# ndenemaent

dailyindkhi@gmail.com

Chief Editor: Syed Farooq Shah

Karachi

Ph: 0300-3898091 Vol: 06. No. 93 Shawwal 23, 1445 AH Thursday May 02, 2024 Pages 04 Price Rs. 12.00

### **Chairs meeting on law and order situation** President Zardari orders Sindh CM to launch 'large-scale operation' against criminals in Karachi

President orders completing Karachi Safe City project "on a war footing", Northern Bypass fencing

KARACHI (APP): Presi- in the province. He exdent Asif Ali Zardari on Wednesday urged Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah to take strict actions against the criminals area and the drug traffickers in close collaboration with the federal government and other provinces to ensure law and order situation

pressed these views while for devising a system for chairing a meeting here on effective monitoring of the security, and law and order city's all entrances and exsituation in Sindh Province. its. Emphasizing the need

in Karachi, dacoits in Kacha of the law enforcement agencies briefed the president about the crimes in Karachi, the Kacha area, and tracking of stolen property the overall security situa- and take appropriate legal tion of the province

The representatives to complete the Karachi Safe City Project on an urgent basis, he said Police should ensure effective prove the security situation action in this regard. He said of the Kacha area

The president called all kinds of support should be provided to ensure the security of Chinese citizens. Besides, the president also stressed the need to continue the ongoing operation in the Kacha area with full force. He also directed the establishment of more Police check posts to im-



the Sindh province at the Chief Minister House.



families of labourers at a luncheon he hosted in their honour on the occa-

### **COAS Munir, UK army** chief discuss measures to elevate defence relations

RAWALPINDI (INP): defence relations", the

Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Asim

Munir held a meeting with

thanked Gen Sanders, the

The army chief Governor Kamran Khan

The army chief Governor Wednesday said

that labourers play a pivchief of general staff (CGS)



General Sir Patrick Sanders, where the two discussed measures to further elevate bilateral defence relations, said a statement issued by the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) on Wednesday. In the meeting, which was also attended by CGS-designate of the UK Army General Sir Roland Walker, both sides "discussed matters of professional interest and measures

of the UK Army, for his services in enhancing bilateral military ties and felicitated Gen Walker on his nomination as the UK Army's next CGS, the statement added.

COAS Munir and Gen Sanders also addressed the opening session of the sixth Pakistan-UK Regional Stabilisation Conference at Islamabad's National Defence University on Tuesday, the ISPR said.



KARACHI: Sindh Governor Kamran Khan Tessori presenting a shield to Indonesian Consul General Dr. June Kuncoro Hadiningrat at governor house Karachi.

### **Nasir Shah for ensuring** safety measures for workers in coal mines

KARACHI (APP): Sindh to the workers and dis-Minister for Energy, Planning and Development, Syed Nasir Hussain Shah on Wednesday, directed to take safety measures at mines for ensuring protec-tion of mine workers.

The minister, while talking to various delegations here on the occasion of International Labour Day, said that miners working in the coal mines were the backbone of the industry and all the concerned companies must ensure the safety of the coal mine workers, said a statement issued here. Nasir Shah stressing

on the need of safety measures in line with modern requirements said that modern safety kits should be provided

pensaries, health staff and ambulances should be kept active and on alert to cater health needs of the workers as well as deal with any emergency situation.

He said that the government was determined to protect the rights of the workers as it believed that development of Pakistan lies in the prosperity of the workers.

The services of workers for development and prosperity of the province could not be undermined as working class is the backbone of any country or society, he said and warned that any negligence as to safety of mine workers' lives would not

#### Labourers play pivotal role in country's economy: Governor

that labourers play a piv otal role in the country's economic development, providing them legitimate rights was government's top priority.

In his message on the occasion of Labour Day, Sindh Governor said that the labourers put their blood and sweat to keep the wheel of the economy

moving.

He said there were efforts of the workers behind the economic development of developed countries.

To achieve the development and prosperity of the country, ideal relations between employer and employee are essential, the Governor added.

The governor said the government was trying to ensure all possible efforts in that regard.

He said that on Labor Day, we should resolve that the workers get their rightful place at every level.

#### Fazal expresses solidarity with **Palestinians**

LAHORE (INP) - JUI-F Chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman stressed the need for focusing on the Palestine issue, expressing solidarity with the Palestinians.

Addressing the National Palestine Conference on Sunday, the JUI-F chief highlighted that the United Nations and the Islamic world must advocate for the freedom of Palestine.

Fazlur Rehman extended a warm welcome to distinguished guests from Palestine who attended the event.

He highlighted the historical context, stating that Israel's presence as a state lacks historical precedence, and condemned the UN's recognition of

Referring to the founder of Pakistan's initial opposition to Israel. he underlined the significance of the Al-Aqsa Mosque to the Muslim Ummah.

Also, Fazlur Rehman condemned alleged war crimes committed by Israel, implicating Europe and America, and charged the US for its historical actions. He also condemned the use of atomic bombs and human rights violations in Guantanamo Bay.

### **Govt to privatize PIA under Public-Private Partnership**

stan Peoples Party (PPP)'s Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Wednesday proposed the Federal Government to privatize Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) under Public-Private Part-

Addressing a ceremony organized here at the Arts Council of Pakistan in connection with International Labour Day, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari said that People's Party always struggled for the rights of the labourers and the workers and will continue to do

He said that Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and Mohtrama Benazir Bhutto always worked for solving the issues of the labourers and peasants and the Sindh government of Pakistan People's Party also brought tution and carried out legislation in this regard.

He said that the purpose of the 18th amendment in the Constitution was to devolve several ministries and divisions from the federation to the provinces, including the Employees Old Age Benefit Institu-

If Employees Old Age Benefit Institution (EOBI) is devolved to the provinces, labourers and workers may be able to get more rights, Bilawal Bhutto

He said at present Sindh and Balochistan provinces are governed by his party and in view of rising inflation, the governments of both the provinces will increase the salaries of employees in the coming budget.



KARACHI: Chairman Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto Zardari addressing function organized by People's Labour Bureau Sindh in connection with International Labour Day at Arts Council.

### **Govt committed for** economic stability of labourers, workers: CM

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Wednesday said the provincial government was working hard for the economic stability of the labourers and also ensuring the provision of education and health facilities to their children.

Greeting the workers Chief Minister said that the women workers.

workers are the wheels of the country's economy.
Shah said that our workers have played an important role in the development and prosperity of the

country.

The CM said that the provincial government was planning to launch a program for the uplift of the in his message on the occasion of 1st May Day, the tural labourers, farmers and

### Labor Day observed across northern Sindh

KARACHI (APP): Labor Day was observed on Wednesday in Sukkur with a renewed pledge to work for the welfare and protection of rights of the working class. Trade unionists held rallies and meetings all over the northern Sindh to pay homage to the heroes of Chicago, USA who rendered their lives for the rights of labours in 1886.

Labour Unions of the Sukkur Electric Power Supply Company (SEPCO), Pakistan Railways, Workers Welfare Fund, Home Based Workers Association and other Trade Unions held separate rallies in Clock tower, Jinnah Chowk, Minara Road and others areas. The participants paid tribute to the martyrs of Chicago. Mayor Sukkur Barrister Arslan while addressing the gathering, urged the workers to promote brotherhood, unity and congenial atmosphere in the mills to boost production.



KARACHI: Members of National Trade Union Federation (NTUF) are holding protest demonstration as they are presenting tribute to martyrs of Chicago on the occasion of International Labour Day, at Saddar Zaibunnisa Street in Karachi.

### Bilawal proposes Federal | PM wants wealthy, businessmen, industrialists to prioritize improving conditions of labour class

Says we will hold national labor conference for taking practical measures for uplift of laborers

He said that Pakistan

would soon become a pow-

erful country through the

functioning of a fair system and on the basis of hard

efforts and sincerity.

LAHORE (APP): Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday said that they were fully cognizant of the value of the labourers and workers in the national economy and stressed upon the wealthy, businessmen, investors and industrialists to prioritize improving the conditions of the workers.

Addressing a gathering of labourers and workers from different sectors at his residence in connection with the observance of International Labour Day, the prime minister said that the country's economic situation was challenging but they were striving to turn it around, with collective ership desired to see Pakiestablished in oped countries.

work by the employers and the employees including workers. The prime minister said that the government was striving to bring about substantial changes in the national economy and to re-

cover billions of rupees being wasted due to corruption. Referring to his recent visit from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, he said that Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman and other lead-

progress. The Saudi business and investors' delegation would soon visit Pakistan which would increase businesses and job oppor-tunities in the country, he added.

The prime minister said that in the upcoming fiscal budget, they would try to provide further relief to the labour class.

Calling upon the business people and well-to-do class, the prime minister said that they should also think beyond their families and businesses and invest in certain education and health projects for the deprived classes like those established in the devel-

#### Pakistan strongly condemns terrorist attack in Herat, Afghanistan

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan on Wednesday strongly condemned yesterday's heinous terrorist attack at a mosque in Herat, Afghanistan, resulting in loss of lives and inju-

The people and gov-ernment of Pakistan extend their heartfelt condolences to the people of Afghani-

Our thoughts and prayers are with the victims and their families in this hour of grief, a Foreign Office statement said.

'Pakistan condemns terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including despicable attacks on places of worship", it

#### Govt asks opposition to review name of Marwat as chairman PAC

ISLAMABAD (Online): The reservations of government over nomination of Sher Afzal Marwat as chairman Parliamentary Public Accounts Committee (PAC) have come to fore.

Government has sent message to opposition once again asking for review of name of Sher Afzal Marwat

According to official sources government has given indication to bring its own candidate on the occasion of election of chairman PAC if opposition does not agree to government proposal Opposition will need

ruling alliance cooperation for making Sher Afzal as chairman PAC. As per government

ources the government enjoys majority in 29-member PAC. Sher Afzal Marwat cannot become chairman PAC with the support of 4 members of Sunni Ittehad Council (SIC). According to parliamentary sources at least 15 votes are must for becoming chairman PAC PAC comprises 29

nembers including 23 MNAs and 6 Senators.

National Assembly secretariat has sought name of 6 senators from Senate

### Naqvi lauds coastal guards' services for controlling illegal trade, smuggling

Naqvi visited Pakistan Coast Guards (PCG) Headquarters here on Wednesday. The Director General Pakistan Coast Guards Brigadier Ghulam Abass received the Minister on his arrival at the Headquarters.

Interior Minister laid floral wreath at martyrs monument and presented solute to the martyrs for their supreme sacrifice for the defence of the motherland.

The Interior Minister was briefed on the professional affairs of Pakistan Coast Guards, in which the efforts to fulfill the responsibilities of Coast Guards

KARACHI (APP): Federal smuggling, especially anti-

Mohsin Naqvi was informed about the professional training of Pakistan Coast Guards and the measures taken to prevent smuggling and the details of the seized drugs, alcohol and other general items, including the process of burning the seized drugs. The Federal Minister while appreciating the professional performance of the institution, the high determination, courage and efforts of

the officers and jawans of

the Coast Guards, said Pa-

kistan Coast Guards, is the

only one that performs its

duties simultaneously on



addressing during visit Pakistan Coast Guards

### **Sindh Info Minister** reiterates commitment to Labour rights

Information Minister Sharjeel Inam Memon, Wednesday, said that the Sindh government firmly believes in maintaining the principles of social justice and equality and it is committed to creating an environment where every worker has the right to live a dignified life.

The Minister, in his message on Labour Day, paid tribute to the workers who work tirelessly day and night to advance national development and mentioned that

Labor Day highlights not only the sacrifices of workers but also the importance of their rights and welfare. PPP is determined for the rights of workers ac-

KARACHI (APP): Sindh cording to the vision of Shaheed Benazir Bhutto and it has taken several measures for fair wages and job security for the workers, Memon said adding that the provincial government set a minimum wage of 32,000 under the reform program for laborers and started reforming labor laws

> Under the Workers' Welfare Board, the Government of Sindh arranged health and death grants for workers as well as dowry for their daughters, he added. The credit for establishing labor colonies for providing shelter to the workers goes to the PPP Sindh government while eradication of child Labour and bonded Labour.

### Daily soice of Masse Independent

### PM's remarkable visit to Saudi Arabia

The Prime Minister Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif visited Saudi Arabia earlier this week on his first foreign visit since being elected in February. In Mecca, the Premier and his delegation met with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. In addition, Shahbaz Sharif held a private meeting with the Crown Prince.

What was discussed at the one-on-one meeting between the Premier and Saudi Crown Prince has not been disclosed, but it is said the two leaders agreed to strengthen ties. While the PM's visit to Saudi Arabia was for participation in the World Economic Forum (WEF) held in Rivadh on special invitation of the Saudi Crown Prince. he (Shahbaz Sharif) also held crucial meetings with Malaysian Prime Minister, Anwar Ibrahim, Emir of Kuwait. Highness Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Iaher Al-Sahah President Islamic Development Bank Dr. Muhammad Sulaiman Al Jasser, Managing Director IMF, Ms. Kristalina Georgieva, besides with Mr. BillGates, on sidelines of WEF. It is customary for the Premiers to visit Saudi Arabia after being sworn into office, underlying the close ties between the two countries. However, Sharif's recent visit is important for many reasons that go beyond just following a tradition. To begin with, Pakistan's current civil-military leadership is keen to persuade its partners and allies that after a turbulent period of political unrest, stability has returned to Pakistan. It is important to recognize that Pakistan is facing economic challenges. Last year. Pakistan's economy worsened to such an extent that talks about its defaulting on loans dominated headlines for several months.

During the recent talks, Riyadh may have urged Pakistan to restore monetary stability through an agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to gauge its commitment to stabilization and reform. There are signs that Pakistan has succeeded in both areas to initiate talks with Saudi Arabia about future investment. It has successfully concluded its current agreement with the IMF and plans to initiate talks with the organization for a longer program. Similarly, there has been a noticeable decline in political turmoil in Pakistan following the elections and installation of a new government. These developments are backed by the economic reforms that the country initiated over the last year. During his previous tenure as prime minister (April 2022-August 2023). Sharif took steps to privatize huge loss-making state owned enterprises like Pakistan International Airlines. Under the outgoing interim government, the reform process took modest strides and is currently gaining momentum under the current administration. This continuity of policy over the last couple of years has perhaps convinced the Saudi leadership that Pakistan will not only

protect its investments, but also become a stable partner Pakistan's policy approach may have begun to pay dividends. After Sharif met the Crown Prince, Riyadh committed to accelerating the initial round of a \$5 billion in vestment package that had been previously discussed but was not materialized, in part because of the political unrest in Pakistan. In addition, the Crown Prince has agreed to travel to Pakistan on invitation of the Premier Shahbaz. Several significant initiatives will probably be launched during that visit. This may include the long-discussed Saudi involvement in the Reko Diq mining project and the com-mencement of construction on a \$10-billion oil refinery at Gwadar Port. Sharif may have requested the Saudis for a new oil subsidy during his recent visit.

### Going mangoes

#### Shahzad Sharjeel

The idiom is 'going bananas', but just because we are accused of becoming such a republic, we need not limit ourselves to clichés and should coin a proverb in keeping with the indigenous 'king of fruits'

Other than grapes, it is difficult to imagine anmango that whips up such deep emotions of attachment, longing, and on chauvinism, at least in

Grapes have an undue 'spiritual' advantage, while mangoes, to the best of my knowledge, have not caught any distiller's fancy so far. Apart from their fermented transcendence into the imagination of poets, grapes do not have a leg to stand on when it comes to any comparison, even with Langra, a variety of mango whose very name means lame.

Let us, for the moment, bask in the mango's superiority and trample the grapes some more. What do they offer? White and black, seeded and seedless types, and only about 10 popular varieties. Mangos, on the other hand, offer hundreds of commercially grown varieties worldwide.

Can the grape partisans cite one admonition, from a reputable source, of irreverence towards it, that is, in its natural state, not the processed, aged, and bottled variety? Mango has a giant like Mirza Ghalib advocating to Sindhri. What prefor it. He declared those devoid of a taste for it jackasses'

People returning to their homelands after toiloutright crazy, in this re-"Mangoes, cafeteria from a haquipped,

Some of us have our priorities straight, or twisted, depending on your POV.

An unsuspecting social media user recently posted about 12 mango varieties and their corresponding growing regions in the Indian states. Spain has a tradition of a tomato fight, but it is in a other fruit except for festive, playful realm, whereas this 'sacrilege' committed by a wellmeaning but ill-prepared partisanship bordering mango influencer caused a tsunami — the PTI does the South Asian context. not have a monopoly over apoplectic reactions

of indignation. Start-

ing from 'how dare you restrict the royal lineage of the mango to a dozen or so offspring', to taking exception to one's state being bracketed with an adjacent mangogrowing territory, it was reprimand galore. While some Maharashtrian commentators graciously accepted the co-ownership of Alphonso with Karanatak, others fiercely More on poets later. objected to every Alphonso being called 'Hapus' and advised unsuspecting buyers to check the GI tags and

> The writer is guilty of being extremely parochial when it comes to mangoes and Sindh's status as at least the firstamong-equals

> scan the barcode to pro-

tect against the pretend-

Pakistan's mango-growing areas. An office lunch almost turned into a fruit fight when an otherwise intelligent and wise colleague suggested that 'Chaunsa' was superior vented a lunge across the table was the fact that the family of the gent in question had migrated from UP to KP, and the ing abroad for a lifetime latter's lack of competioffer myriad reasons. The tion with mango-growmost romantic, or maybe ing Sindh and Punjab made him a somewhat gard came from a fellow less suspicious dis-Pakistani. Asked what senter. However, what caused his return, he saved everyone in the

Local camera control

monsoon, and madness." rangue on the Sindhri's Notice the sequence? superiority was, instead, a mango fact-check. The correct name is not 'Chaunsa,' but 'Chausa'. The mango variety is named after its place of

origin in Bihar. The stunned silence had to be broken by a consolation admission that our Punjab has its own excellent varieties of mangoes like Anwar Ratol. However, the fact that the name sounds like a popular disinfectant was too good a jibe to miss. The origins of the variety in the district of Rataul, UP, were left out to soften

While the madness abounded, the monsoon roared outside; only mangoes could have saved the situation. As luck would have it, the sole dessert on offer that afternoon was perfectly cut cubes of mango. As everybody shovelled in the sweet treat, someone suggested it tasted like Banginapalli. The sense of relief at the suggestion that it was none of the suspected and debated varieties was palpable as stout backs slumped into siesta postures in the cafeteria chairs. The variety's origins in the Kurnool district, Andhra Pradesh, were left out as a peace offering.

The marenge (hot pursuit) refrain needs to be transformed to aam kay aam, guthlion kay daam (a win-win) aspiration. Maybe, it is time for a new round of mango diplomacy.

After all, Akbar Allahabadi's Langra walked all the way to Allama Iqbal's table in Lahore. Regardless of the result of the Indian elections, crates of our best mangoes should be sent to both Lok Kalvan Marg in New Delhi and wherever the Aam Aadmi Party leader happens to be. -- Courtesy

### Roll on, Columbia

#### Mahir Ali

Much to the consternation of the pat-h-e-tically insipid Biden administration as well as its rabidly right-wing Republican opposition, student protests over the unfolding genocide in Gaza have been spreading throughout the ÚS. They offer hope, which has been in short supply. At the same time, for the Zionist right they unintentionally serve as a distraction from the very atrocities that enrage most of the protesters. The main story is still unfolding in a starving Gaza, just as it was five or six decades ago in a beleaguered but unbending

That does not, of course, render it irrelevant or even peripheral. The vast demonstrations demanding an end to American apartheid in the 1960s and the subsequent mobilisations against the Vietnam War challenged both state and federal administrations, and contributed to the end of that horrific conflict in 1975. In the preceding

years, it wasn't uncommon for those involved in the resistance to be derided as pinkos, reds or communist dupes, in a reflection of the recent days the charge is — its useful idiots in the antisemitism. That US, a category that weapon, too, is hardly new. It has been deployed over the decades against anyone who questioned Israel's predilection for ethnic supremacism. What's relatively unusual is the extent to which young Jewish Americans are revolting against their nation's attachment to the Zionist state that most of their parents' generation embraced.

To some extent, residual right-wing antipathy towards Jews springs from the left-wing inclinations of many of their intellectuals. American science and culture would have considerably been diminished without the in- ago, Americans who mili-

enriched America's politilately in both Senate majority leader Chuck senator Bernie Sanders.

Schumer attracted the headlines when, as the highest-ranking Jew in American politics, he mildly denounced the inclinations of the Likud-led regime in Israel and called for an election to replace Benjamin Netanyahu. That contributed to the Demo-c-ra-tic effort to focus resentment on the current Israeli PM and his despicable regime, instead of accurately recognising Israel's consistent drift towards dispossession and potential genocide ever since the Nakha

that many young Jews won't be fooled by the 'hasbara' narratives that entrapped their elders or the fantasy that Zionism is an essential component of Jewish identity. As many of them have recognised, after their exposure to anti-Zionist Jews and Palestinians at university, the essence of Jewish experience embodies a concept of humanity that Netanyahu and his acolytes fail to recognise. That poses a problem for McCarthyist era. These Zionism's biggest assets ranges from the president to most legislators and

much of the bureaucracy. Something changed, though, in the past couple of decades in the US and Israel. No US president has been unfriendly towards Israel, but some have challenged its excesses. All of them have known that Israeli militarism relies on US beneficence. That remains intact even as Biden administration pretends to challenge Israeli excesses while supplying the weapons required to perpetrate the atrocities.

put of Jewish immigrants tated against the death from Europe. They also of democracy in Spain in 1930s cal landscape, reflected categorised as 'premature anti-fascists'. They were rarely accepted into Schumer and independent mainstream politics even during the Soviet alliance during World War II. The McCarthyism that descended after that war, disproportionately targeting Jews, violated every principle that the US purports to worship. Since then at least, free speech has been a right reserved for adherents to the officially sanctioned mainstream.

That has occasionally been disrupted in decades gone by. But perhaps never so potently as in recent Despite months. Netanyahu and Biden's There is evidence best efforts, the frequently nonsensical claim of antisemitism no longer carries much weight.

Woody Guthrie had the river, rather than the university, in mind when he wrote more than 80 years ago, "Roll on, Columbia, roll on/ Your power is turning our darkness to dawn" Some 20 years later, his spiritual descendant Bob Dylan reminded "mothers and fathers throughout the land' not to "criticise what you can't understand' because "your sons and your daughters are beyond your command". That echoes, in a way, the early 20th-century Lebanese poet Kahlil Gibran's well-known warning: "Your children are not your children./ They are the sons and daughters of Life's longing for itself."

When "Life's longing for itself" is being strangled in Gaza or anywhere else, surely it is incumbent upon anyone with a humanitarian impulse to resist it. Whether or not the rebellion across US campuses achieves its aims, gratitude is

Almost a century owed to those who tried. -- Courtesy Dawn

### Commerce News

### **Shaza Fatima holds** virtual meeting with Asia **Internet Coalition team**

Minister of State for IT and Telecommunication Shaza Fatima Khawaja held virtual meeting with Asia Internet Coalition (AIC) member companies' representatives led by its digitalization in the Managing Director Jeff

meeting discussed matters related digitalisation, responsible use of social media platforms, digital rights and e-safety in details said a news release.

AIC's membership includes Facebook, Google, Apple, Amazon, X, Yahoo,

AIC's member companies representatives, Minister of State for IT & Telecom Shaza Fatima Khawaja said that steps underway for the country, adding that the government is committed transformation.

the vision of the prime also attended by Additional minister of Pakistan private sector is being fully supported. Public-Private dialogue platform will be launched very soon, she

While talking to work is going on different

government is focused on the development of the youth and their capacity building by equipping them with digital skills. Shaza Fatima said that

responsible use of social medial platforms is utmost She said that under necessary. The meeting was Secretary MoITT, Ms Aisha Humera Moriani Member IT Syed Junaid Imam and Member Telecom Muhammad Jahanzeb Rahim.



ABBOTTABAD: Assistant Commissioner Sana Fatima Checking prices, during a surprise visit

### **Privatization Minister** expresses resolve to facilitate labor

ISLAMABAD (APP): country. Minister for Privatization, Board of Investment and Communications Abdul Khan firm commitment of the government to take appropriate measures to provide maximum facilities to the labor force in the country and to include our labor community has them in the national mainstream.

In his message on World Labor Day, the and active. Minister said that he salutes the high morale of every hard worker, laborer, and skilled this country and prayed person who is serving this

performing his duties even in the most difficult situations is praiseworthy Wednesday reiterated the and we must acknowledge such services not only on 1st May but every day, he remarked.

Abdul Aleem Khan said that there is no doubt a great share in the system and keeps it alive

expressed his good wishes for every laborer living in for their success

#### Mega Cotton Seminar held in Bahawalpur

BAHAWALPUR (APP): Under the auspices of the Agriculture Department (Extension), Government of Punjab, the mega cotton seminar was held here in Bahawalpur.

The seminar was organized to shed light on the importance of cotton sowing. It was attended by Secretary, the Agriculture Department,

Government of Punajb, Saqib Ali Aateel, Member National Assembly and former provincial minister, Malik Muhammad Iqbal Channar and others.

#### Asian markets track Wall St down as Fedlooms

HONG KONG (AFP) APP):Asian stocks sank in holiday-thinned trade Wednesday, tracking a sharp sell-off on Wall Street after fresh US data dealt another blow to hopes the Federal Reserve will cut interest rates this year. The reading on labour costs followed a string of recent reports out of Washington suggesting the central bank's battle against inflation has some way to go, even with borrowing costs at two-decade highs.





### availability of wheat at reasonable prices: Zahir

**Independent Report** DERA ISMAIL KHAN: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Minister for Food Zahir Shah Toru on Wednesday said that all out efforts were being made to ensure the availability of wheat for the people at the lowest and reasonable price.

He expressed these views while talking to the media during his visit to Dera Ismail Khan wherein he also visited a Food department's godown of National Logistic Sell situated on Daraban road. He said the timely and

better planning of the provincial government for wheat procurement would

benefit the government treasury as well as farmers. "Our farmers are hard working and their rights will be safeguarded," he assured and added that provision of all facilities to the farmers would be ensured.

The province produces 150,000 metric tons of wheat against its requirement of 5,000,000 metric tons, he mentioned. The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government has decided to purchase 600,000 metric tons out of which around 300,000 metric tons would be purchased directly from local growers at a rate of wheat at 3,900 rupees per 40 kilograms.

#### 20 shopkeepers fined over profiteering

SARGODHA (APP): The price control magistrates imposed Rs 93,000 fine on 20 shopkeepers over profiteering and arrested an accused for violating the law in the district on Wednesday.

A spokesman for

administration said price control magistrates inspected 276 shops in different markets and bazaars, and found 20 of them involved in profiteering and overcharging.

The magistrates imposed fine on them and arrested shopkeeper for violating

#### **Computation of tender docs ISRA** University, PEC jointly host event

Èarooq Muhammad President Shaikhani, Hyderabad Chamber of Small Traders & Small Industry, graced a seminar as the 'Chief Guest' of the University and the Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC), focused on the intricate topic of Computation of Tender Documents in accordance with the regulations set forth by the Sindh Public Procurement Regulatory Authority.

During the event, President Chamber Farooq Shaikhani extended his gratitude to Professor Dr. Asadullah Qazi for his

HYDERABAD (APP): visionary efforts in establishing

University. He highlighted the university's notable achievements, citing its ranking at 86th in Pakistan event, co-hosted by ISRA and its commendable score of 68 points in research subjects worldwide. Shaikhani emphasized that contemporary education should transcend mere job acquisition, advocating instead for a curriculum and teaching methodologies that foster entrepreneurial mindsets among today's youth. He articulated that the transformative impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) is reshaping global dynamics.

### Pak academics sow seeds of cross-border agricultural coop.

BEIJING (APP): Hafiz first time the university Muhammad Usman, a post-doctoral fellow at Guizhou University, felt a sense of gratitude that he could introduce the advanced agricultural technologies he learnt in China to his motherland

Pakistan. Since 2017, Guizhou University has initiated the "Ph.D. Village Chief" program, and invited doctoral students, postgraduates and undergraduates to join the agricultural activities and apply their achievements in scientific research to agricultural development in rural areas, particularly

back in their hometowns.

This year, it was the

invited foreigners to take part in the "Ph.D. Village Chief' program, attracting five post-doctoral fellows from Pakistan and India, according to Wang Yong, professor and deputy director of the department of plant protection in the College of Agriculture, Guizhou University,

Xinhua reported. Usman came to study in China in 2017 and gained his doctor's degree at Huazhong Agricultural University in central China's Hubei Province. He decided to continue to carry out post-doctoral research at Guizhou University in 2023, and now serves as a fungal

protection department. The key researches

carried out by the College of Agriculture of Guizhou University are the creation of green pesticides, the continuous control of crop diseases and pests, as well as quality and safety management of agricultural products.Pepper is one of the major agricultural produces in Guizhou. Over the past few years, pepper production had been affected as plant pathogens developed resistance to fungicides. Usman and other members of the research team took samples across the province and carried out experiments to sustainable methods to find effective chemical

disease expert at the plant alternatives to control drug-resistant fungal populations and increase pepper yields.

In January this year, he went back to Pakistan for the winter vacation. During the one-and-a-halfmonth he spent back at home, he visited local agricultural departments and some villages. He discovered that local farmers hardly mastered the technologies to deal with plant diseases and pests.He then organized three seminars with the support of local agricultural research institutes, sharing with more than 500 local farmers control plant diseases.

also walked into the fields and taught farmers on-site methods to recognize pests and diseases as well as to prepare pesticides in the correct proportion.

Magsood Ahmed, also a postdoctoral fellow and member of the "Ph.D. Village Chief' program at Guizhou University, hails from a major agricultural province of Pakistan, which mainly produces cereals and fruits, including maize, wheat, mango and banana. During the winter vacation, Ahmed visited the agricultural department in his hometown and learnt about problems affecting agricultural local development.

### **CM KP emphasizes importance** of hardworking class for societal progress, prosperity

PESHAWAR (APP): Chief underscored that the commitment from all Pakhtunkhwa Ali Amin of workers are integral to address the welfare and Khan Gandapur on Wednesday emphasized the importance of honoring the dignity and rights of the hardworking class for societal progress and prosperity.

In a message on the occasion of International Labour Day, he highlighted the pivotal role of the labour force in national development emphasized the need to

LAHORE: Women from different labour

organization participating in rally outside Press

Club on the occasion of International Labour Day.

**Kundi says:** 

PPP always represents

workers, deprived class

DERA ISMAIL KHAN poor people due to his

pro-poor vision.

mentioned.

a statement the wages of the

with the World Labour added the credit for

Day, Kundi said the increasing the salaries,

was the initial step his party. towards the rights of the "Even today, our

founder leader Zulfigar eliminate poverty and get

He said that PPP making efforts to

The Benazir Income

"Whenever the PPP

government

Support Program (BISP)

was also an attempt to

end the deprivation of

the poor, Faisal Kundi

gets power, it increases

workers," he said and

pensions, and benefits

employees also goes to

coalition government was

Pakistan

People's Party (PPP)

Central Information

Secretary Faisal Karim

Kundi on Wednesday

said that his party

always represented the

workers and deprived

issued here in connection

provision of necessities

like 'bread, cloth and

house' to the workers

towards the rights of the

Ali Bhutto even today rid

lives in the hearts of challenges.

dignified employment opportunities for workers by integrating industrial training institutions and industries, further stating that the current provincial government recognizes the pivotal role of the labor class in the country's

Khyber prosperity and protection sectors of society to any state's priorities, as issues facing workers, they are the backbone of ensuring their active national advancement.

He stressed the importance of providing

participation in decision-making processes. It is essential for all stakeholders

Thursday May 02, 2024

to collectively work towards the betterment of the labor force and address their concerns effectively. He said that the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government pledges to protect the rights of workers, give them their due place, and ensure their well-being and rights protection.

The Chief Minister

#### 4<sup>th</sup> burnt child expires in hospital

FAISALABAD (APP): The fourth burnt female child has also expired in the hospital here Wednesday while her father is in serious condition.

Her two sisters and one brother had already died on the spot due to fire incident in the area of Mansoorabad police station here on Tuesday

#### Two killed in separate road mishaps

KHANEWAL (APP): A minor girl among two killed while three injured in separate roads accidents reported in the city on Wednesday. According to Rescue

1122 sources, Rehman Gull s/o Imam Gull resident of Village 54/10-R was going to city on motorcycle along with his 6-year old daughter Bisma Gull, 10-year old Momina Gull and 9-year old Umair Rehman.

All of a sudden, speeding mini van collided with the motorcycle near Mouza Raheem Shah.

Resultantly, Bisma Gull died at the spot while the other three members sustained injuries.



e Imtiaz on senior journalist, well-known anchor, Iftikhar Ahmed on behalf of the President of Pakistan in recognition of his outstanding contribution in the field of media at Governor House.

### CM aide asks KPCTA. KVDA to facilitate tourists of Chilam Josh Festival

**Independent Report** PESHAWAR: Advisor to Chief Minister on Tourism and Culture Zahid Chanzeb has directed the relevant departments to make proper arrangements to celebrate the upcoming Chilam Josh Festival in a befitting manner in the scenic Kalash Valley in Lower Chitral begins from

"The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Culture and Tourism Authority, Kalakh officials attended the Valley Development meeting as well.

Authority, Tourism Police, district administration and other relevant quarters should make proper arrangements to facilitate the tourists during the spectacular event," Zahid Chanzeb said while

chairing a meeting.

KPCTA Director
General Barkatullah
Marwat, Kalakh Valley Development Authority director General Minhasuddin and other

### CAP marks 16 years of heritage preservation

LAHORE (APP): The commitment to capturing Citizens Archive of Pakistan the diverse narratives that (CAP) commemorated its shape Pakistan's collective 16<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a grand memory. With over 5,000 celebration at the National oral histories and 600,000 History Museum, images in its digital archive, underscoring its steadfast the CAP has curated a dedication to preserving the treasure trove of invaluable rich heritage of Pakistan. resources for researchers, Founded in 2007, the students, and the public.

CAP has been at the A notable highlight of CAP's legacy is the National forefront of safeguarding the nation's history, History Museum (NHM) culture, and identity Lahore, Pakistan's first digital through its innovative interactive museum inaugurated in partnership initiatives. The CAP's pioneering oral history with the Parks and program, launched in 2008, stands as a testament to its the Government of Punjab.

#### Two abducted from Wah

WAH (APP): Two teenage persons among them a girl was abducted in two different incidents in various parts of Wah on Wednesday.

In the first incident, 14 years old Zia Shahfeeq was abducted by unknown persons in the limits of Wah Saddar Police station while 16 years old Maryium Bibi was abducted by four persons among them two women in the same police station limits. Wah Saddar Police registered two different abduction cases and launched further investigation.

#### FIA arrests three FESCO officers on overbilling

FAISALABAD (APP): FIA Faisalabad has arrested three officers of Faisalabad Electric Supply Company (FESCO) on charge of their involvement in overbilling and embezzlement in company's revenue of millions of rupees. According to FIA spokesman, FESCO officer Muhammad Ameer during his appointment as Superintending Engineer made overbilling of 15.8 million units in the electricity bill of a mill whereas accused Ghulam Abbas during his appointment as Sub-Divisional Officer (SDO) and

accused Shafiq Ahmad.

### Governor lauds efforts of Youth Parliament for the betterment of community

**Independent Report** LAHORE: A 25-member headed by President society. (PMA) Muhammad Abu He Bakar met Governor Punjab Muhammad Punjab Balighur Rehman today at Governor House Lahore. During the meeting, the delegation presented various suggestions to the Governor of Punjab regarding the improvement

of the youth. Speaking on this occasion, Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman said that the young generation is the future of the country. He appreciated the efforts of Youth Parliament for the

betterment delegation of Pakistan Punjab said that there are Youth Parliament (PMA) many positive things in the He said that we

should appreciate the good work, but we should also keep an eye on the shortcomings in the society so that they might be rectified. Governor Punjab also awarded honorary shields to the members of Youth Parliament for their outstanding performance. The delegation presented an honorary souvenir to the Governor of Punjab on behalf of the Youthx Parliament. On this occasion, the delegation also visited the Governor's



GILGIT: Workers of Gilgit-Baltistan Disaster Management Authority and GBPWD busy in clearing blocked road of Astore after heavy rain and land sliding in the area.

### Home Secretary for allocating more resources for Child Protection Bureau

BAHAWALPUR (APP): Secretary Home Punjab Noorul Ameen Mengal visited the Child Protection and Welfare Bureau in Bahawalpur. On this occasion, he said that the resources for the school located in the Child Protection and Welfare Bureau will be further increased by the Punjab government. The Secretary Home said that instructions have been issued to the Director General Child Bureau to decentralize the effort to make these children budget of the Child useful citizens of the society.

Bahawalpur. He further said that the Commissioner Bahawalpur Division and DC Bahawalpur will also be asked to help in providing more resources to the Child Protection Bahawalpur. He said that the rights of children are being protected in Bahawalpur as well as in other districts of Punjab. Noorul Ameen Mengal said that these children are our precious assets and the Punjab Protection and Welfare government will make every

### International News

### Israeli offensive on Rafah would be 'unbearable escalation': UN chief

**Monitoring Desk** UNITED NATIONS: United Nations chief Antonio Guterres urged Israel not to invade southern Gaza's Rafah city, after the Israeli prime minister said an offensive would go forward regardless of a pending hostage deal with

With the war roiling the region, international outrage mounting over the human toll, and mediators ramping up diplomatic efforts to ease the crisis and reach a truce, Guterres implored Israel not to go ahead with its operation.

"A military assault on Rafah would be an unbearable escalation, killing thousands more civilians and forcing hundreds of thousands to flee," the secretary-general told re-

impact on Palestinians in Gaza with serious repercussions on the occupied West Bank and across the wider region," he added.

precedented attack on Israel.

"All members of the Security Council, and many other governments, have clearly expressed their opposition to such an opera-tion. I appeal for all those with influence over Israel to do everything in their power to prevent it."

The latest Guterres warning follows Prime Benjamin Minister Netanyahu's promise that the Israeli army will launch a ground offensive on the Gaza Strip's far-southern city of Rafah "with or without" a truce deal being agreed with Hamas.

Rafah has become a refuge for some 1.5 million Palestinians who have fled

'would have a devastating have ravaged the territory since the start of the war on October 7, when Hamas launched a deadly and un-

> But Netanyahu has pledged to destroy Hamas. and he said the Israeli army stopping the war "before achieving all of its goals is out of the question.

'We will enter Rafah and we will eliminate the Hamas battalions there with or without a deal," he told families of hostages still being held in Gaza, his office said. Guterres implored Is-

rael and the Palestinian Islamist movement Hamas to reach a truce "now," and reiterated his call for Israel to allow more humanitarian aid into Gaza, including through the UN agency for Palestinian refugees, or UNRWA.



KABUL: Around 30 men are crammed into a Kabul classroom, part of the debut student cohort at a Taliban-run institute training tourism and hospitality

It's a motley crew. One student is a model. Another is 17 and has no job history.

age, education level and professional experience. They're all men — Afghan women are banned from studying beyond sixth grade — and they don't know anything about tourism or hospitality. But they are all eager to promote a different side of Afghanistan. And the Taliban are

happy to help. Afghanistan's rulers are pariahs on the global stage, largely because of their restrictions on women and girls. The economy is struggling, infrastructure is



bition, which displays armoured vehicles and equipment captured by the Russian army from Ukrainian forces in the course of Russia-Ukraine conflict, at Victory Park open-air museum on Poklonnaya Gora in Moscow, Russia.

### Russia ramps up arms production as US boosts support for Ukraine

Monitoring Desk fence minister on Wednesday ordered a hike in weapons production and said deliveries needed to be faster for the war in Ukraine, a week after U.S. President Joe Biden signed off on tens of billions of dollars of new military aid for Kyiv.

President Vladimir Putin's 2022 invasion of Ukraine touched off the worst breakdown in relations between Russia and

cording to Russian and U.S. diplomats. Biden on April 24 signed a bill into law that provides \$61 billion in additional aid to Ukraine, including an array of artillery, rocket systems, anti-tank munitions and ammunition.

Russia is gradually advancing at key points along the 1,000-km (620 mile) front line and stated that U.S. arms will not prevent victory by Moscow, but some Russian officials are concerned that the U.S. the West since the 1962 support will escalate the Cuban Missile Crisis, acconflict.

### China, US to hold climate meetings in Washington in May Monitoring Desk

WASHINGTON: U.S. climate change diplomat John Podesta said on Tuesday he will meet his Chinese counterpart Liu Zhenmin in Washington in early May, resuming bilateral talks on climate cooperation amid simmering tensions over trade and security. This is Liu's first visit to Washington in his new role after replacing veteran climate envoy Xie Zhenhua, who stepped down due to health reasons in January.

Liu has spoken with

Podesta since he stepped

into his new role as the top U.S. climate diplomat earlier this year, replacing former Secretary of State John Kerry.

However, the envoys of the world's two biggest emitters have not yet held formal talks. Podesta told Bloomberg TV he will meet with Liu when he visits the United States.

One source familiar with the visit said Liu will be in Washington from May 8 to May 10. The source said Liu will also travel to New York.

#### US 'expects accountability' from India, says State Dept

**Monitoring Desk** WASHINGTON: The US State Department stated on Tuesday that it expects India to address the alleged involvement of senior Indian officials in assassination attempts within the United States. "We continue to expect accountability from the government of India based on the results of the Indian inquiry committee's work and we are regularly working with them and inquiring for additional updates," said the department's principal deputy spokesperson Vedant Patel during a news briefing in Washington.

#### **UK confirms** first migrants held for **R**wanda deportation flights

**Monitoring Desk** LONDON: The UK govern-

ment confirmed on Wednesday it had detained an unspecified number of migrants in recent days for deportation to Rwanda in July under its controversial new policy. It comes a week after lawmakers ended months of parliamentary wrangling and passed a law allowing some asylum seekers to be deported by declaring Rwanda to be a safe third country.

### US, allies press UAE over Russia trade, sanctions

**Monitoring Desk** ABU DHABI: The United States, Britain and the European Union are pressing the United Arab Emirates to show it is cracking down on firms evading sanctions imposed on Russia over the war in Ukraine, according to three sources aware of the diplomatic outreach.

American, British and EU officials visited the Gulf state last week as part of a wider coordinated effort to prevent sanctioned goods from reaching Russia, a British foreign secretary spokesperson said, declining further comment. The sources said the officials asked the UAE in a series of separate meetings to share detailed trade information on its exports to Russia and on the re-export of so-called dual-use goods that have both civilian and military purposes.

UAE official did not address whether talks had taken place but said bans on certain dual-use products "deemed essential in mitigating the conflict in Ukraine" had been issued and that preliminary data indicated there had been no export or re-export of such products so far this year.

The official did not share the preliminary data. A U.S. State Department spokesperson said a U.S. delegation had visited the UAE as part of an ongoing dialogue about transshipment trends, especially of dual-use goods that support the Russian defense industrial base. Among Western concerns is that companies in the UAE are involved in the export of computer chips, electronics, machinery and other sanctioned products to Russia that could be used to aid Moscow's mili-Asked for comment, a tary effort against Ukraine.

### AstraZeneca admits its Covid vaccine 'could cause blood clots in rare cases'

**Monitoring Desk** ASTRAZENECA, the pha-r-maceutical giant ministered in over 150 which virtually became a household name during the Covid-19 pandemic, has admitted that its Covishield vaccine could cause rare side effects, including blood clots and

low platelet count. The pharma giant is being sued in a class action over claims that its vaccine, developed with the University of Oxford, caused death and serious injury in dozens of cases.
"It is admitted that

the AZ vaccine can, in very rare cases, cause TTS (Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia Syndrome). The causal mechanism is not known," the company said in court documents, The Telegraph reported.

Covishield was developed by the British-Swedish company in collaboration with Oxford

by the Serum Institute of India. It was widely adcountries. Some studies con-

ducted during the pandemic found the vaccine was 60 to 80 per cent effective in protecting against the novel coronavirus, according to The Independent. But one of the com-

plainants alleged that the vaccine caused him a permanent brain injury after he developed a blood clot, preventing him from working.

While the company has contested these claims, the court submission marks the first time it has admitted that the vaccine can cause side-effects characterised by blood

clots and a low blood platelet count in humans.

"Further, TTS can also occur in the absence of the AZ vaccine (or University, and produced any vaccine).

## Such an operation Israel's bombardments that Part of an expressway collapsed in south China's Guangdong Province on after heavy rains.

#### At least 24 people killed in south China road collapse normally be expected for the

**Monitoring Desk** GUANGDONG: At least 24 people died after part of a highway collapsed due to heavy rains in southern China's Guangdong province on Wednesday, state

media said. Guangdong, a densely populated industrial powerhouse, has been lashed by rainstorms in recent weeks, causing severe flooding and landslides in some areas. The downpours have been much heavier than would

time of year and have been linked to accelerating climate

State news agency Xinhua said that a stretch city and Dabu county in Guangdong province caved in at around 2:10am on Wednesday (6:10pm GMT Tuesday). The incident caused 20 vehicles to become trapped and involved a total of 54 people, accord-

of road between Meizhou ing to Xinhua

# **Monitoring Desk**

professionals.

The students vary in

poor, and poverty is rife.

### US supports Pakistan's efforts to combat terrorism: State Dept

WASHINGTON (INP): and Pakistan military-to-The United States has once military engagements," he ment or its agents along with harsh and life-threatening The United States has once again reaffirmed its support to Pakistan in its fight against terrorism aimed at protecting its citizens and protection of human rights.

"We support Pakistan's efforts to combat terrorism and ensure the safety and security of its citizens in a manner that promotes the rule of law and protection of human rights," US State Department Principal Deputy Spokesperson Vedant Patel said in a press briefing on Tuesday. Responding to a question concerning the need to strengthen Pakistan's defence capabilities, the spokesperson highlighted "shared interests" between Islamabad and Washington.

"Our partnership with Pakistan on security issues includes, of course, a highlevel counter-terrorism dialogue, funding robust counter-terrorism capacity, and building programs and supporting a series of US

noted. Patel's remarks come as both countries, during a meeting between US Acting Under Secretary for Political Affairs John Bass and Acting Foreign Secretary Ambassador Rahim Hayat in Islamabad, reaffirmed their commitment to enhance cooperation in the areas of trade, investment and

regional security.

Last week, the US State Department, in its "2023 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices" necessary measures by Pakistan with regard to addressing human rights abuses in the country. The report, lamenting

sufficient and credible steps to identify and punish officials who may have committed human rights abuses, underscored extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearance, torture and cases of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment by the govern-

KARACHI: Federal Minister for Interior, Mohsin Naqvi chairing a meeting

manent transit point at

Jamshoro Toll Plaza, all the

five-year-old children of the

passengers were given po-

lio drops, and the process

of polio is going on rapidly

Before that, Divisional

Qureshi

workers in Kotri DHQ

Hospital and the areas of

UC Nangolin, he also re-

quested the local people to

cooperate with polio teams

that go door to door in the

ditional Deputy Commis-

sioner 1 Nooruddin

Asadullah Khoso, Assis-

tant Commissioner Kotri

Gul Faisal Elahi, MS DHQ

Kotri Dr. Suresh Kumar,

Dr. Bachal Shaikh, WHO

Dr. Jamshed Khanzada, Dr.

Sanam and others officials

During the visits, Ad-

ADC

in the entire district.

at Pakistan Coast Guards Headquarters in Karachi.

**Commissioner review** 

on-going polio campaign

in Jamshoro, Kotri

Divisional Commissioner Hyderabad that at the per-

possible effort to make Commissioner Hyderabad

so that we could save our checked the record of polio

children from lifetime campaigns from the polio

Dr. Imamuddin Khoso were also present.

KARACHI: Leader of Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam,

Arshad Soomro holding a press conference at Karachi Press Club in the Provincial Capital.

IMF's move of

releasing \$1.1 bln tranche

HYDERABAD (APP): told

Hyderabad Ahsan Ali

Qureshi visited different

areas of Jamshoro and Kotri

to review the polio cam-

the officials of the Health

department to make every

morbidity and no negli-

gence in this regard will be

sioner Hyderabad Ahsan

Ali Qureshi along with

Deputy Commissioner

Jamshoro Ali Zulfiqar

Memon visited the perma-

nent transit point at

Jamshoro Toll Plaza on the

third day of the polio cam-

paign and reviewed the po-

Hyderabad took a briefing

about the polio campaign

from the polio workers.

Commissioner

Divisional Commis-

He strictly instructed

prison conditions, arbitrary detention and political prisoners. The Foreign Office, however, had termed the State Department's report "unfair based on inaccurate information and completely divorced from the ground reality'

Complaining that these

use a domestic social lens to judge human rights in other countries in a politically biased manner, FO spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch said: "The US State Department" annual exercises of had underscored the lack of preparing such unsolicited reports lack objectivity and remain inherently flawed in their methodology." Washington expects accountability from India Separately, the US State Department spokesperson, while responding to a query referring to The Washington Post's report regarding Indian government's involvement in planning the assassination of

against Sikh activist

Gurpatwant Singh Pannun.



KARACHI: President Asif Ali Zardari in meeting with a delegation of Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM-P) led by Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui, held

### **Deputy PM Dar arrives in** The Gambia to represent Pakistan at 15th OIC Summit

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar on Wednesday said that he had arrived in The Gambia to represent Pakistan at 15th Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Summit being held in Banjul on 4-5 May.
On his X account, the

deputy prime minister/foreign minister said that earlier, he had participated with Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif in the World Eco-

He was received by the Gambian Minister of Petroleum and Energy Nani Juwara, Foreign Secretary of Pakistan Ambassador Muhammad Syrus Sajjad Qazi and Ambassador of Pakistan to Senegal accredited to the Gambia Saima Maymunah Sayed, a post on X said.

Ishaq Dar, in his post, further said that besides attending the Summit, he would also hold bilateral meetings with dignitaries nomic Forum (WEF) in from the member countries.

### President ECI stresses proactive role of Pakistan in promoting ECO tourism

SHAHRISABZ (Uzbekistan) (APP): President of ECO Cultural Institute (ECI) Dr Saad S. Khan has said that Pakistan should come forward to play a proactive role in Economic Cooperation Organisation (ECO) with an aim to promote tourism

At the special ceremony held to mark the Shahrisabz, Uzbekistan as the ECO Tourism Capital for 2024 by UNESCO, ECI President visited the stalls of all ECO countries as the special guest of the host

Talking to APP, he spoke high of the cultural diversity of the ECO region, especially of Pakistan, under the initiative of Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation(PTDC). He acknowledged the

request by the Government of Pakistan to declare the city of Lahore as the ECO Tourism Capital for the year 2026 and said that member states of the ECO would shortly take a decision in this regard.

The celebrations at Shahresabz did raise the bar for any other ECO nation for the quality and diveror the quality and diversity of festivities that the Uzbekistan government had arranged for this event, he added. He was optimistic that Pakistan would play a proactive role in the ECO. being one of three founding



ISLAMABAD: Former Chairman Senate Sved Nayyar Hussain Bukhari addressing during function to mark the International Labour Day at National Press Club.

### **Commissioner reviews** progress of anti-polio drive

Commissioner Shaheed Benazirabad division Syed Muhammad Sajjad Hyder visited different areas of the district and reviewed the progress of ongoing polio

On this occasion, the Commissioner directed officers of the health department to ensure the administering of polio vaccination

to every child.

utilize all resources for ac- on the occasion.

complishing 100% results in the anti-Polio drive. Commissioner during the visit of the different areas of union council Daulatpur checked finger marking of the children of gypsies living in roadside tents and collected information from their parents.

District Health officer Dr. Asaullah Daahri, WHO representative Dr. Aftab Ahmed and other relevant He also directed to officers were also present

### **Police foil terrorist** attack at check post, seven officials injured

DERA GHAZI KHAN (APP): Police foiled a terrorist attack at Hazrat Omer Farooq (Jhangi) check post on Wednesday in which seven police offi-

cials sustained injuries. According to police sources, 15 terrorists attacked the Jhangi police checkpoint with rocket launchers, hand grenades, and laser light guns in an attempt to take control of the checkpoint. However, police officials, under the leadership of Incharge Check Post Sub-Inspector

due to heavy retaliatory fire by the police As a result of the retaliation, seven police officials were injured including Assistant Sub Inspector (ASI) Imran, Constables Muhammad Amir, Ashiq Zain, Rehmat Ullah, Sanaullah and Elite Force officials Tariq and Shahid Manzoor while the terrorists managed to escape. The injured officials were shifted to the hospital from where the constable Shahid Manzoor was referred to Nishtar Hospital Multan



ternational Labor Day outside HPC.

### Mian Iftikhar elected president

ANP KP

PESHAWAR (APP): Mian Iftikhar Hussain has been elected provincial president of Awami National Party Pakhtunkhwa while Syed Aqil Shah and Hussain Shah Yousafzai as vice president and general secretary re

spectively.

The new office bear ers were elected during a meeting of the provincial council held here at Bacha Khan Markaz on Wednesday. Council and party workers from across elected the new provincial office bearers with consensus.

Other elected provin cial office-bearers include Shahi Khan Shirani (VP-I), Qasim Ali Khan (VP-II) Salahuddin Khan (VP-III), and Iram Fatima has been elected as vice president

#### Google dedicates new doodle on Intl labor day

LAHORE (Online): International labor day was celebrated with enthusiasm honor and dedication all across the world on Wednesday.

The largest search engine of the world Google has dedicated new Doodle on this occasion to pay tribute to the laborers.

Google dedicated Wednesday's Doodle to the efforts and hardwork of workers on Labour Day celebrated on May 1st ev-

ery year In order to appreciate the role and hard work of workers across the world. Google has dedicated its latest edition of the Google logo to celebrate International Labour Day 2024. The doodle portrays the myriad tasks performed by workers which makes our lives easier every day. Google has changed

its logo. The Labour Day Doodle will appear in countries of South America, Africa. Southeast Asia, etc.

#### Rally held to mark Int. Labour day in Nawabshah

HYDERABAD (APP) Hari Welfare Association has taken out a massive rally from Allah Wala Chowk to Press Club Nawabshah to mark International Labour Day. Participants held ban-

ners and placards enchanted slogans to express solidarity with Chicago Martyrs.

Addressing the rally President Hari Welfare Association Akram Khaskheli said that the economic position of labour and peasants was deteriorating and was compelling to commit suicide. He demanded Federal and Provincial Governments to fix monthly minimum wages at Rs. 70000 which was being paid to workers from 8000 to 15000 Rs per month.

### **MQM** delegation meets President Asif Ali Zardari

KARACHI Muttahida Qaumi Movement Pakistan (MQM-P) delegation led by Federal Minister Dr Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui called on President Asif Ali Zardari here at CM House on

Zardari on assuming the office of the President of Pakistan for the second time. Dr Farooq Sattar and Mustafa Kamal were part of the MQM Pakistan's sured the President of the all possible cooperation.

(APP): delegation along with party in Move-convenor Dr Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui.

Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah and Minister for Interior Mohsin Naqvi were also present on the occasion.

Wednesday.

MQM leadership
congratulated Asif Ali
stakeholders would be President Asif Ali taken on-board while carrying out affairs of the government.

MQM delegation assured the President of their



KARACHI: Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Nagyi meeting with Sindh Governor Kamran Khan Tessori at governor house.

### **Amin Gandapur says:** Mere lip service, tik tok don't work, there is need to bring reforms in Punjab police

ISLAMABAD (Online): Chief Minister (CM) KP Ali Amin Gandapur has said mere lip service and tIk come tool in the worst electok don't work and need is there to introduce reforms

in Punjab police. Tik tok can become good by wearing police uniform but the problems facing the people cannot be re-solved this way. If I say something then all start criticizing me", he said this while talking to a private TV channel here Wednes-

Punjab police had be-

problems are not solved by earing uniforms. Punjab police had be-

tion rigging. He went on to say the economic situation in Pakistan was better during PTI

previous government. The international institutions have identified improvement in economic indicators while the performance of PDM 16 months government is before the

The inflation had reached the highest level of come tool in election rig-ging, he said adding the ruined national economy.

### HerMarket empowers Women to showcase their products, service: Shanzana

HYDERABAD (APP): Shanzana Memon, a leading women entrepreneur in flourish. One of the most HerMarket has said that as significant impacts of the world commemorates Hermarket is its role in International Labour Day, breaking down barriers to a beacon of hope shines bright for women entrepre- nesses. Through its incluneurs globally, thanks to the sive approach and support groundbreaking strides networks, Hermarket emmade by Hermarket.

Talking to Media here on Wednesday, She said that case their products and serthis innovative platform is not only redefining traditional market dynamics but also unlocking unprecedented opportunities for women in business.

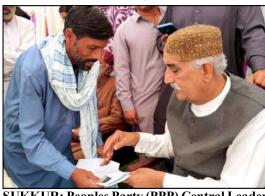
Since its inception. Hermarket has been a catalyst for change, fostering an ecosystem where women can thrive and succeed on their terms.

She said that by providing a digital marketplace tailored to their needs, Hermarket offers a level

playing field where creativ ity and entrepreneurship powers women from diverse backgrounds to showvices to a global audience, transcending geographical boundaries.

Moreover, Hermarket is fostering collaboration and networking among women entrepreneurs, enabling them to share experiences, insights, and resources

This collaborative spirit not only fuels innovation but also creates a supportive community where women can learn, grow, and thrive together.



SUKKUR: Peoples Party (PPP) Central Leader, Syed Khurshid Shah is listening to public issues,

### Labour Day observes to pay tribute to sacrifices of Chicago workers

ISLAMABAD (APP): Like other parts of the globe, international labour day was observed across the country on Wednesday to pay homage and glowing tributes to the sacrifices of 1886 Chicago workers who sacrificed their lives for demanding eight hours duty a day. People gathered at roads and streets to renew their pledge sending a message to employers to pro-

vide proper wages and healthy environment under this year's theme of "ensuring labourers' safety and health at work place. The Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) and labour organizations jointly held a

rally on the International Labour Day, honouring workers worldwide and paying homage to the martyrs of Chicago. The event, organized by PPP Lahore, saw prominent figures, including PPP Lahore President Chaudhry Aslam Gill, Mian Khalid Mahmood,

others, addressing the gath-

Hari Welfare Association has taken out a massive rally from Allah Wala Chowk to Press Club Nawabshah to mark International Labour Day. Participants carried banners and placards enchanted slogans to express solidarity with Chicago Martyrs. Addressing the rally

President Hari Welfare Association Akram Khaskheli said that the economic position of labour and peasants was deteriorating.
President Asif Ali

Zardari has reiterated the commitment to upholding the dignity of labourers and paid tribute to their historic struggle. This day serves as a

reminder for all of us to safeguard labourers' rights, and work for their social protection, fair wages, and safe working conditions," the president said in a mes-

and Robina Jameel, among sage on the observance of International Labour Day on May 1. On this day, the president said, they deeply acknowledged and appreciated the contributions of their workers who had played a commendable role in the country's development. Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif said that they were fully cognizant of the value of the labourers and workers in the national economy and stressed upon the wealthy, businessmen, investors and industrialists to prioritize improving the conditions of the workers. Addressing a gathering

of labourers and workers from different sectors at his residence in connection with the observance of International Labour Day, the prime minister said that the country's economic situation was challenging but they were striving to turn it around, with collective efforts and sincerity

Mian Zahid Hussain said that we were responsible for the devastation of the country's economy and will have to fix it as no one else was going to do it for us.

KARACHI (INP): Chair-

man of National Business

Group Pakistan, President

Pakistan Businessmen and

Intellectuals Forum, and All

Karachi Industrial Alliance,

and former provincial min-

ister Mian Zahid Hussain

has said that disbursement

of \$1.1 billion tranche by

International Monetary

Fund's (IMF) is commend-

here on Wednesday, he

said that the decision of

State Bank of Pakistan

(SBP) to keep interest

rates unchanged has dis-

appointed the business

community.

In a statement issued

The IMF decision was a reason for satisfaction as this shows that the confidence of lender was

which will also increase the confidence of friendly countries and other creditors, he added.

said that the IMF's move would also pave the way for a new three-year loan from the IMF as the lender was satisfied with the government's policy and financial measures.

nomic condition of Pakistan was improving, inflation is also decreasing, and in these circumstances, it would have been better if the interest rate had been re-

tion could bounce back therefore the interest rate was maintained, which has disappointed the business community, he added.

Mian Zahid Hussain demanded that the SBP should reduce policy rates

commendable: Mian Zahid increasing in Pakistan,

The business leader

He said that the ecoduced.

However, the Central Bank was afraid that infla-

in the following review.

#### tion between Pakistan and China including at the United Nations (UN). Glad to meet Ambas-

sador Cheng Jingye, President of China Arms Control and Disarmament Association, CACDA, an old friend from @UN. Recalling earlier expe-

Hashmi calls

on President

**CACDA** 

BEIJING (APP): Pakistan

Ambassador to China,

Khalil Hashmi called on the

President of China Arms

Control and Disarmament

Association (CACDA),

the two sides discussed

matters of mutual interest

and recalled earlier experi-

ences and robust coopera-

During the meeting,

Cheng Jingye in Beijing.

riences & robust cooperation between our two countries at the UN. Ambassador Hashmi posted on social media platform X after the meeting. Senior officials from the CACDA and the Embassy of Pakistan,

#### Beijing were present. "Oye Chote" delivers a powerful message on Child Labor

LAHORE (APP): The Lahore Arts Council Alhamra organized a presentation of the play "Oye Chote" to celebrate the International Labor Day.

The event saw the esteemed presence of Punjab's Secretary of Labor Manpower, and Muhammad Naeem Ghous. who paid tribute to the resilience of all workers and acknowledged their indis-

pensable role in society. The drama was written by Dr. Ahmed Bilal, produced by Ayesha Bilal, and directed by Mian Ahmed, "Oye Chote" skillfully addressed the poignant issue of child labor, drawing accolades for its powerful portrayal by the talented cast. With every gripping scene, the Natak Production ignited a fervent outery for the rights of children, exposing the dark underbelly of exploitation that

#### stains our society Two robbers killed in Karachi police encounter

KARACHI (INP): Two dacoits have been killed in a police encounter near Hussaini Government School in Nazimabad area of Karachi on Wednesday. Police said that the killed robbers were identified as Rohan and Saud Ahmed and bodies of the both dacoits were shifted to Abbasi Hospital. The police further said that more details about the killed dacoits are being obtained

forced the terrorists to flee



**HYDERABAD: Workers of All Pakistan WAPDA** Hydroelectric Workers Union hold protest on In-