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ISLAMABAD: A delegation of representatives from Chinese companies in Pakistan meeting with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

Kamal

bilization

ICJ orders Israel to urgently halt Rafah military operation against Palestinians

European countries an-

nounced they would recognize a Palestinian state, and

the chief prosecutor for an-

other U.N. court requested

arrest warrants for Israeli

leaders, along with Hamas

Benjamin Netanyahu is also

Israeli Prime Minister

officials

Monitoring Desk THE HAGUE, Nether-lands: The top United Nations court ordered Israel on Friday to immediately halt its military operations in the southern Gaza city of Rafah. While Israel is unlikely to comply with any such order, it will ratchet

up the pressure on the in-creasingly isolated country. under heavy pressure at home to end the war, which Criticism of Israel's was triggered when Hamasconduct in the war in Gaza led militants stormed into has been growing — even from its closest ally, the United States, which Israel, killing 1,200 people, most civilians, and taking some 250 captive. Thouwarned against an invasion sands of Israelis have joined of Rafah, where hundreds weekly demonstrations of thousands of Palestincalling on the government ians have sought shelter to reach a deal to bring the from fighting elsewhere. And this week alone, three hostages home, fearing that time is running out.

PM Shahbaz hails ruling

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Friday welcomed the decision of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on a petition filed against genocide in Palestine.

The prime minister paid tributes to the courage of he 13 ICJ judges who made the decision and thanked South Africa for filing the petition.

In a statement, he reiterated Pakistan's support for the Palestinians and pledged to continue fighting for heir rights. He said Pakistan had extended support to he petition filed by South Africa.

The prime minister called upon the United Naions Security Council and the international comnunity to immediately implement the Internaional Court's decision to stop the Israeli operation in Gaza. He also urged the international community to ensure the provision of humanitarian aid and relief to the people of Palestine, besides providing immediate access to the United Nations investigation commission to Gaza and Rafah.

Tarar terms economy, SIFC lifeline & redline; sees great investment in days ahead

UAE's \$10 b investment, a testament to business-friendly policies: Jam Kamal

GOVERNMENT O PAKISTA

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaullah Tarar on Friday pointed out that the future for the youth, and economy and Special In- enhancing exports and forvestment Facilitation Coun- eign reserves were the prime cil (SIFC) were the lifeline objectives of and redline, expressing the government's policies. optimism that development process would definitely move forward in the country with great investment days ahead. Surely, the economy minister said while address-

is our lifeline and redline, which is linked with the jobs of millions of people,' he said, adding curtailing inflation, ensuring bright

people. The Governor was

speaking to the Additional

Inspector General of Police,

Jawad Ahmed Dogar here

at the Governor House on

PM invites Chinese firm to invest in Pakistan's mining sector

ISLAMABAD (Online): Prime Minister Shehbaz has invited Chinese firm MCC Tongsin Resources ng a press conference flanked by Federal Minis-

ter for Commerce Jam Atta Tarar said that the efforts led by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to woo cil and a significant headway has also been achieved

clear signs of economic sta-Steps were underway a research and investment to create an enabling environment for the foreign investors, he added.

Unfortunately, he said, the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leadership was engaged in such steps which were against directly inimical to the national interests, the thus misleading the nation at the critical juncture.

to make investment in Mining sector of Pakistan and assured provision of all-out facilitation in this connection. The Mining and Mineral sectors have been on the priority list of Special Investment Facilitation Coun-

investors were bringing positive results with the in this sector. The Chinese firm MCC Tongsin Resources is

company and a part of Metallurgical Group Corporation, which has been enlisted among the major

Metallurgical Construction Contractors of the world.

The Chinese company expressed keen interest in enhancing its investment in Pakistan's mining and minerals sectors and also briefed the Prime Minister about its plans for investment in Mining sector of Pakistan. The visit of the Chi-

nese company to Pakistan is aimed at cementing ties between China and Pakistan and to assure that Pakistan would ensure security of Chinese nationals, working on different development projects.

China has so far made investment of more than sixty-five billion dollars in energy and infrastructure projects in Pakistan under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor.



ZIARAT: Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti presiding over meeting of Governing Body of Ziarat Development Authority

Ziarat to be made beautiful tourism destination: CM assures to take practical steps for resolving issues of people of Ziarat

Independent Report QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir

tribal elders during his visit Nathiagali and Galiyat.

governing body of ZDA

Minister visited the Quaid-

to Ziarat on Friday. He announced to make The Provincial Minis- amendment in the rules for Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has ter, Noor Muhammad inclusion of Chief Secretary categorically stated that Dummar, Chief Secretary, and Chairman Municipal Ziarat would be developed Shakeel Qadir Khan, other Committee Ziarat in the

Meanwhile, the Chief

Governor concerned about increasing incidents of street crimes in Quetta, other districts of life and property of the

Friday.

the province.

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail has expressed deep concern over the increasing incidents of street crimes in Quetta city and different other districts of the province.

The Governor has directed to the police and other law enforcement agencies to take solid measures to remove the complaints about occurrence of the street crimes.

He asserted that no negligence would be toler- facilitators from their reated in maintaining law and order and protection week

"Don't be mistaken "These are our redlines the foreign investment will which some disgruntled eldefinitely come to the counements are trying to violate try and we will take all steps and trespass and they are to ensure the welfare of the surely doomed to fail," the people," he said.

Flightfrom Kyrgyzstan carrying **172 Pak students**

lands in Quetta OUETTA (INP): A special flight carrying Pakistani

Kakar students from Bishkek, the CM expresses angriness over capital of Kyrgyzstan, landed at the Quetta airport on late Thursday night. According to details, Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) flight PK-6264

The Governor stressed there should be close coorcarrying 172 students from Bishkek reached Quetta on dination among all law en-Thursday. Sources said that forcement agencies in order 80 students belong to to protect the people and Balochistan while 92 belong maintain law and order in

to other provinces, Balochistan He directed the DSPs Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti and others welcomed and SHOs to eliminate the students on their return the criminals and their Families of students were also present in large numspective areas within a bers at airport.

complains of extortion at check posts of police & Levies **Independent Report** QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has expressed angriness over

the alleged complains of extortion at the check posts of police and Levies in the province. On the issue, taking the extortion.

immediate action, the Provincial Minister for Home and Tribal Affairs, Mir Ziaullah Langove issued letter to the Additional Chief Secretary Home to take action

complain in this regard as The Minister asserted that no extortion would be action would be taken tolerated at the check against those involved.

and

people.

term Speaker BA, Ministers & MPAs express anger over issue of long-time power load shedding

Independent Report QUETTA: The Speaker Balochistan Assembly, Captain (Retd) Abdul Khaliq Achakzai, provincial ministers and members of provincial assembly have expressed their anguish over the long-time electricity load shedding in the province.

They urged the Chief Executive Officer of Quetta Electric Supply Company (QESCO) and other high ups to reduce the duration of power load shedding particularly in Naseerabad and Makran Divisions.

The Speaker, provincial ministers and members of provincial assembly were in meeting with the CEO and other senior high ups of QESCO who was summoned in the Speaker's chamber of assembly on Friday afternoon.

moned the QESCO Chief on the issue of electricity load shedding in the provtowards the issue of load shedding when the mercury is reaching to 50 degree Celsius. They said that the people are enraged over the issue. They urged the

ince

as the beautiful tourism senior officials, tribal elders of Ziarat and adjoining ardestination of Pakistan.

eas were in attendance. He assured that practi-The Chief Minister vowed to make the beautiful tourism place of the country. He on the occasion directed to the concerned to prepare Ziarat tourism project on the pattern of Galiyat. In this regard, he directed to benefit from the experiences of Galiyat Development Authority for better tourism planning. The Chief Minister on

the occasion said that he would not be going to make any promise which may not be implemented. He said that Ziarat would be devel-

the library. He also directed to start work for rehabilitation of

Pakistan rejects Indian SC orders failing to recognise J&K's disputed status: FO

weekly press briefing. She said the Kashmiris had an inalienable right to self-determination as enshrined in the UN Security Council's resolutions. India has no right to

make unilateral decisions on the status of disputed territory against the will of parties in the dispute -Kashmiris and Pakistan, she added. The spokesperson welcomed the announcement by Ireland, Spain and Norway to recognise the Palestine state, following a similar announcement by Bahamas, Tobago, Jamaica and Barbados, and called it a milestone in the decades-old quest of the Palestinian people for their right to self-determination.

She said that the Gaza genocide and dire humanitarian situation underlined the urgency of the establishment of an independent Palestine spokesperson Mumtaz state with Quds Al-Sharif as the capital.

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan on Friday rejected the fresh order of the Indian Supreme Court upholding its earlier ruling that had endorsed the Indian government's unilateral decision of revoking

the special status of Jammu and Kashmir by abrogating Article 370 of the Constitution through legislation in 2019.

'We reject the fresh order of the Indian Supreme Court just as we had rejected the earlier order of December 11, 2023. Two verdicts fail to recognize the internationally recognized disputed nature of

Kashmir...Indian Supreme

Court judgments cannot

and

Jammu

ince as the issue was raised in the session of assembly the other day. The members of assembly pointed out

cal policies would be devised for promotion of tourism in the province includ-

ing Ziarta. The necessary resources would be provided for the viable projects of tourism development in Ziarat. He also assured to **OUETTA: DS Civil Services Academy Shabana** take practical steps for re-Sultan presenting a souvenir to Chief Justice solving the issues being faced Balochistan High Court, Mr. Justice Hashim Khan by people of Ziarat. He announced to take all elders and political parties along for re-

velopment of Ziarta. The Chief Minister was addressing at the review meeting of Ziarat Develop-

Chief Minister has directed to take stern action against the complains about ex-

tortion expressing anger He warned that stern action would be taken against those involved in

He said that the Police and Levies are responsible for protection of the life here on Friday.

Governor for three years'

The members of as sembly alleged that the QESCO employees are involved in the electricity theft. The QESCO Chief on the occasion stressed that

Independent Report

Èhan Ghibzai has been appointed as the Chairman Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) Balochistan This was announced in

According to the noti-

fication, appointment of He said that we may Abdul Wali Ƙhan as Chairbe informed about any man PRCS Balochistan has been made by the

solving public issues and de-

e-Azam Library in Ziarat the same day. During the visit, he appreciated the project of rehabilitation and repair of

the old library. He praised performance of former Deputy Commissioner for repair, renovation and rehabilitation of the library and announce to give excellence

award to him. He announced to provide resources for provision of water and solarization in

oped at the pattern of the garden of the library.



Pakistan Allama Maqsood Ali Domki meeting with Balochistan Governor Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail

Gwadar port to boost economic activities in **Balochistan: Chairman GPA**

OUETTA (APP): Chairman Gwadar Port Authority, Mir Pasand Khan Buledia on Friday said that Gwadar Port was central project of CPEC, and would accelerate economic development in Balochistan, improving the economic conditions of the people and boosting the national economy. Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Bugti, directed to remove obstacles in Gwadar Port and related projects, expedite the pace of work, and resolve issues related to the federal government through dialogue.

The chairman said that Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Bugti was serious about the early activation of Gwadar Port and wanted speedy progress. He desired that Gwadar

administration officials.

Port Authority would become functional as soon as possible to attract national and international investors to Balochistan. The chairman stated that they have presented their stance on the Gwadar Shipyard master plan on the relevant forum and, in that regard, the Chief Minister Balochistan had sought a report from the Gwadar

KARACHI (INP): A journalist of a Sindhi newspaper known for his bold reporting against feudal lords and waderas, who was seriously injured in a gun attack a few days ago, succumbed to his wounds at a hospital in Karachi on Fri-

Journalist

Nasrullah

succumbs to

injuries

day morning. Journalist Nasrullah Gadani was left fighting for his life after he suffered serious gunshot wounds in the attack by unidentified assailants near Mirpur Mathelo in Ghotki district on Tuesday last.



The Speaker had sum-

OUETTA: In light of rolling of Provincial Assembly, the Chief Executive Officer OESCO briefed Speaker Balochistan Assembly Captain (Retd) Abdul Khaliq Achakzai and MPAs about load-shedding

distract the international the provincial government community's attention may take up the matter from the gross and syswith the federal governtemic human rights violation in Indian Illegally Oc-He also pointed out cupied Jammu and Kash-mir," Foreign Office that we are facing issues in recovery of the electricity bills and dues in the prov Zahra Baloch said at her

posts of Police and Levies. He mentioned that the

ment Authority (ZDA) and Abdul Wali Khan posted as Chairman

PRCSBalochistan

QUETTA: Abdul Wali

an official statement issued

property of the

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OPINION

Daily Independent

Daily Aoice of Masse Independent

IMF's unease

The first round of 'engagement' between Pakistan and the IMF over the former's request for a larger and longer programme appears to have concluded - with some bumps still visible. Both sides are believed to have reached an understanding on the reform measures that Islamabad must include in the budget for the next financial year and get approved by parliament before an agreement on a new bailout facility is signed.

A report in this paper has quoted a government official as saying that the IMF mission is leaving the country without announcing a formal staff-level agreement, because the "Fund wants a stamp of approval from parliament for the reforms and policy actions [to be implemented as 'prior actions' for the new programme] given the unpredictable political environment"

This is not a new condition in Pakistan's context, nor is it surprising, considering the endless political instability roiling the country. The IMF had recently noted that high political uncertainty and the resurgence of social tensions could undermine economic stabilisation.

'Downside risks remain exceptionally high. While the new government has indicated its intention to continue the [Stand-by Arrangement's] policies, political uncertainty remains significant," the IMF had said in its staff report on the conclusion of the second and final review of the \$3bn SBA. It added that "the resurgence in social tensions reflecting the complex political scene and high cost of living could weigh on policy and reform implementation"

Despite its concerns that the political situation might create obstacles in the way of parliamentary approval of the new budget, the IMF has also expressed its confidence in the present political administration. "The return of the outgoing government to power after the elections means continued commitment to the reform agenda agreed at the time of the SBA. This not only means a higher likelihood for the continuity of reforms but also political stability for the next five years. The current coalition government consists of almost the same political parties, which despite heavy political cost implemented all the actions committed under the [Extended Fund Facility] programme and approved all the prior actions under the SBA," it said.

It is thus anticipated that the Fund will conclude a new loan latest by early July. However, a new arrangement is the least of the common man's problems. The real issue for most is the additional financial burden in the shape of new levies - such as a hike in the petroleum levy, an increase in indirect taxes, more taxes on salaries - and enhanced energy prices that they will have to bear as the cost of the new loan. Going by the just-concluded engagement with the IMF mission, it is clear that the next phase of economic stabilisation will be very tough for most of the population.

Imagination in education

Aqsa Zainab Imagination is not an esprescribe the initiate to cape from reality or simply a tool of fantasy tual exercises in order to among creative types. It control the inner powers influences how we perof imagination and disceive reality and even recern divine inspirations shape it. As such, it is from distracting whis- ing into not only quantinot necessarily opposite pers. In contrast, it tative but also qualitative to reason. The two can complement each other duced imagination to just to offer deeper insights. manipulating ideas cre-Thoughtful, innovative atively and expressing works in science, social oneself creatively. And studies, language, and creative pedagogies even mathematics can all keep on stimulating the benefit from imaginative imaginative powers of thinking. Imagination children without helping must not be confined to them learn how to handle curriculum discussions these powers. For comon arts and crafts or reparison, one might constricted to preschool and sider the pedagogies of elementary school years. Muslim and Japanese traditional calligraphy Its relevance must be taken seriously across all that approach the work levels of education. of art and the heart of the

Perhaps it's sympartist as interconnected tomatic of our modern components of a holistimes that we have betic experience involving come accustomed to self-awareness, self-disviewing reason and cipline, and self-transforimagination as dichotomation

mous to each other. Yet even in its re-Moreover, each is often ductive modern sense, attributed solely to a selfimagination today is ofcontained individual, ten relegated to early whose origin is further years of education. Bereduced to neurological yond elementary school, functions of the brain. there is only lingering We seem to have moved space for imagination as away from a holistic way found in the subjects of of perceiving and relathumanities In contrast ing to the world. In Greek math, science, and even and Roman thought, social studies increascreative spirits inspired ingly rely on analytical philosophers and poets reasoning skills. Thus like. Carl Jung tried to the demarcation bebreak out of modern in- tween imagination and dividualism by proposreason gets more rigidiing the notion of a colfied. Perhaps this is lective unconscious. partly why students find Within irfan, or Muslim math and science chalmystical thought, imagilenging in upper school nation was viewed as a as these subjects no faculty of perception and longer involve the whole intellect that enabled the self, if they ever did in discovery of new horiprevious years. Even zons, even allowing one preschool environments to attain truth and ceroperate under immense tainty. Reason and imagipressure to rapidly meet nation were not dichotonarrow academic benchmarks, for children must In Henry Corbin's pass highly competitive reading of Muslim esoentrance tests and interteric traditions, one's views for school admisability to tap into the sions. Imagination

higher realms also de- thereby gets stifled. pended on one's himma, Exceptions exist, or power of the heart. even in upper school, Various wayfaring manu- where an individual son. -- Courtesy Dawn

als also indicate that the teacher or curricular mystic teacher would component may adopt an interdisciplinary or engage in rigorous spiri- holistic approach to a topic. So students may discover the patterns and beauty of trigonometry in the cosmos, delvseems that we have re- aspects. They might explore how innovative scientists use analogies and visualisation to come up with new theories. In social studies, it requires imaginative abilities to grasp the interconnectedness of all life forms within an ecological framework. Perhaps students might also glean some lessons from the complicated biographies of math and science geniuses of the past century, who spoke of tapping into the transpersonal horizons of knowledge and creativity, and yet also the toll it took on their well-

being It is said that knowledge points to what exists, while imagination points to what could be. The external senses perceive the manifest, while imagination reveals the sublime. Imagination facilitates abstract thinking, allowing one to move beyond the world of images. With imaginaone can also tion empathise and walk in another person's shoes. But here is the challenge for educators. Imagination isn't

that simple or straightforward to teach, if it can be taught at all. It's likely that whatever we try to teach directly or indirectly will only scratch the surface, representing a mere fraction of the boundless imaginative potential within human be-

However, we can become more aware of the deeper possibilities of imagination and more cautious regarding the separation of imagination from rea-

Aasim Sajjad Akhtar Pakistan is burning up. And so is much of its neighbourhood. The Indo-Gangetic plain,

spanning the breadth of the subcontinent, is currently the hottest place on the planet. Extremely high temperatures are not unusual in these parts for this time of year, but the swing from the exceptionally wet and cool weather of a few weeks ago is hard to ignore. One can only hope that the next extreme is not a monsoon like 2022.

Then again, hope should not be the only fall-back plan. It is not as if global warming is an unknown phenomenon, or that most people are unfamiliar with the lexicon of climate change. There are many, in fact, who whip out terms such as 'mitigation', 'adaptation' and 'resilient development' at will. And 'experts' are said to be working in tandem with donors, governments and businesses to usher us towards a 'just transition' away from fossil fuels.

Pakistan's quota of experts has increased markedly since the 2022 floods. They gather increasingly regularly at conferences on climate change, both at home and abroad. Consultants are hired and reports written. But virtually nothing changes.

The global political economy continues to be structured around what Swedish scholar-activist Andreas Malm calls 'fossil capital'. For 200 years, coal and then oil have functioned as the ultimate global commodities, and the struggle to control them still shapes world politics. The continuing centrality of fossil capital makes a mockery of the notion that the rich and powerful are interested in reducing carbon emissions sufficiently to prevent the planet from becoming uninhabitable for

Hot capital

humans.

plain is one of the regions which will experience policy; on the one hand widespread desertification if the current rate of heating continues. Yet dal, and on the other, the Western governments and corporations who and white-collar salaried milked the benefits of colonial-era expropriation, continue to disproportionately emit carbon to the detriment of South Asia's working masses. The Gulf states and rapidly growing East Asian economies like China, too, are producing and guzzling oil. They may not be as big contributors to the rule of fossil capital as Western imperialist powers but any meaningful analysis of and entertainment for the

must include the growing

role of the powers of the 'East The history and ongoing evolution of fossil capital is absent from the is top dog, all other state mainstream debate on climate change, let alone the policy prescriptions about so-called resilient development. Yes, Pakistani 'experts' do bring up the question of climate financing and the historic responsibility of Western emitters, but there is much silence on domestic economic policy, and particularly the nexus of state and class power that presides over ecologically destructive 'development' with no end in sight.

Take the minor but illustrative murmurs about government plans to tax solar power. The private market for solar panels has exploded lately; even katchi abadi residents and small farmers unable to access the formal power grid have bought erations of working relatively cheap panels people. But then, fossil and batteries to meet capital has never been some electricity needs. The rumoured tax on solar power consumers and power rule while provoked an uproar and most of the world's subsequently was played down by the authorities. But to the extent that there was any truth to the rumours, Dawn

they reflected the rigged The Indo-Gangetic game which is state is one of the regions and IMF-dictated is the unaddressed and decades-old IPP scanfleecing of working class populations through indirect taxes to meet revenue obligations.

More generally, Pakistan's political economy is centred around real estate, oil and coal-fired power, big infrastructure (especially roads and bridges), and logistics. Demand is consumption-dr-iven, differentiat--ed across class bra-ckets (expensive im-ported goods our present and future rich; cheap consumer durab-les for the mass). Trade dominates manufacturing, mostly in the black

The establishment and private profiteers competing for its largesse. There is no respite for vulnerable ecosystems, no matter which combination of landlords, real estate moguls, traders and manufacturers sit in government with Big Brother hovering over them. The core areas continue to be 'developed' intensively, which makes them progressively hotter, while the peripheries are expropriated and turned into 'tourist havens', making them hotter too.

Pakistani capitalism is a never-ending disaster story with even the rich diaspora providing a stream of hot capital for real estate, absent the slightest concern for future gencharacterised by foresight or humanity. Profit people and ecosystems burn. We will need more than lip service for the tide to turn. -- Courtesy

Commerce News

Jam Kamal invites Korean companies to invest in Pakistan

mous as such.

ISLAMABAD (APP): here. The Republic of Korea's Ambassador to Pakistan, Park Kijun Friday called on Federal Minister for Commerce, Jam Kamal Khan and discussed strategize on boosting bilateral trade and investment.

Jam Kamal Khan extended an open invitation to Korean companies, urging them to explore and invest in Pakistan's commercial and strategic projects.

He emphasized that ties. over the past three months, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's top priorities have focused on enhancing business connectivity and simplifying the process of doing business in Pakistan, said a press release issued

envoy on government's investors to capitalize on proactive measures in sta- upcoming privatization bilizing the economy, which opportunities within varihe believes are making Paous government departkistan an increasingly at- ments. This move aligns tractive destination for forwith the Prime Minister's eign investment. vision of increasing private

Ambassador Park sector involvement in the Kijun expressed a strong economy to improve effidesire to collaborate closely ciency and service delivery. with Pakistan to enhance Key sectors highlighted for potential investtrade volumes and explore new business opportuniment included energy, port and shipping, fisheries, and

Minister Khan asagriculture—areas deemed sured the ambassador that critical for Pakistan's ecothe government stands nomic development and ofready to promptly resolve fering substantial opportuany problems to ensure nities for international insmooth and efficient operavestors During the meeting, the minister also briefed the tions for foreign businesses in Pakistan

Additionally, Jam ambassador on the success. He briefed the Korean Kamal Khan invited Korean ful holding of the recent ful holding of the recent Saudi Arabia-Pakistan Investment Forum 2024 which was attended by the top investors from Saudi Arabia.

He informed the ambassador that Pakistan can organise a similar matchmaking event for the big Korean conglomerates and investors wishing to invest in Pakistan.

In conclusion, Jam Kamal Khan reiterated the government's commitment to making business operations in Pakistan more accessible and reliable. He expressed opti-

mism Pakistan is now progressing towards a phase of prosperity and growth.

General, SAARC.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister Industry production and food security Rana Tanveer chaired high level meeting regarding supply chain and prices of fertilizer.



ISLAMABAD: Minister of State for IT and Telecommunication Ms. Shaza Fatima Khawaja chairing 49th Universal Service Fund (USF) Policy Committee meeting.

Chief Collector Customs Appraisement interacts with SCCI members

Lahore Saima Shehzad, along with Collector Women Customs Sialkot Saima Aftab, visited the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) on Friday for foster cooperation of the business community and addressing customsrelated challenges to

SIALKOT (APP): Chief President Wahub Jahangir, the city's contribution to Collector Customs Vice President Amer Majeed Appraisement (Punjab) Sheikh, and Dr. Mariam and national economic Nouman, president of the prosperity. President Malik lauded SCCI's pioneering Chamber of Commerce and Industry efforts in fostering a culture (WCCIS), welcomed the of export promotion and officials. In a meeting held at community development. the SCCI Auditorium, the Notable spearheaded by the SCCI. SCCI president apprised including the establishment Chief Collector Saima Shehzad of the hurdles of Sialkot Dry Port, Sialkot related challenges to bolster regional trade. SCCI President Abdul Ghafoor Malik, Senior Vice Confronting SCCI President Abdul Sialkot's pivotal role as an Challenges to businesses. Highlighting Sialkot's pivotal role as an Challenges to businesses. Highlighting Citational Air Sialkot's pivotal role as an Challenges to businesses. Highlighting Citational Air Sialkot's pivotal role as an Challenges to businesses. Highlighting Citational Air Sialkot's pivotal role as an Citational Air Sialkot as an Citatio International Airport Limited (SIAL), and AirSial, were hailed as milestones in the

initiatives

& cooperate in advancing mandate of SAARC: Golam **Independent Report** striving to unlock the full ISLAMABAD: "I urge the potential of SAARC. Expressing concern, Mr. business community of Sarwar stated that since the SAARC member states to last SAARC summit held support and cooperate in advancing the mandate of in 2014, no major events at SAARC and its initiatives," said Md. Golam Sarwar, Secretary

Businessmen should support |

the government level have taken place to overcome the procedural issues of SAARC Apex bodies. This lack of activity has impacted all the Apex and

This was stated by Hon'ble Ambassador recognized bodies of Golam Sarwar, Secretary General SAARC during his SAARC. Excellency, called for a renewed and dedicated maiden visit to Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (APP): A Board of Investment, Privatization and Communications Abdul Aleem Khan will visit Kuwait by end of current month for boosting investment in Pakistan

The Pakistani delegation is expected to have meetings with Prime Minister of Kuwait and Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Power and Petroleum while Trade Minister of Kuwait will host, said a news re-

lease issued here on Friday. there will be progress in high-level delegation headed Trade and business by Federal Minister for activities between the two Trade and business countries will also be finalized and the visit to Kuwait will be made more useful in collaboration with the Ministry of Trade and Com-

BOI Minister to visit Kuwait to

enhance bilateral cooperation

merce. Abdul Aleem Khan presided over the imporing regarding the visit to Kuwait in which the necessary issues were finalized.

more workforce from Pakistan, especially health professionals and skilled labor, as well as taking the business community into confidence and the private sec-"Pakistan will in-

providing employment to

crease cooperation through tant consultation meet- taking on board Pakistan's export companies for dairy farming, meat products, rice and other food items to move forward through ac-The minister said that celerated measures", he

IPRI, OGDCL enter

kick-off

during his visit to Kuwait, added.

KARACHI (APP) State Bank of Pakistan injected Operation

Security Chair. The ceremony was attended by Chairman Board of OGDCL Zafar Masood and CEO Bank of Punjab Ahmed Hayat Lak, CEO/ 28 days. Director OGDCL, and

senior officials of the industry, said a press release issued here.

President IPRI, Dr Raza Muhammad and Dr Aneel Salman, Chair Economic Security IPRI, presented their welcome remarks and apprised the delegates of their think tank's profile, and how it has made inroads in the world of research.

The Endowment of Economic Security Chair at IPRI is for a period of three years, and it will be known as 'IPRI-OGDCL Chair.'

after assuming the Chair of SG, SAARC in SAARC Secretariat Kathmandu Nepal. Excellency, lauded the commendable efforts of the SAARC Apex and recognized bodies in taking regional agenda forward. He pledged relentless efforts to fortify cooperation among Member States,

effort to overcome the longstanding challenges have impeded that

SAARC's progress. He emphasized that the organization's future success hinges on member states putting aside political differences and

focusing on regional

cooperation.

Friday, injected Rs241.350 billion in the market through reverse repo purchase and Shariah Compliant Mudarabah based Open Market (OMO). According to OMO

results issued here, the SBP conducted Open Market Operation Reverse Repo Purchase (Injection) on May 24 2024 for tenors of 7 and

SBP injects over Rs241b into market

in collaboration ISLAMABAD (APP): Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI) on Friday entered into a collaboration with the Oil and Gas Development Company Limited (OGDCL), wherein the latter came up with an Endowment of Economic

Independent

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National News

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Governor Punjab resolves to get the country out of difficulties together

ATTOCK (APP): Governor Punjab Sardar Salim Haider Khan Friday said that the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) was a democratic party and it would not do any unconstitutional work. Together we would get Pakistan out of its problems by giving a gift Hayat in the form of University of Attock, he said and

added that the workers former National Assembly were determined to make candidate Sardar Zulfikar PPP stronger in Punjab. Hayat Khan, Party leaders and a large number of He was talking to the media on the occasion of

dignitaries from the city the visit of senior Party were also present. leader Dr. Sardar Sikander On this occasion, the Hayat Khan at the Governor mingled with the residence of PPP District workers and listened to President Sardar Ashar their problems. Tight security arrangements were in Hassanabdal on Friday. made on the Governor's On this occasion, arrival

Two killed,

one injured in

Katlang firing

PESHAWAR (APP): At

Another unknown

the

after

Nawaz

thieves

Punjab govt appoints judges in special courts, LHC told

LAHORE Punjab government has AG Punjab told the filed notification in Lahore court judges in all Special High Court (LHC) regarding appointments of judges in special court.

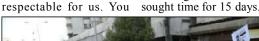
The court gave time of 15 days to federal government for appointment of judges.

case of appointment of judges in special courts of Punjab Friday.

Advocate General the (AG) Punjab presented the government sought more notification regarding appointment of judges in LHC.

The court gave 15 days time to federal government for appointment of judges.

CJ LHC appreciated positive role of AG Punjab. He remarked all are federal government has





least two people were killed when unknown (Online): have shown good attitude. assailants fired at them in AG Punjab told the Anwar Khan Killay of Katlang Tehsil in Mardan courts of Anti Terrorism District on Friday. have been appointed in Punjab.

Khan

Police said the incident took place in the vicinity of Jabbar police He further told two judges have appointed in been station where two people anti identified as Sattar Khan corruption and one each in corruption and one each in Chief Justice (CJ) service tribunal and LHC Malik Shahzad consumer court. If Ahmad Khan heard the appointment has to be and Afsar were killed by the firing of unknown assailants made anywhere it will soon man also sustained bullet be made, he added.

injuries in the firing. The officials of Rescue 1122 During the hearing of case federal shifted the dead and injured to DHQ Hospital. time. Counsel for federal Jabbar police have government said approval started an investigation into for appointment of judges the incident will be obtained in the registering a case. meeting of federa

government. The CJ LHC **Eradication of** remarked now Punjab government has made dengue mosquito appointment of judges but

priority: DC Attock

ATTOCK (APP): Deputy Commissioner Attock Rao Atif Raza Friday said that people should ensure the implementation of the code of conduct issued by the Punjab government to eradicate the dengue mosquito so that this epidemic can be effectively controlled. wear a news look.

He expressed these views while presiding over a meeting in connection with the anti-dengue campaign at DC Office Attock Nishtar Hospital.

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor, Faisal Karim Kundi in a group photo with delegation of elected representative Local Government led by ANP Leader Samar Bilour.

Minister promises peace, order across province

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Friday, the committee Health Minister Khawaja Salman Rafique has affirmed that peace and order are being maintained throughout the province. Chairing the 5th meeting of the Sub-Cabinet

allocated to the Lahore and Rawalpindi administrations Committee on Law and Order on Friday, on the in preparation for the New Zealand cricket series. The directives of Chief Minister Punjab Maryam health minister conducted a Sharif, he thorough review of the emphasised the ongoing province's law and order actions against drug situation, including security dealers, kite-making arrangements for Eid-ulfactories, and electricity Adha. Briefings were given by relevant officers,

Interior Department on (RPOs).

Doctors issues to be resolved on priority

views while talking to a

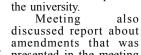
approval.

Governor KP chairs senate meeting of UoS

PESHAWAR (APP): Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Faisal Karim Kundi here Friday chaired the13th Senate meeting of University of (UoS) that Swabi discussed various matters including financial resource plan and age relaxation. The meeting among

others was attended by Provincial Minister for Higher Education, Meena Khan Afridi, Vice Chancellor (UoS), Dr. Nasir Jamal and concerned officials.

The meeting discussed matters including approval of minutes presented in last senate meeting besides deliberating the reservations regarding relaxation.



financial resource plan of

presented in the meeting after getting approval from syndicate. Participants of the meeting also pondered matters including age relaxation for appointment and abolishing of certain allowances.

Addressing the meeting, KP Governor suggested deciding a time frame for preparation of senate minutes and said that approval of minutes should be delayed.

He also stressed to devise a proper mechanism and policy relating to age



LAHORE: Punjab Information Minister Azma Bokhari addressing a Press conference at DGPR.

Azma Bokhari says: **Country's development** top priority of PML-N

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Adiala Jail.

She further said that Information Minister in the 8th meeting of Punjab Azma Bokhari said on Friday that the Punjab Cabinet presided over by Punjab CM Maryam Cabinet had given approval Nawaz, a number of development works had to take legal action against Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf founder and other leaders for adopting hatred

narrative against state institutions. Addressing a press conference here, she said the country's development the sufferings of common and prosperity was the top man priority of the Pakistan

Muslim League-Nawaz. She said, "Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf promotes hatred on social media in an organized way." Azma said that hatred was being promoted through a rupee also got stable

been approved. She said that Punjab Cabinet had paid tribute to the Punjab CM for reducing inflation to a great extent which helped in mitigating

Azma Bokhari said that prices of rice, ghee, flour had reduced while rates of cement, gas cylinder and transport fares had also gone down. She said that Pakistani

visits Mufti Mehmood Markaz to meet approved the formation of **JUI leadership** a Joint Investigation Team (JIT) to probe various PESHAWAR (APP): incidents. Additionally, ten Khyber Pakhtunkhwa prisoners were granted Governor, Faisal Karim parole, and resources were Kundi here on Friday visited Mufti Mehmood

KP Governor

Markaz and met with JUI Senator, Moulana Atta-ur Rehman. The governor was accompanied by Provincial President Najamuddin and former federal minister, Sajid Hussain Secretary General Moulana

During the meeting, commissioners, and which was held at the Regional Police Officers

Secretary Health says: MULTAN

(APP) Secretary Health Punjab, Ali Jan Khan on Friday stated that all issues faced by doctors would be resolved on a priority basis. He said that under the Sehut Sahulat Programme (SSP), it is the doctors' right to receive their share, saying that once the renovation of Nishtar Hospital is completed, it will He expressed these

delegation from the Pakistan Dermatology, Medical Association (PMA) during his visit to

International News

Ata-ul-Haq Darwaish and City Mayor, Haji Zubair Ali was also present on the occasion.

Dr Zulqarnain Haider, the Vice President of the

PMA and others informed him that the doctors of Nishtar Hospital have not yet received their share, while the Director of Finance and his staff are keeping 43 pc of the share, which is against the rules. Similarly, a visit by the University of Health Sciences to the departments of

Pulmonology, Gastroenterology Nephrology has not yet taken place due to delays in

Heat wave grips Larkana Division

LARKANA (APP): The entire city of Larkana and its surroundings remained in grip of severe heat on Friday, forcing the people to remain indoor.

The Met Office Larkana recorded 50 Degree Celsius as maximum temperature, but it has feel 52 temperature. The severe heat has affected the daily business adversely and the prices of ice and cold drinks have soared tremendously and traffic flow were slow and people's stay at homes. Mayor Larkana established cold drinking water stalls in

different areas of the city. propaganda started from against dollar.

PPP.

Turi.JUI

Biden woos Kenya's President Ruto with key state visit

Monitoring Desk WASHINGTON: US President Joe Biden is rity guarantees. rolling out the red carpet Thursday for his Kenyan counterpart William Ruto with a diplomacy-heavy state visit and a lavish White House dinner with all the trimmings. It is the first state visit to Wash- racy in East Africa," said the ington by an African leader in more than 15

As Biden seeks to counter geopolitical headwinds across the continent, he will formally ask Congress to grant Kenya the status of "major non-Nato ally," according to a senior administration official. The label officially confers military and diplomatic privileges on the countries—currently 18 around the world—that

years.

ously on the back foot globally and we see Kenya as an important, stable democofficial, who spoke on condition of anonymity. Hence the pomp and circumstance that awaits

Ruto on Thursday—a day after he met with Biden at the White House-during a visit expected to touch on the issue of global peace and security, and notably an upcoming role for Kenya in a mission to restore order

to chaos-torn Haiti. Ruto will first be received with military honors

are so designated, albeit a bilateral meeting with without any formal secu-Biden, then a joint press conference, before a gala Kenya would become dinner featuring the two the first sub-Saharan Affirst ladies. rican nation on the list.

Distinguished guests will gather in a vast pavil-"Democracy is obviion on the White House lawn, where tables will be adorned with African orchids and American roses. On the menu: Heir-

loom tomato soup fruitwood-smoked beef short ribs and butterpoached lobster, with banana ganache for dessert. Entertainers will in-

clude country music star Brad Paisley and a gospel choir. The White House has promised partnership announcements in health and the battle against climate change, as well as private sector in-

in the morning, followed by vestment.



Delegates attend a ruling on South Africa's request to order a halt to Israel's Rafah offensive in Gaza as part of a larger case accusing Israel of genocide at the International Court of Justice in The Hague.

Macron says extra security to stay in riot-hit New Caledonia as long as needed

Monitoring Desk JOUMEA: Police rein-

Monitoring Desk

Vietnam votes in public security minister as

president

Monitoring Desk BANGKOK: Vietnam's rubber-stamp parliament voted in public security minister To Lam as the country's new president on Wednesday, after a ma-U.S. President Joe Biden welcomes Kenvan Presijor anti-corruption camdent William Ruto during an official White House paign forced his predeces-State Arrival ceremony on the South Lawn of the sor to resign.

Thousands of people - including several senior government and business leaders — have been caught up in the Southeast Asian country's "blazing furnace" crackdown on graft, led by Communist Party General Secretary

has weaponised its investigations to take down his

political rivals. In his first remarks as president, Lam said he was determined to fight corruption and negative phenomena'

forcements in New Caledonia will stay as long as needed, President Emmanuel Macron said on Thursday after viewing areas devastated by deadly riots triggered by a contested electoral reform in the French-ruled Pacific island. Macron's hastily arranged visit comes after six people were killed in riots that have left a trail of looted shops, torched cars

Trudeau signals Canada's readiness to recognise Palestine 'at the right time'

Netanyahu government to TORONTO: Prime Minister reject a two-state solution.

Justin Trudeau on Wednes-At the same time, Hamas, a terrorist group, curday said Canada is "prepared to recognise the state of Palrently controls areas in Gaza estine at the right time - not and has not laid down its arms necessarily as the last step or released its hostages," along the path." Trudeau's Trudeau added. The debate in statement came in response the House of Commons was sparked by recent decisions from Norway, Ireland, and Spain to recognise Pales-tine, prompting Canadian lawmakers to discuss the issue. Several Liberal MPs have urged Prime Minister Trudeau to

"We urgently need to follow suit and the call within Canada's Parlia-ment for forbuild a credible path towards lasting peace. We mal recognition of a Palestinoppose efforts by the ian state is growing.

day said for the first time that the militant Islamic State group coordinated the March concert hall assault in Moscow, the country's deadliest terror attack in

sibility on multiple occasions for the March 22 attack which killed over 140 people, but Moscow has repeatedly tried to link Ukraine and the West to the attack. FSB chiefAlexander Bortnikov was quoted as saying by the RIA Novosti news agency that "preparations, the financing.

Thai hospital says 20 people from Singapore Airlines flight remain in intensive care **Monitoring Desk**

BANGKOK: Twenty people who were aboard a Singapore Airlines flight that hit severe turbulence and diverted to Bangkok for an emergency landing on Tuesday remain in intensive care, a hospital official said on Thursday. Of the 40 people on the flight still under treatment, 22 patients have spinal cord injuries and six have brain and skull injuries

12 Palestinians killed and 25 wounded in Israel's 2-day West Bank operation

began exchanging fire the day after the latest war in Gaza began.

Norway, Ireland and Spain said Wednesday they were recognizing a Palestinian state, a move welcomed by Palestinians as an affirmation of their decadeslong quest while Israel recalled its ambassadors to the three countries.

It was the second blow to Israel's international reputation this week after the chief prosecutor of the International Criminal Court said he would seek arrest warrants for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his defense minister.

wounded three school stu-The International dents who were passing Court of Justice is also con-More than 400 people sidering allegations of genohave been killed in Lebanon cide that Israel has strenusince Israel and Hezbollah ously denied.

US will announce \$275 million more in artillery and ammunition for Ukraine, officials say

Monitoring Desk WASHINGTŎN: The United States is expected to announce an additional \$275 million in military aid for Ukraine on Friday as Kyiv struggles to hold off advances by Russian regularly to coordinate troops in the Kharkiv getting more military aid region, two U.S. offi-

caused no damage, and in

Lebanon, where state-run

National News Agency

says an Israeli drone strike

killed one person and

nearby in a bus.

cials say. This will be the fourth installment of military aid for Ukraine since Congress passed a long-delayed foreign aid bill late last month and comes as the Biden administration has pledged to keep weap-

ons flowing regularly and to get them to the front lines as quickly as possible.

The package in-cludes high mobility artillery rocket systems, or HIMARS, as well 155 mm and 105 mm high-demand artillery rounds, according to the two U.S. officials. They spoke on the condition of anonymity to provide and civilian areas.

details of the aid package before the public announcement.

follows It monthly gathering Mon-day of about 50 defense leaders from Europe and elsewhere who meet to Ukraine. At this lat-est meeting, Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin said Ukraine was in a "moment of challenge" due to Russia's new onslaught on Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city. He pledged to keep weapons moving "week after week.'

Russia has sought to take advantage of Ukrainian shortages in manpower and weapons while the war-torn country waits for the arrival of more U.S. assistance. which was delayed for months in Congress. Ukrainian forces have been pushed backward in places, while Russia has pounded its power grid

president's supporters protest against 'foreign interference' Monitoring Desk TUNIS: Hundreds of people demonstrated in

White House in Washington, U.S.

Tunis on Sunday in support of President Kais Saied amid widespread criticism at home and abroad after a wave of arrests that included journalists, activists and lawyers.

The European Union, France and the UN High Commissioner for Human ternational and Human **Rights Watch** Rights expressed concern at

the arrests and at a police raid on the headquarters of the bar association this month in which two lawvers critical of the president were detained

Police this month arrested 10 people, including journalists, lawyers and officials of civil society groups, in what was described as crackdown by Amnesty In-

Hundreds of Tunisian

Nguyen Phu Trong. Analysts have said that Lam, who is deputy head of the steering committee on anti-corruption,

to a challenge from New Democratic Party (NDP) MP and foreign affairs critic Heather McPherson in the House of Commons, as she

urged him to "take a stand" on the matter.

food, petrol and medicine. and businesses since they

is no other choice," Macron said during a meeting with political and business leaders in the territory's capital Noumea. Roads across the island remained blocked by protester barricades, and residents shared advice on social media on safe routes to find

Russia says IS behind deadly Moscow concert hall attack **Monitoring Desk** MOSCOW: Russia on Fri-

two decades. IS has claimed respon-

began more than a week ago. "In the coming hours and days, massive new op-erations will be scheduled where necessary, and republican order in its entirety will be re-established because there

Daily **Independent**, Hub

中国-田楼斯坦经济走高

CPEC

CHINA PAKISTAN ECONOMIC CORRIDOR

Federal Minister for Planning Development and Special Initiatives, Prof. Ahsan

Iqbal co-chairing the 13th JČC meeting with China on CPEC in Islamabad.

Dar emphasizes uniform high

quality medical education in Pak

ensured in all the provinces.

ducted a comprehensive re-

view of the country's medi-

cal education system, fee

structure, and identified key

areas for improvement and

development of a strategic

professional endeavours.

The committee con-

Ahsan Iqbal terms CPEC a transformative force in region

said Li Chenlin.

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives, Ahsan Iqbal on Friday said that the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has become a transformative force in the region as the flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), especially for Paki-

stan

ergy, Secretary Commu-nications, Secretary The minister said that CPEC will enhance cooperation and development Board of Investment, for both countries in the and senior officials of fields of agriculture, indusfederal and provincial mintry, information technology istries participated in the and science. The minister and Vice

meeting. In the JCC meeting, the Pakistan side appreci-ated the vision of Chinese Chairman National Development and Reform Comleadership to upgrade the second phase of CPEC with mission (NDRC) - Li Chunlin jointly chaired the the inclusion of these new 13th Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) meeting. corridors which are in harmony with Pakistan's 5E At the beginning of the meeting, Li Chunlin praised framework. the Pakistani minister of

Meanwhile speaking on the occasion, Ahsan planning for his deep com-

mitment to CPEC and his Iqbal said, "We are ready to work with NDRC to active role in promoting it. Ahsan Iqbal chaired finalise the scope and implementation plan on 10 of the 13th JCC meetings held so far, which is these corridors. Both sides are highly committed to this shared vision, and toquite an honour in itself,

Federal Minister for gether, both countries have Privatization, Minister of embarked on a journey of shared dreams, working hand in hand to build high-Communications, Federal Minister of Information quality development Technology, Secretary Planning, Secretary Enprojects.

Last year, Pakistan and China celebrated a decade of successful high-quality development and ever closer collaboration under CPEC, he said.

The minister stated that during the celebrations, Vice Premier He Lifeng unveiled five new corridors proposed by President Xi linping, including the Growth Corridor, Livelihood Enhancing Corridor, Innovation Corridor, Green Regional Connectivity Corridor. Corridor, and Opening Up/

Joint opposition

in KP rejects

provincial budget



Saturday May 25, 2024

Magsi and former MPA Malik Sikandar Advocate meeting with Governor Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail.

Minister says; Action against political party office taken in accordance with law

ISLAMABAD (APP): lations. "In view of the last Federal Minister for Parlianotice dated May 10, the action is in accordance with mentary Affairs, Azam Nazeer Tarar, informed the the law," the minister said. Senate that action against a He elaborated that he political party office had had talked to the chairman been taken in accordance

of the Capital Development Authority (CDA), who with the law and for violatconfirmed that the process had been ongoing for the past four years due to the violations. The final notice was issued to ensure compliance with CDA directions, he added. The minister further explained that reminders were issued to the political party regarding two floors constructed without CDA approval and the misuse of a public

ing building bylaws. Responding to a point of order raised by opposition leader Shibli Faraz, he further explained that the first notice was issued to the political party in 2020 for violating building bylaws. Notices were repeatedly issued from 2020 to 2024 at six-month intervals, with the final notice given on May 10 for ongoing vio- place for parking containers.

Pakistan's border crossing with Iran at Taftan, Gabd to remain open 24/7

kistani Ambassador to Iran Muhammad Mudassir Tipu announced on Friday that Pakistan's border crossing with Iran at Taftan and Gabd will remain open 24/7 to promote business between the neighbouring countries. Calling it a big step

forward, the ambassador said it would hopefully sharply increase the flow of goods between the two countries and consequently widen economic opportunities.

Pakistan and Iran on April 24 reiterated the importance of energy cooperation and electricity trade. despite the warning of potential sanctions hinted at by the United States following the then Iranian president Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi's three-day visit to

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pa- common border between the two states from a 'border of peace' to a 'border of prosperity', both countries had reiterated the importance of cooperation in the energy domain, including trade in electricity, power transmission lines and Iran-Pakistan gas pipeline

project. During Raisi's visit to Pakistan, both sides had underscored the imperative of a long-term durable economic partnership and collaborative regional economic and connectivity model, particularly for socio-economic development in Iran's Sistan-Balochistan and Pakistan's Balochistan provinces.

This was stated by the Foreign Office in a 28-point joint statement, hours after the Iranian head of state had departed for Tehran

Pakistan. Agreeing to turn the from Karachi.

Deputy Prime Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar Chairs the First meeting of the Committee on Medical Education at Ministry of Foreign Affairs Islamabad.

Govt utilizing resources for facilitating people in Balochistan: Adviser

OUETTA (APP): Adviser liamentary Secretary and congratulated him on fare

importance of both de-He said that while

public service.

Noorzai congratulated him

Adviser thanked the Par- vironment.

hearing of PTI on Environment and Climate Change to Chief Minintra party ister Naseem-ur Rehman Khan Mulakhel on Friday poll case on said that provincial gov-**May 30** ernment was utilizing all available resources to ISLAMABAD (Online): provide basic facilities to PTI intra party case has been fixed by Election Compublic in the respective area of province.

mission (EC) for hearing on May 30 talking to Parliamentary A five members bench Secretary Social Welfare of EC led by chief election Wali Noorzai called on him commissioner will hear the at his office.

The Secretary Wali PTI has already given reply to questionnaire of

EC issued notice to barrister Gohar and Rauf

on taking over the portfolio of Environment. The Environment

joining the Cabinet and taking charge of the Department of Social Wel-In the meeting, the

partments in the development of the province was discussed and the commitment was expressed that all resources will be utilized for

Later, a delegation led socio-political leader Chaudhry Naeem Karim also met the Provincial Ad-

viser on Environment and congratulated him on taking over the portfolio of En-

PESHAWAR (APP): The joint opposition in Khyber

quired procedure and policy to run the province

Pakhtunkhwa assembly has rejected provincial budget and termed it misleading and puzzle of number that lacks ground realities. Talking to media on KP Assembly premises, opposition leaders said that provincial budget is against expectations of people and

devoid facts and figures. They said that govern ment is unaware of the re-

keeping in view expectations of the people. Opposition said that provincial government has failed to fulfill its pledges and promises made to people of KP during elections.



ISLAMABAD (APP): In-The arrangements for terior Minister Mohsin the return of Pakistani prisss on the dip- oners will be finalised in a

and counter-narcotics.

Interior.

arrival at the Ministry of

mechanism between mediplan to align medical educal institutions, and the cation with international public and private sectors standards It specifically focused ensure the highest quality to ensure uniform highon devising a plan to solve the issues faced by Pakiquality education. He was chairing the first meeting of the Comstani medical students mittee on Medical Educastudying abroad. It also distion that was constituted cussed strategies to support by the prime minister earand empower medical students in their academic and

lier this week on May 20. The deputy prime minister emphasized the important responsibility of the committee to address the gaps in medical educa-

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Deputy Prime Minister

Mohammad Ishaq Dar on

Friday underlined the need

to improve the regulatory

framework for medical edu-

cation in Pakistan, besides

establishing a coordination

tion in the country. Highlighting the importance of nurturing a conducive environment for medical students to excel and contribute meaningfully to the healthcare sector, Ishaq Dar stressed that the world-class quality of medical education should be the medical community.



43 Pakistani prisoners in

Sri Lanka to return home

ister on Health, Secretary The sub-committee will deliberate on the exist-Health, the Deputy Chairman Planning Commission ng terms of reference and Chairman Higher Edu-(ToRs) along with additional tasks including syn-

CPEC

The committee mem-

bers include key stakehold-

ers from the medical com-

munity, the education sec-

tor, and government offi-

cials. It aims to reform the

medical education across the

country. This initiative un-

derscores the government's

commitment to improve

healthcare standards and

of medical training for fu-

healthcare professionals.

ture generations of

cussion in the meeting, a

sub-executive committee

was constituted with Dr.

Malik Mukhtar Ahmad,

National Coordinator for

After a detailed dis-

cation Commission, MNA Dr Nafeesa Shah, heads of prominent public and private medical institutions, and eminent experts from

The meeting was at-Health as Convener and tended by the Minister for Tariq Bajwa as Co-Con-Law and Justice, the Coordinator to the Prime Min-

> ergies among regulatory bodies, streamlining procedures for foreign students

in Pakistan and the uniformity in curricula. **EC fixes**

lomatic front will bring 43 Pakistani citizens back to their homes from Siri Lankan jails.

In a high-level meeting on Friday with the High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, Admiral (Retd) Ravindra Chandra Srivijay Gunaratne, it was agreed to immediately repatriate 43 Pakistani citizens imprisoned in Sri Lanka. The Ministry of Home Affairs had been working with the Sri Lankan authorities for the past month to bring back these prisoners.

The Sri Lankan High Commissioner assured all possible cooperation in this regard.

Interior Minister Monsin Naqvi thanked the Sri Lankan High Commissioner for his support for the repatriation of the prisoners

visiting control room of PDMA.

to 50°C in some areas

He has warned that the weather would remain hot and dry in other parts of the country, with some respite

expected in the form of rain in upper Khyber Pakhtunkhwa,

However, Karachi is expected to experience hot and humid weather, with sea winds providing some relief

He said the city's residents could expect some respite from the heat, but not for long, as the Met Department

Potohar region, Gilgit-Baltistan, and Kashmir.

predicted a third heat wave in June.

throughout the day.

everywhere.

5 persons killed few days, Mohsin Naqvi in exchange said in his statement. The minister said that of firing relations between Sri Lanka and Pakistan have been gobetween two ing from strength to

Hassan.

rival groups strength over the past seven decades. He said that Paki-PESHAWAR (APP): As stan wants to further demany as five persons were velop mutual relations in killed as a result of firing various fields with Siri between two rival groups Lanka. In the meeting, it with five other injured here was agreed to take immedion Friday, an official of the ate steps to return the pris-Chamkani Police Station oners of both countries to told media men. their country. Issues of

The incident of the mutual interest and the decross firing between the two velopment of bilateral relarival groups accused in the tions were also discussed in jurisdiction of the the meeting. Both sides Chamkani police Station, agreed to increase cooperathe Police official said. As a tion in the field of security result of firing between two parties, five people were Earlier, Mohsin Naqvi injured, Police said. Three welcomed the Sri Lankan people died from one side High Commissioner on his

and two from the other side, Police officials informed the media men. According to the Po-

ice, there was a property dispute between the two rival groups. Police reached the spot and sent the bodies for autopsy. Syed Niaz Ali Shah, Babar, Wasiullah, Jameel Shamil and a policeman are among the dead. Injured Iftikhar was shifted to hospital for medical assistance, police said.

QUETTA: Home Minister Mir Ziaullah Lango Pakistan grapples with severe

United Arab Emirates, Ambassador Faisal Niaz Tirmizi Friday said that ISLAMABAD (APP): A severe heat wave continues to grip Pakistan, with temperatures expected to reach a scorching 50 degrees Celsius in some parts of Sindh, a Prime (PM)Shehbaz Sharif's much-anticipated and comspokesperson for Met Department said on Friday. Talking to a private news channel, he said the plains prehensive visit to the

Inited Arab Emirates of Punjab and Sindh were bearing the brunt of the heat, with major cities also experiencing extreme temperatures. Dadu and Mohenjodaro in Sindh, he said were ex-pected to be the hottest, with temperatures reaching 50°C, while Lahore is expected to sizzle at 42°C, Karachi at 34°C, and Islamabad at 41°C, (UAE) was highly successful which would eventually bring about extensive positive results within the next few months.

In his exclusive talk with PTV news, he said that the visit will yield positive results not only in terms of economic and other cooperation but also in terms of forging alliances and friendship. He said that the Saudi "believes in the economic potential of Pakistan" including its demography, location and natural resources

The Meteorologist said that the heat wave's microimpacts would be felt more severely in smaller towns and adding, the UAE will be cities, and urged people to take precautionary measures moving ahead signifi-The country is experiencing its second heat wave, with the first one having occurred earlier this month. cantly" to invest in projects in Pakistan.

in 30 districts of Balochistan, says Dr. Asif Anwar Shahwani

Independent Report QUETTA: The Provincial Manager, TB Control Programme, Dr. Asif Anwar Shahwani has stated that the digital and artificial intelligence based new X-Ray machines have been provided in 30 districts of the province.

According to an official press release issued here on Friday, the digital X-Ray machines have been pro-

vided in the districts with vided in the districts with assistance of the Global Fund. Dr. Asif Anwar Shahwani said that the digital machines can diagnose the TB disease by itself. The Manager TB control Programme said that the technical staff would be were also present, said a

press release. imparted necessary training Malala reaffirmed that to operate the digital X-Ray the Malala Foundation's machines. It would also efsupport for education, esfectively help control the disease, he added. pecially girls' education, will continued across all provinces in the country.



LAHORE: Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Naveed Ashraf meeting with Punjab Chief Minister

All necessary measures taken for Gwadar security: DC

QUETTA (APP): Deputy movement within the city. He mentioned that false rumors are being spread by certain political groups, obscuring the facts from the public.

Addressing the concerns about the so-called fence, Rehman clarified that a temporary trench was dug as a security measure, which has been misrepresented as a fence by some factions for propaganda ther noted that before initiensuring their freedom of



HUB: Members of All Balochistan Transport Ittehad are holding protest demonstration against high handedness of police and coast guards.

meets Malala ISLAMABAD (APP) Minister for Federal Edu-

4 dead, 5

injured in

traffic accident

ZHOB (INP): Four people

lost their lives, and five oth-

due to over speed in Zhob.

news channel, the accident

occurred when the driver of

the tractor trolley, carrying

nomads, lost control of the

vehicle due to over speed-

ing. Rescue officials re-

sponded promptly, arriving

at the scene to provide im-

ceased and injured were

transported to the hospital

for medical treatment. The

victims included women

and children, all reportedly

ECP employees

to get three

salaries as bonus

ISLAMABAD (INP): The

from the same family.

The bodies of the de-

mediate assistance.

According to a private



ISLAMABAD: JUI F chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman met with deputy chairman senate Syedaal khan Nasir and discussed overall political situation, in the Federal Capital.

Recovery of missing Ahmad Farhad case: **IHC summons defence** secretary, sector commander ISI in person The court remarked

ISLAMABAD (Online): Justice Mohsin Akhtar Kayani of Islamabad High defence secretary should make understand about ISI Court (IHC) has sumworking by appearing on moned defence secretary next hearing. Sector comand sector commander ISI mander and how many persons work under him in ISI. in person in the matter of Now agencies will not sit recovery of missing poet hidden any where. These Ahmad Farhad.

The petition seeking recovery of Ahmad Farhad police walas are sitting here only because they are ancame up for hearing before single bench of IHC led by swerable. justice Mohsin Akhtar marked law and situation Kayani.

failed yet. We are tracing through CDR. Justice Mohsin Akhtar Kayani remarked "

failed . Recovering the missing person is compulsion of state otherwise there is failzimni. ure of state. The failure of Akhtar Kayani remarked if state are mere words and its the institutions are not an-

results. SSP operations apswerable and you could not peared in the court and said make them accountable location has been traced. then what will happen. You Team is present there. Po-

are seeking support of which agency. ISI and MI lice is seeking assistance from IB. are not included. Shibli slams ruling **PML-N for CDA raid** on PTI central office

ISLAMABAD (INP): man Syedaal Khan Nasar, Senator Shibli Faraz of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) came down hard on the ruling Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) on Friday, stating that a wave of fascism has swept the country due to the incumbent

the PTI leader spoke about the recent arrests of party leaders and a raid on party's central office in Islamabad. He denounced these actions and demanded immediate release of his

The court further re-

Mohsin

deteriorates too. Police

Justice

colleagues. Faraz said that government's undemocratic despite the government's tactics. During a Senate sesattempts to suppress PTI sion chaired Deputy Chair- politically.

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PM Shehbaz visit to UAE heat wave, temperatures soar

to yield fruitful results: Tirmzi ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan's Envoy to the

coastal city of Gwadar, labeling such claims are baseless. Talking to APP, Rehman categorically denied any ongoing or future Minister plans for constructing a fence in Gwadar. The DC emphasized that the gov-

Commissioner Gwadar Hamood ur Rehman Friday dismissed rumors about the erection of a fence in the

ernment was committed to provide all necessary facilities to the local population,



cial election commissioners, the ECP has informed that employees and officers will get three basic salaries as bonus Those who are facing

departmental inquiries and moved to services tribunals or judiciary will not be eli-gible for the bonus, the ECP letter stated

The ECP has already given two salary bonuses to its employees in March after conducting the general elections in February

Attorney General (AG) said the state has not walas are beaten and their uniforms are torn. Now the recovery of this man is left behind. We will settle some things. Now the statement of sector commander will be you are saying state has not recorded in missing persons case. Police officer will record statement and write