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International powers do not want stability in Pakistan:Member **Türkiye Parliament**

Ali Sahin says Türkiye, Pakistan can play a leading role in the region

sines

ANKARA (INP): Ali Sahin member of Türkiye Parliament and Chairman Türk-Pak Parliamentary Friendship Group has categorically stated that International powers do not want stability in Pakistan and do not see it developed and prosper.

"There are several con-spiracies being hatched to weaken and divide Pakistan, weaken and divide Pakistan, this issue need to be address properly", said Ali ?ahin who is also central leader of the current ruling Türkiye Justice and Devel-opment Party (AKP) in an interview to a calcated interview to a selected group of journalists, along with Shabana Ayaz head of Türk Pak Women Forum was also part of the panel.

Ali Sahin got his higher education in Karachi and served in Türkiye missions in Pakistan at various capacities and has a lot won- and Pakistan are two twin derful memories for the sons of the Islamic and country. In the interview apart from shedding light at to culminate the reign of various international issues terror let loose by the agshared his personal experi- gressor Israel, but there ence and good memories during the period he got present to deal with the education in Pakistan, he is situation. found of Pakistani cui-

Ali Sahin said that Pa- and have limited sources kistan is situated at very important geographical position and it is very important for country to be litical and economic stabilrole in the region.

current awful situation in solved, "Terrorism did not Palestine he said "We are trying our best to bring to an end to the present hor- ther cementing the existing

they can play a leading role exist no such mechanism at

Continuing, he said Islamic countries are poor and when the western countries interfere in our

problems and problems increase manifolds. He reeconomically stronger. Po- minded the United States came to solve the problem ity is crucial for Pakistan of Afghanistan, and for alenabling to play a leading most 10 years its butchered million of people but To a question about the the problem was still un-

culminates but increased" He is advocate of furrifying situation". Türkiye ties between two brotherly



RIYADH: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif speaks at a session "Redefining Global Health Agenda" of World Economic Forum's Special Meeting on Global Collaboration, Growth and Energy for Development.

Terrorists, their financial, ideological supporters to be taken to task: CM

Independent Report QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has stated that the terrorists as well as their financial and ideological facilitators would be taken to task at every cost.

In a condemnation statement issued here on Sunday, the Chief Minister strongly condemned the killing of two labourers in Kech. He said that the terrorists killed two innocent Pakistanis in Kech, which is condemnable. The Chief Minister

also said that when the people like us say that the nationalist separatist is ter-rorism, then it is said that it is a war of rights.

He said that the innocent persons were martyred

condemnable.

entification which is

maintained that the Balochistan government is standing with the bereaved families of oppressed innocent and armless labourers in the time of grief.

sons in the province. He urged the jour-nalist community to Meanwhile, in another statement issued here on Saturday night, the Chief use their capabilities Minister expressed satisfor betterment of the faction over successful op-eration by FC North in nation and country. The Provincial

Harnai area Minister was speak-He said that the FC ing on the occasion of saved the people from very his visit to Quetta big loss by carrying out Press Club on Sunprompt and successful operation. A terrorist was killed and three others in-

day. During the visit, General Secretary of Quetta Press Club, jured in the operation carried out against terrorists, Banaras Khan and he added. He appreciated other senior journalthe services of FC for proists were present. Durtection of the life and proping the course of meeterty of the masses. He pledged to make

ing, the issues being nced by media perso Balochistan the land o

In meeting with IMF chief **PM** reiterates commitment to put economy back on track

PM thanks IMF chief for her support to Pakistan; Kristalina Georgieva appreciates premier for timely securing SBA last year

RIYADH (APP): Prime for supporting Pakistan in Minister Shehbaz Sharif on securing the USD 3 billion Sunday met with Managing Director (MD) of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Kristalina Georgieva wherein he reiterated his government's commitment to put Pakistan's economy back on track.

dent policies that would

ensure macro-economic

stability and sustained eco-

nomic growth, according to a PM Office press release.

Standby Arrangement (SBA) from IMF last year that was about to be completed. The IMF Executive Board is expected to meet on April 29 to decide on the final tranche of USD 1.1 billion under SBA. The IMF chief appre-

ciated the prime minister's leadership for timely secur-ing the SBA last year.

Both sides also discussed Pakistan entering into another IMF program to ensure that the gains made in the past year were consolidated and its economic growth trajectory

remained positive. IMF MD shared her institution's perspective on the ongoing program with Pakistan, including the review process



LAHORE: Chairman Senate, Syed Yusuf Raza Gillani addressing to Asma Jahangir conference.

FM Ishaq Dar appointed deputy prime minister

VØRLD Special Meeting on Global Collaboration, FORUM Growth and Energy for Development Riyadh, 2024



wait His Highness Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al- Sabah on the sidelines of a special meeting of the World Economic Forum.

In the meeting held on the sidelines of the World Government ever ready to resolve Economic Forum Special issues of media Meeting here, the prime minister said that he had persons: Langove directed his financial team, Independent Report QUETTA: The Provinled by Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb to cial Minister for Home, Mir Ziaullah carry out structural reforms, ensure strict fiscal discipline and pursue pru-

Langove has stated that the Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti and his cabinet is ever ready to resolve the issues being faced by media per-

in Balochistan were

Pays surprise visit to different areas of Quetta city: No compromise would be made on maintaining law & order in Balochistan, says Langove

Provincial Minister for Home maintains security plan revisited after Noshki and Mach terrorism incidents

Independent Report QUETTA: The Provincial Minister for Home, Mir Ziaullah Langove has categorically stated that it is topmost duty of the government to maintain law and order, and as such no compromise would be made on maintaining law and order situation in the province. He said that all out ef-forts are being made to pro-

Inquiry ordered to probe into assassination: Two more labourers gunned down by armed assailanst in Kech district

Incident of killing of labourers in Kalat conspiracy to spoil law & order, says Langove

Independent Report

QUETTA: Two labourers were gunned down by some unknown armed assailants in Tump area of Kech on Sunday

According to the re-ports reaching here, two labourers-basically welders- were working on a mechanic shop in Tump area of Kech when unknown armed assailants appeared on the scene and open indiscriminate fire targeting the labourers

tect life and property of the masses and eliminate terrorists from the province. The Minister Home was speaking on occasion of surprise visit to different parts of Ouetta city on Sun day afternoon.

were the Assistant Commissioner Quetta Sadar and Superintendent of Police Sariab, Shafqat Janjua.

Economic Forum (WEF) Special Meeting in Riyadh and discussed bilateral ties. The prime minister thanked His Highness the Amir for sending him a warm congratulatory letter upon his re-election. Accompanied with him

BLA's most wanted terrorist held, makes key

PM, Amir of

revelations KARACHI, (INP): The police arrested a most wanted terrorist of Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) here in the metropolis on Sunday who has made important revelations in the preliminary investigation. According to DIG South Asad Raza, the

As a result, both sustained multiple bullets and nabbed terrorist was identified as Mehraj alias Mama succumbed to the wounds before they were shifted to who was engaged in doing reiki for BLĂ. the nearby hospital.

The detainee also used In the meantime, the armed assailants managed to convey the reports of intelligence organizations to to flee from the scene leav-BLA on which the defunct ing the labourers in the pool of blood. Their bodies were organization used to conduct shifted to the hospital. attacks on security forces. The labourers belonged The DIG said that the nabbed terrorist did the reiki to Faisalabad area of of convoy of armed forces and Punjab. Meanwhile, the over his reports, the BLA at-

area levies and administration reached the spot and tacked convoy martyring several security personnel started investigations

OUETTA: Home Minister Mir Ziaullah Lango talking with senior journalists Banaras Khan and Noor Ellahi Bugti during a meeting Hub Rally Cross event to help promote tourism & highlight positive image of Balochistan at intl. level: Governor

Independent Report QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar has stated that the "Hub Rally Cross 2024" is a major motor sports event which can become source of attraction for the international male and female drivers and young champions . The Governor believed that such events and activities would not only help promote the tourism but would also highlight the positive image of Balochistan at the international level. The Governor was ad-

essing the "11th Hub Rally Cross 2024" in Hub

on Sunday. Also present on the oc-

casion were Deputy Com-missioner Hub, Rohana Gul Kakar and Chief Organizer of the Rally, Shujaat Sherwani besides others. The Governor said that the terrorism sector can't be ignored in stabilizing economy of the province and country. In this regard, rehabilitation of the tourism places and sports events is very much needed for promotion of tourism industry in the province, adding he stressed. Malik Abdul Wali Kakar expressed the belief that there would be positive impacts on the economic and trade activities

by paying focus on the sports and tourism.

Saudi leadership declares PM Shehbaz "Man of Action" as he highlights Pak investment potential, policies

(APP): ISLAMABAD Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif was declared the "Man of Action" by the Saudi leadership in recognition of his commitment to reviving Pakistan's economy through massive reforms and foreign investment. This acknowledgment came during his busy day in Riyadh, where he met different leaders and addressed a special meeting of the World Economic

made during separate meet- mance and speed of work, ings of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif with Saudi to Minister for Investment Khalid Al-Falih, Minister for Finance Mohammad Al Jadaan, and Minister for Industry Bandar bin Ibrahim Alkhourayef.

During his meeting with the prime minister on the margins of the Forum, Saudi Minister for Investment Khalid Al-Falih called him a "Man of Action," Forum. The remarks were recognizing his perforter:

along with his commitment contributing to Pakistan's development and progress. This is the second time Shehbaz Sharif has earned such a distinction from foreign leadership as earlier, he was

given the title of "Shehbaz Speed" by a Chinese leader to acknowledge his swift execution of development projects while serving as Punjab chief minis-

ducted an intelligence based operation in Dera Ismail Khan District on reported presence of terrorists on Sunday. During conduct of the operation, intense fire exchange took place between troops and terrorists, and resultantly two terror-

Two terrorist

killed in

DI Khan IBO

RAWALPINDI (Online):

Security Forces have con-

ists; Terrorist Faheem Nawaz Gandapuri and Terrorist Mohsin Nawaz, were killed. Weapons, ammunition and explosives were also recovered from killed terrorists who remained actively involved in numerous terrorist activities against the Security Forces as well as innocent civilians including target killings and extortion.

Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif has designated Minister of Foreign Affairs Ishaq Dar as Deputy Prime Minister.

The Cabinet Division had issued the notification of the appointment.

At present, the foreign minister is accompanying the prime minister on his visit to Saudi Arabia.

Dar was appointed as the country's foreign minister after the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) formed a coalition government following the February 8 elections.

Dar, 73, a chartered accountant and a seasoned politician, is also a close relative of, and close aide to, PML-



supremo Nawaz Sharif The appointment of

four-time finance minister as foreign minister suggested a ramped up role for economics in the nation's diplomacy as the country tries to secure another International Monetary Fund Deal and shore up external financing from foreign capitals



QUETTA: Commissioner and Administrator Quetta, Hamza Shafqat along with officers of Metropolitan Corporation are inspecting the cleanness drive, at Brewery road in Quetta.

PM calls upon bridging gap between Global South, North in health sector

RIAYDH (APP): Prime the year 2022, it witnessed Minister Muĥammad the worst climate triggered Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday while terming the global in-equity in health sector as 'the first and foremost prob-lem' called upon bridging the widening gap between the Global South and the Global North.

Expressing his views in a session of the World Eco-nomic Forum (WEF) regarding global health, the prime minister said that the Covid-19 pandemic had exposed the existing gaps largely between the Global North and Global South in terms of provision of health facilities and distribution of emphasised. vaccines. He said that the climate change issue had

also completely changed the landscape. Pakistan was not responsible for any emissions in the world, he said, adding but in kistan.

floods which hugely devastated the infrastructure and buildings and as consequently, they had to spend billion of rupees to rehabilitate the affected people. Prime Minister Shehbaz said that for the rehabilitation efforts, they sought costly loans. "Can a developing country like Pakistan afford it?" he questioned and observed that for provision of health facilities, a developing country like Pakistan required resources. "The yawning gap between the Global South and Global North should be bridged," he

Sharing his personal experiences, the prime minister said that treatment for the fatal disease like cancer was too costly for the poor population of Pa-



QUETTA; Provincial Ministers Noor Muhammad Dummar and Ali Madad Jattak visiting different sections of PRC Center Sariab



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his Vietnam'

OPINION

Daily Independent



Return to the helm

Nawaz Sharif is set to take up the reins of PML-N party president once again — seven long years after he was barred from holding the position following his disqualification as prime minister in the Panama Papers case.

Today, with cases against him a thing of the past, Mr Sharif will formally assume the party position that, in his stead, had been filled by his younger brother PM Shehbaz Sharif. Publicly, his party may say that while this is a welcome development, there should be no deep speculation about what the move means for PML-N affairs. After all, PM Sharif's decisions have been endorsed by his elder brother.

But given the country's state of affairs, the delicate state of civil-military relations and the role of the judiciary, the formal return of Nawaz Sharif to the helm of party affairs is significant. No doubt, the younger Sharif's decisions largely have the blessings of his elder brother, but it is no secret that there is a difference of tone between the two when it comes to setting the party narrative.

While one prefers to avoid rocking the boat and is open to taking direction, the other has a penchant for asserting himself and challenging the existing dynamics of power. That latter narrative was conspicuously absent during the PML-N leaders' election campaign — a factor that some of the more vocal party members say contributed to the PML-N's poor electoral performance.

The PML-N's internal dynamics have been turbulent, with important voices like Rana Sanaullah, Saad Rafique, and Javed Latif expressing differing opinions on party policies and the role of the military in politics. Mr Sanaullah's recent statements about 'undoing the injustice' of Nawaz Sharif's disqualification reflect a sense of grievance that has not entirely dissipated, and hint at undercurrents of discontent within the party.

With Nawaz Sharif as PML-N president, will we see more such grievances being aired? The PML-N's future direction will depend heavily on his ability to build consensus within the party and to manage the inevitable tensions that arise from differing opinions.

Nawaz Sharif's return to the position of party president comes at a time when the economy is under immense strain, with inflation soaring and public discontent rising. The political landscape is equally fraught, with the establishment casting a dark shadow over any attempt at political autonomy.

More importantly, at 74 years of age, and less energetic and spirited than he was seven years ago, Mr Sharif's health and stamina will reflect in his decision-making and the party meetings he chairs.

He will have to deftly navigate through tumultuous waters, but whether he can strike a balance between asserting democratic authority and avoiding direct confrontation with the establishment remains to be seen. Will buried hatchets remain buried? Time will tell.

No child's play

Muna Khan Young people, we're told, I have a distinct memory don't know better (Greta of sitting at my dear friend Thunberg), are a threat to Duc's cafe-cum-gallery in society (think of Aurat Hanoi watching CNN discuss Barack Obama's March here) or entitled snowflakes. foreign policy right after

These descriptions he became president in weighed on me recently 2009. All the pundits were as I prepared for a guest asking whether 'Aflecture to journalism stughanistan would become dents at the University of Texas at Austin (UT Aus-

Those of us at the tin). I was excited to speak cafe, including young to students at this state Vietnamese, did a doubleuniversity against the take. The 20-year Ameribackdrop of pro-Palescan war (as it is called in tine protests following Vietnam) ended in 1975, the Oct 7 attack. Did I unand in the 30 or so years derstand right that young since, the country had people were not buying transformed from being old narratives about one of the poorest in the America's alliance with world to "an economic Israel? Were we watching miracle" as described by students dismantle the the World Economic Foold order?

rum. The reference to the It was ambitious to war had different meanexpect answers in a 50ings to my friends: for minute session, in which older friends, it was a re-I did most of the talking. minder about the terrible But the two students suffering their families who asked questions faced, while the younger made me realise somegeneration — born after thing was different this the government introtime. The questions were duced 'doi moi', econot rooted in nationalism nomic and political reor security or fear of a forms in 1986 — did not group/ religion. I felt have a connection to that hopeful that day in class war, outside school lesand then at a cafe on campus discussing the sons, state narratives, war museum visits etc. stupidity of the Univer-The American mesity of Southern Califor-

dia, however, seemed obnia revoking valedictosessed with making those rian Asna Tabassum from comparisons. Afghani-stan would become fear she may say some-America's longest war thing pro-Palestinian. shortly after Obama took (As I write this, the USC charge, beating the one has cancelled its graduain Vietnam, in which tion ceremony.) 58,000 Americans died. I

A few days later, understood the compari-Texas law enforcers sons back then: support would descend upon the for the war in Vietnam campus, arresting dozens was so low that historiof students, and faculty ans believe president too, for protesting Johnson chose not to run Israel's war in Gaza. a second time. Would Campuses across Obama meet a similar fate America have become if he didn't 'fix' Afghanibattlegrounds for issues stan, CNN types asked. like free speech and are Duc, ever so wise, a reminder of the deep oined us in the eye rolls anti-Muslim sentiment but added "the media in the country.

doesn't understand As witnessed since young people" the 1960s — be it stumedia's dent demonstrations The

infantilisation of young against the Vietnam war, read of the situation. No people, aided ably by the people, aided ably by the gun violence, civil one should bu fear-mongering right rights, George Floyd's Courtesy Dawn

wing, has continued. murder — demonstrations also grow in response to police brutality. It's especially infuriating when universities, meant to protect students and free speech, call in the police to quell it.

And the media just doesn't seem to get what the kids are saying this time: they side more with Palestine than they do Israel A poll by The Econo-

mist and YouGov in December found that one in five young Americans think the Holocaust is a myth. Around a quarter of the respondents said Jews have too much power in the US. Things are different now, starting with de--mographics. Stu-

dents are more racially diverse, rely on social media for their news because the mainstream media has failed them. They don't view the world through a lens of 'with us or against us', and they can see Israel is punching down. A white female student at the cafe at UT Austin told me she believed Israel is the coloniser today. Protests keep erupting because powerful forces are rarely held accountable for their actions. You can feel that frustration among students who are fed up with their country's policies, rooted in racial injustice and anti-poor. They're angry at the direction the US is going. They fear their future is at stake. Is this adequately reported or are they being framed

as part of some plot against the US? (In Pakistan, the media often frames youth-led protests as anti-state.) I don't have answers but I know more police isn't an option. How does attacking the group demanding justice help? Students' actions are also being blamed for the likely return of Trump as president. This is a twisted

one should buy it.

Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry

As India navigates a critical phase in its ideological journey under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, its ambitious Hindutva-driven agenda raises questions about its future direction and impact on regional geopolitics. For Pakistan, tensions with India have simmered for decades, and pose a pivotal quesneighbour.

Modi is riding a wave of popularity, thanks mainly to an effective foreign policy and impressive economic growth and development. However, much of this success is also owed to favourable geopolitics since the dawn of this century. After 9/ 11, India projected itself to the West as a fellow victim of terrorism. The bonhomie with the West found reinforcement when the US decided to pivot its focus towards Asia, choosing India as the preferred partner in its strategic competition with China. Thus, India started receiving substantial US investments to bolster its military and economic prowess. Meanwhile, the Indian economy has registered high growth rates since 1991, positioning the country to become the world's fifth largest economy.

Hence, in the sec-ond Modi term, an emboldened regime aggressively pursued a twin-goal agenda: the internal creation of a Hindu state, and the external assertion of its presence. But this ambitious plan is not cost-free. The goal of creating a Hindu nationalist state is driving India farther away from its secular and pluralistic moorings. Accordingly, the space for minorities is shrinking fast. With a sizable Muslim population of 14.5 per

India today

the population belong-ing to Scheduled Caste communities — including the Dalits who are grossly discriminated against — tomorrow's India might be headed for potentially massive internal commotion. Adding to its domestic pressures are the concerns of five southern states, which feel that their share of revenue is being appropriated by tion regarding how to northern India. The farmengage with its eastern ers have also been restive for years.

Externally, India, despite being a strategic US partner, maintains substantive ties with Russia and economic engagement with China. citing its policy of strategic autonomy. It is also making a gradual shift from continental to maritime space, building up its naval presence in the Indian Ocean, and aspiring to become a 'net security provider' in the region.

As for Pakistan, India has cut off all links with it for the past eight years. Since independence, it has been an electoral issue in India. The leading political parties, particularly the BJP. demonise Pakistan to lure the votes of the Hindu majority. The underlying argument has always been that the creation of Pakistan was tantamount to the vivisection of Bharat Mata (Mother India) and must be undone to recreate Akhand Bharat (united India). This time, the mantra is that Pakistan must stop alleged cross-border terrorism. But, the reality is that today's India is not under any terrorist threat that could be attributed to Pakistan. In fact, it is Pakistan which is under threat of cross-border terrorism from Afghanigeting opponents in Pa- available to Pakistan. --

cent, and over 20pc of and the US). In January, Pakistan announced that Indian state operatives had sponsored the killing of two Pakistanis in Sialkot and Rawalakot in 2023, for which full evidence was available, and that there were 20 such cases under investigation. A recent story in The Guardian confirmed Pakistan's claim.

Apropos illegally occupied Jammu & Kashmir, the Modi government has displayed a heavyhan-d--ed approach. In Aug-ust 2019, India de-----ded to abrogate the statehood of Kashmir and initiated demogra-phic engineering to enable non-Kashmiri subje-cts to settle there. While Pakistan has consistently defended Kash-miris' right to self-determination, the international community has not exercised any pressure on India, as pragmatism trumps principles. Most countries want to engage with India for economic cooperation and tend to overlook its excesses in occupied Kashmir.

Under the circumstances, suggestions have been made, including by this writer, that while maintaining our formal position, Pakistan should merge Gilgit-Baltistan and Azad Kashmir as provisional provinces, subject to a final settlement of the Kashmir dispute. As it is, the people of GB have long sought full merger with Pakistan. Of late, there has been discussion on reopening direct trade with India to benefit consumers and traders of both countries. Since it takes two to tango, the government here is advised not to announce any initiative unless it receives clear signals of reciprocity from India. Until the onstan and India. Recent going Indian polls are discoveries indicate that over, and a new govern-Indian intelligence has ment is formed, 'wait and been systematically tar- see' is the only option kistan (as it has in Canada Courtesy Dawn

Commerce News

PM, IDB President agree to expedite completion work on different projects

RIAYDH (APP): Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and President of Islamic Development Bank (IDB) Dr. Muhammad Sulaiman Al Jasser on Sunday agreed for early completion of IDB's different development projects in Information Pakistan.

The prime minister thanked the IDB for its \$1 billion worth investment on different uplift projects in Pakistan during his previous tenure in office. Leghari.

The president of IDB called on the prime minister on the sidelines of the special meeting of projects in Pakistan was World Economic Forum reviewed and the both

Wing said in a press explore further avenues for release.

The meeting was attended by Minister for also lauded the IDP's Foreign Affairs Ishaq Dar, assistance in Minister for Finance and Revenues Muhammad affected people and Aurangzeb, Minister for commended the personal and cooperation and leadership Broadcasting Attaullah role of Dr Al Jasser. Tarar, Minister for He observed

He observed that IDB's Petroleum Dr Musadik beneficial partnership with Pakistan Malik, Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal was not only providing job Khan and Minister for opportunities and assisting Power Awais Ahmed Khan in reconstruction efforts but also supporting the During the meeting, government's endeavours

progress on different for achievement of projects in Pakistan was objectives of sustainable progress

without political reforms China's LAHORE Pakistan President **E-commerce** Economy Watch (PEW), Dr. Murtaza Mughal has logistics index said that economic reforms rises in March are useless without BEIJING (Xinhua/ practical political reforms. In a statement issued APP): China's e here on Sunday, he said

commerce logistics that economic reforms will index, an indicator of only achieve goals when logistics operations in the e-commerce sector, stood at 112.5 points in March, up 1.1 points from a month earlier, industry data showed. political reforms were wasting resources

Customs team lauded for seizing mis-declared containers

LAHORE (APP): that the Chief Collector SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry task to Ms Zahra Haider, president Collector Appraisement Iftikhar Ali Malik has (West), to check the appreciated the Chief documents of all Collector Customs Appraisement (Central containers which after thorough inspection by Punjab) Muhammad a dedicated team of Sadiq on launching a officers found guilty of successful crackdown misdeclaration of scrap on smugglers leading to tyres as all containers seizure of seven imported containers were fully loaded with electronics, smart cells, from the UAE at Thokar laptops,

garments, jewellery, tyres and а media statement issued here other luxury items worth billions of rupees.

(INP): being carried out under the pressure of the IMF, but the elite were spared and all burden was being placed on the poor.

More attention should be paid to political reforms, otherwise process of economic reforms will remain incomplete and ineffective, he added. The business leader said that a person who used

filters,

artificial

to work at a roadside tea stall has become prime minister of India and has been changing the destiny company.

Cotton sowing target set on 7,53,000 acres land for DGKhan DG KHAN (APP): The

cotton cultivation target set on 7,53,000 acres land across the division for which orders have been issued to provide better facilities to the farmers.

The people involved in adulteration in seed, fertilizers and pesticides will be punished. The decision was taken in the Cotton Crop Management Monitoring Committee meeting at the Commissioner's office, Dera Ghazi Khan, chaired by the Additional Commissioner Coordination Karim Buksh representing Commissioner

NPO to

workshop

Organization (NPO) is going to organize a workshop on "mastering talent acquisition: strategies for success" on Tuesday (April 30).

Talent acquisition refers to the process of identifying and acquiring skilled workers to meet your organizational needs and its team responsible is for identifying, acquiring, assessing, and hiring candidates to fill open positions within a

Amidst challenges.

top proposed

He said that taxes cannot be collected by increasing the tax rate. Instead, economic activity will have to be increased, that a super tax was he added. On the occasion, imposed on the people who economist Syed Ali were already paying the Hasnain said that taxes. He suggested that discussion regarding imposing taxes wasn't new and added that taxation was the most regressive in Pakistan

economic rates in the entire region. 'Who will invest in such a situation?" he questioned.

Meanwhile, Arif Habib suggested that there shouldn't be a wealth tax in Pakistan or the people would move abroad

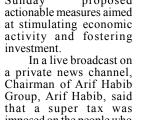


KARACHI: Citizens shopping at Bachat Bazaar in Ramaswami area of Provincial Capital.

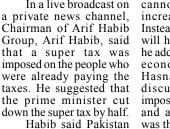
Experts propose policy reforms for economic revival

ISLAMABAD (APP): costs, interest rates and tax

businessmen in the country and economic experts on Sunday







the has the highest energy

Logistics Purchasing. to illumine others in different sectors linked to energy and climate change to enhance climate resilience of energy sector. Speaking on the occasion, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Renewables First, Zeeshan Ashfaq said the world

box solutions to discover and resolve interconnected issues leading less move being experienced energy production and renewable energy which

Renewables First, an

independent think tank

ceremony here Sunday for past two years, the cohort members to according to the China Federation of celebrate their endeavour and start a circle of enlightened minds intended energy transition was a globally driving the use of

environment hazardous

MULTAN: Farmers are busy making bundles after

Renewables launches first

batch of MSEC graduates to fill

knowledge gap in Energy sector

ISLAMABAD (APP): graduation cum networking

harvesting wheat crop in their field for drying.

consumption technologies. was intended to reduce The MSEC of reliance on fossil fuels Renewables First held a causing global warming.

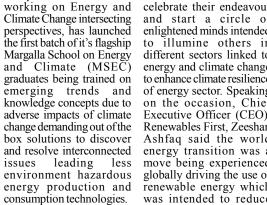


figure The tracking business volume in rural areas also rose 3.4 points from the previous month to 127.7 points

Specifically, the sub-index tracking total business

volume in the sector

went up 4.2 points month on month to

126.4 points, hitting a new high over the

during the period. As the weather warmed up and the Chinese New Year holiday ended in February, China's e-Niaz Baig Dry Port. commerce logistics market logged steady In

and

former

expansion, said the Sunday, he mentioned federation.

introduced, otherwise, it would be nothing than time and Murtaza Mughal said that economic reforms were of his country.

Economic reforms useless The National Productivity

organize ISLAMABAD (APP)

Rafiq said that there were immense opportunities in the nonconventional

market sectors like gemstones and jewelry in the country which could play a vital role in enhancing foreign exchange. He remarked that

industry had huge potential for value addition and profitability which needed relevant stake-holders.

immensely in earning of foreign exchange and providing employment to the youth, he said.

He said this while speaking to the participants of the International Workshop for Technical Expert Service programme on Gems and Jewelry at Chamber House here on Sunday.

Saqib noted that due to lack of interest by the special attention of the marketers and traders, gems' industry was far The gems and jewelry below than the regional

sector can play a vital role competitors



President RCCI says: **Promotion of gems**

RIYADH: President of Islamic Development Bank Dr. Muhammad Sulaiman Al Jasser calls on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif. **President PEW says:**

(WEF), PM Office Media sides discussed ways to cooperation. The prime minister the rehabilitation of flood

Daily Soice of Massen Independent

Monday April 29, 2024

National News

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Governor Punjab Balighur Rehman: Good work of welfare orgs serving humanity should be acknowledged

Independent Report LAHORE: The delegation of Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation met Governor Punjab,

Muhammad Balighur Rehman, today at Governor House Lahore. The delegation comprised Chairperson Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation, Cecilia Lazaro, founder and Executive Director of Punjab said that those Akhuwat Foundation,

Akhuwat Foundation, for humanity are great. Abubakar Siddique and Governor Punjab others.

while appreciating the Speaking on the welfare services of Amjad occasion, Governor Punjab Saqib, head of Akhuwat Muhammad Balighur Foundation, said that Rehman said that good conferment of Ramon Rehman said that good welfare Magsaysay Foundation organizations which are Award on him is honour for serving the humanity the country. He said that should be acknowledged in Pakistan, Akhuwat, as it motivates other Edhi, Indus Foundation people too. Governor and other organizations like them are playing an who dedicate their lives important role alongside

the government in poverty alleviation and social development.

Governor Punjab said that people to people contact is very important in the relations between the two countries.

He said that many foreign delegations meet him and tell him that got a different perception about Pakistan from media before visiting, but they found it otherwise.



LAHORE: Governor Punjab, Muhammad Balighur Rehman in a group photo with the delegation of Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation at Governor House.

Minister thanks Islamic Aid over financial support for children treatment

LAHORE (APP): Punjab that public private Health Minister Khawaja partnership Salman Rafique has expressed his gratitude to the Islamic Aid for financially supporting the suffering humanity, he treatment of patients at prayed. Children's Hospital.

He was talking to Mahmoodul Hasan, head

of Islamic Aid, at the University of Child Health Sciences, here on Sunday. The minister said that in the eyes of Allah, there is no greater passion than serving humanity. He said Rana were present.

creates convenience for people. May Allah accept the services of Islamic Aid for

Matters of mutual interest were discussed between the both sides. UHS Vice Chancellor Professor Dr. Masood Sadiq, Pro Vice Chancellor Professor Dr. Junaid Rasheed, Professor Dr. Nabila Talhat and Dr. Nasir

term.

Hidayat Ullah elected as President **HCBA Dera** DERA ISMAIL KHAN

(APP): Hidayat Ullah Malana has won the slot Minister of President in High Court Bar Association (HCBA) Dera elections 2024-25.

According to unofficial results, Sardar Hashmat ur Rehman and rain related incident here on Sardar Qaizar Khan Sunday. Miankhel group won the HCBA elections-2024-25 Minister with huge margin and their presidential candidate Hidayat Ullah Malana won the slot for bereaved families. the fourth consecutive

PESHAWAR (APP): Chief for the speedy recovery of Khyber those injured in these Pakhtunkhwa Sardar Ali accidents. Amin Gandapur has

CM KP expresses grief

over loss of precious life

in rain-related incidents

The Chief Minister expressed his heartfelt has also announced grief and sorrow over the financial assistance to the death of five people in a affected families and directed the concerned authorities to take In a message, the Chief necessary action in this Khyber regard. Timely relief Pakhtunkhwa expressed should be ensured to the his heartfelt sympathy and affected families, Sardar Ali condolences to the Amin Gandapur said.

He said, best medical The Chief Minister care should be provided to expressed his best wishes the injured.

of

work

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhawa Governor Haji Guhulam Ali meeting with people and shopkeepers during his visit to interior city Peshawar.

PTI-led KP govt not to compromise merit and rule of law. Zahid

Independent Report PESHÂWAR: Zahid Chanzeb, Adviser to Chief Khyber Minister Pakhtunkhwa on Tourism and Culture, paid a surprise visit to Police Lines Mansehra in his personal car without protocol wherein he went processes round the camp of youth coming for the ongoing new recruitments in the police improve force under management of Education and Testing Evaluation Agency (ETEA). He on the spot witnessed the physical test procedure and examined various stages of the new police recruitment.

The CM's Advisor instead after keeping himself abreast with the process of transparency is ensured at physical examination at the every cost in the recruitment camp and getting feedback from the testing organizers. contacted the District Police Officer (DPO) Mansehra and pointed out KP police.

some flaws relating to the police joining test, recruitment and security arrangements.

He asked DPO to visit the camp for his personal supervision. He announced as the committee of experts constituted by the literary emphasized on the need to remove the bottlenecks to make all recruitment organization declared the best books of Urdu, Pashto more transparent and further and Hindko published in the year 2022. The four security the arrangements there. He publications awarded included "Ghazlaan underlined the need to ensure that the test is Nazmaan Terey Naam", a based purely on merit as book of poetry by Ahmad Nadeem Awan; " Dukh he said the present KP govt will ever never compromise Chhupawaan Kisraan", a the rule of law and merit poetic collection by so that the talent of our Muhammad Nawaz Sabir; educated and talented Chunni Naal Bandhi youth is not wasted and Kahaniyaan", short stories by woman writer Gul Arbab and "Matti Naal merit and Matti " a novel by Nazeer Bhatti. It is worth mentioning here that the and appointment process including the physical test Abaseen Arts Council for the Jawans joining the awarded four Hindko

language books awarded PESHAWAR (Online): Four Hindko language books published by the Gandhara Hindko

Four Hindko

Academy, Peshawar, have been awarded by the Pakistan Writers Guild Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The decision was

PESHAWAR (Online): The Pakistan Institute of **Development Economics** (PIDE) hosted a public lecture on "Sustainable Fiscal International Experience and Applications for Pakistan," featuring Arturo Herrera Gutierrez, Global Director for Governance at the World Bank, as the keynote speaker. At the core of his presentation, Arturo Herrera Gutierrez Ĥerrera

emphasized the urgent need for sustainable fiscal reforms in Pakistan. Drawing international experiences, he highlighted the criticality of establishing a stable and sustainable debt path as a cornerstone for Pakistan's economic future, language books published.

said in a press release here on Sunday. ensuring fiscal sustainability requires a

"Pakistan stands at a crucial juncture where it can either pave the path for Reforms: sustained economic growth or fall into the recurring traps of debt distress, remarked Gutierrez. In parallel, he discussed the historical context of economic challenges faced by countries like Mexico during the 1980s and how these experiences shape

fiscal strategies today. Moreover, Gutierrez outlined the necessity of strong macroeconomic from frameworks, robust debt management practices, and the establishment of

International News

institutional arrangements to ensure discipline in fiscal policy. US, Canada, Japan, and In contrast, the PIDE the crux of the issue more in expenditure. the more in expenditure.

PIDE hosts talks on "Sustainable Fiscal Reforms to-GDP ratios exceeding 75%. Japan, with a debt ratio of 252% of GDP and comprehensive long-term strategy, not just balancing a low interest rate of budgets annually. These 0.88%, contrasts sharply measures are critical for with Greece, which faces a higher interest rate of 3.55% despite a lower debt building credibility and securing access to financial markets. The World Banker ratio of 168%. emphasized the need to This indicates that the debt-to-GDP ratio is significant, but the maintain consistency over time to avoid the economic

problems of the past. sustainability of fiscal He brought to the finances also sends a attention the resurgence of critical signal to the market, impacting interest rates. debt distress globally, particularly post-COVID-During the lecture, 19, necessitating a re-evaluation of fiscal Gutierrez imparted critical insights on sustainable sustainability approaches. fiscal policies across the

His presentation mentioned countries with globe, focusing specifically on how these strategies can be adapted to Pakistan's gross public debt issues; notably, countries like the economic context.

perspective, asserting that Pakistan's economic woes transcend simple accounting measures.

They advocate for comprehensive healing rather than superficial fixes. Placing growth at the center of its reform agenda, PIDE emphasizes prioritizing economic expansion over mere revenue accumulation.

They advocate for allowing the economy to flourish before imposing additional taxes, suggesting a re-regulation to facilitate transactions and stimulate economic activity. ultimately leading to improved revenue generation by default. PIDE also emphasized that the crux of the issue lies

Biden takes Trump to task at White House correspondents' dinner as Gaza protesters rally outside

Monitoring Desk WASHINGTON: U US President Joe Biden poked fun at himself but took sharp aim at his election ri-val Donald Trump on Saturday at the annual White House Correspondents' constant, constant Association dinner, as protesters outside demonstrated against Israel's mili-

tary offensive in Gaza. A long list of VIP guests, including journalists and celebrities from Chris Pine to Molly Ringwald, arrived in black-tie attire as more than 100 protesters confronted attendees in front of the Washington Hilton

hotel chanting "shame on you" and other slogans.

Amid some self-mock-

the 81-year-old president Inside, the topic of took sharp-elbowed jabs at his 77-year-old presump-Gaza was far from the lips of Biden and the evening's tive November election rival, quipping that "age is comedian, Colin Jost of "Satthe only thing we have in common. My vice president actually endorsed me." occasional stumble on the Airforce One stairs. "I would

ery and ribbing of the press.

Both Jost and Biden like to point out it's after 10:00pm, Sleepy Joe is still awake, while Donald Trump struck a more serious tone in addressing what many Americans feel is a politically fraught moment, with has spent the past week falling asleep in court every morning," Jost joked, refer-Biden telling attendees Trump's rhetoric was a ring to the former president's danger particularly after the appearances at his New York January 6, 2021 attack on the Capitol, and that "the stakes couldn't be higher." hush money trial last week.

Aid flotilla for Gaza blocked in Turkiye

Monitoring Desk STANBUL: A "Free-dom Flotilla" aimed at delivering aid to Gaza was blocked in Turkiye on Saturday after being denied use of two of its ships, which organisers blamed on Israeli pressure. A coalition of NGOs

and other associations said it was unable to set sail af-



A Palestinian child salvages objects from the debris of a house destroyed by overnight Israeli bombardment in Rafah area of southern Gaza Strip.

China confronts Japanese politicians in disputed East China Sea area

Monitoring Desk BEIJING: China's coast

guard confronted Japanese lawmakers in waters claimed by both countries in the East China Sea, China's embassy in Tokyo and Japanese media said on Sunday, the latest in a series of maritime disputes involving China and its neighbours.

Chinese vessels took unspecified law enforcement measures, the embassy said in a statement, adding that it had lodged solemn representations for what it called "infringement and provocation" by Japan near tiny, uninhabited is-lands that Beijing calls the Southeast Asia nations.

Diaoyu and Tokyo calls the Senkaku. The Japanese group including former Defense Minister Tomomi Inada, was on an inspection mission

organised by the city of Ishigaki in Okinawa prefecture, according to the Chinese embassy and Japanese public broadcaster NHK. Japan and China have

repeatedly faced off around the Japan-administered islands. China also has escalating run-ins with the Philippine navy in disputed areas of the South China Sea, where Beijing's expansive maritime claims conflict with those of a number of

base explosion **Monitoring Desk** PHNOM PENH: Twenty Cambodian soldiers were killed in an ammunition explosion at an army base on Saturday. The blast at the

20 Cambodian soldiers

killed in ammunition

army base in Kampong Speu province, to the west of Phnom Penh, also wounded several soldiers, with the army saying that an entire truck of munitions had exploded.

Washington, US.

ter the West African country of Guinea-Bissau withto receive the news of the drew its flagged vessels. ammunition explosion inci-Thousands rally dent," Prime Minister Hun

in Australian capitals to demand gender violence justice

Monitoring Desk SYDNEY: Violence against women is an "epidemic" in Australia, Prime Minister Anthony Albanese said on Saturday, as thousands attended rallies in Sydney and other major Australian cities urging tougher laws on gendered violence.

The rallies were spurred by a wave of violence against women that the government says has seen a woman killed every four days this year. The rallies also followed a mass stabbing in Sydney this month that killed six people, including five women.

Ukraine worsens, troops fall back on Facebook, expressing his "deepest condolences" to the families of those killed. It was not immediately clear what had caused the explosion.

US President Joe Biden, US First Lady Jill Biden, host Colin Jost and Kelly

O'Donnell attend the White House Correspondents' Association Dinner in

Pictures on social media showed a destroyed building one-storey wreathed in smoke, with residents of a nearby village also sharing images online of broken windows. Other images showed

'Î am deeply shocked what appeared to be civilians, including a child in diapers with cuts and gashes Manet said in a statement being treated in hospital.

UK ship sets sail for Gaza to help in building of aid jetty to up to 150 truckloads Monitoring Desk

LONDON: A British ship to house hundreds of US once fully operational, according to US estimates. The aid will be pretroops building a jetty to

screened in Cyprus and deboost aid deliveries to Gaza has set sail from Cyprus, a livered directly to Gaza via the pier off the coast or via UK defence source said on Saturday. Royal Navy sup-Ashdod port, which Israel port ship Cardigan Bay will has said it will open to aid assist the international effort vessels "It is critical we estabto construct the temporary lish more routes for vital

floating pier, which is set to humanitarian aid to reach be completed early next month, the Pentagon said. the people of Gaza and the UK continues to take a lead-The pier will initially facilitate the delivery of 90 ing role in the delivery of support," Defence Secretruckloads of international tary Grant Shapps said. aid a day into Gaza, rising

KYIV: Fighting in eastern Ukraine has worsened and Kyiv's troops have fallen back to new positions in at least three places along the front, Ukraine's top general said on Sunday. Russian

troops have been steadily advancing in the east, with the focal point of fighting near the town of Chasiv Yar and northwest of Avdiivka, which Russian forces captured in February.

Kviv's top

general says

fighting in east

Monitoring Desk

Oleksandr Syrskyl said on Telegram that his troops had taken up new positions west of the villages of Berdychi and Semenivka, both north of Avdiivka.

Thai foreign minister resigns after losing deputy PM post

Monitoring Desk BANGKOK: Thai Foreign Minister Parnpree Bahiddha-Nukara has resigned, the government said on Sunday, after losing the position of deputy prime minister in a cabinet reshuffle. Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin has received Parnpree's resignation letter, government spokesperson Cha Wacharonke told Reuters. Chai

Russian missiles pound power plants in Ukraine **Monitoring Desk** put out fires at several en-

KYIV: Russian missiles ergy facilities in the westpounded power facilities in ern regions of Lviv and Ivano-Frankivsk, which central and western Ukraine on Saturday, in-creasing pressure on the border Nato members Poland and Romania. ailing energy system as the country faces a shortage of ergy facilities in the central air defences despite a breakthrough in US mili-Dnipropetrovsk region, running water supplies were disrupted in President tary aid

The airstrike, carried out with ballistic missiles and cruise missiles fired by Russian strategic bombers based in the Arctic Circle, was the fourth large-scale aerial assault

targeting the power system since March 22. "The enemy again massively shelled Ukrainian energy facilities," said DTEK, Ukraine's largest private electricity company, adding that four of its

Abbas says only US can halt Israel's attack on Rafah, expected in days Western countries,

Monitoring Desk including Israel's closest RIYADH: Palestinian President Mahmoud ally the United States, Abbas said on Sunday have pleaded with it to hold back from attacking only the United States the southern city, which could stop Israel attacking the border city of abuts the Egyptian border Rafah in Gaza, adding that and is sheltering more than the assault, which he exa million Palestinians who fled Israel's seven-month pects within days, could force much of the Palestinian population to flee

crime," Abbas told a special meeting of the World Economic Forum in the Saudi capital Riyadh. Israel, which has

Palestinian people's his-tory would then happen." Abbas reiterated that he rejects the displacement of Palestinians into Jordan and Egypt and said he is concerned that once Israel up airstrikes on Rafah last completes its operations in Gaza.

week.

long assault on much of the rest of Gaza. the enclave. "We call on the the coming few days is United States of America what Israel will do with attacking Rafah because all the Palestinians from to ask Israel to not carry on the Rafah attack. America is the only coun-Gaza are gathered there, Abbas said, adding that only a "small strike" on try able to prevent Israel from committing this

Rafah would force the Palestinian population to flee the Gaza strip. "The big-gest catastrophe in the threatened for weeks to launch an all-out assault on the neighbourhood saying its goal is to destroy Hamas' remaining battalions there, stepped

incoming missiles, the commander of the air force said in a statement. None of the facilities hit was identified by name, a security measure intended to prevent Russia quickly assessing the impact of its strikes. Russia denies targeting civilians, but says the six thermal power plants ing civilians, but says the had suffered damage. Ukrainian energy system is Rescuers battled to a legitimate military target.

"What will happen in

After strikes on en-

Volodymyr Zelensky's

hometown of Kryvyi Rih,

brought down 21 of the 34

Ukrainian air defences

officials said.

Daily **Independent**, Hub

Monday April 29, 2024

PM, Saudi ministers discuss investment, business prospects in Pakistan

RIYADH (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday held separate meetings with Saudi Arabia's Minister for Investment Khalid Al-Falih. Minister for Finance Mohammad Al Jadaan and Minister for Industry Bandar bin Ibrahim Alkhourayef and discussed matters of mutual interest.

During the meetings, the Saudi minister for Investment declared the prime minister the "Prime Minister of Action" and said "We all are aware of your performance and speed of work.

He said the prime minister was taking forward the mission of progress of Pa-kistan and they all were ter and the Saudi finance with him. "Your mission is our mission," he remarked. Saudi minister for finance said that a delegation

of Saudi investors would soon visit Pakistan. Pakistan was priority for their investment and Saudi Arabia would continue to fully cooperate in the fields of agriculture, information

technology and energy. He said Pakistanis in the past, played a promi-nent role in the progress of 2030.

Saudi Arabia in different The prime minister fields. During the meeting also met the Saudi Minister for Industry. The Saudi minister for industry expressed keen interest for minister, it was agreed that Saudi Arabia would further explore opportunities of investment in Pakistan. The Saudi finance minister reaffirmed the support of Saudi Arabia in the economic progress of Pakistan said progress of Pakistan is progress of Saudi Arabia". He said Saudi Arabia took difficult decisions for reforms at the government

stan.

collaboration with Pakistan in the fields of agriculture, mining, information technology and other areas and informed about the progress made in this regard. The Saudi minister said he was in contact with the Saudi private companies regarding investment in Pakistan and the representatives of these companies would soon visit Paki-



recognition of Palestinians' right to self-determination

Pakistan's Ambassador to the United States, Masood Khan has underlined the urgent need for a ceasefire in Palestine, calling for immediate humanitarian assistance and the recognition of Palestinians' right to self-

He expressed these remarks while addressing the Spring meeting of the Association of Physicians of Pakistani Descent of North America (APPNA) in the U.S. state of Illinois.

In a passionate speech to over 570 attendees, Ambassador Masood Khan underscored the invaluable contributions of the Pakistani diaspora, particularly physicians, in the United States. He commended the Chair Sajid Mehmood for the opportunity to address the esteemed gathering. The Ambassador outlined the burgeoning bilat-Pakistan and the United

(CDC) branch in Pakistan

Emphasizing the sub-

local cricket players of Kalat

belonging to a local cricket club of Kalat were brought to Quetta for treatment.

the Trauma Center and provided medical treatment. One of them was discharged after providing nec-

essary medical treatment However, three were still Center

injured players.

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (PEMRA) has formally appealed to Justice Babar Sattar of the Islamabad audio leak case. cals, and IT. He highlighted Pakistan's burgeoning IT industry, boasting 192 million mobile phone users and

High Court (IHC) to step aside from overseeing the PEMRA – a key party in the audio leak case

- has filed a supplementary application before the IHC ahead of its forthcoming hearing scheduled for Monday, around the contention that Justice Sattar should recuse himself from the case due to a previous IHC bench having already addressed a similar matter.

The application underscores the importance of continuity, advocating that the bench previously involved in a related matter over petitions filed by

from audio leak case Najam Saqib, the son of former Chief Justice Saqib Nisar, and Bushra Bibi, the spouse of former Prime

> Minister Imran Khan. Saqib's petition chal lenges a parliamentary committee's inquiry into an alleged audio recording wherein he purportedly sought a bribe for a ticket of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI). On the other hand, Bushra Bibi contests an inquiry initiated by the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) regarding

tion During previous hear-ings, Justice Sattar had di-rected the intelligence agencies and the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) to trace the origin of the leaked audio. Additionshould continue to handle ally, PEMRA was inthe ongoing petitions. Jus- structed not to broadcast tice Sattar was presiding unauthorised or leaked conversations of individuals

her purported conversa-



RIYADH: Managing Director of International Monetary Fund calls on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on the sidelines of a special meeting of the World Economic Forum.

WASHINGTON (APP): dedication to both medical stantial investments made by Pakistani-American excellence and community service, which has illumidoctors in various sectors of healthcare, Masood nated the positive essence of Pakistan and its people. Khan urged for expanded in-The Ambassador exvestment in Pakistan, citing promising prospects in pressed gratitude to President Asif Mohiuddin and telemedicine, pharmaceuti-

determination

APPNA for its relentless

eral cooperation between States in healthcare. He disclosed pivotal decisions made during recent highlevel health dialogues, including the proposal to establish a Center for Disease

Control and Prevention for enhanced disease surveillance

Zia visits Trauma center; inquires about health of injured

Independent Report They were admitted in

crisis nation, he added.





LAHORE: Federal Minster for Law and Justice Senator Azam Nazeer Tarar addressing at 37th Convocation of Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU).

Foolproof security arrangements made: Seven-day special anti-polio campaign commences in 30 districts of Balochistan today

EOC Coordinator says over 2.395 million children below five years of age to be administered anti-polio drops; around 10,000 teams formed

For the purpose,

paign

Independent Report

QUETTA: The seven-day anti-polio campaign is scheduled to be commenced in 30 districts of Balochistan province today (Monday).

According to the Co-ordinator of Emergency Operation Center (EOC) for Polio Eradication Balochistan, Syed Zahid Shah, all the necessary arrangements have been made for immunization of the children in the targeted districts of the province.

The EOC Coordinator informed that more than 2.395 million children below five years of age would vaccine during the cam- province.

been formed for vaccinating children against polio virus in the province. These are included 8,000 mobile teams besides 837 fixed sites and 541 transit points. The districts which are not included in the campaign are: Awaran, Washuk,

Kohlu, Musakhail and Surab. Except these districts, the campaign is being launched in other 30 districts of the province.

said that foolproof security arrangements have been made for the upcoming imbe administered anti-polio munization campaign in the

around 10,000 teams have reported from Balochistan this year after gap of three years. The cases were reported from Dera Bugti and Chaman According to EOC Coordinator, the anti-polio campaign is being launched

in view of the recent cases reported in the province. and anti-polio workers.

The EOC coordinator

campaign successful. All minorities across Pakistan **Bilawal**, Aseefa celebrating their festivals with celebrate

birthday of

Faryal Talpur

KARAČHI (APP): Chair-

It may be mentioned

here two polio cases were



lio virus from the province the Trauma Center located with support of the parents adjacent to the Sandeman Provincial Headquarter He urged the parents. Hospital here on Sunday civil society and other segments of the society to ex-During the visit, the tend wholehearted coopera-Minister for Home inquired tion to make the anti-polio

cricketers injured in wall collapse in Kalat on Saturday. It may be mentioned here that four cricketers

135 million broadband subscribers, which has posi tioned the country as a cost-effective destination for IT investments. Encouraging confidence in Pakistan as a favorable investment destination, Ambassador Khan reiterated the enduring bond between the Pakistani diaspora and the United States, describing it as a resilient asset for both nations

PML-N committed to resolve economic

challenges: Rana

ISLAMABAD (APP)

PML-N leader Rana

Sanaullah on Sunday said

that the party's was com-

mitted to steer the country

out of economic challenges

and towards a brighter fu-

ture Speaking to a private news channel, he said that PML-N came into power in most critical situation and now it was trying to

drag out Pakistan from the PML-N had track record of delivering to the

Pak Zaireen

attend annual

Urs at Dargah

Hazrat Amir

Khusro

NEW DELHI (APP): The

Charge d'Affaires of Paki-

complete freedom: Ramesh

Independent Report LAHORE: Provincial Minister for Minority Affairs of Punjab Sardar Ramesh Singh Arora has said that the Constitution of Pakistan gives complete freedom to the followers of all religions living in the beloved country and in the eyes of the Constitution, every person is living in Pakistan without discrimination.

The beauty of Paki-stan is that the people living here are free to practice their beliefs and religious rituals as demonstrated recently by the festivals of Easter, Ramadan, Eid, Holi and Baisakhi. People of all and oppression from the religions share in each society



KARACHI: Peoples Party (PPP) Women Wing President, Faryal Talpur cutting her birthday cake along with Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, PPP Chairman and Aseefa Bhutto Zardari, First Lady held at **Bilawal House.**

Stern action being taken against encroachments established at drainage nullahs in Quetta: DC

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Deputy Commissioner Quetta, Lt. (Retd) Saad bin Asad has stated that stern action is being taken against the encroachments established on drainage nullahs located in different parts of Quetta city.

He said that the rain water is passing through the roads and streets besides affecting the houses just because of the encroachments established and occupations made on the nullahs in city.

The Deputy Commisnullahs sioner was supervising the crackdown against encroachments established in the drainage nullahs in Pashtoonabad here the maintained. other day

other's happiness and this is the message of the Prophets, Messengers and Saints man of Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto Zardari and Memsent by Allah who taught love, goodness, brotherhood, tolerance and also suffered for it.

ity Affairs Sardar Ramesh

Singh Arora said that Mr.

Isa Allahi salam and Imam

Hussain gave the message

of standing firm in the face

of oppression, which can be

called the end of injustice

The Deputy Commis-

During the crackdown,

sioner led the local admin-

istration and Metropolitan

Corporation's team against

several houses and shops

were demolished, which

the encroachments.

croachments there.

ber of National Assembly (MNA) Aseef Bhutto He expressed these Zardari celebrated the birthviews while addressing the day of PPP Central Presigathering of Christian comdent of Women Wing Faryal munity at Harvest Life Talpur at Zardari House on Church in Christian town Sunday Sialkot as chief guest. Pro-They cut the cake and vincial Minister for Minor-

wished best days to her ahead

KP police recover vehicle of abducted session judge

PESHAWAR (INP): Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) police succeeded in recovering the vehicle of the kidnapped session judge from Tank. Yesterday, a sessions court judge Shakin Ullah Marwat was kidnapped from the district Tank by unknown assailants while he was going to Dera Ismail Khan. According to media

reports, the First Informaion Report (FIR) of the judge's abduction was regstered by the Counter-Terrorism Department.

As per the channel report, a special committee vas also formed regarding the session judge abduction case in Tank in which officials from CTD, police and other law enforcement agencies are included

Imran grants permission for

Fawad Ch's return to PTI ISLAMABAD (INP) Former minister Fawad Chaudhry is expected to rejoin Pakistan Tehreek-e-

built on the drainage nullah. Insaf (PTI) as the party The drainage nullah founder Imran Khan has was closed due to the engranted permission for his return sources said on Sun-Speaking on the occaday. Well-placed sources in sion, Deputy Commisthe PTI confirmed that sioner said that the general former premier Imran Khan public is facing problems granted permission for due to encroachments es-Fawad Chaudhry's return to tablished on the drainage party. The PTI sources also

said a meeting between In view of the hardformer chairman of the party ships of people, the district Imran Khan and his former administration decided to cabinet member Fawad take action against the en-Chaudhry is also expected croachments on nullahs, he next week in the Adiala Jail.



QUETTA: Home Minister Mir Ziaullah Lango talking with senior journalists Banaras Khan and Noor Ellahi Bugti during a meeting

PUC, HOAP reinforce Saudi directive: **Private Hajj bookings** through registered companies only

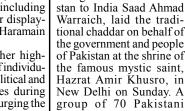
LAHORE (APP): Chair- refrain from engaging in man Pakistan Ulema Counpolitical, sectarian, or comcil (PUC) and Patron-inmunal activities, including Chief Hajj Organizers Asraising slogans or displaysociation of Pakistan ing images in the Haramain Hafiz Sharifain. Tahir

Ashrafi further hightake action against them.

to be issued next week.

against fraudulent practices by unregistered companies on social media and fake websites, advising the public to book only through officially registered quota holders or tour operators.

Additionally, he announced that, in accordance with the instructions of Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Muhammad bin Salman and with the efforts of Saudi Ambassador.



New Delhi on Sunday. A group of 70 Pakistani Zaireen visiting India to participate in the 720 Urs celebrations of Hazrat Amir Khusro were also present

on the occasion. The Charge d' Affaires and the Pakistani Zaireen were welcomed at the Dargah by Sajjadah Nasheen Dewan Tahir Nizami. After laying

the traditional chaddar at the shrine, the participant offered dua and prayed for Pakistan's progress and prosperity. The Charge d'Affaires and Zaireen also paid obeisance at the Dargah of Hazrat Nizamuddin

Aulia (RA), located in the same compound. The Sajjadah Nasheen also performed the dastaarbandi (traditional turban) of the Charge d' Affaires and group leader of the Zaireen



work and services in BEIJING: A group photo of Ambassador of Pakistan to China H.E. Mr. Khalil Balochistan, said a press Hashmi with panelists at "Pakistan Professionals and Students Forum release. "hosted by Pakistan Embassy.

LAHORE (APP): Federal Nazeer Tarar said on Sunday that Islam underlines the importance of education and cleanliness and no nation could excel without acquiring education.

Addressing a convocation of Allama Iqbal Open University held at Idara-i-Nazaria-i-Pakistan here,

he said he was honoured to attend the ceremony and congratulated the students for completing their degrees. He said, "The credit goes to teachers, parents and Allama Iqbal Open University for producing such talented students." Azam Nazeer Tarar said being Pakistani it was a matter of pride for all of us that Allama Iqbal Open University had been established in 1974 as a first distance learning university in the region.

"Education is a per-Minister for Law Azam sonality building instrument and it also refines a person. An educated person or an educated mother contributes a lot to society besides helping rise standards," he added. Azam said that country was full of potential and Pakistanis were proving their mettle in various fields all over the world. "It is a high time to make collective efforts to steer the country out of existing challenges," he maintained.

The federal minister said that good teachers, skillful staff and best policies were required for making a prestigious university. "Education and health are among top priorities of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif. When he served as Punjab Chief Minister in past, he had focused on school education, restructuring of universities.



PESHAWAR: Members of Islami Jamiat Tulba are holding protest rally against Israeli cruel and inhumane acts and express unity with the innocent people of Palestine, at GT road in Peshawar.

Nassem demands non-stop train from Quetta to Karachi

train on the route of Quetta

to Karachi, in a bid to fa-

cilitate the passenger and

cater the needs of the

the railway administration

should take necessary steps

to run a non-stop train from

Ouetta to Karachi on im-

mediate basis in order to

improve the railway's net-

He also asked for the

He emphasized that

people of Balochistan.

QUETTA (APP): Advisor restoration of Akbar Exto the Chief Minister on Enpress from Quetta division, vironment, Naseem ur so that the long-standing Rehman in meeting with DS demand of the people Railways demanded that would be met. the Pakistan Railways Naseem Ur Rahman should launch a non-stop

in a meeting with DS Railways Quetta further said that Pakistan Railways should give priority to Quetta Division for providing better travel facilities to the people. He stressed for the

restoration of train service in Balochistan and early completion of on-going projects of Pakistan Railway authority which would create better business opportunities for the local people in the province



Chaudhry Muhammad Adil, Khalid Mahmood Bhatti, Pir Shafat Ahmed Boudla, Shahid Manzoor, and Zeeshan Qamar, he informed that private Hajj bookings were still open, with Hajj operation set to

directive from Saudi Min-

conference along with other

HOAP representatives, in-

cluding Saeed Ahmed Malik,

Chaudhry Ehsanullah, Malik Abdul Khaliq,

Addressing a press

istry of Hajj and Umrah.

(HOAP)

Muhammad

commence on May 9, and training sessions starting from May 5. Ashrafi urged the pil-

grims to focus solely on their religious duties and

Mehmood Ashrafi on Sunlighted the issue of individuday emphasized the pilals engaging in political and grims regarding private Hajj sectarian activities during bookings through compatheir pilgrimage, urging the nies registered with the gov-Pakistani government to ernments of Pakistan and Saudi Arabia reinforcing the

Ashrafi also warned

He emphasized that training sessions for private pilgrims, organized by HOAP, would be conducted regularly in Lahore, Karachi, and Islamabad, with the code of conduct set