

Tarar for measures at global level to counter misuse of social media, spread of fake news

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar said on Friday that there was a need for measures at the global level to counter the misuse of social media and the spread of fake news.

"The Government of Pakistan recognizes the importance of freedom of the press and freedom of expression, and it is determined to protect the rights of journalists", he said while talking to a delegation of Bangladeshi journalists visiting Pakistan who met him here.

In the meeting, various important issues were discussed including freedom of expression and economic initiatives of the government. The minister said that the government led by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif was fully focused on economic stability.

After the present government came to power, he said economic indicators were becoming positive, international journals were also predicting improvement in Pakistan's economy.

"The government is also taking steps to invest in infrastructure projects in Pakistan," the minister said adding these projects would not only boost the economy but also create employment opportunities.

The government, he said had established a special Investment Facilitation Council to attract foreign investment and facilitate investors.

Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif was determined to provide relief to the people, he maintained.

Tarar said that the tax collection system was being improved in Pakistan, and in this context, tax reforms were being introduced in the Federal Bureau of Revenue.



KARACHI: Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori addressing a ceremony held at Governor House.

President for global efforts to address climate change

ISLAMABAD (Online): President Asif Ali Zardari has underlined the need for global efforts to address the challenge of climate change by adopting environment-friendly technology, promoting afforestation, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. He highlighted that global warming and climate change were affecting the glaciers as well as causing water scarcity and tackling these challenges required global support to mitigate their adverse impacts.

The President expressed these views while talking to the Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources of Azerbaijan/COP

29 President-designate, Mr Mukhtar Babayev, who along with his delegation called on him, at Aiwan-e-Sadr, today. Azerbaijan is going to host the 29th Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 29) in Baku in November 2024 and the Minister, in his capacity as the President-designate of COP 29, is here to invite the President to the Conference.

Welcoming the Minister, the President congratulated Azerbaijan on winning the bid to host COP 29 and expressed the hope that COP 29 would result in setting the New Collective

Quantified Goal on Finance that would help developing countries fulfil their climate finance needs. He highlighted that Pakistan had planted mangrove forests over hundreds of thousands of hectares that would help protect the environment, besides earning carbon credits for Pakistan.

The President said that Pakistan highly valued its relations with Azerbaijan and wanted to further expand bilateral cooperation in the areas of common interest. He called for promoting more interactions, bilateral exchanges and people-to-people contacts to further cement re-

lations between the two brotherly countries.

Mr Mukhtar Babayev underlined the need for further enhancing bilateral cooperation between Pakistan and Azerbaijan, particularly in the area of tourism and culture. He also delivered the invitation to the President to participate in COP 29 in Baku in November 2024. The President conveyed his best wishes for the successful hosting of COP 29 and expressed the hope that Azerbaijan would play its role to secure the interest of developing countries in meeting their financing needs for climate adaptation.



KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah meets with MNA Ali Jan Mazari and MPA Abdul Rauf Khoso at CM House.

Pakistan's lunar satellite sends initial images from space

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan's lunar satellite, iCUBE Qamar has sent the initial images from orbit after successfully completing three rounds of the moon.

The images were released by Pakistan's Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (SUPARCO) on Friday.

The satellite, iCube Qamar has completed three lunar orbits after being launched aboard China's Chang'e-6 spacecraft from Hainan, China on May 03.

According to the Pakistan Institute of Space Technology (IST), Pakistan's lunar CubeSat iCUBE-Q was successfully

deployed in orbit at 1314 hours on May 08 from Chang'E-6.

IST which is a leading high-end university of Pakistan had the distinct honor of launching a Cube Satellite iCUBE-Qamar (iCUBE-Q) in Lunar orbit onboard China's Chang'E-6 Mission.

CubeSats are a class of small satellites used by academic institutes for experimental and research purposes in Low Earth Orbits, generally with an altitude of less than one thousand km. However, these satellites are now finding many applications in higher orbits and deep space missions.

Farmers problems to be solved on priority: Commissioner Larkana

LARKANA (APP): Commissioner Larkana range, Ghulam Mustafa Phull, along with Deputy Commissioner Dr Sharjeel Noor Channa reached the office of Agriculture House Larkana on Friday and heard the problems of the Abadgars and farmers and said that their problems will be solved on priority.

The commissioner said that solving every problem of the farmers was his priority. Steps will also be taken to strengthen the dams of the river so that the monsoon rains can be faced in view of the climatic

changes and to ensure the safety of people's lives and property.

Wasin Makki Lok Chand, Dewan Ramesh Lal and Siraj Rashidi of Neudero city requested the Commissioner Larkana that the 2 km road named after Shaheed Benazir Bhutto which is the link road from Small Industry of Larkana city to the Indus Highway.

He said the work would be completed soon, which will benefit the citizens of Larkana as well as the Abadgars, whose grain can easily reach rice mills and flour mills.



PESHAWAR: Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Leader, Asad Qaiser addresses to media persons during press conference, in Peshawar.

Sindh Govt, SFERP distribute Rs 2 billion to flood affected families through JazzCash

KARACHI (APP): JazzCash, a major fintech company in Pakistan, has distributed Rs 2 billion to flood-affected families in Sindh province in collaboration with Sindh Government and World Bank-supported Sindh Flood Emergency Rehabilitation Project (SFERP).

A total of Rs 15 billion will be distributed to around one million affected families.

According to statement issued by SFERP here on Friday, Jazz Cash has opened 80,000 mobile wallet accounts for distribution of funds in which 45 percent were female beneficiaries while 55 percent male beneficiaries, thereby ensuring equal ac-

cess to financial assistance, especially in urban and remote areas. This partnership is a significant step towards JazzCash's commitment to leverage technology for social good and financial inclusion.

JazzCash has so far distributed relief money in various districts including Ghotki, Jacobabad, Qambar Shaddadkot, Khairpur, Larkana, Nowshero Feroze, Sanghar, Shaheed Benazirabad and Shikarpur.

JazzCash not only provides timely financial support to the flood affected sections but also empowers them through the use of technology to promote inclusion.

KMC Council to meet on May 13

KARACHI (APP): The general body meeting of the Karachi Metropolitan Corporation (KMC) Council has been scheduled for May 13, at 3 pm in the Council Hall, Jamshed Nusserwanjee Building (KMC Building), M.A. Jinnah Road.

Mayor Karachi, Barrister Murtaza Wahab, will be chairing the meeting.

The agenda includes improving medical services provided by KMC, collecting parking fees through the Charged Parking Department, upgrading the Program Officer (BS-17) positions in the KMC's Schedule of Establishment, renaming the Pediatrics Department of Abbasi Shaheed Hospital to Wasela Jahan Pediatrics Department, amending the procedure for appointing Pesh Imams, approving an increase in the existing imprest accounts of various departments.

Gilani urges pilgrims to maintain discipline, represent Pakistan with dignity in Saudi Arabia

MULTAN (INP): Addressing the Hajj pilgrims, Chairman Senate Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani expressed his satisfaction that Hajj operation has finally begun from Multan Airport.

This was the first flight which, chairman senate saw off from Multan Airport.

His address focused on the significance of the Hajj pilgrimage, the improved travel arrangements, and the importance of representing Pakistan with honor.

"It is a great pleasure to be here today to see off the pilgrims embarking on this sacred journey," said Chairman Senate Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani.

"The journey from Multan to Madinah now takes just four hours, thanks to the opening of Multan Airport. Your journey has become much

easier as a result, allowing you to focus on your spiritual experience."

He urged the pilgrims to maintain discipline and represent Pakistan with dignity during their stay in Saudi Arabia. "Hajj pilgrims should conduct themselves with respect and order, ensuring they bring pride to our country," he said.

Chairman Senate also called upon the pilgrims to pray for the progress and prosperity of the country. "We are faced with the threats of terrorism and valiant soldiers and civilians have martyred while fighting against terrorists. Remember them in your prayers," he stated. He expressed gratitude to the security agencies, including the Airport Security Force and the Federal Investigation Agency, for their diligent work ensuring a safe environment for travelers.

Strict action to take against profiteers: AC Sukkur

SUKKUR (APP): Assistant Commissioner (AC) Sukkur, Sobia Falak Rao on Friday said that the administration was taking strict action by the law against profiteers.

Chairing a Price Control Committee meeting held at the Assistant Commissioner's Office, she said all-out efforts were being made to provide relief to the citizens.

AC Ms Rao said that strict action would be taken on violation of displaying price list at a prominent place.

She directed that the process of inspections should be accelerated to ensure implementation of prices of food items and action should be taken against profiteers.



MULTAN: Chairman Senate Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani in a meeting with Former Federal Minister Jalil Abbas Jilani at Circuit House.

Mongolian envoy for boosting bilateral economic ties

KARACHI (APP): Deputy Head of Mission of Mongolia, Lkhanaajav Munkhtushig, underscored the significance of expediting efforts aimed at fostering stronger economic cooperation between Pakistan and Mongolia.

The Mongolian envoy, speaking at a meeting during his visit to the Korangi Association of Trade Industry (KATI), highlighted that the volume of bilateral trade between both countries was very low and urgent steps were needed to revitalize bilateral trade relations, said a statement issued here on Friday.

He informed that Mongolia's economic growth rate was impressive and World Bank estimates suggested it may surge from 5.6% to 6.2%.

Despite being a relatively small country in terms of both size and population, Mongolia boasts rapid economic

development, with a total trade worth of \$24 billion, comprising exports valued at \$15 billion and imports at \$9 billion, he added.

Drawing attention to Mongolia's burgeoning trade ties with China, Munkhtushig urged Pakistan to leverage the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) to bolster economic linkages with Mongolia.

He invited Pakistani investors to explore opportunities for investment and bilateral trade in Mongolia, reassuring full government support and facilities, particularly in the cotton industry.

President KATI Johar Qandhari echoed the sentiment and emphasized the need for reciprocal trade visits and trade promotion through local currencies he also proposed organizing single-country exhibitions to facilitate bilateral trade.

Trade contract dispute: SHC orders PTA to pay Rs17.9 million to TCP

KARACHI (INP): In the contract dispute between the Trading Corporation of Pakistan (TCP) and the Punjab Trading Agency (PTA), the Sindh High Court (SHC) ordered the latter party to pay an amount of Rs17.9 million for its negligence in saving national assets.

The Court accepted the appeal of the TCP saying the PTA ignored the terms of the contract and failed to present concrete evidence in its favour.

The Sindh High Court said that due to the negligence of both parties, the national assets were damaged and PTA continued to put its responsibility on the TCP.

The SHC said that it is the responsibility of TCP to protect the assets of this country while during the period of five years, PTA was only doing paperwork.

The court directed the officials that TCP should take care of the country's resources in the future and computerize all the stocks.

DC emphasize state should support orphans like mother

HYDERABAD (APP): Deputy Commissioner Matiari Muhammad Yousuf Shaikh on Friday said that the aim of Aghosh Orphanage Education Center program is to connect children with officers for creating sense of familiarity, connection and cooperation among the officers with the children and the institution.

He expressed these views while addressing an orientation program in collaboration with Alkhidmat Foundation at Aghosh Orphanage Education Center in Hala. The DC emphasized it was our religious duty to take care

of orphans and the state should support them like a mother. He assured all officers administration and citizens are standing together to help these children.

The event featured a cricket match between District and Session District and DC-11, with Aghosh children participating as team members. Commissioner Hyderabad Ahsan Ali Qureshi emphasized the collective responsibility to care for underprivileged and deprived segments of society and pledged full cooperation to Alkhidmat Foundation for Aagosh.



HYDERABAD: Mayor Hyderabad Kashif Shoro talking to media persons after visiting Free Health Camp on the eve of Mother Day organized by Agha Khan Hospital and Municipal Corporation Hyderabad, in Hyderabad.

Meeting decides to adopt zero tolerance against teachers

HYDERABAD (APP): A high-level meeting with DG Monitoring and Evaluation Zain ul Abideen Ansari and Deputy Commissioner Matiari Muhammad Yousuf Shaikh in the chair on Friday decided to adopt a zero-tolerance policy against absenteeism of teachers and other staff of schools.

During the visit of various schools by DG (M&E) and DC Matiari, the meeting decided to take action against 27 absent school teachers and other staff as per service rules and to disclose the list of ab-

sent teachers through media. According to press release the DG (M&E) made it clear that concerned Education Officer will be held responsible for any kind of negligence or delay in taking action against absenteeism.

Additionally, the School Education Works Department directed to complete the pending work of infrastructure of schools and provide necessary facilities without further delay with a focus on maintaining high-quality development work.