party (PPP) has not harmed At an event organized PTI so much yet Pakistan by Group of Friends in Muslim League-Nawaz New York on Gender Par-(PML-N) said that so many

QUETTA: MPAs Mir Sadiq Sanjrani, Prince Agha Ahmedzai and Haji Wali

Muhammad Noorzai meeting with Speaker Balochistan Assembly Captain

Muttahida Qaumi

Movement (MQM) ben-

efited the most from the rig-

ging in general elections

MQM candidates got

6.000 to 10.000 votes and

were given seats so it is im-

possible to negotiate with

night of May 9.

them. He added.

ity to mark the Internatimes that it has been a victional Women's Day, Pakistan's Permanent Rep-resentative to the UN tim of the establishment Munir Akram said the women face increased vul-

> Three killed in road accident ISLAMABAD (APP): At

nerability to violence.

least three people were killed and fifteen injured in a road accident on the Motorway (M1) near Rashakai interchange here on Saturday. According to Motorway official, the accident occurred when bus election and thus didn't turn driver and conductor fight up for vote cast in the with each over the issue of House. Speaking to the media, JUI-F's member assembly, speeding of the bus and

suddenly the accident oc-Younas Aziz Zehri said that curred and tragically the the JUI leadership decided driver, conductor and one women died on the spot. to boycott the presidential Around 35 passengers election, so we are not cast-

ing votes in it. were traveling from Peshawar to Karachi at the time of the accident

rate; officials lament

By Rafiullah Mandokhail Raziq Jan Kakar, president Government Teachers As-ZHOB: Officials at the sociation (GTA) Fateh Education department la-Khan Mandokhail, DDOs ment that the low enroll-Asadullah Mardanzai and ment rate at governmentrun schools results in low Ajab Khan Kakar said that literacy rate in the remote the admission drive has been started across the part of Balochistan that shares borders with Afprovince Balochistan Education Deghanistan and South Waziristan. Lack of awarepartment in collaboration with UNICEF-ESP. ness, low enrollment rate and poverty are some of the factors responsible for

low literacy rate.

'A target of enrolling 9660 out-of-school children has been set for the aca-Addressing a press demic year 2024 in the disconference, the District trict. For this purpose, free textbooks are being distrib-

by the



Musakhail, flanked by uted among the clusters', he DOE Sheikh Musa Khan said. He said, a required budget has been allocated at Mandokhail, District Programme Manager Edu- the cluster level for reading cation Support Programme and writing material.

JUI-F, JI, HDT boycott polling process for presidential polls Independent Report

would not cast their votes QUETTA: The Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (JUI-F), in the presidential election. He also said that the complete implementation Jama'at-e-Islami (JI), Haq would be made on the deci-Do Tehreek (HDT) and sion of central leadership of BNP-Awami boycotted the JUI. Similarly, the spokesprocess of polling conman of JI said that the JI ducted for presidential elechas decided to remain imtion in the Balochistan Aspartial in the presidential sembly here on Saturday. election, so the members of The concerned mem-JI and HDT would not cast bers of parties remained imtheir votes in the election. partial in the presidential

It may be mentioned here that there are 12 members of assembly belonging to JUI with one each of JI, HDT and BNP-A in the provincial assembly.

The BNP-Awami's Mir Asadullah Baloch had announced to boycott the presidential election while delivering speech in the as-

He announced that 12 sembly session. members belonging to JUI



QUETTA: MPAs casting votes for election of President

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national community in minia-

States and THIS for Diplo-

into a family so that you

Provincial Information Minister Sharieel Inam

Asif Ali Zardari on his election as the President of Pa kistan. In a statement issued

time in the history of Paki-

transferred his authority to the parliament in order to make that institution more stronger.

ATC approves bail of Journalist **Imran Riaz in**

Saudi investment is enough attack case to send a message to the world that investment in Pakistan is a safe and stable With this investment.

he said Balochistan will achieve the goal of development and prosperity. It will also boost employment opportunities and the welfare of the people, Marri added. He said hopefully ing court to grant physical

remand of Imran Riaz. The court while accepting bail plea of Imran Riaz had or dered him to file surety bond worth Rs 100000.

stan Zardari had emerged as a president in 2008 who