

Independent

Member APNS & CPNE

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www.dailyindependent.com.pk Quetta

Ph: 2841470/2841473 REG: No. BC-116 B/ID-445 Vdt XXV No. 280, Zeeqad 22, 1445 AH Friday May 31, 2024 Pages 08, Price Rs.15



ISLAMABAD: Minister of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan Jeyhun Bayramov calls on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

Strongly condemns Israel's brutality PM calls for global intervention to stop Palestinians' bloodshed

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday strongly condemned the recent Israeli attacks on unarmed Palestinians in Rafah area of Gaza, urging the international community to intervene to get stopped the worst barbaric inhuman acts.

"I, on behalf of the government and the people of Pakistan, demand that the international community should play its due role to ensure that the people of Palestine and Indian Occupied Kashmir are granted their rightful freedoms and basic human rights," the prime minister said in a televised address.

He said due to the unprovoked and worst bombardment by the Israeli forces across Gaza, including Rafah, over 36,000 Palestinians, including thousands of children, had been martyred so far.

"After the lapse of eight months, Israel's thirst for blood is still unquenched as it is now bombarding the cramped camps of Palestinians displaced from across Gaza in Rafah (bordering Egypt)," he added.

The prime minister said Israel had showed blatant disregard for international law, without caring for the Muslim countries that have raised voices at different international forums including the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and the UN Security Council against the Israeli aggression.

Pakistan, Azerbaijan resolve to enhance bilateral cooperation including in trade, connectivity

PM for mutually beneficial stronger Pakistan-Azerbaijan trade, investment ties



ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan and Azerbaijan on Thursday resolved to enhance cooperation in multiple sectors including trade, investment, energy and connectivity to exploit the huge potential of the friendly relationship between the two countries.

The bilateral ties and cooperation were discussed as Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar and Foreign Minister of Azerbaijan Jeyhun Bayramov met here and discussed the multidimensional bilateral and regional agenda encompassing bilateral and international matters.

Pakistan's multi mission satellite PAKSAT-MM1 launched successfully

ISLAMABAD (APP): In a historic development, Pakistan Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (SUPARCO) has announced the successful launch



of Pakistan Multi Mission Communication Satellite PAKSAT-MM1 from XiChang Satellite Launch Center (XSLC), China on Thursday. The satellite PakSat MM1 has been jointly designed and developed by SUPARCO and China Great Wall Industry Corporation (CGWIC).

According to the SUPARCO, this is a Geostationary Satellite based on advanced communication technologies that will greatly enhance the

Governor, CM condemn incident of firing at caravan of Khalid Magsi

Independent Report
QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail and Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti have condemned the incident of firing at the caravan of central President Balochistan Awami Party (BAP), Nawabzada Khalid Magsi.

In their separate messages on Thursday, the Governor and Chief Minister expressed displeasure over performance of the administration in this regard.

Chief Minister said the incident occurred with Nawabzada Khalid Magsi is sorrowful. He expressed satisfaction over safety of Nawabzada Khalid Magsi in the firing incident.

He said that it is the topmost responsibility of police and levies to restore peace. He said that the criminal activities in broad daylight is a negligence of the district administrative officers.

He directed to the concerned high ups to mobilize all available resources for arrest of the elements involved in the incident.

Formation Commanders resolve to neutralize threats to country's security, stability

Planners, perpetrators, abettors, and facilitators of 9th May needed to be brought to justice for the collective good of the country; Stability to remain hostage to machinations of such elements without swift dispensation of justice, says ISPR

RAWALPINDI (APP): The 83rd Formation Commanders Conference on Thursday affirmed the resolve to neutralize all threats to the security and stability of the country with the full backing of the proud nation.

The conference, presided over by Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Syed Asim Munir, underscored that politically motivated and vested digital terrorism, unleashed by conspirators duly abetted by their foreign cohorts, against the state institutions was clearly meant to try to induce despondency in the Pakistani nation, to sow discord among national institutions, especially the armed forces, and the people of Pakistan by peddling blatant lies, fake news, and propaganda.

It, however, noted that the nation was fully cognizant of their ugly and ulterior motives and surely the designs of the nefarious forces would be comprehensively defeated.

The forum noted that planners, perpetrators, abettors, and facilitators of 9th May needed to be brought to justice for the collective good of the country, and that without swift and transparent dispensation of justice to the culprits and establishing the rule of law, stability in Pakistan would ever remain hostage to the machinations of such elements.

The conference was attended by Corps Commanders.

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Acting president for maximum public relief through upcoming budget

ISLAMABAD (APP): Acting President Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani on Thursday stressed the need for extending maximum relief to the masses through the upcoming federal budget, and the formulation of a comprehensive strategy to enhance the revenue.

The acting president said this in a meeting with Minister of Finance and Revenue Muhammad Aurangzeb, who called on him here at the Aiwan-e-Sadr.

The finance minister briefed the acting president about the ongoing preparations for the upcoming people-friendly budget and the government's measures to reduce inflation.

The minister said that a remarkable reduction in the inflation rate manifested the government's constant and undeterred actions by the government.

WB team acknowledges progress on infrastructure activities in flood hit areas

KARACHI (APP): The World Bank Mission, reviewing progress on the activities of Sindh Flood Emergency Rehabilitation Project (SFERP) and its component P&DD, acknowledged the overall progress made so far is quite impressive both on the timeline and the quality of work, point of view.

This was stated by Shoaib Siddiqui, Senior Advisor to the Bank, during a review meeting held here on Thursday.

The meeting was chaired by Senior Disaster Risk Management Specialist, Ahsen Tehsin and also attended by Rehan Hyder and Nihan Rafique from the World Bank while Ghulam Asghar Kanasro and Aslam Leghari represented the Project side, a press release said.

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LONDON: Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi cutting cake during a reception in honor of Pakistan Cricket team. Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti is also present

Naqvi hopes Pakistani cricket team to bring World Cup with hard work

LONDON (INP): Federal Minister for Interior and Chairman Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB), Mohsin Naqvi on Thursday expressed the hope that the Pakistan cricket team through its hard work would bring the World Cup to the country.

While addressing a reception hosted by the Pakistan's High Commissioner in the UK, Dr Mohammad Faisal in honour of the Pakistan Men's Cricket Team and the management at Pakistan House, London, Mohsin Naqvi said that entire cricket team of Pakistan was giving their best to the game.

He urged the Pakistan's fans to keep supporting the team on their upcoming tour to the United States of America.

The chairman PCB said that team management was independent in making decisions about players which he added important for delivering good performance.

Speaking on the occasion, Mayor of London Sadiq Khan said that he was very happy to welcome Pakistan Cricket Team at London and wished them best of luck for upcoming matches. He said that Babar Azam was his favourite batsman and hoped the team would win in Babar's captaincy.

Gazette notification of Elections (Amendment) Ordinance, 2024 issued

ISLAMABAD (APP): The government has issued the gazette notification of Elections (Amendment) Ordinance, 2024.

An amendment has been made in the Section 140 of the Elections Act, 2017 and the Ordinance shall be called the Elections (Amendment) Ordinance, 2024, the gazette notification said.

According to the Ministry of Law and Justice, the President of Pakistan had promulgated the ordinance in exercise of his powers conferred by Article 89(1) of the Constitution.



RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Syed Asim Munir presided over the 83rd Formation Commanders Conference held at General Headquarters (GHQ) in Rawalpindi.

Govt. ought to provide all necessary facilities to traders & industrialists

Independent Report
QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail has stated that our national investors can play key role to alleviate poverty and provide new opportunities of livelihood to the youth.

Therefore, it is necessary for the government to provide all necessary facilities to traders and industrialists and provide guidance and support to them to have access to the trade markets of the neighbouring countries.

The Governor was speaking to different delegations who called on him here at the Governor House on Thursday.

The Governor said that Balochistan has great importance from its location and as such there are vast and profitable opportunities of investment for the local and international investors in different sectors.

He said that it is our unfortunate that we send minerals and other resources abroad in raw form even in the present modern development era while the issues of poverty and unemployment can be overcome by establishing small and big industries.

This would also strengthen economy of the country, he added.

The Governor stressed the need to pay attention on learning modern skills to the younger generation by making the vocational and technical institutions functional in view of the economic and trade changes in near future.

Two TTP terrorists killed in Lakki Marwat operation

PESHAWAR (APP): The Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) on Thursday killed two terrorists affiliated with the banned outfit Tehreek e Taliban Pakistan (TTP) during an operation in Lakki Marwat district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

According to a CTD spokesperson, the law enforcement personnel conducted an intelligence-based operation in Lakki Marwat during which the terrorists opened fire. In the prompt retaliatory fire, two terrorists were shot dead while others managed to escape.

The spokesperson further mentioned that these terrorists were planning to target sensitive institutions and were wanted by the police in several cases, including target killings and bomb blasts. The dead terrorists were affiliated with Tipu Gul group of TTP.

During the operation, the CTD personnel recovered grenades, arms, and ammunition from the killed terrorists.

Balochistan partners with PIE to enroll out-of-school children

ISLAMABAD (APP): Education Department Balochistan has joined hands with MOFEPT (Pakistan Institute of Education (PIE) and JICA to design ZERO OOSC campaign in Balochistan.

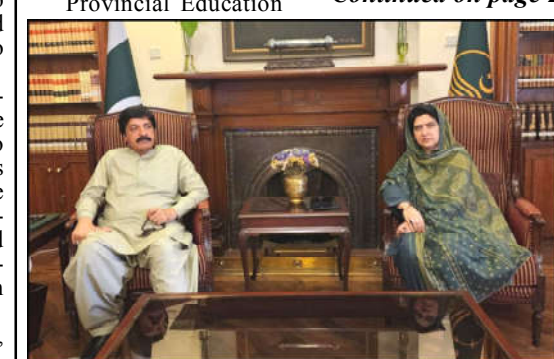
Balochistan Education Minister Raheela Hameed Durrani joined hands with Pakistan Institute of Education and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) regarding Balochistan.

Provincial Education Minister Raheela Hameed Durrani visited Pakistan Institute of Education (PIE) on Thursday.

Director General Pakistan Institute of Education Dr Muhammad Shahid Soroya welcomed the minister on arrival.

The distinguished guest was given a detailed briefing by Pakistan Institute of Education and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) regarding Balochistan.

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LAHORE: Balochistan Minister for Education Raheela Hameed Khan meeting with Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan

1.884 million children to be administered anti-polio drops: Seven-day anti-polio campaign due to begin in 20 districts of Balochistan from June 3

Chief Secretary Shakeel Qadir Khan vows to mobilize all available resources for eradication of polio from Balochistan; exhorts all segments of society to play role for making drive successful

Independent Report
QUETTA: The seven-day anti-polio campaign is scheduled to commence in 20 different districts of Balochistan from June 3, 2024.

During the campaign, more than 1.884 million children below five years of age would be administered anti-polio vaccine in the 20 selected districts of the province, which include the polio high risk ones as well.

For the immunization campaign, above 7,000 teams have been formed, which would administer the anti-polio drops to the children.

These details were shared in a briefing to the Chief Secretary, Shakeel Qadir Khan regarding upcoming anti-polio campaign here on Thursday.

During the briefing, it was also informed that three cases of polio have been reported from even districts of the province this year. Similarly, the polio virus has also been detected in the environmental samples of different districts of the province during 2023.

Chairing the meeting, Chief Secretary said that all available resources are being mobilized to ensure eradication of polio from the province.

He said that anti-polio campaign is vital for eradication of polio and in this regard, there should be special focus on administration of anti-polio drops to the children at the transit points besides other missing ones.

He stressed the need to take joint efforts for eradication of polio and making the anti-polio campaign successful.



KARACHI: The world's largest cargo ship, MSC Anna has made a historic arrival at Karachi Port Trust (KPT) in Karachi. The colossal vessel arrived from India's Port Mundra and anchored at Karachi port, highlighting the port growing importance in international maritime trade. MSC Anna boasts impressive dimensions, measuring 400 meters in length and having a capacity to carry 19,638 containers.

Fakhar, Shaheen, Imad advance in ICC Rankings

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan's Fakhar Zaman, Shaheen Afridi and Imad Wasim has gained in the ICC Men's T20I Team Rankings following the ongoing series between England and Pakistan. In the latest weekly update that also considers performances in the last two matches of the Bangladesh-USA series and the ongoing series between England and Pakistan, Pakistan opener Fakhar Zaman has advanced from 57th to 51st, England captain Jos Buttler inched up to seventh position while Jonny Bairstow was up eight places to 36th, said a press release. In the bowling rankings, Shaheen Afridi was up three places to 11th while Imad Wasim is another Pakistan player to gain, up 14 places to 38th. For the USA, Steven Taylor has made big gains, progressing 28 places to 109 in the batting rankings while for Bangladesh, Rishad Hussain has moved up 38 places to 52nd in the bowling rankings. Meanwhile, Two-time champions West Indies have moved up to fourth position in the ICC Men's T20I Team Rankings, ahead of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024, which they co-host from June 1 to 29. The winners of the 2012 and 2016 editions of the tournament were ahead of New Zealand and South Africa after their 3-0 win over South Africa, who were pushed down to seventh position in the list led by India. India, winners of the inaugural edition in 2007, were on 264 rating points, 2021 champions Australia are second with 257 points, defending champions England third with 254 points and the West Indies two points behind them on 252. New Zealand were on 250 while Pakistan and South Africa are both on 244 points with Pakistan slightly ahead on decimal points. The West Indies players too have reaped the benefits of their superb performances in the home series not long before their tournament opener against Papua New Guinea in Guyana on 2 June.

WB team acknowledges... Continued from page 1 DG Rescue Service Dr Abid, during the review session informed that 16 satellite stations on Indus highway (N-55), N-5 and M-9 are complete and in the process of being fine-tuned. All these stations will become operational by August as the staff selected for handing these stations is being trained in Rescue 1122 Academy, Lahore. Ten district headquarters are 68% complete and would be handed over to Rescue Service for operations by December of the current year. Moreover, Ten hospital emergencies after refurbishment had been handed over to the concerned authorities, he added.

KP governor calls on PM; political, provincial matters discussed ISLAMABAD (APP): Governor of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi on Thursday called on Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif here wherein they discussed the matters related to the KP province and overall political situation. The governor appreciated the prime minister for his government's pro-business and investment policies which led to an enhanced investment in the country. In the meeting, they also discussed the issues facing the KP province and their durable solution.



ISLAMABAD: A delegation of MQM Pakistan led by Chairman Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui calls on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

Formation Commanders... Continued from page 1 The forum also resolved to continue to fully support the government's initiatives in various domains for sustainable economic growth and curbing illegal activities, including smuggling, hoarding, electricity theft, implementation of One Document Regime, dignified repatriation of illegal foreigners, and safeguarding of the national database, etc. The conference was briefed on the dynamics of the geo-strategic environment, emerging challenges to national security, and the Army's strategy to counter multi-domain threats. The participants were also briefed on technological innovations to modernize the Army and optimize logistic support to field formations, in line with fast-evolving operational environment. The forum expressed serious concerns over continued cross-border violations from Afghanistan and terrorism being orchestrated using the Afghan soil, noting that adversaries were using Afghanistan to target security forces and innocent civilians inside Pakistan. It acknowledged the priceless sacrifices of the people of Newly Merged Districts (NMDs) in the war against terrorism and underscored the importance of uplifting the NMDs to decisively defeat terrorism. The forum also under-

lined the need for socio-economic development in Balochistan to counter externally propagated narratives of exclusion, exploited by foreign-sponsored proxies to lead Balochistan's youth away from peace and progress. Reviewing the prevailing situation on the eastern border and the latest round of extra-judicial murders in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu & Kashmir, the forum expressed complete solidarity with the Kashmiri people in their just struggle for the inalienable right to self-determination as enshrined in United Nations Security Council's resolutions. The forum showed concern over the treatment of minorities, especially Muslims, in India and noted the growing fascism being perpetrated to achieve vested political ends. It also expressed complete solidarity with the people of Palestine and condemned serious human rights violations and war crimes being perpetrated in Gaza, supporting the International Court of Justice's decision to stop the Rafah Operation and all other operations within the Gaza Strip. The participants expressed their complete satisfaction with the steps being taken at the Army level for the training, administration, and welfare of serving and retired officers and troops. The forum noted the significant milestone achieved by Pakistan on Yom-e-Takbir and its stabilizing impact on the region.

Balochistan partners... Continued from page 1 the educational emergency implemented in the country by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and the pilot project to bring out-of-school children to educational institutions. The distinguished guest was informed that PIE has successfully achieved the goal of "Zero OOSC campaign in Islamabad". Provincial Education Minister Raheela Durrani has asked Pakistan Institute of Education for technical guidance to bring 3.13 million out-of-school children to schools in Balochistan. During the meeting, technical teams from Education department Balochistan and JICA AQL set targets and strategies for Quetta city and Balochistan province. According to the targets, education department, joint with PIE, JICA and other development actors, enroll out of school children available in Quetta city through a range of strategies such as formal schools, private schools in morning and afternoon shifts as well as by offering Accelerated/ Alternative Learning Programmes (ALPs) through local communities and Madaris. Digital and distance learning was also one of the approaches to enroll OOSC in the province.

Pakistan, Azerbaijan resolve to ... Continued from page 1 boosting cooperation in renewable energy. The deputy prime minister expressed good wishes for Azerbaijan to host the COP 29 meeting and assured Azerbaijan's support. Both sides held a detailed discussion on the prevailing situation in Gaza and called for an immediate cessation of Israeli hostilities and the establishment of an independent Palestine state with Quds Al Sharif as its capital. Ishaq Dar thanked Azerbaijan for its constant and principled support on the Kashmir issue and reiterated Pakistan's support for Azerbaijan's sovereignty and territorial integrity. Azerbaijan's Foreign Minister Jeyhun Bayramov told the media that in their meeting, they discussed ways to strengthen cooperation and strategic partnership to take the bilateral relationship to the next level. He said the huge potential for economic and trade cooperation remained untapped which necessitated the launch of joint economic projects in energy, tourism, transport, information technology, pharmaceuticals and transport. He told the meeting that the 8th Pakistan-Azerbaijan Inter-Governmental Commission to be held in Islamabad later this year would give further impetus to economic cooperation. He invited Pakistan's business community to benefit from the conducive business conditions in his country and connectivity projects. Mentioning six direct flights between the two countries and the 55,000 Pakistanis visiting Azerbaijan last year, Foreign Minister Jeyhun Bayramov said the upcoming COP29 meeting would also create opportunities for cooperation in energy and climate change. Meanwhile Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday, expressing satisfaction on the positive trajectory of relations between Pakistan and Azerbaijan, stressed the need to further strengthen mutually beneficial bilateral cooperation in trade, investment, energy and security domains. He was talking to Foreign Minister Jeyhun Bayramov, who paid a courtesy call on him at the Prime Minister's House. The prime minister expressed appreciation that both sides had always extended their full support to each other on issues of core interest, and reaffirmed that they would continue to do so at every international forum. He felicitated Foreign Minister Bayramov on Baku's selection as the host city for COP29 to be held in November this year and said that Pakistan would work closely with Azerbaijan to ensure the successful outcome of that important event.



QUETTA: VSO country head Shehar Afshien addressing a press conference.

TENDER NOTICE 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 ROADS CW PP&H DEPARTMENT DISTRICT KHUZDAR invites bids from Eligible Bidders for execution of following works for the Year 2024 based on Composite schedule rates 2018 on Percentage Rates Bid Security 2% Table with columns: S.No, Name of Work's, Last Date and Time of Bid Submission, Tender Opening, E/Cost, Tender Fee.

CORRIGENDUM The NIT published in Daily Newspapers under PRQ No.2437/17-5-2024 via TSE No.232405418003, an change has been made in Evaluation Criteria section 1.2.1.1 Available Credit Limit Line and date of submission & opening has been extended upto 5th June 2024. EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (ROADS) CW PP&H DEPARTMENT DISTRICT JAFFARABAD PRQ No.2689/30-5-2024

درخواستیں مطلوب ہیں Table with columns: س.نمبر, نامی کام, عمر کا دورہ, تاریخ, وقت, مقام, رقم. Includes details for MBBS, B.Sc/B.A, and MS Office courses.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER The Executive Engineer (Building) CWPP&H Department District Chagai at Dalbandin invites Bids From Eligible Bidders for Execution of the Following Work listed below for the year 2023-24 based on the composite schedule of rates 2023 G.O.B amended up-to-date. Only electronic Bid will be Submitted, No Physical Bid is required. Table with columns: S.No, Name of work, E/Cost, Call Deposit Amount 4%.

CORRIGENDUM The Advertisement published in Daily Newspaper on 25th May 2024 via PRQ No.2552/24-05-2022. The ELIGIBILITY AND EVALUATION CRITERIA OF TSE-232405429403, TSE-232405430153, TSE-232405430233, TSE-232405430283, TSE-232405429343, TSE-232405430343, TSE-232405430373 and TSE-232405430413 in bidding document is hereby amended which can be Viewed and Download from the authority Website. EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, IRRIGATION DIVISION, ZIARAT PRQ No.2702/30-5-2024

NOTICE INVITING TENDER The Executive Engineer Public Health Engineering Division Washuk invites sealed Percentage rate tenders based on composite schedule of rates 2023 Government of Balochistan from interested contractor/firms for Solar Work mentioned below. Bid Security will be 2% Estimated cost and time limit 30-06-2025 for each work. Tender Fee Rs.3500/- for S.No.1,2,3,4,5 & Rs.3000/- for S.No.6 Table with columns: S.No, NAME OF WORK, E/COST.

Sherry calls for urgent climate action at “Road to Climate Resilient Pakistan” conference

ISLAMABAD (APP): Senator Sherry Rehman on Thursday emphasized the need for immediate and genuine action to address climate change.

She was speaking as the chief guest at the “Road to Climate Resilient Pakistan: Reducing Our Carbon Footprint” conference, hosted by Islamic Relief Pakistan and the National Disaster Risk Management Fund (NDRMF).

Sherry Rehman said,

“Climate is one conversation that must connect from local to global because climate knows no barriers when it changes. It can impact people and communities anywhere in the world. We have just seen a cyclone hit Bangladesh, and floods in Brazil and Afghanistan. Pakistan, too, is in the middle of a debilitating, scorching heatwave.”

She cited that Mohenjo Daro was recorded as the planet’s

hottest place with 53 degrees centigrade, reminding the world that such temperatures don’t support human life.

Speaking about Pakistan’s transition to renewable energy, Sherry remarked, “Pakistan’s transition from fossil fuels is quite doable. We have a large amount of solar capacity and a huge amount of wind capacity, particularly all the way through the Sindh coastal areas. Part of the problem

is our ageing grid, which cannot take on a great deal of renewables anymore because there’s no space and also the incentive structures that are in place for solarization.”

Senator Rehman also highlighted Pakistan’s vulnerability to climate impacts, stating, “Pakistan is home to the largest number of glaciers outside the North Pole, with approximately 7,000 glaciers, and they are melting rapidly.”



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a meeting regarding reforms and implementation of E-Office in Federal Government departments.



ISLAMABAD: Chairman Prime Minister's Youth Programme Rana Mashhood Ahmed Khan and Chairman HEC Prof. Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed inaugurating “Bridging the Academia-Industry Gap” organized by HEC & Microsoft at HEC.

Ashrafi advocates for issuance of structured Fatwa to curb extremism, citing Saudi, Egyptian models

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman Pakistan Ulama Council (PUC), Hafiz Muhammad Tahir Mehmood Ashrafi has emphasized the urgent need for fostering dialogue across various societal factions.

Speaking at a national seminar on ‘Countering Violent Extremism’, organized by Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI) here Thursday, he highlighted the ongoing challenges of violent extremism in Pakistan and said that this call for dialogue would reduce misunderstandings and create an environment of

mutual respect among different groups, promoting a more harmonious and resilient community.

Ashrafi further highlighted the importance of implementing Paigham-e-Pakistan, a comprehensive doctrine designed to bridge gaps between different schools of thought and unify religious scholars and leaders in a joint effort to combat extremism across the nation. “This collaborative strategy is seen as vital for ensuring long-term peace and stability not only in the country but also in the

region,” he added.

Addressing the misuse of religious decrees, Ashrafi called for the establishment of a mechanism for issuing Fatwas on matters of public importance. Citing the examples of Dar-ul-Ifra institutions in Saudi Arabia and Egypt, he emphasized the need for a government-level oversight to ensure that religious decrees are issued responsibly and effectively.

He said Dar-ul-Ifra Saudi Arabia and Dar-ul-Ifra Egypt were renowned for their systematic approach to issuing Fatwas as these institutions.

BISP’s aid reaches 93,000 families: DG

ISLAMABAD (APP): Director General of the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) Naveed Akbar said on Thursday that the programme is currently providing financial assistance to approximately 93,000 families living below the poverty line.

In an interview with Pakistan Television News, he detailed the scope and impact of BISP’s initiatives and said that BISP was committed to alleviating poverty in the country.

The April-June instalment of this program

has been launched nationwide. “We provide Rs. 10,500 every quarter per family, he stated.

Additionally, BISP runs two significant support programs aimed at enhancing education and nutrition for the beneficiary families. “We are supporting the education of 9.4 million children from these families, ensuring they attend school and receive the necessary educational support,” he noted.

One key initiative was the Health and Nutrition Program, which offers nutritional and financial support.



Chairman CDA Muhammad Ali Randhawa calls on Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi in Islamabad.

ICT doorstep initiative: Convenient vehicle registration at Trail 3

ISLAMABAD (APP): Excise department is providing civic facilities to residents of the Federal Capital to get their vehicle registration as well as access to various essential services at Trail 3 on Thursday under the ICT doorstep initiative.

According to the Spokesman of ICT, the excise staff would be stationed at the parking lot from 3.00 to 5.00 p.m.

Citizens hailing from nearby areas can get civic facilities through a dedicated van, he said.

The spokesman said that whether you need a fuel permit for domestic or commercial use, or looking to register your motor vehicle seamlessly, the on-

ground service would ensure a swift and straightforward process.

This initiative aimed at to streamline processes and provide ease to the public regarding vehicle registration, transfer, and token tax procedures, he added.

In addition to the vehicle registration, transfer, and token tax services, the Facilitation Center Doorstep ICT Vehicle would also be offering the following services: Domicile certificate, Birth certificate, Power of attorney, International Driving permit, Fuel permit (domestic/commercial), and Motor vehicle registration.



ISLAMABAD: Executive Director Lok Virsa Muhammad Uzair Khan presenting gift to Canadian High Commissioner Leslie Scanlon as shed joint local artisans for a vibrant truck art workshop at Lok Virsa, celebrating the rich cultural heritage of Pakistan.

PNCA, QAU join hands to promote cultural exchange

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Pakistan National Council of the Arts (PNCA) and Quaid-e-Azam University Islamabad (QAU) Thursday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), solidifying their commitment to promoting artistic expression, cultural exchange, and academic excellence.

The Vice Chancellor of QAU, accompanied by the Head of the Anthropology Department, Dr. Inam Ullah Laghari, Director of External Linkages, Dr. Salma and faculty members of QAU, signed the MoU alongside the Director General of PNCA, Ayoub

Jamali and his team including Director PNCA Dr. Bilal Karim and others.

The QAU VC thanked the DG PNCA and his team for their efforts, acknowledging PNCA’s pivotal role as the apex culture body in Pakistan, promoting arts and culture in the country.

This collaborative endeavour aims to bridge the gap between art and academia, fostering innovation, creativity, and cultural enrichment. The partnership will enable the development of a joint art and design degree program, providing students with a comprehensive education and degree in art and design.

The MoU also encompasses internships.

Chairman PMYP emphasizes crucial role of technology for empowering youth

RAWALPINDI (APP): Chairman of Prime Minister Youth Programme (PMYP) Rana Mashhood Ahmed Khan on Thursday emphasized the crucial role of technology for empowering youth.

Addressing the event titled “Bridging the Academia-Industry Gap” organized in collaboration with Microsoft and the Higher Education Commission (HEC), the chairman PMYP said that equipping graduates with the latest technological skills is paramount to ensuring their success in the competitive global landscape.

He said that such

events pave the way for a more collaborative and future-proof education system.

Microsoft Pakistan brought together leading figures from academia and industry focusing on nurturing collaboration and equipping graduates with the skills needed to thrive in the modern workplace.

The event commenced with a welcome address by Dr Zia Ul Qayyum, Executive Director of the Higher Education Commission followed by a Keynote by Microsoft’s Director of Education Industry, Central Europe Middle East and Africa Jaye

Richards Hill. Highlighting the importance of this collaboration, Jaye Richards Hill stated, “At Microsoft, we believe that technology can be a powerful bridge between academia and industry. By equipping students with the latest tools and technologies, and fostering collaboration with industry leaders, we can prepare them for the jobs of tomorrow.” Jibril Jamshad speaking to the audience on latest AI offerings by Microsoft, highlighted a recent survey from the World Talent Initiative, which paints a picture of a rapidly changing workplace.

Tarar grieved over death of father of senior journalist

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaullah Tarar on Thursday expressed deep grief and sorrow over the death of the father of senior journalist Saqib Saeed. In a condolence message, the minister expressed his heartfelt condolences and sympathy to the bereaved family. He said he was deeply grieved to hear the news of Saqib Saeed’s father’s death.

ICT admin actions against professional beggars; arrests 17

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Assistant Commissioners (ACs) and Magistrates accompanied by Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) Administration teams have launched operations across the city to address the issue of alms-seeking and arrested 17 professional beggars.

According to the Spokesman of ICT administration, a significant sweep was carried out by the

Assistant Commissioner of Pothohar, resulting in the arrest of 17 individuals involved in begging activities.

The arrested persons were included seven women, seven children, and three men, apprehended from Centaurus, Faisal Masjid, and nearby locations. Those detained have been handed over to the police, while the minors among them have been placed under the care of the Edhi Center.



ISLAMABAD: Coordinator to PM on Monitoring Rana Ehsan Afzal in group photo with participants of five days workshop organized by Woman Media Center.

ARI demands enhanced quit-smoking services in all districts of Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (APP): Alternative Research Initiative (ARI) and its partners on Thursday have called upon the federal and provincial governments to ensure effective and accessible cessation services for adult smokers in districts, tehsils and union councils across

Pakistan. “Adult smokers who have been unable to quit smoking need a helping hand. Helping them in quitting is critical to end combustible smoking in Pakistan,” said Arshad Ali Syed, project director of ARI, in a statement on the occasion of World No Tobacco Day (WNTD).

He added that the national quit line should not only be publicized extensively but its services need drastic improvement.

However, he emphasized the role of provincial governments in providing cessation services at the district level.

Riphah University students visit Senate Secretariat at Parl. House

ISLAMABAD (APP): A delegation of 64 students from Riphah University, along with faculty members, visited the Senate Secretariat at Parliament House on Thursday.

The delegation paid a guided tour of the Senate Museum, during which they watched a documentary outlining the history of the Upper House. Additionally, they were briefed on the electoral and legislative procedures, as well as the overall functioning of the Senate of Pakistan.

The delegation explored the Senate Museum, showing particular interest in the statues and historical photographs depicting prominent politicians of the country.

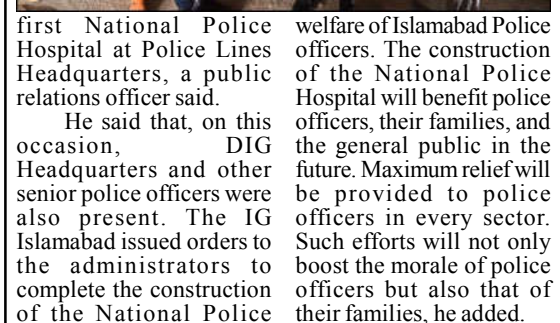
The delegation proceeded to the Senate Hall, where Senate officials provided a comprehensive briefing on the operational protocols, legislative processes, functions.

IGP visits National Police Hospital; directs official to expedite construction work

ISLAMABAD (APP): According to the details, the Inspector General of Police (IGP) Islamabad, Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi, visited the under-construction Pakistan’s first National Police Hospital at Police Lines Headquarters, a public relations officer said.

He said that, on this occasion, DIG Headquarters and other senior police officers were also present. The IGP Islamabad issued orders to the administrators to complete the construction of the National Police

Hospital as soon as possible and to ensure it meets international standards. IG Islamabad Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi said that, several projects have been initiated for the welfare of Islamabad Police officers. The construction of the National Police Hospital will benefit police officers, their families, and the general public in the future. Maximum relief will be provided to police officers in every sector. Such efforts will not only boost the morale of police officers but also that of their families, he added.



Belgium Ambassador calls on PRCS chairman

ISLAMABAD (APP): Charles Delogne, the Belgium Ambassador to Pakistan, visited the National Headquarters of the Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) on Thursday, where the PRCS representatives warmly welcomed him upon arrival.

In his meeting with PRCS Chairman Sardar Shahid Ahmed Laghari, the two leaders discussed the bilateral relations between Pakistan and Belgium, focusing on humanitarian cooperation and exploring potential joint initiatives to support vulnerable communities in Pakistan.

Chairman Laghari emphasized PRCS’s extensive humanitarian services across the country, particularly highlighting the assistance provided to millions affected by the 2022 monsoon floods.

He detailed the

various facilities and support mechanisms PRCS has implemented, including ongoing recovery efforts for flood-affected families such as shelter, livelihood support, WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene), cash assistance and others.

Ambassador Charles Delogne on the occasion extended his best wishes and commended the organization’s efforts under Chairman Laghari’s leadership. He praised PRCS’s initiatives during natural disasters and crises, reiterating Belgium’s commitment to supporting humanitarian causes.

Chairman Laghari appreciated Ambassador Delogne’s contributions during his tenure in Pakistan, acknowledging his role in strengthening Pakistan-Belgium relations and fostering cooperation on the global stage.

AIOU connects library network to LMS for online access

ISLAMABAD (APP): Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) has connected the Library Network with the university’s official website through LMS.

This Library Network comprises 50 libraries, said a press release on Thursday.

According to the special directives of Vice Chancellor Professor Dr. Nasir Mahmood, students and faculty have been provided with online access to academic resources.

These resources include books, digital books, research articles, theses, journals, HEC Digital Library, Open University’s research journals and course books, Iqbal Gallery, Digital Resource Center, Sirat Corner, and an accessibility center for blind individuals.

The students, faculty, and scholars can benefit from these academic resources through the online library catalog, mobile application, and library website.

Amir Muqam will pay a two-day official visit to AJK from today

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit-Baltistan Engineer Amir Muqam will pay a two-day official visit to Azad Jammu and Kashmir from Friday (May 31).

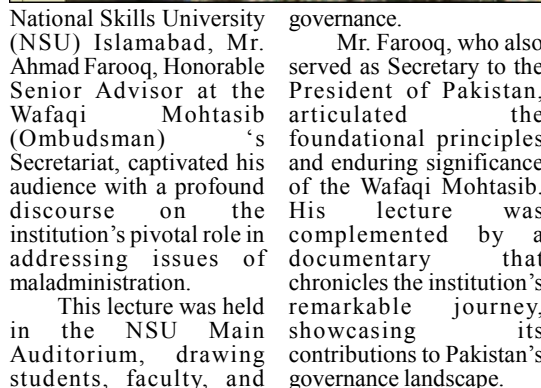
During the visit, Federal Minister Engineer Amir Muqam will hold meetings with the Prime Minister of Azad Jammu and Kashmir and members of the Legislative Assembly, said a press release.

Maqam will hold the meetings with the leadership and workers of Muslim League-N Azad Jammu Kashmir. Engineer Amir Muqam will also take a briefing regarding various development projects from the senior officials.

Wafaqi Mohtasib’s vital role highlighted at National Skills University Islamabad

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: In an enlightening and highly interactive lecture at the

distinguished guests into a conversation on administrative accountability and



National Skills University (NSU) Islamabad, Mr. Ahmad Farooq, Honorable Senior Advisor at the Wafaqi Mohtasib (Ombudsman)’s Secretariat, captivated his audience with a profound discourse on the institution’s pivotal role in addressing issues of maladministration.

This lecture was held in the NSU Main Auditorium, drawing students, faculty, and

governance.

Mr. Farooq, who also served as Secretary to the President of Pakistan, articulated the foundational principles and enduring significance of the Wafaqi Mohtasib. His lecture was complemented by a documentary that chronicles the institution’s remarkable journey, showcasing its contributions to Pakistan’s governance landscape.

Sindh cabinet okays Hub Canal project; 100 acres land allocated for Inclusive City for PWDs

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah presided over a cabinet meeting, approved several initiatives, including launching the Hub Canal project using provincial government resources, additionally, 100 acres of land were allocated for an Inclusive City for Persons with Disabilities.

The cabinet meeting also saw the decision to impose property tax collection in cantonment board areas, acquire 50 electric buses on a Rent Own Financial Model, launch S-BOSS for a consolidated business registry, and form a Sindh-based home workers council.

The meeting was held at CM House on Thursday and was attended by provincial ministers, advisors, the chief secretary, the chairman P&D, SMBR, concerned secretaries and others.

The CM taking a policy decision in the interest of Karachi decided to rehabilitate Hub Canal through his government funding.

Karachi has two major water supply sources – the Indus River through Keenjhar Lake providing about 570 million Gallons Daily (MGD) water and Hub Dam. Hub Canal built in 1982-84 has outlived its life and its capacity reduced from 100 MGD to 70 MGD for many reasons. Some of the large areas of Karachi, including but not limited to, Orangi, Baldia, Kemari, SITE and New Karachi.



LAHORE: A delegation of Pak Numbardar Association Rawalpindi led by Malik Khalid Numdar photographed with Governor Punjab, Sardar Saleem Haider Khan at Governor House.



KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister, Syed Murad Ali Shah presides over a Provincial Cabinet meeting, held at CM House in Karachi.

Syed Qasim Ali says: 'Cancer is a serious health problem'

Independent Report
PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Health Minister, Syed Qasim Ali Shah, announced on Thursday that chemotherapy used in the treatment of breast cancer will be included in the health card very soon.

He made this announcement while speaking at an important function on breast cancer services organized at Khyber Teaching Hospital, according to a press release issued here.

Health Minister Syed Qasim Ali Shah and MNA Arbab Sher Ali attended the ceremony as special guests. Chairman Board of Governor Dr. Umar Ayub Khan, MD Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ayaz Khan, Chairperson General Surgery Prof. Dr. Mah Munir Khan, Assistant Prof. Dr. Irum Sabir, and other faculty members participated in the management of Khyber Teaching Hospital.

In the event, Assistant Professor of Cancer Unit, Dr. Irum Sabir, presented a comprehensive report on the treatment of cancer patients, which highlighted the data of breast cancer patients so far and the problems faced.

She said that in 2022, 6206, 2023, 8733, and 3989 breast cancer patients were treated in 2024. She added, "Breast care services at Khyber Teaching Hospital are exceptional, and we are very proud of our achievements since 2019." Our dedicated team, led by Prof. Dr. Mah Munir Khan, Dr. Irum Sabir, Asst. Assistant Professor Dr. Muhammad Tariq, Assistant Professor Dr. Ashfaq Ahmad Shah, Professor Dr. Hina Gul, Dr. Mahmood Akhtar Khattak, and Dr. Kulsom Nawab, are highly skilled healthcare professionals.

Health Minister Syed Qasim Ali Shah said, "In his speech, he said that cancer is a serious health problem that we have to fight together." "Unfortunately, one in eight women is at risk of developing cancer. We all have to work together to meet this challenge, and more improvements are needed." "I am happy to announce that chemotherapy will soon be included in the health card program to facilitate access to cancer treatment."

Sindh to introduce e-logistics portal, e-payment facilities for ease of people: Sharjeel Memon

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Information Minister, Sharjeel Inam Memon, Thursday, stated that provincial government will introduce an e-logistics portal and e-payment facilities for the ease of people and ensuring transparency.

Sindh Senior Minister Sharjeel Inam Memon, addressing a press conference after the Sindh Cabinet meeting, said that 16 out of total 48 departments of provincial governments including food, revenue, environment, Sindh Building Control Authority and local governments will be digitized and their official work be computerized so that people's problems could be addressed online.

The World Bank supported project will be completed this year and instructions have also been issued to the departments for framing the necessary rules for the initiative, he said and added that after digitization, all public services in those departments would be accessible online from home. The cabinet approved a project for establishing a modern hospital, school, autism center, and playground for special children on 100 acres of land along Malir Expressway, the minister informed adding that previously, many centers have been established through the efforts of the Sindh government and Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah for persons with different abilities. He said that 41 agenda items were discussed in detail and all decisions made in the cabinet meeting were aimed at welfare of the people of Sindh.

Pre-flood mock exercise held at river Chenab

MULTAN (APP): Rescue 1122, along with line departments, conducted a pre-flood mock exercise at the Chenab River to avert an expected flood-like situation.

Additional Deputy Commissioner of Revenue, Faizan Ahmad Riaz, inspected the exercises and camps established by district departments. Emergency Officer Rescue 1122 Engineer Bilal gave a briefing about preparations regarding floods and initiatives.

The drills demonstrated various rescue operations, including shifting flood victims to safer places via boats, providing first aid to the injured, and moving them to field hospitals. Rescue personnel also showcased their swimming skills to rescue individuals without boats, and divers demonstrated techniques to save drowning individuals.

ADCR Faizan Ahmad, on this occasion, said that the district administration was fully alert regarding the expected flood under the directions of the Punjab government.

Agriculture university Dera students get Benazir scholarships

DERA ISMAIL KHAN (APP): As many as 15 students of Agriculture University Dera Ismail Khan received scholarships worth Rs1,266,000 under the Benazir Scholarship programme of the Higher Education Commission (HEC) here on Thursday.

According to the university spokesman on the special instructions of Vice Chancellor Professor Dr Shakeeb Ullah, Registrar Abdul Basit Khan handed over these cheques to the students in a ceremony. Deans, directors, administrative officers, and teachers from all departments of the university were also present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion Scholarship Program Director Dr Asif Nawaz shed light on details about the programme of the HEC, adding that such initiatives help students pursue studies, conveniently.

Governor Punjab for strengthening Numbardari system in villages

Independent Report
LAHORE: A delegation of Pak Numbardar Association Rawalpindi led by Malik Khalid Numdar met Governor Punjab, Sardar Saleem Haider Khan today at Governor House. The delegation congratulated Sardar Saleem Haider Khan on assuming office as the Governor of Punjab.

He added that the government has also started to realize its significance. Governor Punjab said that the Numbardari system is an effective system in solving the problems of the people related to various departments in the villages. Governor Punjab said that by making the numbering system effective, many issues related to agriculture, land and revenue departments could be solved at the grass root level. He said that an empowered Numbardari System would facilitate the government officials.

On this occasion, the delegation informed the Punjab Governor about the various problems faced by them. The delegation demanded the Governor Punjab to revive the Numbardari system. Governor Punjab assured the delegation that he will talk to the Chief Minister of Punjab to solve their problems. Meanwhile Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan met Vice Chairperson Punjab Social Protection Authority (PSPA) here today at Governor House Lahore. During the meeting, Vice Chairperson PSPPA briefed Governor Punjab about the ongoing welfare programmes of Punjab Social Protection Authority.

He added that the government has also started to realize its significance. Governor Punjab said that the Numbardari system is an effective system in solving the problems of the people related to various departments in the villages. Governor Punjab said that by making the numbering system effective, many issues related to agriculture, land and revenue departments could be solved at the grass root level. He said that an empowered Numbardari System would facilitate the government officials.

13 SHOs reshuffled in DI Khan

DERA ISMAIL KHAN (APP): Station House Officers (SHOs) of 13 police stations in Dera Ismail Khan District were reshuffled.

District police officer Dera, Nasir Mehmood issued transfer and posting orders for thirteen SHOs, a police spokesman said.

According to the notification, Arsalan Gandapur transferred and posted as SHO Cantt police station, Muhammad Zeeshan posted as SHO City police station, Khalid Javed posted as SHO Kirri Khasor police station, Gul Sher posted as SHO Dera Town, Faheem Abbas posted as SHO University.

Rs9.66 billion allocated for tourism uplift in KP budget: Advisor Tourism

PESHAWAR (APP): Adviser to the Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Tourism, Culture and Archeology, Zahid Chanzeb, has said that in the provincial budget of the new financial year, a huge chunk of Rs9.66 billion has been allocated for promotion of tourism industry in the province and this amount is 25 per cent more than the past few years.

He said that in the previous four to five years, Pakistan has earned almost 20 billion dollars of foreign exchange annually from the tourism sector alone, which is four percent of the overall national growth rate (GDP), while during the last Eid, 2 to 3 million tourists visited the serene areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa that brought the government an income of up to four billion rupees.

Therefore, he asserted that he gives the clear assurance to the Chief Minister and the people of the province that firstly, the transparent and fair use of this Rs9.66 billion allocated amounts.

PPP rejects KP budget, says it would multiply public woes

PESHAWAR (APP): Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Thursday has rejected the provincial budget of the PTI government for financial year 2024-25 saying it would multiply the financial woes of the people. Addressing a press conference at Peshawar Press Club (PPC), the Deputy Secretary Information PPP Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Gohar Inqilabi said that budget used to be annual economic planning covering financial estimates for the whole year, so it should be based on actual facts and figures

and not on mere assumptions. He said that being a federal parliamentary system, the provincial governments were used to present their annual budgets after its announcement by the federal government. However, this year, he said the PTI government in KP violated this tradition announced it ahead the federal government.

The PPP leader said that before the budget, the session of the provincial assembly was delayed to prevent the oath taking of the women and minorities legislators on reserve seats and now they want to pass.

Khawaja Salman regret over Rs. 347bln annual wastage on smoking in Pakistan

Independent Report
LAHORE: Punjab Health Ministers Khawaja Salman Rafique and Khawaja Imran Nazir expressed deep regret over the annual wastage of Rs 347 billion on smoking in Pakistan.

The ministers made these remarks while speaking as special guests at an awareness seminar on "World No Tobacco Day", held at the Institute of Public Health on Thursday. The event was organised by the Non-Communicable Disease (NCD) programme of the Department of Primary and Secondary Healthcare to address the pressing issue of tobacco addiction.

Khawaja Imran Nazir, Punjab Minister for Primary and Secondary Healthcare, highlighted this year's theme of "World No Tobacco Day", which focuses on protecting the young generation from smoking. He pointed out that different forms of smoking, including shisha and e-cigarettes, contribute significantly to youth addiction. He announced that awareness campaigns would be conducted in all hospitals to mark the occasion, emphasizing that the Rs 347 billion spent on smoking is a severe injustice to society.

"We must not have double standards," he stated. "The people of Pakistan will never forgive those who squander billions for their political gain." He praised the seminar's organizers for their efforts to raise awareness.

Khawaja Imran Nazir, Punjab Minister for Primary and Secondary Healthcare, highlighted this year's theme of "World No Tobacco Day", which focuses on protecting the young generation from smoking. He pointed out that different forms of smoking, including shisha and e-cigarettes, contribute significantly to youth addiction. He announced that awareness campaigns would be conducted in all hospitals to mark the occasion, emphasizing that the Rs 347 billion spent on smoking is a severe injustice to society.

Scholarships awarded to martyrs of Tank police children

DERA ISMAIL KHAN (APP): District Police Officer (DPO) Tank, Abdul Salam Khalid on Thursday awarded educational scholarships to children of the police martyrs.

Constable Muhammad Tariq, Shaheed Constable Mohsin Ali, Shaheed Constable Abdul Rashid, Shaheed Constable Samiullah, and Shaheed Constable Suleman.

According to a police spokesman, the scholarship cheques were handed over at his office where he met with the martyrs' children and heirs.

He expressed his desire to pursue higher education, excel in competitive exams, and achieve prominent positions. Paying glowing tributes to the martyrs, the DPO said they offered supreme sacrifices and said every support would be available for their families.

On this occasion, he addressed the families and children of Shaheed ASI Amir Azam Shah, Shaheed



HYDERABAD: Members of Sindhiyan Tehreek are holding protest demonstration against the killing of Journalist Nasrullah and demanding justice for him, at Hyderabad press club.

BISE chairman visits various exam centres

SUKKUR (APP): Chairman Board of Intermediate Secondary Education (BISE) Sukkur, Rafique Ahmed Palh Thursday said the board authorities have taken all-out measures to ensure a peaceful environment and prevent cheating at the examination centres.

07 dead and 1313 injured in 1232 road traffic crashes in Punjab

Independent Report
LAHORE: The Emergency Services Department (ESD) responded to 1232 Road Traffic Crashes (RTCs) in all 37 districts of Punjab during the last 24 hours. In these RTCs, 07 people died, whereas 1313 were injured. Out of these, 520 people with serious injuries were shifted to different hospitals, while 793 victims with minor injuries were treated at the incident site by Rescue Medical

Teams thus reducing the burden of Hospitals. The majority (75%) involved Motorbikes, therefore effective enforcement of traffic laws and lane discipline are essential to reduce the increasing number of road traffic crashes.

Furthermore, the analysis showed those 738 drivers, 54 underage drivers, 140 pedestrians, and 442 passengers were among the victims of road traffic crashes.

SED develops model project to reduce out of school kids ratio

MULTAN (APP): The School Education Department South Punjab has developed a model project aimed at reducing the rate of out of school children in the region to zero.

The Secretary School Education Department South Punjab, Dr Obaidullah Khokhar, disclosed it during a detailed briefing about the project to the Additional Chief Secretary South Punjab, Fuad Hashim Rabbani. Secretary Services South Punjab, Engineer Amjad Shoaib Khan Tareen, was also in attendance. Dr Khokhar explained that the model project targets six union councils across three districts to eliminate out of school children, including Union Council Muzaffarabad.



MULTAN: Staffers of Rescue 1122 participating in pre-flood mock exercises at Head Muhammadwala.

Rana Tanveer says Government to import 200,000 metric tons of urea fertilizer

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Industries, Production and National Food Security, Rana Tanveer Hussain on Thursday said that the government would import about 200,000 metric tons of urea fertilizer to ensure an uninterrupted supply of the commodity to farmers across the country.

He said this while chairing the second meeting of the high-level committee, which reviewed the measures taken for fertilizer supply chain and pricing, said a press release.

Rana Tanveer said that the smooth supply of urea

during Kharif season was priority of incumbent government, adding that all necessary steps were being taken to prevent smuggling of fertilizers.

The minister said that protecting the interests of farmers was top priority of the government and all measures would be taken to ensure availability of agriculture inputs, he added.

The minister expressed the commitment to supply of urea at affordable price to the farmers in the country, adding that a comprehensive strategy

had been formulated to control the black marketing and smuggling of the Urea.

He called upon the provincial government to implement the initiatives of the federal government and enhance vigilance on distributions, adding that dealers would be strictly monitored for maintaining transparency.

The minister said that dealers and distributors involved in black marketing would be dealt with with iron hands, adding that measures would also be taken to ensure merit and transparency in the distribution system and

overcome exploitation of the farmers. Minister for Power, Sardar Owais Leghari, Minister for Energy, Petroleum Musadik Malik attended the meeting. Member National Assembly, Syed Khurshid Shah, Muhammad Moin Watto, Azhar Khan Leghari, Fatehullah Khan, Nawabzada Mir Jamal Khan Raisani also attended the meeting. Federal Secretary Food Security Muhammad Fakhar Alam and Federal Secretary Industry Wasim Ajmal Chaudhry were also present in the meeting.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb in a meeting with the representatives from Pakistan Association of Large Steel Producers (PALSP), Pakistan Steel Melters Association (PSMA), Pakistan Steel Re-Rolling Mills Association (PSRMA) and Pakistan Steel Pipelines Association (PSPA).



ISLAMABAD: Minister of State for IT and Telecommunication, Ms. Shaza Fatima Khawaja in a meeting with tech company Lenovo.

CCP plays pivotal role in ensuring free and fair competition: Chairman

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) Dr Kabir Ahmed Sidhu Wednesday said that the commission plays vital role in ensuring free and fair competition in all spheres of commercial and economic activities and prevent market abuse to promote good governance.

In a briefing held at Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry, he said that the CCP also ensure corrective behavior and sustainable compliance through advocacy measures and trainings for the corporate sector, said a press release.

He said that engagement with industry and chambers is an integral part of its advocacy outreach, therefore it has been engaging with chambers, academia and professional bodies for the purpose and this session at ICCI is also the part of the same engagements.

Dr Kabir said that CCP and Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry's collaboration

will greatly contribute in alleviating the concerns and complaints regarding unfair practices by certain business entities therein promotion of healthy business environment.

Highlighting the performance of the CCP he stated that heavy penalties are imposed on violators of CCP laws and that a number of cases are also pending in the apex court for final decisions.

Speaking on the occasion, President ICCI Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari underlined the need for provision of level playing field to all the business entities and strict actions against the cartels not only for the ease of business doing but for the benefit of the consumers.

He said that CCP's role in fostering a competitive business environment in economic growth of the country and protecting businesses and consumers from anti-competitive acts and behaviors is of paramount importance and that ICCI will extend all out support to CCP for the cause.

Shipping activity at Port Qasim

KARACHI (APP): Four ships, Maersk Cairo, X-Press Altair, MSC Postiano and Milaha Ras Laffan carrying Container and LNG, berthed at Container Terminal and Port Gas Terminal respectively on Thursday.

Meanwhile three more ships, Maersk Pelepas, Zhida-6 and TRF Kobe scheduled to load/offload Container, Rice and Chemicals also arrived at outer-anchorage of the Port Qasim on during last 24 hours.

A total of 10 ships were engaged at PQA berths during the last 24 hours, out of them four ships, Atlantic Ibis, X-Press Altair, MSC Postiano and PVT Venus left the port on today morning while three more ships, Bo-Mustafa-O, Gelico and Maersk Cairo are expected to sail on today.

Cargo volume of 157,915 tonnes, comprising 121,966 tonnes imports cargo and 35,949 tonnes export cargo carried in 4,368 Containers (3,279 TEUs Imports and 1,089 TEUs export) was handled at the port during last 24 hours There are 08 ships at Outer Anchorage of Port Qasim, out of them three ships, Tarsus-M, Intution and Bateleur & three more ships.

PSX gains 41 points

ISLAMABAD (APP): The 100-index of the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) gained 41.82 points on Thursday, a slight positive change of 0.06 per cent, closing at 74,878.12 points against 74,836.30 points the previous day.

A total of 410,575,241 shares valuing Rs 14,922 billion were traded during the day as compared to 408,073,662 shares valuing Rs 16,500 billion the previous day.

As many as 413 companies transacted their shares in the stock market; 161 of them recorded gains and 196 sustained losses, whereas the share price of 56 companies remained unchanged.

The three top trading companies were Fauji Cement with 42,521,383 shares at Rs 22.91 per share, Dewan Cement with 26,322,838 shares at Rs 11.06 per share and Dewan Motors with 25,937,975 shares at Rs 44.73 per share.

ICAP hosts conference on 'Driving Economic Change 2024'

ISLAMABAD (APP): Speakers at a conference on Thursday emphasized the critical importance of adopting sustainable economic practices to effectively combat climate change and ensure a greener future for economic development and social prosperity in the country.

The conference titled "Driving Economic Change: Working Today for a Greener Tomorrow," was organized by the Economic Advisory Committee of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan (ICAP), said a press release. Addressing the conference Mohammad Zubair, Former Governor of Sindh emphasized the urgent need for collaborative efforts to address environmental challenges and promote sustainable practices in the country.

He highlighted the roles of the government, private sector and civil society in driving positive change toward a greener future.

Waleed Iqbal, Former Member of the Senate, Pakistan, also emphasized the critical importance of adopting sustainable economic practices to effectively combat climate

change and ensure a greener future. He highlighted the necessity of aligning economic development with environmental conservation and emphasized the roles of innovation and collaboration in driving meaningful change.

Renowned economist and public policy adviser, Dr. Khaqan Hassan Najeeb, in his presentation, focused on the critical intersection of economic policies and environmental sustainability. He emphasized the need for Pakistan to adopt greener practices for a sustainable future. Farrukh Rehman, President of ICAP, highlighted the imperative of driving economic change with a conscientious approach. He stressed the need of sustainable and ethical expansion, aligned with the organization's long-term vision, is paramount for enduring success. He underscored the critical need for innovation in financial management, urging CFOs to explore new technologies, strategies, and business models to drive growth while ensuring environmental sustainability and social responsibility.

Aleem Khan holds meeting with prominent businessmen of Tajikistan

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Privatisation, Board of Investment and Communication Abdul Aleem Khan held a meeting on Thursday with prominent business figures from Tajikistan to discuss prospects for enhancing bilateral trade and investment cooperation between the two countries.

Over ten major business groups from the textile, pharmaceutical, construction, IT, banking, and airline sectors attended the meeting. The investors

expressed keen interest in constructing a goods terminal for import and export near the Pakistan-Tajikistan border, said a press release.

The minister assured all possible support and patronage for business-to-business activities, stating that all economic sectors are open to businessmen from Central Asia. He emphasised that Pakistan could be a significant agricultural and trade market.

He informed the businessmen that Pakistan's private sector is ready to engage in trade with other countries. He added that the government would incentivise foreign investors to invest in free economic zones and other areas to promote industrial development in the country. Abdul Aleem Khan expressed hope that the bilateral business volume between Pakistan and Tajikistan would further increase with the frequent exchange of trade and business delegations.

President ADBL, Chairman CDA call on KP Governor

PESHAWAR (APP): President Agriculture Development Bank Limited, Tahir Yaqoob Bhatti on Thursday called on Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor, Faisal Karim Kundi in Islamabad and discussed matters relating to goals of the bank. According to a release issued here, KP Governor lauded the role of ADBL in promotion of agriculture sector. He also appreciated performance of bank.



President Zafar Bakhtawari Bank Limited (ZTBL) Tahir Yaqoob Bhatti call on Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi in Islamabad.

New air cargo route to strengthen trade ties between China, Pakistan

BEIJING (APP): A new air cargo route inaugurated on May 28, linking Guizhou, China with Karachi, Pakistan will further strengthen trade ties between China and Pakistan.

The route was launched with the departure of an all-cargo plane carrying 6 tonnes of freight, including clothing, electronics, and various commodities, from Guiyang, the capital of Guizhou, China Economic Net (CEN) reported.

After nearly six hours of flight time, the plane arrived in Karachi. It will return to Guiyang loaded with blue crabs from Pakistan, according to Guiyang Customs.

The route, jointly opened by Guizhou Civil Aviation Industry Group Co., Ltd and China

Logistics Group Co. (China Logistics Group), is planned to be carried out three times a week, carrying goods including hardware accessories, clothing fabrics, electronic accessories and so on.

This air route is significant as it marks the first direct connection between Guizhou and Pakistan, as well as the first air freight route linking the province with a Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) country. Officials believe that this new route will help establish Guiyang as a cargo distribution center in southwest China and reduce the time for Pakistan's quality fresh products to reach Guizhou. The inauguration of the Guiyang-Karachi air cargo route is expected to facilitate trade between the two regions.

PBS organizes second awareness workshop for agriculture census

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) has organized the second awareness building workshop for the 7th Agricultural Census 2024, which will utilize an Integrated Digital Count approach for evidence based planning and policy formulation to develop the agriculture and livestock sectors in the country.

The initial awareness building workshop took place on May 27 at the Sindh University of Agriculture Tandojam, Hyderabad, where as the second workshop of this series was conducted in University of Agriculture, Peshawar, said a press release.

upcoming Agricultural Census of Pakistan. The event was attended by Muhammad Javed Marwat, Secretary Agriculture Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Vice Chancellor of the University Professor Dr Jehan Bakht, the representative of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Peshawar, Farrukh Toirov also attended the workshop.

Vice Chancellor of the University Professor Dr Jehan Bakht highlighted the importance of provision of accurate data in shaping country's agricultural policies and programs and emphasized that the agricultural census is a crucial initiative for provision of comprehensive understanding of our agricultural sectors strengths, weakness and potentials.

He said that it will enable to identify the areas for improvement.



FAISALABAD: An artisan working on the looms in Muhammadabad.



ISLAMABAD: President Markazi Tanzeem-e-Tajran Pakistan Muhammad Kashif Chaudhry, General Secretary Syed Abdul Qayyum Agha, Chairman Khawaja Suleman Siddique, Sarafat Ali Mubarak, Hakeem Shah Kharoti and other addressing a Press conference.

KPRA surpasses revenue collection target for FY 2023-24

PESHAWAR (APP): Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Revenue Authority (KPRA) has surpassed the revenue collection target for the financial year 2023-24 and has collected Rs.37 billion against the assigned revenue target of Rs.35 billion.

This was told during a meeting of the Revenue Policy Board held here with Chief Minister Ali Amin Khan in the chair, said an official press release issued here on Thursday. Besides, members of the provincial cabinet administrative secretaries and other concerned authorities also attended the meeting.

The meeting was briefed in detail regarding

the steps, success, and other matters of the revenue authority relating to the increase in the provincial government's income.

The participants of the meeting were told that for the current financial year 2023-24, the authority was assigned a revenue collection target of Rs.35 billion and so far, it has already surpassed the target and collected a revenue of Rs.37 billion.

For the next financial year 2024-25, the meeting fixed a revenue collection target of Rs.47 billion.

The meeting also approved budget estimates of the revenue authority for the new financial year.

Traders' bodies announce support for Business Forum in SCCI election

PESHAWAR (APP): Presidents and office bearers of all trades unions and bodies from Peshawar reposed full trust on Businessman Forum (BF) under dynamic leadership of former senator Ilyas Ahmad Bilour and announced to fully support the Businessman Forum in the upcoming election of the Sarhad Chamber of Commerce and Industry. A meeting was held under chairmanship of the Sarhad Chamber of

Commerce and Industry president Fuad Ishaq at the chamber House here on Thursday to discuss traders' issues and their appropriate resolution and devising a comprehensive strategy. Businessman Forum leader former senator Ilyas Ahmad Bilour, Anjuman e Tajraan Khyber Pakhtunkhwa president and former president of the SCCI Haji Muhammad Afzal, former president FPCCI Ghazanfar Bilour.

Mirpurkhas gears up for 56th Mango Festival

MIRPURKHAS (APP): All preparations for the 56th Mango Festival in Mirpurkhas are complete, with the three-day national mango exhibition set to begin on May 31.

The District Administration and Mango Festival Management Committee have ensured on Thursday everything is in place for the annual event. Chairman of the Mango Festival Management Committee, Rais Arif Khan Bhurgari, confirmed that farmers are busy setting up their stalls at the Sindh Horticulture Research Institute (Fruit Farm). The event schedule includes registration and stall setup starting at 8 AM on May 31, followed by a grand fireworks display at 8:30 PM. On June 1, an agricultural technical seminar will take place from 9 AM to 6 PM, featuring Secretary Agriculture Rafiq Ahmed Buriro and Chairman District Council Mirpurkhas Mir Anwar Ali Khan Talpur as chief guests. Traditional Sindh sport 'Malkhra' will be showcased, with Mir Anwar Ali Talpur presiding as the chief guest. Additionally, a cycle race for girls will be held, with routes from Tando Alhiyar Bypass to Muhammad Medical College and from Muhammad Medical College to Gamma Stadium.



LAHORE: Tarpaulin are being selling as demand of tarpaulin increased in city during the hot weather of summer season, near Railway Station in Lahore.

CNDS prioritize automation, digitization in institution

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Central Directorate of National Savings (CNDS) is continuously undergoing a process of institutional reforms in which automation and digitization are the main priorities. The CNDS reforms programme was approved by the Cabinet for structural changes in the prime institute in economic significance to provide better delivery service and equipped with modern tools for shifting from manual to innovative Information Technology (IT) services, the senior official of CNDS told APP here on Thursday. He said that CNDS had the plan to unveil the reforms

programme on World Saving Day, which is a future game plan for enhancing the institution's capacity. Replying to a question, he said the Central Directorate of National Savings (CNDS) had attained a target of Rs1.515 trillion in fresh bonds and achieved 85 percent of the annual target in the current fiscal year, from July 1 to May 26th. The National Savings has set an annual target of Rs 1.742 trillion for the year 2023-24, in which it is encouraging that 85 percent of the target has been achieved, and it is hoped that National Savings will surpass its annual target this FY 2023-24, he said.

