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Karachi

Ph: 0300-3898091 Vol: 06. No. 120 Zeegad 25, 1445 AH Monday June 03, 2024 Pages 04 Price Rs. 12.00

CM Sindh, other personalities attend annual breakfast at **Turkish Consulate**

KARACHI (APP):Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah and other prominent personalities have attended a traditional annual breakfast hosted by Turkish Consul General here at Karachi Consulate on Sun-

Federal Minister of Maritime Affairs Qaisar Ahmed Shaikh, Provincial Makhdoom Minister Mehboob uz Zaman, DIG Maqsood Hussain Memon, Sved Svedain Raza Zaidi Chairman KPT, showbiz fraternity, navy and gov-ernment officials, Halil Basaran representative TIKA, Murat Guzeller Vice Consul Turkish Consulate and fraction of civil society were among the attendees.

Talking to media here at Turkish Consulate, Syed Murad Ali Shah said Paki- tries" stan and Turkiye have deep relationship with greater

He said that Turkish breakfast tradition is celebrated worldwide and we are doing the same in

CG Turkiye Cemal Sangu, in his welcome address said that it was indeed a great pleasure and privilege to be your host. I cordially welcome all of you at your second home here.

Cemal Sangu added, this is a celebration of taste and tradition, a journey through the heart of Turkish hospitality, "today, we gather here to share not just a breakfast, but a tapestry of flavours, a testament to the warmth & generosity that binds and defines our two cultures and coun-

"The aroma of fresh herbs and spices, the vi-

understanding since the establishment of two councheeses, the gentle hum of conversation, all weave together to create a symphony of welcome, a symphony of flavours, a testament to the enduring bond between Turkive and Pakistan where even the sunrises are steeped in traditions".

Turkish Diplomat further added, as we savour and share these flavours together, let us share our love, a share to the enduring brotherhood between our two nations, a silent language understood only by two hearts beating as

Making his closing remarks Sangu said, "Dear guests let us enjoy the beauty of this moment, the love and sentiments we share, and the joy of being together, just like these delicious flavours, perfectly

Bilawal congratulates newly elected body of Larkana press club

LARKANA (APP): PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has congratulated the newly elected body of Larkana Press Club (LPC) including President Ghulam Murtaza Kalhoro, General Secretary Naveed Lark and other office bearers along with members of the gov-

erning body.

He hoped that the elected officials will play their role in solving the problems of the journalist community.

He said Pakistan People's Party strongly believes in freedom of expression and independent journalism.

Fly Jinnah flight 'makes emergency landing' at Karachi airport

gency landing, while the sources revealed that the

same flight made emergency

landings several times due

to technical faults. The pi-

lot wisely diverted the

plane back to Karachi air-

port after spotting a tech-

nical fault in the flight near

Nawabshah. The sources

privy to the development

said the flight passengers are

cident died during treatment

in the burns ward of Karachi

administration 13 injured

are under treatment in the

hospital while seven are in

here that a heavy explosions

occurred in a gas cylinder

shop in Hyderabad on

Thursday triggering subse-

quent blasts in other cylin-

ders. The explosions

caused fires in several

nearby homes and injured

more than 60 people includ-

ing women and children.

The injured were rushed to

Civil Hospital Hyderabad,

but due to inadequate facili-

ties, 23 severely injured

people including children

were shifted to Civil Hos-

pital Karachi. 10 of these

patients have died, while 13

remain in critical condition

in Karachi

According to hospital

It may be mentioned

hospital on Sunday.

critical condition.

safe and sound

KARACHI (INP): A flight of Fly Jinnah Airlines on the province can be removed with the cooperation of the federation. Sunday made an emergency The Governor said landing at Karachi airport that the Peoples Party has after developing a technical worked in the health and fault. According to media education sectors in Sindh reports, the Civil Aviation is a revolution and they Authority (CAA), Islamabad-bound flight will try to implement Sindh-style development 670, carrying Sindh Goverconference at the residence in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa nor Kamran Tessori and 149 other passengers, made an emergency landing at the Karachi airport, soon after taking off. The flight was cancelled after the emer-

Minister Mahar for devising mechanism for interest free-loans to agri students

LAHORE: Governor KPK Faisal Karim Kundi, Gov-

ernor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan address-

Governor KP stresses

role of all parties in

development of country

LAHORE (APP): Governor Faisal Karim Kundi said that the coun-

Faisal Karim Kundi on Sunday said that all the politi-

cal parties should play

their role in the stability of

the country's economy by

showing consensus and

unity for the sake of devel-

visit to the residence of Pa-

kistan Peoples Party senior

leader Haji Azizur Řehman

Sardar Salim Haider Khan

was also present on the oc-

casion. They met with the

political and social leaders

and also discussed the over-

all situation of the country.

Addressing the press

of Azizur Rehman Chan, as well.

He said this during his

opment of the country.

Governor

Chan Lahore.

try is currently going through a difficult situa-

tion and we urged all po-

litical parties to play role

in getting the country out of crisis. He said that there

are 34 universities in the

province, in which more

than 25 universities do not

have vice chancellors. He

said that the problems of

ing a press conference in the provincial capital.

Independent Report KARACHI: Sindh Agricul-ture Minister Muhammad Bux Mahar has said that the Research Wing of the Agriculture Department would devise a mechanism to provide interest-free loans to the students of Sindh Agricul-

major problem, the biggest Baloch to improve the pro-



tural University, Tandojam. He said that he would also talk to the Chief Minister regarding the grant so that the youth of Sindh could start their own agricultural

He stated this while presiding over a high-level meeting of the Agricultural Research Wing of the Department of Agriculture at the Sindh Secretariat, a communique said on Sunday.

The provincial minister said that the Research Wing should introduce new varieties of wheat, rice and sugarcane crops and give the varieties to the farmers of the province for free.

Mahar said that cli-

mate change had become a

impact of which is on agriculture, which needed more budget to work on capacity building and provide more training to agriculture officers. He directed DG Research Noor Muhammad



duction and quality of man-

goes, dates and cotton. The DG Researc while briefing the meeting, said that the Research Wing had introduced 13 varieties of wheat by 2023 and 14 varieties of cotton by 2020. the yield of which was 85 to 80 maunds per acre, while 11 varieties of rice, sugarcane 11 varieties and 7 varieties of vegetables had been introduced. He further informed that the Agricultural Research Wing had trained more than 300 women in the Institute of Food and Science Technology to produce agricultural products so that women

could earn by doing small

business at home



intertwined".

Karachi Safe City Project aims to eliminate crime, ensure arrest of criminals Announces the release of Rs 1 billion

fast invitation.

for the first phase of the project and emphasized the need for its swift completion within 12 months

Home Minister says

Independent Report KARACHI: The Sindh Home Minister, Ziaullah Hassan Lanjar, chaired a meeting at the DIG CTD office to discuss the first phase of the Karachi Safe City Project. The meeting

was briefed by DG Safe

City Project, Asif Aijaz

Sheikh, on the project's

progress and priorities. The Home Minister announced the release of Rs 1 billion for the first phase of the project and emphasized the need for its swift completion within 12 months. He stated that the

crime and ensure the arrest of criminals, with plans to expand it to other cities in Sindh after Karachi. The Home Minister

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Sved Murad Ali Shah in a group photo with

Turkey' Consul General Jamal Sango on the eve of traditional Turk break-

also mentioned that the Sindh government has transferred Rs 3 billion to the project account to expedite its launch.
The DG Safe City

Project informed the meeting that Pakistan's largest screen and data center will be established under this project, with 12000 cameras to be installed at selected locations in Karachi, and 2000 existing cameras project aims to eliminate to be upgraded.

Deputy PM, Iran's FM discuss situation in Gaza

ISLAMABAD (APP): Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar on Sunday received a telephone call from Acting For-eign Minister of Iran Ali Bagheri, discussing matters of mutual concern and the dire situation in

The two sides discussed the situation in Gaza and unabated Israeli atrocities there, a Foreign Office statement Office

said.

The deputy prime minister reiterated Pakistan's full support for all initiatives aimed at ending the genocide in Gaza and for humanitarian relief to the Palestinian people.



KARACHI: Sindh Home Minister Zia-ul-Hassan Lanjar presides over the meeting regarding Safe City Project.

Ambassador of Kyrgyzstan says: CASA-1000 to be completed by end of this year 2024

ISLAMABAD (APP): lateral cooperation in the Ambassador of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan to Pakistan, Ulanbek Totuiaev, has said that CASA-1000 would be completed by the end of this year, 2024, which would also meet Pakistan's energy needs and also cause regional integration.

"The transmission capacity of the CASA-1000 energy project will be 1300 megawatts, which will be an energy link between Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, and Afghanistan to provide clean energy not only to regional countries but also to prove the need of Pakistan's industrial sector," Ambassador of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan to

Ulanbek Pakistan, Totuiaev, told APP here. The Ambassador hoped that the CASA-1000 projects would be completed in due time and also to meet Pakistan's en-

energy sector. He said. "Massive infrastructura projects will be beneficial for all of its stakeholders by fulfilling energy needs and strengthening regional connectivity. Kyrgyz envoy said.

"Nowadays, the governments of participating states are actively working on the completion of the project." Replying to question about the future of the Quadrilateral Traffic and Transit Agreement (ATTA) among Pakistan, China, Kyrgyzstan, and Kazakhstan, he hoped that in the near future the potential of the QTTA would be fully utilized.

The ambassador of Kyrgyzstan said, "The mutual trade potential between Pakistan and Kyrgyzstan is up to \$1 billion, which both countries are moving forward in harmony to achieve.



KARACHI: Supporters of PTI hold a protest in favor of their demands in front of Karachi Press Club.

US wants to support Pakistan for economic development: Blome

ISLAMABAD (INP) American Ambassador Donald Blome has said it is high time for Pakistan to improve its economy, adding America wants opportunities to support Pakistan in its efforts for economic development.

Talking to journalists, Donald Blome said, 'America is an important partner of Pakistan in terms of trade and investment. America is the biggest export market and investor for Pakistan.

Saudi envoy pledges royal Hajj invite for World cup-winning Pak team

ISLAMABAD (APP): Ambassador of Saudi Arabia to Pakistan, Nawaf bin Saeed Ahmed Al Maliki on Sunday announced that the Pakistan cricket team will be the royal guests on Hajj next year if they win the T20 World Cup.

In a special video message released, the Saudi ambassador extended his best wishes to the Pakistan cricket team for the upcoming ICC T20 World Cup-

"My message to my brothers of the Pakistan cricket team is that, God willing, you will win this tournament

Gwadar to become internationally acclaimed world-class port city: Ahsan

BEIJING (APP): Federal Corridor. Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives, Absan Iqbal said that Gwadar will become an internationally acclaimed world-class port city, which will have tremendous opportunities for its

people.

"We hope that
Gwadar will become an internationally acclaimed world-class port city, which will have tremendous opportunities for its people," he told Xinhua while applauding the devel-opment of Gwadar Port under the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

Terming Gwadar as a very important and strategic port in this region, he said that China has shown its remarkable contribution and the development of different regions of Pakistan China Pakistan Economic added.

"In Gwadar, we have seen that China has not only developed the port facility but also has contributed towards socio eco-

nomic development of the people," he added.

Ahsan Iqbal said that China has set up a state of the art modern hospital for the people of Gwadar who have as good facilities in that hospital as big cities like Karachi or Lahore.

Similarly, it has helped set up a technical training institution. It has also helped poor people with solar panels to provide them electricity and has also undertaken other initiatives to improve the lives of the

local people.
"So, we really appreciate that China has contributed immensely to the uplift of Gwadar, but it is just the first steps go other port including Gwadar under the has a long way to go," he



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Housing and Works, Mian Riaz Hussain Pirzada and PPP Senator Sherry Rehman cutting the cake on the 78th anniversary of Italy's Republic Day, alongwith Italian Ambassador Ms. Marilina Armellin at Federal Capital.

PML-N, PPP at odds over power-sharing formula in Punjab

LAHORE (INP): Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N) and the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) are at Sources said that the odds over the power-sharing formula in Punjab, sources said on Sunday.

Despite four meetings of the provincial coordination committees of both parties, no progress has

been made. The PPP alleges that PML-N is not showing seriousness regarding the

power-sharing formula in Punjab, sources added. Sources further said that PPP is also concerned Punjab Assembly are being

ignored in the budget and have not received funds so far Earlier sources repressing PPP to join the

PML-N has contacted directly and via mutual friends inviting the party to join the government.

The party has been invited to join the federal as well as Punjab government as an ally.

"The PPP didn't respond to the government over the offer, neither the party held consultations over the issue," sources

Sources said that the that its members in the PPP leadership has been under pressure to join the government. The party's parliamentarians from Sindh backing to join the

vealed that PML-N is government. Minister Dharejo says: Sindh govt to promote use of electrical vehicles for reducing pollution



Independent Report KARACHI: Sindh Minister for Industries and Commerce Jam Ikramullah Dharejo and Secretary Industries and Commerce Muhammad Yasin Shar Baloch said that the Sindh government would promote the use of electrical vehicles for reducing environmental pollution.

During his visit to Yousuf Dewan Companies here Sunday, he held a meeting with Chairman of the group, Dewan Muhammad Yousuf Farooqui, Group CEO Automotive Dr. Usman Hayat and others. The meeting focused on the revival of the national economy, its impact on the automotive industry and the launch of electrical vehicles in Pakistan. The provincial minis-

ter discussed various aspects of industrial development with Muhammad Farooqui, including infrastructure, workforce and market competitiveness. They explored ways to stimulate economic growth, create employment opportunities and enhance the industry's contribution to the national economy.

Jam Ikramullah Dharejo emphasized the government's commitment to supporting industrial growth and development, highlighting initiatives to improve the business environment, facilitate investment and promote innova-

Daily soice of Masse Independent

Dutch courage

The Election Commission of Pakistan continues to act as if it has no interest in ensuring fairness. Just days after it was ordered by a Lahore High Court judge to notify six more election tribunals for Punjab, for which nominations had been sent weeks earlier by the LHC chief justice, a senior ECP official, responding to a reporter's question, brushed aside the injunction as "meaningless".

It seems the ECP had grown more confident about defying the LHC since Commission officials met the law minister and attorney general to discuss, among other things, the controversial ordinance passed recently by the acting president, Senate Chairman Yousuf Raza Gilani. The ordinance in question empowers the Commission to appoint whoever it pleases to election tribunals without worrying about what the LHC chief justice has to

It bears highlighting that these election tribunals are supposed to rule on complaints made by losing candidates against the irregularities and illegalities they claim were committed during the vote-counting process. Many of these claims especially those pertaining to changing results – have been supported by the findings of independent observers, election watchdogs, and even statements made by other losing candidates. In recent weeks, the courts have also separately overturned several controversial decisions by the ECP concerning the recounting of votes and changing of results well after the elections were concluded.

As regards the matter at hand, it bears recalling that the LHC chief justice had sent a list of nominations to the ECP for the purpose of appointing more tribunals in Punjab, where the number of complaints far exceeds the capacity of the two tribunals that have already been appointed. For weeks, the ECP sat on these nominations and refused to appoint more tribunals till Mr Gilani's ordinance came along like a deus ex machina to do away with the 'problem' entirely.

The ECP can now appoint whichever judge it pleases, be they retired or serving, to sit in judgement against its own decisions. It will be difficult not to view with deep suspicion the fact that the ECP, which is constitutionally mandated to ensure non-partisanship in all election-related matters, seems to have agreed to lean on an ordinance, one of the most patently undemocratic legislative tools available, just so it may bypass Section 140 of the Elections Act as it existed in its original condition.

One wonders how this will engender public faith in the impartiality or fairness of the tribunals that will eventually be formed by such blatant disregard for checks and balances. Alas, the Commission has been supported wholeheartedly in implementing its twisted interpretations of the democratic process by some willing collaborators in the legislature. They must take stock of the long-term harm their actions are causing to the Pakistani democracy.

Gaza in flames

Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry

Monday June 03, 2024

Nothing seems to make Israel stop its murderous spree and war crimes in Gaza. Besides killing and injuring thouoperations have impeded humanitarian access, pushing Gaza to the brink of famine.

On May 20, the International Criminal applied for warrants to arrest senior members of the Israeli and Hamas leadership. Tel Aviv termed the move "disgraceful", while President Biden called it "outrageous". Twelve Rewrote a threatening letter to the ICC that if 'you target Israel, we

will target you" On May 24, the International Court of Justice ordered Israel to halt its offensive in Rafah. South Africa had brought this case before the ICJ, accusing Israel of subjecting the Palestinians to a genocide. Israel refused to accept the order. Instead, it carstrikes (May 26) against Palestinians, killing 45 and injuring over 100.

On May 29, Algeria, on behalf of the Arab states, circulated a proposed resolution calling for an immediate humanitarian ceasefire. While most countries welcomed the Algerian initiative, the US lost no time in vetoing it, while

the UK abstained. Despite the recent ICJ orders, and an earlier call by 153 member states of the UN General Assembly in December 2023, Israel continues to defy demands to protect civilians and uphold humanitarian obligations in Gaza. Israel's daily assaults have demonstrated that there is no longer any rules-based

rights have been bat- cherished goal of a tered by the ongoing re- Greater Israel can be lentless show unilateralism in Gaza.

Why is Israel rejecting every call to stop its killing spree? One obvious reason is the sands, Israeli military unending support it receives from the US and some European countries. These countries have often lectured the world on the sanctity of rael human rights, yet they Court's chief prosecutor are reluctant to condemn what Israel's military is doing to defenceless civilians. The double standards of these champions of human rights have been

Yet, one is encourpublican US senators aged to see how the people in the US and Europe have come out to condemn the excessive use of force by Israel. Special tribute must be paid to the students of leading universities in the US, who have risked their academic careers but have not stepped back from voicing their support for the oppressed. Some European governments are now responding to the ried out deadly air calls of their people. Spain, Ireland, and Norway have announced formal recognition of the state of Palestine. Several others had already done so, including Sweden, Hungary, Poland, Romania, and Bulgaria.

> recognition. Sadly, the Muslim world has not been able to exert enough pressure on Israel to stop its atrocities in Gaza. Iran, however, has emerged as a country that has rael. demonstrated its capability to give a punishing response to Israeli aggression while avoid-

The UK and Australia

are also considering

ing a wider war. What is Israel's endgame? Some analysts argue that Israel would like to see all international order. The Gazans pushed into spirit of multilateralism Egypt via the Rafah achieved by understandand respect for human crossing so that its ing." -- Courtesy Dawn

fulfilled. Others opine that Israel will continue its war until Hamas has been destroyed — for that it enjoys complete American support. Nikki Haley, former governor of South Carolina, was seen recently writing 'Finish them' on an artillery shell in Is-

Clearly, the key to ending the war in Gaza is in the hands of the US. However, the Israel lobby in the US is so strong that the government is unable to stop Tel Aviv from what it is doing to innocent civilia--ns. John Mear-sh-e-imer of the Univ-ersity of Chicago and Stephen Walt of Harvard's Kennedy School of Govern-ment wrote a book in 2007 titled The Israel Lobby and US Foreign Policy that describes how this lobby nudges US foreign policy in a pro-Israel direction, which in their view is not in America's national interest and not even in Israel's long-term inter-

Meanwhile, Benjamin Netanyahu is becoming increasingly unpopular in his own country as well. In a poll conducted by the Israel Democracy Institute re-cently, only 15 per cent of respondents wanted Netanyahu to continue in office after the war in Gaza ends. There is also the financial stress that this war is inflicting on Israel's economy. International opinion is fast developing against Is-

Netanyahu and his cohorts will soon discover that Israel cannot buy peace for itself by making others insecure. He would be well-advised to remember what Albert Einstein said: "Peace cannot be kept by force. It can only be

Paper cuts

Muna Khan

I am not alone in worrying about the future of iournalism. I learned this in my conversations (in person and online) with journalism instructors in the US, Canada and Armenia. Then there are the many conversations I have with my friend, ZB, a journalist and media instructor in Karachi: how do we get young people to read the paper or how can the mainstream media reduce the trust deficit with its audience? What will happen to journalism as the government doubles down on its efforts to tighten a

muzzle us?Instructors and practitioners in the US, for example, have plenty of reason to worry because it's been a terrible year with layoffs at Los Angeles Times, Vice, Deadspin, to name a few. Northwestern University, my alma mater, estimates that by year's end, the country may lose one-third of all its newspapers and two-thirds of all its newspaper staff since 2005. They say this of local journalism. The will increase news deserts across the US.

Where will people turn to for news then? Many news outlets

in the US were bought by Big Billionaire Businesses which seem to employ a similar strategy: buy distressed newspapers for cheap, lay off staff and then earn profit from papers' advertising revenues.

In its reporting in 2020, Vanity Fair referred to one New York-based hedge fund — which owned among many papers the LA Times until it was bought by biotech billionaire doctor Patrick Soon-Shiong in 2018 as a "vampire that bleeds

newspapers dry" It wasn't always like this, but at least in the US, newspapers were owned by a small group of families because they were good in-

vestments. The decline be the country's — and began with the disrup- communities' - watchtion caused by the dog? Vloggers whose internet and then the motivation is solely to 2009 recession. Some earn money off the aupapers struggled more diences they lure in with because they invested in print rather than digital. When the time came to ery in Pakistan is truly ask people to pay for content," one editor told Vanity Fair, "it came at the same time when the content had been dimin- storms created by some ished. That kind of set of these vloggers.
the table."

The problem is

independent journalism.

Big Billionaires who invested in failing newspapers did so because they were "looking for profit maximisation over the next few years" as the editor said. When the quest is for profit, reporting will fall by the wayside. Today, 'jour- journalism as a public nalist' has been replaced good, non-profit jourwith 'content manager'.

Big Billionaires don't put money back into the paper and if they world's third richest man, Jeff Bezos owns the Washington Post, which he bought for \$250m in but then a decade later laid off 240 staff members. The New York Times bought the Boston Globe for a whopping \$1.1bn in 1993 but sold it for \$70 million in 2013 to John Henry, a billionaire who owns a baseball team. He claims the paper has been profis disputed by media insiders who say "the billionaires who wanted to save the news industry are losing a fortune".

The idea that benevolent billionaires will save journalism is flawed. Also, rich men buying media don't adhere to newspapers' principle: holding the powerful to account.

Who then is left to

their 'journalism'? The disinformation machinmind-boggling and I'm curious to see whether the new defamation law will help calm the

The problem is the This is true for me- media industry hasn't dia in Pakistan where I figured out a way to creonly know of Profit ate a business model magazine that has a that is not dependent paywall and subscribers, on the market — adverallowing them to practice tising, subscriptions, etc. (There are exceptions like The New York Times and Wall Street Journal.)

We face new chal-

lenges in how to get

quality journalism out audiences. requi-res new thinking: whether it is treating nalism, journalist owned co-operative models. This means rethinking journalism as do, it is often at the cost something that just can't be monetised. This is why we should support calls for a robust public media system that receives fund-2013, made it profitable ing but is independent and produces quality journalism for the sake of public good. So far, we've seen governments in power use PTV, for example, as a loudspeaker to advertise their policies and quash dissent. This is not the model Pakistanis deserve. It may itable since 2018, but this seem rich (pardon the pun) of me to demand a poor government create a fund for public media even though it has the funds for lavish renovation projects. But until then, I hope you will be wary of billionaires buying media everywhere. What is their motive? Surely, it is not our wellbeing and right to information in a fair manner.

-- Courtesy Dawn

Commerce News

Govt to improve fumigation system, digitalize pesticide registration: Rana Tanvir

Federal Minister for the minister said during a Rana Tanveer Hussain said here on Sunday that the would formulate a comprehensive Protection Department in its fumigation system.

The strategy included enhancing the number of digitalizing the registration system of pesticides to ensure its operations meet merit and transparency

meeting with Plant issued by the ministry. Protection Department underlined the role of Plant performance and bring it up

streamline the processes, top quality benchmarks, according to press release

minister PPD would be developed on modern lines to enhance efficiency strategy to improve the the development of effectiveness and all agriculture sector adding resources would be utilized that efforts would be made to address staff shortages to further improve its within the department. to high standards and commitment to promote

Corruption inefficiency will not be

tolerated in any form within the department," he remarked and added the system will be digitalized to ensure transparency in operations. highlighted the importance of establishing effective system for the inspection of rice and mango plants for timely examination.



LAHORE: Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan talking to media persons during his visit to Property Exhibition at Expo Centre Lahore.



FAISALABAD: Owners proudly display their pets during the competition 26th International camel and Goat contests of beautification, weigh and milk, contest is jointly arranged by the Faculty of Animal Husbandry (FAH), UAF and International Goat and Bull Association at UAF Stadium.

Over Rs 16 billion disbursed among 15,00,000 beneficiaries under Benazir Kafaalat scheme

said an official source.

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Benazir Income Support Programme the quarterly tranche (BISP) has disbursed over Rs.16 billion among over payments (April-June).

"Till May 30, over Rs. 16 billion has been the total beneficiaries",

The disbursement of (April-June) of Benazir Kafaalat cash assistance to million

of Islamabad, Balochistan,

Azad Jammu and Kashmir and Gilgit Baltistan.

also being disbursed in Peshawar, Mardan and all 15,00,000 beneficiaries the beneficiaries is districts of Malakand and from across the country so continued across the Hazara Division in Khyber far under the Benazir country in two phases to Kafaalat quarterly payments (April-June). country in two phases to disburse Rs. 10,500 per household among over nine districts of Karachi Division and District registered Hyderabad in Sindh beneficiary families. In the province and Gujranwala, disbursed among over first phase, the payments Sahiwal, Rawalpindi and 15,00,000 beneficiaries are being issued among the all districts of Sargodha which make 46 per cent of beneficiaries in all districts Division and District Vehari in Punjab

community issues RAWALPINDI (APP): cooperation between the two chambers. According

RCCI-ICCI join hands

to resolve business

The Islamabad Chambers of Commerce and Industries (ICCI) of the twin cities have reiterated their firm resolve collective efforts to solve the issues business community

Both the chambers also events to promote industrial and commercial activities for the benefit of the region.

A joint working group both sides will be enhance collaboration and

spokesman Rawalpindi Chamber, a delegation of Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) led by its president Saqib Rafiq visited Islamabad Chamber agreed to organize joint of Commerce and events to promote Industries (ICCI) on Sunday, during which a delegation level meeting was held between the two chambers. During the comprising members from meeting, problems being faced by the business established to further community of the twin cities was discussed.

waste potential source of energy, recycling for circular economy ISLAMABAD (APP): Ministry of Climate livelihoods and green entrepreneurship among the communities

Pakistan's annually generated 49.6 million metric tonnes of solid waste is a potential source waste-to-energy, resource recovery and recycling to promote the circular economy, simultaneously addressing waste management and livelihood creation.

This was the crux of the consultative workshop on Integrated 'Solid Waste Management in Pakistan' organized by the bankable projects that not largest river of the country Sustainable Development only manage the trash but from plastic pollution. Policy Institute (SDPI) in also generate a separate contamination, degradation collaboration with the economy

Initiative.

Pakistan's 49.6mln tonnes solid

Speaking on the occasion, Additional Secretary, the Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental management was a complex issue that demanded multisectoral stakeholder interventions to promote workable and

the communities.

He said, "Pakistan is producing 5 billion plastic bags every year that end up in water bodies, channels drains and rivers across the Coordination, Muhammad country. The federal Farooq in his opening government has banned the remarks said waste one-time use of polythene and plastic bags". The Living Indus Initiative is the project of the government of Pakistan to restore and purge the largest river of the country providing and habitat loss, he added.

Real estate – Paying price of an economic gimmickry

Billions of rupees black money was thrown to the real estate basket when former Premier Imran Khan announced incentives for tax evaders, paving way for whitening their black

money and resultantly

creating an artificial boom

in this sector. Seeing the market dynamics hundreds of thousands common people with moderate income also stepped in having a desire to buy some property for their kids and

future needs. But, they

were mistaken as the bulk

properties to individual buyers and made their way leaving them in turmoil.

If some invested their retirement dues, the others invested their savings or the provident fund money - they were accumulating penny after penny over the decades with an innocent desire of getting their children married after earning some profit by

selling their plots. But, swayed by desire to have an abode, they fall prey to real estate tycoons least knowing about their exploitive tendencies and

investors sold out their plans to suck their hard earned money. Some developers and builders described the PTI

era boom in real estate as a bubble that when burst, washed away the belonging of hundreds of thousands small investors leaving them in dire desperation. "This policy of the

previous government was a severe blow to real estate sector as the tax evaders escaped by whitening their money and faulty policies supplemented by economic recession struck billions of rupees of common people," said a builder Falak Khan.

ruined real estate sector. The artificial bubble has burst leaving hundreds of thousands investors in lurch.

He opined that a gradual development in this sector could have ensured sustainability. abruptly forging ahead has trapped local investors as well as overseas Pakistanis. Therefore, the government should seriously look into this crisis and bail out small

Seeing the series of events, one can easily

understand how the poor

money. Firstly, there is a bobby trap of small down or advance payment; then an affordable installments payment plan and promises of early delivery of plots.

But, when there is good response in buying files, the society owners oversell files meaning that more files than the actual land acquired for a society. Once the bulk stock of files sold out, they themselves float rumors that society does not have required land that result in panic selling of files by the

Pakistan is committed to extend cultural ties with Sri Lanka: Saleem

Independent Report LAHORE: Sri Lankan delegation led by Vidura Wickramanayaka, Minister of Buddhadasna Religious and Cultural Affairs called on Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan at Governor House Lahore. In the meeting, issues of mutual interest, ways to enhance cooperation in economic, tourism and other sectors between the two countries were discussed. Speaking on the new occasion, Governor Punjab Saleem Haider Khan said that Pakistan and Sri Lanka have cordial relations. He underscored the need to enhance existing bilateral cooperation between the two countries. The Punjab Governor said that

Pakistan is committed to

HYDERABAD: Mehwish Ajaz Additional Deputy

Commissioner Hyderabad giving cold water

Four-day PCR training

for S.Asian medical

entomologists concludes

(Sharbat) to people during hot wather.

Independent ReportPESHAWAR: Under the auspices of the Directorate

of Malaria Control,

National Health Services

and with financial support

from the Malaria Consortium South Asia and

the Asian Pacific Malaria

Elimination Network

(APMEN), a four-day

PCR training session for

South Asian medical

was

University,

Rawalpindi, said an official and dengue.

successfully concluded at diagnosis of Vector-borne

entomologists

said Government of added that Pakistan is Pakistan has preserved the committed to promoting are ancient Buddhist relics in the historical places Taxila, Takht Bahi and Swat Valley. He said that the Buddhist monuments opportunities to increase religious tourism between Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Governor Punjab said that of Lahore. there is a need to explore avenues of cooperation between Pakistan and Sri Lanka in the economic and tourism sector and ensure sustainable development in the region. He said that we invite Sri Lanka to explore the possibilities of joint ventures in tourism and

extend cultural ties with Sri invest in the tourism Lanka . Governor Punjab sector. Governor Punjab peace and cooperation in South Asia.

Monday June 03, 2024

The head of the delegation said that he is taking away pleasant in Pakistan provides memories from here. He praised the hospitality of Pakistanis and especially the liveliness of the people Later, Governor

Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan was met a delegation of All Pakistan Private Schools Management Association led by All Pakistan Private Schools Management Association President Kashif Adeeb Jadwani and Malik Riasat at Governor House Lahore. hospitality sectors and to



Deputy Commissioner Abdullah Nayyar Sheikh on Sunday formally inaugurated a new modern EPI (Expanded Immunization Program) training hall at the office of the District Health Authority.

The EPI training hall is one of nine developed in different districts of the Punjab province with the support of the International Health Organization (WHO).

CEO Health Dr Asfand Yar, WHO divisional officer Dr Mudassar Saleem, and other officers were present o n occasion.

The EPI halls have already been made ready in Lahore, Rawalpindi, Multan, Gujranwala, Sargodha, Sahiwal, Dera Ghazi Khan and Rahim Yar Khan Districts.

Earlier, CEO health Dr Asfand Yar gave a presentation about EPI program in detail.



of Buddhadasna Religious and Cultural Affairs in a group photo with Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan at Governor House.

Minister says: PML-N to bring vibrant local government system

(APP): officers to remodel the Provincial Minister for Government Zeeshan Rafique has said that the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) wants to bring a strong and vibrant local government system in the province. He expressed these

in his constituency PP-51 camp office Daska City. 'As soon as the government was formed in Punjab, Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif established a committee

consisting of provincial

views during an open court

local government system, which has completed 80 percent of its work," he added. The minister said that the local government department was collecting basic information in digital format for solid waste management at the rural union council level and tehsil level in all the districts of the province and after the final approval from the Chief Minister, sanitation in rural areas would be outsourced under which manual, mechanical sweeping, waste collection, ministers, assembly drain cleaning and waste members and senior disposal would be ensured. drain cleaning and waste

All set to launch campaign against plastic use: Marriyum

Provincial Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb has said that the Punjab government is taking important steps in the perspective of "No to Plastic Campaign".

In a statement, she said that on the special directions of Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif, a campaign has been launched to protect the masses from deadly diseases being manufacturing illegal caused by plastic usage. She said that from 5th June, added.

LAHORE (APP): Senior preparations have been made to ensure strict implementation of the mechanism to ban the manufacture, production, distribution and sale of illegal plastic bags. "Plastic usage causes cancer and other deadly diseases and sole usage of plastic is increasing environmental pollution and causing

434 criminals serious health issues. A crackdown will be launched against factories which are were registered.

Use of plastic products banned from June 5

FAISALABAD (APP) Environment Protection Agency has announced that there will be a complete ban on the use of plastic products from June 5.

According to the district administration spokesperson here on Sunday, plastic bags with thickness less than 75 microns and size less than 12x16 inches and ear buds with plastic sticks will be The plastic sticks

with balloons, plastic flags, and plastic candy sticks, plastic ice cream sticks will also be banned.

The polystyrene disposable cups, glasses.

Police conducts crackdown in RYK

RAHIM YAR KHAN (APP):Rahim Yar Khan police on Sunday launched a full-fledged crackdown against criminals.

According to police sources, during the police crackdown across the district, 869 accused, including advertised arrested, a large quantity of drugs and illegal weapons were recovered, and cases

Advisor Tourism visits Peshawar Museum Living nations learn from history by preserving it: Zahid Chanzeb

Independent Report Culture and Archeology Zahid Chanzeb along with the officials of the Tourism Archeology Department made a detailed visit to Peshawar Museum

He expressed his satisfaction that the museum has preserved rare artefacts and statues including the Gandhara civilization belonging to this region, many of which traced back to the 2nd and

and witnessed its various

3rd centuries AD. The advisor said that living nations always preserve their history and

way, and such nations, by

dint of their continuous PESHAWAR: Adviser to efforts, get out of the the Chief Minister Khyber swamp of backwardness Pakhtunkhwa on Tourism, and reach the pinnacle of development with great speed, he added.

On this occasion, Director Archeology Dr Abdul Samad showed him the dance floor of the Victoria Dancing Club which was later converted into the museum, having been built in 1907 with full splendour in the memory of Queen Victoria in a short period of one year. Later, an Englishman,

Bob Wrightson, leased it and turned it into a dancing studio and entertainment

However, it was learn from it in the same converted into a museum in 1974.



Ageel Ahmed Khan along with others addresses to media persons during press conference held at Hyderabad press club.

KP govt urged to fund Hindko Academy

PESHAWAR Gandhara Hindko Board, a literary and cultural organization, on Sunday urged the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government to provide funds to Gandhara Hindko Academy and set up a Saraiki Academy as well in the province to promote

Saraiki language and culture. Muhammad Ziauddin, General Secretary of the Board, made the appeal after a meeting of the board members, said a press release. Ziauddin, a research

several books, said that as per official statistics, Hindko was the second main language of KP and the sixth widely spoken regional language of the This language

remained deprived of official patronage for a long time subsequent to Independence. After 68 years of wait, the KP government set up Gandhara Hindko Academy in 2015 under the public-private scholar and author of partnership.

International News

Zelenskyy accuses China of pressuring other countries not to attend upcoming Ukraine peace talks

can, Ukrainian and other

intelligence agencies say

there is evidence that Chi-

handout issued here

Sunday. The training

session saw participation

from medical entomologists

from all four provinces of

Pakistan, as well as

officials from Afghanistan,

Indonesia and Bangladesh.

During the training, the

extensively taught and observed molecular

identification techniques,

which will facilitate the

diseases such as malaria

participants

Monitoring Desk SINGAPORE: Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy accused China on Sunday of helping Russia to disrupt an upcoming Swiss-organized peace conference on the war in

Speaking at Asia's premier security conference, Zelenskyy said that China is pressuring other countries and their leaders not to attend the upcoming talks. He did not say which ones.

"Russia, using Chinese influence in the region, using Chinese diplomats also, does everything to disrupt the peace summit," he said at a news conference at the Shangri-La defense forum. "Regrettably this is unfortunate that such a big independent powerful country as China is an instrument in the hands of (Russian leader Vladimir) Putin.'

position on the war, put- expectations of the internating it at odds with Ukraine, the United States and most of Europe. Its trade with Russia has grown, easing the in the meeting. economic impact of West-The foreign ministry ern sanctions. And Ameri-

nese parts are winding up in Russian weaponry, even said of China's pressure on if China is not directly arming its neighbor. The Swiss had been hoping China would attend the peace conference in mid-June, but Chinese Forthe day, Zelenskyy urged

top defense officials to ateign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning signaled on Friday that that was unlikely. China has been calling for a peace conference with equal participation of mit to joining. all sides, including Russia, which has not been invited.

"There is still a clear gap between the arrangements for the meeting and China has staked out the demands of the Chinese what it says is a neutral side, as well as the general

tional community," Mao said. "This makes it difficult for China to participate

did not respond immediately to a request for comment on Zelenskyy's accu-The Ukrainian leader

others, "That is not only support to Russia, that is basically support of war." In a speech to the security conference earlier in

tend the upcoming talks in Switzerland, saying he was disappointed at the failure of some countries to com-Chinese Defense Minister Dong Jun spoke before Zelenskyy at the

Shangri-La conference but he did not appear to be in the room when Zelenskyy made his appeal.

Japanese Defense Minister Minoru Kihara, U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin and South Korean Defence Minister Shin Won-sik attend a trilateral meeting on sidelines of the Shangri-la Dialogue in Singapore.

Israel hammers Rafah with tanks and artillery

Monitoring Desk RAFAH: Israeli forces hammered Rafah in south-

ern Gaza with tanks and artillery on Saturday, hours after US President Joe Biden said Israel was offering a new roadmap towards a full ceasefire. Residents reported

tank fire in the Tal al-Sultan neighbourhood in west Rafah, while witnesses in the east and centre of Rafah described intense shelling. 'From the early hours

of the night until this morning, the aerial and artillery all its aims.

bombardment has not stopped for a single moment", a resident from west Rafah told AFP on condition of anonymity. "There are a number of occupation (Israeli) snipers in high-rise buildings overseeing all ar-

gerous," the resident added. Shortly after Biden's announcement, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu insisted his country would still pursue the war until it had reached

eas of Tal al-Sultan... mak-

ing the situation very dan-

Woman among 17 hopefuls registered to replace Raisi

Monitoring Desk DUBAI: US-sanctioned

former Revolutionary Guards commander Vahid Haghanian was among candidates who registered on Saturday to run for election as Iran's president after Ebrahim Raisi died in a helicopter crash, state media reported.

Haghanian, a close aide to Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, told reporters after registering that his qualifications were based on "experience from serving 45 years in the presidency and the leader's

The US Treasury

designated Haghanian in 2019 among nine individuals in Khamenei's inner circle responsible for "advancing ... do-mestic and foreign oppression"

Iran says most US sanctions are prompted by baseless accusations. Former parliamentary speaker Ali Larijani, a prominent conservative, was among candidates who registered on Friday, as was Abdolnaser Hemmati, a former central bank governor.

Sri Lanka monsoon floods kill 14, schools shut **Monitoring Desk**

COLOMBO: Flash floods, mudslides and falling trees have killed at least 14 people in Sri Lanka as the island nation is battered by monsoon storms, the country's disaster centre said on Sunday. Some drowned, including three members of the same family swept away near the capital Colombo on Sunday. Others were buried alive in mudslides, including an 11-year-old girl and a 20-year-old man, the Disaster Management Centre (DMC) said.

Activist arrested for attacking Monet painting in Paris **Monitoring Desk**

PARIS: A climate activist was arrested on Saturday for sticking an adhesive poster on a Monet painting at the Musee d'Orsay in Paris to draw attention to global warming, a police source said. The action by the woman, a member of 'Riposte Alimentaire' (Food Response) — a group of environmental activists and defenders of sustainable food production is the latest in a string of protests aimed at drawing attention to global warming by defacing art.

US, South Korea and Japan agree to hold joint military exercises strengthen trilateral **Monitoring Desk**

SEOUL: The United States, Japan and South Korea agreed to hold new trilateral joint exercises this summer, a joint statement issued by US Department of Defense said on Sunday, after a meeting of the three allies' defense ministers.

US Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin, Japan's Defense Minister Minoru Kihara and South Korea's Defense Minister Shin Won-sik met on Sunday in Singapore on the sidelines of the annual Shangri-La Dialogue security summit there.

The three "committed to continue to

cooperation to ensure peace and stability in the Korean Peninsula, the Indo-Pacific, and beyond," according to the statement.

The three also agreed to establish a Trilateral Security Cooperation Frame work this year in an effort to institutionalize their three-way defense cooperation.

The top defense officials of the three countries criticized North Korea's recent launches of ballistic missiles and a military spy satellite using ballistic missile technology as a violation of United Nations Security Council resolutions.

Energy shutdowns hit Ukraine after Russian attacks target infrastructure

Monitoring Desk

emergency power shutdowns in most of the the most significant recountry on Sunday, a day after Russia unleashed large-scale attacks on energy infrastructure and claimed it made gains in the eastern Donetsk targeted power generaprovince. shutdowns

were in place in all but three regions of Ukraine following Saturday's drone and missile attack on energy targets that injured at least 19 people. Ukraine's stateowned power grid operator Ukrenergo said the shutdowns affected both industrial and household consumers. Sustained Russian attacks on Ukraine's power grid in recent weeks have forced the government to institute nationwide rolling blackouts. Without adequate air defenses to counter assaults and allow for repairs, though, the shortages could still Chernihiv regions.

worsen as need spikes in KYIV: Ukraine imposed late summer and the bitter-cold winter. Among cent strikes were an April barrage that damaged Kyiv's largest thermal power plant and a massive attack on May 8 that tion and transmission facilities in several regions.

Following Saturday's barrage Ukraine's air force said Sunday that air defenses had shot down all 25 drones launched overnight. Russia claimed Sunday that it had taken control of the village of Umanske in the partially Russian-occupied Donetsk region. Russia's coordinated new offensive has centered on Ukraine's northeastern Kharkiv region, but seems to include testing Ukrainian defenses in Donetsk farther south, while also launching incursions in the northern Sumy and

Australia seeks military talks with China, ties with Philippines

Monitoring Desk SINGAPORE: Australia has asked for military talks with China and is comfortable growing closer to the Philippines, Deputy Prime Minister Richard Marles said on Sunday at the Shangri-La Dialogue secu-

rity summit. China and the Philippines are locked in confrontation in the disputed South China Sea and their encounters have grown more tense as Beijing presses its claims to shoals in waters that Manila says are well within its exclusive economic zone. Australia has stepped up its presence in the region and a joint amphibious exercise with the Philippines at Palawan island in August was Australia's biggest outside its own borders last year. Australia has also said its recent encounters with China's military fell

short of being safe and professional, and Marles said he discussed the issue with Chinese defence chief Dong Jun on the sidelines of the conference on Saturday.

"The substantive request that we had out of the meeting with China was to grow the defence dialogue, Marles told Reuters.

"We really want to get it ultimately back to where it was before it was stopped, and that would be at the level of our chiefs of defence force and our secretaries of defence meeting annually." Chinese defence officials met their Australian counterparts in Canberra last year in their first formal meeting since 2019. Since then, Australia has complained of a close encounter with a Chinese jet over the Yellow Sea and sonar being deployed.

India's Modi eyes election victory, top opponent back behind bars **Monitoring Desk**

NEW DELHI: A top opponent of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi vowed on Sunday to keep fighting "dictatorship" before he returned to jail Sunday, following elections widely expected to produce another landslide victory for the Hindu-nationalist leader.

Arvind Kejriwal is among several opposition leaders under criminal investigation, with colleagues describing his arrest the month before the general elections began in April as a "political conspiracy" orchestrated by Modi's ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). The chief minister of the capital Delhi and a key leader in an alliance formed to compete against Modi, Kejriwal was detained in March over a long-running corruption probe.

Karachi echoed with demands to end genocide in Gaza as JI takes out million march

Each and every children of Pakistan support Palestinian resistance against Israel in Gaza but political parties maintain silence, why? asks Naeemur Rehman

Karachiites marched at Shahrah-e-Faisal, demanding an end to the genocide in Gaza carried out by the Zionist regime of Israel.

People, belonging to all walks of life without any discrimination of cast, creed and colour expressed solidarity with the people of Gaza, here on Sunday. The protestors, carrying placards and banners, chanted slogans against Israel and her supporters.

The million march was taken out in a backdrop when the Zionist regime of Israel has already martyred over 40,000 innocent Palestinians, including women and children, whereas Israel has been on a killing spree against helpless people in Rafa camps despite the fact that the International Court of Justice has issued a ver-

JI Pakistan Ameer

Engr Hafiz Naeemur of people in Gaza and said

Speaking on the occasion, he said that people and particularly the youth across the world have decided to side with Gaza and even in several Western been resisting their own

He said that the US and west sponsored state terrorism by Israel have exposed all of them and their dual standards.

He said that the spineprovided the courage to Israel for the genocide in Gaza. Despite heavy military might, the Muslim block had failed to deliver a single strong message to Israel, otherwise the Zionist regime would not show the courage to kill innocent children with impunity. He praised the unity of the world.

It's an irony that the international terrorist United States has declared the resistance forces in Palestine as terrorist, he said, adding that the history of countries, the youth have the US is evident the she has never been loyal to any

Azam as saying that Israel was an illicit child of the west. He also recalled that the All India Muslim League had not only passed less Muslim rulers have a resolution for Pakistan but also for Palestine and

> on the role of Pakistan in the Muslim World in the past and recalled that İslamabad's military might and position were used for Muslims in the middle east, in Bosnia and other parts

ECP sets June

6 date for

PTI intra

party election

case hearing

SLAMABAD (APP):

The Election Commission

of Pakistan (ECP) has

scheduled June 6 for the

hearing of the Pakistan

Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) in-

tra-party election case, fol-

lowing its removal from the

agenda on May 30 due to

the unavailability of a

mission has sent notices to

Tehreek-e-Insaf leader Bar-

rister Gohar Ali and Raoof

Robbers gun

down youth

over resistance

KARACHI (INP): Armed

robbers gunned down a

youth in Gulshan-e-Iqbal

Block 7 of the metropolis

and took away bike, cellphone and cash, police

said on Sunday. According to details, a youth identi-

fied as Ittiqa, serving as chemical engineer in a pri-

vate factory while on his way to home after purchas-

ing bakery items was

chased by armed motorcy-

sistance during looting af-

ter which robbers shot him

dead and took away motor-

cycle, mobile phone and

cash. The deceased was also student of MBA. The

body was shifted to hospi-

tal for postmortem and po-

lice after registering a case

into the incident started in-

Gang involved

in stolen phone

IMEIs arrested

Karachi's Garden Police

have successfully appre-hended three individuals

involved in altering the In-

ternational Mobile Equip-

ment Identity (IMEI) num-

bers of stolen mobile

phones. During an intelli-

gence-based operation, the

police recovered 17 stolen

phones and a motorcycle

from the suspects' posses-

According to SSP City Arif Aziz, the arrested

Muhammad Atif, and

Khalid, are highly educated

and possess strong IT

skills. They used special-

ized software to change the

IMEI numbers of stolen

phones, effectively mask-

ing their origins and en-

operandi involved activat-

ing stolen phones by swap-

ping their IMEIs with those

of imported or keypad

phones

The group's modus

abling them to be resold.

Sameer.

individuals,

vestigation.

KARACHI

The youth offered re-

The Election Com-



KARACHI: Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Qaiser Sheikh photo graphed with Consul General Jamal Sango and other at annual traditional Turkish breakfast at Turkish Consulate.

Govt releases Rs 33.16b for various power sector schemes so far

The government had disbursed an amount of over various NTDC/PEPCO Rs 33.16 million for various power sector NTDC/ Out of the total release PEPCO schemes under the amount, the local compoannual Public Sector Develnent stood at Rs 29.639 bil-(PSDP) so far in the cur-

rent fiscal year 2023-24.
According to the official data issued by the Planning Commission, the govarious water-related projects so far.

ISLAMABAD (APP): ernment had specified a The government had dissum of Rs 55.27 billion for Programme lion while the foreign aid component was Rs 25.638

Over Rs 16 billion disbursed among beneficiaries under Benazir Kafaalat scheme

The Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) has disbursed over Rs.16 billion among over 15,00,000 beneficiaries from across the country so far under the Benazir Kafaalat quarterly payments (April-June).

Till May 30, over Rs. 16 billion has been disbursed among over 15,00,000 beneficiaries which make 46 per cent of the total beneficiaries", said an official source.

The disbursement of quarterly tranche

Kafaalat cash assistance to the beneficiaries is continued across the country in two phases to disburse Rs. 10,500 per household among over nine million registered beneficiary families.

In the first phase, the payments are being issued among the beneficiaries in all districts of Islamabad Balochistan, Azad Jammu and Kashmir and Gilgit Baltistan. The payments are also being disbursed in Peshawar, Mardan and all districts of Malakand and Hazara Division in Khyber (April-June) of Benazir Pakhtunkhwa province.



SUKKUR: People are quenching their thirst by chilled juice to beat the heat of scorching sun during the hot weather of summer season, at a relief camp of heat stroke under the supervision of Deputy Mayor Sukkur Dr. Arshad Mughal arranged by District Municipal Corporation, in Sukkur.

Searing weather spell continues in country

heat wave has continued in most parts of the country as mercury soared to 46 Celsius in Layyah and Kot Addu in Punjab,.

The heatwave, however, subsided in Karachi and temperatures have

dropped in the port city. Maximum temperature recorded 45 Celsius in Jacobabad, Dadu, Sibi, Faisalabad, Turbat, Multan, and D.G. Khan. Temperature goes as high as 44 Celsius in Lahore, Bahawalpur and Larkana, 43 Celsius in Rahim Yar Khan, Bannu and Sukkur. Moreover, maximum

KARACHI (INP): The temperature remained 33 Celsius in Karachi after the Met Office said that the heatwave conditions have subsided in the port city with partly cloudy weather.
The Met Office has

also forecast rainfall with thunderstorm in Lahore next week.

The Met Office last Wednesday forecast that the heatwave conditions would persist in Karachi and other areas of Sindh till

The highest temperature was recorded in Jacobabad on last Tuesday where mercury touched the 52-Celsius mark.

KARACHI: Millions of Rehman delivered the key- that even children in Gaza note address at the million have associated themselves with the Quran.

He quoted Quaid e they repeatedly did so.

He shed light in detail



citing Saudi, Egyptian models ISLAMABAD (APP): lighted the importance of emphasized the need for a 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

KARACHI: Supporters of the religious and political party Jamaat-e-Islami

attend a demonstration against Israeli airstrikes on Gaza, to show solidarity

Ashrafi advocates for issuance of

structured Fatwa to curb extremism,

with Palestinian people, in the Provincial Capital.

Tahir

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.

combat extremism across

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-Ifta institutions in Saudi Arabia and Egypt, he

government-level oversight to ensure that religious decrees are issued responsibly and effectively.

He said Dar-ul-Ifta

Saudi Arabia and Dar-ul-Ifta Egypt were renowned for their systematic approach to issuing Fatwas as these institutions employ qualified scholars who deliberate on religious matters in a methodical manner, providing well-considered and balanced religious opin-

He suggested that Pa-kistan could benefit from adopting a similar model, which would help mitigate the risks associated with arbitrary and unqualified Fatwas that can incite violence and extremism

Prime Minister Shehbaz

Sharif on Sunday extended

his warm felicitation to the

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on

hosting a successful boxing

event at the Kingdom Arena

in Riyadh. "Congratulations

to brotherly Kingdom of

Saudi Arabia on hosting an

impressive boxing bout at Kingdom Arena, Riyadh,"

the prime minister wrote on

his official X timeline. Ex-

pressing delight on the vic-

tory of Pakistani origin young

superstar Sheeraz Hamza, he

said "We are proud of you

and look forward to welcom-

ing you soon as world champion," he commended".

Magnitude 4.8

earthquake jolts

Swat, adjoining

areas

ISLAMABAD (APP): An

earthquake with a magni-

tude of 4.8 jolted Swat and

its adjoining areas in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

news channel, the quake's

epicenter was Tajikistan

border, with a depth of 195

life or damage to property was reported from any

part of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa so far.

Rangers arrest

two robbery

suspects in

Karachi

KARACHI (INP): The

Rangers have arrested two

robbery suspects in an operation conducted in Saadi

Town Karachi on Sunday.

Rangers' spokesperson said

the suspects identified as Owais and Khalid, are al-

legedly involved in robbery

and looting incidents in the

The Rangers recovered a 9mm pistol, bullets,

two mobile phones, and

spokesperson, the suspect

were looting citizens on Link Road, Malir, when

they were apprehended by

Notorious

robber injured,

held with arms

after encounter

LARKANA (INP): A no-

torious robber was injured

and arrested with arms af-

ter exchange of fire with

ing after a dacoity came

across patrolling police in Mahota area of Larkana and

Ikhtiar Gaddi wanted by

police in more than 15

criminal cases was injured

and held with weapons

while his accomplices man-

aged to escape

an encounter took place.

A gang of robbers flee-

In cross firing, robber

police here on Sunday.

the Rangers

According to Rangers

cash from the suspects.

As per details, the

According to a private

However, no loss of

province on Sunday.

kilometers.

To enhance pilgrims experience PM Shahbaz Salik emphasises devotion, hails Hamzah Sheeraz's victory effective communication in Rivadh for Hajj welfare staff boxing bout ISLAMABAD (APP)

Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony, Chaudhry Salik Hussain has urged the Hajj welfare staff (Moavineene-Hujjaj) to perform their responsibilities with devotion as serving the pilgrims is a sacred duty.

He said this on the

Chairman Pakistan Ulema Council (PUC), Hafiz

Mehmood Ashrafi has em-

phasized the urgent need for

fostering dialogue across

national seminar on 'Coun-

Speaking at a recent

various societal factions.

Muhammad

occasion of orientation sessions held by the Hajj mission for supporting staff in Makkah to make them aware of assisting pilgrims during the Hajj days.

Emphasizing the need tion, the minister suggested that guides fluent in vari-

ISLAMABAD (APP): ous Pakistani languages should be deployed to assist pilgrims visiting the Haram Sharif for Umrah or prayers. "This move would enhance the experience of pilgrims and help them navigate the area with comfort, Pakistan's multicultural nature with language diversity," he

He urged the supporting staff to ensure that the pilgrims should be provided with the best possible facilities and services during their stay for Hajj, showfor effective communica- ing compassion and empathy towards them in addition to their duties.



MULTAN: Senior politician Javed Hashmi meeting with Chief of JUI Maulana Fazlur Rehman.

Fauzia Waqar says: Harassment of women serious issue, families cannot protect them daily

for Guidance, Career Planning and Placement of the Sir Syed University of Engineering & Technology (SSUET) organized an awareness seminar on "The Protection against Harassment of Women at the Workplace Act, 2010".

Addressing the awareness session, Federal Ombudsperson for Protection Against Harassment, Fauzia Waqar, said that Harassment is a serious issue and due to harassment, women either leave education or service because their families cannot protect them daily.

It is under the constitution to take special measures to protect women and children. Every institution and organization must have a registered Harassment Enquiry Committee to address women's issues. The purpose of this

session is to make you un-

KARACHI (APP): Centre derstand that it is the State's commitment to protect women and to promote women's empowerment. Earlier Presenting a welcome note, Registrar SSUET, Cdre. (retd) Syed Sarfraz Ali said that the Act is a testament to our commitment to creating a safe and dignified working environment for women in Pa-

> Implantation of this act ensures women work with dignity and without fear. The Act is a landmark legislation to secure the fundamental rights of the citizens to the dignity of a person. Harassment at the workplace is not just a violation of one's dignity but also a barrier to women's right to work and ability to contribute to society.

We always supported gender equality and justice. Uffaifa Samoo said that harassment could happen to



HYDERABAD: Members of Sindh Journalists Alliance are holding protest demonstration against the killing of Journalists and demanding for justice at Hyderabad press club.

Visits passport, NADRA centers in London Naqvi orders expedited passport issuance for overseas Pakistanis

Naqvi visited London Passport and National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) Centers and directed urgent and normal passports to be Issued to overseas Pakistanis within seven and 30 Days respec-

According to the press release received on Sunday, Naqvi visited the passport and NADRA centres in London on Wednesday and took notice of the delays in the issuance of passports to overseas Pakistanis. The minister ordered that urgent passports should be issued within seven days and normal passports within 30 days, directing that this policy should be implemented at all Pakistani missions worldwide.

Previously, overseas Pakistanis had to wait for four months for a normal passport and one and a half months for an urgent pass-The minister emphasised that any delay Pakistanis.

terior Minister Mohsin not be tolerated and action would be taken against of-

ficials responsible for it. To ensure timely delivery of passports, the Interior Minister established a monitoring cell, which would be headed by his PSO, ASP Sher Bano Naqvi. Overseas Pakistanis who do not receive their passports within the specified time can file a complaint at the following email address:

complaints. passport@interior.gov.pk The minister also took notice of the staff shortage the passport and NADRA centres and directed effective staff management to address the issue. During his visit, Mohsin Naqvi met with the staff of the passport and NADRA centres and directed them to issue passports to overseas Pakistanis within the specified time. He appreciated the performance of NADRA staff and encouraged them to continue providing efficient services to overseas



ing NADRA and Passport Centers in London.

Rana Mashhood stresses govt's commitment to empower youths

LAHORE (APP): Chair- advancement in the IT secman of the Prime Minister's tor. Youth Program (PMYP), Rana Mashhood Ahmed Khan, has emphasized initiatives for youth empowerment, highlighting the significance of upcoming budget allocations in fostering public hopes. Addressing a cer-

emony at Aiwan-e-Iqbal here on Sunday, Rana Mashhood Ahmad Khan expressed his vision to propel Pakistan's IT industry to a \$25 billion market. He highlighted the current IT industry's value at \$2.5 bil-Muhammad Minister Shehbaz Sharif's vision, aims to increase it tenfold. The address also touched upon the importance of providing ample opportunities for the youth in the IT sector and recognizing sports as an industry to

He underscored the need for providing ample opportunities for youth wide.

foster growth and develop-

He hailed Arif Karim as a beacon of progress in the IT field, projecting his vision to guide Pakistan's youth towards IT sector prosperity. He shared his experience in Bangladesh, where institutions and tournaments are named after Arfa Karim, showcasing her lasting impact.

Rana Mashhood also discussed the challenges posed by IMF conditions but reassured that the government's focus remains on securing a better future lion and, following Prime for the youth. He men tioned the establishment of 250 e-employment centers across the country under the Prime Minister's Youth Program and the completion of IT complexes in Islamabad, with plans underway in Karachi.

In response to questions, he assured that the upcoming budget would reveal extensive programs to promote sports nation-



LARKANA: Members of Sindh United Party (SUP) and Sindh Journalists Alliance are holding protest demonstration for demanding arrest the killers of Journalists Nasrullah Gadani, Jan Muhammad Mahar, Aiav Lalwani and immediate release of missing innocent girl Pirya Kumari at Jinnah Bagh in Larkana.

Shaikhani for adopting international city-town planning methods to prevent urban flooding

HYDERABAD (APP): connection of drainage wa-Muhammad Farooq Shaikhani, President, Hyderabad Chamber of Small Traders and Small Industry has said that the Pakistan Meteorological Department forecasted higherthan-normal monsoon rains in southern Sindh from June to September this year. He said that this significant weather event was expected to impact most districts, in-Hyderabad. cluding Shaikhani highlighted that following the previous monsoon, four to five PC 1s aimed at system improvements were approved and

incorporated into the Hyderabad package, However, due to a lack of funds. no progress has been made on these initiatives, he said. He urgently called for the release of the necessary

funds to commence work on these critical projects. Faroog Shaikhani pointed out the longstanding and severe issue of urban flooding in Hyderabad. The primary cause, he noted, is the

ter to the sewage system, which has not seen upgrades for years.

Shaikhani stressed that open fields play a crucial role in flood protection and advocated for the adoption of international city-town planning methods to safeguard urban areas from floods. Utilizing valuable floodwater in agriculture could also bolster the country's economy. He urged the Government of Sindh, the Irrigation Department and other relevant institutions to complete the cleaning of lakes and barrages to protect region from another disaster. Despite the catastrophic floods of 2010 and 2022 in Pakistan, no effective strategy has been implemented by the concerned departments to prepare for the upcoming monsoon, he added.

He pointed out that many gates of the Sukkur and Kotri barrages remained permanently closed due to silt and sand accu-