# naenentent

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Arrangements made for return of students from Kyrgyzstan:

## Provincial cabinet constitutes committee to 3 sort out issue of federal levies in Balochistan

Cabinet approves establishment of Forensic Science Agency, Women Police Station in Sibi & Pharmacy Council besides approving bills for prevention of early age marriage and domestic violence against women; Education of Qura'an declared compulsory for Muslim students

**Independent Report** The Balochistan cabinet has ap-

proved to bring the federal levies force in the administrative structure of Balochistan levies force and constituted a committee to decide future of the federal levies and the related mat-

The committee would be headed by the Provincial Minister for Home and Tribal Affairs, Mir Ziaullah Langove with provincial ministers Sadar Sarfraz Domki, Noor Muhammad Dummar and Sardar Abdul Rehman Khetran.

The cabinet also ac-

**Provincial Cabinet meeting** 

A fohanistan hor-

der, are conducting effec-

tive operations in general

area Sambaza in Zhob Dis-

trict of Balochistan, since

neutralising 29 terrorists

successfully in the past one

Services Public Relations

(ISPR) on Wednesday,

"Off late, Pakistan has wit-

nessed a surge in terrorist

incidents orchestrated

from Afghan soil, wherein.

terrorists from Afghanistan

attempt to infiltrate

through Pakistan-Afghani-

stan Border and target Se-

curity Forces as well as the

innocent civilians.3

According to the Inter

29 terrorists killed in

operations along Pak-Afghan

border since April 21: ISPR

RAWALPINDI (APP): operations, during an intel-

The Security Forces, in ad- ligence based operation on

April 21, that helped in remain committed to se-

gallantly.

corded approval to the es- dia persons about the deci- the cabinet laid emphasis tablishment of Forensic sions made in the provin- on improving governance in Science Agency and Women cial cabinet here at the CM's Police Station in Sibi.

Besides, the cabinet riages and domestic violence against women.

companies in the province.

This and similar other information were shared by the spokesman, Government of Balochistan, Shahid Rind while briefing the me-

QUETTA: Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti chairing

dition to other areas along May 14, Major Babar Turkiye Cevdet Yilmaz and

Shahadat, while fighting

Forces are determined and

cure the borders and ensure

safety of its citizens

against the scourge of ter-

has consistently been ask-

ing Interim Afghan Gov-

ernment to ensure effective

border management on

ernment is expected to ful-

fill its obligations and deny

the use of Afghan soil by

terrorists for perpetuating

acts of terrorism against

"Interim Afghan Gov-

their side of border.

It added that Pakistan

rorism," the ISPR said.

"Pakistan's Security

secretariat on Wednesday.

The two-day meeting approved bills for preven- of cabinet was chaired by tion of the early age mar- the Chief Minister, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti. About the cabinet meet-

In addition to this, the ing, the spokesman of procabinet approved forma- vincial government intion of Balochistan Phar- formed that the cabinet macy Council and increase meeting remain continued in the renewal and issuance for two days. During the fees of the private security course of meeting, some 30 points were discussed and important decisions made on different administration matters and about public

Shahid Rind said that

PM meets

Turkish VP, FM,

**Emir of Qatar** 

TEHRAN (APP):Prime

Minister Muhammad

Shehbaz Sharif on Wednes-

day met Vice President of

Foreign Minister Hakar

Fidan at a commemoration

ceremony organised in

honour of late Iranian Presi-

dent Dr Seyyed Ebrahim

Raisi and his companions.

both sides discussed the

bilateral and other issues of

mutual interests, the PM

Office Media Wing said in

further enhance the bilateral

ties between Pakistan and

minister also met with Emir

of State of Qatar Sheikh

Tamim bin Hamad al-

Turkiye in diverse fields.

They also agreed to

Separately, the prime

Similar sentiments

were expressed during the

meeting between Prime

Minister Shehbaz Sharif

and Emir of State of Qatar

Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad

**Over 9100** 

SIM cards of

non-filers

blocked

ISLAMABAD (INP)

The telecommunication

companies on a recommendation of the Federal

Board of Revenue (FBR)

blocked over 9,100 SIM

Talking to a private Tv channel on Wednesday,

FBR Spokesperson Bakhtiar Ahmed Khan said

that they have provided data of 30,000 non-filers to

cellular companies, hinting

that more SIM cards will

said that the FBR will pro-

vide data of 5,000 non-fil-

ers daily to telecom com-

panies so that strict ac-

tion could be taken

The spokesman said the FBR so far

identified over 550,000

Bakhtiar Ahmed Khan

be blocked.

against them.

non-filers.

cards of non-tax filers.

a press release.

Thani.

During their meeting,

education and health sectors agreeing to bring about reforms in the province.

He said that the cabinet members emphasized in the cabinet meeting that improvement in service delivery is necessary particularly in health and education sectors.

In this connection, the cabinet has directed to provincial ministers of Education and Health to prepare comprehensive recommendations for improvement in their respective depart-

about prevention of early age marriages and elimination of domestic violence, there was also discussion on the matter of federal levies in the province. In this regard, the cabi-

net approved to form a committee headed by the Minister Home, Mir Ziaullah Langove on the matter of federal levies in the province.

Moreover, the cabinet declared it compulsory for the Muslim students to get Qura'an education. While on the other

hand, the cabinet sup-ported the constitutional He said that while the cabinet approved the bills seats of Balochistan.

Meets Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei

#### PM expresses unwavering solidarity with Iran at time of national tragedy EHRAN (APP): Prime ship and brotherhood with

Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday met the Supreme Leader of Iran Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei and expressed condolences on the tragic death of Iranian President Dr Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi and his com-

The prime minister underlined that President Raisi was a visionary leader who manifested steadfast dedication to serving his country and people.

Recalling late President Raisi's recent visit to Pakistan in April 2024, the prime minister highlighted his commendable role in urtner strengtnening of Pakistan-Iran bilateral relations, the PM Office Media Wing said in a press re-

Shehbaz expressed solidarity with the Iranian brethren and sisters at the critical juncture in history and reiterated Pakistan's commitment to further strengthening the bonds of friend-

the Government and the people of brotherly Iran. He expressed the resolve to continue the vision of late president for strengthening of the bilateral relationship and trade

He said that President Raisi's contributions for the unity of Muslim Ummah as well as for the besieged people of Gaza would be etched in history.

between the two countries.

The prime minister was accompanied by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar, Interior Minister Syed Mohsin Naqvi, Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan, and Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar.

Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei said that they appreciated the sentiments of the Government and the people of Pakistan in the critical time and expressed gratitude to them.

#### Tarar lauds Intl organizations' support to strengthen electoral process in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar said on Wednesday that the cooperation of international organizations to strengthen the electoral process in Pakistan was commendable.

During a meeting with the United Nations Electoral Needs Assessment Mission, the minister appreciated the services rendered by the mission for the transparency of electoral process in Pakistan.

In the meeting, provision of technical support to Election Commission of disinformation.

Pakistan through UNDP Election Support Programme, fake news, misinformation disinformation and other important issues were dis-

"Election campaigns in Pakistan have changed in the digital age," the minister said adding the rise of social media had given a new shape to political engagement. In the present digital era, where the way for digital-based strategies was being paved, there were also challenges of fake news, misinformation

#### Reshuffling of senior civil bureaucracy continues in Balochistan

**Independent Report** 

QUETTA: The reshuffling of senior civil bureaucracy is continued as administrative secretaries of three more departments were replaced in the province. According to an official

notification issued here by the Services and General Administration Department, the Secretary Communication and Works Department, Kambar Dashti has been transferred and

posted as senior Member Board of Revenue while Secretary Planning, planning and development, Lal Jan Jaffar has been posted as Secretary C&W.

Similarly, Secretary Health, Abdullah Khan has been transferred and posted as the Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs and Saleh Muhammad Baloch, who was awaiting posting orders, has been posted as the Secretary Health.



QUETTA: Former Chief Minister Balochistan and President National Party MPA Dr. Abdul Malik Baloch and a delegation of SST Forum meeting with Education Minister Raheela Hameed Khan Durrani



dent of Islamic Republic of Iran, Dr. Mohammad Mokhbar and offers condolence over the sad demise of Iranian President Dr. Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi and

# Pakistan firmly upholds one-China principle: President

President Zardari's remarks on One-China principle, highly appreciable: Wang Wenbin

ISLAMABAD (APP): for the second time in adding that Pakistan will President Asif Ali Zardari has reiterated that Pakistan firmly adhered to the one-China principle as the country always chooses to stand

on the right side of history.
"Pakistani people loved China as "there is no conditionality between us," the president remarked in an interview with the Chinese media published on Wednesday, marking the 73rd anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Pakistan.

This was the first such interaction of President Zardari with any foreign media after being re-elected

Recalling the rapport and safeguard China's core between the previous leaders of the two countries, Zardari said, "My late father-in-law, Pakistan's former Prime Minister

Zulfikar Ali Bhutto told the nation to look East, to look towards China.3 President Zardari, who had visited China nine times during his first term as Pakistani president, reaffirmed Pakistan's stance of

principle, rejecting any form of "Taiwan independence." 'Taiwan is part of China. There's no other way," the president said,

always stand with China interests.

Commenting on the development of Gwadar Port, a starting point of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), Zardari said a lot of work had been done at the Gwadar Port since the launch of the CPEC 11 years ago, noting that the Port would always welcome investors from all over the upholding the one-China world.

Zardari said Pakistan is encouraging more schools to adopt the Chinese language into their compulsory curriculum.



KARACHI: Acting President Syed Yousuf Raza Gillani talking to media persons during his visit at Mausoleum of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah.

#### **Bruised PTI** demands judicial probe into attack on Raoof Hasan

ISLAMABAD (INP) The Pakistan Tehreek-e Insaf (PTI) has demanded formation of a judicial commission to investigate the attack on party's Information Secretary Raoof Hasan.

The PTI information secretary was attacked on Tuesday afternoon by unidentified transgender persons with a blade in Islamabad's G-7 area. He suffered a cut in the face.

Addressing a press conference on Wednesday, Leader of the Opposition in National Assembly Omar Ayub said an attempt was made to kill party's spokesperson.

We reject the FIR launched by the Islamabad police. Why the sections of terrorism are not included in the FIR," questioned Ayub.

#### Dialogue only way to solve problems, says Gilani

KARACHI (INP): Acting book placed at the mausopresident and Senate Chairman Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani says dialogue is the only way to solve the prob-

He expressed these views during his visit to the mausoleum of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah to pay homage to the Father of the Nation on Wednesday.

The acting president laid a floral wreath and offered fateha.

impressions in the visitors'

leum. Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah was also present on the occa-

Speaking to the media. the acting president said Q u a i d - e - A z a m Muhammad Ali Jinnah was a true and genuine leader of the Sub-Continent and our youth should be aware of the fact that he (Quaid) was the true leader and he had created Pakistan therefore we should not be running He also recorded his after a 'black cat in a dark room'



**QUETTA: Commissioner Quetta Division Hamza** Shafqaat meeting with Governor Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail

#### **Speaker & Deputy Speaker BA visit Iranian Consulate for condolences**

of the Iranian Consulate on

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The Speaker Balochistan Assembly, Captain (Retd) Abdul

Khaliq Achakzai and Speaker Balochistan Assembly, Ms. Ghazala Gola visited the Iranian Consulate here on Wednesday.

During the visit, the Speaker and Deputy Speaker expressed condolence to the Deputy Consul General and other staff

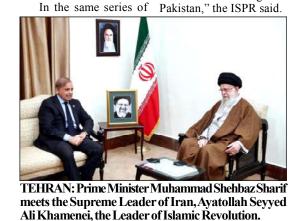
sad demise of Iranian President, Ebrahim Raisani and other dignitaries of Iran in the helicopter crash. They also penned

heartfelt condolence and tributes to the late Iranian President and others in the condolence book.

It may be mentioned here that the process of condolence remained continued on second consecutive day, Wednesday over the sad

demise of Iranian President and his companions in the Helicopter crash at the Iranian Consulate.

The Chie Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti and other personalities belonging to different walks of life have already visited the Iranian Consulate for offering condolence and fateha for the departed souls of those died in the Helicopter crash



#### Central, provincial govts taking steps to ensure good governance: Governor

Mandokhail exhorts PML-N parliamentarians to keep close & effective rapport with masses of their constituencies

**Independent Report** 

QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail has stated it is our responsibility to fulfill promises made with the people and meet their expectations and adding exhorted the parliamentarians of PML-N to keep close and effective coordination with people of their respective constituencies every time and under every circumstances so that they are well acquainted about their issues and resolve them

The Governor was speaking to a delegation of the provincial ministers and members of provincial assembly who called on him under leadership of the Speaker Abdul Khaliq Achakzai here at the Governor's House on Wednesday. The Governor stressed

that the time has come to serve the masses by the elected representatives.

He urged all the elected representatives to serve the masses with dedication and high spirit. He said that the federal

and provincial governments are taking serious steps for ensuring good governance and stabilization of the economic system.

These initiatives would bear positive results very soon, adding he believed. He said that the democ-

racy revolves around the service and welfare of people so as to protect their basic rights and

ment blocks. These prised to discover that

# Daily Aoice of Masse Independent

#### **Bulldozed bill**

Why is the Punjab government so keen on imposing dangerous legislation that would be unacceptable to any self-respecting society? The forced passage of the Defamation Bill 2024 over the protestations of both journalists and opposition lawmakers in the Punjab Assembly on Monday is a troubling reminder of how the PML-N has abandoned its principles ever since it returned

Where once the party was championing the people and their voices, it is now devising new means to silence them. It has been said before but needs to be stressed again: this new law will likely come back to bite it. The party had previously introduced the Pakistan Electronic Crimes Act, which became a noose around its neck once it fell out of favour with the establishment. Those who were urging the Punjab government to get all stakeholders on board merely wanted it to avoid repeating that mistake.

In a demonstration held after the Monday session of the Punjab Assembly, the Lahore Press Club president recalled that Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz had joined the protests when the PTI had been attempting to strengthen Peca to make it more effective in suppressing public criticism. But here she was now, going ahead with equally condemnable legislation "aimed at gagging the media"

Was her earlier position based merely on political expediency? Has her party considered what the consequences of such a law would be in case it once again runs afoul of the powers that be? The last time this happened, its leadership was still able to vent its frustration and publicly name those whom it held responsible. The ability to do so kept it alive politically. The next time it happens, the party and its leaders would be condemned to suffer in silence thanks to the law they

Defamation is a societal problem, not something that concerns the Punjab government alone. The journalists' community had merely asked the Punjab government for a week to reconsider the law and arrive at a consensus. Meanwhile, the opposition had suggested certain changes to the law, some of which, it seems, could have improved it considerably. By involving these two stakeholders in its deliberations, the government in Lahore would have had the opportunity to make the law fairer and acceptable to everyone. That it chose to push them aside suggests a disinclination to honour the democratic principles of the legislative process and, instead, a tendency to impose its will on the people. This disregard for the opposition and other dissenting voices — now seen in multiple successive governments — is the primary reason why the Pakistani political process seems unable to deliver. The Punjab government must withdraw this dangerous bill and engage with other stakeholders. There is still time.

## Preparing for crises

#### Naveen Hussain

If the society you live in catastrophe or collapse due to climate change, rising geopolitical tensions and all-out war, or growing inequality leading to civil unrest, what would you do to protect yourself and your family?

A Karachiite of my

acquaintance owns a small farm which has previously been used for weekends in the country. He fears that with rising inequality and hunger, civil unrest will increase. And if the US initiates another regional war, Pakistan may get dragged in again. He is preparing to move to his farm to become a full-time homesteader. He believes that this will be the safest place to ride out any com-

Homesteading is an off-grid, self-reliant lifestyle. His farm is well stocked with fruit and vegetables, and he rears a few chickens and other animals. Solar panels provide electricity, and he has a water bore for clean drinking water. This is classic homesteading. All that's needed is to store non-perishable foods and pickle and preserve surplus fresh foods.

Adapting lifestyles to survive is human nature, and yet popular culture depicts homesteaders as eccentric and possibly extremist. The Good Life, a popular BBC comedy, which aired in the 1970s, depicted a couple who gave up corporate life to start rice, batteries, candles, homesteading in their middle-class suburban house, much to the dismay of their wealthy neighbours. More recently, the Netflix film Leave the World Behind showed us what life might look like if the world we knew became hostile

Not everyone owns a farm they can retreat to. Most city dwellers live in urban settings like apart-

people are more likely to be 'preppers' rather than was about to experience homesteaders. Preppers stockpile essentials against inevitable economic and climate crises. In the past, the most prepping an urban person might do was to carry a map, a torch, a spare tyre, and a tyre iron in their car boot. Drivers in harsh climates might also have kept blankets, dry clothes, energy bars, and water, as a precaution

> Covid-19 was the first time that most people born into a globalised world experienced a truly global supply chain disruption. People in Europe began stockpiling dry pasta while those in Asia stockpiled rice. Hand sanitiser became a luxury item; my personal supply was stolen from my desk by 'persons unknown' and replacing it became a mission that took weeks for more sanitiser to be shipped, at great cost, from abroad. Most of us

down.

Online prepper guides and videos focus on the US and Australia, which are now regularly subject to large uncontrolled forest fires or hurricanes and require emergency evacuation from their homes. Increasing flooding in the UK has locals turning to prep-

stockpiled something.

The basic needs of the prepper relate to water, food, and energy. They stockpile bottled water, tinned foods, dry matches, first aid equipment and essential medication. They have backup torches, solar-powered lamps, and a solar panel charger for mobile devices. Travel documents and ID are kept with other essentials in a 'go' bag or 'bug out' bag which can be trust and put disaster grabbed easily if evacuation becomes neces-

You may be sur- Courtesy Dawn

#### your neighbours in Pakistan are also prepping. I have met families in ground floor apartments who have installed solar

panels on their patios. Those who cannot instal solar are ensuring they have portable, affordable solar lanterns. Increasingly, families who can afford to are stockpiling essentials and non-perishables, hedging against ever-increasing food prices. They may not discuss prepping, against the car breaking but they are taking comm-on sense precautions agai-nst uncer-

> Climate shocks, rising geopolitical tensions, and a global costof-living crisis mean many people cannot afford to stockpile essentials. As rising prices force the middle class to devolve into the working poor, they become as vulnerable as the unemployed. The betw-een the haves and have-nots becomes ever more extreme. When disaster strikes such unequal societies, what happens next? How far will people go to save their family?

> Our species thrived because we lived in communities. Homesteading succeeds when the fruits of your labour are shared with labourers and other homesteads. Prepping works best when people share their skills and pool their knowledge within their neighbourhood. As climate events become more brutal, individual survival becomes more difficult; we must look to our distant past and recognise that the manual labourer is as critical to our survival as the scientist or strategist.

> We need community leaders neighbourhoods and apartment blocks to build provision plans in place now. It will be too late after a disaster strikes.

## Unusual trifecta

#### Mahir Ali

There appears to be no reliable source for the quote that there are decades when nothing happens and weeks when decades happen, commonly (and possibly apocryphally) attributed to Vladimir Lenin, but the beginning of this week felt a bit like that. The likelihood that

Iran's president and foreign minister had perished in a helicopter crash alongside seven others seemed obvious long before Tehran officially acknowledged the tragedy and announced five days of mourning. This was followed by reports that the International Criminal Court's (ICC's) chief prosecutor had sought warrants against leading figures in Israel and Hamas. Soon afterwards came the news that a pair of British judges had allowed Julian Assange the right to appeal against the British government's determination to extradite him to the US for a trial on patently absurd and politically motivated espionage charges.

Raisi, Ebrahim elected president in 2021 on a low turnout, and his foreign minister, Hossein Amir-Abdollahian, were guests in Islamabad last month after a period of tensions between the two countries and an exchange of hostilities targeting purported militants on both sides of the Balochistan border. Last Sunday, they were returning from a dam inauguration on the border with Azerbaijan also attended by the latter nation's president, Ilham Aliyev the scion of Heydar Aliyev, who segued easily from a reliable Soviet apparatchik to a typical Central Asian potentate.

For the Iranians, the transport back to Tabriz relied on an old, US-designed helicopter, flying through hilly terrain in poor weather. A 'hard landing' was the initial

Tehran, although seg-ments of Iranian media were talking about a crash early on, and the supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, tried to reassure the nation that the consequences would not be disruptive long before official sources admitted that there were no survi-

Raisi will be succeeded by his unelected first vice president, Mohammad Mokhber, in an interim capacity, with fresh presidential elections due within 50 days. There is no reason to expect the pattern will be any different from the recent past, with the clerical hierarchy effectively picking the favoured candidate while offering the mirage of a democratic contest. It hasn't always been easy, though, with the clergy occasionally from the likes of Rafsanjani, Khatami and Rouhani. Even the militantly conservative Ahmadinejad was too much of a loose cannon

With Khamenei now 85, Raisi was considered a contender for the top iob. The former is the second supreme leader since 1979. When Ruhollah Khomeini died 10 years later, the Khaleej Times put out a special edition. The only picture we could find of Khomeini with a foreign leader featured Yasser Arafat soon after the revolution. That found a prominent place in the paper — and one of the KT's photographers came close to being roughed up by Iranian mourners at a mosque in Dubai because of that image. The Palestinian leader had apparently turned into persona non grata since the early days of the revolution, after which the regime had welcomed arms from Israel as part of the Iran-Contra deal under Reagan set-up.

official description in out as the only significant Middle Eastern power to meaningfully rage against the genocide in Gaza, but its motivations are suspect. Raisi had been implicated for decades in the repression that has stood out as a key characteristic of the regime that smothered the best aspects of the rebellion against the Pahlavi monarchy 45

years ago. Iran might have been very different country had the US not conspired seven decades ago to turn it into an Israelfriendly Middle Eastern satellite. Today, it is determined to defend Israel, with Joe Biden denying any 'equivalence' posited by the ICC between Hamas and the Zionist regime, notwithstanding their deadly inclinations - let alone the Israeli Defence Forces' military sufacing mild resistance premacy, courtesy of a steady supply of US military hardware.

WikiLeaks exposed the brutal absurdity of military America's endeavours in places where it has no right to be, which is why the Trump and Biden administrations have conspired to permanently silence him. It would make sense for Biden's government to drop the ridiculous charges, given that the British establishment would reprehensibly be unwilling to liberate him without Washington's imprimatur. The ICC's endeavour has been condemned by Hamas, Israel and Biden. That alone suggests it might be worthy, even though the prosecutor's request is yet to be processed by the judges. It is, of course, highly unlikely that either the Israeli or the Hamas leadership will ever find itself in the dock at The Hague, but pushing this genocidal conflict in the direction of accountability just might bring it to a halt. -- Cour-Iran has lately stood tesy Dawn

# Commerce News



#### Gold rates dip **by Rs 300**

#### per tola

ISLAMABAD (APP): The per tola price of 24 karat gold decreased by Rs 300 and was sold at Rs 248.200 on Wednesday compared to its sale at Rs 248,500 on the last trading day. The price of 10 grams of 24 karat gold also decreased by Rs 236 to Rs 212.791 from Rs 213.048 whereas the price of 10 grams 22 karat gold went down to Rs 195,059 from Rs 195,295, the All Sindh Jewellers Sarafa Association reported.

The price of per tola and ten-gram silver remained constant at Rs2,850 and Rs2,443.41, respectively. The price of gold in the international market decreased by \$3 to \$2,415 from \$2,418.

# PM for steps to grant industrial status to gems, precious stones sector

Sharif on Wednesday directed the relevant authorities to take the required steps for granting the industrial status to the gems and precious stones sector of the country.

The prime minister, chairing a meeting on the gems and precious stones sector, called for necessary legislation and consultation with the provinces and the private sector to uplift the sector besides immediately activating the Gems and Jewelry Development Company.

ISLAMABAD (APP): He said that most of products, and carry out the Prime Minister Shehbaz the country's areas geological mapping of KP, particularly Pakhtunkhwa, Baltistan and Azad Jammu and Kashmir were rich with immense natural resources which needed to be fully exploited.

Prime Shehbaz also called for ensuring the international products and their display international exhibitions.

He also instructed for launching training programs to promote value officers attended the addition of the stone meeting.

geological mapping of KP, GB and AJK on the availability of precious The participants of

the meeting were told that a strategy was being formulated to promote investment in the fields of gems and rare stone

Federal ministers certification of stone Ahad Khan Cheema, Muhammad Aurangzeb, Jam Kamal Khan and Dr Musaddik Malik, State Bank Governor Jameel Ahmed and relevant senior



on Federal Minister for Industries and Production Rana Tanveer Hussain.

#### Shipping activity at **Port Qasim**

KARACHI (APP): Shipping activity was report at the port where five ships, Hope Island Conti Courage, Tethis-7 Al-Thakhira

Advantage Paradise carrying Container, Palm oil, LNG and Gas oil, berthed at Container Terminal, Liquid Terminal Elengy Terminal and Oil Terminal respectively on Tuesday.

Meanwhile two more

ships, Marathopolis and Torm Venture carrying Container and Gas oil also arrived at outer-anchorage of the Port Qasim on same day. A total of twelve ships were engaged at PQA berths during the last 24 hours, out of them two ships.

### **Industries Minister meets** Korean envoy, discusses bilateral cooperation

ISLAMABAD (APP): many areas including in Industries and Production Rana Tanveer Hussain on Wednesday met with the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea, Park Ki Jun to discuss the bilateral cooperation.

The delegation from leading South Korean companies accompanied ambassador, said a news

release issued here. The minister said that both countries enjoyed historical and cordial relations and engaged in multifaceted bilateral cooperation in

Federal Minister for the field of economic and The matters of

mutual interest, including bilateral cooperation and the challenges faced by Korean companies in Pakistan also came under discussion.

The also assured the visiting delegation for prompt resolution of all pending matters. Rana Tanvir apprised the visiting ambassador that the government had taken a number of steps to boost up industrial activities in the country.

#### Musadik Malik says: Govt. to enhance indigenous production of petroleum products

Minister for Petroleum, Musadik Masood Malik expediting oil and gas renewable said on Wednesday that exploration within the resources, especially as the government will enhance the indigenous foreign companies to energy costs have production of petroleum invest in this sector. products, including gas and crude oil.

Addressing energy symposium, he and gas exploration have said that the government been digitized and long period.
has put blocks for simplified to facilitate Regarding the TAPI bidding and is actively trying to attract global players in exploration activities.

Pakistan is open for business and committed to completely digitizing the cost of electricity reserves and limited the regulatory process to increase transparency.

Malik highlighted the importance of the TAPI gas pipeline project, which he said the hi would provide cheaper gas.He reaffirmed the g o v e r n m e n t 's commitment to ensuring an uninterrupted and recognizing it as a top priority. He said that currently spends over \$18 billion annually on energy

minister

He said that investment processes and an information regarding oil

To reduce electricity tariffs, the government is working on various Pakistan He said that proposals, he said. By supplying local gas to h i g h l i g h t e d efficient power plants, Turkmenistan's vast gas could be reduced to Rs 12 market, primarily China,

He acknowledged the high theft and losses their energy security. in the gas sector, particularly in Balochistan, where gas

systems,

implemented.

comprehensive

ISLAMABAD (APP): reassured attendees that increased utilization of the government is Pakistan's abundant country and welcomes the country's solar significantly decreased.

He said, that multiple policies have been formulated to boost local production after a

project financing would be jointly provided by Turkmenistan.He

framework, he said that

per unit, compared to Rs 24 per unit when using European countries LNG. European countries purchase LNG from Turkmenistan to enhance Не said

Pakistan has proposed to European countries the losses have increased in idea of purchasing LNG Sui-Southern. To combat from Turkmenistan, affordable energy supply, urban gas theft, modern which would provide including energy security to Europe. He explained monitoring of the gas that a gas pipeline will network using come from Turkmenistan technology, are being to Pakistan, and gas will then be supplied to He advocated for Europe via a train.

#### Atif Ikram says: Govt should make border management system more active to prevent smuggling

**Independent Report** ISLAMABAD: President Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry Atif Ikram Sheikh has said that the government should make the border management system more active to prevent

Movement increased only through the tax net.

smuggling.

support the government's measures against non-filers in the upcoming fiscal year budget, Tax should be collected from those who are not in the tax net. Federation President Atif Ikram said that the tax target should be kept closer to of reality in the next financial smuggled goods into the year. The business country is affecting tax revenue which can be community is ready to help the government in increasing

prevention of smuggling. We

#### **Green Energy Transition** to help Pakistan build sustainable economy

ISLAMABAD (APP): The experts at the Green Financing Summit held here on Wednesday underscored the need for Pakistan to embrace a paradigm shift in its policy to achieve renewable energy transition through subsidized energy frameworks helping to achieve a sustainable

Network for Clean Energy Transition organized the virtual conference titled "Green Financing Summit: **Driving Energy Transition** through alternate and Green Financing Mechanisms"

In his opening remarks, Deputy Executive Director, SDPI, Dr Sajid Amin said the discourse on clean energy economy. The Sustainable transition was crucial as shift Development Policy over green energy was the Institute (SDPI) under its country's journey.

# **KP CM distributes** scholarship certificates among 65 students

Chief Minister Education Endowment Fund scholarship award distribution ceremony at Chief Minister's House Peshawar on Wednesday with Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Sardar Ali Amin Khan Gandapur as the chief

Meena Khan Afridi, MNA Shahid Khan Khattak, officials of Higher Education Department and other concerned officials attended the ceremony.

The chief minister on this occasion, distributed scholarships and certificates among 65

LAHORE: Provincial Minister for Health Khawaja

Salman Rafique inaugurates In-door Pharmacy at

**DIG Operations meets** 

**business community** 

order situation of the of our law enforcement

(LCCI) on Wednesday.

LCCI President CCI.He said that during

Adnan Khalid Butt and a police verification of

large number of members employees and workers in

including presidents of factories and markets.

LAHORE (APP): DIG various

Lahore

(Operations)

Muhammad Faisal Kamran

held a meeting with

business community to

discuss security, law and

markets and the liaison

between LCCI and Police

Department, here at

Lahore Chamber of

Commerce and Industry

Kashif Anwar, Senior Vice

President Zafar Mahmood

Chaudhry Vice President

PESHAWAR (APP): The deserving and talented and 7 PhD scholarships students for graduate and worth Rs. 197.47 million, undergraduate programs. Briefing the top universities of the participants about the world. Addressing the scholarships so far ceremony, the chief awarded under Chief minister congratulated the Education students awarded with Endowment Fund, it was informed that the fund was established in 2014 with seed amount of Rs. 940 million, under which, a Provincial Minister total of 444 scholarships for Higher Education worth Rs. 546.47 million nation had been awarded till date.

According to the details, 107 graduate announced increase in the scholarships worth Rs. 47 and million undergraduate scholarships worth Rs. 302 million, have been awarded in the approved leading national institutes. Similarly, 3 MS

have been awarded in the scholarship certificates and hoped that they would move forward with more dedication and hard work and play well at their part in making the name of the bright international level. On this

occasion, the chief minister seed amount of Endowment Fund from Rs 940 million to Rs 2.00 billion aimed at awarding more scholarships as well as supporting the orphan students in the

#### Azma expresses deep condolences to acting Iranian **Consul General**

LAHORE Provincial Minister for Information Azma Bokhari expressed her deep condolences to the Acting Iranian Consul General Ali Asghar Moghari on the death of the Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi and Foreign Minister.

Provincial Minister also inked condolence comments in the Guest Book at the Iranian Embassy.

She said that the entire Pakistani nation is deeply grieved over the death of the Iranian President and Pakistan equally shares the grief of their Iranian brothers and sisters.

"We express our deep sense of sorrow and condolence over the martyrdom of the Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi and Foreign Minister Hossein Abdollahian."

Azma Bokhari said that the President of Iran Ebrahim Raisi was a great Muiahid and revolutionary leader of the Islamic World.



A delegation of People Lawyers Forum District Dir meeting with Khyber Pakhtunkhawa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi at Governor's House Peshawar.

#### **Kundi vows to present** province's development case at every forum

Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Faisal Kundi Karim on Wednesday had said that the province is currently facing security and economic challenges, and he will present the case for the province's development at relevant forums, including the merged districts.

The Governor said that unemployment and law and order issues are the root causes of terrorism and emphasized that all political parties and the nation must unite with zero tolerance to eradicate menace of terrorism

He expressed these views during a study tour of the 35th Senior Management Course participants at the Governor's House in Peshawar. participants included officers from various service groups and ministries.

Governor

apprised them on his constitutional obligations, powers. responsibilities, answered their questions about security, higher education, law and order, Afghan refugees, and political and economic

The

#### **Government committed to** improve treatment facilities in hospitals: Health Minister

FAISALABAD (APP): Provincial Minister for Health Khawaja Salman Rafiq on Wednesday said that the government under the dynamic leadership of Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz was committed to improve medical treatment facilities in all hospitals on modern lines. During his visit to Allied Hospital-I here, he said that huge funds were being spent up-gradation and revamping of government hospitals where nursing staff would also be recruited soon

to overcome their shortage in

contemplating Health providing Professional Allowance which would help improve performance of this sector. He visited various sections of the hospital and directed to complete revamping work till June 10. He said that Rs.2.7 billion were being spent on upgradation of this hospital and this project would be completed on war-footing. Medical Superintendent (MS) Dr Muhammad Faheem Yousuf briefed the Health minister and said that 68 ventilators were in working condition in the

#### PA Deputy **Speaker visits** site of Arts Council

BAHAWALPUR (APP) Punjab Assembly Deputy Speaker Malik Zaheer Iq̂bal Channar Wednesday visited the ongoing construction work of the Divisional Arts Council Bahawalpur.

D e p u t y Commissioner Zaheer Anwar Jappa and Director Arts Council Sajjad Hussain was also present on this occasion. The Deputy Speaker

visited various sections of the under-construction building and inspected the progress. He emphasized importance of completing the development work of the Bahawalpur Arts Council building or time with high standards.

#### Three die in separate incidents in DI Khan

DERA ISMAIL KHAN (APP): Three people were killed on Wednesday in separate incidents took place in different localities of Dera Ismail Khan district. According to details, a dumper fell into Chashma Right Bank Canal (CRBC) near Saidu-wali area of Tehsil Paharpur resulting, driver drowned into the canal while four other people were rescued by the local people. Later, the body of the deceased driver was also fished out by the local people.

According to the Rescue 1122 team the He said that the hospital while pediatric dumper was also took out by using heavy machinery.

#### **Punjab Governor says:** Ibrahim Raisi great supporter of the unity of the Muslim Ummah

**Independent Report** LAHORE: Punjab, Sardar Saleem the Embassy of the Islamic condolences to Iranian Moghadam on the martyrdom of the Iranian president and his companions in a helicopter crash. He offered Fateha and prayed for the elevation of ranks of the deceased and patience to the bereaved families.

Punjab Governor, that they equally share the grief of Iranian people and them in this difficult time.

Governor Punjab said that Ibrahim Raisi was a visionary leader Haider Khan today visited He added that Ibrahim Raisi was a great supporter of the Republic of Iran in unity of the Muslim Islamabad to extend his Ummah. He said that the late Iranian president had Ambassador, Raza Amiri recently made a successful visit to Pakistan in which important agreements were signed. Governor Punjab also signed the condolence book. Iranian Ambassador Reza Amiri Moghaddam expressed his gratitude to the Pakistani people and government on behalf of the government and people Saleem Haider Khan said of Iran for sharing their

the government. Governor



LAHORE: Governor Punjab, Sardar Saleem Haider writing his condolence remarks during his visit to Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

#### New school building constructed in different rural areas with support of FFC inaugurated

By Tanveer Ahmed Soomro

MIRPUR MATHELO: Resident Manager of Fauji Fertilizer Company Mirpur Mathelo Brig (Retd) Muhammad Saleem Muhammad Saleem Cheema, Col Shakeel Ahmed Chatha, Col Shujaat Minhas, PRO FFC Amanullah Shar and Ahmed Ali Soomro along with F. F.C. Inauguration of the new school building constructed in different rural areas with the support of FFC, the school administration and local residents appreciated the efforts of Brigadier and Ahmed Ali Soomro, Muhammad Saleem Cheema with the support of FFC in relation to education. In administration.

addition to providing, pay attention to the education of boys and girls because an educated man is the foundation of an educated society, resident manager Brigadier Muhammad Saleem Cheema told reporters,

According to the details of Fauji Fertilizers Company, an industrial enterprise of district Ghotki. Resident Manager Brigadier Muhammad Saleem Cheema, along with Colonel Shakeel Ahmed Chatha. Colonel Shujaat Minhas, PRO FFC Amanullah Shar

# International News

# Iran's supreme leader prays for late president and others killed in helicopter crash

participated in the meeting.

President Kashif Anwar

said, "We sit safely in our

homes due to the presence

agencies." He said that the

police lay down their lives

to protect the citizens. He

said that there is a very good

relationship between the

the previous visit of DIG

(Operations), few issues

were discussed including

In his address, LCCI

DUBAI: Iran's supreme leader prayed Wednesday over the coffins of the country's late president, foreign minister and other officials who were killed in a helicopter crash earlier this week. Later, hundreds of thousands of people followed a procession honoring the dead down Tehran's main boulevard.

Iran's Shiite theocracy views mass demonstrations as crucial evidence of its legitimacy and the people's

Still, Wednesday's funeral service for President Ebrahim Raisi and others saw a turnout that onlookers described as noticeably lower than the 2020 pro-

cession honoring Revolutionary Guard general Qassem Soleimani, who was killed in a U.S. drone strike in Baghdad.

Many of the participants said they came to Tehran for the ceremony from other cities and towns across the Islamic Republic. an indication of how those in Iran's capital viewed Raisi. who won the presidency in a record low turnout and later oversaw repeated crackdowns on dissent including in the wake of the 2022 death of Mahsa Amini that sparked street protests over Iran's mandatory hijab. or headscarf. Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who openly

citing the standard prayer for the dead.

"Oh Allah, we didn't see anything but good from him," Khamenei said in Arabic, the language of Islam's holy book, the Quran. Iran's acting presi-Mohammad dent. Mokhber, stood nearby and

The death of Raisi. Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian and six others in the crash on Sunday comes at a politically sensitive moment for Iran, both at home and abroad.

been discussed as a possible successor to Iran's supreme leader, the 85-year-old wept for Soleimani, also re-

Palestinians evacuate Kamal Adwan hospital following an Israeli strike in Beit Lahia, the north-

#### German defence minister not ready to compromise on 2025 budget demand he might step back from his

**Monitoring Desk** LITHUANIA: German Defence Minister Boris Pistorius said on Wednesdav he was not prepared to lower his demands for the 2025 defence budget or accept a compromise right now. Speaking during a visit to the Pabrade training ground in Lithuania, he told reporters he would neither disclose his negotiating strategy in talks with the finance minister nor send any signal whether he

saw room for compromise. "I am not prepared to do either," he said, responding to a question whether demand of topping up the 2025 defence budget by 6.7 billion euros (\$7.3 billion).

Due to the spending requests from ministries, the ruling coalition of Social Democrats (SPD) Greens and Free Democrats (FDP) will hold further talks on next year's budget.

Germany has for years been criticized for spending too little on defence, effectively relying on the United States to underpin its security despite being Europe's biggest economy.



openly cried.

Raisi, who was 63, had

#### Death of Iran's president has delayed talks with IAEA, Grossi says

**Monitoring Desk** HELSINKI: The deaths of Iran's president and foreign minister in a helicopter crash have caused a pause in the UN nuclear watchdog's talks with Tehran over improving cooperation with the agency, the watchdog's chief Rafael Grossi told Reuters

on Wednesday. "They are in a mourning period which I need to respect," International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) chief Grossi said in Helsinki, where he spoke at a nuclear conference

"But once this is over, we are going to be engaging again," he said, describing it as a "temporary interruption that I hope will be over in a matter of days" Grossi said the IAEA was planning to continue technical discussions with Iran but they had not yet taken place due to last weekend's helicopter crash that killed President Ebrahim Raisi and Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian.



for victims of helicopter crash that killed Iran's President Ebrahim Raisi, Foreign Minister Hossein Abdollahian and others, in Tehran, Iran.

#### Israeli forces raze parts of Jabalia camp, hit Rafah

**Monitoring Desk** GAZA: Israeli forces thrust deeper into the Jabalia refugee camp in northern Gaza on Tuesday, laying waste to residential districts with tank and air bombardments, residents said, while airstrikes killed at least five people in the southern city of Rafah.

The Israeli army used bulldozers to clear shops and property near the local market in Jabalia refugee camp, residents

said, in a military operation that began almost two weeks ago.

Israel said it has returned to the camp, where it had asserted to have dismantled Hamas months ago, to prevent the group from regrouping.

Health authorities and

Gaza Civil Emergency Service said dozens of bodies were trapped under rubble of houses and on the roads in Jabalia, but were out of reach of rescue teams

#### US pushes for G7 response to China's industrial overcapacity **Monitoring Desk**

RANKFURT: US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen said on Tuesday that the United States and Europe needed to respond to China's industrial overcapacity in a 'strategic and united way'

to keep manufacturers viable

on both sides of the Atlantic. Yellen told reporters during a visit to Frankfurt that G7 finance ministers shared US concerns about Chinese efforts to dominate clean energy industries, but did not need "detailed coordination" on trade actions following the imposition of steep US tariffs on Chinese goods. "But I do think that the concerns about China's strategy are shared and all I'm suggesting is that given that many countries share this concern, it's more forceful to communicate to China as a group," Yellen said.

In remarks on the US-European alliance in Fran-kfurt, Yellen said China's excess industrial capacity threatened both American and European firms as well as the industrial development of emerging market countries. "China's industrial policy may seem remote as we sit here in this room, but if we do not respond strategically and in a united way

#### DR Congo thwarts Kinshasa 'coup attempt': Army Monitoring Desk

KINSHASA: The DR Congo military on Sunday thwarted an attempted coup near the offices of President Felix Tshisekedi in Kinshasa involving "foreigners and Congolese", the army spokesperson said.

The coup bid took place in the early hours of the morning outside the residence of economy minister Vital Kamerhe, in the Gombe area in the north of the capital, near the Palais de la Nation which houses the president's offices. 'An attempted coup d'etat has been stopped by the defence and security

#### **UK's ex-Post** Office boss **Paula Vennells** says she was 'too trusting' **Monitoring Desk**

LONDON: Former British Post Office boss Paula Vennells sobbed on Wednesday after telling a public inquiry the wrongful conviction of hundreds of postmasters had been caused by errors not conspiracy, and if anything she had been "too trusting" of others. More than 700 local post office branch managers, who were often at the heart of small communities, were convicted between 1999 and 2015.

#### recognized by several **European countries Monitoring Desk**

Palestinian state is

land and Spain have recognized a Palestinian state in a historic move. Irish Prime Minister Simon Harris said on Wednesday it was coordinated with Spain and Norway, "an historic and important day for ... Palestine."

Several other European countries have in the past weeks indicated that they plan to recognize a Palestinian state, arguing a two-state solution is essential for lasting peace in the region. European countries are recognizing a Palestinian state While dozens of countries have recognized a Palestinian state, none of the major Western powers has done so. The decisions from Norway, Ireland and Spain may generate mo-

mark a significant accomplishment for the Palestinians, who believe it confers international legitimacy on their struggle, especially amid international outrage over the humanitarian crisis in Gaza. Here's more on how and why the new European announcements

could be important.
Ireland, Norway and Spain have recognized a Palestinian state. Several other European countries have in the past weeks indicated that they plan to make the recognition, arguing a twostate solution is essential for lasting peace in the region. Meanwhile, France indicated that it isn't ready to join other countries in recognizing a Palestinian state, even if it isn't opposed to the idea in principle.

#### **Protesters interrupt** Blinken's testimony over Israel policy

**Monitoring Desk** WASHINGTON: Secre-tary of State Antony Blinken faced criticism from the right

and left over Israel policy

in Congress on Tuesday. with Republicans accusing the Biden administration of failing Israel and Democrats saying it's doing too little to help civilians in Gaza. Furious protesters interrupted Blinken as he began his testimony before the Demo-cratic-controlled Senate Foreign Relations Committee. There were shouts that he has "blood on his hands," and Blinken flinched from a protester who approached him from behind waving a sign that said "criminal" before security officers carried her out of the room. Blinken reiterated the support of President Joe Biden's administration for Israel, but insisted it was fo-

"In the Middle East were standing with Israel in its efforts to ensure what happened on October 7 never happens again, as we do everything we can to bring an end to the terrible human suffering in Gaza and prevent the conflict from spreading," he said.
Blinken was sched-

uled to appear later on Tuesday before the Senate appropriations subcommittee that oversees diplomatic and foreign aid spending. He returns to Capitol Hill on Wednesday for two more rounds of testimony at hearings of the Republican-led House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee and a House appropriations subcommittee. Republicans criticised Biden for saying this month that he would delay a shipment of bombs withholding others if Iscused on easing the hu- raeli forces launched a manitarian crisis in Gaza. major invasion of Rafah.

# **CPEC's projects enhancing** developmental capacity for

China-Pakistan friendship flourish and prosper forever: Jiang Zaidong

Zaidong said here last night that China-Pakistan Friendship will keep flourish and prosper forever.

ter, he said he is very happy

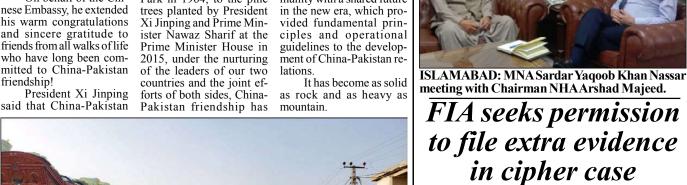
On behalf of the Chinese Embassy, he extended his warm congratulations and sincere gratitude to friends from all walks of life who have long been committed to China-Pakistan friendship!

luxuriant leaves, he said.

public of China established

all-weather strategic cooperative partnership. From the Chinese tallow tree tive partnership, and set the planted by Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai in Shakarparian Park in 1964, to the pine trees planted by President Xi Jinping and Prime Min-Prime Minister House in 2015, under the nurturing of the leaders of our two countries and the joint ef-

In 2015, President Xi



ISLAMABAD (APP): The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) on Wednesday sought the permission of Islamabad High Court (IHC) to present the statement of US Assistant Secretary Donald Lu given before a Congress committee as evidence in the cipher case against the PTI founder and Shah Mehmood Qureshi.

Salik praises Saudi govt. for

excellent Hajj arrangements

introduced by the Saudi

authorities for the facilitation of intending pilgrims.
He urged the Pakistani

Hajj group operators to fol-

low the directives of the

and Saudi Arabia were

firmly committed to make the Hajj inclusive for all

segments of the society,

especially women and spe-

discussions on how to fur-

ther deepen our engage-

ments and especially our

cooperation for the Hajj

next year", he added

He said both Pakistan

We held productive

Saudi Government.

cial persons.

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Har-

mony Chaudhary Salik Hussain on Wednesday

praised the Saudi authori-

ties for the excellent ar-

rangements made by them

to make performing of the

Hajj obligation convenient for the pilgrims.

ciative of the assistance and

cooperation from the King-

dom of Saudi Arabia for the

smooth conduct of Hajj ev-

ery year," he said while talk-

novative reforms had been

The minister said in-

ing to the PTV News.

We are highly appre-

The FIA, in a miscellaneous application submitted to the IHC bench of Chief Justice Aamer Farooq and Justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb, requested for allowing it to file more evidence in the cipher case. The chief justice expressed his concern that the FIA

wanted to present extra evidence when the hearing of the appeals was about to complete.

## **Irrigation deptt rebuttal** news of corruption in 100 dams project

**Independent Report** UETTA: The spokesman, Irrigation Department has contradicted the report published in a section of press about the corruption and irregularities in the 100

dams project. In an official press release issued here on Wednesday, the spokesman said that the report published in the media is not correct. The report published in the press was part nere has been corruption

Although the audit paras mentioned in the reports have already been settled, but these were made part of the report on the basis of misunderstanding among the departments, the spokesman stated.

He further stated that the officers and staff of Irrigation Department were engaged in serving the masses during the 2022 flood situation as a result of the 10-year audit report of which, these paras could in which it was stated that not be settled in DAC meeting and thus the issue and embezzlement in the couldn't be resolved



**QUETTA: Deputy Speaker Balochistan Assembly** Ghazala Gola condoling with Deputy Consul General of Irifan Agha Syed Mehdi Shaiqi on sad demise of Iranian President Dr. Ebrahim Raisi and others.

#### **Govt decision to block** SIMs of non-filler still in effect: IHC

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Islamabad High Court (IHC) stated on Wednesday that the decision of the federal government pertaining to block the SIMs of non-fillers remained in effect as the injunction of the court was not related to blocking the SIMs of non-

Chief Justice Amir Farooq Malik of the IHC heard the case against the federal government's decision to block the SIMs of

The federal govern-

ment has filed a separate petition seeking to lift the stay order on the proceedings against the mobile network companies.

At the onset of the hearing, the chief justice clarified that the stay order was solely to safeguard the petitioner and that the injunction was not to block the SIMs. Therefore, the decision of the federal government was still in effect

'We can understand that the federal government is focusing on economic re-

#### Tarar shares information of Raoof Hasan incident with Senate

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Azam Nazeer Tarar on Wednesday shared details with the Senate regarding the Raoof Hasan incident and said that a First Information Report (FIR) had been registered and efforts were

culprits. Speaking in the Senate, he said the government is serious in addressing the issue and a special team has tigate the incident and arrest those responsible.

Nambal, an area of Bokot police station Abbottabad. ate that footage and pic-While talking to APP Deputy Superintendent Police (DSP) Galyat Muhammad Imtiaz said that a jeep bearing registration No. ARR 859, carrying passengers from Leeraan village Union Council Nambal had been returning after shopping from Azad Kashmir's Kalyaan Bazaar when their vehicle fell into a deep gorge

why the need of reviewing the Gwadar Shipyard Master Plan arises? He insisted that why all aspects were not re-

GAWADAR: Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti

Seeks report from Commissioner

CM concerned about shifting

of Shipyard from Kapar to

Sur Bandar in Gwadar

Sur Bandar from Kapar area viewed before establishing Shipyard in Kapar area of The Chief Minister asserted that we would take While chairing a meeting about the Gwadar ship-Governor yard Master plan and re-

**Independent Report** 

QUETTA: The Chief Min-

ister Balochistan, Mir

Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has

expressed concern about

the shifting of Shipyard in

condoles killing

of PS Asghar

QUETTA (APP): Gover

nor Balochistan Sheikh Jafar Khan Mandukhel ex-

pressed his sorrow over the

killing of PS Asghar Ali of

Mir Asim Kurd Gello on

statement, he said that it

was the responsibility of

the government to protect

the lives and property of

prayed Allah Almighty to

rest the departed soul in eternal abode with peace

and granting courage to bereaved family members.

PML-N to

review,

amend party

constitution

LAHORE (INP): Pakistan

Muslim League-Nawaz has

decided to review and

amend the party constitu-

tion, a notification has been

mittee was formed to revise

and amend the party con-

stitution of the Muslim League-N. The provincial

president of PML-N

Punjab, Rana Sanaullah,

was appointed as the con-

vener of the constitutional

amendment and revision

Assembly (MNA) Anush

Rehman has been appointed

as the Secretary of the

Amendments Committee.

No member

of incumbent

federal cabinet

drawing salary
ISLAMABAD (APP):

Minister for Law and Jus-

tice Azam Nazeer Tarar

stated on Wednesday that

no member of the incum-

bent federal cabinet is draw-

ing a salary, as they have all

voluntarily decided not to

withdraw it. Speaking in the

Senate, the minister ex-

plained that ministers pay

Rs. 143,000 in rent for their

single official accommoda-

tion and cover the utility bills

for their residences them-

selves. According to the rules,

ministers are not entitled to

have their utility bills, includ

ing gas and electricity, paid

by the government, and

these bills are covered by

6 died, 7 injured

in road accident

NATHIAGALI (APP):At

least six persons on Wednesday died and seven

others were injured when a

passenger van plunged into

a deep gorge at village

Leeraan Union Council

them personally.

The Member National

committee.

A seven-member com-

issued in this regard.

In his condemnation

Governor Balochistan

Wednesday.

the people.

lated matters here on Wednesday, the Chief Minister sought detail report from the Commissioner that why the Shipyard established in Kapar according to the feasibility report was shifted in Sur Bandar? He directed to present

detail comparison report based on the two-side stance on the review of Shipyard site. The Chief Minister

announced that consulta- Hasan Jaffar.

review of the matter that tion would be made with all stakeholders before any change in the Master Plan of Shipyard.

In this regard, decision would be made on merit in light of the detail reports in next meeting, he added.

Those who were present in the meeting were included Provincial Ministers Mir Zahoor Buledi, Mir Shoaib Nausherwani, Chief Secretary, Shakeel Qadir Khan, Chairman Gwadar Port Authority, Pasand Khan Buledi, Additional Chief Secretary Development, Abdul Saboor Kakar, Secretary Finance, Babar Khan, Principal Secretary to Chief Minister, Imran Zarkoon, Special Secretary, Asfandyar Baloch and senior Project Coordinator, Shahzad



Hussain Magsi and Ali Madad Jattak holding a meeting.

#### **27** profession beggars held in Quetta operation QUETTA (APP): At least istration teams to take

27 professional beggars strict action in view of pubdown against professional bagging in various areas of Quetta city on Wednes-

On the special directive of Deputy Commissioner Quetta Lieutenant ® Saad bin Asad following public complaints, a team led by Magistrate Abdul Hameed conducted crackdown against professional beggars and apprehended professional beggars, handed them over the Social Welfare Department for

further investigation. It should be noted that Deputy Commissioner Quetta assigned special tasks to the district admin-

were arrested in in crack- lic complaints about increasing number of profes sional beggars. In this regard, the Deputy Commissioner said that many of the beggars were involved in serious crimes the district administration teams were eradicating the menace of begging from the city.

The DC said that operations against profession baggers would be carried out in all areas of Quetta including Jinnah Road, Qandahari Bazar, Meezan Chowk, Liaquat Bazar Abdul Sattar Road and its surrounding areas on a daily basis with the aim to eliminate professional beggers' business.



QUETTA: Nazar Baloch along with others addresses to participants during Labour Conference organized by Pakistan Trade Union Defense Campaign held at Quetta press club.

#### **Students complete** internships in port management in Gwadar

GWADAR (INP): The stu- Gwadar Port. dents of the Hotel Management and Hospitality department, Pak-China Technical and Vocational Institute (PCT&VI) at University of Gwadar (UoG) have in various aspects of port completed their fourmonth internship at Gwadar Port Authority (GPA) and China Overseas Ports Holding Company

(COPHC). The internship program was designed for the students of Maritime & Port Management to provide them with invaluable hands-on experience and exposure to real-world business operations within the

Under the guidance of industry experts and seasoned professionals, the students had the opportunity to immerse themselves management, logistics, and

maritime operations.

During the internship program, the students actively participated in a wide range of activities, including but not limited to port operations, logistics management, and infrastructure development. Prof. Dr. Syed Manzoor Ahmed, Executive Director of PCT&VI expressed his satisfaction over the successful completion of the internship.



Pak: Chinese Ambassador

ISLAMABAD (INP): friendship is like a thriving grown into a towering tree, Chinese Ambassador Jiang tree with deep roots and deeply rooted in the hearts

In his address delivered at "friendship forever" event celebrating China Pakistan establishing 73 years of diplomatic relations held here at Pakistan-China Cento celebrate the 73rd anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Paki-

President Xi Jinping

He said, "Since the newly born People's Re-

diplomatic ties with the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in 1951, the two countries have embarked on a new chapter of China-Pakistan friendship. It has evolved into an

of the two peoples.

Over the past 73 years, leaders of the two countries frequently visited each other like close relatives, guiding the development of China-Pakistan re-

Jinping's historic state visit to Pakistan elevated the bilateral relations to allweather strategic cooperagoal of building an even closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future



HUB: Leaders and activists of political parties and petrol pump owners blocked the Quetta-Karachi Highway road as they are holding protest demonstration against the ban on Iranian petroleum products, at Winder area in Hub.

### **US** believes in supremacy of human rights, stands with Kashmir cause: Terry Meza

ISLAMABAD (APP): A member of the Texas House of Representatives, Terry Meza has United States of America (US) believed in the supremacy of human rights and advocates for peace, peaceful coexistence, and democracy across the globe. She said this while addressing the Kashmir conference organized by Friends of Kashmir International (FoKI) in Texas, sadi a press release received here on Thursday

oppressed against the oppressor, and soon a resolu-Texas House to express solidarity with the Kashmiris," Terry Meza said.

Climate Change and En-

vironmental Coordina-

tion, Romina Khurshid

Alam Wednesday said

that the Ministry would initiate GLOF-III

initiate GLOF-III project to protect the

glacial water resources

In a meeting with Chairman NDMA, Lieu-

tenant General Inam Haider

Malik and it was agreed that National Disaster

Management Authority

(NDMA) and ministry of

Climate Change would

jointly jointly work on this

project.

The both sides reiter-

Saydal Khan Nassar.

Wednesday urged the doctors that they should play

their role to provide health

facilities to patients in gov-

ernment hospital. He ex-

pressed these views while

chairing meeting of health

the doctors and other staff

should consider it a sacred

duty and be busy in fulfill-

all the doctors that the first

priority of the government

of Balochistan is to provide

free medicines and medical

facilities to the poor people

ing their official duties.

The DC said that all

He also emphasized to

sector of the district.

of Pakistan.

Romina says:

**Climate Change ministry** 

initiates GLOF-III project

glacial water resources

ISLAMABAD (APP): ated to closely collaborate

PM's Coordinator on to overcome heat waves,

conference, Chief Guest Hurriyat leader and Vice Chairman of FoKI, Abdul Hameed Lone, said that Kashmiris were not only struggling for their inalienable right of self-determination but also for the completion of Pakistan. He noted that Kashmiris had resisted Indian aggression by making supreme sacrifices for

the past 76 years. Presiding over the (Tamgha-e-Imtiaz) emphasized that it was high time that the hearts of Pakistanis

natural disasters and up-

coming floods in the coun-

try. It was also decided to

formulate a joint strategy to

ing floods.

of this year.

ISLAMABAD: Parliamentary Secretary S&GAD

Mir Liaquat Ali Lehri and leader of PML-N Fareed

Afghan meeting with acting Chairman Senate

DC Jhal Magsi urges doctors

to provide health facilities

to patients in hospital

QUETTA (APP): Deputy Commissioner Jhal Magsi Syed Rahmatullah Shah on

Output

In government hospitals
and other health centers.
For which the govern-

ment of Balochistan is us-

ing all the resources on an

emergency basis so that the

poor people can benefit fully from these measures

of the government, he said.

to the officials of the health

department and said that the

total number of staff of

(BHU, s) (CD, s) (DHQ,

s) and (RHC, s) should be

posted in the health centers

as soon as possible, prepare

a detailed of available medi-

cines, functional and non-

functional (BHU,s) (CD,s)

and ongoing development

projects in the district.

He issued instructions

While addressing the living in America beat with their oppressed Kashmiri brothers and sisters and that they desired freedom from the clutches of the occupying Indian forces

Ghazala Habib, the chairperson of Friends of Kashmir International and host of the conference, said that the Kashmiri diaspora would play every possible role in exposing Indian

atrocities worldwide. The people of Jammu Kashmir Conference, social and Kashmir seek their ba-We stand with the activist Abdul Hafeez Khan sic and internationally recognized right to self-determination as per the resolution will be presented in the for the United States to tions of the United Nations, play its role in mediating the Kashmir issue. He stated support them in this noble

Govt to ensure transparency in privatization of PIA: Aleem

ISLAMABAD (APP) Federal Minister for Privatisation, Abdul Aleem Khan, informed the Senate on Wednesday that the government will ensure transparency in the privatization of Pakistan International Airlines (PIA).

save the wildlife vulnerable species during the upcom-Responding to a calling attention notice regard-Chairman ing the lack of transparency NDMA and PM's Coordiin all stages of the divestnator also thoroughly disment and privatization of cussed the upcoming PIA-including the finan-COP29 and it was agreed cial process, issuance of that the both sides would expression of interest, bidclosely collaborate on preding, contract awarding, and paring of reports, docusegregation of core and nonmentaries, recommendacore assets and liabilitiestions for upcoming United he assured that the entire Nations global summit beprocess would be broadcast ing held in Baku at the end live and nothing would be hidden from the public and

their representatives. 3 previous govts issued thousands of prohibited weapon licences

ISLAMABAD (INP): It has been revealed that thousands of licenses for prohibited weapons have been issued by the Ministry of Interior over the past five and a half years of last three governments.

A total of 50,966 arms licenses were issued during the last governments of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM), and caretaker premier Anwaarul Haq Kakar's tenure.

Among these, 23,557 licenses were for prohibited weapons, and 27,409 were for non-prohibited weapons, the sources said.

During the caretaker government, a total of 12,621 licenses were issued in which 9,561 licenses of prohibited weapons and ,060 licenses of non-prohibited weapons were included. In the previous coalition government of PDM's tenure, a total of 23,052 arms licenses.

underway to apprehend the

been constituted to inves-

He informed the Sen-

tures of the incident have been sent to the forensic lab and the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) for examination to help trace out the culprits. He expressed sorrow over the incident and said that such occurrences should not happen. "The seriousness of the government on the incident should

not be questioned. resulting in the loss of lives. dynamic environment of