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President Zardari lauds army's exemplary role n safeguarding country's territorial integrity

COAS congratulates Zardari on becoming Commander in Chief of Armed Forces; Apprises President regarding army's operations against terrorism

Pakhtunkhwa.

the state.

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Syed Àsim Munir, NI (M) Wednesday called on President Asif Áli Zardari, at the Presidency and apprised him about the ongoing Army operations against terrorism highlighting the operational preparedness against conventional threats.

In the meeting, the COAS extended felicitations on his appointment as the President of Pakistan and Commander in Chief of Armed Forces and conveyed his sincere wishes for a successful tenure, a press release issued by the President House said.

The COAS also inti-

mated about the contribuagainst terrorism and reaffirmed the nation's resolve tions of the Army towards development initiatives, to respond with full force through all elements of naparticularly in the regions of Balochistan and Khyber tional power. He noted with grave

The president acconcern the baseless and knowledged the exemplary unsubstantiated allegations role of the Armed Forces of levelled by a specific po-Pakistan, affirming that the litical party and its few in-Army's contributions have dividuals against the instibeen instrumental in safe- tution and its leadership to guarding the sovereignty accrue narrow political inand territorial integrity of terests and resolved to deal with such disruptive ele-He commended the

ments with iron hand. Army's efforts towards The president paid social uplift of the affected homage to the martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the

areas, underscoring the unwavering commitment of nation, emphasizing that their blood will forever the Pakistan Army to national progress. The presisymbolize the resilience dent emphasised Pakistan's and strength of the Pakisteadfast commitment stani nation.



ISLAMABAD: Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Syed Asim Munir. NI (M), calls on President Asif Ali Zardari, át Aiwan-e-Šadr.

Judges letter suo motu notice:

Attack on judiciary's independence won't be tolerated: CJP Isa

Says SC is taking letter by IHC judges very seriously; Judges must be sure that they are not in danger; Supreme Court indicates for constitution of full court

ISLAMABAD (INP): Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa on Wednesday said that an 'attack of any kind" on the judiciary's independence would not be tolerated.

He made the remarks as the Supreme Court took up a suo motu case pertaining to allegations made by six Islamabad High Court (IHC) judges regarding interference by the country's security apparatus in the judicial affairs

A seven-member bench comprising Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa and justices Syed Mansoor Ali Shah, Yahya Afridi, Jamal Khan Mandokhail, Athar Minallah, Musarrat Hilali and Naeem Akhtar Afghan is presiding over the

hearing. The proceedings ters for a probe into the in are being live-streamed on vestigation, amid which the SC's website and its CJP Isa summoned a full YouTube channel. court meeting of the SC

Last week, it emerged judges that six Islamabad High Court (IHC) judges — out of a total strength of eight wrote a startling letter to the Supreme Judicial

Council (SJC) members, regarding attempts to pressure judges through the abduction and torture of their

A day later, calls

CM Balochistan pays rich tributes to Shaheed Zulfigar Ali Bhutto on 45th death anniversary

Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti says democratic, progressive and prosperous Pakistan was vision of Shaheed Bhutto

Independent Report QUETTA: The Chief Min-ister Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has paid rich tributes to the founder of Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto on his 45th death anniversary and the constitution of Pakistan and it's invincible defense is an outcome of his wavering vision

and leadership. In a statement issued here on Wednesday marking death anniversary of Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, the Chief Minister said that he (ZAB) laid foundation of real democracy in the parliamentary system based on

the right of franchise. Shaheed ZAB brought out the politics from drawing room to the public and

wanted to further

strengthen trade and busi-

ness ties with brotherly

country United Arab Emir-

the UAE Ambassador to

Pakistan Hamad Obaid

Ibrahim Salem Al-Zaabi

here, he said that there was

a need to create a common

During a meeting with

ates (UAE).

made all decisions of the country as per the aspira-

On Thursday, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif met CJP Isa, where the two decided to form an inquiry commission, which was later approved by the federal cabinet.

However, lawyers and civil society members - in a joint letter - had urged the top court to take "cognisance of the matter in its jurisdiction under Article 184(3) of the Constitution as this issue eminently relates to public interest and to the enforcement of fundamental rights" On Monday, ex-CJP

Continued on page 2

tions of masses, the Chief Minister said adding that he (ZAB) made struggle for the public service in real terms and thus changed the country's politics for ever. The founder of PPP

gave political consciousness to the Pakistani people, that's why party's routes were strengthened among them

The Chief Minister said that the leaders of party created revolution of public consciousness and national development and especially ZAB inspired the hearts and spirit of Pakistanis

Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti said that it has been the hallmark of ZAB's politics to seek guidance from the masses for rule of law and resolving the

Continued on page 2



Obaid Ibrahim Salem Al-Zaabi meeting with Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar.

Pakistan wants to further strengthen trade



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a meeting regarding the induction of technical advisors and consultants from the private sector into Public Sector.

relatives as well as secret surveillance inside their The letter was signed

homes judges Mohsin Akhtar Kayani, Tariq Mehmood Jahangiri, Babar Sattar, Sardar Ejaz Ishaq Khan, Arbab Muhammad Tahir and Saman Rafat Imtiaz.

emerged from various quar-

PM stresses upon new initiatives to attract top talent

ISLAMABAD (APP): Deputy Chairman Plan- cies are stable, and where Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday said that new initiatives to attract and retain top talent would be rolled out to secure Pakistan's success and stressed that Pakistan must build a world-class talent pool because this was an age where talent made all the difference to a nation's success.

chaired a meeting regarding the induction of technical advisors and consultants from the private sector into public sector, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

Federal Ministers Muhammad Aurangzeb, Dr. Musadiq Malik, Ahad Cheema, Attaullah Tarar, Sardar Awais Leghari,

Commission the system works", he ning Muhammad Jehanzeb, Minister of State Shaza Fatima and high-level offi-

on merit.

QUETTA: MPA, Farah Azeem addressing press

Issues of Balochistan are combined;

to be resolved while remaining on

one page, says Farah Azeem Shah

BAP's female MPA hopes dues of Balochistan

against federation on account of NFC Award to

be cleared soon; hopes quite good representation

of female MPAs in upcoming provincial cabinet

Quetta.

and bright.

stated that we would take

going to start different ac-

tivities in the province,

which included Eid Mela

Continued on page 2

She said that we are

all the parties along.

conference at Quetta Press Club.

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Member

Provincial Assembly, Ms.

Farah Azeem Shah has

stated that the issues of

Balochistan are joined, and

these would be resolved

when all of us would remain

press conference at the

Quetta press club on

Wednesday afternoon, the

MPA elected on women

special seat on ticket of

Balochistan Awami Party

(BAP), Ms. Farah Azeem

Shah said that the Chief

Minister Mir Sarfraz

Ahmed Bugti has already

While addressing a

on one page.

committee under the chairmanship of finance miniscials attended the meeting. The meeting dister to seek and firm up cussed ways to create a propositions in the policy more capable workforce to enhance and clarify the that could be able to dework pass framework curliver the government's rently in vogue in ministries to better support policy programme effectively, and also founded Pakistan's need for talent The prime minister on the principles of imwith the directions to subpartiality and recruitment mit its findings at the ear-

> liest. The prime minister The meeting noted a noted that the need to fodearth of technical input at cus on attracting and repolicy making levels and taining top talent was as emphasized its need which urgent and as important as was imperative if the civil their focus on investments service was to develop new in the country. "Busiskills, improve its managenesses want to invest in ment of big projects and adapt to the demands of a places where the talent is; where the politics and poli-

added.

He also appointed a

digital age. Terror bid foiled, two terrorists held with arms,

explosives KARACHI (INP): The Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) foiled a terror bid and arrested two terrorists with arms and explosive in the metropolis on Wednesday. The CTD Investiga-

tion Unit launched crackdown in Manghopir area of Karachi.

During operation, two terrorists Selman Shah and Mir Ali Shah were arrested besides recovery of weapons and explosives from their possession

The nabbed terrorists were planning to conduct a terrorist attack in the city ahead of Eidul Fitr and they thrax powder. were being investigated after registering a case

judges who received such posts on April 1 include against them.



PSDP 2023-2024 progress review meeting.

Wednesday.

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Power Sardar Awais Ahmed Khan Leghari presiding over a meeting regarding solarizing agricultural tubewells in Balochistan. CJP Isa, SC judges too get

threatening letters with suspicious powder'

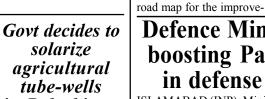
LHC judges also received such letters: DIG Operations.; CTD officer says threatening letters sent from GPO Rawalpindi

ISLAMABAD (Agencies): CJP Isa, Justice Athar After Islamabad High Court Minallah, Justice Jamal (IHC) jurists, letters con-Khan Mandokhail, and Justaining suspicious powdery tice Aminuddin Khan, substance and threatening sources told a private tv messages have been posted channel. The letters have to the Supreme Court (SC) been handed over to the judges, including Chief Jus-Counter-Terrorism Departtice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi ment (CTD).

Faez Isa, Deputy Inspec-Additionally, a letter was also received by the top tor General (DIG) Operations confirmed before court's senior most Justice IHC's top judge on Mansoor Ali Shah which was posted by a woman "Four Supreme Court namely Gul Shad, the judges have also received sources added.

such letters," DIG Opera-During the hearing, the tion apprised the IHC Chief DIG Operations told the Justice Aamer Farooq who high court that all envelopes was conducting the hearing containing letters and powof cipher case today. The dery substance have been police officer was sumsent for analysis to the lab. moned to the rostrum by Moreover, the police dethe IHC's top jurist during partment also wrote to the the hearing and questioned post master general to quesabout the Tuesday'S event tion why they cannot read of letters to the judges which a stamp properly, he added. suspectedly contain an-The police officer also

confirmed that the Lahore It emerged that the High Court (LHC) judges have also received such leters today



in Balochistan ISLAMABAD (Online): In Balochistan, agricultural tube-wells will be converted to solar energy to save power.

This was decided at a meeting chaired by Minister for Power Sardar Awais Ahmed Khan Leghari in Islamabad.

He directed officials from the Quetta Electric Supply Company to provide detailed information regarding feeders dedicated to agricultural tube wells.

Govt announces four public holidays for **Eidul Fitr**

ISLAMABAD (INP): The federal government on Wednesday announced a four-day holiday for the occasion of Eidul Fitr.

According to a statement released by the Cabinet Division, the holidays have been scheduled from Wednesday, April 10, to Saturday, April 13, providing a four-day long break for citizens to celebrate the holy festi

sustained injuries in the colval Eidul Fitr is a siglision between a car and a nificant festival in passenger coach. the Islamic calendar, celebrated at the end sources, a Pishin-bound car of the Holy month of from Karachi carrying a family was on its way when Ramazan.

ties with UAE: Tarar ISLAMABAD (APP):

ment of the economy. During the meeting dis-Federal Minister of Inforcussion was held on issues mation and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar said on of mutual interest including bilateral relations, promo-Wednesday that under the tion of cooperation in varivision of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Pakistan ous sectors

The minister said that Pakistan and the UAE enjoyed strong ties based on common heritage and multilateral cooperation.

People of Pakistan consider UAE as their second home, the minister said adding the first flight of Emirates Airline was flown

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Defence Minister calls for boosting Pak-Italy coop. in defense production

ISLAMABAD (INP): Minister for Defence and Defence Production Khawaja Muhammad Asif has emphasized the need to explore areas of cooperation with Italy in the field of joint defence production.



Talking to Ambassador of Italy, Marilina Armell in Islamabad today, he said Pakistan attaches great importance to its relations with the Republic of Italy and wants to further enhance defence collaboration.

Defence Minister said the exchange of military training can be mutually beneficial and Italian Armed Forces have valuable military exposure while Pakistan Armed Forces have rich experience in counter terrorism opera-

During the meeting latest security situation along the Pak-Afghan Border and Pakistan's commitment to peace and stability in the region also came under discussion.

Two children among four died in Kalat car-coach collision

QUETTA (APP): A tragic it hit a Karach-bound pasaccident occurred on Wednesday on the National Highway near Panja area of Kalat district, resulting in the deaths of at least two children and two others. Four individuals also

Highway near Panja Kalat. As a result, four people including two brothers died on the spot while four oth-

The bodies and the injured were shifted to a According to Levies nearby hospital where the injured victims' treatment was started. Levies force registered a case

senger coach from Quetta that was coming opposite direction on the National

ers received injuries.

Daily Aoice of Masse Independent Quetta

Thursday April 04, 2024

Miscellaneous

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RUDA, CBD starts Sino-Pak collaboration for sustainable development

BEIJING (INP): Ravi Urban Development Authority (RUDA) and the Punjab Central Business District Au-CEO Yasir Malik, Pakistan China Commerce Alliance thority (PCBDA) have started Sino-Pak collaboration for sustainable development.

Hosted here at the headquarters of China Machinery Engineering Corporation (CMEC) on Tuesday high-level and upscale hotels within RUDA's jurisdiction. discussions unfolded between key stakeholders, including representatives from the RUDA and PCBDA.

According to Gwadar Pro, the meetings covered a wide range of topics including past ventures, project updates, financial concerns, and collaborative agreements.

A mutual commitment was made to enhance collaboration through the exchange of detailed project information, paving the way for long-term partnerships and sustainable development initiatives. Representatives from RUDA and PCBDA engaged with Oriental Youhong, a leading Chinese corporation renowned for its expertise in solar panel manufacturing and construction solutions.

Discussions centered on project synergy and collaboration prospects, aiming to utilize Oriental Youhong's capabilities to bolster infrastructure projects in Pakistan. Further strengthening the collaboration, a productive Pakistani delegates.

President Guo XiaoQi, Director BD IR Fatima Ali Khan, and Assistant Director PR Sana Iqbal explored avenues for setting up an Electric Vehicle (EV) charging factory

Key highlights from the discussions included plans for establishing an EV assembly and manufacturing plant in RUDA's Industrial State, with a planned land requirement of 40 acres.

Additionally, proposals for 5-star hotels, with a proposed land requirement ranging from 5 to 7 acres were iscussed. Keen interest has been shown, indicating tangible progress towards materializing these endeavors, with further exploration and detailed discussions on technology transfer agreements and land acquisition slated for the next meetings.

Furthermore, a team of technical experts also visited the Zoomlines heavy industry complex where different types of machinery including cranes, smog busters, sprinkler vehicles, and municipal sweepers were shown to



Federal Minister for Power, Sardar Awais Ahmad Khan Leghari holds a meeting on hill torrents and Murunj Dam in Islamabad.



ULAANBAATAR: Ambassador of Pakistan to China H.E. Khalil Hashmi presented his credentials as Pakistan's non-resident Ambassador to Mongolia to H.E. President Ukhnaagiin Khürelsükh, Ambassador Khalil Hashmi conveyed greetings & good wishes of Pakistan's leadership; affirmed commitment to further strengthen Pakistan - Mongolia ties.

CM reviews implementation of solid waste management system across Punjab

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif, chairing a meeting here on Wednesday, reviewed the implementation of solid waste management system in the province.

The meeting was briefed about the proposed contract to outsource solid waste management in all 36 districts of Punjab. The CM was briefed

that 23 landfill sites and 66 transfer stations would be constructed at all divisional headquarters of the province. Organic, inorganic, iron and plastic waste

issues faced by their probcleaning orders should be lems. strictly implemented, negligence would not be of ZAB was moved fortolerated. ward by his daughter Shaheed Rani Benazir

First ever in the history of Pakistan, a mega project Bhutto. And then after her of solid waste management martyrdom, Bilawal Bhutto was ready, she mentioned. Zardari is determined to Guidelines should also be move forward the mission devised for analyzing the of his grandfather, Min performance of Water and Sarfraz Bugti added. Sanitation Agency (WASA) companies receiving finansaid that life and vision of

cial share and subsidy, she Shaheed Bhutto was an iminstructed. The CM directed the democratic, progressive provincial minister Zeeshan Rafique to imple-

transparency in the

outsourcing of solid waste

management in the prov-

and prosperous Pakistan. He stressed that we ment digital monitoring of should devote ourselves for this solid waste managehis vision as well as conment system to ensure cepts of democracy and

CM Balochistan

pays rich...

Continued from page 1

The political ideology

The Chief Minister

portant step towards the

Indian troops kill 13 including three women in Chhattisgarh dian control.

the heels of a recent opera-

tion where Indian paramili-

tary and police personnel

allegedly killed six Maoist

members in a fake encoun-

here that Dalits and tribes

It is worth mentioning

ter in Bijapur district.

states.

RAIPUR (INP): Indian troops have killed thirteen people, including three women, in the violence-hit state of Chhattisgarh.

A joint operation involving the Indian paramilitary Central Reserve Police Force, along with forces from the Commando Battalion for Resolute Action (CoBRA), District Reserve Guard, and Special Task Force, resulted in the deaths during an eight-hour-long violent operation in a forest near Lenda village of Bijapur district.

ÎG Bastar Range, P Sundarraj, confirmed to media that among the thir-teen casualties, three were women.

Indian officials claimed that those killed were members of the Naxal or Maoist guerrillas, who are demanding independence from In- media.

Sri Lanka sweep **Bangladesh Test series** with crushing win

Sports Desk scoring a hundred in both C H I T T A G O N G (Bangladesh); Lahiru Kumara finished with 4-50

innings of the first Test. The bowlers did their basics on this wicket and to help Sri Lanka thump the batters did their job as Bangladesh by 192 runs in well," Sri Lankan captain the second Test and sweep Dhananjaya de Silva said. "The batters were a bit

the two-match series 2-0 on disappointed about not get-The fast bowler disting runs in the first Test, missed last man Khaled but we have experienced Ahmed to wrap up a oneplayers. I was confident sided contest before lunch they would get runs," he on the fifth day in added.

"There wasn't a lot of

Pervez Ashraf pays tribute to ZAB on death anniversary This incident comes on

LAHORE (APP): Former speaker of National Assembly and president of Pakistan People's Party Central Punjab Raja Pervez Ashraf has said Pakistan's parliament and democracy are a result of consensus constitution, crafted by the PPP

In his message on the 45th death anniversary of ZAB, issued on Wednesday, he emphasised that Bhutto ensured equal rights for oppressed and marginalised classes under the constitution of Pakistan. Raja Pervez further noted that Quaid-e-Awam Bhutto granted students and working class the right to unionise, and laid the foundation of the atomic programme to secure the country's geographi-

He added that justice had been served to ZAB after 44 years, as the courts declared that justice was not served at that time. Party workers will pay homage to Bhutto on April 14 at the Garhi Khuda Bakhsh gather-



Conway, Lockie Ferguson,

Similarly, Will Young is

Southee, has been rested

following a busy playing

upon the mission on April

12 and will face Pakistan in

Rawalpindi and two in

The Kiwis embark

matches

Michael Bracewell

leading

1n

Sports Desk LAHORE: New Zealand on Wednesday announced a depleted squad for a fivematch T20 series against Pakistan.

Matt Henry, Daryl Mitchell, Glenn Phillips, Rachin Ravindra, Mitch Santner and Kane Williamson who are play-As nine senior players are busy playing the Indian ing the IPL.

Premier League (IPL) and busy with a winter contract county cricket, Michael Bracewell has been apwith Nottinghamshire pointed to lead the Kiwis County Cricket Club, while in the series scheduled to Tom Latham who is awaiting the birth of his second begin on April 18. child. Colin Munro was

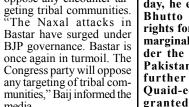
The Pakistan series will be debut for all-rounder also unavailable for selec-Bracewell as captain. He tion. has been out of international cricket since March wickettaker in T20, Tim last year with a ruptured Achilles and then with a broken finger. He has made schedule across formats. a spectacular return to cricket, claiming his best first-class figures with the ball in his first match back three in the Plunket Shield. Tim Robinson and Will

Lahore from April 18. THE SQUAD O'Rourke have been selected in the squad for the first time. O'Rourke has (captain), Finn Allen, Mark impressed on debut with the Test side against South Africa in February, while Robinson was picked after piling runs for Wellington in the domestic Super Smash competition.

Chapman, Josh Clarkson, Jacob Duffy, Dean Foxcroft, Ben Lister, Cole McConchie, Adam Milne, Jimmy Neesham, Will O'Rourke, Tim Robinson, Ben Sears, Tim Seifert, Ish

The

The team misses top



oppose any encounter tar-

cal borders.

ing.



are demanding independence from Indian authority in these regions, notafounder, the late Zulfikar Ali Bhutto bly in the northeast Indian Meanwhile, (ZAB). Chhattisgarh Congress president Deepak Baij stated that the party will

would be sorted out at the transfer stations after completing door to door collection of the waste.

The chief minister said ince, saying that solid waste management vethat garbage should not be hicles should also be kept seen in the streets and markets, adding that clean.

Attack on judiciary's independence...

Continued from page 1

Tassaduq Hussain Jillani tasked to head the one-man inquiry commission - recused himself from the role, urging Justice Isa to "resolve the issues raised in the letter at the institutional level". At the same time, the top court took suo motu notice of the matter and constituted a seven-member bench to hear the case.

A day ago, Barrister Aitzaz Ahsan and the Lahore High Court Bar Associa-tion (LHCBA) filed separate but similar petitions to join the suo motu proceedings.

The hearing During today's hearing, Attorney General for Pakistan Mansoor Usman Awan appeared before the SC along with Hamid Khan, who was present as ex-premier Imran Khan's counsel. Ahmed Hussain appeared as Aitzaz's lawyer.

At the outset of the hearing, Hamid informed the court that he had requested to be made a respondent in the case. At this, CJP Isa remarked, "Gone are the days when it was the chief justice's will. We have constituted a committee to fix cases [for hear-

ing]." He noted that the court had not received Hamid's petition, adding that the committee would decide on the matter once the plea was received.

The CJP further said it was "inappropriate" that petitions were reported in the media before they were even filed.

pressure being exerted, is this also exerting pressure on us in a way?" he wondered, adding that he never gave in to anyone's pressure.

The top judge also expressed his displeasure at lawyers calling for a suo motu notice: "The lawyers are saying to take a suo motu [notice]; then they should leave their practice.3

Hamid could not be considered a "representative of lawyers" as the president of a bar association was already present for that role. AGP Awan then read

out the press release issued by the top court after the meeting between the CJP and PM Shehbaz on March 28

Justice Isa recalled that he met the IHC judges the day he received their letter. "If we had not given importance to this matter, then could this meeting not be held after Ramazan?" he asked.

At one point during the hearing, the CJP said, "If there is any kind of attack on the judiciary's independence, I would be at the frontline [in defending judiciary] and for sure, my fellow judges would be standing with me in this. And we never accept inter-

"If someone has another agenda to do so and so, then they may become the Supreme Court Bar president or the chief justice and enact his will. We will not tolerate pressure of this kind," he added.

"When we talk about

Justice Isa said that

ference.

Hosts Bangladesh, social justice. chasing a mammoth 511 in He said that today we their second innings, added just 50 after resuming on need to remember message

Wednesday.

Chittagong.

With a Sri Lankan tri-

of Shaheed ZAB and his 268-7 affection for the Pakistani people. staged a lone fight to stay In addition to this, we unbeaten on 81 after comalso need to adopt the prinpleting his sixth Test halfciples of ZAB politically, century

democratically and socially, adding he stressed. **Issues of Balochistan**

tive strokes to bring up his fifty off 68 balls. are combined.... Continued from page 1 ner Taijul Islam for 14 She said that we would when the batsman drove keep our youngsters busy

through different healthy and constructive activities. A three-day literary festival would also be organized in Quetta, Ms. Farah Azeem Shah maintained.

Referring the arrears of Balochistan against federation under National Finance Commission (NFC) Award, Ms. Farah Azeem Shah hoped that these dues

would be cleared soon. About the formation of Balochistan cabinet and representation of women in

it, Ms. Shah hoped that there would be good representation of women in the upcoming cabinet. She said that 11 female

members of provincial assembly would play their due role in the assembly. About the financial cri-

sis facing the province's public sector universities especially University of Balochistan (UoB), Ms. Farah Shah said that the UoB is an asset of the province and it's financial crisis would be resolved early.



countries.

stan.

spin on offer. So I thought about reverse swing as a way to get wickets. The pacers were really on the spot Mehidy Hasan Miraz

Sri Lankan pacers accounted for 33 of the 40 Bangladesh wickets to fall, a rare feat on Bangladesh's generally spin-friendly pitches.

Bangladesh captain umph all but inevitable when the day began, Najmul Hossain Shanto Mehidy played some posisaid the home side's poor showing for the red-ball series would provoke some He lost overnight part-

off-spinner Kamindu Mendis to Nishan Madushka at gully. something to think about," he said.

3-32 to go with his unbeaten 92 with the bat in the first innings, earning him the cricket.

He was also named player of the series after runs.

Pakistan wants to further

Obaid Ibrah by a pilot of PIA, which Zaabi said th the vision of of both cour believed in

Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan had very close re-The UA lationship with the leaderhelped Pakis ship and people of Pakitimes, stand economic de The minister briefed

the UAE ambassador about The the economic initiatives of strongly con the present government. cent terror He said that tax reforms

were being brought in Federal Bureau of Revenue a d efforts were being done for

soul-searching. "If you look at our batting, everyone got set but didn't get a big score. That's

Kamindu finished with "If you get set, you have to make a score. We have to play more first-class

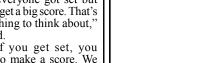
man of the match award. first Test in Sylhet by 328

Ambas Continued from page 1

was a great example of cooperation between the two He said that late Sheikh velopment o tions.

remarked.

formation of the country



Sri Lanka won the

sador Hamad him Salem Al- hat according to f the leadership ntries, the UAE the further de-	S. No.	Date auctio		
	1	17.04.2 & 18.04.2		
of bilateral rela- AE has always	2	23.4.20 & 24.04.2		
istan in difficult ls by Pakistan's evelopment, he	3	27.4.20		
ambassador	4	27.4.20		
ndemned the re- ist incident in	5	29.04.2 &		



Bisham.

the development and trans-



Former Deputy Speaker Balochistan Assembly Sardar Babar Khan Musakhail meeting with Principal Secretary to Chief Minister Balochistan Imran Zarkoon



OPEN AUCTION OF ALL KIND OF LEASES LIKE SHOPS, CATTLE FORM ETC. OVER PAKISTAN RAILWAYS, QUETTA DIVISION.

Pakistan Railways intends to open auction shops, cattle form etc.

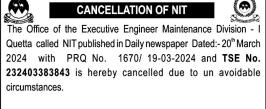
1. The detail of land lease auction is as under:

S. No.	Date of auction	Purposes.	Location	Period.	Participation fee	Bid Security money.	Venue of auction
1	17.04.2024 & 18.04.2024	Old shops	216 Nos Shops at Hurnai	5+5 Years	Rs. 10000/	Rs. 70000/	Railway station Hurnai
2	23.4.2024 & 24.04.2024	Old Shops	53 Nos (Different Sizes) Joint road, Station road Quetta	5+5 Years	Rs. 10000/	Rs. 150000/-	DS office, Quetta.
3	27.4.2024	Old Shops	10 Nos Masjid Shops Joint road Quetta	5+5 years	Rs. 10000/	Rs. 150000/-	-do-
4	27.4.2024	New Shops	03 Nos Joint road, Quetta	5+5 years	Rs. 10000/	Rs. 150000/-	-do-
5	29.04.2024 & 30.04.2024	New Shops	15 Nos near Railway Station Mach.	5+5 Years	Rs. 10000/-	Rs. 70000/-	Railway station Mach
6	14.05.2024 & 15.05.2024	New shops	17 Nos. near Railway Hospital Sibi	5+5 Years	Rs. 10000/-	Rs. 100000/	Railway station Sibi
7	18.05.2024	New Shops	06 near Chakkar Khan road, Sibi.	5+5 Years	Rs. 10000/-	Rs. 100000/	Railway station Sibi
8	21.05.2024	Cattle form	Dalbandin.	5+5 years	Rs. 10000/-	Rs. 70000/-	Railway station Dalbandin

1. Open auction will be conducted for above noted Railway land as per period mentioned as per prevailing policy.

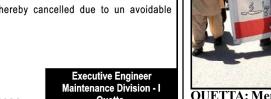
- 2. Bid security money in shape of Cash Deposit Receipt (CDR) from Scheduled Bank in the name of Divisional Accounts Officer. Pakistan Railways. Quetta will be deposited by the bidder/ participant for each bid for item. The bid security money will be returned/ refunded to un-successful bidders and will be adjusted in payable of successful bidder. In case successful bidder does not deposit the payables, the bid security shall be forfeited. No bidder would be allowed to participate in auction without CDR of bid security
- 3. The Railway Authority reserves the right to accept or reject the bidder bids without assigning any reasons
- 4. Auction forms can be obtained either from the Office of the Divisional Office, Pakistan Railways, Ouetta or from the office of concerned AENs.
- 5. Other terms & conditions will be mentioned in auction forms.

(Mehtab Ahmed) PID(Q)285/23 DEN-I For Divisional Superintendent PAK Railways, Quetta



PRQ No.1796/3-4-2024 Quetta.

🗇 dpr.gob 🗗 @dgp



QUETTA: Members of Balochistan Labour Federation are holding protest rally for increment in annual budget for WASA, at Edhi Chowk in Quetta.

Daily Aoice of Masse Independent

Pakistan's economic improvement acknowledged by international institutions

ary 2023.

ISLAMABAD (APP): Leading international institutions, including the World Bank (WB) and Bloomberg, a reputed global financial news agency, have acknowledged the improvement in Pakistan's economy.

This improvement stands as a testament to the prudent policies introduced by the coalition governments under Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

According to Bloomberg's report for the next fiscal year (2024-25), citing figures from the WB, Pakistan's economy is expected to witness a double increase compared to the economic growth of the current financial year, maintaining a gradual pace.

The GDP growth rates are picking up, and the economy is starting to show

growth," it added. Analyzing the World Bank report, Bloomberg said that inflation in Pakistan is likely to fall by 11 percent in the next fiscal tions.

Additionally, the In- ported that Pakistan would ternational Monetary Fund require \$24 billion in exter-(IMF)'s new bailout nal financial assistance durprogramme is expected to ing the fiscal year starting further accelerate and stafrom July 2024.

bilize economic growth. According to the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics Sharif, during his last 16-(PBS), the Consumer Price month government, made Index (CPI)-based inflation difficult decisions to save the country from economic decreased to 20.7 percent in March 2023 from 23.1 default. And now, under the percent recorded in Februcurrent coalition government led by Prime Minis-

This marks the lowest inflation rate of 20.7 percent in March for the first time in 22 months, indicathas been restored, which is ing a downward trend after significantly contributing to a two-year period. It is the economic stability

second consecutive month where the pace of inflation has slowed down significantly, surpassing even the optimistic official projec-The Bloomberg re-

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's High Commissioner-designate to Singapore, Ms Rabia Shafiq, called on President Asif Ali Zardari, at Aiwan-e-Sadr. It is noteworthy that **President for promoting trade,** rime Minister Shehbaz business linkages with Singapore ISLAMABAD (APP): President Asif Ali Zardari on Wednesday urged Pakistan's High Commister Shehbaz Sharif, the sioner to Singapore to work IMF program - the Stand for the promotion of bilatby Arrangement (SBA) eral trade and business link-

ages with Singaporean businesses, besides encouraging them to benefit from Pakistan's investmentfriendly policies. Talking to Pakistan's

as poultry, meat, seafood etc.

tural

Singapore.

Shafiq, who called on him,

the President highlighted

the need to explore oppor-

tunities for the export of

Pakistani food and agricul-

stan could become a steady

source of food supplies for

Singapore by exporting

processed food items, such

products

He added that Paki-

to

her

successful

Singapore.

newly-appointed High Commissioner, Rabia He also emphasized CDA, PITB sign agreement for digitisation of official record

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Capital Development Authority (CDA) and Punjab Information Tech-nology Board (PITB) have signed an agreement to

digitise all office working of the authority. Under the agreement, a modern property manage-ment system will be intro-

duced to computerise the property record of the citizens. According to the details, the e-office will be established as per the agreement between the Capital Development Authority and PITB.

In order to ensure transparency in all information related to the property, it is possible to get rid of record tampering, including record missing or record leaking and the land or property record can also be saved in a modern way, an 2021-22 on Wednesday. official of the CDA said. "Besides, the aim of this

official said.

aims to enhance its decision-making process and ultimately achieve e-em-powerment for the authority so that all citizens and applicants can be facilitated for speedy processing of

other services. 'This initiative will help citizens to secure property and land records. Similarly, any type of record can be accessed on a single click through ID and specific password," the official said. He said that the main aspect of the project is to introduce "smart applications" and promote eempowerment among the initiative is to empower the citizens of Islamabad

pop queen Nazia Hassan remembered on her birth anniversary ISLAMABAD (APP): The 59th birth anniversary

the need for exploring av-

enues to export Pakistani

work for the enhancement

Pakistan's High Commis-

sioner and wished her a pro-

ductive and professional

Pakistan's

tenure in

The president con-

of the most iconic figure of Pakistan Nazia Hassan is being observed around the world on Wednesday. Nazia, alongside her

brother Zohaib Hassan, revolutionized the music scene in Pakistan and India with hits like "Disco Deewane" and "Boom Boom.

Born on April 3rd 1965, Nazia burst onto the music scene at just 15 with her mesmerizing rendition of "Aap Jaisa Koi" for the Indian film Qurbani, introducing the disco genre to the subcontinent.

Her debut album, 'Disco Deewane" in 1981 soared to international fame, charting in fourteen countries and becoming the best-selling Asian pop record of its time.

Ashrafi holds grand Iftar reception to strengthen diplomatic relations

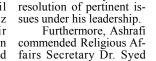
ISLAMABAD (APP): Pa- within the ministry and the kistan Ulema Council Chairman Hafiz

Muhammad Tahir Mehmood Ashrafi on Wednesday hosted a grand Iftar reception, extending a warm welcome to diplomatic missions in Pakistan. The event, held here at a local hotel, aimed to fos-

ter deeper cordial relations with nations across the globe. Among the esteemed guests were Saudi Ambassador Nawaf bin Said Al-Malki, Iranian Ambassador Reza Amiri Moqadam, as well as representatives from Malaysia, Indonesia, Türkiye, and other friendly

manpower to Singapore and countries. The gathering provided a platform for diaof bilateral cooperation in logue and engagement, emthe areas of Information phasizing the importance of Technology and agriculture. diplomacy in promoting harmony and cooperation gratulated Rabia Shafiq on on the international stage. appointment as

In his address, Ashrafi expressed optimism regarding the newly appointed Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony, Chaudhry Salik Hussain. He voiced hope of respect, tolerance, and for smooth operations cooperation.



Page

03

Atta-ur-Rehman for his dedicated efforts in addressing the ministry's challenges, both domestically and internationally. He underscored the significance of effective leadership in managing religious affairs and promoting interfaith

dialogue. The highlight of the event was a prayer led by the Ambassador of Royal Embassy, invoking blessings for peace and prosper-ity for both Pakistan and the respective nations represented. This spiritual gesture underscored the shared aspirations for harmony and cooperation among nations, transcending geographical boundaries.

Ashrafi hoped that the reception would foster strong diplomatic ties and promote mutual understanding among nations, anchored in the principles



ISLAMABAD: Chairman Prime Minister's Youth Programme, Rana Mashood Ahmed Khan in a meeting with representatives of British Council.

HEC invites applications for scholarship in Romania

Higher Education Commission (HEC) has invited applications from Pakistani/ AJ&K nationals for the scholarship offer of the University of Politehnica for the academic year (2024-25), launched by the Romanian Government for Master's and PhD studies in the fields of Engineering and Information Technology. According to the official sources, Master's studies are offered by the closing date of application University of Politehnica are not allowed to apply. Bucharest, Romania in

SLAMABAD (INP): The gineering, Electronic Engi neering, Telecommunica-tion and Information Technology, Aerospace Engineering, Transportation Engineering, Computer & Information Technology, System Engineering, Industrial Engineering, Applied Engineering Science, Engineering and Management. As per eligibility cri-

teria, applicants with incomplete degrees on the

Applicants for Mas

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Reza Amiri Moghaddam addressing an Iftar Reception at Embassy of Iran. PML-N leader slams PTI for alleged interference with judiciary, institutions

(PML-N), criticized the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) on Wednesday for attempting to influence the superior judiciary and other national institutions to achieve their desired out-

Speaking to the media alongside MNA Barrister N within the political realm. Aqeel Malik, he expressed his disapproval of PTI's ac-pared to engage PTI polititions, stating that the same cally, and their tendency tosgruntled

ISLAMABAD (APP): Dr. High Court (IHC) judges Tariq Fazal Chaudhry, a se-nior leader in the Pakistan PTI should refrain from in-Muslim League Nawaz terfering in the matter as it will be resolved by the judiciary in a fair manner. The judicial verdict will be ac-

> cepted by all parties involved. He encouraged PTI to steer clear of violence in politics and instead engage pared to engage PTI politi-

Non-Formal Education **Statistics Report to be**

launched today ISLAMABAD (APP) The Pakistan Institute of Education (PIE), in collaboration with the Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training and the JICA-AQAL Project launch its highly anticipated Non-Formal Education Statistics Report

This report represents a significant milestone in the ongoing efforts to enhance access, quality, and equity in non-formal education (NFE) across Pak

Capital Development Authority (CDA) by equip-ping it with modern tools and technology in the realm of 'smart governance', the He said that by using the latest tools, the Capital

Development Authority their allotment, transfer and

people, through their social media campaign, was at-tempting to pressure the vations, PML-N joined the judiciary and certain institutions to serve their nefarious designs.

He stated that the PTI social media team had initiated a slanderous campaign against Justice (Retd) Tassaduq Hussain Jillani without any relevance to the overall matter. Moreover, there are now objections raised by PTI regarding the composition of the tions. He called on PTI to Supreme Court's larger bench concerning suo moto proceedings regarding interference in judicial matters.

The Supreme Court is the issue. Malik criticized handling the suo moto pro- PTI for attempting to sensaceedings concerning complaints against Islamabad

unacceptable. stan.

ANF continues system in 2018 as his party crackdown on believes in supremacy of constitution and promotion of democratic traditions.

drug supply in Speaking on the occaeducational sion, Barrister Aqeel Malik, MNA, expressed his disap institutions of proval of Pakistan Tehreeke-Insaf (PTI) for engaging Twin Cities

in undemocratic behavior SLAMABAD (APP) and making baseless accu-Anti Narcotics Force sations against the institu-(ANF) in a crackdown on drug supply in educational refrain from meddling in matinstitutions of Twin Cities, ters related to judges' comseized 2.4 kg hashish from plaints, asserting that they an accused who was a stuare not directly involved in dent of BS Computer Science in a local university. The accused was ar-

rested with drugs near Waheedabad Colony on Lahtrar Road. During investigation, the accused confessed to supplying drugs in different hostels.

Drug use and sale in educational institutions are a hindrance to educational attainment and the agency is vigilant and always In the search of those involved in this heinous crime, said the press release. There are also threats

to the future of youth. It is ISLAMABAD: PML(N) leaders Tariq Fazal unfortunate that students Chaudhry and Barrister Aqeel addressing a press are involved in drug pedconference at Press Club in the Federal Capital. | dling.

tionalize a case that is under

judicial consideration

ISLAMABAD: Volunteers serving food items during Iftar for people in fast in the Islamic fasting month of Ramadan at Faisal Masjid in the federal capital.

Several educational boards join IBCC attestation portal

ISLAMABAD (APP): In a groundbreaking development, several education boards across Pakistan have seamlessly integrated their systems with the Inter Boards Coordination Commission (IBCC) Attestation Portal, marking a significant step forward

towards the verification process of student records. According to IBCC, today, the APIs of the BISE Bahawalpur, BISE Lahore, BISE Malakand, BISE Quetta, BISE Rawalpindi, BISE Sahiwal, FBISE Islamabad and Ziauddin University Examination Board Karachi have been successfully connected with the IBCC Attestation Portal for the online verification of SSC/HSSC records.

This collaborative effort eliminates the need for students to bring sealed envelopes of verification for attestation of certificates. By enabling direct online verification of student records, this integration not only streamlines the process but also enhances accessibility and authenticity of educational documents. Speaking on the occasion, Executive Director of IBCC, Prof Dr. Ghulam Ali Mallah, emphasized the importance of this initiative in ensuring the credibility of educational documents.

programmes including

ters program must have a Chemical Engineering, Elec- Bachelors degree (16 years) trical Engineering, Mechani- and be under the age of 35 cal Engineering, Energy En- at the time of application.

Journalists delegation calls on Jam Kamal

SLAMABAD (APP): Azhar Jatoi, the newly elected President of the National Press Club on Thursday led a delegation to meet with Federal Commerce Minister Jam Kamal Khan. The meeting, attended by key officials from both sides, focused on fostering collaboration between the media and government for effective com- cies. President Azhar Jatoi munication and transparency in trade and commercerelated matters, said a press release issued here. During the discussion,

ISLAMABAD: The Capi-

The officers were in-

mosques during prayer

times, inspect suspicious

individuals and vehicles,

and maintain respectful be-

havior during citizen

checks

police personnel.

importance of a strong relationship between the National Press Club and the Ministry of Commerce, pledging to facilitate close coordination in the future.

Minister Jam Kamal Khan echoed this sentiment, highlighting the vital role of the press in informing the public about government initiatives and poliunderscored the National Press Club's role in representing journalists and facilitating constructive dialogue between the media Azhar Jatoi emphasized the and policymakers.

CPO issues special directives for dolphin squad officials **Independent Report**

Moreover, exemplary performance will be duly



rewarded, while stringent measures will be taken against any involvement in bribery or misconduct.

This initiatives highlighted the commitment of Islamabad Capital Police towards ensuring public safety and maintaining law and order in the city.



ISLAMABAD: A young boy is wearing golden dress (Golden Boy) stands at a road in dector F-8 in the Federal capital.

Youth engagement fundamental to combat 'Open Solid Waste Burning'

ISLAMABAD (APP): optimize waste-to-energy The speakers at a stakeholders' dialogue on solutions to open waste burning demanded the government and all quarters concerned to come up with enhanced mobilization efforts focusing on youth engagement to stir solutions for open waste burning leading to serious health issues.

The Institute of Urbanism with the support of the Royal Academy of Engineering (RAE) and Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) held a dialogue titled "Ending Open Waste Burning in Islamabad: A Dialogue on Sustainable Urban Waste Management" here on Wednesday

Dr. Abid Qaiyum agement, he added. Suleri, Executive Director, SDPI said there are ample examples of waste-to-energy projects in the developing countries across the across the country, whereas globe who are capitalizing on solid waste as a resource at par with the developed world. He said Pakistan is energy deficient and could mental Quality Standards monkeypox, cholera, and

(NEQS) implementation is opportunities that will help important as hazardous manage energy security and hospital waste is not being resource management dumped properly, and elecwithin one intervention. tronic or E-waste is another Dr Suleri underlined

area emerging in the counthat waste management in try over time. "Islamabad is better the peri-urban and town but only its 60-70% waste areas of the country was is being managed while the difficult. However, Islamabad has been chosen rest is burnt in streets and open places which is highly for the dialogue to highlight injurious to health due to the woes of waste mismanagement in urban areas that dangerous emissions from can help understand the explastic burning and other materials," he said. tent of mismanagement in Sveda Shazia Adeel from the National Institute

the solid waste sector across the country. A strong of Health (NIH) said waste local government system was crucial to tackle this burning resulted in the problem as it was the local spewing of carcinogenic body system after the mufumes and pathogens causnicipal authorities that was ing serious diseases. However, the Institute could responsible for waste mancontribute to data sharing,

Dr. Ejaz Ahmed, Sesurveillance, research, organize workshops, and build nior Program Fellow, IoU said there is hardly any comprehensive plans to cope with it and develop waste disposal system policy plans. the issue of smog is basically due to the burning of rice stubble. He said the industrial National Environ- the COVID-19 pandemic,

other serious disease outbreaks. She mentioned that the National Command and Operation Centre (NCOC) was its international data surveillance center that provides evidence-based data collection which is lacking

in the country. Dr. Mansoor Ali from the Royal Academy of Engineering, UK said there was a great opportunity for mutual learning between India and Pakistan under RAE projects on waste management research. However, there was a shift in policy and attitudes of politicians towards waste management, which was very important, he said. "The IoU has a crucial opportunity to engage with politicians to guide them through their evidence and data as an active phase of the waste management sector is going on," he said.

He noted that periph-Moreover, the NIH eral burning was another could also ensure commuissue that was very chalnity engagement as it did in lenging in the capital's vicinity and Rawalpindi. However, the affordability tions," he added. Dr. Abida Shareef, FJWU leading an integrated solid waste management project, said research is the most important component expected from academia, whereas she had surveyed 11,000 households through the door-to-door campaign. '52% of the survey respondents believe household waste is not hazardous. However, household waste segregation can be done by training females at home. Again 53% of the respon-

community on waste management that needed to be improved through awareness and education," she

She also noted that 58% of the respondents organic fertilizer

said

A public relations of-ficer said that the directives emphasized the importance thought it was a smart way of diligent duty fulfillment, to burn and manage waste. The survey found out that wearing protective gear females burning waste at the during patrolling, and household level were few promptly responding to calls from the helpline "Pucar-15". whereas the major problem was at the communal level at open dumping sites structed to patrol near

where communities and waste management officials were involved in setting up trash at fire, she added. Aqsa Arshad, a QAU

student running in campus compost facility making eco-organic fertilizer said the Quaid-i-Azam University (QAU) campus site near Margalla Hills National Park had excess vegetation throughout the year, whereas the plants and leaves were cut and burnt at the site or dumped into the nearby streams causing serious pollution. There were 20-30 huts in QAU for waste that were collected by CDA after 2-3 days causing pollution, she said, adding, "I planned to collect and compost that waste into eco-

thought it was not illegal to of the technology was an uphill task that would drive burn waste, whereas 47% the limitations of innovative ideas to manage waste as a resource. "We need to promote mutual partnerships for learning and beyond the project coopera-

dents believed that it cannot be segregated. It proved the little knowledge of the

OPINION

Daily **Independent**



Page 04

Thursday April 04, 2024

Senate elections

The Senate returned to almost its full strength yesterday after an unusually sedate election. Unfortunately, polling for KP's seats could not be held due to an ongoing stand-off through the most perilous between the provincial government and the ECP over reserved seats.

Meanwhile, there were few reports of the feverish wheeling-dealing and horse-trading stan that have, in the past, marred the conduct of Senate polls, which are held every three vears to elect half of the total strength of the Upper House.

All of the candidates for Balochistan's seats were declared winners unopposed. while in Punjab, the PTI, PML-N, and PPP reportedly reached an understanding that allowed its seven general seats to be filled without contest. Punjab's five remaining seats — two for women, two for technocrats, and one for minorities — were all grabbed by the PML-N, thanks to its majority in the provincial assembly. In Sindh, the PPP secured all seats but two, which went to the MQM-P and Faisal Vawda, respectively.

Considering the drama surrounding the general election that took place just about two months earlier, the Senate election, at least on the face of it, managed to steer clear of any serious controversies. However, one need only look at the list of returned candidates to begin wondering whether the same forces and considerations

taker prime minister and chief minister of Punjab, who supposedly do not have any party a seat each, unopposed. The speculation was that they were rewarded for the 'services' they had rendered. The PML-N sacrificed a loyalist's seat for former bureaucrat Ahad Cheema, while Vawda magically won the PPP's support for his candidature at nothing obvious to offer in return. Observers naturally confriends in high places. These elections also seemed long-time loyalists and seasoned politicians like Raza Rabbani and Waqar Mehdi stalwarts like Khawaja Saad Rafique, Rana Sanaullah, over to outsiders. complete without a word on how far-reaching the consequences of interfering in general elections can be. For example, the quarrel over public ECP's 'bat verdict' still rages and seats being delayed yesterday. And, because Senate seats are generally apportioned based respective assemblies, one could not help but be reminded straw. of the controversies that still power, now secured, will not be abused.

Conspiracy to defame the state agencies!

Senator Samina of all fatalities and 86% of Mumtaz Zehri attacks during this period.

have

The report underscores Without meddling with significant regional variathe affairs of superior jutions in the intensity of diciary that is now taking a suo motu notice of IHC violence, with K-P and Balochistan emerging as judges' letter, I want to epicenters of conflict. draw the attention of our Under these turbu-

people towards the timlent times, these are only ings when our security our security forces that agencies are being tarhave been spilling their geted through this controprecious blood to retaliate versial letter. These are the the militant attacks. In the times, when we, as nation, first quarter of 2024, civilbeen passing ians and security forces personnel accounted for moment of the history esover 65% of all fatalities pecially on a security in nearly 200 terror atfront. A recent report by tacks. In fact, our security Centre for Research and forces and intelligence Security Studies (CRSS) agencies have gained brings forth a very bleak ground and momentum picture of the security against the terror groups threats haunting Pakiin Balochistan in recent months, and the pressure According to report, had led to killings of the Pakistan witnessed a tocommanders by the tal of 432 violence-related group's own members. fatalities and 370 injuries The arrest and killings of during the first quarter of the key militant leaders 2024, stemming from 245 such as the arrest of the incidents of terror attacks top Balochistan Separatand counter-terror operaist leader Gulzar Imam, tions. The provinces of (TTP) terrorist com-Khyber-Pakĥtunkhwa (Kmander ZafarKhan alias P) and Balochistan bore the brunt of this violence,

accounting for over 92% cellent intelligence operation by the country's primary intelligence agency ISI which captured the key militants in the region. Without the apt and timely counterintelligence operation of our intelligence agencies, we cannot thwart efforts of foreign intelligence agencies

and CPEC. This is the time when a shadow of war on Pak-Afghan borders is looming especially in the backdrop of growing escalations of retaliatory attacks between TTP's factions and Pak security forces continued since the time when TTP had ended ceasefire with the government of Pakistan back in November 2022 and announced a non-stop militant attacks all over the country. The TTP has been waging a rebellion against the state of Pakistan for more than a decade. The group that is becoming stronger with Zafari and many others is every passing day, de- Taliban and their support- security institutions indi- their cross-border fac-

(LEAs)—sequel to an ex- rested by the government Taliban to some extent is and a reversal of the merger of Pakistan's tribal to destabilize Pakistan

areas with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. also Unfortunately, all these anti-state demands of TTP nate that the letter by six are now backed by Afjudges of supreme court ghan Taliban whose Afhas in fact provided all the ghanistan take over was reasons to feed mistrust applauded by Imran Khan upon our agencies who in these words, "breaking are fighting against one of the chains of slavery" and the most gruesome enemy who always pushed for of the state at the moment. A melodramatic situation negotiations with their factions. In order to has been deliberately crestrengthen his political ated by a calculated move position in a weird manto write the very letter in ner khan went to such an order to create an overall extent that he portrayed scene where audience Taliban representing would be left with an ev-Pashtuns. In his interview to Middle East Eve in October 2021, khan asserted that, ""The Pashtuns on who are the authors of this melodrama have been this side [Pakistan] were completely sympathetic working on a single point with the [Taliban] Pashtuns [in Afghaniagenda that is to get a so called popular leader off stan] — not because of scot-free. They have been the religious ideology but pursuing this agenda because of Pashtun ethnicity and nationality." such as attacking military establishments on 9th This is how Khan's government legitimized

telligence agencies—Law hardline Islamic law, re-Enforcement Agencies hardline Islamic law, re-lease of key members ar-of TTP backed by Afghan ical assistance to Pakistan, lobbying against our naan offshoot of the comtional interests in US conpromising narrative of gress and now using their Imran Khan's government judiciary backed support-This is quite unfortu-

ers to create a general chaos in the country. The timing of the letter by six judges is really important. The day when Justice Qazi Faez Isa was taking a suo motu on letter of IHC judges, Islamabad High Court was suspending a 14-year jail term of Imran Khan and his wife Bushra Bibi in Toshakhana corruption case. Hope the suo motu by Justice Qazi Faez Isa would take into considerlasting impression that eration the sheer differjudiciary is at loggerheads ence of context and nawith state agencies. Those ture between the plea made by ex-justice IHC, Shaukat Aziz Siddiqui in his plea against his removal and the allegations raised by six judges especially at a time when our security through different tactics and intelligence agencies have been fighting one of the hardest war May; targeting heads of against terrorists and

a big success for our in- mands the imposition of ers in his own province. vidually, writing letters to tions in our country. How to avert default

Hassan Baig

The recently elected Pakistan government faces the uphill task of tackling the economic crisis. The IMF has completed its second and final review of Pakistan's economic programme, supported by the \$3 billion IMF standby agreement. And while its response was positive, it has raised concerns about the lack of implementation of macroeconomic fiscal re-

Pakistan may apply another IMF for another programme for its economic stabilization to help avoid sovereign default. However, experts are concerned about the debt-ridden economy and the time it will take to break away from the crutches of loans. A critical question is: how successfully can we get our economic ship safely to the shore in these critical years? believe that the only way

prevailed. forward is to immediately For example, both the care- undertake structural reforms in the greater interest of the country's ecoraised by expanding the tax nomic growth. base instead of heavy taxa-How can Pakistan get tion as is currently implerid of this debt crisis and affiliation, managed to secure its aid packages? What mented these days, which structural reforms should Mahir Ali 'independent' candidate Faisal The morning of April 4, 1979, lingers in the memory. I woke up to get ready for school, and found my mother red-eyed. Even the last minute, despite having before she uttered a word, I guessed the worst had come to pass. She tearfully confirmed it. A detestable nected his good fortune to Pakistan's first elected prime minister. It wasn't entirely a surprise, but it was unlike the end of an era in some doubtedly a shock. Many Pakistanis had harboured respects. The PPP sidelined the hope of a last-minute rep-rieve of some sort. Almost every country with which Pakistan had diplomatic relations had apwhen handing out tickets, while pealed for clemency. (A notable exception was the PML-N was forced to ignore Suharto's Indonesian ernments in Balochistan and NWFP being swept pected that at least two Khurram Dastgir and Javed Latif while handing its seats Sulfikar Ali Bhutto's life: Sulfikar Ali Bhutto's life: Saudi Arabia and the US. Both of them chose Finally, a comment on these not to do so. The executioner, Gen Ziaul Haq, dis-Senate elections would not be missed the global appeals as an initiative on behalf of the international union of politicians. Benazir Bhutto's Daughter of the East notes that even the Supreme Court that had upheld the Lahore High representation triggered by the Court's death sentence by a 4-3 margin unanimously recommended that the senresulted in elections for KP's Zia ignored that inconvenient opinion. He was convinced by that stage that there was just one coffin that lay in wait — either for him or for ZAB. The on each party's strength in their latter, at an obvious disadvantage, was inevitably destined to draw the short Thus it was that Pakistan's unfortunate hissurround how these assem- tory took a particularly blies were formed. One can only sordid turn 45 years ago tohope that all this legislative morrow. One can only con-jecturally imagine what might have come to pass if the army had not intervened in July 1977, and the

the overhaul of the economy on a long-term basis? The country needs macroeconomic stability and a near-perfect balance of monetary and fiscal

policy reforms. Pakistan needs to undergo strategic structural reforms to enhance exports through massive industrialization, IT-led exports, and the green initiatives-backed agricultural revolution, and by reducing reliance on imports to effectively tackle its balance-of-payment problems and current account deficit in the short,

medium and long term. The IT sector is another economic frontier that needs to be tapped in owing to Pakistan's huge young population, which can contribute towards increasing exports and promoting e-commerce. A twopronged policy of privatization and publicprivate partnership (PPP) needs to be seriously adopted to achieve economic growth and self-reli-

ideally be undertaken for has to be brought down to a single digit to help boost investment in the country.

The economic path to prosperity lies in political stability and peace in the country. This needs to be addressed through political dialogue as part of an inclusive political system passing through reconciliation at all levels. Security is key to progress, and a peaceful environment needs to be ensured for investment and economic growth in the country. No economic policy initiative can work

and succeed in the absence of these important factors. The structural reforms model can only succeed in the presence of the right policy options, facilitated by an atmosphere of consensus advancing the concept of security to investors. Security includes and covers both physical security and the safety of their investments in the country. The fear of the unknown leads to insecu-

rity, where no one would

like to take a risk. This is

case, which needs to be

be effectively utilized to

undertake structural re-

The SIFC forum can

that, one must keep in mind that IMF programmes

should not be an unending story of getting loans for an unlimited period. The vicious cycle of debt and recurrent loans has marred our economy. The subsequent IMF conditions adversely affect the economic growth model, as they focus on taxes instead of incentives for investment in the coun-

Pakistan needs progrowth policies in place of anti-growth taxation such as tax cuts, free trade and minimum regulation – to help boost growth. Long-term reforms and incentive packages should be introduced by the government to boost investment in the country. This is the only way forward to get rid of huge loans hindering our economic growth

Strategic structural reforms should be aligned with the country's strategic interests. Pakistan should not accept any conance. Revenues are to be unfortunately true in our ditions to restrict payments ars to reduce population to investment projects ungrowth. der CPEC and Chinese power plants. Such restriccountries have adopted tions will cause a huge loss several policies to imto the interests of Pakistan, especially when we have no

ment in the country. But for headway to improve the economic zones, so why economy without the support of our strategic part-

> ner, China. Also, any such restrictions are a violation of the Energy Framework lar approach? The worri-Agreement 2015 which gives a margin to pay outstanding dues to CPEC projects covering the energy corridor without any delay. The finance minister is already emphasizing tapping the full potential of the Chinese market and is planning to launch Panda bonds.

The irony is that Pakistan's GDP growth is less than its population growth for the year 2023. The country's 250 million people need fast-depleting resources. Population growth is another problem that needs to be tackled. A well-thought-out population policy needs to be devised immediately. That policy should not be a cosmetic step like family planning schemes but a large-scale one. There is

can't Pakistan, with such a huge population and areas stretching over 881,913 square kilometres, adopt a simisome factor is that the large-scale manufacturing (LSM) sector is contracting in Pakistan instead of expanding. The main reason is the high input and operating costs, thanks to the conditions imposed by the IMF.

Once the annual GDP growth of 6-8 per cent is properly ensured for at least 8-10 years through industrialization. industrial clusters, IT growth, the agricultural green revolution, and corporate farming, Pakistan can easily prosper. Exports should reach at least \$100 billion in the next 5. 10 years if we are to get rid of the vicious cycle of debt and interest payments

Pakistan needs to get also a need to include re- out of IMF programmes ligious parties and schol- and their attached condi-

Beyond Bhutto

tions (after the tainted exercise earlier that year) had not been pre-empted by Zia's coup. No one can deny that

the regime ZAB presided over from December 1971 to mid-1977 was, at best, a flawed democracy. The initial signs were positive, once martial law had been lifted. One could even argue for 1972 as a golden year in Pakistan's rebirth as a truncated entity

except for the fact that it involved no reckoning with the previous year's massacres in what had by then emerged as Bangladesh.

In 1973, many of the hopes fell apart, notably with the National Awami Party-led provincial govand NWFP being swept aside; the anti-Ahmadi legcountries, had they so wished, could have exerted islation followed in 1974. By then, not only had the NAP leadership been incarcerated on ludicrous charges, but many among the PPP left-leaning stalwarts had been sidelined, and replaced with timeservers and feudal lightweights who were quick to abandon the PPP in or soon after 1977.

One can't decisively pinpoint the trajectory of Pakistan's progress had the military not intervened at that point, but it's safe to assume that any regression under civilian rule would have been less harmful. It's easy to say that to pick the obsequious Gen Zia as military chief was Bhutto's deadliest error. But unleashing Zia's predecessor, Gen Tikka — the 'Butcher of Bengal' on Bal-o-chistan was another huge mistake. Sett-ing up the paramilitary Federal Secu-rity Force was also a misstep that backfired when Masood Mahmood's very possibly fake testimony proved crucial in condemning ZAB to death.

By any measure, it ought not to have sufficed as the basis for a death sentence,

is the worst policy by any standard. The policy rate forms and promote investgovernment-opposition but Zia and Maulvi agreement on fresh elec- Mushtaq, the Lahore High

dealt with.

Mushtaq, the Lahore High Court chief justice miffed by Bhutto holding back his promotion, were happy to clutch at straws.

The progress of the subsequent Supreme Court appeal ought to serve as a reminder that the six Islamabad High Court judges currently complaining about military int-er-ference are hardly treading fresh gro-und. In 1978-79, the nine-member bench — expected to rule by 5-4 in Bhutto's favour was, by hook or by crook, whittled down to seven, reversing the balance to 4-3 against ZAB. And the three who dared

to say no did so in the face of tremendous pressures and a variety of threats. Last month's belated Supreme Court verdict, recognising that Bhutto did not get a fair trial, merely aligns the senior judiciary with what has long been public knowledge. The dubious verdict cannot be rescinded, and the extreme punishment,

carried out with unseemly haste, is anyhow an indelible stain on post-1971 Pakistan. ZAB's judicial (but

profoundly injudicious) murder cut him down in his prime, aged just 51. His younger son Shahnawaz died at 26, Mir Murtaza was assassinated at 42, Benazir at 54. The Muslim world's broader malaise is reflected in the fact that ZAB was the third among the luminaries at the Lahore Islamic Summit 50 years ago to be eliminated, preceded by Saudi king Faisal and Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in 1975, and followed by Egypt's

Anwar Sadat in 1981 and Libya's Muamn Gadhafi 30 years later. Muammar In the Bhutto context.

tesy Dawn

though, what comes across most poignantly is the steady decline in the nation's fortunes following his elimination. -- CourOther South Asian

tions as soon as possible through structural reforms to achieve the desired economic growth and macroeconomic staprove their economies. bility in the long ru Bangladesh has 97 special Courtesy TheNews bility in the long run. -

Innocence in peril

have ever been visited by

According to Unicef,

We cannot risk frittering members of any organisation to ensure away more time trying to understand that protected their safety, enrolment in children are essential for schools and counselling a sustainable and prosperfor their parents. ous Pakistan. Often, dis-3.3m children are deprived course about child safety is wilfully avoided, and of a childhood due to child this escapism has had selabour, poor healthcare rious after-effects in the and lack of education and they become abusive inform of violent adults disowned by family, society dividuals for many reaand institutions. Can care sons, such as certain painand attention from the ful experiences that scar day of birth to the age of them for life. Parents 18 not prove more benmust play a better role so eficial for collective dethat children are shielded velopment? from being violated, ex-

Globally, children ploited, neglected, and under the age of 18 enjoy abused (VENA). all facilities in a stimulating environment replete floods of 2022 threw up tangible and intangible with opportunities to learn and grow. It is these losses — devastated homes, livestock, public well-versed individuals who will go on to nurture infrastructure and livelipeace and inclusivity and hoods and traumatised contribute towards nainnocence. District Dadu tional development. in Sindh was severely

But in Pakistan, childamaged in the deluge and dren are deprived of ba-Taluka Khairpur Nathan sic services, such as free Shah was entirely subqualitative education, merged. More than one healthcare and playand a half years later, a grounds. Therefore, they majority of villagers in Khairpur Nathan Shah are turn into undesirable elements relegated to the still combating misery outskirts of society. Acand abject poverty. Uncording to the Society for doubtedly, children in these parts are in dire the Protection of the Rights of the Child, the need of rehabilitation number of child beggars through housing, nourishment, medical treatment in the urban centres of Pakistan stands at 1.5 and psychosocial support million. One wonders to emerge from their disabout these bitter results tress. They simply cannot of negligence; why are be left to endure the same they excluded from social fate as the residents of development and who Badin and Thatta who will keep them from comhave been trapped in angst mitting crime? since the cyclone in 1999,

The Sindh Child which ripped through Sindh's coastal belt. Protection Authority (Amendment) Act, 2021, describes 'caregiver' to committed to child proinclude "state, agency, tection, including the provision of urgent protective unit, organisation responsible to provide necesmeasures to the flood-afsary care to child...". But fected young in Dadu, will poor children on urban be held in high esteem. The National Rural Support roads are the very picture of abandonment by the Programme, in collaboration with Save the Chilsame protection authority. For example, it is dren International and the

highly unlikely that those EU, is actively facilitating working in shops in children in various flood-Hyderabad's Shahi Bazar affected villages through affected villages through diverse activities, such as establishing child friendly spaces (CFS) where rural children can go after school hours and enjoy recreational activities, learn life skills and acquire knowledge with learning kits. As the concept illustrates, CFS is an ideal situation to nurture and shelter children and ensures that they are not exposed to VENA.

First, in order to keep our children safe from VENA - present in family structures as well as the overall social landscape — parents and guardians must be made more aware of a child's The devastating movements.

Second, the government should establish CFS in every devastated village in Sindh to convert a child's free time into hours of creative and productive activity.

Third, some robust legislation has to be carried out and implemented to make accountability certain. Moreover, the capacity-building of CFS with more staff, resources and security should be initiated to help systematically institutionalise child protection.

Fourth, the top cadres of Sindh's ruling party, the PPP, must take personal interest in streamlining CFS in the province and guarantee that all Sindh's children are safe from the multidimensional torment of VENA. What is also imperative is that print and electronic media raise awareness about CFS and promote the care Hence, whoever is model throughout the country

Finally, oil and gas companies operating in Sindh should fulfil their responsibility towards making child protection endeavours and CFS a significant part of corporate social responsibility. --Courtesy Dawn

Furgan Hyder Shaikh

Daily soice of Masse Independent

Thursday April 04, 2024

Sindh cabinet lifts ban on recruitment, grants extension to COVID doctors, other staff

KARACHI (APP): Sindh ministers, advisors, Chief of the departments but the Chief Minister Syed Secretary, PSCM, youth would get Murad Ali Shah presided Chairman P&D, and employees opportunities, over a cabinet meeting on Wednesday which approved the lifting of the ban on recruitment in the provincial government departments and also granted an extension to the doctors, nurses and other staff who were appointed during the COVID-19 pandemic until June 30,

The meeting was held departments. Lifting the issued at the CM House and was ban on recruitment not recruitment vacated. attended by provincial only improves the working

concerned secretaries. The Sindh the cabinet members. The

The chief minister government of Murad Ali with the consent of the Shah at completion of its cabinet members approved last tenure had imposed a the lifting of the ban on ban on recruitment in the recruitment in government government department. departments and directed The cabinet members told the Law Minister Ziaul Hassan Lanjar and the the chair that there were thousands of posts of Advocate General to lower grades lying vacant pursue the case in the court government and get the stay order against the At the request of

Education Minister Syed Sardar Shah the cabinet allowed School Education dept to continue the recruitment process of PST/JEST as per Teachers Recruitment Policy 2021

through IBA Sukkur. Minister Health Dr Azar Fazal and Secretary Health Rehan Baloch briefing the cabinet said that the Health Department on the directives of the chief minister had appointed doctors, nurses, paramedical, skilled and

supporting staff.

KARACHI



ational

ews

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah presides over a cabinet meeting at CM House.



LAHORE: Ambassador of Uzbekistan to Pakistan, Oybek Arif Usmanov, called on Punjab Governor Muhammad Baligh ur Rehman at Governor House.

CM meets Chinese CG, condoles demise of Chinese nationals in Shangla attack

Independent Report LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz visited the Chinese Consulate here on friendship cannot be Wednesday and met with undermined through

officials were also present

on the occasion. The CM expressed

various sectors, the CM said that Pakistan and China are exemplary friends and their everlasting the Chinese Consul General Zhao Shiren. Other Chinese cowardly attack committed on the Chinese citizens is a nefarious conspiracy to

Department, stringent action will be taken against 11 dead, 1,350 those deceiving the public, and steps will be taken to injured in 1,259 road accidents fill all vacant positions in the department, including in Punjab Inspectors, Independent Report

LAHORE: At least 11 people were killed and 1,360 others injured in 1,259 road accidents in Punjab during the last 24 hours. As many as 594 people with serious injuries were shifted to different hospitals, while 756 with minor injuries were treated at the incident

on the occasion.a nefarious conspiracy to
sabotage progress and
prosperity of Pakistan.were treated at the incident
site by the rescue medical
teams.her deep sense of sorrow
over the death of Chinese
nationals in the Shangla
attack. She expressed her
heartfelt sympathy and
grief with the family
members of the deceased
Chinese citizens.a nefarious conspiracy to
sabotage progress and
prosperity of Pakistan.
The Pakistani nation is
heartily grieved over the
onslaught incident on their
Chinese brothers. "We
equally share the grief of
the affected Chinese
families. We are
undertaking all possible
measures to safeguard the
cooperationwere treated at the incident
site by the rescue medical
teams.
The analysis showed
that 724 drivers, 55
underage drivers, 183
pedestrians, and 454
passengers were among the
victims of the road
accidents. The statistics
showed that 290 accidents
were reported in Lahore,
which affected 324 people,

department reforms inspectors, ASIs and 400 constables through the Sindh Public Service Commission and IBA. (APP): Minister for Anti Corruption and Agriculture Sardar Muhammad Bux

Sardar Mahar presides

meeting for anti corruption

The provincial minister instructed officers Mahar presided over a meeting with senior officers of Anti Corruption Establishment Sindh during to expedite action against corrupt officials. He which he decided to emphasized that no leniency will be shown introduce legal reforms in department and take action towards corrupt officers, against elements deceiving the public. Sardar Mahar stated that legal reforms and immediate action will be taken on complaints received against them. will be introduced within the Anti-Corruption Sardar Muhammad Bux Mahar stressed the

need for regular sessions to handle corruption cases and to conduct awareness seminars, walks, and largescale campaigns against corruption within their Subrespective zones.



PESHAWAR: Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Leader, Hammad Azhar addresses to media persons during press conference, at Peshawar press club.

Bilal Yasin orders to dismiss all 93 invigilators of BISE Examination centre

Pakistan's friendly ties with Uzbekistan getting stronger with each passing day: Baligh

historical ties.

Independent Report LAHORE: Ambassador of Uzbekistan to Pakistan, Oybek Arif Usmanov, called on Punjab Governor Muhammad Baligh ur Rehman at Governor House Lahore. Honorary Consul of Uzbekistan in Punjab, Najeeb Mushtaq Vohra and Trade Counsellor, Bakrom Yusupov were also present on the occasion.

In the meeting, issues of mutual interest and ways to expand bilateral cooperation in the field of education and trade were discussed

PHC issues notices to Speaker,

issued notices, to the speaker and deputy speaker Khyber Pakhtunkhwa assembly in a contempt of court case. A two-member bench

Rehman said that cultural heritage. Pakistan's friendly Governor Pu Governor Punjab said

relations with Uzbekistan that trade has increased are getting stronger with manifold in recent years. He said, "I am confident that the PTA Preferential each passing day and will be further strengthened in Trade Agreement and the the near future. Governor Punjab said that both UPTTA Uzbekistan-Pakistan Transit Trade countries need to revive and strengthen their Agreement will enhance centuries-old trade, spiritual, cultural and our bilateral trade and economic relations.

Page 05

Governor Punjab said He said that tourism that there is a need to further promote mutual cooperation between Pakistan and Uzbekistan in other important sectors including education and trade. He said that there is

Minister directs to initiate action against absent medical staff

Independent Report PESHAWAR: Health Minister Syed Qasim Ali Shah on Wednesday directed to initiate action against absent medical staff, stating that there is no place for those who don't perform their duties, according to health especially for those regulations. working in hospitals.

public, warning that those who fail to fulfill their duties will disciplinary action. He further stated that those who do not report for duty will be dealt with

doctors in serving the

The Health Minister

Dy Speaker in contempt case PESHAWAR (APP): The Peshawar High Court (PHC) on Wednesday

is a priority sector for both countries. He added that it has great economic potential. Governor Punjab said that people associated with the media industry of both countries can work a great scope of investment Speaking on the both countries can work a great scope of investment occasion, Punjab Governor together on joint projects in agriculture, information Muhammad Baligh ur to highlight the common technology.

of PHC comprising Justice Attiq Shah and Justice Arshad Ali heard the case wherein the petitioner said that despite the court order Service Dr Shaukat Ali has staff in health centers, in line with the highlighted complaints Director-General of Health staff in health centers, in directive, the staff in health centers, in health centers,

cooperation and Chinese nationals working collaboration with China in In Punjab.

KP Govt likely to increase BRT service fare

Local Islamic scholar and

cleric arrested in connection

with Mirpur KFC attack case

Independent Report PESHAWAR: Advisor to KP Chief Minister on Finance, Muzamil Aslam has said that the provincial government is likely to increase the fare of Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) services to arrest its deficit and divert the subsidy paid in this regard to other useful heads.

Talking to media during his visit to Peshawar Press Club (PPC) on Tuesday night, he said that since the launching of service in 2019, no increase has been made in its fare as compare to manifold hike in electric and petroleum products prices. He said that

MIRPUR (APP): Mirpur Ejaz

police on Wednesday made

a pivotal arrest in

connection with the March

29 Mirpur KFC attack,

apprehending Mufti Ejaz,

a religious scholar and the

cleric of the local Jamia

a result of the ongoing

preliminary investigations

into the abhorrent attack

by an unruly anti-Israel

crowd of local miscreants,

as confirmed by Senior

Superintendent of Police

The arrest of Mufti

Mirpur, Kamran Ali.

This arrest comes as

mosque.

amount of over Rs.3 billion per annum in head of subsidy in the fare of the BRT Service. He said that a budgetary proposal regarding increase in the fare of the service will be submitted to the government.Regarding financial conditions of the autonomous organizations, he said that various such institutes particularly

Universities are spending more than their sanctioned expenditures. He said the provincial government had never sanctioned any additional funds for them.

To a question regarding debts of the KP government, he said that it has only a debt of Rs.630 currently the provincial billion as compare to government has to pay an Rs.1700 billion of Punjab.

follows

information provided by

individuals already

detained in connection with

the storming of the KFC

outlet in southern Mirpur

interrogation

Kashmir.

vital

and

which affected 324 people, placing the provincial capital at top of the list, followed by Faisalabad with 110 accidents and 111 victims. One killed in

tribal clash By A.S.Bhutto SHIKARPUR: The dirty deadly game of Blood Shedding could not be discouraged which resulted one more villager gunned down over Mahar and Marfani Tribal Clash in Garhiyaseen on Wednesday.

According to reports reached here that some group of armed men attacked with automatic weapons at village Bambhihar in the jurisdiction of Garhiyaseen police station, as a result of firing, Riaz Ahmed of 35 son of Saifal Mahar was killed on the spot.

The cause behind the murder was said to be an ongoing Tribal Clash between two rival Mahar and Marfani tribes, police added.

Bandit killed in joint operation

By Tanveer Ahmed MIRPUR MATHELO: A bandit was killed in a joint operation by the police and Rangers, the bandit Ghulam Nabi Khoso was wanted by the police in several serious incidents, the police killed

city of Azad Jammu an innocent person unjustly This tragic incident SSP Mirpur on behalf of the heirs. Outside Mathelo's office on the nasaw over a hundred accused allegedly involved in the tional highway, the national attack, which resulted in highway was blocked for the ransacking and setting ablaze of the Mirpur AJK several hours. According to fast food outlet, alongside details, the police and rangers raided the neighboring damaging nearby private buildings in the densely village of Mathil Khoso populated business hub. near the border last night.



KARACHI: Pak Navy officials handing over seized narcotics to Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) after apprehended a huge cache of narcotics in a successful joint intelligence-based operation. Joint operation was conducted at Shinkani Dar area near the coastline of Gwadar.

participating in the Independent Report examination spoke their hearts out. The children LAHORE: Provincial Minister Bilal Yasin is continuously in the field to said that the private invigilators used to ask 7 ensure merit in ongoing thousand for a paper and examinations across Punjab. On the instructions more money was demanded of Punjab Chief Minister for the maths exam.

Maryam Nawaz Sharif, Provincial Minister Bilal Yasin visited Lawrence Road examination center here on Wednesday. In the presence of law have been dismissed

Minister Bilal Yasin, several children revealed that they were asked for bribes to solve the paper. A total of 93 private persons were appointed as invigilators at Lawrence Road examination center

the chairman and controller and they were demanding seven thousand rupees to solve each paper. Provincial Minister Bilal Yasin issued orders to dismiss all 93 private invigilators after regular government officials be appointed as receiving the information. In the presence of the

Minister, the children invigilators.

they did not administer oaths to members on reserved seats.

speaker and the deputy speaker had violated the court's order.

On this occasion, the provincial minister gave confidence to the children and told them that all the people who violated the

and disciplinary action is being taken against them. He said that 10 FIRs were filed for flagrant violation of law in the examination centers of Lahore and the accused were arrested. Bilal Yasin said that

of examinations were removed from the post for the worst performance. The head of the cabinet committee directed that

CM grieved over traffic warden's death on duty AHORE (APP): Punjab

Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif has expressed a deep sense of sorrow and grief over the sad demise of a traffic warden, Rashid Malhi, who fell under a trailer in Harunabad while performing his duty.

In her message, the chief minister prayed that may Allah Almighty grant the martyred high place in Jannat-ul-Firdous, and grant patience to the bereaved family.

19 arrested under Kite **FlyingAct during** 24 hours

LAHORE (APP): On the instructions of Inspector General Police Punjab Dr. Usman Anwar, a special campaign against metal strings and kite flying is going on in the entire province of Punjab, in continuation of which, crackdown has been

dangerous business. regarding the department

resource mapping cluster

issued final notices to indicating the immediate The petitioner's counsel said that the

duty for more than three years, following which they will face dismissal from their positions. In his statement, the

Health On which the court issued a notice. emphasized the role of

fifteen dental surgeons need for action against those not adhering to biowho have been absent from metric attendance. He urged health

department officials to ensure the attendance of their staff to provide the best healthcare facilities to Minister the public.



KARACHI: Sindh Governor Kamran Khan Tessori addresses Youth Parliament Shadow Cabinet at Governor House.

Support Programme (BISP) AJK Region disbursed Rs.320 Million among the 113,051 students under the Banizir Educational scholarship Programe in Azad Kashmir

at the start of academic year Zonal Director, Central Zonal Office BISP AJK Dr. Abdul Aziz Qurashi while

conducting BISPAJK 22nd Quarterly RCC Progress Review Meeting under his chair here on Wednesday. The aim is to bring together key stakeholders

to assess the ongoing initiatives and achievements aimed at enhancing educational opportunities underprivileged BISP beneficiaries children. The meeting

This was informed by

witnessed comprehensive discussion on the latest developments and future strategies in line

through

accelerated under zero with BISP's commitment tolerance against the empowering to suspects involved in this marginalized segments of society educational support of

During the last 24 hours, 19 accused were Benazir Taleemi Wazaif. to the Directorate General. arrested and 19 cases. During the meeting,

BISPAJK disburses educational scholarships among 113,051 students

MUZAFFARABAD significant progress was reported on the implementation of Benazir (APP): Benazir Income reported Taleemi Wazaif (Educational Stipends) program, which aims to provide financial assistance to deserving students across the State.

Regional Director BISP AJK emphasized the importance of collaborative efforts between stake holders i.e. BISP, Elementary & Secondary Education department of GoAJK and NCHD to achieve sustainable educational goals.

At the onset of the new academic year, the allocation of educational grants plays a crucial role in enabling children from BISP deserving families to afford essential academic materials and cover other educational expenditures effortlessly.

By working together, we can create a brighter future for all, Dr. Aziz Qureshi Stated.

Deputy Director Beneficiary Management Raja Sajjad Ahmad Khan outlined the progress and targets achieved in the last quarter, emphasizing the expansion of Benazir.

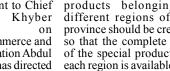


LAHORE: Members Saut ul Gaza Forum are

protesting with placards to show solidarity with

to speed up the digitization of all professional and general business of the Directorate General of Industries and Commerce while emphasized upon

improving the performance of department in terms of services delivery in



to take appropriate steps to make the Government Printing Press fully

institution.

He issued these instructions during a briefing given to him consumer protection

He has directed that a on the occasion of his visit

PESHAWAR Special Assistant to Chief Minister Pakhtunkhwa Industries, Commerce and Technical Education Abdul Karim Tordher has directed

Palestine.

rights.

each region is available. He has also directed the concerned authorities

activate and profitable

Daily Aoice of Masse **Independent** Thursday April 04, 2024

PM for joint efforts to enhance Pak, France coop. in trade, investment

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday stressed the need for working together to enhance cooperation between Pakistan and France, particularly in the areas of trade and investment. The prime minister, in a meeting with Ambassador of France in Islamabad Nicolas Galey who paid a courtesy call on him, invited the French companies to invest in Pakistan.

He welcomed the a difficult phase a few initiative of the French side to bring corporate leaders from top French companies on a visit to Pakistan soon.

The prime minister, who was accompanied by Foreign Minister Senator Muhammad Ishaq Dar, and SAPM Tariq Fatemi, also French shared that stabilization of Emmanuel Macron, in the economy was on top particular their meetings on him on t of the government's the sidelines of UNGA developments.

agenda. handed over а congratulatory letter from French Prime Minister Gabriel Attal, addressed to Prime Minister Shehbaz on

his re-election. The prime minister thanked the French leadership for the message of greetings.

He said that Pakistan enjoyed friendly and cordial ties with France and, although the relationship had undergone years ago, the two countries were now working together to further strengthen bilateral cooperation.

Prime

Afghanistan was also discussed. The French Minister Shehbaz fondly recalled his numerous interactions with President Minister Shehbaz for

Session in 2022, as well as The ambassador on the margins of the Paris Conference on New Financing Pact on Climate Change in June 2023. He also lauded

President Macron's valuable contribution through virtual participation at the Geneva Conference on Resilient Pakistan in January 2023.

The prime minister reiterated his invitation to President Macron to undertake an official visit to Pakistan, at his earliest convenience. The situation in Gaza was also discussed in the meeting and the prime minister appreciated French peace efforts in the region. The situation in

ambassador thanked Prime receiving him and briefed him on the latest



Sindh CM, WB team discuss progress on 13 projects worth \$3.2bn

KARACHI (APP): Chief Minister Sindh Syed Murad Ali Shah met a team from the World Bank, led by Country Director Najy Benhassine and discussed the progress of 13 active projects worth \$3.2 billion other that are being assisted by the World Bank.

So far, 40 per cent or \$1.33 billion has been disbursed and they agreed Draugelis to speed up the work on these projects by removing bottlenecks to ensure their timely completion.

The meeting was attended by provincial ministers including Dr Karachi Mobility, project Azra Pechuho, Nasir Shah, has three components,

Saeed Ghani, Mohammad including a CM Sindh \$177 Bux Maher, Jam Khan million development of Shoro, Chief Secretary Asif Road infrastructure for the Hyder Shah, Chairman Yellow Line Corridor, \$260 P&D Najam Shah, PSCM Agha Wasif, Secretary Finance Fayaz Jatoi and concerned secretaries. The World Bank team include Operation

Manager Gailius J Senior Transport Specialist Lincoln, Kamran Akbar, Syed Usman and others. P&D Chairman Najam Shah gave a detailed briefing saying that Karachi Mobility, project

FCA to met by end of current month

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Federal Committee on Agriculture (FCA) is scheduled to convene by the end of the current month (April) to discuss the performance of key agricultural indicators during the Rabi season.

The committee will assess the output of major and minor crops during the Rabi season 2023-24 and establish production targets for Kharif crops 2024. This is essential to meet local dietary needs as well as to facilitate exports, said Food Security Commissioner in the Ministry of National Food

The high-power committee is mandated to oversee strategic measures

for ensuring food safety and security in the country

Minister for Science and

Technology Dr Khalid

Maqbool Siddiqui's directive led to the

Quality Control Authority

(PSQCA) busting a factory

cosmetics,

Pak, Netherlands agree to explore new opportunities for partnership ISLAMABAD (APP): government of Pakistan for

Pakistan and Netherlands here on Wednesday agreed on the significance of enhancing bilateral relations and exploring new opportunities for partnership in areas of

OMMERCENEWS

mutual interest. According to press statement issued by ministry, finance Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Pakistan, Mrs. Henny de Vries called on Minister for Finance and Revenue, Muhammad Aurangzeb, to discuss matters of mutual interest and strengthen the existing ties between Pakistan and

the Netherlands. The minister warmly welcomed the Ambassador and expressed appreciation for the longstanding friendship and cooperation between the two countries. He highlighted the importance of the bilateral relationship, rooted in shared values and a history of collaboration.

The discussion also touched upon the textile industries, and structural reforms being projects on water implemented by the

promoting economic growth and ensuring fiscal sustainability.

Page

06

The minister highlighted that Pakistan was interested in technology transfer and leveraging the expertise of Netherlands in agriculture, dairy, and farm production that would lead to increased production and exports, contributing significantly to Pakistan's economy.

Ambassador de Vries reciprocated the sentiments, emphasizing the Netherlands' commitment to furthering cooperation with Pakistan across various sectors. She also appreciated the government's efforts being taken towards reforms in major economic and financial sectors of the economy.

The Ambassador also informed about the pilot projects being run by the Netherlands in Pakistan, including fish production, ensuring labor safety and environmental standards in projects on water management in agriculture.



ISLAMABAD: Minister for Finance and Revenue Mr. Muhammad Aurangzeb was called on by H.E. Mrs. Henny de Vries, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Pakistan.

Punjab cabinet fixes wheat support price at Rs 3,900 per 40kg

Independent Report and others through speedy AHORE: Punjab Chief trials. Minister Maryam Nawaz

Advocate General Sharif chaired the fifth Punjab briefed the cabinet meeting of the provincial cabinet at CM's office, about the proposed amendment in the defamation law and the minimum establishment of special support price of wheat for trial courts. He said that in the year 2023-2024 was a defamation case, the fixed by the cabinet at Rs 3,900 per 40 kg. Wheat within 90 days and the trial

Pakistan's minister discuss bilateral trade strategies ISLAMABAD (APP): respect and equality. The Ambassador of Both Turkmenistan to Pakistan, expressed interest in

Turkmenistan Ambassador,

Atajan Movlamov, on Thursday congratulate the Federal Minister for new routes and transit Commerce, Jam Kamal Khan, on his recent appointment and engaged in discussions aimed at Turkmenistan's potential bolstering trade relations to offer cost-effective

parties enhancing trade volumes, with a focus on exploring trade agreements. Ambassadoı

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Industries & Production, Rana Tanveer

Movlamov noted report period. between the two countries. electricity compared to ships were engaged at PQA berths during the last 24 hours, out of them two

Hussain chairs a review meeting of Engineering Development Board. Shipping activity at **Port Qasim**

KARACHI (APP): Six ships namely, Maersk Kensington, Kyparissia, MSC Spring, Mala Kado, Silver Heba and Al-Wajbah scheduled to load/offload Container, Cement, Palm oil and LNG, berthed at Container Terminal, Multi-Purpose Terminal, Liquid

Terminal and Elengy Terminal respectively on Security and Research. A total of thirteen

The meeting would also be attended by the senior's officials of the provincial food and agriculture departments, State Bank of Pakistan, Zarie Taraqiatie Bank Limited and other credit providing institutions, he added.

Besides, the FCA would also be attended by the representatives of National Fertilizer Development Center. Pakistan Meteorological Department, Indus River System Authority and member food security and climate change of Planning Commission of Pakistan. he added. He emphasized that the primary objective

million for its operationalisation and \$6 million for capacity building and technical assistance. The meeting was told that the BRT Yellow Line corridor has been divided into two lots -13 km and 21km respectively. The

Designs and bidding documents were under preparation and would be submitted to the Bank by May 30. The Requests for bids are scheduled for July 15, 2024.

Rupee sheds 08 paisa

against dollar ISLAMABAD (APP) Pakistani Rupee on Wednesday witnessed a devaluation of 08 paisa against the US dollar in the

interbank trading and closed at Rs277.91 against the previous day's closing of Rs277.83. However, according to the Forex Association of Pakistan (FAP), the buying

and selling rates of the dollar in the open market stood at Rs278 and

Rs281.75 respectively. The price of the Euro increased by 92 paisa to close at Rs299.34 against the last-day closing of Rs298.42, according to the State Bank of Pakistan

NPO to organize

workshop on

'Advance Excel'

and automation to process

Over 8.3 m

cotton bales

reach ginneries

till March 31

MULTAN (APP): Seed

cotton (Phutti) equivalent

to over 8.3 million or exactly 839,655,7 bales has

reached ginning factories

across the country till

to a fortnightly report of

Ginners Association

(PCGA) released on Wednesday over 8.3

large volumes of data.

During the meeting, Minister Jam Kamal emphasized Pakistan's commitment to strengthening bilateral ties Turkmenistan, with particularly in trade, for the mutual benefit of both nations, said press release

issued here. The discussions centered on various aspects of Turkmen-Pakistani relations, highlighting cooperation based on principles of mutual

Minister says: PRA working with corruption free mechanism

Independent Report LAHORE: Punjab Finance Minister Mujtaba Shujaur The success of the institution depends on the Rehman has said that trust of the people, he Punjab Revenue Authority (PRA) is the only provincial tax collecting added. Chairman Punjab Badr, agency in the country that is working with a corruption free mechanism.

He expressed these views during the performance review meeting at the Punjab Revenue Authority, here on Wednesday.

He said the PRA has been collecting 66 percent of provincial revenue while Board of Revenue 22 percent and Excise and Taxation 12 percent. The PRA still has a lot of potential to double the tax collections, he added.

He said a policy of increasing the tax net will be adopted to increase the collections. Apart from restaurants, beauty parlors and fashion designers, IT services, franchises and sponsorships will also be included in the tax net.

local production in Pakistan, while also highlighting opportunities for collaboration in energy sectors such as LPG and electricity. Minister Jam Kamal

expressed optimism about the imminent signing of a Transit Trade Agreement (TTA) between the two countries which is in its final stage and either shall be signed in Islamabad or Ashgabat Capital of Turkmenistan.

Open door policy will be promoted in PRA offices.

tôld

as the finance minister and

minister

Chemroad Journey left the Port on today morning while four more ships, Al-Areesh, Uog Sparta, MSC Spring and Maersk Kensington are expected to sail on today afternoon. Cargo volume of 267,762 comprising 222,987 tonnes

imports cargo and 44,775 tonnes export cargo carried in 6,800 Containers (4,660 TEUs Imports and 2,140 TEUs export) was handled at the port during last 24 hours.

ships, Al-Diab-III and

tonnes.

There are 5 ships at Outer Anchorage of Port Qasim, out of them two ships.

General ® **Tariq Shafi** visits FCCI

Revenue Authority Javed FAISALABAD (APP) Commissioner General (Retired) Tariq Shafi Chak Chief Operating Lahore Misbah Nawaz, Additional Commissioner Officer Sardar Group visited Faisalabad and had Sara Havat, Member Atiya Ali Khan and concerned an exclusive meeting with Dr Khurram Tariq officers attended the meeting. The provincial President Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce & the participants of the meeting that in 2012, he approved establishment of the Industry (FCCI).

discussed They opportunities for major Punjab Revenue Authority investment in the textile sector on behalf of Sardar transferred the collection Tanvir Illvas Khan, former of sales tax in services from

the Excise department to Prime Minister AJK. Major (Ret the PRA. Tax is being (Retired) Taseer Ikram Rana, Chairman Loyal Warriors collected on more than 70 services under PRA. The rate of receipts in PRA has and his team were also present during this reached from 100 billion to meeting. Dr Khurram Tariq 200 billion rupees. The PRA is also collecting briefed Tariq Shafi about the prevailing economic Punjab Infrastructure Cess and Punjab Worker Welfare situation and investment Funds in addition to Sales opportunities in new and innovative sectors.

Federal Minister for Power, Sardar Awais Ahmad Khan Leghari having a meeting with a delegation from APTMA in Islamabad.

PSQCA busts illegal cosmetics factory, seizes huge stock

LAHORE (APP): Federal operating under the name of SS International was manufacturing fake and substandard beauty creams, shampoos, and Pakistan Standards and other items. The production area was also found in extremely

producing counterfeit both The PSQCA team seized all prepared items and shut down the factory. Deputy Director Asghar Ali stated that the factory was producing cosmetics without PSQCA's licence and supplying them nationwide. Such counterfeit and substandard products are a cause of serious health

Road, where a company issue. **CDNS** increase Savings Certificate, rates from March 19

SLAMABAD (INP): offer 14.76%, the senior official of CDNS told APP The Central Directorate of National Savings (CDNS) has increased the rates of here on Monday. The new increases were also applied to

The

current fiscal year.

Directorate of National Savings (CDNS) has

attained a target of Rs 1210

billion in fresh bonds in the

return for its National Savings Certificates, Bahbood marking amendments Certificates different across Pensioners Account (PBA), and Shuhadas Family Welfare instruments from March 19th, 2024. Account (SFWA), with each now yielding 15.60%.

Return rates for cial Savings Special Certificates (SSC) have been adjusted upwards by 15.93 %, Defense Savings certificates by 13.36 %, Income Regular

Certificates (RIC) now

domestically and internationally. Under the supervision of Asghar Ali, deputy director of the Standards Development Centre of PSQCA, engineers Azizur Rahman, Nauman Khaliq, Nadeem Mahmood Chohan, and

others raided a house in

Procurement Policy 2024-25 was also approved. The CM said: "It is my commitment to ensure that the interests of small farmers are protected at all

here on Wednesday.

The

costs." She said Rs 1.5 lakh interest-free loan would be given to small farmers for buying farm inputs like seeds, fertiliser and pesticides, under the best and most historic farmer cards in the history of Pakistan. The cabinet also gave approval to establish Special Speedy Trial Courts in Punjab for the logical conclusion of criminal cases related to rape, child abuse, domestic violence, electricity theft Affairs.

within 180 days. He added defamation notices would be given simultaneously through major newspapers, social media, courier service and registered post to avoid complaints of nonreceipt and delay. AGP apprised the cabinet that this amendment would be presented soon in the Punjab Assembly for seeking approval. The chief minister

appreciated the move and said the culture of lying and false accusations must end. The cabinet also gave approval of formation of Cabinet Standing Committee on Legal



KARACHI: PTCL and National Insurance Company Limited sign an agreement for provision of Smart Cloud Services bundled with allied licenses, the agreement sign between Muhammad Basharat Qureshi, Group Vice President Enterprise Solutions PTCL, and Khalid Hameed, **CEO National Insurance Company Limited (NICL)** during a ceremony held NICL Head-Office.

NLC successfully transports Pakistan's potato export consignment to Tajikistan

ISLAMABAD (INP): seven days. However, a The National Logistics Corporation (NLC) has achieved another major milestone in boosting the country's regional trade with Central Asian state of Tajikistan by successfully transporting Pakistani

potato export consignment to Dushanbe. The NLC effectively gained access to increase trade with another important Central Asian country as the convoy of

March 31, 2024. According NLC trucks reached the the Pakistan Cotton Tajik capital of Dushanbe after covering of more than 1,400 kilometers (km), an official source told APP.

million or 839,655,7 bales have undergone the ginning The trucks of National Logistics Cell completed the journey process. It is 348,448,8 more bales compared to the corresponding period of the year 2023. from Okara and Rahim Yar Khan to Dushanbe in just

ûse

special ceremony was held at Dushanbe Customs Terminal One on the arrival of the inaugural convoy under International Road Transport.

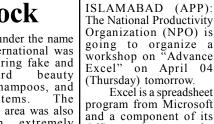
The inauguration ceremony was attended by notable personalities including Tajik Minister of Transport Azim Ibrahim, Director General of NLC Farrukh Shehzad Rao, Pakistani Ambassador Muhammad Saeed Sarwar, Customs Department officials and prominent Tajik businessmen.

Addressing the ceremony, the Tajikistan's Minister of Transport appreciated the official launch of transportation ground Pakistan's leading logistics organization

Tax-in-Services

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah and the World Bank team led by its Country Director Mr. Najy Benhassine review the progress of the World Bank-assisted 13 active projects at CM House.





Office product group for unsuitable conditions. business applications Microsoft Excel enables users to format, organize and calculate data in a spreadsheet, said an NPO document shared here on Wednesday. Advanced Excel skill includes the ability to produce graphs and tables, use spreadsheets efficiently, and perform calculations

> Savings (BSC).

Benefit

Central

Lalazar Colony, Multan

of the meeting is to strengthen coordination The Japanese Yen remained unchanged and closed at Rs1.83, whereas efforts, consolidate gains and ensure continued an increase of 48 paisa was witnessed in the exchange

and among others, he told progress across all sectors of agricultural. APP here on Wednesday. rate of the British Pound.

Daily A oice of Masse

International News

Page 07

"They are trying to impose on us that the ter-rorist act was committed

not by the Kyiv regime, but

by supporters of radical

Islamic ideology, perhaps

members of the Afghan branch of IS," security council head Nikolai

Patrushev said at a meeting in the Kazakhstan capital

Astana of security councils

"However, it is much

Muslim leaders reject chance to break bread with Biden as anger over Gaza festers

Monitoring Desk WASHINGTON: Last year, President Joe Biden hadn't even spoken a word at the White House celebration of Ramadan before

someone shouted out "we love you." Hundreds of Muslims were there to mark the end of the holy month that requires fasting from sunrise to sunset.

There are no such jovous scenes during this Ramadan. With many Muslim Americans outraged over Biden's support for Israel's siege of Gaza, the White House chose to hold a smaller iftar dinner on Tuesday evening. The only attendees were people who work for his adminis-

flict.

"We're just in a differ-ent world," said Wa'el Alzayat, who leads Emgage, a Muslim advo-ence remaination "It'a cacy organization. "It's completely surreal. And it's

Alzayat attended last United States." year's event, but he declined fear that Biden's loss of support among Muslims an invitation to break his fast with Biden this year, saying, "It's inappropriate to do such a celebration while there's a famine going on in Gaza."

House. This year's election After rejections from will likely hinge on a hand-Alzayat and others, he said ful of battleground states, the White House adjusted including Michigan with its significant Muslim populaits plans Monday, telling community leaders that it tion. "There are real differwanted to host a meeting focused on administration policy. Alzayat still said no,

ences between the two,' Alzayat said. "But emobelieving that one day was tionally, there may be no not enough time to prepare differences for some folks. for an opportunity to sway And that's the danger." He added, "It's not Biden's mind on the congood enough to tell people When the Democratic Donald Trump is going to

president took office three be worse. years ago, many Muslim Several Muslim leadleaders were eager to turn the page on Donald Trump's bigotry, including ers attended Tuesday's meeting with Biden, Vice President Kamala Harris, his campaign pledge to implement a " total and complete shutdown of Muslims entering the would not name them.

his Republican predecessor



Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskiy and Finnish President Alexander Stubb appear after a joint press conference, amid Russia's attack on Ukraine, in Kyiv, Ukraine.

9 dead, hundreds injured in most powerful Taiwan quake in 25 years

Monitoring Desk HUALIEN: At least nine people were killed and more than 1,000 injured on Wednesday by a powerful earthquake in Taiwan that damaged dozens of buildings and prompted tsunami warnings that extended to Japan and the Philippines before being lifted. Officials said the quake was the stron-

gest to shake the island in decades, and warned of more tremors in the days ahead. "The earthquake is close to land and it's shallow. It's felt all over Tai-wan and offshore islands,"

island's history. Philippine court orders arrest of religious leader with ties to Duterte

Monitoring Desk tial in elections. IANILA: A Philippine court has ordered the arrest of a church founder and southern city of Davao has ordered the arrest of Apollo longtime friend of former Quiboloy, a self-proclaimed President Rodrigo Duterte, "owner of the universe" on charges of human trafand "appointed son of ficking and sexual abuse of

department on charges several years old. A lawyer for Quiboloy did not respond to a request for comment. Duterte's representatives did not immediately reby millions of people in the Philippines, where church spond to requests for comment



Russia security says the US shares blame for a concert hall attack that killed 144

Monitoring Desk TALLINN: The head of Russia's national security council on Wednesday contended that the United States shares blame for the attack by gunmen on a Moscow concert hall that killed 144 people, even though a branch of the Islamic State group has claimed responsibility.

Since the March 22 of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization. The SCO attack at the Crocus City is a nine-country regional Hall, the deadliest on Russecurity and economic bloc that includes China, India sian soil in two decades, Russian officials including President Vladimir Putin and Iran. have repeatedly claimed, more important to quickly establish who is the cuswithout presenting evidence, that it was organized tomer and sponsor of this by Ukraine, which has been fighting a Russian invasion monstrous crime. Its traces lead to the Ukrainian special for more than two years. services. But everyone An affiliate of the Is-

knows that the Kyiv regime lamic State claimed responis not independent and is sibility for the attack and completely controlled by the United States." Kyiv has consistently denied involvement.

WHO reports sharp rise in newborn deaths in Gaza

Monitoring Desk Palestinian territory after six months of Israeli aggres-GENEVA: Newborn morsion, with Harris saying tality is rising sharply in the many people do not even Gaza Strip, with babies beget to hospital. She cited a ing born underweight, the World Health Organisation stabilisation centre set up last week, saying the inpasaid on Tuesday, citing tients were typically chilmedics on the ground.

dren with medical illnesses "From different docas well as malnutrition. "If tors, particularly in the mayou have got an underlying ternity hospitals, they're condition, malnutrition will reporting that they're seekill you much more quickly, ing a big rise in children born so they become the most with low birth weight, and urgent patients," she said. just not surviving the neo-On Monday, the Is-raeli army pulled out of Gaza City's Al Shifa Hos-pital after a two-week natal period because they're born too small,' WHO spokeswoman Margaret Harris said at a briefmilitary operation that ing in Geneva. She said that left much of the complex at Kamal Adwan, the only in ruins and bodies scatpaediatric hospital in north-ern Gaza, "at least 15 maltered on the dusty grounds. The hospital was nourished children are comthe biggest in the Palestining in per day, and the needs ian territory. "Al Shifa Medical Complex is gone are just getting ever more severe"

The WHO is unable to forever," its acting director Marwaan Abu Saadah establish precise statistics said in a WHO video on child mortality because of the devastation in the filmed at the scene.

Bodies of 6 foreign aid workers slain in Israeli strikes are transported out of Gaza Monitoring Desk time corridor late Monday RAFAH: The bodies of six when Israeli airstrikes targeted their three vehicles, foreign aid workers killed in a series of Israeli strikes killing everyone inside. Israel said it carried were transported out of the out the strikes by mistake Gaza Strip and into Egypt on Wednesday ahead of and that it has launched an their repatriation, Egypt's state-run Qahera TV reindependent investigation into how it happened. Some of Israel's closest ported. The deadly strikes allies, including the United have renewed criticism of States, condemned the Israel's wartime conduct deaths, which led the World and highlighted the perilous conditions aid workers face Central Kitchen and other charities to suspend food in trying to deliver food to the besieged enclave, where deliveries to Palestinians on the brink of starvation, citexperts say nearly a third of the population is on the ing the dire security situation brink of starvation. in Gaza. Cyprus, which has played a key role in setting The three British citizens, a Polish citizen, an up the maritime corridor, said Australian and a Canadian the ships that had arrived American dual citizen Monday were returning to worked for World Central the Mediterranean island na-Kitchen, an international tion with some 240 tons of undelivered aid. But it also charity founded by celebrity said the sea deliveries would chef José Andrés. Their Palestinian driver was also continue. Israel faces growing killed, and his remains were handed over to his family for isolation as international burial in Gaza. The other criticism of its Gaza assault bodies were driven into has mounted. On the same Egypt through the Rafah day as the deadly airstrikes, crossing. They were distrib-Israel stirred more fears by uting food that had been apparently striking Iran's brought into Gaza through consulate in Damascus and a newly established mari- killing two Iranian generals.

A damaged building in Hualien, after a major earthquake hit Taiwan's east.

NATO to plan long-term Ukraine aid, mulls 100-bln euro fund

Monitoring Desk BRUSSELS: NATO allies agreed on Wednesday to initiate planning on long term military support for Ukraine, but a proposal by NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg to do so via a 100 billion euro (\$107 billion) five-year fund drew mixed responses.

"We need to shift the dvnamics of our support,7 Stoltenberg said. "We must ensure reliable and predictable security assistance to Ukraine for the long haul less on short-term offers and more on multi-year pledges." He said the aim was for a decision to be taken at a July summit of

Stoltenberg's pro- NATO member states' leadsal would also give the ers. Until now, NATO as an organisation has focused New Delhi Television cited on non-lethal aid for city police chief Manoj Ukraine out of fears that a Lohiya as saying. Authori-ties were investigating the ger an escalation of tensions cause of the fire in the city with Russia. Its members nearly 340 kilometers (210 have provided billions of miles) northeast of dollars in arms on a bilat-Mumbai, India's financial eral basis. and entertainment capital. Diplomats said there Fires are common in India, was a growing view within where builders and residents NATO that it was time to often flout building laws and put military aid to Ukraine safety codes. In 2019, a fire on a more sustainable footcaused by an electrical short ing and NATO was best circuit engulfed a building in placed to do that. the Indian capital and killed 43 people. In 2022, a fire in

A fire in a tailoring shop in India kills 7, including children **Monitoring Desk**

NEW DELHI: A fire in a tailoring shop on Wednesday killed seven people, including two children, in the Indian city of Aurangabad, police said. The blaze created

panic in part of the business district of the city in Maharashtra state. Authorities suspect

a woman, court documents showed. The evangelist preacher, who also figures

on the most wanted list of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in the United States, is followed

that the deaths occurred due to smoke inhalation the

Monitoring Desk said Wu Chien-fu, director O P E N H Ă G E N of Taipei's Central Weather Finland's Administration's Seismol-Alexander Stubb on ogy Centre. Wednesday visited Ukraine Strict building regula-tions and widespread pubwhere he and Ukrainian

President Volodymyr lic disaster awareness ap-Zelenskiy signed an agreepear to have staved off a ment on security cooperamajor catastrophe for the tion and long-term support earthquake-prone island, between the two countries, which lies near the junction Stubb's office said in a stateof two tectonic plates. ment. Wu said the quake was

the strongest since a 7.6magnitude struck in September 1999, killing around 2,400 people in the deadliest natural disaster in the construction

Cambodia's ex-leader Hun Sen becomes senate president Monitoring Desk leaders are highly influen-

PHNOM PENH: Former Cambodian leader Hun Sen A family court in the was promoted to senate president on Wednesday, taking over a key ceremonial role less than a year after handing power to his

god", after he was indicted Hun Sen stepped last month by the justice down in August after nearly four decades of iron-fisted rule, passing the baton to his eldest son Hun Manet following a landslide win in national polls held without any significant opposition parties.



Finland,

Ukraine sign

10-year security

agreement

President

Western alliance a more direct role in coordinating the supply of arms, ammunition and equipment to more direct role could trig-Ukraine as it fights Russia's invasion. Under the plans, NATO would take over some coordination work from a U.S.-led ad-hoc coalition known as the Ramstein group - a move designed in part to guard against any cut in U.S. support if Donald Trump returns to the White House, diplomats said.

Deadly strike on Iran consulate 'crossed a line': analysts

Monitoring Desk BEIRUT: A deadly strike blamed on Israel against Iran's diplomatic mission in Damascus could trigger a spillover of the Gaza crisis across the region, an escalation Tehran had sought to avoid, analysts said.

Monday's strike lev-elled the consular annex of the Iranian embassy and killed 13 people, including seven members of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), Iranian state media reported.

They included two senior commanders of the Guards' Quds Force foreign operations arm, Brigadier Generals Mohammad Reza Zahedi and Mohammad Hadi Haji Rahimi, Iranian officials said. Ali Vaez of the International Crisis Group called the attack "a signifi-cant escalation". "By tar-

kill 7 people in geting an Iranian diplomatic facility, Israel has crossed a line," he said. After months of ag-

gression in Gaza, Israel is now stepping up its operations against Iranian and pro-Iran commanders in Lebanon and Syria, a move observers fear could spiral

into all-out war. Although Iran has said it wants to avoid full-scale war, supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei warned on Tuesday that "Israel will be punished" for the Damascus strike, while President Ebrahim Raisi said the raid "will not go unanswered"

The Damascus strike could signal that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, entangled in Gaza for nearly six months, is preparing for a wider re-

Sunday in Nanchang, the provincial capital.



hailstorms have killed seven people in eastern China's Jiangxi province this week, including three people who fell from their apartments in a high-rise building.

a four-story commercial building in New Delhi killed at least 27.

Dozens of homes were severely damaged by the storms, which started Sunday, and more than 800 people have been resettled, state broadcaster

CCTV said Wednesday, citing a Jiangxi government emergency agency. Four people died on

Pro-Palestinian demonstrators hold signs as they call for a ceasefire in Gaza Violent storms outside the White House in Washington, DC.

Protesters seeking hostages' release smear paint in Israeli parliament

Monitoring Desk JERUSALEM: A group of Israelis demanding their government do more to free hostages held by Hamas in Gaza protested in parliament on Wednesday with some smearing paint on the partition between the visitors' gallery and the ple-

num. "Now! Now!" they chanted at lawmakers below, leaving the glass streaked with yellow - the colour of their campaign as ushers bundled them out.

The protest followed three days of anti-government demonstrations in Jerusalem when thousands took to the streets calling some of the hostages.

corruption probe for more action to free the hostages and new elections to replace Prime Minister PARIS: French authori Benjamin Netanyahu. ties were searching the

Of 253 people seized mayoral offices of former by Hamas during its cross-French Prime Minister border rampage on Oct. 7 Edouard Philippe - also that triggered the Gaza war, the mayor of Le Havre -134 remain in captivity and as part of a preliminary incommunicado in the Palinvestigation linked to estinian enclave. possible corruption and

Israeli officials have financial wrongdoings, a declared at last 35 of them judicial source said on dead in absentia, and rela-Wednesday. tives and friends fear for the Philippe, who is fate of the rest as the con-

widely seen as a potential flict drags on. candidate to succeed Qatar and Egypt have Emmanuel Macron in been trying to mediate a France's next presidential Gaza ceasefire that might secure the release of at least

> World's most scans first images of human brain **Monitoring Desk** SACLAY: The world'

most powerful MRI scanner has delivered its first images of human brains, reaching a new level of precision that is hoped will shed more light on our mysterious minds - and the illnesses that haunt them.

at France's Atomic Energy Commission (CEA) first used the machine to scan a pumpkin back in 2021. But health authorities recently gave them the green light to scan humans

Police remove migrants from central Paris square ahead of the Olympics Monitoring Desk PARIS: French police on

ens of migrants, including

families with young chil-

dren, from the forecourt of

Paris City Hall as the capi-

while sleeping in the plaza.

The migrants packed be-

to temporary local govern-

ment housing in the town

of Besançon in eastern

concerned that the move

Wednesday is the begin-

ning of a broader effort

by Paris authorities to

others sleeping in the

rough in the capital be-

fore the summer Olym-

Aid workers are

France.

longer-term housing options. Wednesday removed doz-

'They're clearing the way for the Olympic Games," Yann Manzi, a member of the migrant aid group Utopia 56, told The Associated Press during Wednesday's police opera-tion in central Paris. "What is happening is nothing short of social cleansing of the city.

Olympics organizers have said they are working with aid groups to find solutions for those in the streets, including the many people who come from around the world to Paris longings and boarded a bus seeking refuge or employment

Fatoumata, a mother of two from Guinea, spent a whole month sleeping on the streets of Paris with her two children, aged 3 months and 3 years.

"It's no way to live, it's exhausting," Fatoumata clear out migrants and said, holding the baby and clutching the toddler to her. She boarded the bus in hope that life will be better outpics without providing side the capital.



gional conflict.

The Open Arms, a rescue vessel owned by a Spanish NGO arrives at the port of Larnaca after pausing the mission of delivering humanitarian aid for Gaza, following the killing of seven aid workers in an Israeli airstrike in Gaza, in Larnaca, Cyprus.

Europe's restless farmers are forcing policymakers to act

Monitoring Desk BRUSSELS: European

policymakers have scaled back rules to protect nature, drawn up limits on the import of tariff-free Ukrainian grains and scrapped new legislation limiting pesticide use as farmers' protests resonate with voters ahead of elections

From Poland to Portugal, farmers have won the European Union headremarkable concessions in response to waves of street action, reshaping the European Union's green politics months ahead of burdensome red tape.

European Parliament elections Environmental activists and analysts say the policy backsliding illus-

trates the considerable political influence of farmers as mainstream parties seek to impede the far right and nationalist parties' hunt for votes in rural areas.

Farmers again block-Researchers aded streets surrounding

quarters in Brussels last week, spraying manure to protest low incomes. cheap food imports and

tal prepares to mark 100 days to the start of the Olympic Games. Police arrived at dawn to remove about 50 people, mostly women and children aged 3 months to 10 years, who were bundled up in strollers, under blankets or covered with plastic sheets to shield against the rain

election, could not immediately be reached for comment. powerful MRI

Former French

PM Phillipe's

mayoral office

searched in

Monitoring Desk

Daily **Independent**, Quetta

Thursday April 04, 2024

<u>At UN</u> Pakistan rebuts India's claim of Kashmir being its 'integral part'

NATIONS UNITED (APP): Pakistan Tuesday hit back at India for claiming Kashmir to be its 'integral part, saying that repeating a wrong position would not make it acceptable at any forum. "Let me reaffirm that Jammu and Kashmir is an internationally recognized disputed territory and is not, by any means, a so-called integral part of India", Pakistani delegate Gul Qaiser Sarwani said, while responding to comments by India's representative during the general debate of the UN Disarmament Commission, which began its 2024 session on Monday.

The Indian representative. who was was reacting to Pakistani Ambassador Munir Akram's speech to the Commission on the opening day, claimed that Jammu and Kashmir was an "integral part' of India, and accused Pakistan of being involved in terrorism. The Indian representative also accused Pakistan of mis-

the Kashmir dispute.

In his speech, besides other issues, Ambassador Akram had highlighted that Kashmiris and Palestinians were among the peoples still denied the right to self-determination, asserting that India's large-scale arms acquisitions plus its set of ag-gressive military policies has turned the security en-

vironment in South Asia volatile and explosive". Exercising his right to reply, Sarwani, the Pakistani delegate underscored that Jammu and Kashmir is an internationally recognized disputed territory and not an "integral part of India", and that Ambassador Akram's remarks were completely relevant to the work of the Commission.

'Contrary to India's assertion, the situation in the Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir, India's massive arms build up, aggressive posturing, concerns over India's emphaand war-fighting doctrines are completely relevant to Cut-off Treaty (FMCT).

using the forum by raising the Commission's work, as they carry grave implications for regional and international peace and security - and hence impinge on efforts towards disarmament." Sarwani added

The Pakistani delegate said that his country was facing a significant threat of terrorism, which is orchestrated, supported and financed by its Eastern neighbour (India), a wellknown state sponsor of terrorism whose terrorist network has gone global, reaching countries far beyond its

borders. Sarwani reiterated Pakistan's stance on the longstanding Jammu and Kashmir dispute, emphasizing that it remains on the agenda of the UN Security Council and that its final dis position is to be determined by its people through a UN-

supervised plebiscite. On the programme of work of the Conference on Disarmament (CD) Sarwani expressed Pakistan's sis on the Fissile Material

Romina appointed

as Coordinator

to PM on

Romina Khurshid Alam has

been appointed as Coordi-

nator to the Prime Minis-

ter on climate change. The

MNA would lead the Min-

istry of Climate Change

India's arms

build-up, HR

situation in

regional peace'

ISLAMABAD (Online):

Pakistan has stated that

grave human rights situa-

tion in Jammu and Kash-

mir, massive arms build-up

by India, and its aggressive

war posturing directly im-

manent Mission of Pakistan

to the UN Gul Qaiser

ment Commission in New

York categorically asserted

that Jammu and Kashmir is

an internationally recog-

nized disputed territory and

Pak Army

conducts life

saving heli

Counselor at the Per-



QUETTA: Regional Director Mediterranean of Polio Eradication at the World Health Organization Dr. Syed Hamid Jaffari meeting with Balochistan Chief Secretary Shakeel Qadir Khan.

Gandhara Corridor to connect Pakistan with Buddhist world, bill introduced by MNA Ramesh

bly, 2007, said a press re-ISLAMABAD (APP): Prominent MNA Dr Ramesh Kumar Vankwani has introduced a significant bill in the parliament aimed establishing the Gandhara Corridor to connect Pakistan with the Buddhist world. "This act aims to encourage uniformity of approach among all branches of government and stake holders for transforming Pakistan into a most favorite pilgrimage destination and an international hub of Gandhara tourism," the proposed bill stated, which was submitted to the Secretary, National Assembly Secretariat, under Rule 118 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Busiset up sub-offices or repreness in the National Assem- sentative offices at other

at

lease. "It is expedient to es-tablish a high level statuary it may deem appropriate. Dr Ramesh Vankwani body to ensure that due faand reasons, took the stance cilitation support at Federal level must be provided to that under Article 40 of the Constitution of Pakistan provinces and administrative units of Pakistan for the State shall foster goodpursuing a common national will and friendly relations cause of promoting internaamong all nations as well as tional pilgrimage / faith tourto support the common interests of the peoples, in-cluding of Asia. He also ism through a systematic promotion of the Gandhara region, encompassing Pakiquoted Quaid-e-Azam as stan." According to the bill, the Corridor shall be headed of friendliness and goodwill towards all the nations of by the Chairperson to be appointed by the Prime Minister of Pakistan, whereas the head office of the Corridor shall be at be a game changer and a Islamabad. However, it may

Secretary Health seeks role

the world.'

BEIJING (APP): Pakistan Ambassador to China, Khalil Hashmi presented his credentials to President Ukhnaagiin Khürelsükh of Mongolia on in an elegant and impressive ceremony held at the State House in Ulaanbaatar, capital city of Mongolia. During his ongoing visit, Ambassadoi Hashmi is also meeting with various ministerial and deputy ministerial level officials. academia and businesses.

Notably, he had pro ductive interactions with Battsetseg the Ms. Batmunkh, Foreign Minister and other senior officials of Mongolia Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), in which both sides empha-sized the need to build on

X closure case: **IHC gives indication** to summon PM ISLAMABAD (Online): been done. Neither file nor

closed.

You should tell what rea-

son should I got written.

tion is over. Now leave it. What should I do on this

report of interior ministry,

What should I write. I wil

call interior secretary then

some thing will be done.

Let interior secretary come

to summon higher authori-

ties. Court should give one

CJ IHC remarked elec-

Islamabad High Court any thing was brought. (IHC) has summoned interior secretary in X closure Every thing has been jammed. All have been case besides giving indication to summon Prime Minister (PM).

The Chief Justice (CJ) IHC Aamer Farooq gave indication to summon PM. The petition filed by journalist Ahtesham Abbasi against closure of X came

up for hearing in IHC Ŵednesday. Joint interior secre-

and then we will see. If it is tary told the court X has not done by interior secrebeen closed on the report tary then I will summon of security agencies. The CJ IHC PM. Upon it Joint interior secretary said give one exchance more and please not

pressed annoyance over interior ministry report. He remarked tell us about any written thing.

chance. Tell us by reading out was The CJ IHC remarked what we should do. You it said to bring the details. What is this procedure. have brought nothing. We see which court gives de-Which is this attitude. Assist the court. What has cision first.



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Iran H.E. Dr. Raza Amiri Moghaddam calls on Federal Minister for **Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resources De**velopment Chaudhry Salik Hussain.

PkMAP slams MPA's behavior with protesting female professors of UoB

Independent Report QUETTA: The Pashtoonkhaw Milli Awami Party (PkMAP) has strongly condemned the misbehavior of a ruling member of provincial assembly with female professors of the University of Balochistan (UoB) during protest against non-payment of their salaries outside the provincial assembly last week. In a press release issued here by the provincial secretariat of PkMAP the other day, it was stated that the insulting attitude of the MPA with the protesting female professors of the University was unethical and against the high Baloch

cized the government for ties before Eid.

Necessary steps started for

prevention of dengue in

Gwadar, Kech & Hub

not sending a responsible person to speak to the protesting professors and em-ployees of the UoB. The government should have sent a responsible person who knows well the traditions of the province to talk to the protestors, but it was not done. It was further said that the non-payment of salaries to the teachers and employees of the University and forcing them to lodge protest on the roads is nothing but a failure of the former caretaker and present so-called elected governments. It was appealed to the Higher Education Commission to find out the solution to finanand Pashtoon norms of the cial crisis together with the provincial government and The press release criti- chancellor of the universi

Coordinator to the PM on Health Services, Regulations, and Coordination, Dr. Malik Mukhtar Ahmed meets with Dy. Representative, UNFPA, Ms. Latika Maskey Pradhan at Ministry of Health Services, Regulations and Coordination, Islamabad.

Reserved seats issue: PHC issues contempt notices to KP speaker, dy speaker

PESHAWAR (INP): Over the issue of not taking oath KP Assembly speaker and on reserved seats in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Assembly, the Peshawar High Court (PHC) issued a notice of contempt of court to the Speaker and Deputy

Speaker The PHC heard the case of contempt of court against Speaker Babar Saleem Swati and Deputy appealed to the court that Speaker Ms Suriya Bibi of the speaker and the deputy ıbly

Climate Change ISLAMABAD (APP) Member National Assembly, former Parliamentary Secretary, Founding Chairdeputy speaker at the next person Parliamentary Caucus on Climate Change,

hearing. A petition has been filed in the Peshawar High Court that the elected members of the Reserved Seats for Women and Minorities were not sworn in despite the court orders.

and matters related to the In the petition, it is subject as per the notification received here. Romina Khurshid Alam also reer should be disqual

of religious leaders for eradication of polio Independent Report Lubna Khalil, Provincial head of WHO, Dr Asfandyar Shirani, DHO QUETTA: The Secretary Balochistan, Quetta, Dr Noor Bizenjo Abdullah Khan has sought the role and cooperation of and other concerned high ups attended the meeting. religious leaders fort eradi-

Addressing the meet-ing, Secretary Health dication of polio from the He said that the relirected to improve the rougious leaders may guide the tine immunization so as to general public from relieradicate polio comgious point of view regardpletely

He said that if routine ing vaccination of children immunization is improved He also urged the parthen polio can be eradicated ents to join hands in the anti

from the province. polio campaign just to save He also directed to increase the routine immunitheir children from the cripzation upto 80 percent in The Secretary Health all the districts.

He stressed that all was chairing a review meeting of the anti polio camgovernment machinery and paign and performance of general public would have to cooperate for eradication of polio in the province. The provincial coordi-

highly impressive initiative for connecting Pakistan with the Buddhist world. Ambassador Hashmi presents credentials to

places with in Pakistan, as

in the statement of objects

Our foreign policy is one

Gandhara Corridor would

"Establishing the

President of Mongolia

Wednesday

fied for disobeying the The Peshawar High court orders under the law Court issued the notice and of contempt of court.

Pakistan Coast Guards thwart attempted drug smuggling via boat

Coast Guards have intercepted a ship attempting to smuggle a large quantity of narcotics from Gwadar. Acting on intelligence gathered through covert means in Gwadar, authorities seized a substantial amount of high-quality narcotics, effectively thwarting the

Following credible in-

formation about drug traf-

smuggling attempt.

QUETTA (INP) Pakistan ficking through the coastal areas of Gwadar, a specialized search team was deployed. During the operation, the team successfully disrupted an attempt to smuggle narcotics via a boat along the shoreline.

In a bid to evade capture, the smugglers took advantage of the cover of darkness, abandoning both the ship and the narcotics before fleeing the scene.

pact regional and global ISLAMABAD: PPP Chairman, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari peace in South Asia. in meeting with PPP Vice Chairman Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani along with Senator Rana Mahmood-ul-Hassan, held at Zardari House in Islamabad. Sarwani during general de-bate in the UN Disarma-

MPA Hidayat says Not against CPEC but need rights

QUETTA (INP): Member should not be compro of Provincial Assembly from Gwadar, Hidayat-ur-Rehman has said that he tion is deprived of drinking was not against the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project but education and jobs, so how want provision of rights.

'I am not against CPEC but against the discrimination with the local population. My struggle revolves around the rights of the people of the port town," he said talking to media on Wednesday.

Hidayat-ur-Rehman said that the projects worth billion of rupee were launched in Gwadar and the local people were not taken into account. I have no objection, if Chinese government, companies and our erced to pay heed to the comgovernment continue with CPEC, the only demand I present was to ensure the member of the constiturights of the local people tional assembly.

is not a so-called integral part of India. mised, he added.

"If the local populawater, uninterrupted power, vocational trainings one can expect that people

rescue in GB of Gwadar will not raise RAWALPINDI (INP): Pavoice for their rights," he deplored. It should be menkistan Army executed a tioned here that Mr successful helicopter rescue Hidayat staged sit-in in the mission in the rugged terheart of Gwadar for what rain of Gilgit-Baltistan. To he called the violation of the airlift a 65-year-old man rights of the local populanamed Noor Muhammad tion of Gwadar. He was arfrom the remote village to

Minimarg. Noor Muhammad, a rested in year 2022 and jailed while the consistency to his stance led him to win paraplegic patient, found the provincial assembly seat. himself in a dire situation The political pundit say the as road closures isolated authorities concerned are cohim from much-needed medical attention. With plaints of Mr Hidayat as he routes to Minimarg Hospital impassable, his

mained the Convener of the nator of ÉPI, Dr Kamalan National Secretariat on Sus-Gichki, Additional Secretainable Development tary Health, Arif Achakzai, Goals (SDGs) Divisional Director Dr eas.

Health

province.

against polio.

pling disease.

EPI here on Wednesday.

In addition to this, he directed to ensure foolproof security in the sensitive ar-

their ancient civilizational linkages to foster goodwill among the younger genera-tion of both countries.



QUETTA: MPADr. Rubaba Khan Buledi and Director General Public Relations Balochistan Muhammad Noor Khetran in a group photo with the participants of Right to Information Seminar.

Quetta Police in action against encroachment, illegal parking; SPAsim **IIOJK** threat to

during the crackdown of three months against those who used tinted glasses.

The objective of the crackdown is to bring the people involved in illegal activities under the guise of tinted glasses to justice, he said adding that it was necessary for every citizens to implant traffic rules to maintain the flow of traffic in Quetta city.

and SSP Traffic Police He said that such ac-Bahram Khan Mandukhel, tions would be continued to the traffic police was takensure the flow of traffic. ing steps under an effective SP Traffic Syed Asim strategy to control the traf-Shah further said that the fic pressure and rush situaculture of violation of traftion at respective roads of fic rules was becoming the city. While talking to common saying that in this media here, the SP said that regard, measures would be traffic was being jammed taken to enhance awareness due to dilapidated condiamong people to impletion of roads including ment rule of traffic so that Haider Pump near Sariab, flow of traffic would be Imdad Chowk, Satellite sustained in the areas. Town, Khatam-e- Nabuwat People do not realize

Chowk, and other areas. He that those nations are alsaid that the shopkeepers ways successful in the should avoid encroaching. world that live by follow-The implementation of trafing the rules and regulations. fic rules is very important Most of the motorcyclists come to the police post He said that about 630 wearing helmets and some car drivers pretend to wear

have been challanned by the traffic police and fined thouseat belts, such people are sands of rupees from them not deceiving the police.

for every citizen.

country's path forward trol Programme, Dr. Aamir Raisani, Director Admin anchored in Balochistan Health Card Programme, Dr. Ahmed **ZAB's legacy**

LAHORE (APP): On the occasion of death anniversary of Pakistan People's Party (PPP) founder, the late Zulfikar Ali Bhutto (ZAB), Ali Haider Gilani, the parliamentary leader of PPP in the Punjab Assembly, reiterated on Wednesday party's commitment to steering Pakistan's future in accordance with the principles laid down by ZAB.

In a message issued here, he underscored ZAB's invaluable contributions to Pakistan's political landscape, highlighting his pivotal role in crafting a consensus-driven constitution that provided a beacon of law and order in a tumultuous era. Gilani emphasised ZAB's efforts in fostering unity among the Muslim community at international forums such as the Islamic summit, alongside championing the rights of marginalised sections and fortifying the electoral voice of minorities. Expressing pride in carrying forward the legacy of Bhutto's vision, Gilani affirmed PPP's dedication to enshrining Bhutto's services.

Gilani affirms

a meeting attended by the Director General Health, Dr. Farooq Hoth, Provincial coordinator of WHO, Dr. Asfandyar Shirani, Director Public Health, Dr. Fahim Khan, Provincial Coordinator Vector borne diseases and Malaria con-

districts.

Independent Report

QUETTA: The necessary

Gwadar, Kech and Hub

This was informed in

province.

Wali, WHO consultant, Dr. Baseer Ahmed and other concerned high ups. DHOs measures have been started of Kech, Gwadar and Hub for prevention and spread participated in the meeting through video link. of dengue disease in

The Coordinator Vector Borne diseases and Malaria Control Programme informed the meeting that steps are being taken for prevention of the dengue in Gwadar, Kech and Hub. The related activities

have been started to eradicate the dengue larva in the districts. The fogging process has also been started for prevention of the dengue mosquitoes through Health department.



QUETTA: Principal Secretary to Chief Minister Imran Zarkoon giving away Performance certificate to CEO of Public Private Partnership Dr. Faizal Ahmed from Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Safaraz Ahmed Bugti.

PPP chief pays homepage to Zulfikar Bhutto

Chairman, Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Pakistan Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has offered glowing homage to the founding chairman of the party and Pakistan's first elected Prime Minister, Quaid-e-Awam Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, on the occasion of his 45th martyrdom anniversary, being observed on April 4 (Thurs-

day). According to the

ISLAMABAD (APP): of its revered leader's martyrdom, there is a poignant sense of satisfaction tinged with sorrow, witnessing the country's justice system finally acknowledge its complicit role in the martyrdom of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

Bilawal Bhutto said that the acknowledgment, emerging after 45 years since the tragic judicial assassination, resonates deeply with the collective conscience of the echoes the imperatives of



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Shah on Wednesday said that operations were being carried out on various roads of Quetta city against en-croachment and illegal parking with the aim to maintain flow of traffic. He said that on special directive of Deputy Inspector General of Police