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PM announces to privatise all SOEs sans strategic ones

Directs routing proportion of country's imports through Gwadar Port

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday announced that the government would privatise all state-owned enterprises (SOEs), excluding the strategic ones, regardless of their profitability or financial losses.

The prime minister, chairing a high-level meeting to review the matters related to the Ministry of Privatisation and Privatisation Commission, directed all the federal ministries to carry out the necessary procedures and extend their cooperation with the Privatisation Commission for the purpose.

In the meeting, the privatisation ministry and the Privatisation Commission presented a roadmap for the Privatisation Programme 2024-29.



The prime minister said the government had nothing to do with running the businesses but was mandated to facilitate the investors. He viewed that the privatisation of SOEs would save the taxpayers' ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a meeting regarding CPEC Phase II and other projects under Chinese investment money to help the governin Pakistan. ment provide quality ser-

vices to the people. Reiterating the government's commitment to a transparent process. the prime minister directed to live telecast the bidding and other procedures of the privatisation of Pakistan International Airlines and other entities

completed by the end of

During the briefing on the progress in the SOEs' privatisation, the participants were told that the prequalification process for PIA privatisation would be

wide in Dubai. Named 'Dubai Unlocked', the project relies on data offering an extensive insight into hundreds of thousands of properties in Dubai, along with details regarding their ownership or utilization, primarily spanning the years 2020 to 2022.

Pakistani nationals are also among those listed, with their collective property holdings estimated at approximately \$11 billion. The revelation includes

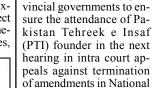
approximately \$400 billion worth of properties owned by non-residents, including 11 billion worth of properties owned by Pakistanis.

expose the names of sev-

erties in Dubai, totaling

over \$8 billion. - 'Dubai The project Unlocked' - is based on data that provides a detailed overview of hundreds of thousands of properties in Dubai and information about their ownership or usage, largely from 2020 and 2022. Properties purchased in the name of companies and those that are in

porting Project (OCCRP), which coordinated a sixmonth investigative project with reporters from 74 mehave bought 16,000 prop- dia outlets in 58 countries,



SC orders

appearance of

PTI founder

through video link

ΙSLӐMABAD

(APP): The Supreme Court

of Pakistan on Tuesday or-

dered the federal and pro-

Work to be done for converting 29,000 registered tube wells on solar energy in Balochistan Independent Report

CM Balochistan & Federal Minister Planning meet-up:

OUETTA: The Chief Min-

ister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti had crucial meeting with the Federal Minister Planning, Ahsan Iqbal in Islamabad on Tuesday in order to resolve the issues of agricultural tube wells in Balochistan.

During the course of meeting, it was decided to start work on the measures for converting the 29,000 registered agricultural tube wells of the province on solar energy as an alternative solution.

It was informed during The Chief Minister a briefing conducted by the Balochistan offered the

Prime

S1S.

Power Division, there are measures for restoration of more than 11,000 illegal agelectricity in the province ricultural connections in on behalf of the provincial government.

the province too. However, there was The Federal Minister also discussion on the sup-Energy Owais Ahmed ply of electricity to the ag-Leghari requested the Gov-ernment of Balochistan to ricultural tube wells in the work together for prevenmeantime till their solarization. The Power Division tion of the power pilferage. Mir Sarfraz Ahmed was also talked in this re-Bugti invited Federal Mingard. Speaking on the occasion, Federal Minister ister Energy to visit Balochistan and assured Planning told that the him of best cooperation in Minister Muhammad Shahbaz this regard. Sharif has directed to re-The Chief Minister assolve the issues of

sured that the campaign Balochistan on priority bawould be started afresh against prevention of theft of electricity in the province

ISLAMABAD: Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfaraz Bugti talking with Federal Ministers and other officials regarding provision of uninterrupted electricity to tubewells in Balochistan and other issues

PM's timely decision on AJK situation averted a tragedy: Attaullah Tarar

ISLAMABAD (APP): wanted to benefit from the Federal Minister of Inforsad situation mation and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar said on Tuesday that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's deci-

tion parties and stake holders on board and heard their views

was attended by all the political leadership including Addressing a press con- the Prime Minister of Azad Jammu and Kashmir" he re

Minister took all the coalision to resolve the ongoing crisis in Azad Jammu and

Pakistan

'Along with the enemy,

as

"Yesterday's meeting

Tarar said that the Prime

Kashmir had averted a tragedy. ference along with Federal

Terming

23,000 residential properties **Monitoring Desk** SLAMABAD: A collaborative investigative journalism initiative has unveiled the property ownership of influential figures world-

The "Property Leaks"

IHC bars govt from blocking

worth \$11bn in Dubai eral political figures, government officials, and retired civil servants from around the world. Among them, Pakistanis own \$11

Dubai property leaks:

17,000 Pakistanis own

billion worth of properties in Dubai, making them the second-largest group of non-residents purchasing properties in the city.

According to the "Property Leaks", 17,000 Pakistanis have bought 23,000 properties in Dubai. Indian citizens lead among non-residents purchasing properties in Dubai, with

29,700 Indians owning 35,000 properties in the Additionally, there are

19,500 British citizens who own 22,000 properties in Dubai. The total value of properties purchased by British citizens in Dubai amounts to \$10 billion. At least 8,500 Saudi citizens

commercial areas are not

part of this analysis. The data was obtained by the Centre for Advanced Defence Studies (C4ADS), a non-profit organisation based in Washington, DC. It was then shared with Norwegian financial outlet E24 and the Organised Crime and Corruption Re-

federation, provinces further

Mandokhel called on Prime Minister Muhammad

PM, Mandokhail vow to

strengthen relations between

non-filers' SIMs Shahbaz Sharif reiterates desire to work with all ISLAMABAD (INP): political forces to steer country out of problems The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Tuesday barred

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: The Governor Balochistan, Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail called on the Prime Minister, Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif here in PM's Secretariat on Tuesday.

Shehbaz Sharif.

During the course of meeting, the Prime Minister congratulated Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail on assuming the office of Governor Balochistan and expressed best wishes for him.

Besides, several issues of the province including overall development of the province, ongoing development projects, issues and progress of the public sector universities were also discussed during the meet-

present during the meeting, Both the leaders were agreed upon strengthening the relations between the the PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

federation and provinces further. APP adds: Prime Minnon-filers. ister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday reiterated his desire to work with all the political forces to steer the country out of the problems faced by it and put its economy on upward

trajectory. He said that welfare of the people of Balochistan scheduled for May 27 had been among the top 2024. priorities of the government. The prime minister ex-

The petition challenged Clause 114-B of the ressed these views during Income Tax Ordinance and a meeting with Maulana the Federal Board of Abdul Ghaffoor Haideri, a Revenue's (FBR) Income leader of Jamiat Ulema-e-Tax General Orders against Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) who non-filers. called on him. Members of The petitioner argued the National Assembly

that the tax regulator's new-Usman Badini and Noor found authority violated Aalam Khan were also the fundamental right to freedom of business under Article 18 of the Constitution.

CM meets Federal

Finance Minister

Independent Report

UETTA: The Chief Min-

ster Balochistan, Mir

Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti called

on the Federal Minister for

Aurangzaib in Islamabad on

meeting, the issues of agri-

cultural consumers were

discussed between the

Chief Minister and Federal

sion, Federal Finance Min-

ister assured to resolve the

issues of agricultural elec-

tricity connections in the

He said that the Minis-

Speaking on the occa-

Finance Minister.

During the course of

Finance,

Tuesday.

province.

Muhammad

Jianchao here

the federal government from blocking the SIMs of IHC Chief Justice Aamir Faroog issued the order in response to a writ petition filed by the telecom operator. The court also issued notice to the federal government in this regard, with the next hearing on the matter



Minister, Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar holds a luncheon meeting with Chairman of China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA) Luo Zhaohui.

Pakistan, China reiterate resolve to accelerate all **CPEC** projects

BEIJING (APP): Pakistan minister is on a four-day and China on Tuesday expressed joint determination to accelerate progress on all projects of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) including ML-I upgradation, Gwadar Port, and realignment of Karakorum Highway.

visit to China mainly to cochair the Fifth Pakistan-China Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi. In the meeting, the two leaders also reaffirmed the

importance of the All-The bilateral ties and Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership becooperation were discussed in a meeting between Pakistan and China tween Deputy Prime Minand to further reinforce ister and Foreign Minister mutually beneficial col-Senator Mohammad Ishaq laboration. Dar and Minister of the

They discussed the International Department longstanding cooperation of the Communist Party of and exchanges between the China (IDCPC), Liu political parties of Pakistan and the Communist The deputy prime Party of China.

Pakistan advises Indian politicians to cease dragging it into domestic politics

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pagrave threat to regional peace and stability," Spokesperson Ministry of kistan on Tuesday urged the Indian politicians to Foreign Affairs Mumtaz cease dragging it into their domestic politics for elec-Zahra Baloch said in a press toral gains and to handle statement, in response to sensitive strategic matters media queries regarding a series of Pakistan-related with the utmost caution. 'We call upon the in-

remarks made recently by ternational community to the Indian Prime Minister, External Affairs Mintake note of Indian ister and other cabinet leadership's belligerent rhetoric, which poses a members

Accountability Bureau law and Gilgit Baltistan Engineer

Chief Justice of Paki-Amir Muqam at the Parliastan Qazi Faez Isa said ment House, he said that that if the founder of PTI the conspiracy of the inwants to give arguments, imical forces was foiled he can give through video who faced humiliation due link. He said that we acto the Prime Minister's cept the request of PTI timely actions. founder in this regard and instructed the government Tehreek-e-Insaf to make arrangements. 'Tehreek-e-Intishar", he

A five member larger said its dreams of creation bench headed by Chief of chaos and anarchy had Justice of Pakistan Qazi also been shattered. Faez Isa and comprising Justice Amin ud Din the 'Tehreek-e-Intishar' also Khan, Justice Jamal thought that in some way Khan Mandokhail, Jusor the other, chaos would tice Athar Minallah and spread and there would be Justice Hassan Azhar anarchy" as its leadership Rizvi heard the appeals of federation.

Armed men kill Allah Rakhya **Bugti in Sui**

QUETTĂ (APP): Armed men shot dead Allah Rakhya Bugti, a close friend of chief minister Sarfraz Bugti in Sui area of Dera district Bugti 01 Balochistan.

According to details, the gunmen managed to escape after firing and killing Allah Rakhya Bugti.

Lange

Minister of Kashmir Affairs marked.

The minister said the political leadership and federal ministers resolved the issues through mutual understanding

The minister said that the prime minister resolved the issue with excellent decision making as the crisis can be eliminated only by timely decisions.

"There is a world of difference between the incompetent government of the past and present elected regime", he added.

He said that inflation was being controlled by prudent government policies and measures



QUETTA: Consul General of Germany Dr. Rodigar Lotz meeting with Home Minister Mir Ziaullah

Dr. Rudiger Lotz calls on Provincial Minister for Home & TA: India involved in terrorism in Balochistan, Zia Langove tells German Consul General

Our enemies are hatching conspiracies against Gwadar & CPEC in which they would not succeed at all; German diplomat assures cooperation for bringing improvement in education and health sectors in Balochistan

enemies are hatching con-

spiracies against Gwadar

and China-Pakistan Eco-

nomic Corridor (CPEC),

however, they would not

succeed in their designs all.

ter for Home and Tribal

Affairs was speaking to the

German Consul General

The Provincial Minis-

Independent Report

OUETTA: The Provincial Minister for Home and Tribal Affairs, Mir Ziaullah Langove has categorically stated that our enemy country, India is involved ın terrorism ın Balochistan for it (India) is also making funding for this purpose.

based in Karachi, Dr. Rudiger Lotz who called on However, our security him here on Tuesday. forces are fighting war for The Honorary Consul eliminating terrorism in the

province. He said that our General of Germany in Quetta, Murad Baloch, Additional Secretaries and Deputy Commissioner Kalat, Bilal Shabbir were also present in the meeting.

During the meeting of meeting, the current situation of law and order was scussed.

The German envoy reeted Mir Ziaullah Langove on assuming the office of Provincial Minister for Home.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance Muhammad Aurangzeb meeting with Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Bugti

Call attention disposed of on Govt. assurance in BA: Asim Kurd assures to extend wholehearted assistance to rain & flood affected people **Independent Report**

QUETTA: The Balochistan Assembly disposed of call attention notice about the damages caused due to recent heavy rains in Pishin and Chaman districts, here in its session on Tuesday.

The Speaker Provincial Assembly, Captain (Retd) Abdul Khaliq Achakzai was in the chair

The Member Provincial Assembly belonging to Op-position, Asghar Tareen tabled the call attention notice

In the notice, he pointed out that the agriculture secsoon

try of Finance would pretor was badly affected due pare a viable plan together to the recent rains in the with the provincial government in this regard. province. The flashflood and

The Chief Minister said that our objective is to rains caused heavy human protect the interests of and financial losses in Pishin and Chaman. province for we would continue to raise forceful voice. Besides, the houses of

people were also damaged due to the torrential rains forcing them to live in the tents in open sky, he further pointed out.

Speaking on the call attention notice, the Provincial Minister for Revenue, Mir Asim Kurd assured that the compensation would be paid to the rain and flood affected people

TURBAT: Chief Justice Balochistan High Court, Mr. Justice Hashim Khan Kakar in a meeting with lawyers of Kech Bar Association



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gants

OPINION

Daily **Independent**

Daily A oice of Masse, Independent

Privatisation divide

With Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar having clawed his way back to the centre of economic policymaking, a tussle between two competing view points — one represented by him, the other by Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb - was inevitable

Mr Aurangzeb believes that Pakistan's economy can no longer bear the burden of stateowned enterprises, which need to be privatised as early as possible. On the other hand, Mr Dar, who is foreign minister and a confidant of Nawaz Sharif, fears that all-out privatisation could deplete his party's already dwindling political capital. Hobbled by high inflation, recent blunders in wheat procurement and rising energy costs, the party can ill-afford any agitation against privatisation. Hence, no matter what the finance minister says, the two are not on the same page as evident in his outright rejection of Mr Dar's concept of "strategic and essential SOEs". "There is no such thing as strategic SOEs," Mr Aurangzeb told a pre-budget conference. All SOEs, regardless of their categorisation, he asserted, would be handed over to the private sector. His stance on the 'strategic' SOEs is the opposite of what Mr Dar, who was previously finance minister and heads the important Cabinet Committee on Privatisation, had stated recently. Removing seven profitable public companies at the disposal of the Pakistan Sovereign Wealth Fund from the privatisation list, Mr Dar reportedly said that the government would restrict its concerns to "strategic and essential SOEs" whose number — 40 — would be decreased after scrutiny Pakistan,

The final decision on which the entities are to be categorised as strategic or essential is to be made by the Cabinet Committee on SOEs headed by Mr Aurangzeb. It might not be easy for him to have his way on their privatisation, despite support from the powerful circles that signed him up for implementing taxation, energy, and SOE reforms along with privatisation under the IMF's tutelage. Mr Dar's economic ideas are acceptable neither to the IMF nor to these circles. Under these circumstances, his transfer to the foreign ministry and later his elevation as deputy prime minister were perceived as major concessions from PM Shehbaz Sharif, although under pressure from Nawaz Sharif. Put simply, the differences between Mr Aurangzeb and Mr Dar reflect the tensions within the ruling party as well as the compulsions of an economy that cannot pick up momentum until it has undergone drastic and politically unpopular changes. The disagreement between the current and former finance minister on privatisation has emerged at a time when the government is all set to start talks for another IMF bailout facility in order to revive the economy. How this disagreement within the government will sit with the lender, which is already wary of the risks attached to the execution of the economic stabilisation policies, is anybody's guess.

Climate justice

Jamil Ahmad In the face of rising risks and other agreements. from climate change, Once ratified, their legal calls for climate action injunctions and policy and climate justice have directions are incorpogrown stronger. The crerated into national legal ation of the Loss and frameworks. Failure of Damage Fund under the the parties to multilateral UN climate convention is environmental agreeconsidered an important ments to abide by their step towards action. A pledges and implement request is pending bemeasures to address clifore the ICJ for an opinmate ion on states' obligabiodiversity loss and tions towards people on pollution give justified climate change. grounds for lawsuits Civil society has against the authorities, sought judicial assisindustry, and the corpotance to compel national rate sector. A report Gloauthorities to take swift

bal Trends in Climate climate action. Govern-Change Litigation, 2023 ments and companies by the London School of have been taken to Economics, citing figures courts for inaction or failfrom databases, notes ure to implement envithat around two-thirds of ronmental agreements. climate-centred lawsuits The number of have been filed since cases on climate and the 2015, when the Paris environment has grown Agreement was signed.

over the years as the Meanwhile, the codidangers associated with fication of the concept of climate change became a rights-based approach more ominous, with efto the environment has forts to control global taken place in parallel. warming falling short of Historically, environmenexpected targets. Vulnertalists have advocated a able communities took rights-based approach. the lead in seeking They challenged governredressal through the ments in the courts and in most cases, obtained

Two landmark cases favourable decisions. in Asia are illustrative. In Last year, Brazil's supreme Asghar court declared that the Leghari, a farmer, took Paris Agreement was a the government to court human rights treaty, in 2015 for not acting to which enjoyed 'supranacombat climate change, tional' status. Lately, a arguing that the inaction group of Swiss women of the authorities was obtained a verdict from against the constituthe European Court of tional right to life, be- Human Rights that inadcause climate change equate efforts by their posed a serious threat to government to control water, food, and energy climate change was viosecurity. In the Philiplating human rights — a pines, a group of schoolruling that can prompt children went to court in similar lawsuits elsethe 1990s pleading that where. The recognition deforestation harmed by the UN General Astheir fundamental rights. In both cases, the courts ruled in favour of the lititainable environment as

The rise in climate litigation is propelled also by developments in international environmental governance and It catalysed legal actions surging litigation on the breakthroughs in the against governments for environment and cliglobal environmental their failure to implement mate. -- Courtesy Dawn

policy domain such as climate policies and acthe Paris climate accord tions which exacerbated the negative impact of climate change. According to the

UNEP's Global Climate Litigation Report: 2023 Status Review, "the total number of climate change court cases has more than doubled since 2017" and is growing worldwide. The report found that the "cases change, mostly fell under one or more of six categories; cases relying on human rights enshrined in international law and national constitutions; challenges to domestic nonenforcement of climaterelated laws and policies; litigants seeking to keep fossil fuels in the ground; advocates for greater climate disclosures and an end to greenwashing; claims addressing corporate liability and responsibility

for climate harms; and claims addressing failures to adapt to the impacts of climate change" Increased climate litigation will help cli-

mate action and ultimately climate justice. However, the extent of following up on court judgements remains limited in developing countries like Pakistan, where adjudicating on environmental issues is complex and confronts structural obstacles in the way of implementing court orders. Prompt enforcement of statutes, regulations and judicial pronouncements on climate and environment. will be enabled by incorporating the environmental dimension in all aspects of legal actions. All segments of the lesembly in July 2022 of a gal community must be clean, healthy, and sus- equipped with the appropriate tools and ina human right further formation about envistrengthened a bottom- ronmental matters. A reup, rights-based ap- vamping of the legal arproach to the environ- chitecture is a 'sine qua ment and climate change. non' for coping with

Dr Niaz Murtaza rate and tax policy; etc. As the IMF's most ha-Even though we were at bitual client globally, we the peak of economic cri-

For a better deal

have

often get a dose of the ses each time and Fund's harsh medicine. needed Each time, business, civil stabilisation, many IMF society and other groups demands were rightly rightly object to an IMF criticised for their sedeal's harsh terms, but quence, extent and premostly after it has been cise focus. struck. As an IMF team But things now difwill arrive soon for a new fer. Economic policy targets macroeconomic stadeal, they must coordi-

bility, growth, equity and talks sustainability. We al-Some blame our ready leaders but others the stabilisation from the last IMF for harsh deals. The stand-by IMF deal. Inflagovernments — from falling; reserves are up Musharraf to the PTI. In and the rupee has been their zeal to get high GDP climbing for months. growth, they take the Thus, we need an unorfaulty path of high fiscal thodox IMF programme. and external deficits and We must not raise intermoney supply growth, est rates but cut them. instead of high investment, productivity and high interest rates to exports that require potreat both inflation and litically costly reforms. falling currency and re-That path soon leads to serves. True, a stable ruhigh inflation and falling dollar reserves, and fivia stringent controls on nally to the Fund's door. dollar demand for im-But just as doctors often ports, profit repatriation, mistreat serious disetc. which are slowing eases caused by bad pa-GDP growth. Once these tient habits, so does the controls are ended to IMF often misdiagnose raise GDP growth, reand mistreat economic serves and the rupee may ills caused by state polifall. But this pressure must be fixed via front-

nate to influence deal

The immediate paloading about half of tient symptoms before IMF flows (and backthe IMF are usually high loading the rest to eninflation and falling resure compliance) and serves due to high twin dollar flows expected deficits and money supfrom multilateral and biply growth. To stabilise lateral donors rather than the patient, the IMF high interest rates. This prescribes usually will reduce fiscal deficit and create room for GDP higher interest rates, rupee depreciation, higher and job growth. taxes and cuts in state expenses. All these put a brake on GDP growth, and social spending albeit fake, and cause a cuts, the Fund must dehuge loss of jobs and mand non-essential destate services that hurt fence and civilian outpoor and small busilays cuts and increased nesses more. In our recent deals

cies.

from 2000 to 2019, the IMF has also included it would be equally culissues that affect the pable in burdening the twin deficits and money poor. supply growth indirectly State Bank au-

Such steps will help achieve both stability tonomy; state units, cir- and growth. But durable cular debt and power growth will require more Courtesy Dawn

sector reform; exchange creative strategies to raise savings, investments, exports and outputs. Our savings must rise, being among the lowest regionally. This major means that even for investment for domestic outputs, we often use foreign investment which creates profit repatriation liabilities without export earnings, thus raising our external defi-

cit. We must ideally use foreign investment for some sectors that give export revenues and/ or help problem starts with our tion and fiscal deficit are obtain high-end technical capacities. In--creased ex---ports require state-ca-p--ital col-l-aborat-ion to ent-er the high-end export sectors. But gro-wth policies are beyond the The IMF wants IMF's remit, the wrong neoliberal take being that stabilisation will automatically give growth. This raises questions. pee has been achieved The IMF must not overdo stabilisation now, to let us follow growth policies. It must ensure equity by requiring big outlays for the poor suffering from years stagflation.

Beyond specific IMF terms, austeritylinked Fund deals imposed since 1980s don't make sense, unlike earlier condition-free ones. Policy conditions encourage reform-averse states to adopt good policies, but they can't afford them during economic crises when IMF aid must allow countercyclical growth policies. Instead of indirect Donors must taxes and development proactively apply policy conditions linked to bigger aid from bilateral and multilateral donors in normal times when the roots of crises are being direct taxes on non-taxed laid via faulty state polisectors and elites. If it cies. Rich states must signs a deal without this, also change their unfair global policies that choke growth in poor states. Only then can recipient states achieve stability and equitable growth. --

Commerce News



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a review meeting on the matters related to Ministry of Privatisation and Privatisation Commission.

SATRC on policy, regulation, services starts

ISLAMABAD (APP): Bhutan, Iran, India, First meeting of the South Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan ISLAMABAD (APP): Asian Telecommunication Regulators' Council (SATRC) on Policy Regulation and Services commenced on Tuesday. Organized by the

A s i a - P a c i f i c Telecommunity (APT) and hosted by the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA), this three-day international meeting convenes regulatory experts and policymakers from Afghanistan, Bangladesh,

and Sri Lanka. The meeting started with an inaugural event widely attended by industry and government stakeholders.Masanori Kondo, Secretary General of the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) in his welcome address urged the delegates to actively engage in insightful discussions and commended PTA for organizing the workshop.

Barkwa

advocates

cultivating barren

minister

Khokar Member note, underscored the

Compliance & importance of regional Enforcement PTA who is also the chair of the SATRC common ICT challenges through dialogue and knowledge sharing. He highlighted the importance of learning from each objective: other's experiences to fostering the exchange of effectively introduce new technologies and services o address while safeguarding explore consumer rights and opportunities, and finalize nurturing industry growth.

Shaza Fatima. Minister of State for IT & Telecom who was the chief ceremony

NAVTTC, KCCI ink Mou for **Commerce minister orders** skill development of youth

Technical Training Comment of youth and making the curriculum con- NAVTTC, speaking at was regulating more

understanding (MoU) was inked, in this regard, feedback and suggeshere at Karachi Chamber tions of the relevant inof Commerce and Indus- stitutions and the youth measures for ensuring try. Chairperson will be trained in accor-NAVTTC, Gul Mina Bilal dance with the market ity training in the insti-Ahmed and President KCCI Iftikhar Ahmed Sheikh signed the MoU.

at imparting skill devel-

KARACHI (APP): Na- ated industrial units development of the tional Vocational and while it also included ac- youth according to requiring from KCCI feed- quirements of domestic mission (NAVTTC) and back on trained youth and foreign labour mar-Karachi Chamber of and suggestions to tai- kets. Stressing on the Commerce and Industry lor the technical training need of creating aware-(KCCI), Tuesday, joined curriculum according to ness about the NAVTTC she informed that cur-Chairperson rently the commission

sistent to market demand. the occasion, said that than 5000 training cen-A memorandum of the curriculum will be up ters across the country dated in the light of the with special focus on quality assurance. dance with the market ity training in the insti-

tutes funded by the govrequirements. She said that tech- ernment, she said that nical education plays an steps were also being The MoU is aimed important role in the de- taken to install bio-metvelopment of the counric system and cameras opment training to the try and NAVTTC was for monitoring of the inemployees of KCCI affili- making efforts for skill stitutes.

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Commerce, Jam Kamal Khan on Tuesday directed a thorough assessment and analysis of projects funded by the Export Development Fund (EDF) in recent years.

She urged the voca-

tional and technical train-

ing institutes to get in-

ternational certification

and said that interna-

tionally certified insti-

tutes will be given prior-ity in the NAVTTC pro-

grams aimed at training

and skill development of

the youth. KCCI President,

speaking on this occa-

sion, underscored the

importance of technical

training and hoped that

signing the MoU with

NAVTTC would benefit

The directive aims to evaluate the initiatives that have bolstered export development and to identify areas for improvement, said a press Highlighting the

suppliers.

review of EDF projects release issued here. The ministry of commerce has communicated this directive through a series of letters to various

stakeholders involved in EDF-funded projects. These letters, including one addressed to the Rice Exporters Association of Pakistan

KP Minister launches online wheat procurement App for farmers, suppliers

Independent Report operations.

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Minister for The online app encompasses all necessary Food, Zahir Shah Toru, announced on Tuesday the launch of an online app for wheat procurement aimed at facilitating farmers and The government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has

introduced this online app to streamline services for local and provincial farmers and suppliers.

In a video statement, Minister Zahir Shah Toru highlighted that farmers and suppliers can now input information about their available wheat the through app, ultimately aiding the Food Department in its

lands to boost features for wheat procurement, and priority agri production will be given to farmers and PESHAWAR (APP) Minister for Agriculture, Major (Retd) Sajjad Barkwa, chaired a meeting suppliers meeting the standards set by the Food Department. Minister Toru emphasized that of the Agriculture starting from May 18, Department on Tuesday wheat procurement will be to discuss the schemes conducted from those who of ADP, AIP, and PSDP adhere to SOPs and for the financial year provide standard wheat. 2024-25.

He mentioned that The received a detailed briefing wheat procurement from local farmers within the on both new and ongoing province will take place schemes. from May 7 to 17. He He directed the

assured that transparency authorities concerned to and merit will be upheld cultivate barren lands to boost the province's throughout the wheat procurement process agricultural production.

Working Group on Policy, Regulation, and Services (PRS) in his address, outlined the meeting's primary insights, experiences, and best practices to address while challenges, initial steps on work items. Chairman PTA, Major General ® Hafeez

Dr. Khawar Siddique Ur Rehman in his inaugural guest at the inaugural

BEIJING: Executive Vice President of China Three Gorges Corporation

(CTG) and Chairman of China Three Gorges International Limited (CTGI) Wu Shengliang called on the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar.

Shahid Rasheed says: **PM restored confidence** of lenders, int'l institutions

ISLAMABAD Former President of the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI), Dr Shahid Rasheed Butt has said that Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif has successfully regained the confidence of the lenders and other international institutions. In other a statement issued here on Tuesday, he said that under PM's guidance, Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb would successfully negotiate a new contract with

(INP): International Monetary Fund (IMF), which would positively impact the economy. Shahid Rasheed Butt said that the Finance Minister's resolve to sell state-owned firms was commendable, as it would help save trillions of wasted rupees to keep these companies artificially alive. The country was saved from bankruptcy due to the Prime Minister's efforts, and now the confidence of the international institutions has been the restored, he added.



KARACHI: President Karachi Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KCCI) Iftikhar Ahmed Sheikh presents Shield to Chairperson National Vocational and Technical Training Commission (NAVTTC) Gulmina Bilal Ahmad after Signing MoU Cer-the country as well as emony" Between (NAVTTC) and (KCCI) at KCCI. the business community. Independent

National News

Page 03

Governor resolves to forge collaboration with KP govt for masses' welfare

PESHAWAR (APP): **K**hybér Governor Pakhtunkhwa (KP), Faisal Karim Kundi Tuesday reaffirmed his commitment to safeguarding the rights of the masses through collaborative efforts with the KP government.

He extended an open invitation to all political parties, stating that the doors of the Governor House KP were accessible to workers from across the political spectrum.

In "Meet the Press" program at Multan, the governor said "I assure the people of KP that I will spare no effort to ensure

Government of the Punjab.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Centre of Excellence on

Pakistan Institute of

Legislative Development and Transparency (PILDAT)

and Islamic Research Institute (IRI), International

PESHAWAR

Countering

Extremism

memorandum

that their rights are protected," adding that his regarding protected," adding that his regarding political intention to prevent the difference with CM KP, the masses from enduring governor emphasized his hardships stemming from political discord with the KP government. grimary focus on forging coordination and collaboration with the

Governor

problems.

LAHORE: United States (US) Consul General in

violent extremism

violent extremism

(APP):

Violent

of

understanding (MoU) to Ayaz Khan highlighted the

develop joint projects to role and efforts of CECVE

strengthen local communities for the promotion of peace

in preventing and countering and tolerance in society.

(CECVE),

Responding issue of provincial government for law and order in KP, the welfare of the masses. Kundi He extended highlighted the resource goodwill gesture to the constraints faced by the KP Chief Minister of KP. police, pointing out disparities in salaries inviting him to the Governor's office to compared to their prioritize the uplift the counterparts in other province, and setting aside provinces. He expressed political differences.

determination to secure Acknowledging his political mentors, Shaheed maximum support from the Benazir Bhutto and Asif federal govt to address Ali Zardari.

> killed, several injured by dacoits in Shikarpur

SHIKARPUR: An other incident of lawlessness occured in Shikarpur in the jurisdiction of Rustam police station on last late night in which dacoits opened

Lahore Kristin K. Hawkins visit the Historical fires on Car which resulted place Masjid wazir khan and the Shrine of Imam one woman was killed and Gamu after unveiling of plaque of Conservation three others including roman and child got bullet and Rehabilitation of Southern Side of Wazir Khan injuries. According to reports

CECVE, PHILDAT, IRI joins hands to counter

As a result of firing, one woman identified as Musamat Shabnam wife of Muhammad Mirza Mangi succumbed to his injuries The MoU was signed While three others includby Chief Coordination Officer KP CECVE Dr ing Car driver Abdul Rahman Mahar and one Ayaz Khan, President PILDAT, Ahmad Bilal woman and a minor gir caught bullet injured. Mehboob, and Professor

Zia Ul Haq of Islamic to Sukkur hospital for their Research Institute (IRI) medical treatment in precarious condition.

provide them justice.

In response to queries

MULTAN: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor, Faisal Karim Kundi addresses to media persons during Meet the Press program held at Multan press club.

GB Govt takes steps for the well-being of **Journalists: CM GB**

GIIGIT (APP): Gilgit- recommendations within Baltistan Chief Minister the next 10 days. The Haji Gulbar Khan Tuesday committee's work has been expedited, and alternative members have been included to replace those who were unavailable, he added. Chairman of the

Board of Investment and Member of the GB Assembly, Fatahullah Khan, and Special While talking to a delegation of GB Union of Assistant to the Chief Minister, Hussain Shah, have also been included in the committee to ensure that recommendations are of journalists, which will finalized within the given its time frame

KP Tourism advisor bans free accommodation for **VIPs in Govt rest houses**

rest houses, cottages, and camping pods under the Tourism and Culture Department. Meanwhile, VIPs and their families have been availing these facilities for free, sometimes for extended on the free periods

Zahid Khan Zeb has also issued notifications to families in government rest ensure compliance with the houses across the province. The Advisor aims to ban, directing all relevant address concerns raised by authorities including the the tourists who often Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Culture and Tourism find accommodation in govt Authority.

International News

ANF seizes 384 kg drugs in 10 operations RAWALPINDI (APP) Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) while conducting 10

operations across the country managed to recover 384 kg drugs and arrested 10 accused, said an ANF Headquarters spokesman here on Tuesday.

He informed that in two different operations at Karachi Airport, 280 grams Ice and 466 grams hashish were recovered from two passengers going to Doha and Bahrain.

> Jinnah House attack: **ATC grants** bail to 7, denies to 3

LAHORE (APP): An antiterrorism court (ATC) on Tuesday granted post arrest bail to 7 accused and denied bail to three others in the Jinnah House attack case of the May 9 riots.

ATC Judge Arshad Javed heard the post-arrest bail petitions of the accused and announced the verdict upon completion of arguments by the parties.

Gwadar. The court allowed post-arrest bail petitions terrorists are trying to of Muhammad Tazeem, disrupt law and order Muhammad Qaisar Kamal situation in the country, he Adnan Asghar Butt said while talking to Muhammad Imran, Abdul journalists after attending Waqar, Naeem Riaz, and funeral prayer of mother of Tayyab Gulzar and ordered Jameel Khan Pathan, a them to furnish surety known political and social murder bonds of Rs 100,000 each. figure, in Darul Uloom Eid labourers.

Kristin Hawkins inaugurates four restored cultural heritage sites Wazir Khan Mosque

Kristin Hawkins on Tuesday inaugurated four US-funded restored Khan Mosque including the 17th century tomb of Imam Gammu, six hujras, a central pavilion and the Southeast minaret. 17th

Dating back to the century, these structures stood as important pieces of Lahore's Mughal Heritage, but over time, neglect and development of the local neighborhood caused significant damage to the buildings," says the plaque dedicated to the citizens of

LAHORE (APP): US States. These U.S. Consul general to Lahore Ambassador's Fund for Kristin Hawkins on Cultural Preservation (AFCP-branded) cultural heritage preservation cultural heritage sites at the projects have been Southern-side of the Wazir completed by the Aga Khan Foundation Cultural Services Pakistan (AKFCP) and Walled City of Lahore Authority (WCLA) with a funding of 200,000 dollars.

Kristin Hawkins said it is hoped that the work which has been done to restore the Wazir Khan Mosque will emerge as a strong symbol of Pakistan United States partnership as well as the respect the US has for the

rich and diverse cultural Lahore and inhabitants of and religious heritage of the Walled City from the Pakistan and the respect people of the United for the people of Pakistan.



GILGIT: Chief Minister Gilgit-Baltistan Haii Gulbar Khan in a meeting with Chairman Gilgit-Baltistan Service Tribunal Mumtaz Ahmad.

Azad demands concerned quarters to nab culprits behind labourers killing in Gwadar

(APP): Gah Kabir walla.

Expressing views on Gwadar tragedy, he said Azad, Chairman of the that the killing of innocent Committee on Tuesday labourers in Gwadar is a conspiracy to spread fear and chaos in the country, which will not be allowed quarters to nab culprits behind labourers killing in at any cost. handful of

Regretting over brutal killing of seven people in Gwadar, he said that he is with the bereaved family in this hour of sorrow. He demanded the concerned quarters to arrest those who are responsible for the murder of innocent

ning for re-election this

year, has faced heavy

criticism from his own

supporters domestically

for his support of Israel;

some of those critics have

accused Israel of commit-

Gaza now if Hamas would

Reiterating a com-

The world should be

The United States is

ting genocide.

One woman assured the Gilgit-Baltistan Union of Journalists that the government is taking Independent Report concrete measures to address the problems faced

by working journalists in the region.

Journalist who called on him. GB Chief Minister said a high-level committee has been formed to ensure the safety and well-being

submit

struggle

to

Mosque Funded by U.S Department of State and reached here that some group of armed men opened fires upon a car for road robbery when driver did not stopped the vehicle.

The injured were sent

Institute (IRI), International Islamic University on Tuesday signed a release issued here Tuesday.

Independent Report ABBOTTABAD: The Advisor for Tourism to the Chief Minister KP Zahid Khan Zeb in response to public complaints has announced an immediate ban accommodation of VIP personalities and their

The large number of relatives and angry villagers had protested at Police station Rustam and raised slogans for transfer of sitting SHO Khalil Rind and

Israel pushes into north, south Gaza as toll surpasses 35,000

which humanitarian groups

Speaking on the occasion, Dr

Monitoring Desk DUBAI: The death toll from Israel's military offensive on Gaza since Oct7 has crossed 35,000, according to the health ministry, as Israel's forces pushed further into north and south corners of the besieged enclave for fresh assault.

In a statement on Monday, the Gaza health ministry put the death toll at 35,091, with 57 killed in the past 24 hours.

Israeli forces pushed deep into the ruins of Gaza's northern edge on Monday to recapture an area where they claimed to have dismantled Hamas months ago, while in the south, tanks and troops pushed across a highway into Rafah.

Israeli operations in

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken watches Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky greet US Ambassador to Ukraine Bridget Brink prior to their meeting in Kyiv.

Singapore's incoming PM makes minor cabinet reshuffle, seeks 'continuity and stability'

Monitoring Desk S I N G A P O R E P : Singapore's incoming prime minister Lawrence Wong appointed a new deputy premier in a minor reshuffle of the board of the Monof the cabinet on Monday, as he gears up to become the city-state's fourth leader since its independence six decades ago.

Trade Minister Gan Kim Yong was given the additional role of deputy ter Lee Hsien Loong.

prime minister, one of two in Wong's cabinet, according to the prime minister's office. Gan, 65, will also take Wong's job as chair etary Authority 01 Singapore (MAS), the central bank said.

Wong will retain the finance portfolio and takes over on Wednesday from 72-year-old Prime Minispoppy clearing in Argo

Rafah, which borders Palestinians killed in over-Egypt, have closed a main night airstrikes. crossing point for aid,

"We don't know where to go. We have been displaced from one place to

on a house.

Clashes break out in Afghanistan over poppy crop clearing

Monitoring Desk AIZABAD: Clashes broke out on Monday between Taliban forces tasked with clearing poppy crops and farmers in Afghanistan's northeastern Badak-hshan province residents said. Poppy cultivators threw rocks and demanded Taliban security

units not destroy their crops, said Jamaluddin, a resident of Barlas Shalmar village in the Argo district of Badakhshan whose name has been changed for security reasons.

election his party is dead and nine wounded people" from the Barlas strongly favoured to win. area — a string of three

Modi remains roundly popular in India, in large neighbouring villages. A statement from the part due to his cultivated Taliban's army unit in image as an aggressive champion of the country's Badakhshan said there had majority faith. been protests to prevent

Varanasi is the spiriloincloth.

Palestinians carry the dead body of a child recovered from under the rubble of a house hit in an Israeli strike, amid the ongoing conflict between Israel and the Palestinian Islamist group Hamas, in Nuseirat refugee camp in the central Gaza Strip.

Turkey says to apply to intervene in ICJ genocide case against Israel

school 155 is reached through a door in a small met them with a smile at white concrete box on the pavement. At the bottom the steel door, and down the concrete staircase the of the stairs classrooms mother and daughter clatbranch off a corridor. There tered, hand in hand, through are are no windows, but the rooms are brightly lit and another blast door and into the hallways painted in the bunker for the first day white and lime green. Hundreds of children

Ukraine's secondbegan lessons this week in biggest city, located in the country's northeast near the Russian border, has been under relentless Russian attack since Moscow's invasion was halted at its ramparts 26

leave Gates Foundation,

she established with her ex-husband (the cofounder of Microsoft), Bill Gates.

The resignation, "I swear on God... I which will come into efwill have faith and allegiance fect on June 7, will leave to India's constitution," Bill Gates as the sole chair Modi said before handing of one of the world's over the paperwork to an most influential and pow election registrar, flanked by erful non-governmental a Hindu mystic dressed in a organisations.

White House does not see Gaza killings as genocide Biden, who is run-

Monitoring Desk

KHANEWAL

Α

Muhammad Abdul Khabir

Central Ruet-e-Hilal

demanded the concerned

WASHINGTON: US national security adviser Jake Sullivan said on Monday that President Joe Biden's administration did not view the killings of Palestinians in Gaza by Israel as genocide.

Sullivan, speaking to reporters at the White urday, Sullivan said there House, said the United could be a ceasefire in States wants to see Hamas defeated, that Palrelease prisoners. estinians facing the brunt calling on Hamas to return of Israeli onslaught were in "hell", and that a major to the negotiating table military operation by Is-rael in Rafah would be a said. and accept a deal, Sullivan

mistake. "We do not believe working urgently for a what is happening in Gaza is a genocide. We have ceasefire and prisoner release deal, Sullivan said. been firmly on record re-jecting that proposition," He said he could not predict when or if such a deal would be sealed. Sullivan said.

Belousov says Russia must win in Ukraine while minimising casualties

Monitoring Desk MOSCOW: Russia's

main task is to achieve victory on the battlefield in Ukraine with the minimal loss of troops, incoming defence minister Andrei Belousov said on Tuesday

Belousov, an economist whom President Vladimir Putin unexpectedly nominated on Sunday to replace Sergei Shoigu, said the military sector needed more efficiency and innovation in order to achieve its goals. "The key task, of course, remains achieving victory. Ensuring the achievement of the military-political goals of the special military operation, set by the president. At the same time -I want to specifically emphasise this - with minimal human losses,' he told a parliamentary hearing. His comments were

officials rarely discuss economy as its troops.

Monitoring Desk In response, Taliban NEW DELHI: Cheering authorities fired their guns crowds greeted Indian Prime Minister Narendra to disperse villagers, Modi on Tuesday as he Jamaluddin, who witnessed submitted his candidacy the incident, said. A nurse at for a Hindu holy city's para medical facility in Argo liamentary seat in a general said the clinic received "two

Ukraine's first purposebuilt bunker school, 6 metres (20 feet) below the ground to protect them missile attacks.

of school.

from Russian drone and Kharkiv's primary months ago. Modi files candidacy for parliamentary seat in India's

cade ago.

US ban on **Russian-enriched** uranium imports begins Aug 11 Monitoring Desk

WASHINGTON: A US ban on imports of enriched uranium from Russia will take effect on Aug. 11, the Department of Energy said on Tuesday. The ban, signed into law by President Joe Biden on Monday, allows waivers in case nuclear power plants have supply issues. The waivers will end

to fight the war in Ukraine. Melinda to

receive \$12.5bn Monitoring Desk LOS ANGELES: Melinda French Gates on Monday announced she was leaving the mega philanthropy foundation which

election in holy city Varanasi tual capital of Hinduism, where devotees from

around India come to cremate deceased loved ones by the Ganges river, and the premier has represented the city since sweeping to power a de-

on or before Jan 1, 2028. It was the latest move by Washington aimed at reducing revenues available to Russian President Vladimir Putin

striking because Russian

casualties in the war except to praise the heroism of fallen soldiers.

Neither Russia nor Ukraine publishes details of their dead and wounded. But Western military analysts say Russia, with a population more than three times larger than Ukraine's, has shown itself much more willing to incur heavy casualties for the sake of even incremental gains. Russian officials say such analysis, as it comes from the West, is neither objective nor accurate. Belousov presented himself as a man of integrity, telling parliamentarians: "I have always been, and will be, guided by the reinforced concrete principle 'You can make mistakes (but) you can't lie'. Belousov, who has no military experience, has been tasked by Putin with maximising efficiencies in Russia's war



Daily **Independent**, Gwadar

for the departed souls.

Muhammad Ali Jinnah," he

added. The prime minister

further said that he held

meetings on the AJK issue

and thanked President Asit

Ali Zardari, political lead-ers of the allied parties, lead-

ers of AJK chapter, AJK

leadership and parliamen-

tarians for their support.

Announces to visit Muzaffarabad **PM** expresses deep grief over loss of lives in AJK

ISLAMABAD (APP): enforcement agencies were Minister also hurt.

Prime Shehbaz Muhammad Sharif on Tuesday ex-pressed his deep grief and sorrow over loss of lives during the protest incidents in Azad Jammu and Kashmir and announced that he would visit Muzaffarabad within few days to hold further consultations over the issue

Addressing the par-ticipants of the federal cabinet meeting, the prime min-ister said that it was a matter of immense pain that few people lost their lives during the protest, besides damage caused to buildings.

"It was a very unfor-tunate incident," he said, adding that a police officer also lost his life, besides a number of personnel of law



ISLAMABAD: Governor Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail called on Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq at Parliament House.

Bugti, Langove flay terrorism incident in Sui: Fresh wave of terrorism to be defeated as well, asserts Chief Minister

Minister Home seeks report of incident of killing of Allah Rakhia from ACS; directs to arrest culprits

pledged

stanis by the terrorists.

rorism as well, adding he

vincial Minister for Home

and Tribal Affairs, Mir

Ziaullah Langove has also

condemned the incident of

killing of a retired govern-

culprits involved in the kill-

He has sought report

ment teacher in Sui.

Meanwhile, the Pro-

Independent Report QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has condemned the incident of terrorism in Sui area of Dera Bugti, in which a teacher namely Allah Rakhia was gunned down.

In a condemnation statement issued on Tuesday, the Chief Minister expressed grief over the martyrdom of Allah Rakhia and said that he is grieved over martyrdom of a long time friend.

He said that martyr Allah Rakhia was a true Pakistani and good human being. He said that his brutal killing is very condemnable.

The Chief Minister also said that new chain has



RAWALPINDI: President Asif Ali Zardari in a group photo with officials of the Green Pakistan Initiative during his visit to its headquarters

Governor Balochistan meets Sardar Ayaz: Parliament determined to play role for development of **Balochistan: Speaker NA**

ort During the course of The meeting, they discussed **Independent Report** ISLAMABAD: Speaker of National Assem- about the overall economic bly, Sardar Muhammad and political situation besides the matters of mutual Ayaz Sadiq has stated development of Balochistan is interests. actually development of Pakistan and as such the

Parliament is determined to the office of Governor. play it's role for development of the province and welfare of it's people. Balochistan

The Speaker of National Assembly was speaking to the Governor who called on him at the

Parliament House, Islamabad on Tuesday Maqbool says:

Program prepared to improve

literacy rate

SLAMABAD (APP) Federal Minister for Edubeen started to kill the cation Maqbool Siddiqui armless and innocent Paki-Tuesday informed the National Assembly that a program is being prepared to enhance the literacy rate in However, the provincial government would defeat this fresh wave of ter-

the country. In response to a call-

ing attention notice regarding the cessation of nearly twenty school buses designated for student transportation and their conversion into the Pink Bus Project, along with the non-appointment of teachers for vacant positions in Islamabad Capital Territory, he called

General

Tuesday.

said.

portance to its relations

ciary by any institution.

mediamen.

QUETTA

from the Additional Chief Secretary Home about the upon the elected represenincident. He also directed to tatives and other societal the Deputy Commissioner segments to actively con-Dera Bugti to form a spetribute to this cause. cial team for arrest of the He said that the gov-

ernment has declared an education emergency to enroll out-of-school children

in educational institutions.

tion, he said that in addi-

tion to existing school and college bus services, the

Regarding transporta-

relations between the federation and the provinces in befitting manner.

Governor The thanked the Speaker National Assembly for expressing best wishes for Sardar Ayaz Sadiq eeted Sheikh Jaffar Khan

Mandokhail on assuming He also applauded his role for running the pro-He also expressed best ceedings of National Aswishes for the Governor sembly in an impartial manner

He expressed the Both the leaders hope that Sheikh Jaffar pledged to play their wholehearted part for sustainable Mandokhail would play his constitutional role for development and prosperstrengthening further the ity of the country

Italian Defence Secretary General calls on Secretary Defence Production

He appreciated the **Independent Report** RAWALPINDI: Italian Italian Defence Industrial Secretary General of De- potential and its ability to

with Italy, a news release of high-level visits between

AGP denies impression of

interference in judiciary

ISLAMABAD (APP): Attorney General of Pakistan

(AGP), Mansoor Usman Awan on Tuesday strongly de-

nied the impression of interference in the powers of judi-

chief justice of Islamabad High Court (IHC).

fence and National Armaaddress needs of the Pakiments Director, Lieutenant stani defence forces.

Lieutenant General ® Luciano Muhammad Chiragh PORTOLANO called on Secretary Ministry of De-Haider also emphasized that Pakistan had a lot of fence Production, Lieutenant General ® Muhammad potential in the fields of energy and defence produc-Chiragh Haider here on tion with the possibility of On the occasion, the joint ventures which needs to be explored. Both the secretary highlighted that Pakistan attached great imsides stressed on the need

to have a regular exchange

both countries.

President assures support to provinces for Green **Pakistan Initiative**

Wednesday May 15, 2024

RAWALPINDI (APP): President Asif Ali Zardari on Tuesday visited the Green Pakistan Initiative Headquarters where he was given a detailed briefing about the Initiative, Land Information and Management System operations. Sindh Chief Minister

Syed Murad Ali Shah, Balochistan Chief Minister also apprised of the concepts of model agri-farms Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti and Pakistan Peoples Party Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari were also present on the occasion, the President Secretariat Press Wing ture sector. said in a press release. The president was

briefed about the improved water irrigation system based on modern patterns. A briefing was also given over agriculture, dredging of canals, IT-based operations and effective irrigation water system under the Green Pakistan Initiative

Green Pakistan Initiative and Land Information and Management System under the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC)

While lauding the team of Green Pakistan Initiative, he stressed upon working with equal zeal for the national and economic The president was development of the country

and agricultural smart For the bright future of Pakistan, the president farms operations to facilitate the farmers' community also assured complete cofor progress of the agriculoperation of all the provinces for achieving the objectives of Green Pakistan

President Zardari appreciated the working of Initiative.



QUETTA: Commissioner Quetta and Administrator Metropolitan Corporation Quetta Hamza Shafqaat briefing Provincial Minister for Local Bodies and Rural Development Sardar Sarfaraz Chakar Domki about MCQ

FIA NCB -**Interpol Pak** issues 6-month performance report

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) and National Central Bureau (NCB)-Interpol Pakistan has achieved significant milestones in combating transnational crime, says the six-month performance report issued on Tuesday.

During the last six months, A total of 66 ac-cused wanted for serious crimes, including murder, attempted murder, robbery kidnapping, and corruption, were apprehended from different countries, says the report adding that FIA NCB - INTERPOL had issued red notices for the arrest of these accused.

Korea, UNHCR mark \$1 m contribution to

support refugees in Pakistan

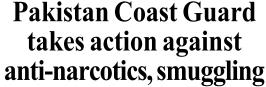
ISLAMABAD (APP): The

Nazeer Tarar says: Uniform policy pursued to combat power pilferage

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, Azam Nazeer Tarar, said on Tuesday in the National Assembly that a comprehensive uniform policy is being implemented to address power pilferage nationwide.

Responding to Asad Qaiser, he highlighted that under this policy, increased load shedding is being applied to feeders with high levels of power theft. He said that curbing

power pilferage is crucial to mitigate the circular debt lutions within parliament.



kistan Coast Guard took action against anti-narcotics and smuggling, on the instructions of Interior Minister and Anti-Narcotics

Mohsin Naqvi. According to the grocery items, dry fruits, press release issued on makeup accessories, cooking Tuesday a huge amount of oil, crockery, electronic decontraband was seized dur- vices, speed boats, various ing special operation of Pa- vehicles, engine oil, Iranian kistan Coast Guards on the petrol and diesel were seized.

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pa- coastline. During the operation, 12,970 kg of supari, 3,049 packets of gutka mix, 1,524 packets of cigarettes, 1,543 kg of cloth mix, and 206 bundles of net cloth,

dairy and bakery products,

issue. He further mentioned that the government has initiated a campaign against power theft, resulting in the recovery of billions of rupees. He said that significant progress has been made in border management at Chaman through new mechanisms. He reaffirmed the government's commitment to resolving issues faced by the people at the Chaman border. He said that the public has elected representatives to advocate for their concerns and formulate so-

If elected to 15-nation body for 2025-26 term **Pakistan to push for** implementation of **UNSC** resolutions

ing

UNITED (APP): Pakistan has told a United Nations-affiliated forum that it's bid for a nonpermanent seat on the UN Security Council for the term 2025-26 was aimed at promoting adherence to the world body's Charter and seeking faithful implementation of UN Security Council resolutions as well as international law, among other objectives.

"Pakistan has consistently manifested its commitment to the Charter's vision of preventing war and promoting peace; fostering global prosperity; and promoting universal respect for human rights,"Ambassador Usman Jadoon, deputy permanent representative of Pakistan to the UN, said during a



NATIONS election to the 15-member Council, organized by the World Federation of UN Associations (WFUNA) at the UN headquarters in New York on Monday Founded in 1946 as a Federation of national associations, WFUNA works to promote the values of the UN Charter. defend multilateralism, and raise

awareness on the main pillars of work of the United Nations-peace and security, sustainable development. and human rights. "If elected to the Council, Pakistan will continue its efforts in the same vein to promote a peaceful and equitable world order that responds to the needs and priorities of all nations," the Pakistani envoy said in presenting Islamabad's vision and priorities as a Sedebate on the forthcoming curity Council member.

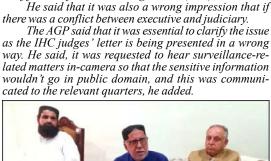
ministry plans to deploy 20 buses from urban to rural areas specifically for girl students and female teachers from both public and private schools. **US warns of**

sanctions after India-Iran Chabahar **Port pact**

WASHINGTON (APP) Hours after India signed a 10-year contract to operate Iran's Chabahar port, the US warned that its sanctions on Tehran remain in place and "anvone" considering business deals with the Islamic Republic needs to be "aware of the potential risk". At the same time, the State Department Principal Deputy Spokesperson, Vedant Patel, said that it will let the Indian government speak on its for-

eign policy goals. "I will let the government of India speak to its own foreign policy goals vis-à-vis the Chabahar port as well as its own bilateral relationship with Iran," Patel said in the department's daily press briefing on Monday.

We are aware of these reports that Iran and India have signed a deal concerning the Chabahar Port," question



NASEERABAD: Provincial Minister for Irrigation Mir Muhammad Sadiq Umrani talking with

PHE minister for provision of facilities to people in Balochistan

(APP): Balochistan Minister for Public Health Engineer (PHE) Sardar Abdul Rehman Khetran Tuesday said that measures were being taken to address public issues for facilitating to

people in the area. In his statements, the minister said that the fruits of the measures for the welfare of the people and the development of the area would be revealed soon. He said he was grateful to the people of the constituency,

who believed and succeed him every time. Solving people's problems is my first priority, practical steps have been initiated to fulfill the promises made to the people, he said. Sardar Khetran said

that keeping in mind the service of our leader Nawaz Sharif, we were all striving for the welfare of the people and the country adding that history was a witness that whenever Pakistan Muslim League-N (PML-N) came to power. their own will.

Republic of Korea Tuesday marked the contribution of one million dollars, aimed at bolstering UNHCR's response in supporting Afghan refugees and their host communities in Pakistan.

This one-year project benefitting more than 125,000 people across the country

The announcement Addressing a press conference here, he said that a was made here at a cerwrong impression was made on a letter written to the emony held at the National Vocational & Technical Training Commission (NAVTTC), Centre of Excellence, where the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Pakistan, Park Ki Jun and UNHCR Representative, Philippa Candler signed an agreement. The Chairperson of NAVTTC, Gulmina Bilal, was also present on the occasion.

Speaker BA asks MPAs to attend Assembly session in time **Independent Report**

QUETTA: The Speaker Balochistan Assembly Captain (Retd) Abdul Khaliq Achakzai has asked the members to attend the Assembly session in time.

The Speaker gave this ruling while chairing sitting of the Provincial Assembly here on Tuesday. Actually the Member Provincial Assembly, Ms. Farah Azeem Shah pointed out the session was started around one hour late while the scheduled time was 11:00 AM. She said that the nations, which don't value the time

and punctuality, can't progress. The Opposi-tion MPA, Maulana Hidayatur Rehman also stressed that the session of assembly should be started at the given time. He regretfully pointed out life that the members of assembly come in the session on



QUETTA: Provincial Food Minister Haji Noor Muhammad Dummar meeting with Speaker Balochistan Assembly Captain (retd) Abdul Khaliq Achakzai.

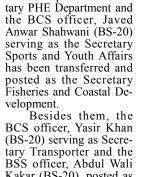
Bureaucracy continues to be reshuffled **Secretaries of various** departments transferred

Independent Report Member Chief Minister In-QUETTA: The reshuffling spection Team, has been posted as the Secretary of senior civil bureaucracy Fransport Department. of Balochistan province is Moreover, the BCS officer, Lal Jan Jaffar (BScontinued as administrative secretaries of different pro-20), serving as Secretary (Planning) Planning and Devincial government depart-

ments were replaced giving velopment Department, them new postings. has been posted as the Sec-According to an offiretary C&W Department cial notification issued here while the BSS officer, by the Services and Gen-Imran Gichki (BS-20), eral Administration Department (S&GAD), the senior posted as the Secretary Fisheries and Coastal Deofficer of Balochistan Civil velopment, has been trans-Service, Kambar Dashti ferred and posted as Secre-(BS-21), serving as the Secretary Communication and Works (C&W) Department, has been transferred and posted as the senior Member Board of Revenue with immediate effect. Similarly, the senior

officer of Balochistan Secretariat Service (BS-21), posted as the Secretary Excise Taxation and Anti-Narcotics, has been transferred and posted as the Secretary Forests and Wild-Similarly, the officer of

BCS, Muhammad Hayat Kakar (BS-20), serving as



Kakar (BS-20), posted as the Secretary PHE, have been directed to report in the S&GAD.



QUETTA: Deputy Speaker Balochistan Assembly Ghazla Gola, Provincial Advisor Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi and MPA Shahnaz Umrani talking with Provincial Patel said in response to a Minister Mir Asim Kurd Gailo after BA session.

In collaboration with Indus Hospital Network: **GoB decides to initiate Chief Minister** initiative of Health on Wheels in Balochistan

Independent Report QUETTA: The Government of Balochistan has decided to initiate the Chief Minister Initiative of Health on Wheels in order to provide healthcare facilities in remote areas of the province. province.

The CM Initiative of Health on Wheel service would be started from the native district of Chief Minister (Dera Bugti) in collaboration with the Indus Hospital.

The decision to this effect was made during meeting of a delegation of

Chief Minister Balochistan, the management of Indus Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti Hospital. here on Tuesday.

He directed to start the During the meeting, Health on Wheel initiative from his native area, Baikar. the delegation of Indus Hospital briefed the Chief Meanwhile, the Indus Hospital delegation also Minister about the pro-posal of CM Initiative of briefed the Chief minister Health on Wheels in the about upgradation of the

GDA Hospital in Gwadar. The Chief Minister The Chief Minister directed the concerned aualso directed to remove the thorities to benefit from the hurdles in making the Pakexperiences and expertise of China Friendship Hospital the Indus Hospital in order to provide health facilities operational for the patients in Gwadar. The Hospital, it may

and bring improvement in them in Sui and Baikar ar- be mentioned here, has been eas. He also opened doors established with assistance Indus Hospital with the of his personal residence for of Chinese government.



QUETTA: Opposition leader Mir Younis Aziz Zehri, MPAs Mir Ghulam Dastagir Badini, Fzal Qadir, Asghar Ali Tareen, Malik Naeem Khan Bazai, Syed Zafar Agha, Dr. Nawaz Kibzai and Mir Asadullah Baloch meeting with Provincial Education Minister Raheela Hameed Khan Durrani.

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