

Kundi for upholding academic reputation of Edwards College

PESHAWAR (APP): Governor of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), Faisal Karim Kundi, visited Edwards College here on Friday and called for upholding the academic reputation of the college. He said, "Edwards College is the premier historical educational institution of the province, and it is the shared responsibility of all of us

to uphold its quality of education." The governor inspected the international language courses center, the central library, and various classrooms in the college. He also reviewed the ongoing annual examinations at the college. The principal of the college, Professor Shujaat Ali Khan, briefed the governor about the

historical status of the college, curricular and extracurricular activities, scholarships, and academic performance. A briefing was also given regarding the structure of the Board of Governors, Executive Committee, and Finance Committee of the college. Later, the governor planted a sapling on the lawn of Edwards College.



LAHORE: Ambassador of Turkey Mehmed Pacaci meeting with acting Punjab Governor Malik Muhammad Ahmed Khan at Governor House.

Minister reviews 100-day performance of Education Dept, introduces reforms

LAHORE (APP): Education Minister Rana Sikandar Hayat Friday said that the department exposed fake enrollment numbers of the previous government and ensured National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) verification for all future admissions. While reviewing 100-day performance of the Education Department, he said for the first time in history, 1.2 million students were enrolled after NADRA verification within a short period and highlighted that within the first 100 days of the government, a new transfer policy for teachers was introduced in consultation with them, ensuring transparency and benefits for teachers. The education minister said that a pilot project for a nutrition

programme had been initiated in the schools of Raiwand tehsil, with plans to extend the model to all schools. He noted that the school registration system had been made more efficient and that there was a renewed focus on the quality of education. Additionally, the department was introducing a modern system for monitoring educational institutions, he added and further mentioned that previous administrations had never taken action against cheating mafias. He said as per the instructions of Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz, the cheating network had been dismantled. Cameras had been installed in exam centres, leading to the elimination of the cheating mafia, the minister added.

LHC extends market hours for Eidul Azha

LAHORE (APP): The Lahore High Court (LHC) on Friday extended market operating hours for the occasion of Eidul Azha. The court allowed markets to stay open until 12am [midnight] up to Eidul Azha and until 1am on weekends. Justice Shahid Karim issued the orders while hearing petitions, filed by Haroon Farooq and others regarding ineffective measures to control smog. During the proceedings, the Punjab Food Authority (PFA) submitted a report about dead chickens, stating that 46,670-kg dead chickens were discarded from Tollinton Market.

Measles outbreak worsens in Punjab, 3 more children die

LAHORE (APP): The measles outbreak in Punjab continues to escalate, with alarming increases in both suspected and confirmed cases. Tragically, three children have succumbed to the disease in Multan during the past 24 hours, as reported by the Health Department on Friday. These recent fatalities bring the total number of measles-related deaths among children in Punjab to 30.



GILGIT: Country Head UN Women Lansana Wonneh addresses at the 2nd Annual Women's Summit for Strengthening Bonds, Finding Joy & Developing Collective Voice at old Assembly Building Chinar Bagh.

Azma Bukhari says: CM Punjab committed to implement 43 exemplary initiatives across Punjab

ISLAMABAD (APP): Punjab Information Minister Azma Bukhari Friday while appreciating exemplary 43-initiatives of Chief Minister Punjab government during her 100 days' performance assured that all public welfare projects will soon practically and equally be implemented across Punjab without in discrimination. Talking to a private news channel, she said that one of the commendable achievements under the leadership of Maryam Nawaz Sharif has been a dramatic reduction in inflation, adding, the introduction of air ambulance, field hospitals and clinic on wheels has revolutionary medical services for people of Punjab. These remarkable measures underscore her commitment to ensuring that healthcare is not a privileged but a fundamental right of every citizen, she added. Under the leadership of Maryam Nawaz Punjab is also witnessing a transport revolution, adding, eco-friendly buses in various cities is a significant step towards sustainable transportation, she added.

PPP asks KP CM to tender apology for derogatory remarks

PESHAWAR (APP): The Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Peshawar city chapter has asked KP Chief Minister Ali Amin Khan Gandapur to tender apology for his derogatory remarks against PPP leadership and Governor KP Faisal Karim Kundi. Addressing a press conference at press club here Friday, President PPP Peshawar City, Zulfikar Afghani warned the chief

Old enmity claimed 3 lives in Esa Khail

SARGODHA (APP): As many as three persons were killed, while six sustained bullet injuries in the firing incident here at Kalu Shareef area. Police said that two Pathan groups of Esa khail had an old enmity over some domestic issues. On the day of incident, some unidentified armed outlaws opened fire at passenger van and killed Faraz (22), Asmatullah (40) and Saeed Ahmed (46), all residents of Munda Khail on the spot, while passengers including Muhammad Wasif, Shakeel Khan, Muzaffer, Kaneez Fatima, Naaz bibi and others sustained injuries.

May 9 related cases: ATC extends bail of Yasmin, Umar Cheema

LAHORE (Online): Anti Terrorism Court (ATC) has extended bail of PTI leaders Dr Yasmin Rashid, Umar Sarfaraz Cheema and others in May 9 cases. The hearing of bail pleas of Dr Yasmin Rashid, Umar Sarfaraz Cheema, Ijaz Chaudhry and Mian Mahmood ur Rashid in four cases related to May 9 incident was held in ATC Lahore. No headway could be made in the case being Judge Arshid Javed of ATC on leave. The court while granting extension in bail of the accused adjourned the hearing of the case till June 12.

'NourishMaa' campaign launched in KP to highlight maternal malnutrition

Independent Report
PESHAWAR: Nutrition International, in collaboration with the Health Department of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), has launched the 'NourishMaa' campaign in the province. The initiative aims at enhancing maternal nutrition by improving the knowledge and skills of healthcare providers (HCPs) and frontline health workers (FHWs). A press release issued here Friday said that already operational in six districts across Punjab and Sindh, the campaign has now extended to KP, specifically targeting Mardan and Battagram, districts with particularly high rates of maternal malnutrition. Speaking on the occasion Minister for Health KP, Syed Qasim Ali Shah, said the health and nutrition of mothers and children are foundational pillars for the overall development of our society, emphasising the critical role of maternal nutrition in ensuring the well-being of both mothers and children. The minister highlighted the urgency of addressing maternal malnutrition and the essential role of healthcare providers in fostering a healthier future.



GUJRANWALA: Punjab Information Minister Azma Bukhari talking to media person on the eve of collective marriage ceremony.

Ramesh Arora orders better arrangements for Sikh pilgrims

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Minister for Minorities and Head of Pakistan Sikh Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee (PSGPC) Ramesh Singh Arora has ordered for making better arrangements for Sikh yatrees' accommodation, travel, and security while relevant departments have to provide services round-the-clock. He expressed these views while charging consultative meeting in Dera Sahib after his visit on Friday. He told the members of PSGPC that in a significant gesture of religious harmony, the High Commission in New Delhi has issued visas to Indian Sikh pilgrims in anticipation of the martyrdom day of Guru Arjan Dev Ji, the fifth guru of Sikhs. The minister was briefed that pilgrims are scheduled to cross into Pakistan via Wagah border crossing on June 8, marking a poignant moment of cross-border cultural and religious exchange. The primary commemorative ceremony is set to take place on June 16 at Gurdwara Dera Sahib in Lahore, a site of deep historical and spiritual significance, where Guru Arjan Dev Ji was martyred in 1606.

International News

Over 100 killed as rebels attack village in Sudan

Monitoring Desk
PORT SUDAN: A Sudanese pro-democracy activists' committee on Thursday reported "more than 104" dead in a single day when paramilitary forces attacked a village, as the UN warned of mass displacement and starvation. The Rapid Support Forces (RSF), which have been at war with the regular army since April 2023, on Wednesday attacked the central village of Wad al-Noura in al-Jazira state "in two waves" with heavy artillery, the Madani Resistance Committee said. It reported on Wednesday that the feared paramilitaries had "invaded the village", causing dozens of casualties and wide-

spread displacement. The attack "claimed the lives of more than 104 martyrs" and "injured hundreds" said the committee, one of hundreds of similar grassroots groups across Sudan, adding that it reached the toll via "initial communication with village residents". The UN resident coordinator for Sudan, Clementine Nkweta-Salami, said she was "shocked by reports of violent attacks and a high number of casualties" in the village. She called for an investigation and for "those responsible to be held accountable". "Human tragedy has become a hallmark of life in Sudan. We cannot allow impunity to become another one," she added. On social media, the committee shared footage of what it said was a "mass grave" in the public square, showing rows of white shrouds laid out in a courtyard. In a little over a year, the war has killed tens of thousands of people, including up to 15,000 in a single West Darfur town. However, the war's overall death toll remains unclear, with some estimates of up to 150,000, according to US special envoy for Sudan Tom Perriello. The RSF has repeatedly besieged and attacked entire villages across the country, and has been notorious for widespread looting as well as sexual and ethnic violence.

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Palestinians gather as people flee Rafah due to an Israeli military operation, amid the Israel-Hamas conflict, in Rafah, in the southern Gaza Strip.

G7 summit: EU to consider leveraging windfall profits from Russia's frozen assets

Monitoring Desk
BRUSSELS: European Union finance ministers will consider a G7 plan for leveraging windfall profits generated by Russian assets, immobilised in the West after Russia's invasion of Ukraine, after a G7 summit later in June, the ministers' chairman said. Paschal Donohoe, who chairs meetings of euro zone finance ministers, said after a video teleconference of EU ministers on Wednesday that there was unwavering support to help Ukraine meet its financing needs. "The discussion among ministers showed appreciation for the constructive engagement with G7 partners in this regard and full support for it to continue," Donohoe said in the statement after the teleconference. "Finance ministers will consider at their June meeting the need for further discussions following the G7 Summit in Apulia," he added.

US and British airstrikes hit Yemen

Monitoring Desk
DUBAI: US and British forces carried out six airstrikes on targets in Yemen on Friday, a Houthi-run television station said. Four attacks were made on the airport of Hodeidah - a main port city on the Red Sea - and the seaport of Salif to the north, Al-Masirah TV said. Two strikes also hit the Al-Thawra region north of the Yemeni capital Sanaa, it said. The Houthis, who control Sanaa and most populous areas, have attacked international shipping in the Red Sea since November in solidarity with the Palestinians.

Mexico's president-elect says no decision yet on constitutional reforms

Monitoring Desk
MEXICO CITY: Mexico's President-elect Claudia Sheinbaum said late on Thursday no decision had been made on a package of constitutional reforms put forward by outgoing President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, local media reported. The specter that Sheinbaum's leftist Morena party and its allies were within earshot of securing the two-thirds, super-majority needed in both chambers of Congress to pass the controversial measures un-

NATO to set allies tougher targets for air defence and missiles, diplomat says

Monitoring Desk
BERLIN: The NATO alliance is expected to set its members more demanding targets to bolster their air defence, long-range missiles and logistics capability, a European diplomat told Reuters on Friday. NATO has drafted the first major defence plans since the end of the Cold War, spelling out how the alliance would respond to a Russian attack.

Putin says Russia does not need to use nuclear weapons for victory in Ukraine

Monitoring Desk
ST PETERSBURG: Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Friday there was no need to use nuclear weapons to deliver victory for Moscow in Ukraine, the strongest signal yet from the Kremlin chief that there will not be a nuclear strike. Putin, whose forces have been making advances in eastern Ukraine in recent months, said he did not see the conditions for the use of such weapons and requested that people stop discussing the nuclear topic. However Putin, who leads the world's biggest nuclear power, said he did not rule out changes to Russia's nuclear doctrine, which sets out the conditions under which such weapons could be used. He also said that if necessary Russia could test a nuclear weapon, though he saw no need to do so at the present time. Putin's response came to a question from Sergei Karaganov, an influential Russian analyst, who asked if Putin should hold a "nuclear pistol to the temple" of the West over Ukraine. "The use is possible in an exceptional case - in the event of a threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country. I don't think that such a case has come. There is no such need," Putin said at the St Petersburg International Economic Forum. "But this doctrine is a living tool and we are carefully watching what is happening in the world around us and do not exclude making some changes to this doctrine."

Rights body urges Biden to halt arms supply to Israel

Monitoring Desk
WASHINGTON: A civil rights organisation urged President Joe Biden on Thursday to "indefinitely" halt all weapons deliveries to Israel and pressure the US ally to end its bombardment of the Gaza Strip, sending a reminder that his support for Israel could hurt him among Black voters in November's election. The call by the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People (NAACP) was a rare instance of an influential body taking a position on US foreign policy towards a country without a significant black population. It appeared likely to deepen the Democrat president's election-year challenges as he tries to back a key ally abroad and temper unrest among his supporters at home. The NAACP urged Hamas to return the Israeli prisoners and called upon Israel to "commit to an offensive strategy that is aligned with international and humanitarian laws". The NAACP, which has advocated for racial justice and rights for Black Americans, said the US must use its influence with Israel to bring a permanent ceasefire to Gaza. "The NAACP calls on President Biden to draw the red line and indefinitely end the shipment of all weapons and artillery to the state of Israel and other states that supply weapons to Hamas and other terrorist organisations. "It is imperative that the violence that has claimed so many civilian lives, immediately stop," the organisation said in a statement.

Indonesian president in damage control over new capital

Monitoring Desk
JAKARTA: Indonesia's president is rushing to reassure investors and bureaucrats about his \$32 billion new capital city in a malaria-prone pocket of Borneo, after the resignations of two officials overseeing the plan raised fresh doubts about its future. President Joko Widodo's announcement that he will start working next month from an office in Nusantara, a giant construction site over 1,200km (750 miles) from the current

capital Jakarta, is unlikely to allay fears about his legacy project, analysts say. "Investor confidence has dropped, I think. They were already in doubt and in 'wait-and-see' mode, partly because of the unclear land status, partly because of a lack of transparency in governance of the new capital," said Yanuar Nugroho, the president's former deputy chief of staff. "The resignations worsen this... instead of explaining what really happened, the government is trying to cover it up."

Two British judges quit Hong Kong's top court

Monitoring Desk
HONG KONG: Two British judges have resigned from Hong Kong's top court, about a week after a landmark verdict that convicted 14 prominent democratic activists of subversion, amid a national security crackdown on dissent in the financial hub. In a statement, the Hong Kong judiciary said two prominent British judges, Lawrence Collins and Jonathan Sumption, had tendered their resignations from the city's Court of Final Appeal (CFA).



Russia's President Vladimir Putin, Bolivia's President Luis Arce and Zimbabwe's President Emmerson Mnangagwa attend a plenary session of the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum (SPIEF) in Saint Petersburg, Russia.

Pakistan, China sign 23 MoUs for cooperation in industry, energy, agriculture, other sectors

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan and China on Friday signed 23 Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) to deepen bilateral cooperation in multiple areas including transport infrastructure, industry, energy, agriculture, media, health, water, socioeconomic development, and other areas of mutual interest.

The MoUs were signed after Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and his Chinese counterpart Li Qiang held delegation-level talks wherein they reaffirmed that the Pakistan-China Strategic Cooperative Partnership was characterized by mutual trust, shared principles, and strategic governance. Foreign Office spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch told the media at her weekly press briefing.

Both sides also expressed unwavering support for each other's core issues and reiterated their commitment to the high-quality development of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and the timely completion of ongoing projects.

Both sides also resolved to protect the CPEC from detractors and adversaries with Prime Minister Shehbaz PM reaffirming commitment to ensure the safety and security of Chinese personnel and projects in Pakistan.

The two countries agreed to maintain high-level exchanges, including strengthening of institutional linkages in all tiers and spheres, besides continuing to hold consultations on matters of bilateral and global significance, particularly during Pakistan's two-year term as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council for the term 2025-2026.

The spokesperson said, "Since his arrival in China, the prime minister has met with Chinese investors and businesspersons to explore investment opportunities in Pakistan."

In the meeting and events including a Business Forum in Shenzhen, he encouraged the Chinese companies to invest and develop joint ventures.

Several MoUs have also been signed with Chinese companies in economy, green energy, textiles, and manufacturing.

Before he departed for a five-day visit to China, the prime minister had told the Chinese media in an interview that he would engage with Chinese business leaders to secure investments and yield dividends mutually beneficial for companies on both sides.



BEIJING: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif is being presented with the Guard of Honor at Great Hall of the People.

Japan's contribution enhances food security, nutrition builds resilience in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (APP): The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) acknowledges the Government of Japan's generous contributions under three projects that provided emergency assistance for the stabilization of food-insecure people in the flood-affected areas of Pakistan, implemented in Sindh, Balochistan, Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

WFP organized a Project Completion ceremony to recognize the vital contributions of USD 7.2 million (USD 3.7 million, USD 2.5 million and USD 1 million) from the Government of Japan to address the critical needs of 246,000 people affected by the unprecedented 2022 floods in Pakistan, said a press release issued here on Friday.

The USD 2.5 million enabled WFP to provide emergency food assistance to flood-affected communities, ensuring their immediate food security and nutrition needs in 2022, while the USD 3.7 million and USD 1 million contributions helped WFP to deliver nutritionally balanced food every month to those actively involved in community rehabilitation, livelihood and resilience building initiatives and identified through district-level consultations in 2023.

The USD 3.7 million grants also supported conditional cash assistance during the early recovery phase.



QUETTA: Speaker Balochistan Assembly Captain (ret) Abdul Khaliq Achakzai and Provincial Minister Mir Zahoor Ahmed Buledi meeting with Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti

Secretary Maritime says Gwadar economic zone offers unique opportunities for Chinese investors

ISLAMABAD (APP): Secretary for Maritime Affairs, Zafar Ali Shah on Friday said the Gwadar free economic zone has immense investment potential and offering unique opportunities for Chinese investors.

In a statement, he highlighted Gwadar's potential as a leading transshipment hub, enhanced maritime infrastructure, and incentives for businesses.

He said due to Gwadar's strategic location, modern port facilities, and supportive regulatory environment make it an ideal investment destination.

Zafar Ali further discussed the incentives for investors including streamlined customs procedures, and robust legal protections.

He added that due to diverse sectors such as manufacturing, logistics, and technology there exist huge industrial growth opportunities for the potential investors.

It is welcoming that great interest was shown by the Chinese companies in Gwadar and investment in Pakistan, he concluded.

Pak, Indonesia & Turkiye call for collective efforts to combat Islamophobia

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Consulate Generals of Pakistan, Turkiye, and Indonesia in New York co-hosted a significant event on combating Islamophobia.

In their opening statements, the Consul Generals emphasized their governments' collective commitment to combating Islamophobia, while also advocating for peace, tolerance, and inter-religious dialogue.

In his remarks, Consul General of Pakistan, Aamer Ahmad emphasized Israel's genocidal actions in Gaza as a stark illustration of global Islamophobia and shed light on prevalent Islamophobic incidents worldwide, including hate speech, targeted attacks, and discrimination against Muslims.

He further brought into focus the systematic destruction of religious sites in India.

NA informed Pak Airlines flights to EU will be resumed soon

ISLAMABAD (INP): Newly elected members of the House Ali Qasim Gilani and Zainab Mahmood Baloch took oath as members of the National Assembly today.

Deputy Speaker Syed Ghulam Mustafa Shah administered the oath. Responding to a calling attention notice, Minister of State for Power Division Ali Pervaiz Malik said load-shedding of six to ten hours is being carried out only on high loss feeders of the K-Electric in Karachi. He said feeders showing losses of over twenty-five percent face load-shedding.

Responding to another calling attention notice, Ali Pervaiz Malik said a safety commission of the European Union de-listed Pakistan from its air safety concern list last month. Similarly, Pakistan has submitted its action plan to another safety list which is under verification process.

PM given guard of honour at Great Hall of the People

BEIJING (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday was given a guard of honor at the Great Hall of the People where he arrived to meet the top Chinese leadership. As the prime minister arrived at the formal reception ceremony, Chinese Premier Li Qiang warmly received him which followed the introduction of their respective delegations to each other. The national anthems of Pakistan and China were played as the prime minister stood at the salute dias along with his Chinese counterpart.

The smartly turned-out contingents of the People's Liberation Army presented the guard of honour.

Pakistan, Russia signed MoU to upgrade railway sector

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan and Russia signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Cooperation in Railway sector on Friday on the sidelines of 27th St. Petersburg International Economic Forum (SPIEF).

The Memorandum of Understanding aims to explore opportunities for implementing railway upgrade projects and other initiatives within this crucial sector.

According to a press release issued by the Ministry of Railways, the MoU also establishes a framework for potential future collaboration with relevant companies operating in this sector.

Furthermore, it seeks to enhance and streamline international cargo transport.

The MoU was signed by Ambassador Muhammad Khalid Jamali from Pakistan side and Deputy Transport Minister D.S. Zverev from the Russian side.



QUETTA: Provincial Minister for C&W Mir Saleem Ahmed Khosa being briefed about ongoing development projects in the city



QUETTA: Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti addressing "Safar-e-Mualim" ceremony organized by Voice of Balochistan

Pakistan calls for India's accountability over 7,000 custodial deaths in IIOJK

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan on Friday reiterated its call for India to be held accountable for its unabated human rights abuses in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) where over 7,000 Kashmiris had so far died in the custody of Indian forces during the last three decades.

Foreign Office spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch, at her weekly press briefing, highlighted the reported death of a Kashmiri civilian at a police station in IIOJK's Pulwama district.

"This is not the first incident of its kind as over the last three decades the number of custodial deaths in IIOJK has exceeded 7,000. The perpetrators of these crimes should be held accountable," she said reaffirming Pakistan's continuous political, diplomatic and moral support to Kashmiri people for the just and peaceful settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute in accordance with the UN Security Council resolutions.

Highlighting Pakistan's election as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council for the term 2025-2026 with the overwhelming support of 182 members of the UN General Assembly, she thanked the members, particularly Asia Pacific Group for their confidence.

She told the media that at the Council, Pakistan would play its role in the peaceful resolution of disputes, opposing the resort to unilateral force, combating terrorism in all forms and manifestations, supporting UN peacekeeping efforts, resolution for regional and international crises, and promoting democracy, transparency, and accountability.

Spokesperson Baloch strongly condemned the horrific bombing of Israeli forces on the UN-run school sheltering Palestinian refugees that led to multiple deaths of mostly women and children.

"This attack is another crime in a series of attacks against civilians including an IDP Camp last week that resulted in the deaths of 45 Palestinians. The deliberate targeting of civilian population and facilities is a grave violation of international law and constitutes war crimes," she added.

Condemning the storming of the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound by hundreds of Israeli extremists, she said it was the responsibility of the occupation authorities to respect religious sites.



QUETTA: A delegation of Quetta Development Mahaz led by former Chief Minister Balochistan Dr. Abdul Malik Baloch meeting with Governor Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail

Zamindars have to detach them from regular power supply system after solarization of agri tube wells: Bugti

Independent Report
QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti has categorically stated that the zamindars have to detach them from regular power supply system of Quetta Electric Supply Company (QESCO) after solarization of the agricultural tube wells in the province.

He said that we would have the financial cooperation of federal government for solarization of the agricultural tube wells, however, it's reservations have to be removed on the solarization.

He insisted that the electricity could not be acquired from the regular power system after regularization.

The Chief Minister was speaking to the delegation of Balochistan Zamindar Action Committee, who called on him here at the CM's secretariat on Friday.

Also present in the meeting were included the provincial ministers Mir Shoaib Nausherwani, Mir Ali Madad Jatak and Nawabzada Tariq Magso besides office bearers of Zamindar Action Committee. During the course of meeting, the matters about solarization of agricultural tube wells in the province.

Speaking to the members of delegation, Chief Minister stressed that Zamindar Action Committee would have to give guarantee that the electricity would not be acquired from the regular power system after converting the agricultural tube wells on solar energy. The necessary legislation would be made in this regard, if needed so, he added.

The Chief Minister on the occasion asserted that stern action would be taken against those involved in pilferage of electricity. He also warned that stern action would also be taken against the personnel of QESCO if found involved in the power pilfering.

Industries Department promoting culture of Balochistan: Pirkani

Independent Report
QUETTA: The Secretary Industries Department, Noor Ahmed Pirkani has stated that the Industries department is promoting culture of the province besides imparting training to the youngsters in different sectors of life so that they may play their role in development of the province and promotion of its culture. The Secretary Industries was addressing the officers and youth completing their training during his visit to different training centers of Industries Department here on Friday.

He said that Industries sector is developing in the province, but the department has left no stone unturned in imparting training and providing livelihood to the youth of the province. He urged the youth to play their role in development of the department. He stressed that under trainee youth should also play their role in development of the province besides getting respectable source of income.

New Gwadar airport nears completion

GWADAR (INP): The New Gwadar International Airport, a flagship project under the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), is now in its final stages of construction.

Set to be a modern marvel, the airport spans across 4,300 acres of land, boasting a runway capable of accommodating the Airbus A380, the world's largest aircraft.

With a sleek terminal building covering 14,000 square meters, the airport aims to elevate Gwadar's infrastructure and pave the way for future development. The project, estimated at \$246 million, is on track for completion in 2024.

Recently, a significant milestone was achieved as the Civil Aviation Authority of Pakistan (CAA) successfully conducted a five-day flight test operation, supported by China, starting from Tuesday, June 4, 2024. The inaugural test flight was greeted with a traditional salute upon touchdown.

Opposition's protest leads to adjournment of Senate session till Monday

ISLAMABAD (APP): The continuous protest by the Opposition members in the Senate on Friday led to adjournment of the session till Monday at 05:00 pm.

Soon after calling attentions business, Palwasha Mohammad Zai Khan from panel of presiding officers assumed the chair as the Chairman, requested leave from the House to witness oath taking of his newly elected son as member National Assembly.

However, Leader of the Opposition Syed Shibli Faraz along with other opposition members, started protest and pointed out that in the presence of Deputy Chairman, the presiding officer cannot chair the session.

The Presiding Officer while quoting the Rule 14 of procedure and conduct in Senate, observed that she could preside the House. She went on to say that it was the prerogative of the Chairman Senate to nominate any member of the House as presiding officer.

Senator Farooq H Naek also observed that no rule was violated and it was the prerogative of the Chairman. He said that Palwasha Khan could preside over the session.

Pakistan, China agree to promote cooperation between NPC, Parliament

BEIJING (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday met Chairman of China's National People's Congress (NPC) Standing Committee Zhaoh Leji wherein they agreed to promote engagement and cooperation between the NPC and the Parliament of Pakistan. The prime minister, who is on a five-day official visit to China, proposed several initiatives to strengthen parliamentary exchanges, including enhancing interactions between the China-Pakistan Friendship Groups and exchanging delegations of young parliamentarians.

PM Shehbaz paid rich tribute to Chairman Zhaoh for his contributions to the Chinese politics and society, and congratulated him on successfully convening the NPC's annual session.

He noted Zhaoh Leji's important position in the Communist Party of China (CPC) and the NPC which underlined the trust placed in him by the Chinese leadership and people.

He stated that the relations with China were the cornerstone of Pakistan's foreign policy. The prime minister noted that the unique and special relationship between the two countries was based on strategic trust.

Salik appreciates ILO's efforts, initiatives to support workers, mitigate adverse crises faced by Gazans

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development (OPHRD), Chaudhary Salik Hussain Friday appreciated the efforts and important initiatives taken by the ILO to support workers and mitigate the adverse effects of the crises being faced by Gaza and the West Bank.

The minister made these remarks during the 112th International Labour Conference being held on 3rd June to 14th June 2024 featured significant engagement from Pakistan.

Chaudhry Salik Hussain led the Pakistani delegation, which also included Zulfikar Ahmad, Secretary, Workers Welfare Fund. The conference served as a vital platform for global labor discussions, covering topics such as labor standards, employment strategies for fostering decent work, and inclusive economic growth, a news release said.

Pakistan's active participation emphasized its commitment to addressing key labor issues and contributing to the global dialogue on work-related challenges and solutions.



QUETTA: Different delegations meeting with Provincial Minister for PHE Sardar Abdul Rehman Khethran

Steps afoot to improve law & order situation in Quetta: SSP Baloch

QUETTA (APP): Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Operation Quetta Muhammad Baloch Friday said that all resources were being utilized to improve law and order situation in respective areas of Quetta City. He said that several criminals were arrested in conjunction operation against them with the aim to ensure protection public lives and their property by elimination of crime activities in the area.

He expressed these views while addressing a press conference at the DIG Office along with SSP Zohaib Mohsin, SSP Traffic Bahram Mandukhel.

SSP Operations Muhammad Baloch said that the police was taking effective measures to control the incidents of theft and robbery in Quetta city saying that several accused by police team from respective areas of the province in 2024. He said that several open courts had been held in various areas for the convenience of the public, with the aim of strengthening the relationship between the public and the police to eradicate crime while such open court would be arranged in the areas for improvement of law and order situation.

He said that a campaign would be launched to give respect public in order to enhance confidence of people on police.

He said that during the operation against illegal diesel petrol, 8,000 liters of petrol were seized, around 2,000 drug addicts were also detained by conducting an operation against illegal arms and drug dealers in the city canal.

He said that the citizens should submit their data under the Tenant Act to the concerned police stations within a week.