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Prime Minister reiterated Government's resolve to ensure development of Balochistan

Says Federal Govt would provide all possible assistance regarding the conversion of agricultural tube-wells to solar energy

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Monday reiterated his government's resolve to ensure development of Balochistan, saying that the welfare of the people of province was its top priority.

He said the govern- tended by Balochistan

youth of the province to Bilidi and Finance Minisplay role in the developter Shoaib Noshirwani, Parliamentary Secretary Fishment. He was chairing a high eries Haji Barkat Rand, Pro-

level meeting to review the key issues of Balochistan vincial Assembly Members Mir Rehmat Saleh Baloch and Haji Muhammad Khan, Zmarak Khan Achakzai, province at the Prime Minister House. The meeting was at- and Balochistan Chief Sec-

retary Shakeel Oadir. ment was providing equal Chief Minister Sarfraz During the meeting, opportunities of education Ahmed Bugti, Planning the prime minister empha-During the meeting, and employment to the Minister Zahoor Ahmed sizing the importance of

Balochistan's development and prosperity, hoped that the new provincial cabinet under the leadership of Chief Minister Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti would play a vital role in resolving the province's issues and put it on the path to progress. The prime minister directed the speedy

Continued on page 2



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a meeting on the matters related to **Balochistan province.**

RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Syed Asim Munir, NI (M), addressing GHQ Investiture ceremony held at General Headquarters Rawalpindi.

Shuhada and Ghazis are our national heroes: COAS

Army Chief confers military awards upon Army Officer's at **GHQ** Investiture ceremony

RAWALPINDI (APP): Chief of Army Staff Shuhada (martyrs) and (COAS), General Syed Asim Munir on Monday conferred military awards noble than laying one's life upon Army personnel for for defence of motherland their acts of gallantry dur- and the sacrifices of our ing operations and merito- martyrs strengthen our rerious services rendered to solve to fight with utmost

stan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) President. Paying tributes to Information Secretary Ghazis, the COAS said, Marriyum Aurangzeb here "There is nothing more on Monday, PM Shehbaz Sharif said, "Time has come for Muhammad Nawaz Sharif to resume his rightful place as the President

The Army Chief also

Shuhada for their high spir-

its and sacrifices rendered

by them. The COAS said,

"Shuhada and Ghazis are

our national heroes and the

nation owes its indepen-

dence and security to the

sacrifices of its valiant war-

riors. Our Shuhada are, in-

deed, the beacons of hope

Khawaja demands imposition of Article 6 against violators of constitution

SLAMABAD (APP): Assembly and overturned Minister for Defence the unconstitutional order.

Shawaja Muhammad Asif Pakistan has faced chalon Monday called for imposing Article 6 on those lenges from that period onwho violated the Constituwards, indicating that detion and suggested that it mocracy has struggled to should begin with Field take root in the country. He Marshal Ayub Khan. asserted that leaders en-Speaking at the forum gaged in unlawful activities

of National Assembly, he said, "I fully endorse the opposition leader's proposal to invoke Article 6, but it should be started from 1958 up to 2022, when the then Deputy Speaker Qasim Khan Suri breached the constitution during the no-confidence The minister high-

lighted the Supreme Court's intervention at that time. which restored the National



lators of NA, provincial assemblies suspended

ter the Supreme Court order on Sunni Ittehad Khawaja Asif said that Council's (SIC) petition regarding reserved seats, the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) Monday suspended 77 lawmakers elected on seats denied to the party.

The issue of reserved must face justice. seats had been a point of The minister accused ment-Pakistan (MQM-P),

Dozens of members of

ISLAMABAD (INP): Af- the PPP, PML-N, MQM- ers given seats in the NA P, JUI-F and others had taken oath on reserved seats in different assemblies across the country following the PHC's verdict. The ruling PML-N is

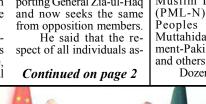
> members have been sus-pended while 15 lawmak-ers from PPP, 13 from Jamiat Ulama-e-Islam Fazl (JUI-F) and one each from MQM-P, Istehkam-e-Pakistan Party, and Awami National Party, Pakistan Muslim League and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Parliamentarians. Following the top court's order, the ECP today withdrew the notification of 22 returned candidates who were allotted seats in the National Assembly. Out of the 22, 11 Parlimentarians (PTI-P), of them are female lawmak- PML-Q and IPP.

from Punjab, 8 from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and 3 minority seats in the lower house

On the other hand, in KP Assembly 21 lawmakthe biggest loser as 44 of its ers on reserved seats for women and 4 for minorities have been de-notified.

In the Punjab Assembly, 24 women lawmakers and 3 non-Muslim legislators have been de-notified While in the Sindh Assembly, the commission de-notified 2 female MPs and a minority member.

All the lawmakers that have been de-notified belong to the PML-N, PPP, MOM-P, JUI-F, Awami National Party, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf-



the opposition leader in the contention between the SIC, which primarily com-NA of consistently supporting dictatorship and unprises Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf-backed independent lawful actions, mentioning candidates, and the ruling parties notably Pakistan that his party had previously apologized for supporting General Zia-ul-Haq Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP), Muttahida Qaumi Move-

the nation during an Invesdedication and spirit of sactiture ceremony held here rifice.' at General Headquarters. lauded brave families of

A large number of senior Army officers and families of awardees attended the ceremony.

The officers & soldiers were awarded medals including Sitara-I-Imtiaz (Military) and Tamgha-I-Basalat. Medals of Shuhada were received by their family members, an Inter Serand resilience for the navices Public Relations (ISPR) news release said.



QUETTA: President National Party Dr. Abdul Malik Baloch meeting with Deputy Chairman Senate Seydal Khan Nasar.

DPM Dar urges SCO states' collaboration to harness region's potential

NAB closes probe

into wheat scandal

ings.

vestigation.

BEIJING (APP): Deputy Fifth Pakistan-China For-Prime Minister and Foreign eign Ministers' Strategic Minister, Mohammad Ishaq Dar Monday met with Secretary-General of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Ambassador Zhang Ming here wherein he emphasised an effective

collaboration among SCO member states to harness the region's potential for sustained progress and

prosperity. pressed Pakistan's strong The deputy prime commitment to advancing minister is on a four-day visit to China to co-chair the SCO's security and devel-opment cooperation agenda

ISLAMABAD (INP): The

National Accountability

Bureau (NAB) has de-

cided to close its investi-

gation into the wheat and

flour scandal that oc-

curred during the previous

regime of the Pakistan

Muslim League – Nawaz

following the approval of the Executive Board of

NAB to cease the ongoing

investigation related to cor-

ruption in the procurement

This decision came

The closure of the in-

(PML-N).

of wheat.

eign Ministers' Strategic Senator Dialogue with Chinese Minister of Foreign Affairs Wang Yi which would cover the full spectrum of Pakistan-China relations.

Senator Ishaq Dar reaffirmed Pakistan's unwavering commitment to the SCO Charter and the Organization's fundamental ideals as enunciated in the 'Shanghai Spirit.' He ex-

vestigation was sanctioned

under the NAB amendment

law, with NAB recom-

mending the transfer of the

case to the Anti-Corruption

Punjab for further proceed-

Alam.

on three journalists within one month.

from May 16

ISLAMABAD (INP): "Big relief" in petrol and diesel prices is expected for consumers in Pakistan following a decrease in global oil prices. Sources said the government is expected to

The officials of NAB were occupied in the investigation of corruption amounting to billions of rupees within the food department while, the case of thousands of sacks of wheat comments from U.S. Federal Reserve officials dampened

of PML-N and provide his invaluable leadership and vision to steer the party Shehbaz Sharif said, "I remain steadfast in my commitment to serve the

BEIJING: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar meets with Secretary-General of the Shanghai Cooperation Orga nization (SCO), Ambassador Zhang Ming.

We would have to make tough decisions to make universities on path of self-sufficiency: Sheikh

unsatisfactory' QUETTA (APP): Gover-SLAMABAD (APP): nor Balochistan Sheikh The Supreme Court of Pa-Jafar Khan Mandukhel on kistan on Monday ex-Monday said we would pressed dissatisfaction have to make some tough over police investigation decisions along with creatreport regarding torture and ing new sources of income harassment of journalists. in order to take the public The court adjourned sector universities on the path of self-sufficiency.

further hearing into the matter till the month of June He expressed these and final date would be anviews while talking to Dr. nounced later. Mukhtar Ahmed, Chairman The court expressed of Higher Education Comdissatisfaction over the inmission at Governor's vestigation report on tor-House Ouetta.

ture of journalists includ-Electricity, flour prices slashed ing Asad Tur and Absar The report on abduction and torture of Matiullah Jan was also declared unsatisfactory.

PM resigns

as PML-N

President

Minister Shehbaz Sharif

has tendered resignation

from his position as Paki-

party diligently and with

unwavering loyalty under

the leadership of Mian

SC deems

investigation

into attacks

on journalists

Nawaz

forward.

Muhammad

Sharif."

According to PML-N

AHORE (APP): Prime

The court instructed the police to complete the ISLAMABAD (INP): investigation process re-Prime Minister Shehbaz garding the attack incidents Sharif on Monday ordered an immediate release of

Rs23 billion to resolve the issues confronting the people of Azad Jammu and **Relief on POL** prices expected Kashmir and to ease the protests.

Shehbaz Sharif de-cided to provide funds after thoroughly examining the situation in the territory, in a special meeting chaired by him on the sub-

cut petrol price by Rs14 per litre and diesel by Rs10 on May 16 for the next fortnight revision. Last month. the government slashed the price of petrol and highspeed diesel for the next fortnight by Rs5.45 and 8.42, respectively. The current petrol price is Rs288.49 per litre and that of HSD is Rs281.96. Meanwhile, oil prices extended declines on Monday amid signs of weak fuel demand and as

being stolen was also under came under inhopes of interest rate cuts.

Principal Secretary to tor universities to solve all Governor Balochistan Hashim Khan Ghilzai, Vice Chancellor of BUITEM University Dr. Khalid Hafeez and DG Higher Education Dr. Zahoor Ahmed Bazai were also present in the meeting.

The Governor said that all higher education institutions in the province were common assets of all of us and to ensure the provision of quality education in Balochistan public sec-

Office press release said.

AJK witnessed protest

demonstrations during the

last coupe of days with the

people seeking reduced

well as subsidized wheat

Different parts of the

in AJK after PM Shehbaz

orders release of Rs23b

flour.

the financial problems faced immediately and to provide the poor students of remote areas with the jewel of higher education. He said that the fed-

eral government would give us full attention to provide special packages to Balochistan which could be required for improvement of educational institutions. He made it clear in

for completing

Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Muhammad Aurangzebwelcomed the International Monetary Fund (IMF) team and ex pressed gratitude for them electricity bills and taxes as for completing Standby Arrangement (SBA), with suc-

Azad Jammu and nance and revenue Kashmir prime minister, Muhammad Aurangzeb met AJK cabinet members and with the delegation of IMF senior leadership attended Mission led by IMF Misthe meeting besides the fedsion Chief Nathan Porter, said

SBA with success

Continued on page 2 **Finance minister** welcomes IMF team

ISLAMABAD (APP):

cess. The minister for fi-

commitment to continue counter-terrorism coop.

Pakistan, US reaffirm

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pa- Ambassador Elizabeth Rikistan and the United States chard, co-chaired the diahave reaffirmed their commitment to continue counter-terrorism, pledging to work together to address regional and global security challenges and promote stability in the region.

'The counter-terrorism dialogue underscores the cooperation between Pakistan and the United States in addressing the most pressing challenges to regional and global security, including Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and ISIS-Khorasan", a joint statement issued after the Pakistan-US counter-terrorism dialogue held in Washington D.C on May 10, said. Additional Foreign Secretary for the UN and OIC, Ambassador Syed Haider Shah, and US Department of State Coordinator for counter-terrorism,

logue. Discussions centred on the counter-terrorism landscape in the region, with a focus on areas of mutual interest.

Pakistani and US senior officials emphasized the importance of expanded counter-terrorism collaboration and capacity building, including exchanges of technical expertise and best practices, investigative and prosecutorial assistance, provision of border security infrastructure and training, including the United States training of more than 300 police and frontline responders since the last Pakistan-US counter-terrorism dialogue in March 2023, and strengthening multilateral engagement such as in the UN and the Global counter-terrorism forum

ISLAMABAD: Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq presiding the meeting to discuss matters related to present and upcoming Budget Session of National Assembly at Parliament House.

Khosa expresses resent on delaying work of Custom, Gahi Khan Flyover in Quetta

QUETTA Balochistan Minister for Communications and Work (C&W) Mir Saleem Ahmad Khosa expressed his displeasures for delaying the speed of work ongoing Custom Sariab area and Gahi Khan Flyover projects during paying a surprise visiting of both projects. The Minister issued

orders for departmental action against the concerned authorities on the occasion.

He said that the traffic stoppage in the custom area and it has become a daily routine where the people have to go through severe torture saying that

(APP) therefore, the speed of construction work on the ongoing project should be accelerated. He said that the first priority of the provincial government was to provide modern facilities to the people of the province in every sphere of life and in this regard, negligence on the ongoing development projects in his department was not acceptable under any circumstances.

The Provincial Minister said that the people have chosen us with the hope that their basic problems would be solved and to provide facilities to them at their doorstep.



QUETTA: Chairman Higher Education Commission Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed meeting with Balochistan Governor Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail.

Daily Aoice of Masse Independent Quetta

Miscellaneous

Page 02

harassment, action would

be taken according to the

law." The court said the

party had the right to hold

a rally, and asked how long

the authorities would run

the affairs like this. The CJ

told the public prosecutor

It further said that the

Rs 23 billion subsidy package - PM Shehbaz's gift for Kashmiris: Anwar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Azad Jammu & Kashmir (AJK) Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwar-ul-Haq on Monday termed the Rs 23 billion subsidy package a gift from the Government of Pakistan for the Kashmiris to reduce the men were injured and a added, had been issued. It power tariff and flour sub-inspector embraced prices. A compassionate martyrdom while perform-Prime Minister Shehbaz ing their duties during the would be included in the Sharif while realizing the protests. "Today the budget for the nest finan-sufferings of the AJK Prime Minister of Pakistan cial year, he said. Sharif while realizing the sufferings of the AJK people very kindly approved the package to extend maximum relief the them. he said while addressing the news conference.

Ch Anwar said that the Federal Government had provided full support to the AJK by allocating Rs 10 billion from the Social Protection Fund that would be transferred to the Azad Jammu and Kashmir Bank.

He said that India at-

tempted to create chaos and mayhem in the AJK but be charged Rs 3 per unit for using upto 100 units, Rs 5 failed due to the people who could not tolerate Indian interference in their internal matters. PM Anwar-ul-Haq said that some 100 police-

which was attended by all

he added.

per unit for over 100 to 300 units and Rs 6 for over 300 units whereas the flour price per 40 kg bag has been fixed at Rs 2,000," he said.

The notifications, he would be permanent relief for the AJK people as it

called an important meet-ing on the critical issue, claimed, "the Azad Kashmir has less privileges than the stakeholders, and ami-cably settled the matter," the four provinces of Paki-stan, and Gilgit-Baltistan".

Anwar said that his Ch Anwar thanked government had curtailed PM Shehbaz Sharif on bethe budget of Prime Minishalf of the AJK and the coater House by 50 percent lition government that on for the first time in the his instructions the AJK's history of Azad longstanding problems Kashmir, whereas the official cars had been taken back

were solved in minutes. "The consumers will from the ministers.



RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Syed Asim Munir, NI (M), conferring military awards upon Army personnel for their acts of gallantry during operations and meritorious services rendered to the nation during GHQ Investiture ceremony held at General Headquarters Rawalpindi.

Ireland's cricket team to visit Pakistan in August 2025

ISLAMABAD (INP): In presented a souvenir of Ire- the Irish cricket team will another fruitful effort of Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) Chairman Syed him. Moshin Raza Nagyi, the

cricket bodies of their coun-Cricket Ireland chairman tries also held a special meeting and also agreed to hold announced the Irish team's visit to Pakistan next year a series between the women's cricket teams of Pakistan and Ireland.

According to a private TV channel report, PCB Brain McNiece also Chairman Mohsin Nagvi confirmed that the Irish called on Cricket Ireland women's cricket team's Chairman Brian McNeice in visit to Pakistan will also Dublin on Monday be reviewed soon.

During the meeting, Cricket Ireland Chairman chairman warmly wel-comed Mohsen Naqvi and Brian McNeice said that

land team shirt and cap to visit Pakistan in August 2025 for playing a good se-Both the heads of the ries of matches The Cricket Ireland

chairman also welcomed holding of Champions Trophy 2025 in Pakistan and said Pakistan has always provided the best security for international tournaments

On this occasion, PCB Chairman Mohsin Naqvi thanked Brian McNiece for the best arrangements for the pakistani team's visit to Ireland.

a teacup'

(10)

KP Governor calls on Chairman Senate, discuss ongoing political scenario

essential for economic uplift in the country. Every person will have to play gard, the both added.

that Pakistan People Party always worked for the betterment of the poor especially the women. He stated that Benazir Income Support Programme was best The both leaders expressed example of its welfare work.

Dukki Coal Mine QUETTA (APP): Three miners who were trapped in the Dukki coal mine for nine hours have been safely extracted by rescue teams on Monday. The miners were

important role in this reworking at a depth of 70 feet when a portion of the Senate Chairman Syed mine collapsed, burying Yusuf Raza Gilani stated them under debris.

The incident sparked a rapid response from rescue teams, who raced against time to save the trapped miners, a private news channel reported.

'No justification for not allowing PTI rally': SHC castigates 'incapable' agencies

KARACHI (INP): The main in office. "In case of harassment, action would jected a report of the provincial Home Department and the deputy commissioner on not granting permission to the PTI to hold a rally, saying there is no justification for not allowing the gathering.

that it was very easy to The Sindh High Court, headed by Chief Justice Aqeel Abbasi, heard speak against the judiciary and run a campaign against it on social media, asking the a petition of the PTI regardlawyer to do things in a way ing permission for a rally. that the court did not have The court ordered the deto give judgements against partments concerned to dethem. "Even a child knew cide on the PTI's request whose fight it was.' within 10 days. The court also said that, if possible, national interest mandated that the Constitution be the parties should mutually agree to hold the rally at an protected. CJ Abbasi furalternative location.

ther told the public prosecutor to impose a curfew The chief justice remarked that the report and deliver rations to shows the incapability of people's houses, adding all the agencies, adding that this was not a matter of a those who were submitting war between India and Pasuch reports would not re- kistan.



QUETTA: Provincial Minister for Agriculture Mir Al Madad Jattak meeting with Deputy Speaker Balochistan Assembly Ghazala Gola.

Kakar dismisses allegations in wheat import scandal KARACHI (INP): Former

demand targets in the country over the past twelve caretaker prime minister and incumbent Senator, years," Anwarul Haq Kakar Anwarul Haq Kakar said while exclusively talkdownplayed the wheat iming to a private television port scandal as a 'storm in channel. Kakar questioned what kind of wheat scandal "Âs time passes, it is in which the commodpeople understand that ity is becoming cheaper instead of becoming expenthere is neither a wheat crisis nor is this any scandal, sive. The former caretaker an attempt has been made prime minister said that in 2019, there was permission to create a storm in a teacup, there has been a big difference in production and to import wheat under the import bill order.

> TENDER NOTICE

TSE-232405414013 Note: In All Procurements of GOB Whether Through Electronic or Manual Bid Submission, It is Mandatory For All Bidders to Get Registered At Electronic Public Procurement System of BPPRA GOB. The EXECUTIVE ENGINEER DRAINAGE IRRIGATION DIVISION DERAALLAH YAR

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister, Syed Murad Ali Shah presides over a joint meeting of different departments, held at CM House in Karachi.

Traders register under, 'Tajir Dost Scheme' introduced by FBR

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chief Commissioner Inland The Regional Tax Office (RTO) Rawalpindi Monday hosted a momentous ceremony to honor the pioneering efforts of the first four traders who have officially registered themselves under the 'Tajir Dost Scheme', introduced by the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR)

Rawalpindi, recognizing This initiative marks a their commitment to comsignificant milestone in pro- pliance and contribution to

Adiala Jail authorities 'imposes' ban on prisoners meetings

RAWALPINDI (INP): The Adiala Jail authorities have imposed a 3-day ban on nario. prisoner meetings due to

security concerns. According to sources, the decision was made after a thorough search of the jail premises and surrounding areas, and will remain in effect until 12 am on May

Sources said that the ban was enforced after the Inspector General of Prisons issued an order to tighten security measures in the jail.

The Cricket Ireland

in August.

MULTAN (APP): KP the need for promotion of Governor Faisal Karim political stability as it was Kundi on Monday called on Chairman Senate Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani at his residence in city the both leaders discussed ongoing economic and political sce-

0 0 0

Chairman Senate Syed Yusuf Raza hosted Hi-Tea in honour of the KP governor Faisal Karim Kundi and it was also attended by leading business of the region.

3 miners saved after trapped in

noting tax com lance and formalizing the informal economy within the region, said a press release. Ms. Tehmina Aamer,

The honored traders expressed their gratitude to Ms. Tehmina Aamer and the RTO, Rawalpindi.

3.500.000

national economy

Revenue, expressed her ap-

preciation to the pioneer

ing traders for their proac-

tive engagement with the

Tajir Dost Scheme. She per-

sonally awarded registra-

tion certificates to the trad-

ers and also declared the

registered traders as ambas-

sadors of the RTO,

50 (@) TENDER NOTICE TSE-232405411883 Note: In All Procurements of GOB Whether Through Electronic or Manual Bid Submission. It is Mandatory For All Bidders to Get Registered At Electronic Public Procurement System of BPPRA GOB. The Project Manager Strengthing of Fragile Eco-system invites bids from Eligible Bidders for execution of following works for the Year 2024 based on Composite schedule rates 2018 on Percentage Rates

Tender Fee Rs.2000/- and Bid Security 2%

S.No Name of Work/s E/Cost

Construction of 50000 cft Packed Stone small check dame at Zhob Juniper Zone (in approved state/protected Forests Areas) (Site No. 01)

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules - 2014. Eligibility of Bidders: Presence in Active Tax Payer List. The bidding firm must not be blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan. Balochistan Revenue Authorit Registration is required. The bidder must have completed Assignment of similar nature of work. Turn over of at least 2,450,000 PKR Amount in5 subsequent previous years showing financia capacity of the firm. Procedure Of Procurement: Single Stage Two Envelope Bidding Procedure Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Bank Gurantee. Deposit at Call of 2 % specified above in the name of the under-signed from a scheduled bank. Tender Documents: The bidding documents can be obtained from the office of the under-signed 2,000 PKR Issuance of tender Documents: From the date of publication of NIT to 28 May, 2024 during office hours on working days Last Date of bid submission: The Tenders must be submitted latest by 28 May, 2024 till 10:30 AM. Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same

day at the office of the under-signed at 11:30 AM Address: Office of Chief Soil Consevation Spiny Road Quetta Phone no: 8129204423 Email: afrasiabk00@gmail.com

Divisional Forest Officer o/o Chie Conservator of Soil Conservatior Balochistan Quetta PRQ No.2327/10-5-2024

TENDER NOTICE The Medical Emergency Response Centers (MERC) Balochistan invites bids from eligible Bidders for supply of following items TSE-232405411581 Tender Fee Rs.1000/-

S.No Class of Object **Bid Security** Tender for Procurement of Tires for MSD Trucks 2%

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules - 2014. Eligibility of Bidders: 3 Assignments of Similar Nature and Complexity 1,000,000 in Previous 3 Years. Turn over of at least 2,000,000 PKR in 3 Subsequent Previous Years. Presence in Active Tax Payer List. Sales Tax Certificate. The bidding firm must not be currently blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan, JV is permissible. Submission of the required Bid Security In case Bid Security is not found as required during financia evaluation the bidding firm shall be declared as in-eligible and nonresponsive. Submission of the required Bidding document Fee. Must agree & comply to serve the contract within 15 days for after award time. Must unconditionally agree with all the instructions, terms & conditions specified in the bidding documents & contract agreement Procedure Of Procurement: Single Stage Two Envelope Bidding Procedure Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Deposit at Call of 2 % specified above in the name of the under-signed from a scheduled bank. Tender Documents: The bidding documents can be obtained from the office of the undersigned 1.000 PKR Issuance of tender Documents: From the date of publication of NIT to 28 May, 2024 during office hours on working days Last Date of bid submission: The Tenders must be submitted latest by 28 May, 2024 till 02:00 PM. Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day at the office of the under-signed at 03:00 PM Address: MERC 1122 head office house no 64/227 Jinnah Town Quetta Phone no: 0812863956 Email: contact@erc1122.com.pk AB No.459/13-5-2024

DEPUTY DIRECTOR ADMIN/HR MEDICAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE CENTERS (MERC) BALOCHISTAN .dpr.gob.pk. 🔽 @dpr_gob 🔟 dpr.gob 📑 @dg

The jail administration has also been directed to conduct emergency drills to deal with any unpleasant situations, sources added

The ban on meetings is aimed at preventing any potential security breaches and maintaining order in the jail. Earlier on March 12, Punjab home department had imposed ban over visits to prisoners in Adiala Jail, citing security threats.

The ban was slapped for two weeks Punjab home department said.

We would..

decision.

he said.

Continued from page 1 blunt words that if both the federal and provincial governments would not increase the budget allocated for higher education in time, then the government univer-

sities in the province might face many difficulties. Governor Balochistan said that the declaration of educational emergency in flation the country by the Prime Muzaffarabad, by reducing Minister of Pakistan Mian prices of electricity and Shahbaz Sharif was a wise wheat flour.

Apart from this, the determination to equip the children who cannot afford education with the jewel of education and to supervise the implementation of the educational emergency is the biggest proof of the education friendship of the

S.No

Prime Minister of Pakistan,

of the demands of the near

future, we have to focus on

teaching modern skills along

with education, for this,

technical and technical in-

stitutes across the province

need to start functional and

modern skill IT courses at

that it was certain that we

would have to make some

tough decisions along with

creating new sources of in-

come in order to take the

public sector universities

on the path of self-suffi-

universities, he said that it

should be expanded as well

as connected with objective

facts and full attention

should be paid to applied

Regarding research in

The Governor said

the college level.

ciency

research.

He said that in view

Tender Fee Rs.2000/- and Bid Security 2% Name of Work/s

E/Cost 1 Procurement Title: Construction of 15000 cft 2,100,000 Gabion Structure at Kalat Juniper Zone (in

approved state/protected Forests Areas) (Site No. 02) Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules - 2014. Eligibility of Bidders: Presence in Active Tax Payer List. The bidding firm must not be blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan. Balochistan Revenue Authority Registration is required. The bidder must have completed Assignment of similar nature of work. Turn over of at least 1,470,000 PKR Amount in5 subsequent previous years showing financial capacity of the firm. Procedure Of Procurement: Single Stage Two Envelope Bidding Procedure Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Bank Gurantee, Deposit at Call of 2 % specified above in the name of the under-signed from a scheduled bank. Tender Documents: The bidding documents can be obtained from the office of the under-signed 2.000 PKR Issuance of tender Documents: From the date of publication of NIT to 27 May, 2024 during office hours on working days Last Date of bid submission: The Tenders must be submitted latest by 27 May, 2024 till 10:45 AM. Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day at the office of the under-signed at 11:45 AM Address: Office of Chief Soil Consevation Spiny Road Quetta Phone no: 8129204423 Email: afrasiabk00@gmail.com

Forest Officer o/o C Conservator of Soil Conservatio Balochistan Quetta PRQ No.2300/10-5-2024 gob 🖸 dpr.gob 🕇 🖉 lpr.gob.pk. 🛛 😼 @dp

According to a notification issued by the AJK Food Department, a 20kg flour bag will now be avail-

able for Rs1,000 and electricity price for domestic users of 100 units is slashed by three rupees per unit. For the users of up to 300 unites, the rate is down

by Rs5 per unit and for consumers using over 300 unites the price is reduced by Rs6 per unit. For commercial users of 100 units, the rate is re-

duced by Rs10 per unit relief of Rs15 per unit.

completion of the process of solarisation of agricultural tube-wells in Balochistan and said that the Federal Government would provide all possible assistance regarding the conversion of agricultural tubewells to solar energy.

He directed that till the conversion of agricultural tube-wells to solar energy, load shedding of electricity should be mini mized in Balochistan to ensure that production from crops and gardens was not affected.

The prime minister directed that the pace of work on important development projects of the South Balochistan Package be expedited.

The meeting was also attended by Federal Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal, Commerce Minister Jam Kamal Khan and other high officials concerned.

Khawaja..

Continued from page 1

sociated with building a stable and developed Pakistan is crucial, and those working against the country's interests will be held accountable by the law. Khawaja Asif alleged that opposition has not yet finalized the name for the Public Accounts Committee (PAC). He accused the PTI chief of corruption in the "Toshakhana" (state gift depository), claiming that gifts were being sold in the market. The minister also claimed that previous government of PTI fabricated drug charges against Rana Sanaullah.

nvites bids from Eligible Bidders for execution of following works for the Year 2024 based on Composite schedule rates 2018 on Percentage Rates Tender Fee Rs.1500/-and Bid Security 2% S.No Name of Work/s E/Cost

1 REHABILITATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF 1-R 20,000,000 MAIN DRAIN IN DISTRICT SOHBAT PUR PSDF 2023-24 S. NO 4683.

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules - 2014. Eligibility of Bidders: Presence in Active Tax Payer List. The bidding firm must not be blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan. Balochistan Revenue Authority Registration is required. The bidder must have completed 3 Assignment of similar nature of work. Turn over of at least 14,000,000 PKR Amount in3 subsequent previous years showing financial capacity of the firm. Registration with Pakistan Engineering council (PEC) C-6 and above (Upto 25 million)In Relevant Category And Specialized Code is CE04(ii) (Irrigation & Flood Control Systems). Procedure Of Procurement: Single Stage One Envelope Bidding Procedure Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Bank Gurantee, Deposit at Call of 2 % specified above in the name of the under-signed from a scheduled bank. Tender Documents: The bidding documents can be obtained from the office of the under-signed 1,500 PKR Issuance of tender Documents: From the date of publication of NIT to 31 May, 2024 during office hours on working days Last Date of bid submission: The Tenders must be submitted latest by 31 May, 2024 till 12:00 PM. Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day at the office of the under-signed at 01:00 PM Address: EXECUTIVE ENGINEER DRAINAGE IRRIGATION DIVISION AT IRRIGATION COLONY DERAALLAH YAR

Phone no: 0838510281 Email: mehrullahansari09@gmail.com EXECUTIVE ENGINEER DRAINAGE IRRIGATION DIVISION DERA ALLAH YAR PRQ No.2352/13-5-2024 🛛 🈽 www.dpr.gob.pk. 🕞 @dpr_gob 👩 dpr.gob 📑 @dgpr.balochistan (Ö)) TENDER NOTICE TSE-232405414053 Note: In All Procurements of GOB Whether

Through Electronic or Manual Bid Submission, It is Mandatory For All Bidders to Get Registered At Electronic Public Procurement System of BPPRA GOB. The EXECUTIVE ENGINEER DRAINAGE IRRIGATION DIVISION DERAALLAH YAR invites bids from Eligible Bidders for execution of following works for the Year 2024 based on Composite schedule rates 2018 on Percentage Rates Tender Fee Rs.1500/-and Bid Security 2% S.No Name of Work/s E/Cost

1 REH & IMPROVEMENT OF PAT BRANCH MAIN 10.000.000 DRAIN(5.00M) AND REH OF UCH BRANCH MAIN DRAIN(5.0M) PSDP 2023-24 S. NO 4687.

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules - 2014. Eligibility of Bidders: Presence in Active Tax Payer List. The bidding firm must not be blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan. Balochistan Revenue Authority Registration is required. The bidder must have completed Assignment of similar nature of work. Turn over of at least 7,000,000 PKR Amount in3 subsequent previous years showing financial capacity of the firm. Registration with Pakistan Engineering council (PEC) C-6 and above (Upto 25 million)In Relevant Category And Specialized Code is CE04(v) (Irrigation Only). Procedure Of Procurement: Single Stage One Envelope Bidding Procedure Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Bank Gurantee, Deposit at Call of 2 % specified above in the name of the under-signed from a scheduled bank. Tender Documents: The bidding documents can be obtained from the office of the undersigned 1,500 PKR Issuance of tender Documents: From the date of publication of NIT to 31 May, 2024 during office hours on working days Last Date of bid submission: The Tenders must be submitted latest by 31 May, 2024 till 12:00 PM. Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day at the office of the under-signed at 01:00 PM Address: EXECUTIVE ENGINEER DRAINAGE IRRIGATION DIVISION AT IRRIGATION COLONY DERAALLAH YAR Phone no: 0838510281 Email: mehrullahansari09@gmail.com



Khan in a group photograph with students participating in Talent Hunt Youth Sports Judo League at Lahore College for Women University. **Electricity, flour.** Government's. Continued from page 1



LAHORE: Chairman Prime Minister Youth Program Rana Mashhood Ahmed

Continued from page 1 eral ministers and leaders of the coalition parties. The Kashmiri leadership and other participants of the meeting thanked Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif for his decision to

provide funds. On the other hand, the Azad Kashmir government has accepted the demands of Awami Action Committee which led the long march against rampant intowards

while for consumers using above 300 units will get a



Composite schedule rates 2018 on Percentage Rates

Independent

Pakistan keen to learn from Korean expertise in IT, industrialisation: PM

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Monday said that Pakistan was keen to learn from Korea's experience of industrialization and SME sector growth as well as in the field of Information Technology (IT), including artificial intelligence.

The prime minister, talking to Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Pakistan Park Ki Jun, who called on him, also offered to enhance export of skilled manpower from Pakistan to meet Korea's human resource needs.

tors.

vanced economy.

The Korean ambassador congratulated the prime minister on behalf of the Korean leadership upon his re-election.

The prime minister

thanked the Korean leadership for the warm message of greetings that he received and expressed the desire to work closely to further strengthen bilateral ties. Prime Minister

Korean companies as well Shehbaz Sharif said that as to explore new opportu-Pakistan and Korea enjoyed nities good relations, particularly He also extended an

invitation to President in trade and investment secoon Suk Yeol to undertake He said both countries an official visit to Pakistan had cooperated since 1960s The Korean ambassafor economic development dor thanked the prime minand conveyed admiration ister for receiving him and conveyed the desire of the for Korea's remarkable transformation into a mod-Korean government to enern technologically adhance its bilateral cooperation with Pakistan in a To promote mutually number of areas of mutual beneficial trade, he prointerest, particularly trade,

posed the exchange of busiinvestment, IT, culture, tourism and people to ness delegations between people exchanges. Seoul and Islamabad. In



held twice a year.

ISLAMABAD: Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan called on President Asif Ali Zardari at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

NA informed Accreditation tests for foreign-qualified doctors to be held twice in year

ISLAMABAD (APP): for foreign-qualified doc-Federal Minister for Parliators, Minister Tarar stated that the first test would take mentary Affairs Azam Nazeer Tarar informed the place in June and the sec-National Assembly on ond in December. The examinations Monday that the accredi-

would be conducted regutation examinations for doctors getting degrees larly as per the new instructions, he added. from abroad would now be The minister said that

Responding to a callthe Pakistan Medical and ing attention notice about Dental Council had redechanges in the policy by the signed the examination for-Pakistan Medical and Denmat and reduced the passtal Council regarding the ing benchmark from 70 peraccreditation examination cent to 60 percent.

portance of such examinations, saying it was crucial for every country to conduct accreditation tests or equivalence examinations for international degree holders, especially in matters concerning precious human lives. He affirmed that Pa-

He highlighted the im-

kistan could overlook the responsibility and must ensure proper evaluation of foreign-qualified doctors through such tests.

Manzoor **PPP** along with family

ISLAMABAD (APP): Former Chief Minister Punjab, Manzoor Wattoo on Monday announced to join the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) with his family members.

He made this an ouncement after meeting with Chairman PPP Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, said press release issued here by the party secretariat. Former Members Na-

tional Assembly, Khurram Wattoo and Rubina Shaheen Wattoo and former Members Punjab Assembly, Moazzam Wattoo, Jahan Ara Wattoo and Amina Wattoo Kasuri were the family members of Manzoor Wattoo who joined the party.

Students to have knowledge of climate change in summer camps: Romina Commission, the climate

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister's Coordina-tor on Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Romina Khurshid Alam on Monday said that summer camps would impart special education on climate change to students for sensitising them on pressing issue of global

Romina Khurshid Alam

APITALNEWS

COP cell to swiftly work on climate actions, climate risks which Pakistan would present in upcoming UNFCCC global environ-mental conference COP-29 warming and environmental degradation. Šhe said this during a meeting with UNICEF to be held in Baku. Both sides discussed Country Director for Paki-stan, Abdullah A. Fadil here, a news release said.

different ideas to promote climate tourism, climate entertainment, climate sports, climate economy. apprised the UNICEF Country Director that with The UNICEF representative vowed to further the collaboration of Secre-tary Federal Education & strengthen their support for these ambitious tasks be-Professional Training and sides collaborating on COP-Chairman Higher Education 29.

change related contents

were being incorporated in

ministry of climate change was going to establish a

She also added that

the curriculum.

Page

03



Change & Environmental coordination Romina Khurshid Alam along with UNICEF county Director for Pakistan Mr. Abdullah A. Fadil, sitting on a bench manufactured by confiscated single use polythene bags by EPA, ministry of Climate change.

Registration of Al-Qadir trust IHC expresses resentment over non filing of report by chief commissioner

ISLAMABAD (Online): Monday. Islamabad High Court

Mian

(IHC) has expressed re-

sentment over non filing of

report by Chief Commis-

sioner Islamabad in the case

of registration of Al-Qadir

University Trust under

new Islamabad Trust case.

Gulhassan Aurangzeb re-

marked "keep it in mind

that the sitting government

will remain in power for only 5 years. If PTI founder

comes to power in future

then registration will be pre-

sented by placing it in plate.

The plea for registra-

Justice

pounds

heard the case.

Aamer Farooq and Justice

tional Accountability Bu-

ferred from Britain to Paki-

During hearing, Na-

Counsel for PTI founder said Al-Qadir trust is not being registered. Court should give order to Chief Commissioner.

The court expressed resentment over non submission of report by chief commissioner.

Justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb inquired why the government officials are feeling fear. The government officials should fear from Allah only. Keep it in mind that the sitting government will remain in power for five years. If PTI joined the party. Bilawal Bhutto wel-comed the new entrants in the party. Raja Pervaiz Gulhassan Aurangzeb

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of the Republic of Korea H.E. Park Ki Jun called on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

PRCS chairman discusses humanitarian efforts with permanent representative of Pakistan to United Nations

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS), Sardar Shahid Ahmed Laghari held discussions with Bilal Ahmed, the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations in Geneva, focusing on humanitarian collabora-

tion and cooperation. The meeting, which held at the embassy of Pakistan in Geneva, addressed various topics including the services provided by the Red Crescent, fostering relationships with humanitarian organizations in Ahmed commended the ex-

assistance to flood victims shared his impressions in and its active participation in the preparatory meetings for the upcoming 34th International Conference of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in Geneva.

Chairman Laghari stressed the need for strengthening ties with international humanitarian organizations in Geneva to ensure continued support affected by floods in Pakistan.

Cross Red Crescent (RCRC) Movement, Ambassador Bilal (RCRC) "Navigate Uncertainty

underway in Islamabad Police, a public relations of-ficer said. the new visitor book at the embassy

It is worth mentioning here that Chairman PRCS Sardar Shahid Ahmed Laghari represented the National Society exceptionally well at the preparatory meetings and sessions held by the International Federation of Red Cross Red Crescent Socifor ongoing recovery pro-grams benefiting families the upcoming 34th International Conference of the Red

regard, a prestigious ceremony was held to promote new officers to the rank of Inspector at Police Lines Headquarters Islamabad. IGP Islamabad Sved

0

Ali Nasir Rizvi graced the event as a special guest, while senior police officers, and the families of newly promoted inspectors were also present on this occasion.

promoted 52 Inspectors **Independent Report** scale promotions in a short ISLAMABAD: According time to reassure the officto the details, following the ers special directives of the In-

IG Islamabad said that spector General of Police (IGP) Islamabad Syed Ali we have worked hard day and night to complete this six-month process as soon Nasir Rizvi, a series of deas possible to bring smiles partmental promotions are and happiness to the faces of the officers and their families.

He said that, in this If your shoulders shine, then your hearts will shine, and the faces of your children will shine with happiness and this is my goal, IG said.

My prayer is that whatever promotion you have achieved, may Allah Almighty give you the grace to do justice with it. May your children consider you their hero, may your mother feel proud of you.



Geneva, and strategies to enhance humanitarian ef- by the Red Crescent and forts aimed at alleviating the suffering of vulnerable communities particularly flood affected people in Pakistan.

During the meeting, Sardar Shahid Ahmed Laghari provided an overview to permanent representatives of Pakistan to UN in Geneva Bilal Ahmed regarding Red Crescent's

emplary services rendered expressed appreciation for Chairman Sardar Shahid Ahmed Laghari's leadership in advancing humanitarian initiatives.

He also affirmed the commitment to extend all possible cooperation in all human assistance program. On this occasion, Chairman PRCS Sardar Shahid Ahmed Laghari also

Strengthen Humanity Ambassador Bilal Ahmed, the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations, also took part in these preparatory meetings. The meetings covered a range of topics, including International Humanitarian Law (IHL) Climate Change, Anticipa-

tory Actions in emergencies, and Disaster Risk Reduction.

CDA to establish

water, sanitation

Agency in

Islamabad

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Capital Development

Authority (CDA) will set

up Water and Sanitation

Agency (WASA) in the

federal capital with an aim

to up-grade the existing in-

Islamabad is being estab-

lished to significantly im-

erage, and drainage facilities

across the capital. In this

regard the preliminary dis-

cussions are underway to

start the work at earliest.

would include rehabilitation

and expansion of current

systems, the construction

and up-gradation of water

treatment plants to in-

crease sewage treatment

capacity, and enhancing

Tourists throng

Kaghan-Naran

after road's

reopening

drainage systems.

Similarly, this project

WASA

fraud

frastructure.

The



ISLAMABAD: The central leaders of Jammu Kashmir People's Action Committee, Saqib Shaheen, Sardar Aftab and others, addressing a press conference at NPC, on the current situation of the people's movement in Azad Kashmir and the Indian prove water supply, sewpropaganda against the movement.

Randhawa says: Businessmen real face of Capital, to be taken on board in decision making

ISLAMABAD (INP):

Chairman Capital Development Authority (CDA), Mohammad Ali Randhawa has termed the business community as real face of the capital city which has been playing an important role in its development and said that it would be taken on board in the decision

makings This was stated by him while talking to a delegation of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) led by its President Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari which called on him here on Monday.

Ali Mohammad Randhawa expressed the hope that by adopting the best practices, coming out of comfort zones and adhering to the practical approach we will be able to overcome all the problems relating to the development of the city adding that he along with his team will soon visit the Chamber House to get firsthand knowledge of the problems facing the business commu-

nity. The Chairman CDA further said that he himself by visiting different markets turn by turn, holding meetings with traders' leaders then and there direct the concerned Officers for the solution of their problems

Earlier, ICCI Presi-ISLAMABAD (APP): dent Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari felicitated the Foreign and domestic tour-Chairman for assuming the ists are thronging to Naran charge, introduced his team after the reopening of the members and highlighted road to enjoy their trips at the key issues of the busirecreational spots of the ness community. He said scenic valley. that by sensing the seriousness of the issue of clean

own pocket.

lems

Talking to APP, a Pakistan Tourism Developdrinking water, he himself Corporation ment has taken the initiative of (PTDC) official said the installing filtration plants in Kaghan Development different markets from his Authority (KDA) has reopened the Kaghan He extended an invi-Highway for all kinds of tation to the Chairman commuters after seven

CDA for a visit to ICCI months of closure. which he accepted by say-He said the tourists ing that he will make it embarked on their travel possible at the earliest postowards Naran to observe sible time to have a comthe scenic beauty through prehensive acquaintance of Naran road which was fully the community's proboperational for tourists to visit their destinations.

IG Islamabad pins rank badges to newly promoted 52 sub-inspectors to the rank of inspector, he congratulates them, and ex-

We will try our best to bring happiness to your families, to provide you with promotion and rewards, to end the punishpresses good wishes for their future endeavors. ments given to you, but in return, you have to do one

On this occasion, IGP thing, and that is to fulfill Islamabad presented comthe promise you made, mendation to the Chairman which is to eliminate of the Departmental Procrime, to provide immedimotions Committee, DIG ate justice to the citizens, Headquarters Dr. Syed to ensure the safety of their Mustafa Tanveer, and his lives and property, he team for ensuring such largeadded.

Saudi Public Security warns against fake Hajj advertisements, clarifies official channels

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Kingdom of Saudi The Saudi Directorate of Arabia Project For Utiliza-Public Security has issued tion Of Hady & Adahi as a warning to citizens and the official authority for residents regarding fake adselling and marketing Hady, vertisements circulating on Adahi, alms, and charity social media platforms ofbonds on behalf of pilgrims. fering services related to These services can be ac-Hajj, such as arranging pilcessed or tracked through grimages for others, securthe project's official ing sacrificial animals, sellwebsite (adahi.org), elecing Hajj bracelets, and protronic platforms like the viding transportation, with Ehsan platform, or certified the intention of committing outlets, it said, adding that additionally, a unified in-The Directorate emquiry and order tracking

phasized that those who fall prey to such scams not number (920020193) had been established for conveonly risk financial loss but Urging compliance also violate Hajj regulations. Those caught engaging in with Hajj regulations, the

these deceptive practices Directorate called upon citiwill be subject to strict lezens and residents to report gal repercussions, it added. any violations by dialing Clarifying the legiti-(911) in Makkah, Riyadh, mate channels for procurand the Eastern Provinces, ing Hajj-related services, and (999) in all other rethe Directorate highlighted gions of the Kingdom



ISLAMABAD: Labourers working on sewage water project on Chak Shahzad road in the Federal Capital.

Ashraf, Hassan Murtaza, Shahzad Saeed Cheema and Chaudhry Sajjad ul Hassan were also present in the meeting.

NA constitutes **Special body** on Gender Mainstreaming

ISLAMABAD (APP) The National Assembly on Monday passed a motion to constitute the Special Committee on Gender Mainstreaming including members from both the Houses of the Parliament.

Minister for Housing and Works Riaz Hussain Pirzada moved the motion under rule 244 (B) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the National Assembly 2007.

The House passed the motion to constitute the special committee which would make recommendations to the National Assembly on matters pertaining to women empowerment

Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq said that the House would make best legislation through consensus to empower the women. "We should not only further empower the women through laws but also to support them," he added.

OEC to send nurses staff to KSA

ISLAMABAD (APP) Overseas Employment Corporation (OEC) an attached department of Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development (MOP&HRD) would send the nurses staff to Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

An official source told APP here on Monday, he said that Saudi Arabia required nurses staff on urgent basis and in this regard OEC has advertised the qualifications and experience of required nurses staff for abroad.

Only qualified females would be entertained for final selection who have a Bachelor of Science in Nursing BScN (4-years) or (Post RN), minimum two years of experience in the relevant

Deputy Commissioner Islamabad, Irfan Nawaz field, only females, not more than 45.

IHC adjourns PTI founder's bail petition till today ISLAMABAD (APP):

stan. The first transaction The Islamabad High Court was made in November (IHC) adjourned hearing till 2019, second on December 3, 2019 and third on March tomorrow on bail petition of Pakistan Tehreek e Insaf 11.2022 (PTI) founder in a graft reference of 190 million

The chief justice asked that how the transaction was done in Novem-A two-judge bench comprising Chief Justice ber 2019 without the approval of the cabinet.

Amjad Pervaiz said that a confidentiality deed Taria Mehmood Jahangiri was signed between Malik Riaz and National Crime Agency (NCA) Britain on reau (NAB) prosecutor November 6, 2019. The then Special Assistant to Amjad Pervaiz said that top court had issued order the Prime Minister. Shehzad Akbar also signed regarding the money transthe deed, he said



ISLAMABAD: Provincial President Majlis Wahdat Muslimin Gilgit-Baltistan, Agha Syed Ali Rizvi and other leaders addressing a Press Conference at NPC against the government indifference regarding the public demands in Azad Jammu and Kashmir.

Crackdown on price gouging: ICT admin arrest 20, seals unscrupulous shops

ISLAMABAD (APP): Memon, Assistant Com-The Islamabad Capital Termissioner Shalimar, conritory (ICT) Administra-tion on Monday launched ducted rigorous inspections at F-10 area. These inspeca series of inspections tartions have led to swift acgeting price gouging and tion, with nine individuals regulatory violations, in a apprehended and the clodecisive move aimed at ensure of two naan/tandoor shops for flouting the govsuring fair prices and consumer protection in the ernment rates. Meanwhile, the Assis-Federal Capital.

According to the tant Commissioner Indus-Spokesman of Islamabad trial Area, conducted intrial Area, conducted in-Capital Territory (ICT) spections and vendors Administration, the Assisfound guilty of overcharging and failing to comply tant Commissioners were taking a firm stand against unfair pricing practices that burden consumers and undermine the integrity of the market. On the directions of

unethical practices. Similarly, Assistant Commissioner Pothohar paid a surprise visit to I-10 Markaz.

with pricing regulations faced the consequences, as authorities cracked down on

Page 04

OPINION

Daily Independent



Tuesday May 14, 2024

Spending restrictions

The consistent contraction in the size of the federal Public Development Sector Programme for the past three years is yet another sign of Pakistan's lingering financial and economic crisis. New official data shows that the government has squeezed federal symptom Pakistan's economy infrastructure development to Rs353bn — less than 0.4pc of GDP — during the first 10 months of the ongoing fiscal year to April, as the cashstrapped centre slashes its expenditure to meet the IMF goal of producing a primary budwhich get surplus of 0.4pc of GDP this year.

produce for either the domestic or the international The total spending for the market. However, no one period under review is 38pc of seems to be very interested

annual PSDP allocations of Rs940bn, and is 12.3pc less than what was spent on development projects during the same period a year before. That the government does not have enough money for new projects, or even for maintaining existing ones, underlines the costs Pakistan's citizens are forced to pay to survive the Democratic Alliance to secure 400-plus seats in the country's worst economic cri-543-member Lok Sabhasis ever. The lingering finana target encapsulated in the cial troubles also mean that party slogan abki baar 400 most of the millions of people affected by the devastating as voter turnout has been floods of 2022 are still waiting phases of the election comto be rehabilitated.

A media report suggests that the IMF wants Pakistan gone conclusions the BJP won 303 seats. to bring down expenditure by With its allies, its support around 163bn to Rs183bn in the Lower House swelled to 352 seats. This time, it to make up for a significant hopes to win 370 seats on revenue shortfall — as the its own as it does not see Fund is not willing to make a challenge. Although the the opposition as much of concessions on the goal of party secured comfortable achieving a primary budget budget di parliamentary majorities in the previous two elections dividends. This rests on claims of providing firm and surplus this year. The government has hardly any choice in bower, well over half the ment, benefiting India's poor, the matter, unless it is pre-lectorate did not vote for and connecting' to ordinary BJP. In 2019, BJP polled people. More importantly, pared to breach the IMF conditions for a primary surplus - which is an indication of a government's borrowing requirements — that was agreed to under the recently concluded short-term \$3bn College campuses across Stand-by Arrangement. This the US have erupted into would jeopardise its chances student demonstrations and sit-ins protesting of getting a longer and larger the genocide in Gaza. bailout to stay afloat. Another report suggests are involved. Columbia University, my alma mater, has been most the new bailout approaching, prominently in the Pakistan has committed to the ing the first set of stu-IMF that it would aim for a pri- dents to call out their mary surplus equal to 1pc of the harsh retaliation by GDP in the next fiscal year. its administration. The The Fund is already believed university's current president is a women of to have told the government to raise additional revenues of ^{Baroness} Minouche' Shafiq. Rs1.7tr, contain its developaround women's and miment expenditure, and increase the petroleum levy target by more than 24pc to more, we see men and about Rs1.1tr next year. The country has achieved a sort of domain of 'white' Westeconomic stability in recent months and economic fundamentals have shown some Columbia's next presisigns of improvement. But this 'recovery' remains fragile and any shock at this had witnessed the jourpoint can mean a relapse. The ney of Malala Yousafzai IMF, therefore, has been insisting that Islamabad persevere with economic contrac-of Western political and tion as long as the fiscal and social elites. While congovernance reforms suggested under the SBA — and and achievement to me. which are likely to be part of the next programme — create of the Israel-Palestine enough fiscal space to put the war unfold, with a con-tinuing genocide occurcountry back on the growth ring before our eyes, the trajectory. In this context, it role of women and mi-nority-origin leaders in would be naive to expect the the Global North seems like a sinister reprisal of government to bolster investthe old colonial mantra ment in public infrastructure of divide and rule. development anytime soon.

Political capitalism

Umair Javed

In their quest for for-The last couple of years eign exchange, civil-military have witnessed a series of decision-makers are keen on changes to decision-making opening up several sectors structures of Pakistan's and industries to foreign ineconomy. These include the vestment. However, the creation of the SIFC, the chosen mechanism is not centralisation of economic through market-based comgovernance, and greater petition, but through stateeconomic proximity to the to-state deals midwifed by Gulf monarchies, particuthe SIFC. The terms at larly Saudi Arabia. The latwhich these deals are being ter is notable because it apnegotiated are unclear at the pears to have shifted (in moment, but, if the rhetoric at least) the bilatcountry's bargaining posieral relationship from one tion and its past record is of aid and security towards anything to go by, they will economic investments. likely be lucrative. These changes were

Alongside the Saudi precipitated by a basic deals, increased attention is afflicting also being devoted to privatisation processes. inability to earn sufficient Here as well, the governforeign exchange to sustain ment is closely involved in growth, which in turn leads setting up deal structures to recurring balance-ofand providing incentives to payment crises and envarious interested parties. forced slowdowns. It is Another lesson from the important to call this a past is that while these govsymptom because the acernment-sponsored deals tual problem is one of capiwill help resolve short-term tal and labour productivity, forex liquidity constraints, prevents the they may pose payment economy from producing problems in the future and what it needs to efficiently are unlikely to lift the economy out of its productivity slump.

Government involvement of such form is not

in solving that particular the state-directed development seen in the mid- 20^{th} century, when socialist states took on the task of production or when developmental states coordinated private sector activity. Rather, these vaguely correspond to a new type that's emerged over the last few decades, which Branko Milanovic labels "political capitalism" Milanovic, echoing Max Weber, defines political capitalism as "the use

of political power to achieve economic gains". Magnified at the level of the state, political capitalism means that the state will use its ability to exercise discretion, such as in offering sweeteners and incentives, bypassing existing regulations, and creating new regulations and structures, to fulfil certain economic objectives. Pri-

vate entities will still control the economy (through ownership of the means of production), but the state will use its power to intervene on behalf of favoured interests that help it achieve its desired objectives. In other words, the use of discretion is central to this

model

tioner of political capitalism in today's world is China. The Chinese economy now largely exists in private hands, but the Chinese state continues to intervene in a discretionary manner, favouring some entities over others to achieve economic or social objectives. In that sense, there is an absence of a uniform 'rule of law' in China, in so far that regulations may be applied selectively or not at all depending on the objectives set by the

Chinese state. According Milanovic, if regulations are applied uniformly (ie, rule of law is practised), then over time the state loses its relative power over the private sector. This is the case we see in most liberal capitalist states across the world However, if the state becomes too discretionary (and corrupt), it will stifle economic productivity and lead to economic stagnation. The Chinese state is remarkable in that it has struck a balance in using selective discretion to generate high rates of economic growth, though with accompanying inequality. Other countries that have managed this The exemplar practi- model well include Vietnam

and Singapore, both of which have used state involvement to create prosperity. Increasingly, Cambodia, Bangladesh and Rwanda are following a similar tra-

rectory There are two key reasons why political capitalism of this sort is less likely to be successful in the Pakistani context. A key ingredient in all successful cases listed is the presence of a technocratic, highly skilled, and motivated bureaucracy. Pakistan's federal and provincial bureaucracies fail on all three counts: staffed with generalists in commanding positions, with low levels of average competence, and an incentive structure that prioritises self-reward over some larger public service

to

motivation Secondly, all successful examples of political capitalism have been highly centralised, one-party states usually created in the aftermath of some major political upheaval, like a socialist revolution that wipes out an entrenched elite and creates an autonomous state, or a major ethnic secession that creates a strong attachment of the population with the state. Pakistani decision-makers

salivate at the prospect of a one-party state but without paving attention to those additional ingredients

Neither is the current hybrid regime capable of undercutting an entrenched. unproductive elite (since the civilian part is drawn from the same elite), nor has it managed to incorporate large swathes of the population through shared national or ideational attach ment. If anything, it has managed to do the exact opposite of the latter by marginalising the most popular party and repressing its members and supporters. These structural weaknesses of low, selfserving competence and weak autonomy and legitimacy are precisely why previous attempts at statedirected interventions in the economy created rent-seeking opportunities for local and foreign investors. rather than helped the economy out of its multidecade slump. While the actual challenge lies in generating productive human capability through health and education, chasing temporary dollars continues to command most of the state's attention.

India's illiberal election

Maleeha Lodhi 2014 it was less than 31pc. General elections are under-This indicates its real support, even though the firstway in India in a phased voting process that con-

past-the-post electoral cludes on June 1. Prime stem gave it an outsized Ainister Narendra Modi is share of Lok Sabha seats. videly predicted to win a The BJP has benefited from a weak, divided and third term in office. The Bharatiya Janata Party's

regionally fragmented oppo-(BJP) goal is for its National sition. The Congress party looks jaded and bereft of new ideas. Leading an opposition alliance called 'INDIA' (Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance), Conpaar. There are doubts this gress has been unable to capcan be achieved, especially ture the public imagination or offer a credible alternative to the BJP's narrative. It has lower in the first three struggled to counter Modi's pared to 2019. Election extravagant claims about his government's achievements. outcomes are never fore-Positive developments on India's economic front have In the 2019 election, not all resulted from the Modi government's policies but are entirely attributed to him by the BJP's vigorous social media and propaganda

> campaign Modi's carefully cultivated strongman image has yielded significant political

popular national vote; in ven into his cult of personality, with the party portraying Modi as the champion and saviour of Hindu nationalism. His anti-Muslim actions and rhetoric have served to burnish those cre-

dentials Modi has sought to mobilise electoral support on his economic record, welfare and infrastructure projects, as well as his Hindu supremacist ideology. Even though rising unemployment and the soaring cost of living will weigh on voters' minds, Modi is seen by many Indians to be a better bet on the economy than his opponents. He enjoys the backing of big business, for which the opposition accuses Modi of pandering to India's super rich. In campaign speeches, Modi has repeatedly stated he has enhanced India's international standing and helped to attract more foreign investment. He has even cast the election to be about making India "a major

world power" The opposition's attack on Modi has principally

focused on his authoritarian

conduct and policies. Cer-

tainly, democratic backslid-

ing during his 10 years in

power has been substantial

and far reaching. This, his

critics say, has turned India

into an illiberal democracy. Judicial independence and media freedom have been undermined and civil liberties eroded. Modi's government has muffled dissent, intimidated the media, harassed and incarcerated journalists and mounted extraordinary pressure on the opposition. Two state leaders allied with Congress, Arvind Kejriwal and Hemant Soren, have been jailed on dubious corruption charges. In March, the Congress party's main bank accounts were frozen. Opposition leader Rahul Gandhi was expelled from parliament last year on the charge of defamation for ridiculing Modi's name. Later, his jail sentence was suspended by the supreme court.

Modi has pledged to push ahead with his Hindutva agenda, for which the party points to several actions taken by the government, including construction of the Ram temple, a citizenship law disadvantaging Muslims, and revocation of Article 370 of the constitution, which gave Jammu and Kashmir special status.

to scare Hindu voters into believing Muslims will eventually outnumber them. He has repeatedly accused the Congress party of favouring Muslims and conspiring to transfer wealth "looted" from Hindus to Muslims. The BJP has also posted videos containing these allegations. This prompted the Congress party to petition the election commission to act against this violation of election laws.

But nothing has deterred Modi from using inflammatory, Islamophobic language to demonise Muslims. He has even said his target of winning 400 seats is to prevent Congress from reviving Article 370 and putting the "Babri lock" on the Ram temple. Declaring "India is at a crucial juncture in history", he has said the choice is between 'vote jihad' or 'Ram Rajya'. He went further to say, "In Pakistan, terrorists are threatening jihad against India, and here the Congress people have also declared to 'vote jihad' against Modi, asking people

proach in dealing with terrorism allegedly emanating from Pakistan with the infirm response of his predecessors. "Earlier, weak governments used to send dossiers to Pakistan after terror attacks, but we hit terror ists in their homes" — a reference to India's air strikes on Balakot in 2019. Describing his government's "new India policy of looking an adversary in the eye and speaking the truth rather than resorting to stealth," he has warned of launching cross-border strikes in response to terror attacks or India. He has also ridiculed Pakistan by saying "a supplier of terrorism is now struggling for flour" This makes the outlook

for Pakistan-India relations a troubled one if Modi returns to power. Some may dismiss Modi's Pakistan bashing as election politics, but words have consequences. Moreover, anti-Pakistan and anti-Muslim themes are a part of his and the BJP's deeply held beliefs. This may not pre-

to enable it to rule unhin- incorruptible leadership, around 38 per cent of the the Hindutva agenda is wo-

A lost future

Samia Liaquat Ali Khan

Great

in Pakistan or even the US. The return of Benazir in 1988 had galvanised hope in our breasts — and it was still alive and kicking. Students across every President Bill Clinton's religious denomination government felt fresh and exciting, and his choices for who would join him in his administration showed a genuine desire for inclusivity. Take, for example, his first national security advisor — Anthony 'Tony' Lake. He was one of my college professors, and I remember, when the course ended, thinking to myself that Egyptian descent if there were more like Nemat him in the US adminisprogress tration, the world would

be a better place.

norities' rights has been The hope that made since the turn of globalisation meant carvthe century. More and ing a better future for everyone was propelled by events of the time. women of colour populate what used to be the Watching on TV the 1999 protests against the erners. There was much World Trade celebration when Shafiq was announced Organisation, historically dubbed the 'Battle of Seattle', and studying dent. In the UK, Rishi it later, it became clear Sunak became the first to me that there were prime minister of South 'protesters' on both sides of the barricades. Those on the inside believed they would be able from a traumatised child to bring about better victim of extremist viopolicies by participating lence to a young woman in the process, while those on the outside created the pressure that would achieve global troversy surrounded her, publicity. I read the colshe epitomised struggle umns of the inimitable Robert Fisk, writing on Today, conversely, the Middle East, with as we watch six months awe and delight in the way he clearly understood the view from the other side (our side). The fall of the apartheid government in South Africa

and Nelson Mandela's reconciliation process brought us face to face with what our higher in power today, but who selves could achieve. can predict where one's But this did not destiny lies? Only time will tell.

The 1990s were a different period, espepreclude the darkness

cially for the youth. that was also present. There was heady vic-The Balkan conflict and tory in the air — whether genocide of Muslims, the genocide of the Tutsis by the Hutus in Rwanda — these were hauntingly terrible events that told of existing failures in attitudes by governments and the UN system. Good and evil, present side by side. Yet, in those few brief years, good seemed to be ahead. And then came 9/11, and the world changed forever.

The two decades of the 21st century have been a time where a new world order has been created, one which is far more cynical and insidious than what it was in the last two decades of the 20th century. The 'with us or against us' mantra has led to a decimation of free thinking, dialogue and debate, with compromise and trust losing out against winner takes all. In this taking, a new set of rules was also created. The

fashioning of a global elite, consisting of people like us, bought with offers of money, power, glamour and status. We convinced ourselves that Western democracy models and the global neoliberal capitalist framework were the only ways forward. Will Minouche

Shafiq realise the responsibilities of her position to her own community? Could she be playing out a strategy that brings her public revile, but creates fundamental change from within? Is there a possibility that Malala will realise that her true strength lies not in reliance on Western puppet masters but in finding her own truth, different from what has been created for her? It may lead to her being shunned by those

ter preparedness. Developing countries are using their satellites to track the spread of waterborne diseases and inform irrigation approaches in water-scare regions, as

tract FDI, create new inwell as urban planning. dustries, and motivate Real-time satellite data manufacturing facilities to transfers underpin adupgrade and update. vances in telehealth, rural banking, and virtual education. To be truly inclu- right balance between in- and economic developsive, economies and soci-

of a particular religion to unite and vote against Modi has used toxic anti-Modi. Along with Muslim-Muslim rhetoric throughout

bashing, Pakistan too has been targeted by Modi's in- lead to any significant

clude some form of postelection India-Pakistan retoward

Shadow of the moon

Huma Yusuf

Thanks to my seven-yearuses international satelold child, I have a lites for storm tracking and newfound interest in space agricultural planning, but technology. We followed given how climate-vulnerthe Chang'e-6 mission and able it is, we must invest enjoyed seeing images of in domestic space infrathe moon transmitted by structure to take full ad-Pakistan's first lunar satvantage of the myriad uses ellite. This is a promising of satellite technology at development months after lower cost. But to do this, Pakistan launched its first we have to get our National Space Policy in programme right. December. But can we Writing for Chatham keep up the momentum? House in 2022, Val

For years, I was a Munsami, a former CEO space sceptic, frustrated of the South African Nathat developing countries tional Space Agency, arwould expend precious regued that for a developing sources on space country to make the most programmes when citiof a space programme, it zens' basic needs were needed to consider four barely being met. But times and tech have human capital, an induschanged; space technolotrial base to capitalise on gies are now key to public the sector's commercial welfare. Pakistan's repotential, presence of newed push to manufactechnological infrastructure and deploy domestic international cooperation. Viewed from this angle, our space ambitions seem

precarious. The biggest risk is the paucity of STEM education. Home-grown images of the dark side of the moon and talk of sending the first Pakistani citizen into space can inspire a generation of scientists to drive a domestic space programme, but only if there exists an approprithat values scientific curiosity and a robust educational sector. This we sadly lack. While the space policy acknowledges this gap, hopes to improve the quality and reach of STEM education in Pakistan remain slim.

One argument for de-

This is only true if a

veloping countries invest-

ing in space infrastructure

is that the sector can at-

frastructure and the cost efficiencies of importing increasingly cheap satellites. The continued lack of funding for our space programme (compare Suparco's \$26 million budget for 2023 with the Indian space agency's \$1.5 billion) means the likelihood of getting this balance wrong is high.

Another risk is that the programme becomes highly securitised, with cybersecurity, counter-espionage, surveillance and space defence bec-o--ming priorities over the need to collect data to inform sustainable policy pla-nning. Intentions ma---tter, and Pakis-tan should learn from the Philip-pin--es, elements: availability of which launched a space programme driven by a desire for disaster preparedness after experiencing Typhoon Haiyan in 2013. The space policy ture, and an appetite for must go further in terms of articulating priorities that put the Pakistanis and basic service delivery and sustenance first.

Finally, Pakistan should not miss out on the opportunities for Global South collaboration that space offers. While superpowers continue to lead the space race, developing countries are playing an impressive game of catchup. The African Union, for example, has ranked ate pedagogical culture its space strategy as one of 15 key programmes in its Agenda 2063, and more than 20 national space institutions have been established across the continent in recent years.

Global South space programmes are focused on tech that can support inclusive telecommunications and climate risk management, issues key to Pakistan's success. We should be careful not to put all our satellites in one (Chinese) basket, and instead ensure that the space collaboration is diversified country can strike the as part of holistic foreign vesting in indigenous in- ment policies.

satellites is timely and strategic. Consider me a space convert! The launch of our space policy emphasised

the need for resilient telecommunications and cybersecurity. But satellite technologies offer so many other advantages for developing countries. A 2020 report by London Economics highlighted that space technologies offer cheaper options for

critical data collection required to boost economies and save the environment. Space solutions are now central to managing food security, predicting climate risks, monitoring forest resources and disas-

eties must now look to the stars. Pakistan already

his election campaign. He has called Muslims "infiltrators" and said they "have too cendiary rhetoric. He has movement tow many children" in an effort contrasted his muscular ap- normalisation of ties.

engagement, but it is unlikely in the near term to Daily _ oice of Masse Independent

Tuesday May 14, 2024

CM orders sustainable water drainage system for Lahore

Reviews C&W's road construction, maintenance projects

water

dirty

areas.

Minister

Minister

Senator

Independent Report LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif, during a meeting on local government here on Monday, reviewed the state of drainage and sewerage system besides progress on repair and rehabilitation measures.

The CM said, "No street in Lahore should remain unpaved. A sustainable water drainage system should be devised."

Marvam Nawaz Sharif said that the Water and Sanitation Agency (WASA), Metropolitan Corporation Lahore (MCL) and other bodies concerned should work in close coordination, adding that people cannot bear the inconvenience caused by

standing water in a street. relevant officers were also She said it is painful to see present.

Meanwhile, Punjab and overflowing sewerage in Chief Minister Maryam broken streets and roads. Nawaz Sharif reviewed the 'All institutions should not ongoing road maintenance ignore problems of the and construction projects people," she mentioned. She also reviewed progress carried out Communication and Works on streetlights, parks and (C&W) department, here horticulture in suburban on Monday.

During a meeting with Punjab Minister for Pervaiz Communication and Works Rashid, Senior Provincial Soheb Ahmed Malik, she Marriyum Aurangzeb, Provincial was briefed about the Local maintenance and construction of roads Government Zeeshan Rafique and Special across Punjab.

Assistant Zeeshan Malik The CM was briefed that the work on repair and rehabilitation of 590 roads attended the meeting. Chief Secretary, Chairman P&D, covering a distance of Secretaries, Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner 11500 kilometers across Lahore, DG LDA and other Punjab has been started.



LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif alongwith students addressing the inaugural ceremony of Chief Minister Skills Development

Sindh considers to form 'Dolphin Force' to combat street crimes

Home Minister Ziaul Hassan Lanjar on Monday paid a special visit to the Karachi^{Police} Office to chair a high-level meeting on law and order situation in the metropolis.

Additional IGP Karachi and other senior police officers welcomed the Minister at the KPO. A guard of honor was also presented to him by the police contingent.

KARACHI (APP): Sindh motorcycles for this purpose.

people were shot dead by The Additional IG unknown gunmen on Monday in the village of Karachi informed the meeting that the police are Tarnain Bala in the constantly working to protect Chinese citizens, jurisdiction of Shankiyari police station Mansehra. experts, and other foreigners, and have also sources, unknown gunmen taken on board the relevant stakeholders in this regard.

barged into the house of Fazal Deen and killed him He said that the and his daughter-in-law incidents of motorcycle Ansa Bibi. theft and mobile phone snatching have decreased

MULTAN: Chairman Senate Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani honored Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi with a high tea at Gilani House.

CM Sindh directs local govt to end transition period, hand over powers to local councils

KARACHI (APP): The Sindh Chief Minister Syed PSCM Agha Wasif, Chairman P&D Najam Shah, Secretary Energy Musadiq Khan, SMBNR Baqaullah Unar, Secretary Murad Ali Shah has directed the local Government (LG)Department to complete Livestock Kazim Jatoi, the transition period of local councils, which is still Secretary Local Govt Khalid Hyder Shah, Secretary IT Asif Ikram, in progress so that elected Secretary Excise & Taxation Saleem Rajput, people can serve the people of their areas. He also directed the Secretary Environment Ms

officers.

their areas.

Public Health dept to prepare a scheme under which unfunctional RO could be plants functionalised in the interest of the local people.

He was presiding over a joint meeting of different departments which he convened after holding meetings of party workers in divisional headquarters. Those who attended the meeting include Minister Education Syed Sardar Shah, Chief

Ramadan.

this, the CM directed the local government Secretary to complete the transition at once and hand over powers to the elected representatives so that they could serve their people.

Murad Shah said that he had also received numerous complaints during the meeting against Nabila Umar, Secretary the non-functioning of the Mines & Mineral Tahir RO plants installed in various villages. At this, Secretary PHE Sohail Qureshi told the CM that Sangi and other concerned The CM said that during his meeting with the elected representatives of local councils in the divisional headquarters, he was told that the transition period was in progress in Local Secretary

Government Khalid Hyder Shah said that some local bodies have not completed Secretary Asif Hyder Shah, their transition work. At

100,000 people avail free health facilities under Sehat Card: Minister

citizens

Independent Report PESHAWAR: Khyber He appreciated the Pakhtunkhwa Minister for Chief Minister Ali Amin Health Syed Qasim Ali Gandapur for reviving the Shah on Monday said that health card soon after coming to power and termed it a gift to the so far 100,000 people of the province have availed free health facilities under deserving people of the Sehat health card initiative province. since the month of The Minister said

that a review was going on to check the quality of In a release issued here, he said that the registered hospitals on the treatment was provided to health card panel so that the citizens of KP admitted quality health services

in March he repaired and functionalised 140 RO plants in various districts such as 26 in the villages of Badin, seven in Sujawal, 10 in Matiari, three in Jamshoro, Dadu, eight in Karachi, nine ın

Mirpurkhas, 10 in Tharparkar and 10 in Tando Allahyar villages and others

PFA cracks down on fake beverages, seizes 1,100 Liters

ATTOCK (APP): The Punjab Food Authority (PFA) has seized a staggering 1,100 liters of counterfeit carbonated and fizzy drinks during a successful raid in the Jehri Kass area near Hassanabdal, Monday.

According to PFA spokesperson, the PFA's enforcement team led by Assistant Food Safety while starting debate on the ransom. If the government Officer Muhammad Zahid budget on Monday said has made this transaction,



PESHAWAR (APP): A ups of these departments Pakhtunkhwa Sardar Ali Amin Khan Gandapur in the chair regarding preparation of draft Annual Development Program (ADP), for the financial year 2024-25.

ational

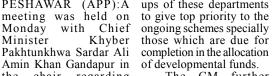
ews

During the meeting, the discussion was made on proposed projects of Irrigation, Public Health Engineering and Road sectors to be reflected in

the upcoming ADP. Besides Provincial Minister for Irrigation Aqib Ullah Khan, Minister for Public Health Engineering, Pakhtunyar Khan, Minister for Communications & Works. Shakeel Khan and Advisor to Chief Minister on Information Barrister Muhammad Ali Saif, the meeting was also attended administrative bv secretaries and other high ups of the concerned

departments. A detailed briefing was also given in the meeting about the on-going and proposed projects of these departments that will be included in the ADP

2024-25 While issuing policy directives about new ADP, the CM directed the high



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The CM further directed them not to propose such scheme for the ADP which could not be completed within the stipulated time period. He added that only such schemes be reflected in the ADP which are feasible in all respects.

The chief minister made it clear that quality of work in developmental schemes would not be compromised at any cost. Sardar Ali Amin Gandapur directed the high ups of Public Health Engineering Department to come up with proposal of water filtration plants to ensure the supply of clean drinking water to the citizens of provincial control performance capital Peshawar.

He added that special attention should be focused on the provision of clean drinking water to the people of southern districts of the province.

He also directed the high ups of PHE department to initiate strict actions against those reportedly involved in selling drinking water from government tube wells.



KARACHI: Scholar Professor Dr. Ahmed Rafique meeting with Sindh Governor Kamran Khan Tessori at Governor House.

Opposition in PA slams government over worsen situation in KP

PESHAWAR (APP): The judge is being kidnaped. opposition leader in According to media Khyber Pakhtunkhwa reports, a transaction was Assembly, Dr Ibadullah, made for payment of

be safe.

and target the poor people,

peace and order from the

government, said Dr Ibad.

he is paying extortion so

how the other people will

been looted in the name of

health card is there any

audit of the billions of

rupees that have been

spent on it, said leader of

The Chief Minister

The province has

Father and daughter-in-law murdered by unknown gunman

MANSEHRA (APP): Two

According to police

Shankiyari police

The

istered a case of double

The Home Minister Sindh chaired a high-level effective policing and meeting on the law and order situation in the city criminals and issued further necessary instructions after a detailed briefing on various aspects.

Additional IG Karachi Imran Yaqub Minhas presented a briefing on the also injured. measures being taken to curb street crimes including theft, robbery, and drug on the measures being trafficking, and suggested taken to curb street crimes the formation of a Dolphin including the formation of Force similar to the Punjab a Dolphin Force and Police to combat street requested the provision of necessary He crimes. also including motorcycles and recommended the 1800 provision of vehicles.

KARACHI: Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Sindh President, Haleem Adil Sheikh talking to media persons during press conference after case hearing, at Sindh High Court premises in Karachi.

Minister directs to submit proposals for new schemes

duration

budget.

and

Das

completion.

HYDERABAD (APP): Sindh Irrigation Minister Jam Khan Shoro on Monday reiterated the Sindh government's and prioritization of new commitment to the schemes for the upcoming development of the irrigation and drainage systems in the province.

Chairing a meeting at the office of Sindh Irrigation and Drainage the Authority (SIDA) here, Shoro asked the officials to expedite the completion of the ongoing development projects.

He acknowledged that the current pace of those projects appeared sluggish.

The minister asked the officials to notify him budgetary if anv constraints were hindering the progress of the project so that he could try to secure the release of the allocated funds.

Shoro suggested to arising from outdated the authorities to close all projects due to the allocation on the basis of such projects which had exceeded the 5-year the old rates.

significantly due to murder against unknown people and started an constant action against investigation. The family of the He mentioned that

resources

without

He emphasized the

The minister said the

need for the preparation

and prioritization of new

fiscal year's provincial

deceased have refrained four of our employees were from accusing any specific martyred in the attack on individual in their murder the KPO, while several filing. case police personnel and law postmortem report enforcement officials were revealed that Fazal Deen sustained three gunshot The Additional IGP wounds, while Ansa Bibi Karachi briefed the meeting

received two. Following the completion of medico-legal formalities, Shankiyari police handed over the bodies to their heirs.

Later, the funeral prayers for both victims were offered in the village of Tarnain Bala.

718 more meters disconnected

on gas theft AHORE (APP): The Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Limited (SNGPL) disconnected connections during its on going crackdown against gas pilferers in Punjab. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Islamabad, imposing Rs 24

million fine. According to a spokesman for the SNGPL, in Lahore and possible. Sheikhupura, regional teams disconnected 549 connections on illegal use meeting of gas and imposed a fine of Rs 19.6 million against

the annual budget, he said gas pilferers and also that annual development lodged 21 FIRs. programme has been In Multan framed while keeping in and Bahawalpur, view the opinion of the 139 people. Besides, Secretary connections were Local Government & Rural disconnected on illegal use besides imposing Rs 3 million fine.In Peshawar, Development, Dawood Khan, other authorities the company disconnected concerned also attended 28 connections on account

the meeting. provincial The

to different hospitals of the country and the province, adding that so far 2.7 billion rupees had been spent on the treatment of these

could be ensured on Sehat card. Shah noted that the health card had also helped improve the services of government hospitals.

LAHORE: A delegation led by Director Development British High **Commission Jo Moir meeting with Senior Provincial Minister Marriyum** Aurangzaib.

Minister directs for early completion of beautification projets

Independent Report minister directed the PESHÂWAR: Khyber inclusion of digitization Pakhtunkhwa Minister for projects of the local Local Government & Rural government sector in the Development, Arshad annual budget to bring Ayub Khan Monday said transparency in the that all incomplete governance. He said that all beautification projects to possible relief would be be completed as soon as provided to the people in the upcoming annual

budget. He said that schemes women Presiding over a regarding development schemes in including women development centre, parks, footpaths and construction of roads are being included in the budget to provide best facilities to the people of the district Haripur. Similar, schemes in

various sectors he said are also being included in the annual budget to benefit the maximum number of the people.

collaborated with the local

that there is confusion then it is supporting the regarding the budget as the terrorists to buy weapons chief minister is saying that there is no fund in the then how can we expect province while the Finance Advisor is claiming that the budget is surplus. Dr Ibadullah said that himself has confessed that

the province has been destroyed from all aspect which is financially or law and order. He said that the constituency of chief minister has been declared no go area.

Dr Ibad raised question that police have stations been established in public property and rented buildings at merged districts so where is the Rs1000 billion in the context of the war on terror gone.

have information that thousands of bogus registrations have been done in the health card, people are being treated in private hospitals, 148 appendix surgeries have He said that the been done in my village, situation has reached such although the easiest

the opposition.

a point that the session surgery is for appendix.



HYDERABAD: Sindh Minister for information, Transport & Mass Transport Sharjeel Inam Memon address to media persons at press club.

UAE delegation, Red crescent society inaugurate upgradation of Women hospital larkana

Independent Report ARKANA: Delegation of United Arab Emirates and Red Crescent Society arrived and inaugurated Sheikh Zayed Women Hospital for Upgradation here on Monday at Sheikh Zayed Women's Hospital Larkana. The delegation was welcomed by the Vice Chancellor of Shaheed Benazir Mohtarma Medical University Dr Nusrat Shah and Prof Dr Shahida Magsi.

According to the details, UAE Consulate-General H.E Dr Bakheet Unit I of Sheikh Zayed Women Hospital, later, the Ateeg Al Romaithi, Red United Arab Emirates Crescent Society Secretary General H.E Rashid delegation along with Vice Chancellor Dr Nusrat Shah Mubarak Al Mansoori,

told the press briefing that Secretary General Development Sheikh Zayed Hospital and International Cooperation built with the support of H.E Fahad Abdul Rahman bin Sultan, H.E Hamad Bakheet Al Romaithi,, Director Relief and Disaster H.E Obaid Al Balushi, Saeed Al Mazroi, Vice Chancellor Professor Dr Nusrat Shah, Secretary Health Sindh Rehan Iqbal Baloch inaugurated the upgradation of Sheikh Zayed Hospital. The delegation was briefed by Professor Dr Shahida Magsi, Head of

United Arab Emirates, and the hospital has been upgraded to match modern requirements, including 200 modern beds, eight operation theatres. upgraded wards with modern anesthesia machinery and roof treatment throughout the hospital, on this occasion, the delegation of the United Arab Emirates also announced that the hospital will soon be equipped with a modern ICU and blood bank, Director Health Services Dr Abdul Sattar Sheikh, MS Dr Mubasher Kolachi.

of illegal use of gas. schemes for the rehab of flood-hit PROVIDENTA GEOGRAPHY HEASTICANE infrastructure, drainage, and Indus River's dykes BEPARTMENT should be separately included in the new proposals. Irrigation Department Secretary Zarif Iqbal Khero reported on the review of longstanding projects in various regions, resulting in their closure and subsequent notification to the Planning Development Department. The SIDA's Managing Director Pritam highlighted implementation challenges

LAHORE: Provincial Minister for Health Khawaja Salman Rafique presides over the 2nd meeting of Health Insurance working group Sub Committee.

2 women killed in road accidents

FAISALABAD (APP) Two women were killed in different road accidents in Faisalabad during the past 12 hours.

A Rescue 1122 spokesman said here on Tuesday that a speeding car lost control at Chak Jhumra Expressway and fell down from the road near Sikandar Pur Old Bridge.

As a result, Rameen (25) daughter of Touqeer of Amir Town Gattwala received serious injuries and died on the spot.

police to intercept a pickup truck transporting the illicit beverages.

Daily soice of Masse, **Independent** Tuesday May 14, 2024

PM orders developing mobile phone App for fair wheat procurement; censures delay

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Monday directed the authorities concerned to develop a mobile phone application to ensure transparent procurement of wheat and ordered the procurement. suspension of two senior officers of PASSCO over their negligence in this regard.

The prime minister, organization to procure chairing a high-level an additional 400,000 meeting to review the demand and supply and procurement of wheat by the federal government. ordered the suspension of the Managing Director of

Storage and Services resolved to take all-out Corporation (PASSCO) measures for their and Meneral manager Procurement for their failure to implement the country. earlier directives of utilising He assured that the the technology in the wheat

the outstanding PASSCO Calling for crops' centers and officers insurance and a third-party during the procurement audit of PASSCO's stock, process.

he instructed the metric tonnes of wheat through a transparent

The prime minister said the government would not tolerate any economic senior officers attended the Pakistan Agricultural loss to the farmers and meeting.

prosperity and bringing food security in the government would reward

Federal cabine members Muhammad Aurangzeb, Rana Tanveer Hussain, Ahad Khan Cheema, Jam Kamal Khan

Shaza Fatima Khawaja Coordinator to PM Rana Ehsan Afzal and relevant



LAHORE: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a meeting regarding wheat stocks.

Jam reiterates commitment to policy of business facilitation, export diversification

KARACHI (APP): The connectivity, and diversify Commerce exports for ensuring am Kamal sustainable growth and Federal Minister, Jam Kamal Khan, reiterating the stabilizing the economy. government's commitment Jam Kamal said that to policy of facilitating trade and industry and export diversification on Monday, said that measures were being devised to promote local as well as export-oriented industries.

The

commerce minister, while addressing a media briefing here at the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan in Pakistan. (TDAP), said that the

incumbent government was determined to bring institutional and structural reforms, resolve issues about energy and tariffs, regional ministries and stakeholders

he stated and informed that Prime Minister Shehbaz special committee on Sharif has conducted energy pricing mechanism several meetings with was instructed by the PM relevant ministries and to submit stakeholders to deliberate recommendations after due upon a range of issues so consultation with business community within ten days. Highlighting the

export diversification the minister said that positive results have been achieved Meanwhile, different from the Food and Agriculture exhibition,

TDAP's 'Pakistan Trade Portal', and other such steps, and the export



Flour prices decreasing cross the country, easing

Maryam to establish Punjab's first plug and play garment city

Page

06

facilities like weaving

dyeing and other related units will be established in

the Garment City." It was

will be energized with

cities will be established in

other areas gradually, after

the success of first garment

city pilot project. Senator

Chaudhry Shafey Hussain

Commissioner, Principal

Secretaries,

Moreover, garment

energy

green/solar

systems.

Independent Report AHORE: "All facilities will be available in the first plug and play Garment City," said Punjab Chief also briefed that the Minister Maryam Nawaz proposed Garment City Sharif while chairing a special meeting to decide on the establishment of Punjab's first plug and play garment city. She added,"Organize technical training of workers of the garment industry."

OMMERCENEWS

Pervaiz Rashid, Provincial Chief Madam Minister directed the Information & Culture Minister Azma Zahid authorities concerned to solicit expressions of Bukhari, Provincial interest from major apparel Minister for Industries industries for the Garment City, and formed a high-level committee led by and MPA Sania Ashiq attended the meeting. Minister for Industries Chief Secretary, Chairman Chaudhry Shafey Hussain P&D. for the purpose. Earlier, Madam Chief



KARACHI: Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan addressing to media persons at Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP).

PCJCCI, FTO hold awareness session on redress of taxpayers complaints

LAHORE (INP): The Pakistan China Joint Chamber of Commerce and (PCJCCI) Industry organized an awareness session for "Outreach programmes with respect to Role and functions of FTO (Federal Tax Ombudsman) office on account of redress of complaints of taxpayers against FBR" here at the PCJCCI Secretariat on

The speakers for the Complaints of tax event were Dr. Ahmed malfeasance are dealt

Adeela Rehman, Advisor FTO, briefed that Federal Tax Ombudsman is working tirelessly for the improvement of tax services and systems in the country. She said that the main purpose of FTO is to redress the injustice done to taxpayers by FBR, Revenue Division and Government of Pakistan. "We try our level best to deal and resolve the complaints within 45 days.

FPCCI demands immediate reopening of **Chaman border: Atif** Independent Report interaction between KARACHI: Mr. Atif Pakistan and Afghanistan,

Thousands of trucks stranded

process.

Ikram Sheikh, President FPCCI, has apprised that the Chaman border has been closed once again for the past one week; and, thousands of trucks and other vehicles have been stuck under vulnerable. uncertain and hostile circumstances. It is complete chaos once again on the important and indispensable trade route between Pakistan and

Mandokhail.

Afghanistan, he added. Mr. Atif Ikram henceforth, Sheikh. demanded that Chaman border should be opened added that this has become immediately to alleviate the a routine occurrence; sufferings and financial whereas, small mobs, losses of the traders – and, smugglers and outlaws

particularly as a hub for cross-border trade between against 73,085.50 points the two neighboring countries FPCCI

QUETTA: A delegation of Chaman Chamber of Commerce led by Haji Jamalud

Din Achakzai meeting with Balochistan Governor Sheikh Jaffar Khan

Chief maintained that this kind of blockages over and over again over the past five years has eroded the government's authority resulting in precarious law & order situation in the border area. Ironically, law & order in that area is an

utmost necessity for being a difficult terrain, trade route and border crossing. Mr. Atif Ikram Sheikh

713 points ISLAMABAD (APP) The 100-Index of the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) witnessed bullish trend on Monday, gaining 713.61 points, a positive change of 0.98 percent, closing at 73,799.11 points

PSX stays

bullish, gains

the previous trading day. A total of 721,597,885 shares valuing Rs 25.649 billion were traded during the day as compared to 741,196,400 shares valuing Rs 25.268 billion the last day.

Some 387 companies transacted their shares in the stock market; 241 of them recorded gains and 120 sustained losses, whereas the prices of 26 remained unchanged.

The three top trading companies were Cnergyico PK with 64,224,241 shares at Rs 4.74 per share

that a comprehensive strategy could be framed to do away with all the initiatives for promoting challenges being faced by the business and industry high-level committees were also formed to look into

matters like energy pricing, governance reforms, promoting coordination among all relevant

volume of food and agriculture sectors has surged exponentially Gold rates dip by Rs 1,200

per tola ISLAMABAD (APP) The per tola price of 24

and coherence in policies

and initiatives in detail and recommend solutions to

the confronting challenges,

its

karat gold decreased by Rs 1,200 and was sold at Rs 242,300 on Monday compared to its sale at Rs 243,500 on last trading

The price of 10 grams of 24 karat gold also decreased by Rs 943 to Rs 207,733 from Rs 208,762 whereas the prices of 10 gram 22 karat gold went down to Rs 190,422 from Shahab, Advisor, Adeela through prompt, fair, Rs 191,365, the All Sindh Rehman, Advisor FTO and impartial and independent

Jeweller

Monday

entrepreneurs.

allow essential supplies like food and medicines to get through the border. It is a humanitarian and socioeconomic crisis as well, he added.

Mr. Atif Ikram Sheikh explained that Chaman border nestled in the heart of the region's complex geopolitical landscape: ensure the smooth flow of goods and services in the and, has long been a significant point of region.

WorldCall Telecom with frequently close the border area - disrespecting law of the land and inflicting immense losses to the lawabiding traders of both the sides. This situation highlights the challenges faced by the government in maintaining control and writ of the government to

51,639,862 shares at Rs 1.48 per share and Hum Network with 29,028,603 shares at Rs 9.82 per share. Sapphire Fibres Limited witnessed an increase of Rs 63.04 per

share price closing at Rs 1,463.04, whereas the runner-up was Service Industries Limited with Rs 56.35 decline to close at Rs 834.83

QUETTA: People selecting and purchasing waste coat along roadside vendor stall.

Rs 12b being utilized **Ongoing wheat** for converting tube wells to solar energy: Sahoo

energy.

LAHORE (APP): Punjab would provide data Agriculture Secretary regarding cultivation of Iftikhar Ali Sahoo on crops. Apart from this, the Monday said that the Irrigation department hefty amount of Rs 12 would also provide billion was being utilized for converting electricity depth of underground operated tube wells to water. solar energy.

He said this while that districts with deep presiding over the meeting water availability would which reviewed the not be included in the progress of the project to scheme. Only suitable transfer agricultural tube wells to solar system under the "Transforming Punjab Agriculture Program", here.

He said that conversion of agricultural He that tube wells operated through electricity to solar energy in Punjab would help reduce electricity costs.

Iftikhar Ali Šahoo said that the departments of Energy department would Energy, Irrigation, Water Management and of companies providing Agriculture Extension were solar systems and playing an active role for companies with good the transfer of tube wells to solar system. He further said that the Agriculture department (Extension) he added.

(APP): would also provide information about the

procurement process. The Secretary said He also met with farmers at Center and enquired about the services for them. According to the district administration, the water tube wells for AC also met with members irrigation would be transferred to solar system, he said and added of the wheat purchasing committee and discussed various relevant issues to that Water Management complete the process department would conduct smoothly. laser land leveling of the lands irrigated by tube He also checked the

quality of the commodity and instructed the staff wells powered by solar that the entire process Apart from this, the should be performed in a transparent and quality carry out pre-qualification manner

He said efforts should be made to facilitate the farmers in line with the directives of the provincial government and in this regard, no negligence would be tolerated

burden on consumers

ISLAMABAD (APP): The flour prices across the country, including the twin cities of Islamabad and and Rawalpindi have witnessed a notable decline in recent weeks, offering relief to consumers.

According to official documents of Ministry of Food Security and Research, the cost of a 20 kg bag of flour has dropped significantly in various cities.

In Islamabad, for instance, the price has plummeted by an impressive Rs 850 within just one month.

Last month, residents of the capital were paying around Rs 3,000 for the same quantity, but now they can purchase it for as low as Rs 2,053, with the maximum price capped at Rs 2,133. Similarly, in Rawalpindi, the cost has reduced from an average of Rs 2,960 to a minimum of this trend, as flour Rs 2,053. A citizen namely continues to be relatively Maaz Ullah Khan resident expensive.

Association reported. The price of per tola of G-9 Islamabad while and ten gram silver talking APP on Monday remained constant at Rs

Sarafa

said that the prices of floor 2,650 and Rs 2,271.94 other related respectively. commodities were The price of gold in significantly decreased in the city and the residents the international market decreased by \$10 to took a sigh of relief as earlier the prices of essential food \$2,349 from \$2,359, the Association. items were increased during last few months.

However, Karachi

was

remained an exception to

Every former govt

government

direction

most.'

With the practical measures of the incumbent

government, the frustration

(INP):

and

M e a n w h i l e , Gujranwala, Lahore, and Sargodha have also International **Cattle Festival** experienced substantial decreases in flour prices. In on May 30-31 Gujranwala, the average price of a 20 kg bag has dropped to Rs 1,860 from Rs 2,800 last month. FAISALABAD (APP): University Agriculture Faisalabad

(UAF) in collaboration Lahore residents are with International Goat now paying around Rs & Bull Association will 1,900 compared to the previous price of Rs 2,800, organize the 26th International Cattle while in Sargodha district Festival 2024 here on has also seen a decrease, May 30-31. with the average price now standing at Rs 2,000.

the association said here on Tuesday that various animal competitions would be arranged in the festival including heavy goat, beautiful goat, heavy camel, heavy ram, beautiful camel and milk production. The owners of position holder animals would be awarded trophies and cash prizes from

The competitions would be arranged in Tent-Pigging Ground UAF and in this connection all necessary arrangements are being

prioritizing investment during a period of significant economic damage, he added. Rs.15,000 to Rs.700,000. Mian Zahid Hussain said that majority of the

business community still thinks that improvements are still possible, which calls for actions in the right finalized, he added.

A spokesman for

been energized, according to a statement issued by NTDC. This project was part of a power transmission capacity enhancement program to improve the capacity of

Nazım Raza, Director investigation," she added FTO. The session was attracted by huge interest from diverse stakeholders

Dr Ahmed Shahab, Advisor Federal Tax (FTO) Ombudsman shared that it is the need of comprising representation the hour to get the country from companies and young out of this economic crisis.

QUETTA: A vendor displaying Matkas at road side in Quetta as it common in summer to keep water cold.

NTDC adds 250 MVA auto-transformer at 220kV Grid Station Rohri

ISLAMABAD (APP): The project Delivery network. This work has been completed under the (South) team of National National Transmission Transmission Modernization Project and (NTMP-I), funded by the World Bank and NTDC's Despatch Company Limited (NTDC) has successfully added another own resources. The 220/132kV, 250 MVA autocompletion of this component of NTMP-I transformer (T-4) and 220 kV half Dia D-4 & 132kV will benefit the domestic, transformer bay E-13 at agricultural, and industrial 220kV Grid Station Rohri. consumers of the SEPCO The auto-transformer region, it further said. after installation has also

This addition of an auto-transformer will improve the loading capacity of 220 kV grid station Rohri and provide relief to the areas under the SEPCO region.

The enhanced the NTDC transmission capacity of grid station

of the business community, stock market, IMF, and friendly countries was decreasing, he observed. The business leader said, "We should take advantage of Saudi investors' commendable interest in Pakistan. Saudi investors want to invest in their favorite sectors, but it is our policymakers' job to attract them to the sectors that Pakistan needs

> PESHAWAR: Farmers busy in threshing wheat crop in their field at Ingilab Road.

He said that the Saudi Crown Prince was also upset with Pakistan's red tape obstacles and has expressed this at the However, the current highest level.

prioritized loans, aid procurement over investment: Mian process inspected KARACHI DERA ISMAIL KHAN Chairman of National Business Group Pakistan, President Pakistan Assistant C o m m i s s i o n e r Muhammad Faseeh Ishaq

Businessmen Intellectuals Forum, and Abbasi on Monday visited the Provincial Reserve All Karachi Industrial Alliance, as well as former Center (PRC) of the food provincial minister Mian department and inspected Zahid Hussain has said that the ongoing wheat every former government in Pakistan has prioritized loans and aid over investment.

Talking to business community on Monday, he said that the entire nation was suffering due to wrong priorities of the policymakers and now the country cannot survive without begging. Mian Zahid Hussain

said that every former government has always relied on tall claims instead of practical work which led the country to the prevailing circumstances.

He said that most of the world's countries consider Pakistan a beggar, while creditors were also tightening their terms due to negative perception.

Daily Noice of Masse

International News

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suspending traffic through

evacuation order for east-

ern Rafah, after 300,000 people had fled the city ear-

lier this week. "We don't know where to go," said Farid Abu

Eida, who was preparing to

leave Rafah, having already

been displaced there from

Residents piled water

Israel expanded an

Turkey's Erdogan says US, Europe not doing enough to pressure Israel into Gaza truce

Monitoring Desk ANKARA: Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan said on Sunday that the United States and European countries were not doing enough to pressure Israel to agree a ceasefire in Gaza, after Palestinian militant group Hamas' move to accept a truce proposal. Turkey has denounced Israel's attacks on Gaza, called for an immediate ceasefire, and criticised what it calls unconditional support for Israel by the West.

Ankara has halted all trade with Israel and said it had decided to join South Africa's initiative to have Israel tried for genocide at the International Court of Justice (ICJ).

Speaking to Muslim scholars in Istanbul, Erdogan said Hamas had accepted a ceasefire pro-

posal by Qatar and Egypt aid into Gaza, a Turkish in a "step in the path tosecurity source said. ward a lasting ceasefire", but

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's governder increasing scrutiny in ment did not want the war recent weeks, as the civilto end. "The response of ian death toll and devastathe Netanyahu government tion in the enclave mount. was to attack the innocent Its planned assault on Rafah, hosting some 1.4 million Palestinians mostly people in Rafah," he said, referring to the Gazan city that Israel is targeting. "It displaced in the war, has has become clear who sides helped fuel the deepest tenwith peace and dialogue, and sions in relations between who wants clashes continu-Israel and its main ally ing and more bloodshed. Washington in generations "And did Netanyahu Ankara on Friday

welcomed the United Nasee any serious reaction for his spoiled behaviour? No. tions General Assembly's Neither Europe nor backing for a Palestinian bid America showed a reaction to become a full UN memthat would force Israel into ber. Erdogan on Sunday a ceasefire." Erdogan's incalled on countries not telligence chief Ibrahim recognising a Palestinian sovereign state to do so after the vote, but slammed Washington and others who the access of humanitarian voted against.

Israel's military conduct in Gaza has come un-

> Nominee for the post of Russia's Defence Minister Andrei Belousov attends a hearing held by the defence and security committee of the parliament's upper house Federation Council as part of a confirmation process for a new government line-up, in Moscow, Russia. Indonesia floods, landslides

kill 34, 16 missing pours swept ash and large **Monitoring Desk** rocks down Mount TANAH DATAR: At least 34 people were killed and 16 more were Marapi "I heard the thunder missing in western Indoand the sound similar to

nesia after flash floods boiling water. It was the sound of big rocks falland cold lava flow from one of the archipelago's ing," housewife Rina Devina said, adding that most active volcanos damaged homes, roads three of her neighbours and mosques, officials were killed. said on Sunday.

so I used my cellphone as a flashlight. The road was muddy, so I chanted 'God, have mercy!' over and over again," she said Hours of heavy rain caused flooding in Agam and Tanah Datar districts in West Sumatra province on Saturday evening, threatening thousands of

27 killed in renewed clashes in Sudan: UN

Monitoring Desk PORT SUDAN: Clashes reignited between the Sudanese army and rival paramilitaries earlier this week in the key Darfur town of El-Fasher, the United Nations said on Sunday, killing at least 27

people in one day. Eyewitnesses have reported air strikes, artillery fire and machine gun clashes battering the city since Friday, when an hours-long battle left an estimated 850 people displaced, according to the UN. It also killed at least 27 that day, based on what the UN said were "unconfirmed reports", as the city suffers a near-total

communications blackout, with medics and human rights defenders barely able

"It was pitch black,

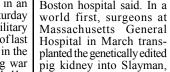
The fighting has since continued, eyewitnesses said on Sunday, reporting air strikes and artillery shelling that left "houses on fire", one resident said. According to French medical charity Doctors Without Borders (MSF), two children and a caregiver were killed in an intensive care unit Saturday following a nearby military

air strike. Since April of last year, Sudan has been in the grips of a devastating war between the army, headed by the country's de facto leader Abdel Fattah al-Burhan.



patient to receive a geneti-cally modified pig kidney transplant died, two months to get news to the world. after the procedure, the US hospital that carried it out said. "Mass General is deeply saddened at the sud-

den passing of Mr Rick Slayman. We have no indication that it was the result of his recent transplant," the



who was 62 years old at the time and suffering from endstage kidney disease

Joost Klein

expelled as

Eurovision

braces for

protests

Monitoring Desk

ences to the deadly

Hamas attack on Oct.

Art group employs

brainwaves, AI

to recreate

landscapes

Monitoring Desk

PARIS: The hypercolour image of a dark hill and lava

but its high-tech artificial

intelligence origins make it

the brainwaves of one

member of French art col-

lective Obvious, collected

It is the product of

flow is pretty enough -

that triggered the war.

Israel strikes Gaza after fresh Rafah evacuation order

another.

Monitoring Desk

RAFAH: Israeli forces continued to conduct air strikes on Gaza on Sunday after it expanded an evacuation order for Rafah, with the United Nations warning an outright invasion of the crowded southern city risked an "epic" disaster.

Gaza's civil defence agency said two doctors were killed on Sunday in the central town of Deir al-Balah amid heavy gun-

with Egypt on Saturday and

smoke was seen rising over

Israeli troops defied

In line with Russian

law, the entire Russian Cabi-net resigned Tuesday fol-lowing Putin's glittering in-

auguration in the Kremlin, and most members have

been widely expected to keep their jobs, while Shoigu's fate had appeared uncertain. Putin signed a

ing Shoigu as secretary of

Russia's Security Council, the Kremlin said. The ap-

shortly after Putin pro-

become the country's de-

fense minister in place of

Shoigu. The announcement

of Shoigu's new role came

ters

the city.

office.

Seven killed

in attack on

Russian flats

Monitoring Desk

MOSCOW: At least seven

people were killed and 17

injured when a whole sec-

tion of an apartment build-

ing in Belgorod collapsed

after being hit by a missile

fired by Ukraine, Russian officials said.

attacks to date on the re-

gion of Belgorod, Ukraine

launched what Russian of-

ficials said was a massive

missile attack with Tochka

ballistic missiles and Adler

and RM-70 Vampire

(MLRS) multiple launch

rocket systems.

In one of the deadliest

tanks, mattresses and other belongings onto vehicles and prepared to flee again. fire from Israeli helicop-'There is no place left Witnesses said Israel in Gaza that is safe or not had carried out strikes in Rafah near the crossing

Gaza City.

overcrowded... There's nowhere we can go." Residents were told to go to the 'humanitarian zone" of Al-Mawasi, on the coast northwest of Rafah.

international opposition International outrage and entered eastern areas of mounted at Israel's operathe city, effectively shutting a key aid crossing and tions in Rafah

Putin replaces Shoigu as Russia's defence minister in cabinet shakeup **Monitoring Desk**

in Russia's border city of MOSCOW: Russian Presi-Belgorod, where a 10-story apartment building pardent Vladimir Putin on Sunday replaced Sergei Shoigu tially collapsed after what as defense minister in a Cabi-net shakeup that comes as he begins his fifth term in Russian officials said was Ukrainian shelling. Ukraine hasn't commented on the incident.

> Belousov's candidacy will need to be approved by Russia's upper house in parliament, the Federation Council.

It reported Sunday that Putin introduced proposals for other Cabinet positions as well but Shoigu is the only minister on that list who is being replaced.

decree on Sunday appoint-Several other new candidates for federal ministers were proposed Saturday by Prime Minister Mikhail pointment was announced Mishustin, reappointed by Putin on Friday. posed Andrei Belousov to

Shoigu's deputy, Timur Ivanov, was arrested last month on bribery charges and was ordered to remain in custody pending as 13 people were reported remain in custody pendi dead and 20 more wounded an official investigation.

Blinken delivers some of the strongest US public criticism of Israel's conduct of the war in Gaza

Monitoring Desk tial success" but risks "ter-

Police officers detain a demonstrator during a protest against a bill on "foreign agents" in Tbilisi, Georgia.

India inks 10-year deal to operate Iran's **Chabahar port**

Monitoring Desk NEW DELHI: India signed a 10-year contract with Iran on Monday to develop and operate the Iranian port of Chabahar, the Narendra Modi-led government said, strengthening relations with a strategic

Middle Eastern nation. India has been developing the port in Chabahar seeking to develop on Iran's south-eastern Chabahar port as much as

tries." India's Shipping Minister Sarbananda Sonowal said in Tehran, after the signing of the agreement.

. "This linkage has unlocked new avenues for trade and fortified supply chain resilience across the region.

"Iran and India are possible, taking into acinjuries, Governor count the interests of the Vyacheslav Gladkov wrote two countries for joint acon the Telegram messaging cess to regional markets. On Sunday, 15 people This "long-term conwere killed in Belgorod tract symbolises the enwhen a section of an apartduring trust and effective ment block collapsed after partnership between In-dia and Iran," he added. being struck by fragments of a Soviet-era missile. The long-term deal was launched by Ukraine and signed between Indian shot down by Russian Ports Global Limited forces, Russia said. (IPGL) and the Port & The Russian defence Maritime Organisation of

Russia says it downs 16 Ukraine-launched missiles, 31 drones

Monitoring Desk MOSCOW: The Russian defence ministry said on Monday its air defence systems destroyed 16 missiles and 31 drones that Ukraine launched at Russian terri-

tory overnight, including 12 missiles over the battered border region of Belgorod. Five houses were damaged in Belgorod, but according to preliminary



coast along the Gulf of Oman as a way to transport goods to Iran, Afghanistan and central Asian countries, bypassing the ports the Indian minister said. of Karachi and Gwadar.

US sanctions on Iran, however, slowed the port's development.

"Chabahar Port's significance transcends its role as a mere conduit between India and Iran; it serves as a vital trade artery connecting India with Afghanistan and Central Asian Coun- Iran.

Thousands of pro-Palestinian protesters rally in Madrid

anniversary of what Pal-

estinians call the "Nakba"

("catastrophe"), when

760,000 people fled their

homes during the 1948

war that accompanied

have set up peaceful sit-

ins and camps at univer-

sities in Madrid, Barcelona and Valencia in

recent days, mirroring

similar pro-Palestinian

across the United States

pressed willingness to sus-

pend ties with any Israeli

educational institution that

Israel's harshest critics in

Earlier this week

Spain is one of

movements

Spanish students

Israel's creation.

campus

state.

and Europe.

Monitoring Desk MADRID: Thousands of pro-Palestinian demonstrators marched through Madrid on Saturday to demand a ceasefire in war-torn Gaza and a severing of ties between Spain and Israel.

Numbering around 4,000 according to the authorities, protesters held up banners and signs condemning a "genocide" in Gaza and lauding the "resistance" of the Palestinian people.

Palestinians have been "crammed" in southern Gaza and "now they Spanish universities exare displaced again from one place to another while there are no more safe places", said 57-yearold Ĵaldia Abubakra, refailed to express "a clear ferring to Israeli evacuacommitment to peace". tion orders in the city of Rafah.

Around 30 Europe and leading efforts organisations called for to recognise a Palestinian the rally before the 76th

ministry said on Monday the 12 guided missiles were launched from a Ukrainian Vilkha multiple rocket

Canada wildfire prompts thousands

launcher.

to evacuate

Monitoring Desk FORONTO: The season's first major wildfire continued to burn across Western Canada as firefighters tamed the fast-spreading

Monitoring Desk BRUSSELS: The European blaze while authorities evacuated a town in British Union has drawn up Columbia and advised resipledges of long-term security support for Ukraine, dents of an oil hub in assuring Kyiv of more Alberta to prepare to leave. weapons, military training Alberta said the wildfire was extreme and out of and other aid for years to control, located 16 km come, according to a draft (9.94 miles) southwest of

document The draft, first re-Fort McMurray and spread across 1,992 hectares ported by Germany's Welt (4922.34 acres) of land am Sonntag newspaper over nearly double what was rethe weekend, sets out EU ported earlier. In British security commitments to Columbia, thousands of Ukraine, which officials residents in Northern hope to conclude in June or Rockies Regional Munici-

July. In the event of "future

in Tanah Datar, West Sumatra. EU draws up long-term security commitments to Ukraine hours on Kyiv's needs and "swiftly determine" next

steps in line with the com-MALMO: Thousands of mitments. The document is people protested in Malmo part of a broader effort by on Saturday against Israel's Ukraine's partners to proparticipation in Eurovision vide assurances that they Song Contest, with the Iswill stand by Kyiv for the raeli military campaign in long haul, with no end in Gaza casting a shadow over sight to the war against the final of the glitzy con-Russia's invasion and no test. Eurovision organisers, immediate prospect of EU who always bill the annual or NATO membership. event as non-political "Building on existing suphave resisted calls to ex port, the European Union's clude Israel, but requested security commitments inthat the lyrics of its entry clude predictable, long-term be changed to remove what and sustainable support for organisers called refer-

Ukraine's security and defence," says the 10-page draft, dated April 12 and

Thousands rally in Tbilisi against 'foreign influence' bill

BILISI: Thousands of protesters marched through central Tbilisi on Saturday at a rally against a controversial "foreign influence" bill backed by the Georgian government and likened to

Russian laws silencing dissent. Massive rallies have gripped the Black Sea Caucasus country for almost a month after the ruling Georgian Dream party

reintroduced the bill. Demonstrators converged on Tbilisi's central of Russia Europe Square on Saturday

evening, a journalist saw, in the latest of a series of antigovernment protests against the draft legislation. Under pouring rain, protesters chanted "Geor-

gia!" and waved red-andwhite Georgian flags and blue EU flags on the large square

in an MRI machine at the We are protecting Brain Institute of the Pitie our European future and Salpetriere hospital in our freedom." said one of Paris. "I was thinking the protesters, Mariam very hard about a vol-Meunrgia, 39, who works cano," said Pierre Fautrel, for a German company, one of the trio. He admits adding she fears the counthe resulting work was not try is going in the direction exactly what he had in

mind

special

REHOBOTH BEACH: Secretary of State Antony Blinken on Sunday delivered some of the Biden administration's strongest public criticism yet of İsrael's conduct of the war in Gaza, saying Israeli tactics have meant "a horrible loss of life of innocent civilians" but failed to neutralize Hamas leaders and fighters and could drive a lasting insurgency.

In a pair of TV interviews, Blinken underscored that the United States believes Israeli forces should "get out of Gaza," but also is waiting to see credible plans from Israel for security and governance in the territory after the war. Hamas has reemerged in parts of Gaza, Blinken said, and "heavy action" by Israeli forces in the southern city of Rafah risks leaving America's closest Mideast ally "holding the bag on an enduring insurgency. Blinken also said that as Israel pushes deeper in Rafah in the south, a military operation may "have some ini-

rible harm" to the population without solving a problem "that both of us want to solve, which is making sure Hamas cannot again govern Gaza." More than a million Palestinians have crowded into Rafah in hopes of refuge as Israel's offensive pushed across Gaza. Israel has said the city also hosts four battalions of Hamas fighters.

Israel's conduct of the war, Blinken said, has put the country "on the trajectory, potentially, to inherit an insurgency with many armed Hamas left or, if it leaves, a vacuum filled by chaos, filled by anarchy, and probably refilled by Hamas. We've been talking to them about a much better way of getting an enduring result, enduring security." Blinken also echoed, for the first time publicly by a U.S. official, the findings of a new Biden administration report to Congress on Friday that said Israel's use of U.S.-provided weapons in Gaza likely violated international humanitarian law.

Philippines to tighten guard at locations in **South China Sea Monitoring Desk**

MANILA: The Philippines said on Monday it would keep a closer guard on reefs, shoals and islets in its exclusive economic zone in the South China Sea, alarmed by reports of new reclamation activities by China, which Beijing de-

The Philippine Coast Guard said on Saturday it had deployed a ship to Sabina Shoal on the Spratly archipelago, where it accused China of building an artificial island, having documented what it said were piles of dead and crushed coral on the sandbars. Jonathan Malaya, spokesperson of the National Security Council (NSC), said NSC chief Eduardo Ano had ordered a tighter guard at locations within Manila's 200-nautical mile economic zone, as a long-standing diplomatic row with Beijing intensifies.

"No one will guard (these locations) except us. It is our responsibility under international law to guard (them) and ensure that the environment there

that there won't be reclamation activities," Malaya told a regular television program

China claims almost all the South China Sea, including parts claimed by the Philippines, Brunei, Malaysia, Taiwan and Vietnam, and has carried out extensive land reclamation on some islands, building military facilities, causing concern in Washington and the

China's foreign ministry on Monday dismissed Manila's latest accusation as "groundless and pure rumour". "Recently, the Philippine side has repeatedly spread rumours, deliberately smeared China and attempted to mislead the international community, which is futile," spokesperson Wang Wenbin told a regular briefing. He urged Manila to "return to the right track of properly settling maritime disputes through negotiation and consultation". Philippine Coast Guard spokesperson Jay Tarriela said its presence at the Escoda shoal had deterred China from doing would not be damaged and small-scale reclamation.

Internally displaced women wait in a queue to collect aid from a group at a camp in Gadaref.



pality and Fort Nelson First aggression", the document says the EU and Ukraine Nations were asked to evacuate as the blaze spread intend to consult within 24 seen by Reuters. in size to 1,696 hectares. Monitoring Desk

Daily **Independent**, Quetta

Tuesday May 14, 2024

President for promoting business & trade ties with **Bosnia & Herzegovina**

ISLAMABAD (Online): President Asif Ali Zardari has underlined the need to promote business and trade ties with Bosnia and Herzegovina by opening banks, trading in local currencies, and promoting barter trade between the two countries.

The President expressed these views while talking to the Ambassador of Bosnia & Herzegovina highlighted that there (B&H), Mr Emin Cohodarevic, who called on him, at Aiwan-e-Sadr, today.

Welcoming the Ambassador, the President said that Pakistan's ties with Bosnia & Herzegovina were based on historic and

over almost three decades. Pakistan for their support He added that both coun- to Bosnia & Herzegovina during the war in the 1990s. tries should continue bilateral engagements and inter- He also solicited Pakistan's actions to further explore support for Bosnia and the avenues of cooperation Herzegovina's draft resoluin the areas of mutual interest

tion on Srebrenica in the United Nations General The Ambassador said Assembly. The President said that his country wanted to deepen ties with Pakistan that Pakistan would in the fields of economy, favourably security, and culture. He

was a vast scope for eco-nomic cooperation for the 1995 tragedy in Pakistani businesses in Srebrenica. The Ambassador also different industries in Bosnia & Herzegovina, extended the invitation to the President to visit Bosnia & Herzegovina to

Ch Pervaiz Elahi says:

Dialogue only

way to steer

country out of

Chaudhry

Beijing.

The Ambassador ex- strengthen economic cooppressed his gratitude to the eration between the two friendly relations spanning Government and people of countries.

examine Bosnia's request, adding that Pakistan stood in soli-

including food, tourism,



and textile.

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a meeting regarding Azad Jammu & Kashmir matters.

Contractors directed to implement execution plan for Mohammad project

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA) Engr Lt Gen Sajjad Ghani (Retd) visited Mohmand Dam Project to review construction progress on different key

of the inlets and outlets of the three diversion tunnels, the power house and the spillway, said a press release.

The GM/PD Mohmand Dam Project, accompanied by the consultants and the contractors, briefed the Chairman about the ongoing activities and timelines for completion of critical tasks at these

Subsequent to the site khyber Pakhtunkhwa. It is visit, the Chairman also presided over a meeting at the face-rock-fill dam in the project office. Emphasising world. The project is sched-upon the significance of uled for completion in hohmand Dam to cope in-

prevailing crisis creasing needs of water and LAHORE (Online): PTI energy in the country, the president Chairman directed the con-Pervaiz Elahi has said talks tractors to implement the are only way to steer counexecution plan, in letter and try out of the prevailing crispirit, for completion of the project according to the "Dialogues are the timelines only way to come out of

Additional resources the present crisis. Imran He had a detailed visit be deployed to squeeze completion time, he further Khan has agreed for talks not for his own sake but for said

the sake of nation and coun-Earlier, the Chairman try. The talks can be fruitwas briefed about the ful only with the powers progress on diversion works, recovery plan, that be, he said this in an informal talk with the jourprogress on quarry develnalists here Monday on the opment and spillway conoccasion of his appearance

in anti corruption court. . It is important to note that WAPDA is construct-The farmers are wandering hither and thither to ing Mohmand Dam Project sell wheat but tiktok gov-ernment is sleeping, he across River Swat in Mohmand District of added

The powers that be should give positive response to invitation for talks by former president PTI Chairman Barrister

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Bosnia & Herzegovina in Pakistan, Emin

Cohodarevic called on President Asif Ali Zardari at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

well-being. **DPM Dar invites Chinese Gezhouba Group to expand** operation under CPEC Phase-I

Pakistan offers lucrative manufacturing, processing opportunities to investors

ISLAMABAD (APP): Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar on Monday invited the Chinese Gezhouba Group to expand its operation in Pakistan under the second phase of China Pakistan Eco-Corridor nomic (CPEC)

"Under the Phase-II of CPEC, Pakistan offers generous incentives to Chinese investors which the Gezhouba Group can use to expand its business footprints in Pakistan," he said while talking to the Chairman of Gezhouba Group in

The Gezhouba Noting the contribution of Gezhouba Group to Group is a subsidiary of Pakistan's economic devel-Energy China, which is opment, the Deputy PM China's leading company undertaking multiple underscored that Pakistan power generation projects needed to further expand its in Pakistan, a press release power generation capacity in renewable and hydel secissued by the Foreign Office said. tors for which Gezhouba The Deputy PM ex-pressed condolences to the Group can play a leading

role. The Chairman at the tragic inthanked Pakistan for taking cident in Shangla in which five Chinese and one Pakieffective steps to ensure stani national were the security of Chinese namartyred. He expressed tionals in Pakistan and ex-Pakistan's firm resolve to pressed firm resolve that bring the perpetrators of the company would timely this heinous attack to juscomplete all its projects in tice and to assure fool-Pakistan and would further proof security of Chinese expand operations to new

nationals in Pakistan. areas of cooperation.

PTI founder may face fourth Toshakhana case, says Barrister Gohar

RAWALPINDI (INP): vestigate the matter. The PTI founder inPak prosperity, progress hinges upon women's empowerment: Ayaz

ISLAMABAD (APP): erment. Speaker National Assem-bly of Pakistan Sardar Ayaz mous passage of the motion Sadig has said that empowerment of women is key to enhancing the development liament of Pakistan would and prosperity of the counbe at the forefront of safeguarding women and protry. He also added, "inclusion of women in socioviding them security. economic stratas is pivotal for their social inclusion confidence that this special and for the country's committee would recomprogress as no society can mend initiatives for realize the dream of women empowerment without ensuring their security and

to recommend the initia-

tives for women's empow-

He, further, stressed the need to take special endeavors to ensure women's se-He expressed these curity while narrating an views while welcoming the incident of harassment of a passage of a unanimous woman SSP in Lahore. motion to form a commit-He also assured to extee comprising members of tend full cooperation on both Houses i.e. The Senate and National Assembly

behalf of National Assembly Secretariat for proper and smooth functioning of Special Committee.

he reiterated that the par-

women's empowerment.

He also expressed his



OUETTA: Provincial Minister for C&W Mir Saleem Ahmed Khosa reviews under construction work of Custom and Gahi Khan Flyover.

Opposition agrees to lead 11 standing bodies, PAC chairmanship, govt gets 27

ISLAMABAD (INP): The of the standing committees issue of the chairmanship of 38 standing committees, including the Public Ac-counts Committee (PAC), in the National Assembly has been settled as the opposition agreed to lead 11 and the government 27 committees. A consensus was

reached between the government and the opposition on the distribution of 38 standing committees and PAC on Monday. As per the decision, 27

Standing Committees came under the control of the government and its allies, while the other 11 committees, including the PAC, came to the opposition. The sources said the

committees and the PAC Several meetings were held for the allocation of the posts of chairmanship of the standing committees among the Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PMLN) Minister for Religious Áffairs Tariq Fazal chief whip of the parliamen-tary parties will provide Chaudhry, Pakistan People's Party's (PPP) MNA Aijaz names for the chairmanship Hussain Jakhrani.

and the members to the

chief whip of the govern-

ment. The sources said the chief whip of the govern-ment will hold elections for

the chairmanship of the

committees after receiving

the complete list from the

parliamentary parties in the

Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq

played an important role in

resolving the issue of the

chairmanship of standing

National Assembly



QUETTA: Provincial Ministers Nawabzada Tariq Magsi and Mir Saleem Ahmed Khosa meeting with Balochistan Governor Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail.

Rana Sana

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister's Adviser on Political and Public Af-

Chairman

Dialogue, only option to resolve national issues:

creting.



NASIRABAD: Provincial Minister for Irrigation Mir Muhammad Sadiq Umrani being briefed by Chief Engineer Nasir Majeed and SE Abdul Hameed Mengal.

Zaman Park violence: Advisor to CM Balochistan LHC confirms holds meeting with UNFPA interim bail of for women empowerment

Khosa stresses importance

of public-private partnership

for economic growth

QUETTA (APP): Advisor to the Chief Minister Balochistan on Women De-ulochistan on Women Meren Advisor to Balochistan on Women De-balochistan on Women Meren Mere velopment Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi in a meeting with Provincial Head of UNFPA Dr Sarmad Khan had deliberated on crucial initiatives aimed at advancing the cause of

women empowerment across Balochistan region. During the meeting, they discussed the establishment of a Gender-Based Violence (GBV) helpline to provide immediate support to victims, the implementation of women and girl-friendly spaces in various districts of Balochistan to foster safe environment and introduction of skill-based education the region of Balochistan.

tional Finance Secretary

Balochistan Shujaat Ali

Khosa Monday stressed

the need for a strong

public-private partner-

ship to ensure sustain-

able economic growth and

for bringing the country's traders into the

tax network to run coun-

try' financial matters

smoothly.

power women and engage the tures.

Dr. Buledi emphasized the significance of collaborative efforts in addressing the challenges faced by women segment of society in the region, highlighting the importance of inclusive

and sustainable solutions. Dr. Sarmad Khan lauded the proactive approach of the Women Development Department and reaffirmed UNFPA's commitment to supporting initiatives that promote gender equality and empower women and youth across

AHORE (APP): The Lahore High Court (LHC) on Monday confirmed the interim bail of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder in the Zaman Park violence case.

PTI founder

The court ordered the PTI founder to furnish surety bonds of Rs 500,000 to avail the relief.

Justice Muhammad Amjad Rafiq heard the bail petition filed by the PTI founder and confirmed the interim bail upon completion of arguments by the parties.

Barrister Salman Safdar represented the PTI founder and argued before the court that his client had no connection with the case. He submitted that his client used to appear in the case before his conviction and arrest. He further submitted that currently, the PTI founder was in jail and could not appear before the court, requesting confirma-tion of his interim bail.

However, the pros-

QUETTA (APP): Addi- can no longer run on the old patterns. ecution opposed the bail He said that the pro-

petition and pleaded with motion of foreign investthe court to dismiss it. ment is government's The court observed first priority to turn the that the bail petition could challenges into opportunities, adding, the private be heard without the apsector is currently the pearance of the PTI founder as he was in prison priority of the current government which can help the country navigate through current eco-

Talking to PTV news nomic challenges. channel, he said that Pub-He said that short melic-Private Partnerships is dium and long-term strategies are being worked on for considered as an important tool to further admacroeconomic stability to vance the implementation bring foreign direct investof the SDGs and to inment in the country.

crease private sector Government has plan GDP share and participato provide more facilities to tion in the economy, addthe business community ing, we have to change the and investors in Pakistan, mindset as the country he mentioned

Gohar Ali Khan says ef-forts are afoot to file a fourth case against the sisted he would pursue dia-logue, not deal, for the bet-terment of Pakistan. He party founder related to Toshakhana. He alleged that the

National Accountability Bureau (NAB) was being used against the PTI founder.

Speaking to media outside the Adiala Jail in Rawalpindi, Barrister Gohar quoted the PTI founder as having said apology should be sought from him (and not the other way round). He (founder) condemned the May 9 violence and underlined the need for a ju-

stressed that personal interests would not drive these discussions. However, he lamented a lack of progress by the negotiation committee. Addressing concerns

raised by the former prime minister regarding tax collection and the IMF programme, Barrister Gohar said power should emanate from democratic channels. Gohar urged the judi-

ciary to expedite the hear-ing on the Iddat case and decide it without further delav

dicial commission to in-

QUETTA: Voice for Baloch Missing Persons Leaders, Mama Qadeer and Nasrullah Baloch addressing to media persons during press conference, at a protest camp outside Quetta press club.

DC visits exam center for ensuring power supply on paper time in Lasbela

QUETTA (APP): Deputy (DC)Lasbela, Humaira Baloch on Monday visited the examination center at Government Girls Higher and Secondary School Uthal to ensure the smooth conduct dents

Taking immediate action, the DC directed K-Electric (KE) to provide an uninterrupted electricity supply during paper timing to prevent any further inconvenience to the stu-The timely interven-

tion ensured that the exams were conducted without any hitch, and the students were able to appear for their papers in a comfortable environ-



QUETTA: Provincial Finance Secretary Babar Khan participating via video link in the consultation personalities from the fields session of Inter Ministerial Telecommunication Sector. of arts, entertainment, poli-

fairs, Rana Sanaullah, said on Monday that in a parliamentary democracy, dialogue was the sole method to resolve issues; without it, there is no other option.

Talking to a private news channel, he said that the 'leader of the house' and the 'leader of the opposition' were two integral components of this democratic system

However, referring to the former chairman of PTI, he lamented that unfortunately, there exists a political leader who doesn't believe in this democratic system and parliament.

He alleged PTI founder of attempting to sow chaos and sedition through democracy.

Rana Sanaullah reiterated that dialogue was indispensable for addressing national issues.

> NA budget session to commence on June 6

Quetta. ISLAMABAD (APP) Speaker of National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq Monday chaired a meeting to discuss the current and upcoming budget sessions of the National Assembly and it was decided that the will be made free from budget session would com-mence on June 6. thalassemia.

The meeting was at-tended by parliamentary BMC Hospital's Thalasleaders representing various parties in the house. It was further decided that the current session of the National Assembly would continue until May 17. The meeting focused on the formation of standing committees and the finance committee of the QUETTA (APP): The Arts assembly. Deputy Speaker Council of Pakistan Karachi of the National Assembly in collaboration with the Syed Ghulam Mustafa government of Balochistan Shah, along with members would organize two-day including Tariq Fazal Chaudhry, Aijaz Hussain Jakhrani, Malik Aamir Dogar, Syed Amin-ul Pakistan Literature Festival 2024 in Quetta on May 15-16. Addressing a press conference at Quetta Press Haque, Noor Alam Khan, Gul Asghar Khan. Club on Monday, the President of Arts Council of Pa-



QUETTA: Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (JUI-F) District Quetta Chief, Maulana Abdul Rehman along with others addresses to media persons during press conference held at Quetta press club.

World Thalassemia Day observed at **BMC** Hospital Quetta

QUETTA (APP): Seminar creased but also the freorganized on the eve of quency of blood transfu-World Thalassemia Day sions has increased signifiwas celebrated at Balon cantly. Medical Complex (BMC)

These views were ex-Hospital by Regional Blood Center and Thalassemia pressed by the speakers while addressing at the cer-Care Unit of Civil Hosptial emony and seminar organized with the children suf-In Balochistan, the fering from thalassemia and death rate of children aftheir parents under the Defected by thalassemia is partment of Blood Bank being decreased, but by creand Thalassemia Clinic of ating awareness among the BMC Hospital on the ocpeople, it can not only be casion of World Thalascontrolled, as Balochistan semia Day.

Secretary Health Abdullah Khan, Director Due to the excellent Balochistan Safe Transfucare of children admitted to sion Professor Dr. Hanif Mengal, Dr. Shafi and other semia Center, not only the experts addressed the cermortality rate has de- emony.

2-day 'Pakistan Literature Festival' from May 15

kistan Karachi, Muhammad

Ahmed announced the or-

ganizing of Pakistan Litera-

ture Festival 2024 (Quetta

Chapter) which is sched-

uled to take place on May

15 at Balochistan Univer-

sity of Information Tech-

nology, Engineering and

Management Sciences

He said the renowned

(BUITEMS) Quetta.

tics, literature, and other sectors, will participate in the festival.

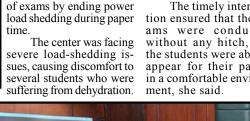
Expressing his sentiments, he said that organizing a festival in Balochistan is a heartwarming endeav-our to embrace all languages and cultures.

Shah remarked that Arts Council of Pakistan Karachi is the only council not governed by the government.

He underscored the deep-rooted historical ties between Balochistan and Sindh, noting the active participation of Balochi writers and poets in Karachi.

He mentioned awarding prizes to Balochi literature and extending support to Pashto literature through the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa region

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Commissioner