

# Independent

Member APNS & CPNE

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Quetta

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## Big relief for PTI Imran Khan, Qureshi acquitted in cipher case

Also acquitted in Azadi March, rioting cases

ISLAMABAD (Online): Islamabad High Court (IHC) has acquitted PTI founder Imran Khan and former foreign minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi in cipher case.

Rigorous imprisonment of 10 years each was awarded to Imran Khan and Shah Mehmood Qureshi on January 30 this year. Appeal was filed against this conviction in IHC.

Chief Justice (CJ) IHC Aamir Farooq announced short order.

Barrister Suleman Safdar counsel for PTI founder said Azam Khan gave cipher to PTI founder.

### Barrister Aqeel Malik says Cipher case a reality which cannot be denied

Spokesperson says prosecution to decide on challenging verdict. Govt, army to never compromise on national security

ISLAMABAD (Agencies): After the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan and Vice-Chairman Shah Mehmood Qureshi got relief from the Islamabad High Court (IHC) in cipher case, a federal government's spokesperson on legal affairs said on Monday that the courts should be "mindful" of national security while deciding on the sensitive matters.

Barrister Aqeel Malik, the federal government's spokesperson for legal affairs, stated this while addressing a press conference in Islamabad shortly after the IHC acquitted the top PTI leaders in the cipher case.

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QUETTA: Provincial Education Minister, Raheela Hameed Khan Durrani addresses during seminar on Provincial Assessment of Students Learning organized by Balochistan Assessment and Examination Commission (BAEC) held at local hotel in Quetta.

## Highlighting historic decrease in inflation, Tarar reaffirms govt's commitment to revive economy

LAHORE (APP): Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar on Monday termed a historic and record decrease in inflation a positive indicator for the country and reaffirmed the government's commitment to work hard till the complete revival of the economy.

Addressing a press conference here at the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz Secretariat at Model Town, the federal minister said, "The inflation rate has dropped to 11 percent during this month beyond expectations, as reported by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics while Bloomberg, Asian Development Bank, UNDP, World Bank and other international departments are also acknowledging progress of Pakistan's economy and also see it on right direction".



Attaullah Tarar highlighted the government's tireless efforts from day one, focusing on the economy, leading to several positive outcomes. "These include a significant drop in inflation, lower fuel prices, unprecedented growth in the stock exchange, increased foreign reserves, enhanced direct investment, and record tax collection by the Federal Board of Revenue," he added. He expressed optimism about Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif's upcoming historic visit to China with a delegation of approximately 100 businessmen.

Tarar anticipates fruitful B2B meetings, business conferences, and the signing of agreements, which he believes will further bolster the country's stability.

To a question about China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), Tarar praised the historical rapid pace of work on CPEC projects during Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif's tenure, highlighting the commendable role of Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, the then Chief Minister of Punjab, in ensuring their swift completion. He ensured these projects would be completed with more pace.

## Those attacking anti-polio team are enemies of safe future of our children: Zia Langove

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Provincial Minister for Home and Tribal Affairs, Mir Ziaullah Langove has condemned the incident of firing at the anti-polio team in Chaman.

In a condemnation issued here on Monday, the Provincial Minister Home has issued directives to take stern action against the elements involved in the attack at anti-polio team in the border town.

He said that those attacked the anti-polio team are enemies of safe future of our children.

Mir Ziaullah Langove said that the extremist elements have been involved in the attacks at anti-polio teams.

He said that these elements want to create chaos and harass the people through such cowardly acts.

He prayed for early recovery of those injured in the attack at anti-polio team and said that best medical treatment is being provided to them.

## Anti-polio drive postponed in six districts of Balochistan due to heatwave

Independent Report

ISLAMABAD (APP): The scheduled anti-polio drive in six districts of Balochistan has been postponed due to the prevailing heatwave in the province.

The drive, set to commence today, has been rescheduled for June 8th in the districts of Nasirabad, Sibi, Jaffar Abad, Ustha Muhammad, Dera Bugti, and Sohbatpur, private news channels reported.



QUETTA: Relatives of missing persons are holding protest demonstration for recovery of their loved one, at Quetta press club.



QUETTA: Governor Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail being about law and order situation in the province

## PM directs immediate abolishment of Pak PWD

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Monday directed for immediate dissolution of the Pakistan Public Works Department (Pak PWD) due to years' long poor performance and corruption.

The prime minister issued the directive during a high level meeting held on reducing the government expenditures and the size of its infrastructure, the PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

During the meeting, the prime minister observed that the Pak PWD as a department had failed to achieve its objectives and asked for an alternate mechanism for the development projects which were tasked to it.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Min-

ister Mohammad Ishaq Dar, Minister for Planning Ahsan Iqbal, Minister for Finance and Revenue Muhammad Aurangzeb, Minister for Economic Affairs Ahad Khan Cheema, PM's Adviser on Political Affairs Rana Sanauallah, Minister of State for Finance and Revenue, Deputy Chairman Planning Commission Jehanzeb Khan and other relevant senior officials.

For reduction of government expenditures, the prime minister was apprised of a report compiled by a committee headed by Chairman Deputy Planning Commission Jehanzeb Khan. The committee had recommended for abolishment of certain government entities and merger of others. The prime minister directed the committee for finalization of further recommendations.

## Coal mine company Manager, contractor among 11 persons suffocated to death in Sanjdi

Independent Report

QUETTA: At least 11 persons including a Manager of private coal mine company, contractor and nine mine workers died due to suffocation in a coal mine located in Sanjdi mine field near Quetta on Monday evening.

The Chief Mines Inspector Abdul Ghani confirmed the casualties occurred due to the suffocation after poisonous gas filled in the coal mine while they were busy in mining activity.

He said that the bodies of all dead persons have been retrieved from the affected coal mine.

The coal mine has also been sealed, he added.

The Chief Mines Inspector further informed

that the bodies of the ill fated mine workers are being dispatched to their native areas. He said that the deceased mine workers belonged to Sawat area of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Meanwhile, the spokesman, Government of Balochistan, Shahid Rind said that the preliminary report of the Mines and Mineral Development regarding the coal mine mishap has been received.

According to the report, the poisonous gas was spread in the coal mine which caused suffocation and death of 12 persons including a contractor and Mines Manager.

Shahid Rind said that the incident was occurred in coal mine of a private mines company.



QUETTA: Provincial Minister for Revenue Mir Asim Kurd Gailu meeting with Provincial Minister for Communication and Works Mir Saleem Ahmed Khosa

## Elimination of crimes & protection of life & property of citizens basic responsibility of Police, says IGP

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Inspector General of Police Balochistan, Abdul Khaliq Sheikh has stated that it is basic responsibility of the police to eliminate crimes from the society and protect life and property of the masses.

The IGP was addressing the passing out parade of the recruit course at Police Training College, Kalat on Monday.

In all 334 male and female police personnels participated in the passing out on completion of their training.

The senior police officers were also present on the occasion.

Addressing the passing

out parade, the IGP said that police is a noble profession, and as such he exhorted the police personnels to become source of increasing honour and dignity of the force while serving the public to their best.

He also urged them to make pledge to perform their duties while considering it as public service and worship.

He particularly exhorted those newly joined the police force to perform their duties honestly and with dedication.

Meanwhile, the personnel participating in the passing out took oath of protection of the common man's life and property and render sacrifice of their lives for establishing peace.

## Overall law & order situation satisfactory in 8 divisions & 36 districts: Establishment of sustainable peace inevitable for political stability & economic dev: Governor Balochistan

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail has categorically stated that establishment of sustainable peace is inevitable for the political stability and economic development.

He said that there is a key role of owners of mines and minerals in economy and trade of the province.

If all traders especially mines and minerals' owners were not provided complete protection, then other sectors may also be affected. Therefore, the living standard of the people would be raised by improving law and order, promoting economic activities and protecting traders' community, but new opportunities of livelihood would also be available to the people.

The Governor was of

the view that the overall law and order situation is satisfactory in all eight divisions and 36 districts of the province, but still there is a need to take some more steps in this regard.

He also stressed the need to establish strong co-ordination among the law enforcement agencies to cope with the terrorism in the province including Quetta.

The Governor was speaking during the briefing conducted on the latest situation of law and order in the province, here on Monday.

Those who were present on the occasion were: Chief Secretary, Shakeel Qadir Khan, Additional Chief Secretary Home, Zahid Saleem, Inspector General of police, Abdul Khaliq Sheikh, Principal Secretary to Govern-

nor, Hashim Khan Ghilzai, Commissioner Quetta, Muhammad Hamza Shafiqat and Director General Levies, Naseebullah Kakar and others.

The Governor on the occasion expressed concern over increasing crimes in urban areas of the province for comprehensive strategy is needed.

Taking notice of the incidents of increasing street crimes, traffic issues in the provincial capital, the Governor directed to the district administration to take result-oriented steps for bringing improvement in the situation.

He strongly believed that the protection of life and property of the people and elimination of crimes can open up the avenues of sustainable peace and development in the province.

## PM to embark on five-day official visit to China today

ISLAMABAD (Online): Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif will undertake a five-day official visit to China from tomorrow at the invitation of Chinese President Xi Jinping and Premier Li Qiang.

During the three-segment trip, the Prime Minister will visit the cities of Xi'an and Shenzhen, besides Beijing.

Shehbaz Sharif will meet President Xi Jinping and hold delegation-level talks with Premier Li Qiang in Beijing.

He will also hold meetings with Chairman of Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Zhao Leji and heads of key government departments.

An important aspect of the Prime Minister's visit will be meetings with corporate executives of leading Chinese companies dealing in oil and gas, energy, ICT, and emerging technologies.

In Shenzhen, Prime Minister will address the China-Pakistan Business Forum with leading businesspersons, entrepreneurs, and investors from both countries.

He will also visit Economic and Agricultural Zones in China.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb in a meeting with the Korean Ambassador and Representatives of Korean Companies working in Pakistan.

## Finance Minister meets with representatives from Korean Companies working in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb on Monday met with the Korean Ambassador and representatives of Korean Companies working in Pakistan and discussed matters relating to mutual interest for benefit of both the nations.

The Secretary Ministry of Communications, Chairman National Highway Authority (NHA), MD Private Power & Infrastructure Board (PPIB) and senior officers from relevant ministries were also present in the meeting, said a press release.

The Finance Minister underscored the significant macroeconomic improvements and noted the positive trend in foreign exchange reserves. Furthermore, Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb reiterated the commitment of the government to address the challenges faced by Korean companies operating in Pakistan and in this regard urged the relevant authorities to ensure their facilitation for smooth business operations.

The Korean Ambassador appreciated the government's economic initiatives and strong bilateral relations between Pakistan and Korea. He emphasized the need to fully exploit the untapped potential for further collaboration.

## PM's China visit to become a milestone in bilateral relations: Chinese ambassador

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chinese Ambassador in Pakistan Jiang Zaidong said on Monday that under the guidance of two leadership and strong support from the people of both countries, the upcoming visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to China would achieve complete success and become a milestone in the development of China-Pakistan relations.

The ambassador in an interview with APP, a day before the prime minister's five-day visit from June 4-8, 2024 to China, said that all preparatory works had entered the final stage, and discussions on Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) were in full progress.

At the invitation of Premier Li Qiang, Prime Minister Shehbaz will pay an official visit to China. This is his first visit to China



after assuming the office this year.

Highlighting the components of the visit, he said the prime minister would meet and have talks with Chinese President Xi Jinping, Premier Li Qiang and the Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Zhao Leji. The leaders will have an in-depth exchange of views on China-Pakistan relations and issues of mutual interest, and jointly

draw up a blueprint for the growth of bilateral relations. In addition to Beijing, the prime minister will visit Guangdong and Shaanxi.

"China stands ready to work with Pakistan through this visit to make greater progress in our all-weather strategic cooperative partnership and take new steps in building of an even closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era," the envoy re-

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## Pakistan, Afghanistan agree to implement mechanism TAD

ISLAMABAD (APP) The Ministries of Commerce of Pakistan and Afghanistan have agreed to implement the Temporary Admission Document (TAD) streamline mechanism and regulate the movement of cargo vehicles carrying bilateral trade between the two countries.

Applications for TAD for Afghanistan-registered vehicles will be collected on all working days of Pakistan Embassy Kabul and Pakistan Consulate, Kandahar from 11:00-12:00 hours daily, said a press release on Monday.

Applications for TAD from Pakistani registered vehicles will be collected on all working days at Afghanistan Consulate Generals, Quetta, and Peshawar from 1000-11:00 hours.

Both sides have ensured the availability of applica-

tion forms in Embassy/Consulates and on websites which is freely downloadable.

The TAD will be issued within five working days of receipt of applications.

The TAD shall become valid from the date of issuance.

A separate Temporary Admission Document will be issued, for vehicle, driver and cleaner.

The fee will be charged for issuing TAD of Vehicle only, however, the TAD pass for drivers and cleaners of that vehicle will be free of cost.

TAD shall be valid for one vehicle at a time and only for the carrier to whom it was issued; it shall not be transferable to other carriers.

The TAD is issued against the admission fee of

US \$100 and its validity is for 6 months with multiple journeys and the mechanism of Temporary Admission Document (TAD) is notified vide SRO 702(I)/2024 by Federal Board of Revenue.

The Directorate General of Transit Trade, Peshawar/Quetta is responsible for sharing list of approved transport operators with Afghanistan Consulate Generals, Quetta, and Peshawar; hence Transport Operators/Owners of Pakistan Registered Vehicles are encouraged to apply at Directorate General of Transit Trade, Peshawar/Quetta for registration of their trucks to operate under TAD Mechanism.

Help Desks have also been established to facilitate Transport Operators.

## PM's China visit to become a...

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Calling China and Pakistan all-weather strategic cooperative partners and ironclad friends, he said "Our friendship has stood the test of time and remained rock-solid and—use a Chinese expression—"steady as Mount Tai."

He said in recent years, both countries had close high-level exchanges, conducted fruitful and high-quality cooperation on the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), and maintained sound communication and coordination in international and regional affairs.

Regarding CPEC, he said the landmark BRI project brought a total of US \$25.4 billion in direct investment, 236,000 jobs, 510 km of highways, more than 8,000 megawatts of electricity and 886 km of core transmission network, generating a strong impetus to Pakistan's economic and social development.

Under the second phase of CPEC, he said both countries would implement the important consensus reached by their leaders including the strengthening synergy of development strategies and policy coordination and accelerate progress on mega projects including upgradation of ML-1, the Gwadar Port and realignment of Karakoram Highway Phase II. Moreover, the two countries will strengthen cooperation in industry, agriculture, mining, new energy, information technology and other fields based on local conditions and further negotiate and promote trade liberalization.

"Looking forward to the second phase of CPEC, we are ready to work with Pakistan to inject new impetus into China-Pakistan cooperation with China's new development, and promote the in-depth integration of "5Cs" (5 Corridors: growth corridor, livelihood-enhancing corridor, innovation corridor, green corridor and open corridor) with "5Es" framework, to create an upgraded version of the CPEC and build a closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future in the new era."

He said that China was also ready to further promote high-quality Belt and Road cooperation with the Pakistani side, to implement the Global Development Initiative (GDI), Global Security Initiative (GSI) and the Global Civilization Initiative (GCI), and make positive contributions to building an equal and orderly multi-polar world as well as a universally beneficial and inclusive economic globalization.

About the launch of

Pakistan's lunar mission ICUBE-Q satellite with Chinese cooperation, Ambassador Jiang Zaidong said that since May this year, China-Pakistan aerospace cooperation has achieved frequent success. A week after its launch, Pakistan's ICUBE-Q successfully transmitted images from lunar orbit, marking Pakistan's inaugural step from "zero to one" in deep space exploration and making Pakistan one of the few members of the "deep space club".

He said that on May 30, Pakistan's multi-mission communication satellite, PakSat MM1, was again successfully launched from China's Xichang Satellite Launch Center, which was on its way to the geostationary orbit and would bring revolutionary changes to Pakistan's telecommunications, the internet, and television landscape, contributing to Digital Pakistan.

"We will enhance cooperation and knowledge transfer in more "down-to-earth" sectors such as agriculture, new energy, and information technology, to promote the building of an upgraded version of CPEC, and constantly enrich the significance and practices of the China-Pakistan community with a shared future," he resolved.

Discussing the security cooperation and efforts to thwart the enemy's attempts to undermine peace, the envoy said that the Dasu terrorist attack on March 26 further necessitated a secure and stable environment for practical cooperation between China, Pakistan, and the CPEC.

"So far in 2024, Pakistani security forces have collectively conducted 13,135 intelligence-based operations against terrorists and their facilitators, during which 249 terrorists were eliminated while 396 were arrested. Pakistan also has made great sacrifices, with two officers and 60 soldiers sacrificing their precious lives," he said and highly appreciated Pakistan's great efforts to protect the security of Chinese personnel, projects and institutions in Pakistan over the years.



QUETTA: Commissioner Quetta and Administrator Quetta, Muhammad Hamza Shafiqat addresses during the protest demonstration of employees of Metropolitan Corporation, in Quetta.

## Cipher case a reality...

Continued from page 1

In a major relief to the embattled former ruling party, the IHC annulled Imran and Qureshi's conviction in the infamous cipher case containing charges of misusing and misplacing the classified diplomatic document.

"Detailed verdict of the case is due to arrive," Barrister Malik said, insisting that the cipher case was a "reality" which cannot be denied.

He said that the former prime minister waved a classified document at a public gathering, whereas, then-principal secretary Azam Khan also confessed about a "missing copy of the cipher".

"Nothing is more important than our national security. The prosecution will decide on challenging the IHC's ruling after the issuance of a detailed verdict," the lawyer-cum-politician said.

He urged that the courts to never ignore the national security's aspect in any case and the cipher case should be sent for retrial. Malik further clarified that both the accused were not sentenced "at the behest of any individual".

He vowed that the federal government and the armed forces would never compromise on the national security affairs.

## T20 World Cup 2024: Namibia edge past Oman in a super over thriller

BARBADOS (INP) Namibia edged past Oman in the Super Over during the third match of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024 here on Monday.

Namibia scored 21 runs in the Super Over, courtesy of David Weise (13) and Gerhard Erasmus (8). Weise then restricted Oman to ten runs to win the thrilling clash. The game was tied when Weise failed to score two runs off the last ball but managed a single off by to level the scores.

Namibia had a cautious start with a 42-run stand for the second wicket between Nikolaas Davin (24) and Jan Frylinck (45). Davin got in the ninth over, while Frylinck kept playing the anchor's role amidst falling wickets on the other end.

Other than these two, only Erasmus (13) managed to reach double figures as Namibia finished with 109-6 in their allocated 20 overs.

Mehran Khan topped the bowling charts for Oman with figures of 3-7.

Earlier, Namibia opted to bowl first and Trumpelmann proved the decision right as he picked two wickets in the first two balls of the innings. He dismissed Naseem Khushi in the third over to inflict further damage, reducing Oman to 10-3. Zeeshan Maqsood played a cautious 22-run knock from 20 balls before falling prey to Bernard Scholtz.

Khalid Kail top-scored for Oman with 34 runs from 39 balls featuring one boundary and one six, while Ayaan Khan scored 15 off 21. Other than these three, no Oman batter could pose any threat to Namibia at any point as the whole team bunched over for 109 in the final over. Trumpelmann claimed 4-21, while David Weise picked three wickets for 28 runs.



QUETTA: Secretary Finance Babar Khan presiding over a meeting regarding Quetta Safe City Project

## Imran Khan, Qureshi acquitted....

Continued from page 1

There are no documents in this regard. This is responsibility of prosecution to prove. Law is very clear. Decisions of Supreme Court are there. Prosecution has to discharge this obligation.

The CJ IHC Amir Farooq inquired has prosecution nothing more than the statement of Azam Khan. Prosecution case had been easy when they would have presented copy of cipher in the court.

Justice Mian Gulhasan Aurangzeb remarked why one man is imprisoned in jail on the misplacement of a paper.

It is pertinent to note

that two cases were registered against Imran Khan, Shah Mehmood and other leaders in Golra police station in 2022. Earlier, former PM Imran Khan was acquitted in two May 9 cases.

Violent clashes were broken out across Pakistan after former prime minister Imran Khan was arrested on May 9, 2023. The protests were held in remote and major cities as the party workers were agitated due to their chairman's arrest, with Balochistan, Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and Islamabad summoning the armed forces to ensure law and order. Army installa-

tions, including Corps Commander's house in Lahore, had come under attack during the protests by PTI workers. It is pertinent to mention that the PTI founder is named as main accused in all the May 9 riots cases.

Leader of the Opposition in the National Assembly Omar Ayub hailed the verdict and called for their immediate release.

"A big day for the leader and the party. A fake, frivolous and fraudulent case is sent packing by IHC. Other cases will also meet their Waterloo soon. Khan will step out of Adiala as the undisputed leader of a resurgent nation. Congratulations everyone," said PTI spokesperson Raouf Hasan.

Talking to the media, PTI leader Barrister Gohar Ali Khan said: "The nation saw today that the just verdict came and the banner of justice was held high and that baseless case was eliminated in which Imran Khan spent around 10 months in jail and for which he was kept in jail all the time. Today is a day of happiness... very soon the nation will see that Imran Khan will be outside."

**اظہار وجوہ کا نوٹس**

آپ کی محترم درخواستیں کو گورنمنٹ ٹیکنالوجی ڈیپارٹمنٹ نے جانچ کر منظور کیا ہے۔ آپ کی درخواستیں کو منظور کرنے کے لیے آپ کو 24 گھنٹوں کے اندر اپنا جواب دینا پڑے گا۔

PRQ No 2791/03-06-2024

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**Oil & Gas Regulatory Authority**  
Government of Pakistan

**NOTICE FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS/ HEARING**

**EGAS PRIVATE LIMITED - APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF LICENCE TO UNDERTAKE REGULATED ACTIVITY FOR SALE OF NATURAL GAS /FLARE GAS FROM KABIR X-1 GAS FIELD**

M/s EGAS Pvt. Limited (the applicant) has applied under OGRA's Natural Gas (Licensing) Rules, 2002 for grant of license for Sale of Natural Gas / Flare Gas via Compression, Storage, Transportation and Marketing of CNG at Kabir X-1, (Gambat South Concession) District Sanghar. The applicant intends to transport 1.0-1.5 MMCFD of Natural Gas from Kabir X-1 field in District Sanghar operated by M/s Pakistan Petroleum Limited (PPL) to its consumer i.e. M/s Rathan Maize Products, Kotli Industrial Area District, Janshoro. The applicant further stated that the gas processing station including dehydration system and compressor station shall be installed at the field whereby the gas shall be compressed to 200 bar and fill the Cylinder Cascade Trucks and transport to its consumer wherein a CMS equipped with heated regulators and mass flow meters shall be installed.

After completion of the requisite data / information by the applicant, the Authority admitted the instant application for Public Comments / Hearing under Rule 5 of the Ild Rules. Therefore, all persons and parties who are likely to be affected by grant of this license are hereby notified to file objections, written comments/suggestions and intervention requests addressed to Senior Registrar OGRA, describing the manner in which such persons/parties may be affected by the grant of this license and may also appear on the below mentioned scheduled Public Hearing.

The intervention request shall be filed alongwith fee of Rs.500/- (bank draft) and affidavit verifying the contents of communication on or before the date of Public Hearing. Copies of the documents submitted by the applicant can be obtained on payment of prescribed charges of Rs.2/- per page from the office of Registrar or can be downloaded from OGRA's website.

In sequel to all above, OGRA has decided to hold Public Hearing in the instant matter according to date, time and venue mentioned below:

Date: 24-06-2024 (Monday)  
Time: 11:00 a.m  
Venue: OGRA Office, Mauve Area, G-10/A, Islamabad  
For any information required from the applicant please contact:  
Yasir Raza,  
Chief Executive Officer,  
Honda Centre 300 Peshawar  
Road Rawalpindi,  
Telephone: 051-5125181-5, Fax: 051-5125186,  
www.egas.com.pk

PID(I)/No.7514/23  
Dr. Abdul Basit Qureshi  
Senior Registrar  
**Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority**  
Plot No.37 & 39, Mauve Area,  
Service Road South, G-10/A, Islamabad  
Phone: 051-9103889, 051-9103890-98, (Ext-123)  
www.ogra.org.pk

**Public Service Message:**  
محکمہ گیس کے لیے درخواستیں جمع کروانے کے لیے درخواستیں جمع کروانے کے لیے درخواستیں جمع کروانے کے لیے

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

The Executive Engineer Public Health Engineering Division Kachhi invited the sealed percentage tender based on composite Schedule of Rates 2023 Government of Balochistan along with tender Fee and item rates from interested Contractors/Firms for the work mentioned below:- Tender Fee Rs.850/- and Time limit 30-06-2024

S.No	Name of Work	E/Cost	Qty
1	CONSTRUCTION OF WATER POND/SAT VILLAGE GIDDER & GUMB TEHSIL BHAG DISTRICT KACHHI (PDSPP NO 7614) TSE232406446913	9.454 M	1 No

The procurement shall be carried out per Balochistan Public Procurement Rules, 2014. Eligibility:-The Authorized Dealer must have valid registration with tax authorities i.e. (NTN, GST & BRA (Original) valid PEC certificate registration (Original) with Pakistan Engineering Council in relevant category and discipline with renewal for the year 2023-24, where applicable including three years work experience and bank (Turnover) The Bidder must have completed three assignments of similar nature and the same above value work in the last two years in hand. 10% Security Deposit Should be submitted by Contractor/firm in case of rate offered below 10% of the total cost. In case of failure, Bid may be rejected at any STAGE. In case of contractor / firm they should have valid dealership certificate of manufacturers. The pipes may be tested at site/on firm's cost. The Manufacturers will provide tax paid certificates. The Joint venture is not allowed. The firm authorized representative will be allowed having original CNIC and authorization letter/Deed must be provided on Judicial Stamp paper Of Rupees 100 attested by the Notary public Or First Class Magistrate. The tender fee should be deposited in the head of account 02726-02 PHE Tender Fee through Green Challan in National Bank of Pakistan Dhadar only. Terms & Condition. (A) Under following condition bid will be rejected. (i) Conditional & telephonic bid / tenders. (ii) bid not accompanied by a bid security of required amount of bid (iii) bid Submitted after specified date & time. (iv) blacklisted firms /contractors. (v) Original firm or authority letter mention against each work and original CNIC, Stamp with letter Head. (B) Bid validity period 90 days. METHOD OF PROCUREMENT: Single Stage, One envelope procedure. BID SECURITY: 2% of total bid Value in the shape of CDR must be submitted in Favor of EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PHE Division Kachhi from Scheduled Bank. BIDDING / TENDER DOCUMENTS ISSUANCE: The Contractor/Firm should download NIT and Bidding Document by self from WWW.BPPRA.ORG.PK SUBMISSION: The last date for submission is 21-06-2024 at 11:00 PM. OPENING: The tender will be opened on 21-06-2024 at 12:00 PM. Place of issuance, submission inquiries, and opening will be: ADDRESS: Office of the Executive Engineer PHE Division Kachhi @ Dhadar E.Mail:- xenphe0000@gmail.com Other terms and conditions are attached to tender documents. NOTE: It may be noted that no pay order will be accepted/entertained and the firm's complete title/name should be written on the call deposit. All the terms & conditions/sites of the work can be seen in office hours of the undersign. under sign have reserve rights to reject all any bid with any condition. The Tender form/Documents will be download BPPRA website.

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PHE DIVISION KACHHI AT DHADAR

PRQ No.2777/03-6-2024

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**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

The REGIONAL TRAINING INSTITUTE QUETTA invites bids from eligible Bidders for supply of following items. TSE-232405441341 Note: In All Procurements of GOB Whether Through Electronic or Manual Bid Submission, It is Mandatory For All Bidders to Get Registered At Electronic Public Procurement System of BPPRA GOB. Tender Fee Rs.1000/-

S.No	Class of Object	Bid Security
1	Medical Equipment and Accessories	2%

(Total Item(s) Count: 10)

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules - 2014. Eligibility of Bidders: 3 Assignments of Similar Nature and Complexity 1,750,000 in Previous 3 Years. Turn over of at least 1,850,000 PKR in 3 Subsequent Previous Years. Presence in Active Tax Payor List, Sales Tax Certificate. The bidding firm must not be currently blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan. JV is not permissible. Submission of the required Bid Security in case Bid Security is not found as required during financial evaluation the bidding firm shall be declared as in-eligible and non-responsive Submission of the required Bidding document Fee Procedure Of Procurement: Single Stage Two Envelope Bidding Procedure Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Bank Guarantee, Deposit at Call of 2% specified above in the name of the under-signed from a scheduled bank. Tender Documents: The bidding documents can be obtained from the office of the under-signed 1,000 PKR Issuance of tender Documents: From the date of publication of NIT to 24 June, 2024 during office hours on working days Last Date of bid submission: The Tenders must be submitted latest by 24 June, 2024 till 11:00 AM Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day at the office of the under-signed at 12:00 PM Address: REGIONAL TRAINING INSTITUTE QUETTA Phone no: 0928125454 Fax no: 20206466 Email: r.trainingsinstitutequetta@gmail.com

PRQ No.2756/03-6-2024

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**TENDER NOTICE**

TSE-232406446193 Note: In All Procurements of GOB Whether Through Electronic or Manual Bid Submission, It is Mandatory For All Bidders to Get Registered At Electronic Public Procurement System of BPPRA GOB. The Forest and Wildlife Department invites bids from Eligible Bidders for execution of following works for the Year 2024 based on Composite schedule rates 2018 on Percentage Rates Tender Fee Rs.1000/- and Bid Security 2% for each work.

S.No	Name of Work/s	E/Cost
1.	Construction of Additional Room For Wildlife Offices At Panjgur TSE 232406446133	5,000,000
2.	Construction of Additional Room And Hall For Wildlife Offices At Panjgur TSE232406446153	7,000,000
3.	Construction Of Hut Room Attach Washroom, Stairs And Kitchen At Panjgur TSE232406446003	3,000,000

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules - 2014. Eligibility of Bidders: Eligibility Criteria for bidders may be seen in the Bidding Documents Procedure Of Procurement: Single Stage One Envelope Bidding Procedure Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Bank Guarantee, Deposit at Call of 2% specified above in the name of the under-signed from a scheduled bank. Tender Documents: The bidding documents can be obtained from the office of the under-signed 1,000 PKR Issuance of tender Documents: From the date of publication of NIT to 21 June, 2024 during office hours on working days Last Date of bid submission: The Tenders must be submitted latest by 21 June, 2024 till 10:00 AM. Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day at the office of the under-signed at 11:00 PM The bidders who have downloaded Bidding Document(s) before 28 May, 2024 are required to download the amended Bidding Document(s). The Other terms and conditions shall remain same. Address: Chiklan Near Zakat Office Panjgur Phone no: 0332786653 Email: aajbaloch16@gmail.com

PRQ No.2765/03-6-2024

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**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

The undersigned invites sealed Percentage rate tenders based on composite schedule of rates 2023 Government of Balochistan from interested contractor/firms for the works mentioned below :- Tender Fee Rs. 1000 of each TSE/Works and deposited in head of account C02725-02 through Bank in NBP, Earnest Money 2% of E/Cost offered Rate in Shape of Call Deposit for each work.

Sr.No.	Name of scheme	E/Cost
1.	Const of Solar System WSS Killi Kuan, Mir Turail, Fazal Zangi, Asad Badani, Badozai Tehsil Moola Dist Khuzdar under PSDP No.7253 TSE-232406446993	22.845 M

Procurement shall be made the Balochistan Public Procurement Rule 2014. ELIGIBILITY:- The Contractor must have valid registration with Pakistan Engineering Council in relevant Category and registration with tax authority's i.e (NTN, sales tax & BRA Department) where applicable. Three years relevant work experience. Turn Over of last three years. METHOD OF PROCUREMENT:- Single Stage One Envelope Bidding Procedure. TSE-232406446993 BID SECURITY:- The bid must accompany bid security in shape of Call Deposit of amount specified above in the name of the undersigned from a scheduled bank. TENDER DOCUMENTS:- The bidding documents can be obtained from the office of the undersigned upon payment (Non Refundable) Bidding Documents fee amount mentioned above against each work through green challan under head C02725-02 Receipt the NIT and Bidding documents can also be downloaded from BPPRA web site . ISSUANCE OF TENDER DOCUMENTS: Tender documents issued from the date of publication of NIT. LAST DATE OF BID SUBMISSION:- The tender must be submitted latest by 20.06.2024 at 11:00 AM. TENDER OPENING: All tenders will be opened on same day at the office of undersigned at 12:00 PM. Place Of Issuance and Submission will be: All tenders will be opened on same day at the office of undersigned at 12:00 PM. Address: Office of the Executive Engineer PHE Division at Khuzdar. Phone NO.0848412523, Fax NO.0848412523 & Email. pheadur@gmail.com, Bid Validity Period:-90 days. Note:-Only the Original contractor/firm are allowed to participate in the tender with original CNIC. Agent/representative will be not allowed. The undersigned reserve the right to reject all or any bids with out assignment of any reason thereof, it may be noted that (Pay Order and Bank Draft will not be accepted/entertained) and firm's complete title/name should be written on the call deposit. other terms & Condition seen/obtain in the Office of the undersigned in office hours

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PHE DIVISION KHUZDAR

PRQ No.2747/03-6-2024

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**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

The Irrigation Division Chaman intends to carry out the following Development Works for the year 2023-24 and invites sealed tenders on composite schedule of rates 2023 GOB for the PEC Registered Government Contractors. All Bidders to get registered at Electronic Public Procurement System of BPPRA GOB. Only Electric Bid will be Submitted, No Physical Bid is required. Earnest Money 2%, Tender Fee Rs.3000/- and Completion Time 2 years.

S.No	Name of work.	E/Cost
1.	CONST. OF BATAO DELAY ACTION DAM U/S CADET COLLEGE DISTRICT CHAMAN - PSDP 4001 (2023-24) TSE232405442153	180.00 M

The Procurement shall be carried out in accordance with the BPPRA rules 2014 and Amended 2019. ELIGIBILITY OF CONTRACTORS: Valid registration certificate of PEC in the relevant category and having following Specialization Codes: CE 04 (iii) (Dams only) CE 04 (irrigation only) CE 10 General Civil Engineering Works: Slope Protection Earthworks, sub-soil Drainage, Waterproofing etc. Valid registration certificates from Income Tax Authority (NTN) and Baluchistan Revenue Authority (BRA). The firm/ Contractor either blacklisted nor involved in any Litigation / Arbitration (Attach all certificates and the affidavit (on non-judicial stamp paper) of not blacklisting) nor involved in any litigation / arbitration) Detailed Technical Evaluation Criteria is mentioned in the Bidding Documents. METHOD OF PROCUREMENT: Bids are invited on Single stage two envelop procedure (Technical & Financial Proposals). BIDDING / TENDER DOCUMENTS ISSUANCE: The NIT & Bidding Documents can be downloaded from www.bppra.org.pk. DEADLINE OF SUBMISSION: Bid can only be submitted electronically latest by 21 June 2024 till 11.00 A.M through Supplier Dashboard. OPENING OF BID: The tender will be opened on date 21 June 2024 at 12:00 PM through Supplier Dashboard BID SECURITY: Bid Security of 2% of estimated cost in the shape of call deposit from any scheduled bank as mentioned against the contract shall be enclosed with the bid (Technical Proposal). The Competent Authority reserves the right to accept/reject any or all bids at any time prior to acceptance of a bid, due to cogent reason. Any further information regarding the bid can be obtained from Office of the Undersigned on any working day. The office of the Executive Engineer, Irrigation Division Chaman Tel # 03352129347

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, IRRIGATION DIVISION, CHAMAN

PRQ No.2771/03-6-2024

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**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

The Executive Engineer Public Health Engineering Division Kachhi invited the sealed percentage tender based on composite Schedule of Rates 2023 Government of Balochistan along with tender Fee and item rates from interested Contractors/Firms for the work mentioned below:- Tender Fee Rs.850/- and Time limit 30-06-2024

S.No	Name of Work	E/Cost	Qty
1	CONSTRUCTION OF WATER POND/SAT VILLAGE GIDDER & GUMB TEHSIL BHAG DISTRICT KACHHI (PDSPP NO 7614) TSE232406446913	9.454 M	1 No

The procurement shall be carried out per Balochistan Public Procurement Rules, 2014. Eligibility:-The Authorized Dealer must have valid registration with tax authorities i.e. (NTN, GST & BRA (Original) valid PEC certificate registration (Original) with Pakistan Engineering Council in relevant category and discipline with renewal for the year 2023-24, where applicable including three years work experience and bank (Turnover) The Bidder must have completed three assignments of similar nature and the same above value work in the last two years in hand. 10% Security Deposit Should be submitted by Contractor/firm in case of rate offered below 10% of the total cost. In case of failure, Bid may be rejected at any STAGE. In case of contractor / firm they should have valid dealership certificate of manufacturers. The pipes may be tested at site/on firm's cost. The Manufacturers will provide tax paid certificates. The Joint venture is not allowed. The firm authorized representative will be allowed having original CNIC and authorization letter/Deed must be provided on Judicial Stamp paper Of Rupees 100 attested by the Notary public Or First Class Magistrate. The tender fee should be deposited in the head of account 02726-02 PHE Tender Fee through Green Challan in National Bank of Pakistan Dhadar only. Terms & Condition. (A) Under following condition bid will be rejected. (i) Conditional & telephonic bid / tenders. (ii) bid not accompanied by a bid security of required amount of bid (iii) bid Submitted after specified date & time. (iv) blacklisted firms /contractors. (v) Original firm or authority letter mention against each work and original CNIC, Stamp with letter Head. (B) Bid validity period 90 days. METHOD OF PROCUREMENT: Single Stage, One envelope procedure. BID SECURITY: 2% of total bid Value in the shape of CDR must be submitted in Favor of EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PHE Division Kachhi from Scheduled Bank. BIDDING / TENDER DOCUMENTS ISSUANCE: The Contractor/Firm should download NIT and Bidding Document by self from WWW.BPPRA.ORG.PK SUBMISSION: The last date for submission is 21-06-2024 at 11:00 PM. OPENING: The tender will be opened on 21-06-2024 at 12:00 PM. Place of issuance, submission inquiries, and opening will be: ADDRESS: Office of the Executive Engineer PHE Division Kachhi @ Dhadar E.Mail:- xenphe0000@gmail.com Other terms and conditions are attached to tender documents. NOTE: It may be noted that no pay order will be accepted/entertained and the firm's complete title/name should be written on the call deposit. All the terms & conditions/sites of the work can be seen in office hours of the undersign. under sign have reserve rights to reject all any bid with any condition. The Tender form/Documents will be download BPPRA website.

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PHE DIVISION KACHHI AT DHADAR

PRQ No.2777/03-6-2024

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**TENDER NOTICE**

TSE-232406446193 Note: In All Procurements of GOB Whether Through Electronic or Manual Bid Submission, It is Mandatory For All Bidders to Get Registered At Electronic Public Procurement System of BPPRA GOB. The Forest and Wildlife Department invites bids from Eligible Bidders for execution of following works for the Year 2024 based on Composite schedule rates 2018 on Percentage Rates Tender Fee Rs.1000/- and Bid Security 2% for each work.

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Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules - 2014. Eligibility of Bidders: Eligibility Criteria for bidders may be seen in the Bidding Documents Procedure Of Procurement: Single Stage One Envelope Bidding Procedure Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Bank Guarantee, Deposit at Call of 2% specified above in the name of the under-signed from a scheduled bank. Tender Documents: The bidding documents can be obtained from the office of the under-signed 1,000 PKR Issuance of tender Documents: From the date of publication of NIT to 21 June, 2024 during office hours on working days Last Date of bid submission: The Tenders must be submitted latest by 21 June, 2024 till 10:00 AM. Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day at the office of the under-signed at 11:00 PM The bidders who have downloaded Bidding Document(s) before 28 May, 2024 are required to download the amended Bidding Document(s). The Other terms and conditions shall remain same. Address: Chiklan Near Zakat Office Panjgur Phone no: 0332786653 Email: aajbaloch16@gmail.com

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**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

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ISLAMABAD: Chief Minister Gilgit-Baltistan Haji Gulbar Khan in a meeting with Federal Minister of Finance Muhammad Aurangzeb at his office.

## Green Journalist Awards recognition to media services highlighting climate action: Romina

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister's Coordinator on Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Romina Khurshid Alam on Monday conferred Green Journalist Award upon environmental journalists and termed it a recognition to the services of media for highlighting climate action. The Pakistan Environmental Protection Agency (Pak-EPA) while celebrating World Environment Day 2024 in the series of different contents like awareness walk, debate competition etc, commenced the World Environment Day celebrations by organising Green Journalist Award here at National Press Club, whereas the awards were distributed by Romina Khurshid Alam.

Speaking on the occasion, Romina Khurshid Alam thanked the Director General EPA to revive the awards for climate reporters. She announced that the next climate awards would be held in the name of late Senior Reporter Shabbir Hussain who rendered his life in the line of duty. "We are going to nominate and dedicate climate journalist awards for male and female journalists in the name of Shabbir Hussain. All four provinces should be taken on board for a national level recognition and under the leadership of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif those awards would be conferred," she added. Romina said climate change and global warming has no borders and it's an integral part of our lives. The PM's aide under-

scored that the press club was more than most welcome for collaborations to organise capacity building workshops and awards for supporting the journalist fraternity in improving its climate reporting skills. "We have launched our first activity from the Press Club. The capacity building of journalists, policy and decision makers is important to learn and grasp the fundamentals of climate reporting," she added. She also paid tribute to the unsung heroes, the fire fighters, who put their lives at risk during forest fire operations. Romina also appreciated the civic agencies and the armed forces for a holistic and coordinated response to the forest fires recently erupted in the Margalla Hills National Park.

## PML-N MNAs call for ET judge replacement over bias claims

ISLAMABAD (APP): Three PML-N MNAs from Islamabad submitted applications to the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) on Monday, requesting a change in the election tribunal due to perceived partiality in the judge's attitude. Three PML-N MNAs from Islamabad—Dr. Tariq Fazal Chaudhry, Raja Khurram Nawaz, and Anjum Aqeel—voiced concerns about the fairness of the current election tribunal. In their application, they expressed apprehensions about receiving fair treatment, citing perceived bias and undue haste by the tribunal. They contend that the tribunal's conduct undermines their right to a fair trial, a fundamental entitlement safeguarded by Article 4 of the Constitution, emphasizing that every Pakistani deserves impartial judicial proceedings. Having emerged victorious in the 2024 general elections, the petitioners urged the tribunal to halt the processing of election petition No. 73 of 2024, emphasizing their demand for justice and impartiality in addressing these concerns. Meanwhile, the Election Commission has fixed June 4 for hearing the petitions filed by Tariq Fazal Chaudhry, Anjum Aqeel, and Khurram Nawaz seeking a tribunal change. Tomorrow, the commission will also review the request to move the case from the current tribunal, as indicated in its cause list.

## BISP, UNICEF to enhance collaborative efforts for women and children health

ISLAMABAD (APP): Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) and UNICEF have joined hands to enhance collaborative efforts with a particular focus on enhancing the health and nutrition of women and children in Pakistan. This was agreed during a meeting of a delegation from UNICEF, led by Country Representative Abdullah Fadil with the Chairperson BISP, Rubina Khalid here. During the meeting, Rubina Khalid emphasized her commitment to increasing awareness of the Nashonuma Programme, which aims at addressing malnutrition among women and children. She highlighted the critical role that awareness plays in resolving various issues related to health and nutrition, particularly for vulnerable populations. "My focus will be on raising awareness of the Nashonuma Programme," stated Rubina Khalid. "By doing so, we can address many issues, especially those affecting women and children. BISP and UNICEF need to col-

laborate closely on this front to ensure the well-being of our communities," she said. Abdullah Fadil praised BISP's initiatives and commended the program's effectiveness in shock responsiveness, targeted assistance, and financial literacy among its beneficiaries. He underscored the importance of BISP's role in uplifting the socio-economic status of the most vulnerable segments of society. "We need to work together to find practical solutions for the malnourished community, especially women and children," Fadil remarked. "BISP's efforts in better targeting and financial literacy are commendable, and I look forward to our continued collaboration to further these goals", he said. The UNICEF delegation also included key representatives: Anteneh Girma Minas, Chief of Nutrition; Sadaf Zulfiqar, Social Policy Specialist; Dr. Noreen Arshad, Nutrition Officer; Dr. Wisal Khan, Nutrition Specialist; Larissa Bruun, Chief of Resource Mobilization.

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ISLAMABAD: Chairperson of Benazir Income Support Programme, Mrs. Rubina Khalid engages in a productive dialogue with UNICEF Country Representative, Mr. Abdullah Fadil, at BISP HQ.

## PMYP extends NYC m'ship deadline to Jun 15

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Prime Minister Youth Programme (PMYP) office has extended the National Youth Council (NYC) membership deadline to June 15. The PMYP spokesperson told APP that NYC an initiative under the Prime Minister's Youth Programme, is now accepting applications till June 15. She informed that NYC pursues young leaders aged 15 to 29 and provides a platform to advocate for youth development and engagement in governance. Members will offer non-partisan advice to the Prime Minister while the youngsters are asked not to miss the opportunity and apply at [www.pmyp.gov.pk](http://www.pmyp.gov.pk) to shape the future of Pakistan.

## Edu ministry providing meal to 32000 students of 102 ICT schools

ISLAMABAD (APP): Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training on Monday said that National Nutrition Initiative was gaining momentum daily, with 102 schools covered for school meal programs in Islamabad. According to the Ministry, under meal initiative more than 32,000 students were daily getting nutritious meals in their schools. These meals are found to be beneficial in attracting Out of School Children to regular schooling and reducing dropouts thus, increasing daily attendance and retention. As per details the number of children in schools benefiting from school meals program including Islamabad Model School F-6/3 Kohsar Market 400 children getting meal under (School Khana Program), Islamabad Model School G-9/1 185, Islamabad Model School F-6/4 St # 46, 400, Islamabad Model School F-10/2, 300, Islamabad Model School G-10/2 (1) 340, Islamabad Model School G-10/2 (2), 270, Islamabad Model School Sihala Kurd 180, Islamabad Model School G-8/1 (1) 359, Islamabad Model School G-8/1 (2) 250, Islamabad Model School G-8/1 (3) 350, Islamabad Model School G-10/1, 555, Islamabad Model School G-11/1, 760 Islamabad Model School 19/1 (1) 425, Islamabad Model School 19/1 (2), 431, Islamabad Model School 1-9/4 (1) 460, Islamabad Model School 19/4 (2) 430, Islamabad Model School G-9/3 (1) 262, Islamabad Model School.

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ISLAMABAD: Chief Minister Gilgit-Baltistan Haji Gulbar Khan pens down his remarks in visitors' book over the sad demise of the President of Iran Dr. Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi at the Embassy of Iran.

## Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation delegation calls on Shaza Fatima

ISLAMABAD (APP): Delegation of Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation called on Minister of State for IT and Telecommunication Shaza Fatima Khawaja on Monday. The delegation comprised Deputy Director Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Jason Lamb and Foundation's Country Lead in Pakistan Syed Ali Mahmood, said a news release. Matters related to digitalisation process in Pakistan, Digital Economy Enhancement Project (DEEP), fiberization, connectivity, and digital payments were discussed in the meeting. CEO Karandaz Waqas ul Hasan was also present in the meeting.

Shaza Fatima said the main focus of the present government is digitalization for which steps are underway to facilitate citizens and businesses. She said fiberization, connectivity and digital devices are critical for digitalization. Shaza Fatima said that digitalization will enable efficient public services delivery and higher degree of transparency. The delegation appreciated the present government's vision for digitalization and ensured Foundation's full support in digitalization process in Pakistan. Director General International Coordination, MoIT Syed Jawwad Ali Sherazi was also present in the meeting.

## ICT admin cuts transport fares amid fuel price drop

ISLAMABAD (APP): Deputy Commissioner Islamabad, Irfan Nawaz Memon, has approved the reduction in public transport fares in response to the recent drop in petroleum prices. Starting today, fares for routes longer than 30 kilometers will see a Rs 10 decrease. This change aims to provide relief to daily travelers and reflects the transport union's agreement to the fare cut, said the ICT Administration Spokesman. To ensure transparency and compliance, all public transport vehicles are now required to display their lease deeds prominently on their front screens. This move will help passengers verify that the vehicles are operating under the new fare structure. The transport union has pledged full support for this fare reduction initiative. They assured the authorities of their cooperation in implementing the new fares across all public transport services in the city. The district administration has warned that strict action will be taken against any vehicle operators who do not comply with the new fare regulations. To enforce this, assistant commissioners have been instructed to start fare inspections. This measure is intended to ensure that all transport services adhere to the reduced fare rates and that passengers benefit from the lower costs.

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## 63 gas meters removed over gas theft

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Limited (SNGPL) has disconnected 63 connections during its ongoing crackdown on gas pilferers in Punjab, Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, and Islamabad, imposing fines totaling Rs 1.6 million. According to an SNGPL spokesman, in Lahore and Sheikhupura, regional teams disconnected 17 connections due to the illegal use of gas and imposed fines exceeding Rs 1 million against the offenders. In Faisalabad and Multan, 14 connections were disconnected for illegal gas use, while in Bahawalpur and Gujranwala, 4 connections were severed.

Following the match, the IGP Islamabad and the delegation distributed prizes to the winning team and police officers who demonstrated outstanding performances. The IGP emphasized that the purpose of organizing the football match was to boost morale among police employees, encourage their participation in healthy activities, and foster their mental and physical development alongside their duties of maintaining law and order. He highlighted how games contribute to personality development, character maturity, and the establishment of a healthy society. Furthermore, he stated that such activities would continue to be held on the sports field in the future.

## IRSA releases 301,500 cusecs water

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Indus River System Authority (IRSA) on Monday released 301,500 cusecs water from various rim stations with inflow of 267,700 cusecs. According to the data released by IRSA, the water level in River Indus at Tarbela Dam was 1466.14 feet and was 68.14 feet higher than its dead level of 1,398 feet. The water inflow and outflow in the dam was recorded as 97,600 cusecs and 130,000 cusecs respectively. fraud. If we see, both the notices carry same number. The notices sent by them have not been received by PTI and instead they have sent these notices to Sartaj Ali. CDA have given statement before media that they are going to recover land from Sartaj Ali. They told the media that they have not issued notice to PTI. Arshid Dad and Nasim ur Rehman both are members of PTI. Arshid Dad and Nasim ur Rehman purchased commercial plot on July 17m 2020 after agreement. On July 29, 2020, Sartaj Ali who is owner of this plot issued letter to CDA for transfer of this plot located in G-8. On July 30, 2020.

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## World Football delegation visits Police Lines HQ

ISLAMABAD: According to the details, the delegation from World Football visited Police Lines Headquarters, Islamabad. The delegation consisted of international football players Michael Owen, Emile Heskey, and Amando Moreno, along with football club owners, coaches, and members of healthy activities and promote their mental well-being. The Inspector General of Police (IGP) Islamabad, Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi, DIG Headquarters Syed Mustafa Tanveer, and other senior police officials, along with the World Football delegation, watched the match.

Following the match, the IGP Islamabad and the delegation distributed prizes to the winning team and police officers who demonstrated outstanding performances. The IGP emphasized that the purpose of organizing the football match was to boost morale among police employees, encourage their participation in healthy activities, and foster their mental and physical development alongside their duties of maintaining law and order. He highlighted how games contribute to personality development, character maturity, and the establishment of a healthy society. Furthermore, he stated that such activities would continue to be held on the sports field in the future.



the media. During the visit, a friendly football match was played between the Logistics Division and the Security Division police teams to encourage Islamabad Police officers to engage in healthy activities and promote their mental well-being. The Inspector General of Police (IGP) Islamabad, Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi, DIG Headquarters Syed Mustafa Tanveer, and other senior police officials, along with the World Football delegation, watched the match.

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## Social media campaign against judge: IHC seeks report from intelligence agency about information log in

ISLAMABAD (Online): Islamabad High Court (IHC) has adjourned till three weeks hearing of contempt of court case for launching social media campaign against Justice Babar Sattar of IHC and leaking his family data and has sought report from intelligence agency about information log in. The court remarked the date for next hearing will be given in written order. During the hearing of the case Justice Mohsin Akhtar Kayani remarked those who have launched social media campaign be traced out. Justice Sardar Ijaz remarked is it by chance that 3 different campaigns were launched in a day. If anti country elements start five G war, if anti state elements level this allegation that army chief and president have committed blasphemy and as a result siege and arson take place and buildings are set ablaze then will the ISI be able to trace these anti country elements.

those who have launched social media campaign be traced out. Justice Sardar Ijaz remarked is it by chance that 3 different campaigns were launched in a day. If anti country elements start five G war, if anti state elements level this allegation that army chief and president have committed blasphemy and as a result siege and arson take place and buildings are set ablaze then will the ISI be able to trace these anti country elements.

## IHC reserved judgment in sealing of PTI secretariat, CDA operation cases

ISLAMABAD (Online): Islamabad High Court (IHC) reserved judgment on petition against sealing of PTI central secretariat and CDA operation. Justice Saman Rafat Imtiaz of IHC heard the cases. Shoaib Shaheen, Umair Baloch and PTI lawyers team appeared in the court on behalf of Umar Ayoub. Lawyer Hafiz Arafat appeared on behalf of CDA while state counsel Malik Abdul Rehman represented the district administration. During the hearing of the case, Shoaib Shaheen told CDA put notices in their record but no mention is made about the recent notice. CDA committed

fraud. If we see, both the notices carry same number. The notices sent by them have not been received by PTI and instead they have sent these notices to Sartaj Ali. CDA have given statement before media that they are going to recover land from Sartaj Ali. They told the media that they have not issued notice to PTI. Arshid Dad and Nasim ur Rehman both are members of PTI. Arshid Dad and Nasim ur Rehman purchased commercial plot on July 17m 2020 after agreement. On July 29, 2020, Sartaj Ali who is owner of this plot issued letter to CDA for transfer of this plot located in G-8. On July 30, 2020.

## Dengue larvae found in 600 spots across ICT in week

ISLAMABAD (APP): Deputy Commissioner Islamabad, Irfan Nawaz Memon Monday chaired a high-level meeting regarding dengue measures in the federal capital, during which officials reported finding dengue larvae at 600 locations across the city in just one week. The DC emphasized that controlling the spread of dengue required active participation from residents, said the ICT Administration's Spokesman. The meeting focused on reviewing ongoing initiatives and campaigns aimed at eradicating the larvae. Despite these efforts, one case of dengue was reported in the city last week. The deputy commissioner stressed the importance of community involvement in keeping homes and surroundings clean to prevent the breeding of dengue-carrying mosquitoes.

## Anti-Corruption awareness seminar held at AIOU

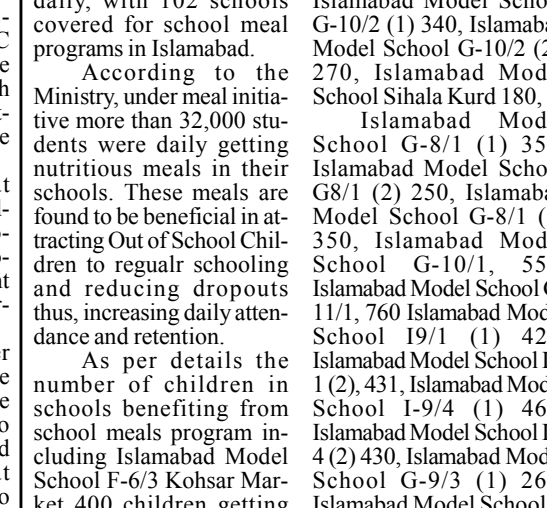
ISLAMABAD (APP): Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) is ready to collaborate with NAB to raise its voice against corruption at national level and to create awareness among the youth against this scourge, said Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, AIOU, Prof. Dr. Abdul Aziz Sahir in his address at the anti-corruption awareness seminar held in the university. Dr. Sahir said that we have campuses in 54 cities of the country, we can introduce short courses, organize seminars, workshops and walks with the cooperation of National Accountability Bureau (NAB) to raise awareness against corruption. Dr. Abdul Aziz Sahir said that corruption is the root of all evil, so it is considered as a pest for socio-economic development.

## SECP bootcamp to impart financial literacy to over 1500 educators concluded

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan, in collaboration with the Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training, effectively has imparted basic financial literacy concepts to over 1500 teachers from 432 Federal Government Schools & College of Islamabad Capital territory. The training program, conducted in batches of teachers covered essential topics such as savings, investments, importance of financial literacy, its various elements and how to identify scams and frauds etc. The Ministry of Education has announced to integrate topics of financial literacy into curriculums of FG schools. Addressing the concluding ceremony, Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training, Secretary, Mohyuddin Ahmad Wani, announced major reforms to modernize the education system. These reforms include introduction of performance-based incentive system for teachers, training programs for teachers and combining subjects like science with mathematics and Pak studies with Urdu to reduce burdens from students as well as teachers. He said that subject of financial literacy would be introduced gradually at provincial levels. Wani emphasized the importance of understanding basic financial skills for youth, especially women, to protect themselves from scams and exploitation. The Secretary appreciated the role of SECP and national Institute of Banking and Finance (NIBAF) in imparting the necessary skills to teachers through training programs.

## Islamabad Capital Police conducted a special anti-riot, anti-terrorist training demo

ISLAMABAD: Following the special directive of the Inspector General of Police Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi reviewed the special exercises, with DIG Law and Order and other senior police officers also present on this occasion. The Anti-Riot Unit, Counter-Terrorism Department, and Red Zone commandos participated in the training courses. During these exercises, police personnel demonstrated their skills in maintaining peace, safeguarding public and private properties, confronting criminal elements, and effecting arrests, while also showcasing the use of water cannons.



(IGP) Islamabad, Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi, the Islamabad Capital Police carried out a special anti-riot and anti-terrorist training course to cope with any situation related to peace and security, as stated by a public relations officer. He mentioned that at the conclusion of the special training courses, police officers presented a practical demonstration of the exercises. IGP Islamabad

## ISLAMABAD: A worker is busy in repairing CCTV camera with the help of heavy crane at Islamabad Highway in the Federal Capital.





# Daily Voice of Masses Independent

Tuesday June 04, 2024

## Large projects again?

The PML-N is back with its signature infrastructure development model, which has been responsible for much of our economic crisis.

While setting an ambitious national development programme target of over Rs3tr for FY25, including a federal PSDP of Rs1.2tr, to pursue a growth rate of 3.6pc, the planning ministry is reported to have opposed the finance ministry's proposal to cut development spending to meet IMF goals. How the lender — with whom Islamabad is negotiating a larger and longer bailout to shore up its international reserves and unlock international funding — will react to the proposals will soon become apparent.

The next budget will be part of the prior actions required by the IMF and key to a staff-level agreement for a new Fund programme. The planning ministry has also disregarded the fact that the current cash crunch may force the country to slash its PSDP estimates going forward and hold back funds for the proposed projects in order to meet Fund conditions — projects that only add to the existing development throw-forward of above Rs9.8tr.

The PSDP for the outgoing fiscal year has been reduced to Rs717bn from the original estimate of Rs950bn due to fiscal constraints as well as to create space for a primary surplus of 0.4pc of GDP to meet the most important condition of the last IMF programme. The proposed PSDP focuses on energy, transport and water projects, but it is not yet clear whether the government plans to complete the ongoing schemes or start new ones.

Considering our current financial condition, the growth target of 3.6pc appears overly ambitious. The Planning Commission itself has stated that growth prospects are subject to "political stability, exchange rate stability on the back of improvement in external account and external inflows, macroeconomic stabilisation under the IMF's programme and expected fall in global oil and commodity prices".

Likewise, an inflation target of 12pc for the next fiscal year may also be missed by a wide margin because of taxation measures, such as a 1pc increase in consumption tax to 19pc and a hike in taxes on petrol — to be included in the budget and the IMF's exchange rate depreciation projections.

The government's high indebtedness and its growing expenditure on debt servicing has put pressure on the upcoming budget, especially with the economy and private investment grinding to a halt. Any further fiscal slippages and succumbing to the temptation to showcase "progress and recovery" through large but deferrable infrastructure projects will worsen the situation.

The current state of the economy demands that the government focus on debt sustainability by curtailing its spending and mobilising more resources through the expansion of its tax base. The public has already paid dearly for the rulers' fiscal profligacy in recent years.

## Dr Muhammad Ali Shaikh

Universities in Pakistan are again in the news — once again for the wrong reasons. The issue this time is that the federal government has decided to stop giving annual recurring grants to provincially chartered universities, ending a practice that had been in vogue since independence.

Accordingly, the federal government asked the Higher Education Commission (HEC) on May 24, 2024, to resubmit the budget proposal, reducing the demand to less than one-fifth of the original amount asked — from Rs126 billion to Rs25bn — catering for only the federally chartered universities.

The cited logic behind the federal government's decision is that, as education has been devolved to the provinces under the 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment, it is now the responsibility of the provincial governments to foot the bill of universities established and chartered by them.

This decision sent shockwaves across the country, particularly among

students and academia of some 160 affected universities. On their part, the Federation of All Pakistan Universities Academic Staff Associations sprang into action and held their executive council's meeting in which they rejected the government's decision and decided to launch a national protest movement and observe May 30 as a 'black day'.

It is an irony that 85 years ago on that day, on May 30, 1939, Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah wrote his final will, in which he bequeathed his entire personal wealth to educational institutions, showcasing his commitment to the cause of education. But with him were gone his ideals and aspirations.

Coming back to the present, let's examine the issue and suggest a way out. First of all, the most striking aspect of the government's decision is its abruptness. The practice of federal funding to all chartered universities, both federal and provincial, has been going on for a very long time. Even the 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment was passed 14 years ago.

Here, it is pertinent to

see what is happening across our borders, particularly in India and Bangladesh, because the three of us share the same roots in connection with our higher education systems. In the case of India, its union (federal) government allocated an amount equal to \$5.6bn for the higher education sector in fiscal year 2023-24, in addition to the state governments' grants to their respective universities. Following this example, Pakistan, about one-fifth of India in terms of population, should have allocated at least \$1bn in federal grants for its higher education sector.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh, which has a population of about 171 million, allocated over \$1bn for its 53 public universities during the same year.

In contrast, Pakistan has frozen its federal outlay for higher education to Rs65bn since 2018. In dollar terms, this amount in June 2018 was equal to \$537m (at the exchange rate of 121 rupees to a dollar), which has now shrunk in its dollar value to \$232m (at the exchange rate of 280 rupees a dollar).

Here, it is pertinent to

# Federal funding for universities

## Limits of coercion

agement.

It is against this backdrop that the current state of strained relations with Afghanistan needs to be assessed. Stable ties with Kabul are Pakistan's strategic compulsion. But relations have steadily deteriorated over the past 18 months and hit a new low. This is contrary to expectations of policymakers that the Taliban's return to power in 2021 would help Pakistan secure its western border. Instead, there was a marked escalation in border tensions and terrorist attacks targeting Pakistan's security forces. A surge in violent activities by the Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) from their safe havens in Afghanistan posed increasing threats to Pakistan's security.

This was not surprising as the "TTP benefited the most of all the foreign extremist groups in Afghanistan from the Taliban takeover", according to successive reports by the UN Security Council's Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team. This echoed Pakistan's assessment that Kabul's unwillingness to act against the TTP and

its regrouping in Afghanistan after the Taliban's assumption of power presented a mounting threat to Pakistan's security. Cross-border attacks escalated following the breakdown in November 2022 of the ceasefire brokered by the Afghan Taliban between Pakistani authorities and the TTP. The short-lived ceasefire was an ill-thought and futile attempt by the Pakistani authorities to end the armed group's 14-year war on Pakistan. The outlawed group never observed the truce, only leveraged it to expand its reach in Pakistan.

Pakistan's efforts to persuade Afghanistan's Taliban rulers over the past two years to take action against the TTP yielded little. In countless rounds of talks, Pakistani officials urged Kabul to disarm the TTP, detain its leaders and rein in its violent activities. Taliban leaders offered assurances, asking for time, but did nothing. This produced growing frustration in Islamabad, especially as the spike in terrorist activities led to a significant rise in casualties among security personnel. Increasingly, military and government leaders publicly assailed Kabul and voiced concerns over "the safe havens and liberty of action available to the TTP in Afghanistan". Taliban leaders were asked to choose between Pakistan and the TTP and served notice that their lack of response would force Islamabad's hand.

The latest expression of official exasperation with Kabul came in a press conference last week by Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi. Holding TTP responsible for the March attack on Chinese workers in Bisham, he said it had orchestrated this from Afghanistan as a "flagship project" supported by "enemy intelligence agencies". He demanded Kabul should arrest the terrorists behind the attack, prosecute them or hand them over to Pakistan. Despite Islamabad's urgings, he said, the Taliban had not taken measures to prevent militants from launching attacks from their Afghan sanctuaries. The second element of coercive policy were restrictions on transit trade, which involved the ban imposed last October on "continuous cross-border terrorist attacks" from Afghanistan.

Despite repeated demands from academia and students, the government did not increase allocations for higher education during the last six years. This year, it is altogether ending it, except for an amount of \$89m for federally chartered universities.

This move has already given rise to various conspiracy theories and interpretations. One such exposition states that the move is intended to benefit the already rich universities run and operated by the armed forces as almost all of them are federally chartered institutes, at the expense of poor public universities spread across the four provinces. This impression is not good for national coherence and harmony.

In these circumstances, the best course of action for the federal government would be to not only continue with federal grants to all universities until the matter is discussed and decided by the CCI, but to also consider enhancing the allocation to a level that matches at least the figures for Bangladesh — the rupee equivalent of \$1bn.

Here, it is pertinent to

On their part, the provinces should also shoulder their responsibilities towards higher education and contribute their bit, following the pattern in India. In the current context, Sindh is the only province that has provided grants amounting to Rs26bn to its universities, an action that needs to be followed by the rest of the provinces.

The universities should also find ways to boost their own resources, on the pattern of countries like China, Turkey, Malaysia, etc. One good way to do this is to rationalise their fee structures on the basis of the real incurred cost on various programmes, and then subsidise it for poor students only.

Last but not least, there is an urgent need to bring extreme prudence and transparency to university spending processes and enforce a mechanism of accountability to eradicate funds misuse and corruption. That is how we shall be able to develop our universities and help them play their due role in national development and prosperity. -- Courtesy Dawn

While the action aimed to curb smuggling, it also served a political purpose — to ratchet up pressure on Kabul. The message was not lost on the Taliban, who accused Pakistan of politicising trade. Later, some restrictions were eased as a "carrot" to influence Taliban behaviour.

The third element of the 'stick' approach was expulsion of around 700,000 undocumented Afghans residing in Pakistan, also announced last fall. This has been implemented with well over half a million Afghans repatriated to Afghanistan. A second phase looms with the decision to deport around 600,000 Afghans holding citizen cards issued by Pakistan a few years back.

The fourth element of Pakistan's coercive policy involves regular public denunciations of Kabul's failure to stop cross-border attacks. For example, ISPR has frequently said, "The Afghan interim government is not only arming terrorists but also providing a safe haven for terrorist organisations involved in terrorism in Pakistan." Ministers have similarly chastised Kabul.

## Maleeha Lodhi

It is widely believed that Pakistan's geostrategic location has been a great asset for the country. But it has also been an enormous challenge. In fact, the tyranny of geography has imposed heavy burdens on Pakistan and its people.

The country's location in a volatile neighbourhood and the headwinds of global geopolitics driven by big power interests have long placed Pakistan in the crosshairs of many regional storms and facing the multidimensional fallout of wars and internal strife in Afghanistan.

Insecure borders, including contested ones, a hostile neighbour and turmoil in other neighbouring countries urged Pakistan to evolve defence strategies and security policies to avoid a two-front situation. Its nightmare scenario is having to simultaneously deal with more than one hot front. Today, the country has troubled relations with three of its neighbours and hot borders with at least two of them. With a third country, there are unresolved problems of border man-

## Global gangsters

### Zarrar Khuhro

Remember the letter written by six judges of the Islamabad High Court alleging interference by intelligence agencies and state actors? The list of complaints included allegations of illegal surveillance of the judges and their families — presumably in the hopes of uncovering compromising material — all the way to direct and indirect threats. None of this came as a huge surprise to those who know how the system works, nor is the subsequent campaign waged against those judges unexpected. Most of us, I presume, simply shook our heads and said something to the effect of "this is Pakistan, this is just how things are", and moved on with a lingering sense of shame at how impure our land is and how embarrassing it must be for the world to see all this. What would they think?

If you're one of those people, I have some good news for you: we are not alone. No, sir! The fact is that the entire world is rotten to the core. In fact, we're amateurs; the smallest of fries when compared to the truly global gangsters who play on a much wider international stage. Literally. In the sense that the court they tried to compromise is no less than the International Criminal Court (ICC) itself.

A detailed investigation by The Guardian and Israel's 972 magazine has unveiled a decade-long operation by Israel to undermine, intimidate and compromise the ICC itself; the operation was led by then Mossad chief Yossi Cohen with the full personal approval of Benjamin Netanyahu and the complete support of "the highest branches of Israel's government, the intelligence community, and both the civilian and

military legal systems".

The mission was to derail a possible war crimes investigation into Israel by the ICC, and then chief prosecutor Fatou Bensouda was a prime target. The mission was to enlist Bensouda and, if that failed, to compromise her. The first few contacts were 'friendly' but when Bensouda apparently rebuffed the advances, the tone changed. Cohen began calling Bensouda numerous times on her personal number with veiled blandishments and not-so-veiled threats, and when she asked how he had obtained her contacts he replied: "Did you forget what I do for a living?"

The harassment and surveillance stepped up when, in December 2019, Bensouda announced that she had grounds to open a full criminal investigation into alleged war crimes in Gaza, the West Bank and East Jerusalem. At this point Cohen told Bensouda: "You should help us and let us take care of you. You don't want to be getting into things that could compromise your security or that of your family." He also showed Bensouda surveillance photographs of an unknown nature of her husband in an effort to get her to play ball and leaked those photos to other diplomats.

At this point Israel's global godfather — the United States of America — also did its part: the Trump administration — acting in tandem with its most allied of allies — placed visa restrictions and sanctions on Bensouda, with then US secretary of State Mike Pompeo clearly saying that it was due to the Palestine case. Later, in a very familiar echo to Pakistan, he also accused her of corruption.

Such thuggery is par for the course for the US.

In the run-up to the invasion of Iraq, when America was building a fake casus belli for attacking Iraq, it turned out that José Bustani, then head of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, wasn't playing ball, and America wanted him to step down. Bustani refused, and that's when US official John Bolton threatened him, saying: "We have ways to retaliate against you ... we know where your kids live. You have two sons in New York."

Over at the ICC, Be--n-souda was replaced by Karim Khan, whose appointment Israel initially welcomed. Karim also seemed to be playing ball with the Empire by ensuring that a war crimes investigation in Afghanistan did not focus on American actions. But then he went and completed the task Bensouda had begun despite the pressure the likes of which we can only imagine; in a recent interview he alluded to that pressure saying that he had been told by a Western diplomat that the ICC was for Africa and "thugs like Putin", and not, naturally, for the sainted leaders of the 'Free World'.

Consider that this is just what we know, and imagine the kind of tactics these states and leaders have and continue to use to further their blood-soaked imperial interests.

Also consider that, after the investigation was published, a Haaretz journalist came forward to say he had all these details in 2022 but was warned not to publish them by Israel's authorities. He was told that if he were to publish he would "suffer the consequences and get to know the interrogation rooms of the Israeli security authorities from the inside". Sound familiar? -- Courtesy Dawn

## Stateless workers

### Naem Sadiq

Of the 79 miners who have died since Jan 1, 2024, in Pakistan's deadly coal mines, not a single one was registered with the EOBI. They were all born as citizens of Pakistan. They were not refugees. They did not give up their citizenship. They did not give up on the state. But the state gave up on them. The state abandoned them, refused to recognise their existence, and reduced them to 'stateless', benefitless nonentities. By excluding them from the EOBI, the state gave them a future of poverty and dependency. This cruelty is orchestrated by a single government department: the Employees' Old-age Benefits Institution (EOBI).

Pakistan has an informal workforce of around 80 million workers engaged in industrial, agricultural, domestic, and commercial activities. It is their sweat and labour that turn the wheels of industry and commerce. In return, 60 per cent of them are not even given the minimum legal wage. The monthly EOBI contribution is deposited for only 4.7m or 6pc workers. The state has no concern or interest in knowing about the remaining 94pc. Do they exist at all? What and where do they work? Who are their employers? How will they survive with zero post-retirement pensions? It is impossible to fathom why a state knowingly designs a dark and miserable old age for its workers.

Imagine if there was a law that prohibited pension for any Grade 22 government officer, unless there were at least five or more Grade 22 officers working in the same department. Bizarre as it may seem, this is the law we have for Pakistan's workers. It permits all those employers who em-

ploy fewer than five employees (and there are millions of them) to not register their employees with the EOB. No Pakistani leader has ever understood that every worker above the age of 18 years ought to be registered with the EOBI, regardless of the nature of the work, the number of employees or the type of employment (regular, temporary, contracted, daily wage or through a third-party contractor). Millions of daily wagers and third-party workers in government and statutory bodies are currently outside the ambit of the EOBI for no fault of their own. Even an unemployed or self-employed individual should be able to obtain EOBI registration by personally contributing the requisite amount.

The existing EOBI ought to be dissolved, replaced with professional management, completely digitised, and linked with Nadra. The bureaucratic and cumbersome procedure for enrolment of a new worker and payment of his/her monthly contribution ought to be simplified with a mobile phone app; it should require no human interaction, visiting offices or banks, filling forms or producing photocopies. The EOBI monthly contribution rate ought to be standardised across Pakistan to enable seamless continuity for workers changing jobs or locations.

An alleged 'inspection' system at the institution is said to follow the 10pc rule. You register only 10pc employees, and we look the other way — in return for an amicable under-the-table 'settlement'.

The EOBI ought to jettison all its inspectors and two-thirds of its existing 657 employees, and control all its functions using a handful of professionals and electronic da-

tabases. A publicly accessible online database should reflect each registered employee's name, CNIC, phone number, employer's name, the latest EOBI contribution and the total contribution made thus far. An effective database can monitor and ensure that every single worker in Pakistan is included in the EOBI scheme.

Every registered worker must receive an automatic SMS, by the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month to confirm the amount contributed on his/her behalf. The system should automatically in-v-oke progressively increasing penalties for employers delaying payment--ts beyond the 10<sup>th</sup> of any month. On reaching the age of 60 years, workers should be given the choice to either opt for the regular monthly pension or to accept the lump sum amount accumulated during his/her entire years of contribution.

In both cases, the amount must be immediately deposited in the worker's designated bank, instead of involving the worker in a bureaucratic runaround of visiting EOBI offices or providing fresh affidavits, photographs, or certificates.

Pakistan is the only country in the world that pays a pension of Rs1 million to superior judges and a pittance of Rs10,000 to its workers. This amounts to an obscene and immoral compensation ratio of 1:100. We ought to slash all government pensions above Rs200,000 to half and increase workers' pension to 75pc of the applicable minimum legal wage. It is time for Pakistan to end its fixation on the rich, and instead, focus on the 80m abandoned stateless children awaiting recognition, minimum wage, the EOBI and a sliver of humanity. -- Courtesy Dawn



## Maryam orders to accelerate crackdown on electricity theft

*Increases monthly stipend of special persons to Rs 7,500*

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif, chairing a special meeting to review issues and actions taken to curb electricity theft in Punjab, directed to present a comprehensive report on electricity theft based on more authentic data.

The Chief Minister was briefed by Chief Secretary and IG Punjab about the ongoing crackdown against electricity thieves in the province. They said, "660 police officers are assisting in the campaign against electricity thieves in each district." They also submitted a report on 05 electricity distribution companies including LESCO, Senator Pervaiz Rashid, Senior Provincial Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb, Information & Culture Minister Azma Zahid Bukhari and MPA Sania Ashiq attended the meeting. Chief Secretary Zahid Akhtar Zaman, IG Punjab Dr. Usman Anwar, Principal Secretary to Chief Minister Sajid Zafar Dal, Secretaries and other relevant officers were also present.

Meanwhile, Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif, chairing a special meeting to review Chief Minister Himmatt Card project, has increased monthly stipend of special persons from Rs.6,000 to Rs.7,500. The CM said "Special people are very dear to us. We will help them in every possible manner." She directed to give monthly stipends to special persons for three years in the first phase. She said, "About 30,000 special people will get a monthly stipend of Rs. 7,500 for three years."

Maryam Nawaz Sharif directed to run an awareness campaign for the provision of wheelchairs. She said, "Needy people can use the helpline of Chief Minister's Office at 0800-02345 to register themselves for the wheelchairs." She added that special persons will also be given 14 types of assistive devices in the second phase. The Chief Minister highlighted that wheelchairs, hearing aids, tricycles, Braille and other devices will be provided to make the life of special persons easier. She said subsidized public transport facilities and loans will also be given to special persons in a phased manner. Senator Pervaiz Rashid, Senior Provincial Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb and MPA Sania Ashiq attended the meeting. Chief Secretary Zahid Akhtar Zaman, Principal Secretary to CM Sajid Zafar Dal.



LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif presides over the special meeting to prevent power theft.

## Role of media significant for deeper Pak-China cooperation: Chinese CG

KARACHI (APP): Consul General of People's Republic of China in Karachi, Yang Yundong has said the role of media was significant for deeper Pak-China cooperation in all spheres and Chinese government would create more opportunity for Pakistani friends to visit China.

He said this while addressing the office bearers of All Pakistan Newspapers Society (APNS) who were invited for a dinner hosted here at the Consulate on Sunday night by him.

Yang Yundong said

unfortunately not many Pakistanis had visited China to this day, but we were working and remain hopeful to create more opportunities so our friends in Pakistan could visit his country.

"Today we are happy to host you all friends at the Consulate for Chinese dinner, and my heartfelt greetings to Sarmad Ali on becoming the Senator. China is developing very fast, and the change is many a times a pleasant surprise for working diplomats of China, when they travel back home".

CG Yang said.

## KP CM directs admin for immediate repairing of power transformers

PESHAWAR (APP): Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Sardar Ali Amin Khan Gandapur, in view of the current scenario of power load-shedding has directed all Divisional Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners to immediately make arrangements for the repair and maintenance of out of order electricity transformers in their respective areas.

He issued these directives while chairing a meeting of Divisional Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners held here at Chief Minister's House on Monday.

Advisor to KP CM

on Finance Muzzamil Aslam, Chief Secretary Nadeem Aslam Chaudhry, Additional Chief Secretary Syed Imtiaz Hussain Shah, Principal Secretary to CM Amjad Ali Khan and other relevant authorities attended the meeting.

All Divisional Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners participated in the meeting via video link.

The chief minister added that the provincial government will provide all required funds to district administrations for this purpose. He also directed them to work together with WAPDA teams to implement the power load management schedule in

letter and spirit in their respective districts.

The chief minister said that Divisional and District Administrations are frontline team of the government in implementation of its policies and reforms initiatives at grass root level, they need to work out of the book for the enforcement of good governance strategy and providing relief to general public.

He stressed that nobody will be victimized on political grounds, government machinery should focus on public service delivery with enthusiasm and satisfaction.



LAHORE: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi in a group photo with children during his visit to Aghosh Orphan Care Home. Khuram Nawaz Gandapur, Barrister Amir Hassan, Colonel (ret'd) Mubashir Iqbal and Raja Zahid Mehmood are also present.

## Pervaiz Elahi could not be indicted in fake recruitments in PA case

LAHORE (Online): Former Chief Minister (CM) Punjab Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi could not be indicted in fake recruitments in Punjab Assembly (PA) case.

Anti corruption court accepted exemption from attendance plea of Pervaiz Elahi on medical ground.

Hearing of alleged illegal recruitments in PA case against Pervaiz Elahi and others was held in Anti corruption court Monday.

Anti corruption took

the plea in the petition Pervaiz Elahi gave job in grade-17 to those who had failed in written examination. Anti corruption has filed challan in the court against the accused persons.

The court had summoned Pervaiz Elahi and other accused for indictment but Pervaiz Elahi filed exemption plea in the court on medical grounds. The court while accepting exemption plea adjourned the hearing till June 14.

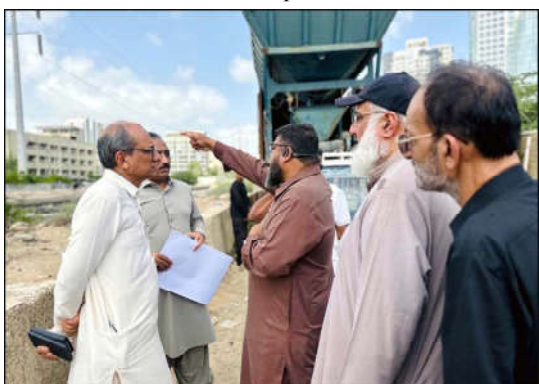
## Home minister for swift action following policeman's death in Sohrab Goth

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Home Minister Zia-ul-Hassan Lanjar has called for a thorough investigation and swift action following the tragic death of a policeman in Sohrab Goth.

The officer was killed by unidentified gunmen, prompting a directive from the minister for a detailed report from the Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) East. In response to the incident, Minister

Lanjar has instructed that all available district police resources be mobilized to ensure the immediate arrest of those responsible. Emphasizing the urgency of the situation, he urged law enforcement to utilize modern technological tools, including geo-fencing, to track down the suspects.

"The arrest of the accused involved in the martyrdom of the policeman.



KARACHI: Sindh Minister of Local Government, Housing Town Planning, Public Health Engineering and Rural Development, Saeed Ghani being briefed by officials during his inspection visit to inspecting construction work of Nehr-e-Khayyam, in Karachi.

## 31 new schemes to be launched in Health sector of KP, Rs. 232b reserved in budget: Qasim Shah

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Minister for Health, Syed Qasim Ali Shah while terming the provincial budget as 'People's Friendly', has said that a significant amount of Rs. 232 billion is reserved for health sector.

Addressing a presser here at Information Cell of Civil Service Secretariat, Health Minister said around 31 new health schemes have been included in the budget for current fiscal year.

The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government has restored Health Card scheme and patients are getting good treatment, Qasim Shah told newsmen.

While sharing details of new schemes in Health system, Syed Qasim Shah said these will bring more improvement in overall health care system. He also made it clear that kidney disease treatment and dialysis is free on health card. In the scheme, an Air Ambulance Service is going to start in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Health

## Cop injured in attack on polio team

PESHAWAR (APP): A police constable sustained bullet injury in an armed attack by unknown persons on a polio team in Vargari area, district Lakkhi Marwat.

According to Rescue-1122 the police constable was shifted to Tajazai hospital after necessary first aid and treatment.

## Former CM GB announces land donation for special school

ASTORE (APP): Former Gilgit-Baltistan Chief Minister Khalid Khurshid on Monday announced the provision of 30 kanals of land for the construction of a special school for hearing-impaired children in Skardu.

The school named Nargis Khatoon Hair Improvement School is currently operating in a rented building. During his visit to the school, Khurshid met with the students and staff and was briefed on the school's operations. He was informed that the school provides education and vocational training to hearing-impaired children as well as food and accommodation for hostel students.

## Arms supplier, buyer arrested by CTD

KARACHI (APP): The Sindh Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) in an intelligence information based operation arrested two individuals within the jurisdiction of the Brigade police station, an illegal arms supplier and a buyer.

The CTD also seized arms and ammunition from the suspects. According to a CTD spokesperson on Monday, the supplier, identified as Muhammad Afzal.

## Minister announced. Robotic surgery technology is being introduced in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, he added and said that surgery of patients in hospitals will now be done through robotic technology.

The Executive Health Checkup Program has been launched in the province under which counters have been set up for senior citizens above the age of 65. Elderly patients will be given free tests and other medical facilities once in three months.

## 6 resolutions passes unanimously by KP Assembly

PESHAWAR (APP): The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly on Monday unanimously passed six resolutions, while one resolution was withdrawn after the government's assurance.

The House passed a resolution of MPA Sajjad ullah and demanded the provincial government to trace the culprits involved in an attack on MPA Riaz Khan in Mansehra and bring them to justice. The speaker said that the police have identified the accused and some have been arrested.

The other resolution

was moved by MPA Ikramullah regarding non-payment of salaries to the teachers of the Elementary and Secondary Education Foundation for the last three months.

This assembly recommended the government to make these teachers permanent like other employees and increase their salaries immediately.

Speaker Babar Saleem Swati said that the minimum monthly wage in the province is 32 thousand rupees but these teachers were receiving Rs 21,000.



KARACHI: Primary School Teachers from Sukkur march from Karachi Press Club to CM House for their demands, protesters were prevented from entering the red zone by the police.

## KP private schools reject imposition of tax

PESHAWAR (APP): Hub of Private Education (HOPE), an organization of the private schools Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has rejected the imposition of fixed tax on private educational institutions, termed it an enemy towards education and demanded forthwith withdrawal of the anti-education tax.

The Sunni-Ittehad-PTI led provincial government in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has imposed taxes on the private educational institutions varying from Rs.50,000 to Rs.2,50,000 on each such institute.

Addressing a press conference here at Peshawar Press Club (PPC), Sidra-tul-Muntaha, general secretary HOPE (Women) Khyber

Pakhtunkhwa said that private schools are playing crucial role in increasing literacy rate through giving education to millions of children in their institutes.

She said that they are contributing in the noble cause with their own investment, but on the other hand the provincial government instead of anti-education policies.

She said that 3.6 million children in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa are out of the schools and the number is further growing. She said that a child in primary school cost Rs.5000 and Rs.7500/- per child in the public sector schools respectively. But, on the other hand private schools are providing quality education at minimal fees.



KARACHI: Workers of Mohajir Qaumi Movement participating in the protest demonstration against the worst load-shedding and over-billing of electricity in the port city.

## KP Minister acquitted in May 9 allegations

PESHAWAR (APP): The Anti Terrorism court on Monday acquitted Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Minister for Auqaf and Religious Affairs Adnan Qadri in cases of hooliganism and vandalism on May 9.

He expressed gratitude to his lawyer Habibullah Mohmand and termed his release the victory of democracy and justice, adding that he always respected judiciary, administration and law.



KARACHI: MPA Muhammad Shehryar Mehar meeting with Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah.

## Sindh Minister felicitates newly elected office bearers of LPC

LARKANA (APP): Sindh Minister for Energy Syed Nasir Hussain Shah on Monday congratulated the successful candidates in the Larkana Press Club (LPC) elections for the year 2024-2025.

In his message, the minister felicitated President Ghulam Murtaza Kalhoro, General Secretary LPC Naveed Ahmed Larik, Treasurer Abdul Qadir Jagirani and others winning office bearers.

He also congratulated Vice President Abdul Khaliq Mughiri, Joint Secretary Mansoor Abbas Abro and elected members of the governing body Dr. Badruddin Sheikh, Mashuque Odhana, Ashiq Pathan, Younis Ditho, Yasin Abro and Nadeem Akhtar Soomro.

Nasir Shah said that the elected office-bearers was a proof people trust in them. Journalists have an important role in the construction and development of the country, he added.

He hoped that the newly elected office-bearers would play their role for the prosperity of the journalists.

The minister said that these newly elected office bearers will uphold the splendid traditions of journalism and will continuously play their vital role in the progress of the country. He said that we believe in the expression of freedom. However, the Sindh Government fully supports the problems of press clubs across the province for resolving on priority.



LAHORE: Punjab Minister for Health and Emergency Services, Chairman Cabinet Committee for Disaster Management Khawaja Salman Rafique presenting cheque to Commander of Pak Army for flood affectees.

## Director PAC says: Literature is an artistic depiction of society's diverse facets

RAWALPINDI (APP): Literature reflects society's culture, history, and collective experiences. It is a beautiful form of expression through which thoughts, emotions, and experiences are artistically presented. Literature is not only a means of entertainment but also a source of intellectualism and emotional training for individuals. This was said by Director Punjab Arts Council (PAC) Rawalpindi, Sajjad Hussain while chairing a meeting which held on Monday

here at the Arts council. Highlighting the role of the council in the promotion of literature, the director informed that over the past three months, more than 20 literary events have been organized at the Arts Council. These included the weekly meeting and poetry session of Halqa Arbab-e-Zauq every Sunday, the book launch event of Dr. Sajid Raheem, a memorial reference for Farzana Naz, daily poetry sessions during Ramadan and the inauguration of Allama Iqbal Public Library by the Punjab Arts Council.

## Four drug dealers among seven held in DI Khan

DERA ISMAIL KHAN (APP): The district police have tightened a noose around anti-social elements, arresting seven five accused including four drug dealers recovering over 1.6 kilograms narcotics from them. According to a police spokesman, the police have intensified operations against anti-social elements following the directions.



# CPI inflation decelerates further to 11.8% in May

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Consumer Price Index (CPI)-based inflation came down to 11.8 percent during the month of May 2024 as compared to 17.3 percent recorded during April 2024, Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) reported Monday.

According to PBS data, the CPI based inflation during the same month of last year was recorded at 38.0% (May 2023).

On month-on-month (MoM) basis, it decreased to 3.2% in May 2024 as

compared to a decrease of 0.4 in the previous month and an increase of 1.6% in May 2023. According to data, CPI inflation Urban, increased to 14.3% on year-on-year (YoY) basis in May 2024 as compared to an increase of 19.4% in the previous month and 35.1% in May 2023. On month-on-month basis, it decreased to 2.8% in May 2024 as compared to a decrease of 0.1% in the previous month and an increase of 1.5% in May 2023. CPI inflation Rural, increased to 8.2% on year-

on-year basis in May 2024 as compared to an increase of 14.5% in the previous month and 4.2% in May 2023. On month-on-month basis, it decreased to 3.9% in May 2024 as compared to a decrease of 0.9% in the previous month and an increase of 1.7% in May 2023.

The Sensitive Price Indicator (SPI) inflation on YoY increased to 15.3% in May 2024 as compared to an increase of 21.6% a month earlier and 43.0% in May 2023. On MoM basis, it decreased by 4.0%

in May 2024 as compared to a decrease of 0.7% a month earlier and an increase of 1.3% in May 2023. The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) inflation on YoY basis increased to 9.9% in May 2024 as compared to an increase of 13.9% a month earlier and an increase of 32.8% in May 2023. On MoM basis, it decreased by 2.5% in May 2024 as compared to a decrease of 0.7% in the previous month and an increase of 1.0% in corresponding month of last year i.e. May 2023.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb in a meeting with Regional Head of Technology and Tax, McKinsey & Co. Tom Isherwood.



Federal Minister Abdul Aleem Khan presided meeting of Privatization Commission Board.

## Trade deficit contracted 15.25% in 11 months

ISLAMABAD (APP): The trade deficit contracted 15.25 per cent during the first 11 months of the current financial year (2023-24) as compared to the corresponding period of the last year.

During the period from July-May 2023-24, local exports grew by 10.65 per cent as it was recorded at \$28.070 billion as compared to the exports of \$25.368 billion of the same period of the last year, according to the trade figures released by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics on Monday.

Meanwhile, imports into the country during the period under review decreased by 2.37 per cent as it was registered at \$49.802 billion as against the imports of \$51.010 billion in the same period of last year.

As compared to the corresponding month of last, exports grew by 27.08 per cent in May 2024,

whereas the imports into the country increased by 13.89 per cent.

During the month of May 2024, exports from the country were recorded at \$2.792 billion as compared to the exports of \$2.197 billion, whereas the imports into the country were recorded at \$4.902 billion against the imports of \$4.304 billion of May 2023.

On month on month basis, the trade deficit narrowed by 15.43 per cent as in May 2024 as exports grew by 18.76 per cent and imports increased by 1.16 per cent.

During the month of May 2024, exports from the country were recorded at \$2.792 billion as compared to the exports of 2.351 billion of April, 2024, whereas the imports into the country during the period under review were recorded at \$4.902 billion as against the imports of \$4.846 billion of the month of April 2024.

## Ovais Yousuf appointed CEO of P&G Pakistan

KARACHI (APP): Procter and Gamble (P&G) Pakistan has announced the appointment of Ovais Yousuf as its new Chief Executive Officer with effect from June 1, 2024.

Ovais is an experienced business leader who has worked with P&G for close to 16 years in various roles across Asia, Middle East, Europe and Africa.

Most recently, Ovais was Commercial Leader, based out of Karachi, overseeing the successful launch of Baby & Fem Care Startup Project and Fabric Care in Pakistan.

Speaking at the occasion, Ovais said 'I am excited to lead P&G's business in Pakistan'. We have grown manifolds in the last three decades, with brands that millions rely on a daily basis. I also want to express my gratitude to Adil for his outstanding leadership in the last three years.

Ovais Yousuf succeeds Adil Farhat, P&G Pakistan's former CEO, who will remain with the Company and relocate to Jeddah as Senior Vice President and CEO for Saudi Arabia.

## 06 parties pre-qualify for PIACL divestment

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Board of the Privatization Commission on Monday decided to pre-qualify 06 interested parties for the divestment of Pakistan International Airlines Corporation Limited (PIACL).

The 219<sup>th</sup> meeting of Privatization Commission Board was held under the chairmanship of Minister for Privatization and Chairman Privatization Commission, Abdul Aleem Khan, said a press release.

The meeting reviewed the recommendations of the pre-qualification committee in light of the results of the scrutiny/evaluation of Statement of Qualifications (SOQs) submitted by eight interested parties for divestment of PIACL.

The Board, after detailed deliberations and keeping in view the criteria including technical, financial and documentary requirements stipulated in the RSOQ, decided to pre-qualify six interested parties including Fly

Jinnah Limited, Air Blue Limited, Arif Habib Corporation Limited, Consortium Lead by Y.B. Holdings (Private) Limited (Consortium members comprises Pioneer Cement Limited and Artistic Milliners Limited). The other interested parties including ANS Capital Private Limited, Metro Ventures Private Limited, Consortium Lead by Pak Ethanol (Consortium members comprises AirSial Limited, Serene Airlines Private Limited, Liberty Daharki Power Limited) and Consortium Lead by Blue World City (Consortium members comprises IRIS World Aviation, IRIS Communication Limited).

The RSOQ provides that consortium members (not LEAD) can be added/replaced, with the permission of Privatization Commission, 15 days prior to bid submission date provided that the proposed new member of consortium and the Consortium meets the requirements of RSOQ.

## Aurangzeb emphasizes need for investment in technology towards digital governance

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb on Monday met with Regional Head of Technology and Tax McKinsey & Co Tom Isherwood.

Minister of State for Finance and Revenue Ali Pervaiz Malik and McKinsey Partner Ali Malik also attended the meeting, said a news release.

The minister emphasized the need for investment in technology and fostering a cultural

shift towards digital governance.

He underscored the government's commitment to improve tax collection through the Federal Board of Revenue's (FBR) ongoing efforts in digitization.

The minister also said that the data from PRAL (Pakistan Revenue Automation Limited) and REMIT can be utilized in digitizing FBR's tax system.

Meanwhile, the discussions covered the possibility of achieving quick wins by leveraging

this data and implementing daily reporting through dashboards to monitor progress in real-time.

Ali Pervaiz Malik also discussed how the ongoing exercise could be enhanced by efficiently generating, organizing, and analyzing data. He stressed the importance of a data-driven approach to improve overall project outcomes. The McKinsey team thanked the minister for the meeting and assured that they would ensure the completion of exercise within the given time frame.

## Punjab govt to set up Sahulat Centres for farmers

LAHORE (APP): The Punjab government has decided to establish Sahulat centers in every tehsil to provide quality pesticides to farmers at a controlled rate.

Chief Secretary Punjab Zahid Akhtar Zaman presided over a video link meeting of all divisional commissioners and deputy commissioners to review cotton cultivation targets, meales situation and Suthra Punjab programme, at the Civil Secretariat on Monday.

The chief secretary directed the commissioners of Bahawalpur, Multan and DG Khan to ensure full monitoring of the cotton crop. He said that the deputy commissioners must keep a close watch on the prices, supply and demand of urea fertilizer for the next two months

and obtain the data of stocks and sales from fertilizer dealers on a daily basis. The chief secretary mentioned that the improvement of health and education sectors was a priority of the government, adding that on the instructions of the chief minister Punjab, the health sector had been included in the key performance indicators (KPIs) set for the deputy commissioners.

He ordered the authorities to launch a crackdown before Eid against illegal sale points of cattle and form special squads for checking. The administrative secretaries of the agriculture and health department gave a detailed briefing in the meeting. The agriculture secretary said that the target of cotton sowing had been set at four million acres in the province.

## PSX witnessed bearish trend, losses 303 points

ISLAMABAD (APP): The 100-index of the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) witnessed bearish trend on Monday, losing 303.22 points, a negative change of 0.40 per cent, closing at 75,575.26 points against 75,878.48 points the previous day.

A total of 441,261,756 shares valuing Rs 18,634 billion were traded during the day as compared to 523,299,973 shares valuing Rs 20,574 billion the previous day.

As many as 426 companies transacted their shares in the stock market; 199 of them recorded gains and 178 sustained losses, whereas the share price of 49 companies remained unchanged.

The top three trading companies were Fauji Cement with 32,835,391 shares at Rs 23.66 per share, K-Electric Limited with 31,651,913 shares at Rs 5.01 per share and PIA Holding Company with 25,572,549 shares at Rs 19.01 per share.

Nestle Pakistan Limited witnessed a maximum increase of Rs 154.64 per share price, closing at Rs 7,349.19 whereas the runner-up was Sazgar Engineering Works Limited with a Rs 34.31 rise in its per share price to Rs 820.45.



ISLAMABAD: President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari meet President Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry Saqib Rafiq at Chamber House Islamabad.

## Pay with JazzCash QR at cattle markets on Eid

ISLAMABAD (APP): In a bid to streamline financial transactions at cattle markets ahead of Eid-ul-Azha, JazzCash has partnered with the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) to enable interoperable RAAST QR codes for payments at cattle markets nationwide.

The initiative is poised to replace cash-based transactions with secure, efficient digital payments, ensuring safe and secure transactions, said a news release.

QR payments are expected to significantly digitize a substantial portion of the Rs. 600 billion market, significantly boosting financial inclusion by streamlining payments for buyers and sellers alike.

To facilitate digital payments, the State Bank

of Pakistan has temporarily enhanced the transaction limits for biometrically verified JazzCash accounts till June 20, 2024.

Murtaza Ali, Head of JazzCash, said, "This is a significant step towards digitizing a previously cash-reliant ecosystem, offering people the option for secure, real-time payments."

He further stated, "State Bank's vision for financial inclusion is the driving force behind our efforts at JazzCash. With initiatives like these, we aim to simplify payments for cattle farmers and small business owners."

By scanning JazzCash's interoperable RAAST QR codes at cattle markets, buyers can pay sellers directly through JazzCash, any mobile wallet or banking app.

## KPRA surpasses annual target for the fiscal year 2023-24

PESHAWAR (APP): The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Revenue Authority (KPRA) has surpassed its annual target for the fiscal year 2023-24.

According to details shared by KPRA, here on Monday, the authority has successfully surpassed its annual target of Rs35 billion by collecting Rs37.1 billion in the 11 months of the ongoing financial year 2023-24.

KPRA recorded 37% growth in the first 11 months of the financial year 2023-24 compared to the same period of the previous financial year, during which the Authority had collected 27.1 billion in taxes.

KPRA is mandated to collect and administer Sales Tax on Services and Infrastructure Development Cess (IDC) in the province. The government of KP has assigned it a Rs35 billion target for the ongoing financial. This year, KPRA has managed to collect Rs32.2 billion from the sales tax on services and Rs4.9 billion in the IDC in the 11 months period.

Compared with last year's 11 months, Rs23.9 billion were collected from the sales tax on services

while this year's corresponding period collection is 32.2 billion which shows 35% growth in STS collection. Similarly, Rs3.2 billion were collected from the IDC in 11 months of the previous year while this collection is 4.9 billion which shows 53% growth.

Last year, KPRA collected Rs30.5 billion in the whole 12 months of the year while this year the collection has crossed 37.1 billion which shows the exemplary performance of KPRA and its team, said the Director General KPRA Fouzia Iqbal in her statement issued to media.

She appreciated the efforts of the KPRA team for their performance and directed them to increase their efforts in the last month of the financial year to surpass the target will more impressive figures. She said they will cross Rs40 billion by the end of June.

"We are thankful to our stakeholders, the taxpayers, traders, and the people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for showing their trust and their cooperation. We expect them to continue their trust and cooperation in the future," she said.

## Rupee sheds 4 paise against Dollar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan Rupee on Monday lost 04 paise against US Dollar in the interbank trading and closed at Rs 278.36 against the previous day's closing at Rs 278.32.

According to the Forex Association of Pakistan (FAP), the buying and selling rates of the Dollar in the open market, however, were Rs 277.5 and Rs 280 respectively.

The price of the Euro increased by 44 paise to close at Rs 301.67 against the last day's closing of Rs 301.23, according to the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP).

The Japanese Yen remained unchanged to close at Rs 1.77, whereas an increase of 62 paise was witnessed in the exchange rate of the British Pound, which traded at Rs 353.85 as compared to the last day's closing of Rs 353.23.

The exchange rate of the Emirates Dirham and the Saudi Riyal increased by 01 paise each to close at Rs 75.78 and Rs 74.21.



Kyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi talks to office bearers and members of FPCCI during his visit to regional office FPCCI, Lahore.

## FBR Tajir Dost Scheme: All businesses should pay taxes: Atif Ikram

**Independent Report**  
KARACHI: Mr. Atif Ikram Sheikh, President FPCCI, has stated that all businesses should pay taxes and small traders should register with FBR under its Tajir Dost Scheme (TDS). He expressed his satisfaction that, despite some initial teething problems, 22,000 small traders have registered under FBR-TDS so far.

It is pertinent to note that FPCCI hosted a high-profile and well-attended session of small traders with both the Chief Commissioners of Karachi regions, i.e. RTO I & RTO II with Mr. Naeem Mir, Chief Coordinator of FBR Tajir Dost Scheme, to establish better understanding, coordination and liaison between FBR and small traders.

Mr. Saquib Fayyaz Magoon, SVP FPCCI, reiterated FPCCI's stance

that FBR needs to expand tax-net and simplify the taxation system to improve tax-to-GDP ratio; instead of further squeezing the existing taxpayers. However, the process should be in consultation with the business community; should be fair & transparent and undertaken in a business-friendly manner, he added.

Mr. Saquib Fayyaz Magoon stressed that Pakistan's tax-to-GDP ratio stands poorly at 9 percent while the regional and sub-regional countries have achieved that ratio in the range of 16 - 18 percent.

He proposed that FBR should not impose tax on retailers on turnover basis; but, there should be a fixed tax. Any imposition on turnover basis will negatively affect the acceptance or registration rate and threaten the dynamics of established business practices.

## Shipping activity at Port Qasim

KARACHI (APP): Shipping activity was report at the port where three ships, Zhida-6, Shalamar and TRF Kobescheduled to load/offload Rice, Furnace oil and Chemicals, berthed at Multi-Purpose Terminals, Oil Terminal and Elengy Terminal respectively on Sunday. Meanwhile five more ships, MSC Positano, AU Taurus, Kypros Sea, Chem Leona and Al-Marrouna with Container, Palm oil, Canola, Chemicals and LNG also arrived at outer-anchorage of the Port Qasim during last 24 hours.

A total of 7 ships were engaged at PQA berths during the last 24 hours, out of them four ships, APL Miami, Shalamar, TRF Kobe and Enjananare expected to sail on today.

Cargo volume of 133,440 tonnes, comprising 62,655 tonnes imports cargo and 70,785 tonnes export cargo carried in 3,218 Containers (364 TEUs Imports).

## Atif Ikram Sheikh says: Businesses to provide equal opportunities to women to promote gender equality

*Gender equality is essential for economic development, M. Akram Farid*

**Independent Report**  
ISLAMABAD: Chairman Central of Employers Federation of Pakistan (EFP) and Chairman FPCCI TVET and Skill Development Committee

equality is a fundamental human right which is essential for the promotion of sustainable economic development. He pointed out that compared to other regional countries, women's participation and contribution to economic development in Pakistan is very low and its basic reason is women's lack of access to education, training and economic opportunities. FPCCI President Atif Ikram Sheikh said that business organizations have the responsibility to provide a favorable environment and work.



HYDERABAD: Farmers busy in sorting and packing mangoes in wooden boxes after plucking from tree in field area near Tando Jam to deliver in fruit markets.



# Beijing 'won't allow war, chaos' in Asia-Pacific

**Monitoring Desk**  
SINGAPORE: China will not allow any country or force to create war or chaos in the Asia-Pacific, its defence minister said on Sunday, warning that there were "limits" to Beijing's restraint on the South China Sea and over the deployment of ballistic missiles in the region.

In a keynote speech at the Shangri-La Dialogue, AFP quoted Chinese Defence Minister Dong Jun as saying: "China has maintained sufficient restraint in the face of rights infringements and provocation, but there are limits to this."

The Philippines and the United States are longstanding treaty allies, and Manila is a key focus of Washington's efforts to strengthen alliances and partnerships in the Asia-Pacific region, which has enraged Beijing.

Given its position in the South China Sea and proximity to Taiwan, which China claims as its own, Philippine support

would be crucial for the US in the event of any conflict.

The deployment of "medium-range ballistic missiles" was "severely damaging regional security and stability," Dong said.

"Acting in this way will ultimately burn oneself." Dong also warned of "limits" to Beijing's restraint on the South China Sea, following a series of confrontations between Chinese and Philippine vessels near disputed reefs.

China Coast Guard vessels have used water cannon against Philippine boats multiple times in the contested waters. There have also been collisions that injured several Filipino troops.

According to China Daily, the defence chief said that in the face of common security challenges, no country can remain unaffected, and there is no such thing as absolute security or exclusive security, noting that there is a long-standing tradition of "helping neighbours in need".

"We do not allow hegemonism and power politics to harm the Asia-Pacific region, we do not allow geopolitical conflicts or cold and hot wars in the region, and we do not allow any country or force to create war and chaos here," he said.

He said that building "a small yard with high fences" has no place in the Asia-Pacific region.

"People yearn for unity, cooperation and a peaceful life, and the military forces of various countries need to protect this aspiration," Dong added.

Talking about Taiwan, Dong said Taiwan was the "core of core issues" for China, but Taiwan's ruling Democratic Progressive Party is increasingly pursuing separatism and bent on erasing Chinese identity.

"Those separatists recently made fanatical statements that show their betrayal of the Chinese nation and their ancestors. They will be nailed to the pillar of shame in history," Reuters quoted him as saying.



Claudia Sheinbaum, the presidential candidate of the ruling MORENA party, reacts as she addresses her supporters after winning the election, in Mexico City, Mexico.

# French govt faces confidence motions ahead of EU vote

**Monitoring Desk**  
PARIS: France's government on Monday faced two confidence challenges in parliament as political temperatures rise ahead of European Parliament elections set to mark a major victory for the far right in the country.

The bids to unseat Prime Minister Gabriel Attal and his government, which have little chance of passing, come from opposite ends of

# Pro-Kremlin activist couple quit Germany, move to Russia

**Monitoring Desk**  
LONDON: Two pro-Russian activists in Germany, whose ties to the Kremlin were revealed in a Reuters investigation last year, have left Germany and moved to Russia, the couple's lawyer said in a statement on Monday.

Since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022, Elena Kolbasnikova and her romantic partner Max Schlund have been active in Germany.



Palestinian sisters Samar and Sahar react as they search for their missing mother Amira Al-Breim at the rubble of a house hit in an Israeli strike, in Khan Younis in the southern Gaza Strip.

# Israeli strikes in central Gaza kill at least 11 as the US pushes a cease-fire plan

**Monitoring Desk**  
NEW YORK: Palestinian health officials said Israeli strikes killed 11 people overnight in Monday, including a woman and three children, in central Gaza.

A strike on a home in the built-up Bureij refugee camp late Sunday killed four people, including the three children.

A second strike early Monday killed seven people, including a woman, in the Nuseirat refugee camp.

The bombardments come days after U.S. President Joe Biden said

# Egypt's Sisi orders prime minister to form new cabinet

**Monitoring Desk**  
DUBAI: Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi reappointed Prime Minister Mostafa Madbouly on Monday to form a new government after the latter submitted his cabinet's resignation, following Sisi's reelection for a third term last year, the presidency said in a statement.

Sisi directed the new government to focus on lowering inflation and regulating markets as well as attracting and increasing local and foreign investments, the presidency added.

# Sri Lanka rain 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.

Nine other people were crushed and killed when trees fell on them in seven districts since the

# Maldives to ban Israeli tourists

**Monitoring Desk**  
MALE: The Indian Ocean nation of the Maldives will ban Israelis from the luxury tourist hot spot, the office of the president said on Sunday, announcing a national rally in "solidarity with Palestine".

The Maldives, a tiny Islamic republic of more than 1,000 strategically located coral islets, is known for its secluded sandy white beaches, shallow turquoise lagoons and Robinson Crusoe-style getaways.

President Mohamed Muizzu has "resolved to impose a ban on Israeli passports," a spokesman for his office said in a statement, without giving details of when the new law would take effect.

# Claudia Sheinbaum makes history as Mexico's first woman president

**Monitoring Desk**  
MEXICO CITY: Claudia Sheinbaum was elected Mexico's first woman president by a landslide Sunday, making history in a country plagued by rampant criminal and gender-based violence.

Crowds of flag-waving supporters sang and danced to mariachi music in Mexico City's main square celebrating the ruling party candidate's victory. "I want to thank millions of Mexican women and men who decided to vote for us on this historic day," Sheinbaum said in a victory speech to the cheering crowd.

"I won't fail you," the 61-year-old former Mexico City mayor vowed.

She thanked her main opposition rival Xochitl

# Zelenskyy in Manila to promote peace summit, which he says China and Russia are trying to undermine

**Monitoring Desk**  
MANILA: Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy met with the Philippine president on Monday in a rare Asian trip to urge regional leaders to attend a Swiss-organized global peace summit on the war in Ukraine that he accuses Russia, with China's help, of trying to undermine.

Zelenskyy arrived unannounced and under heavy security in Manila late Sunday after speaking over the weekend at the Shangri-La defense forum in Singapore. He was given a red-carpet welcome with military honours Monday at the presidential palace before meeting with President Ferdinand Marcos Jr., after which he left the Philippines.

Marcos pledged that his country would take part in the peace summit, Philippine Communications Secretary Cheloy Garafil said.

"I'm happy to hear

# China maintains stance on disputed Gulf islands despite Iran's anger

**Monitoring Desk**  
BEIJING: China held its stance on three disputed islands in the Persian Gulf on Monday despite Tehran's anger at Beijing for describing the Iran-controlled islands as a matter to be resolved with the United Arab Emirates.

In a statement last week, China expressed support for the efforts of the UAE to reach a "peaceful solution" to the issue of the islands - the Greater Tunb, the Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa.

The islands, claimed by the UAE and Iran, have been held by Tehran since 1971.

In a rare show of anger toward its biggest trading partner, the Iranian foreign ministry on Sunday summoned the Chinese ambassador to Iran to protest China's "repeated support" for the UAE's "baseless claims".

"Considering the strategic cooperation between Tehran and Beijing, it is expected that the Chinese government will re-evaluate its stance on this matter," the Iranian foreign ministry said.

China's foreign ministry on Monday repeated its call for Iran and the UAE to resolve their differences through dialogue and consultation, describing China's stance on the matter as "consistent".

"The relevant contents of the China-UAE Joint Statement are consistent with China's position," said Mao Ning at a regular press briefing when asked about Iran's protest, offering no revision of Beijing's stance.

She added that China and Iran had a strong relationship, and that China attached great importance to the development of their strategic partnership.



COLOMBO: Residents wade through a flooded street after heavy rains in Malwana area on the outskirts of Sri Lankan capital.

# Heat wave kills at least 56 in India, nearly 25,000 heat stroke cases, from March-May

**Monitoring Desk**  
NEW DELHI: India saw nearly 25,000 cases of suspected heat stroke and 56 people lost their lives after heavy monsoon rain lashed the region, the country's Disaster Management Centre (DMC) said on Sunday.

A confluence of factors has led to a very hot summer in South Asia, a trend scientists say has been worsened by human-driven climate change.

At least 33 people, including election officials on duty in India's just-concluded general election, died of suspected heatstroke in the states of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar in the north, and Odisha in the east on Friday.

# Trump joins TikTok, which he once tried to ban

**Monitoring Desk**  
WASHINGTON: Former US president and current White House hopeful Donald Trump has joined TikTok, posting his first video on the wildly popular social media app he once tried to ban while in office.

Reaching out to younger voters as he seeks reelection in November, Trump posted a 13-second clip on Saturday night that shows him in his usual blue suit and red tie attending an Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC) bout in Newark, New Jersey.

# UK gives date for first Rwanda asylum seekers' deportation flights

**Monitoring Desk**  
LONDON: Britain intends to begin deporting asylum seekers to Rwanda on July 24, a government lawyer said on Monday, although the hotly contested scheme is dependent on Prime Minister Rishi Sunak's Conservative Party winning the upcoming election. Sending asylum seekers who have arrived in Britain without permission to Rwanda is one of Sunak's flagship policies, but legal and parliamentary obstacles have meant it has never got off the ground.

Sunak has said the deportation flights will not leave before the July 4 election but has promised if he wins they would begin soon after. The opposition Labour Party, leading by about 20 points in opinion polls, has pledged to scrap the plan if elected. In documents submitted to the London High Court as part of a challenge to the policy by charity Asylum Aid, government lawyers said the intention was "to effect removals with a flight to Rwanda on 23 July 2024 (and not before)."

# Philippine volcano erupts, spewing plumes 5 km high

**Monitoring Desk**  
MANILA: A volcano in central Philippines erupted on Monday, spewing plumes of up to five kilometres (3.11 miles) high, the country's seismology agency said, adding that evacuations were not yet recommended for residents in the area.

The lowest alert level remained on Mt. Kanlaon which straddles the provinces of Negros Oriental and Negros Occidental, with the level unchanged for several days leading up to the eruption, the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs) said in an advisory.

**TENDER NOTICE**

The EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PHE DIVISION KALAT invites bids from Eligible Bidders for execution of following works for the Year, 2024 based on Composite schedule rates 2023 on Percentage Rates.

**Bid Security 3% for each work.**

S.No.	Name of Work	E/Cost	TSE No.
1.	Supply & Inst: of Solar System for WSS at Jani Jhal Village at N-25.	97,98,576	232406446313
2.	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS alongwith Solar System 97,98,576	97,98,576	232406446333
3.	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS alongwith Solar System 97,98,576	97,98,576	232406446363
4.	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS alongwith Solar System 99,12,346	99,12,346	232406446403
5.	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS alongwith Solar System 99,12,346	99,12,346	232406446423
6.	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS alongwith Solar System 99,12,346	99,12,346	232406446453
7.	Supply & Inst: of Solar System for WSS alongwith Solar System 99,12,346	99,12,346	232406446463
8.	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS alongwith Solar System 99,12,346	99,12,346	232406446483
9.	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS alongwith Solar System 99,12,346	99,12,346	232406446513
10.	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS alongwith Solar System 99,12,346	99,12,346	232406446533
11.	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS alongwith Solar System 99,12,346	99,12,346	232406446603
12.	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS alongwith Solar System 99,12,346	99,12,346	232406446663
13.	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS with Solar System at Ameerli Adena Killi Murad Bux Nichari District Kalat.	10,042,370	232406446693
14.	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS with Solar System at Lehr District Kalat.	10,042,370	232406446703
15.	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS with Solar System at Adirkash District Kalat.	10,042,370	232406446723
16.	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS with Solar System at Khaliq Abad Bazar District Kalat.	98,79,841	232406446743
17.	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS with Solar System at Killi Sardar Aziz Ahmed Lehri District Kalat.	97,98,576	232406446763
18.	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS with Solar System at Killi Takri Sharif Muhammad Nichari Kohak District Kalat.	97,98,576	232406446793
19.	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Roderjo Kalat.	64,14,098	232406446823
20.	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Darbar Kalat.	11,139,097	232406446843
21.	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Raji Peer Sahib Buti Kalat.	64,14,098	232406446863
22.	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Killi Kooki Ali Abad Kalat.	64,14,098	232406446883
23.	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Chashma Darbar Kalat.	11,139,097	232406446893
24.	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Jaji Mughalzai Kalat.	11,139,097	232406446903
25.	Supply & Installation of Solar System for WSS Killi Usman Dallo Chapper Kalat.	11,139,097	232406446923

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules - 2014. Eligibility of Bidders: Presence in Active Tax Payer List. The bidding firm must not be blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan. Balochistan Revenue Authority Registration is required. The bidder must have completed 3 Assignment of similar nature of work Turnover of at least 11,139,000 PKR Amount in 3 subsequent previous years showing financial capacity of the firm. Procedure of PKR: Single Stage One Envelope Bidding Procedure Payment Challan of each Engineer of the last year Bachelor degree with PEC Registered and Tax payment Challan. Quality Certificate of ISO 9001:2015 of PNAC, ISO 45001:2018 of PNAC, ISO 22000:2018 of IAS-PCA Accreditation of Concern PNAC Body and Fresh Order Report of PNAC Body. Photo Voltaic Module (Certification) Firms having certification of IEC: 61215 & 2005 & IEC: 61730-2 from an international Certified Laboratory (TUV/VDE) Certificates. Registration/ Certification under Category C-1 of AEDB (Certification) Regulation, 2021. Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Deposit at Call of 3% specified above in the name of the undersigned from a scheduled bank. Tender Documents: The bidding documents can be obtained from the office of the undersigned 2,000 PKR through green chalan on a/c of Tender documents Fee C02726-others. Issuance of tender Documents: From the date of publication of NIT to during office hours on working days Last Date of bid submission: The Tenders must be submitted latest by 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2024 till 01:00 PM. Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day at the office of the undersigned at 02:00 PM. Address: Kohing Kalat Phone no: 0844210228 Email: xenhphedkalat@gmail.com

**EXECUTIVE ENGINEER**  
**PHE DIVISION KALAT**

PRQ No.2774/03-6-2024  
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**CORRIGENDUM**

With reference to N.I.T Published under PRQ No. 2112/3-5-2024 dated 04-05-24 in daily Quetta and others. The Evaluation and eligibility criteria have been rectified and date of tender opening is hereby extended and re-fixed on 11-06-2024. The bidders who have downloaded Bidding Document(s) before 03 June, 2024 are required to download the amended Bidding Document(s). Other terms and conditions shall remain the same. Phone. 03327856292 Email: immirzahaq@gmail.com

**DEPUTY DIRECTOR**  
**AGRICULTURE ON FARM WATER**  
**MANAGEMENT ZIARAT**

PRQ No.2763/03-6-2024  
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**CORRIGENDUM**

With reference to N.I.T Published under PRQ No. 2664/28-5-2024 dated 30-05-24 in daily Quetta and others. The Evaluation and eligibility criteria have been. Bidders who have downloaded Bidding Document before 03 June, 2024 are required to download the amended Bidding Document. Other terms and conditions shall remain the same. Contact No. 333387033

**DEPUTY DIRECTOR**  
**AGRICULTURE ON FARM WATER**  
**MANAGEMENT HARNAI**

PRQ No.2762/03-6-2024  
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**CORRIGENDUM**

It refers to the Deputy Director Agriculture On Farm Water Management District Kalat Tender Advertisement PRQ No.2730/31-05-2024 published in daily newspapers Quetta newspapers on 01st May, 2024 under TSE No. 232405442753. It is to inform all the contractors that the CSR 2018 published in NIT may be read as CSR-2023 and the rates must be quoted on CSR 2023 schedule. The remaining terms and conditions will remain the same.

**DEPUTY DIRECTOR**  
**AGRICULTURE ON FARM WATER**  
**MANAGEMENT DISTRICT KALAT**

PRQ No.2761/03-6-2024  
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## PBC condemns PTI's demand of CJP recusal from party's cases

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Pakistan Bar Council (PBC) has strongly condemned Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's (PTI) demand for Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa to recuse himself from hearing cases related to the party. According to the official statement, the PBC termed the demand as "unfortunate and unacceptable" saying that it was an attempt to pressure the CJP and undermine the independence of the judiciary. The council emphasized that the CJP is a highly respected and impartial judge, and his integrity is beyond question. The PBC also highlighted that the CJP has always upheld the rule of law and the supremacy of the Constitution, and any attempts to malign him or the judiciary would be rejected. The council reiterated its commitment to upholding the principles of an independent judiciary.

## Rind condemns attack at anti-polio team

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The spokesman, Government of Balochistan, Shahid Rind has condemned the attack at anti-polio team in Chaman on Monday. According to an official statement issued here on Monday, the spokesman of provincial government said that four Levies personnel were injured in the attack at anti-polio team in Chaman. The assailants made an attempt to snatch weapons from the Levies cops and anti-polio vaccine from the anti-polio team working in an area of Chaman, the spokesman of provincial government mentioned. Shahid Rind said that the district administration is taking action against those involved in the incident. He announced that the case would be registered against the elements under the Anti-Terrorism Act. He said that the law would take its course in the incident. He said that protest is a constitutional right, but if the course of violence is adopted then the State would take action in accordance with the law.



ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate, Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani in a group photo with the delegation of World Football and Pakistan Football League (UK) at Parliament House.

## Gilani calls for use sports as a vehicle for positive change in society

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman Senate Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani on Monday called for making concerted efforts to use sports as a vehicle for positive change and transformation in society. "Football is no ordinary sport, but a bridge that transcends boundaries, unites cultures, and ignites passion in the hearts of millions," he expressed these views while addressing an event arranged in honor of international football delegation at Parliament House, said a news release. Highlighting the potential Pakistan has in the sport of football, he remarked that there is no dearth of talent and passion. "All we need is professional coaching and nurturing to produce world-class players and put Pakistan on the map of international football," he added. Gilani expressed his excitement to see football gaining momentum in the country and anticipated a bright future for this wonderful sport in Pakistan. The Chairman Senate acknowledged the pivotal role of the Pakistan Football League (PFL) UK in pioneering international football in Pakistan, their visionary initiatives, including the impactful "Football 4 Hope," exemplify their commitment to social development, education, and inclusivity. "They are not only nurturing talent but also fostering unity and resilience," Gilani observed, adding that their commitment to implementing international standards and making football accessible to all, resonated deeply with his own vision. The international delegation of football community brings with them a wealth of experience, talent, and dedication, which could help Pakistan embark on a journey to elevate its position in the global football arena. Gilani assured his all-out support for the promotion of state-of-the-art football facilities and nurturing of local talent in Pakistan. "Let us celebrate the spirit of football, embrace diversity, and work together to create a brighter future—one where every child has the opportunity to chase their dreams on the football field," he added.

## Aurangzeb emphasizes significant potential of e-governance in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (INP): Minister for Finance Muhammad Aurangzeb has emphasized the significant potential of e-governance in Pakistan. Talking to Deputy Director, Focus Country Implementation of Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Jason Lamb in Islamabad, he said the digitization of the tax system is a pivotal step towards modernizing tax collection, which will enhance transparency and revenue growth. Senator Mr. Muhammad Aurangzeb also mentioned the necessary improvements required in existing data sources to effectively utilize them for tax purposes. During the meeting, the Federal Minister conveyed his appreciation for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's for their support in engaging McKinsey & Co. for the ongoing digitalization of FBR. He emphasized the significant potential of e-governance in Pakistan, noting that the digitization of the tax system is a pivotal step towards modernizing tax collection, which will enhance transparency and revenue growth. The Minister of State Mr. Ali Pervaiz Malik discussed the implementation challenges of RAAST, Pakistan's instant payment system, and ways to improve its functionality. The meeting concluded with a strong note of commitment from all parties involved to continue working together towards these goals.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb called on by Jason Lamb, Deputy Director, Focus Country Implementation of Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

## Alvi calls for urgent dialogue among all stakeholders

LAHORE (INP): Former president Dr Arif Alvi on Monday called for urgent dialogue among Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan and all other stakeholders to help the country navigate out of its current political turmoil. Addressing a gathering of PTI office-bearers and various wings in Lahore, Dr Alvi congratulated PTI workers, supporters, and the people of Pakistan on the acquittal of Imran Khan, along with former foreign minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi, in the cypher case. The former president reiterated the importance of dialogue to resolve the political crisis, stressing that all stakeholders must participate as it is the sole path to improvement in Pakistan. In his address, Dr Alvi criticized the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) government, accusing it of rampant corruption and mismanagement. He claimed that the PML-N leadership has fostered numerous new 'Gullu Butts' over the past two years, with corruption escalating since the regime change. Khan Swati, Brigadier (ret) Ejaz Shah, Dr Azeemuddin Lakhro, Sardar Azeemullah Advocate, and Zubair Kisan in attendance. He praised the district administration for their better arrangements and promised to do even better in the future. "We will keep serving our people, especially the deserving ones," Zehri said. "I will personally oversee the distribution process to ensure that everyone receives the assistance they need," he added. The meeting was chaired by PTI Central Punjab President Ejaz Manhas, with notable PTI senior leaders such as Azam Khan Swati, Brigadier (ret) Ejaz Shah, Dr Azeemuddin Lakhro, Sardar Azeemullah Advocate, and Zubair Kisan in attendance. The former president reiterated the importance of dialogue to resolve the political crisis, stressing that all stakeholders must participate as it is the sole path to improvement in Pakistan. In his address, Dr Alvi criticized the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) government, accusing it of rampant corruption and mismanagement. He claimed that the PML-N leadership has fostered numerous new 'Gullu Butts' over the past two years, with corruption escalating since the regime change.



LAHORE: Former President of Pakistan and Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Leader, Dr. Arif Alvi talking to media persons, at Punjab Assembly in Lahore.

## Rubaba to bear student's expenses participating in "Yaqeen" education camp

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The Advisor to the Chief Minister of Balochistan for Women Development Department, Dr. Rubaba Buledi has announced that she would bear all the expenses of the students participating in the "Yaqeen" education camp, organized by the Institute for Iqbal Research, Islamabad, at Peshawar University's Bara Gali campus. She made the announcement while talking to the students from various schools and colleges in Quetta, who called on her at Women Development Department. Dr. Rubaba Buledi said that education plays vital role in the development of a society and is essential for the progress of a nation. She announced that the government of Balochistan has launched the Benazir Scholarship Program to provide financial support to students pursuing higher education. She stressed the importance of education in the progress of a nation. She said that education is the backbone of national development and without it, societies cannot survive. Dr. Buledi also emphasized the importance of women's education, saying that women play a crucial role in shaping society and their education is essential for the development of a family and society as a whole. She said that the government of Balochistan is committed to providing education to all, especially women, and has initiated various programs to achieve this goal. Dr. Buledi said that the government of Balochistan would provide scholarships to students to study in top universities of Pakistan and around the world, including Oxford University in the UK. She expressed her best wishes for the students participating in the education camp and encouraged them to pursue their dreams.



QUETTA: Iranian Consul General, Hassan Darvesh Wand being briefed by Dr. Sohaih Khan during his visit to Aria Hospital in Quetta.

## Senate committees formation stalled by disagreement

ISLAMABAD (INP): The formation of Senate Standing Committees has hit a deadlock due to a heated disagreement between the government and the opposition. The tussle centers on the allocation of key committees, with the government coalition seeking control over crucial areas such as foreign affairs, finance, and interior. However, Shibli Faraz has firmly rejected the government's proposed distribution formula. He argues that the standing committees, which have traditionally been chaired by the opposition for the last 12 years, should continue to be allocated to them. Faraz emphasized the role of these committees in monitoring government policies and ensuring parliamentary accountability, accusing the government allies of attempting to undermine this process. "The unfair allocation of committees is a weak and undemocratic practice that threatens the integrity of our parliamentary system," Faraz stated. He further criticized the current administration, claiming that the PDM-2 government has significantly damaged the country's institutions. Despite an important meeting between Senate Chairman Yusuf Raza Gilani, Leader of the House Ishaq Dar, and Leader of the Opposition Shibli Faraz, no resolution was achieved. According to sources, the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) has requested the Finance Committee and the Law and Justice Committee, insisting on the chairmanship of Saleem Mandviwala being handed to Farooq H. Naik. The meeting was attended by party Chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan, Secretary General Omar Ayub Khan, who is also the Leader of Opposition in the National Assembly, Asad Qaiser and other prominent leaders. The Islamabad district administration last Friday allowed Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) to hold a public rally in the federal capital.

## Acquisition of IT education vital to compete with modern world: Commissioner Zhub

QUETTA (APP): Commissioner Zhub Division Tariqur Rehman Baloch on Monday said that the acquisition of information technology (IT) education was necessary to compete with the modern world and information technology training was also very important along with quality and higher education. He expressed these views while visiting Divisional Information Technology Complex Zhub. Divisional Information Technology Officer, Engineer Asmatullah Khan gave a briefing to the commissioner about the Department of IT Web Division. The commissioner also inspected the Information Technology Training Center, met the teachers and students and discussed the provision of facilities to them. Divisional Information Technology Officer gave a briefing to the commissioner regarding the center and told that at present the number of students were more than 200, who were being trained in different fields. He expressed satisfaction over the ongoing educational activities and assured all possible support from his side. "Polio myelitis is a dangerous disease," the deputy commissioner warned, adding "Let us work together to protect our children from this debilitating disease. Get your children vaccinated to save them from a lifetime of disability." The five-day campaign aims to vaccinate all children under the age of five in the district, to ensure a polio-free future for the next generation. The parents are urged to bring their children to the nearest vaccination center for immunization.



QUETTA: A delegation of students of different girls schools and colleges photographed with Provincial Advisor for Women Development Department Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi.

## Climate change authority case: SC summons climate change secretary, all four provincial secretaries

ISLAMABAD (Online): Supreme Court (SC) has summoned secretary climate change and all the four secretaries on next hearing in the case pertaining to establishment of Climate Change Authority (CCA). The court has directed all the four chief secretaries to appear through video link. Justice Mansoor Ali Shah remarked why the Punjab government could not frame policy regarding climate change so far. What steps have been taken by Punjab government to deal with the floods. Half of the trees planted under billion tree project have finished. Only planting the trees is not enough but they have to be looked after as well. We will ask from all chief secretaries what progress in making policy and implementing the policy. During the hearing of the case government presented notification on establishment of climate change authority. Justice Mansoor Ali Shah inquired but when it will become functional. Additional attorney general told advertisement has been given for appointment of members of authority. The process will be completed within two months. The court further inquired tell us if any solid step has been taken in connection with climate change. Additional Attorney general admitted there is no doubt in it that the attitude of federal and provincial government is not serious.

## PTI announces to hold public rally in Swat

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leadership has decided to relocate its upcoming June 8 rally to Swat after the federal capital's administration refused to permit the party to stage its rally in Islamabad. The top leadership of the party rejected the Islamabad administration's offer that it should hold a public meeting on June 8 at Rawat. According to a party spokesperson, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur also attended the meeting. The meeting was attended by party Chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan, Secretary General Omar Ayub Khan, who is also the Leader of Opposition in the National Assembly, Asad Qaiser and other prominent leaders. The Islamabad district administration last Friday allowed Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) to hold a public rally in the federal capital.

## Edu ministry, Taleemabad transform a neglected school

ISLAMABAD (APP): In a remarkable turnaround, the Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training and Taleemabad transformed a neglected school in Quetta in just two weeks, showcasing the power of love and care that knows no bounds. According to the Education Ministry, the said school in Quetta, once plagued by decades of neglect, lacked even the basic essentials - maintenance, furniture, and books. This incredible feat is a testament to the impact of dedication and collective effort, breathing new life into a forgotten institution and illuminating the path to a brighter future for its students, the ministry added. In a separate report, it was revealed that due to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) target, the development budget of Pakistan is reportedly being affected, ARY News reported on Friday. According to recent documents, the development budget of Rs 950 billion only Rs 379 billion was utilized to meet IMF targets this year. These budget reductions have damaged the various sectors including health, higher education, and infrastructure projects in Pakistan.

## Ashrafi calls for justice in Nazir Masih's death case

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan Ulema Council (PUC) Chairman Hafiz Muhammad Tahir Mehmood Ashrafi on Monday called for justice in the death case of Nazir Masih in Sargodha. The PUC chairman, expressing deep grief over the killing, said in a statement that taking the law into one's own hands in matters of blasphemy was both unlawful and illegal.



QUETTA: Governor Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail inaugurating new Refugees Students Facilitation Centre during his visit of University of Balochistan.

## 100 more Green Buses approved for Quetta city: Hamza

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The Commissioner Quetta Division, Muhammad Hamza Shafaqat has stated that 100 more Green Buses have been approved for the Quetta city and in first phase, at least 25 buses be brought in the city. The Commissioner Quetta was speaking to the media persons here at the office of Quetta Metropolitan Corporation on Monday. He said that better facility of public transport has been made available to the citizens with provision of Green bus service in Quetta. He added that at the moment, only eight buses have been operating under private contract in Quetta city. More than 11,000 people travel by these Green buses daily, which is the major success. That's why, 100 more buses have been approved for the city, the Commissioner Quetta maintained. He expressed the hope that 25 buses would come within one and half month in the first phase. These buses would be plied on other routes of the city.



QUETTA: Opposition leader Mir Younis Aziz Zehri meeting with Provincial Food Minister Haji Noor Muhammad Dumar.

## Ahsan Iqbal 'stunned' over no consultation on development budget

ISLAMABAD (INP): Federal Minister for Planning and Development, Ahsan Iqbal, has expressed his reservations over the approval of the development budget and annual plan without his consultation. According to media reports, the deputy chairman of the Planning Commission, Jahanzeb Khan, did not consult Ahsan Iqbal before approving the PSDP worth Rs 1221 billion on May 31. Moreover, the minister was also not consulted on the GDP growth targets of 2.4% for the current year and 3.6% for the next year, sources added. It stated that annual Plan Coordination Committee meeting is likely to be convened again, it was not held due to the non-formation of the National Economic Council. The PSDP and annual plan will require approval from the Prime Minister-headed National Economic Council, sources added. In a separate report, it was revealed that due to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) target, the development budget of Pakistan is reportedly being affected, ARY News reported on Friday. According to recent documents, the development budget of Rs 950 billion only Rs 379 billion was utilized to meet IMF targets this year. These budget reductions have damaged the various sectors including health, higher education, and infrastructure projects in Pakistan.



QUETTA: Member Election Commission Shah Muhammad Jatoti addressing women MPs during Gender Mainstreaming and Social Inclusion Framework meeting.