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Pakistan, China agree to explore opportunities under CPEC

Frequent leadership's engagements, people-to-people contacts characterize Pak-China deep rooted ties: PM

SHENZHEN (APP): Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday noted that the deep-rooted ties between Pakistan and China were characterized by frequent engagement and dialogue at the leadership level, people-to-people contacts, cultural and educational exchanges.

The prime minister met with Meng Fanli, Party Secretary of Shenzhen Municipal Committee, and Deputy Party Secretary of Guangdong Provincial Committee in Shenzhen, the PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

The prime minister lauded the impressive economic growth and exemplary innovative spirit of Guangdong province and

also termed Shenzhen a trade gateway for China's business linkages with Pakistan.

Reaffirming 'the time-honoured All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership between Pakistan and China', the two sides agreed on the need to explore opportunities for increased cooperation between Pakistan and the Guangdong province particularly under CPEC.

Prime Minister Shehbaz and Party Secretary Meng underlined the importance of robust linkages and exchanges between scientists, innovators and businessmen to harness the true potential for enhanced

Continued on page 2



SHENZHEN: Group photo of Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and Mr. Meng Fanli, Party Secretary of Shenzhen Municipal Committee, and Deputy Party Secretary of Guangdong Provincial Committee along with their respective delegations.

Initiatives for coping with challenges of climate change along with good governance included in top priorities of provincial Govt., says CM

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has stated that the initiatives aimed at coping with the challenges of climate change and establishing good governance are included in the top priorities of provincial government.

He said that clean and fresh climate is the symbol of best health as the lungs and other related diseases are less in the countries which are pollution free. There is also marked reduction in the deforestation and emitting of the green house gases in these countries.

In a message issued here on eve of the World Environment Day being observed today (Wednesday)

He also stated that the Prime Minister of Pakistan had invited him for a visit and he would try his best to visit Pakistan soon.

The Pope expressed concern over the situation in Palestine, stating that it was a cause of huge concern.

He added that he stayed updated on the humanitarian situation in Palestine through daily briefings with workers engaged in relief efforts.

He emphasized that the interfaith dialogue and harmony was the key to resolve issues.

Minister, Mohsin Naqvi thanked him for his effective stance on the Palestine issue, which had been widely appreciated.

He stressed that the coal mine owners have to implement the prescribed standard operating procedures (SOPs) in the mines. However, most of the incidents occur due to the carelessness of coal mine owners.

The Chief Minister directed the Secretary Mines Department to ensure implementation on the SOPs for prevention of such incidents and stoppage of precious human lives in the mining sector in future.

Federal budget 2024-25 likely to be presented on June 12

ISLAMABAD (INP): The presentation of the federal budget 2024-25 is likely to be rescheduled.

Interestingly, it is also unusual that the budget strategy paper (BSP) for the next fiscal year has not yet been 'shared' with parliament, though it is more because of political uncertainties emanating from the legal status of reserved seats and because of the absence of standing committees of the Senate and the National Assembly, particularly those related to finance.

The budget 2024-25 which was earlier scheduled to be presented on June 10 is now likely to be presented on June 12. The Pakistan Economic Survey 2023-24 will be presented on June 11 after a meeting of the council on June 10, the sources said.

The federal budget 2024-25 will likely get approval from the Senate by June 26.

all over the world including Pakistan, the Chief Minister said that the increasing temperature has created numerous issues all over the world especially in Pakistan. He noted with concern that unstoppable process of natural disasters has been started due to increase in the temperature globally.

He mentioned that there is no precedent of torrential rains and flash floods in Balochistan during last two years.

He said that it is such an example of urban flooding if we try to find out the reasons behind then the climate change and global temperature would be seen as the most important factors.

The Chief Minister said that Pakistan is an industrial country rather it is an agricultural country. There is great role of industrial countries in increasing global temperature, but unfortunately the countries are also affecting which otherwise have least role in contributing environmental pollution, he added.

He stressed that all countries have to follow the international agreements and protocols signed for ending the Environment pollution.

He also stressed that we have to take serious steps to overcome the issue of global warming and move ahead with a comprehensive strategy to mitigate the effects of climate change all over the world.

representative of UNHCR in Pakistan, Ms Philippa Candler who called on him here at the Governor's House on Tuesday.

Also present in the meeting were included Head of UNHCR sub-office, Tesfaye Bekele, Commissioner Afghan Refugees, Arbab Talib and Principal Secretary to Governor, Hashim Khan Ghilzai.

The country representative of UNHCR thanked the Pakistani nation and government on extending hospitality to the Afghan refugees for last four decades.

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CPEC phase-II to grow business links between Pak-China: Ahsan

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal Tuesday said that the economic and cultural connections between the people of China and Pakistan are strong and focused.

In a video message ahead of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's visit to China, he said that a delegation comprising of one hundred and twenty six Pakistani businessmen is also visiting China, PTV news channel reported.

"China has an important role in Pakistan's development. It has always helped Pakistan in difficult times," he added.

He said there is a big opportunity for us to export the country's products to neighboring China, adding, Pakistani business delegation will sign investment and export agreements with their Chinese counterparts during the visit.

The Minister for Planning also recalled that the first phase of CPEC focused on infrastructure development, adding, this also provided two hundred thousand job opportunities to the youth.

CM Maryam, Nawaz meet Qatari envoy

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif, along with Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) President Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, met with the Ambassador of Qatar to Pakistan H.E. Mr Ali Bin Mubarak Al Khater, here on Tuesday.

Possible investment opportunities in Punjab, labor force supply from the province, cooperation in the development of infrastructure and other sectors in Punjab and other matters of mutual interest were discussed during the meeting.

The chief minister briefed H.E. Mr Ali Bin Mubarak Al Khater about the business-friendly policies of Punjab government and invited Qatari businessmen and industrialists to invest in Punjab. "We want to promote economic relations between Punjab and Qatar," she expressed.

Both leaders stressed the need to strengthen bilateral relations and find new ways of cooperation.

PTI ready to hold talks with real power: Alvi

ISLAMABAD (INP): Former president and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) senior leader Dr Arif Alvi said on Tuesday that his party would hold dialogue with the one who has real power to make decisions.

He stated this while responding to a question about the impression that incarcerated PTI founder Imran Khan was not in favour of holding dialogue with his political opponents to bring stability to the country.

The statement came after multiple calls from the incumbent government urging the embattled Imran Khan-founded party to hold talks to find a solution to end the political crisis, however, the former ruling party failed to give a clear response so far.

PTI ready to hold talks with real power: Alvi

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SIC's reserved seats plea PTI deprived its people of democratic right by not holding intra-party polls: CJP

Says all issues would've been resolved if intra-party polls were held: Case of PTI would have been strong if the independent members had not joined the SIC

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Supreme Court of Pakistan on Tuesday adjourned hearing till June 24, on an appeal of Sunni Ittehad Council (SIC) regarding the reserved seats.

A thirteen-member bench headed by Chief Justice of Pakistan Qazi Faez Isa heard the appeal against the verdict of Peshawar High Court.

Justice Syed Mansoor Ali Shah, Justice Munib Akhtar, Justice Yahya Afridi, Justice Amin ud Din Khan, Justice Jamal Khan

Mandokhail, Justice Muhammad Ali Mazhar, Justice Ayesha A. Malik, Justice Athar Minallah, Justice Hassan Azhar Rizvi, Justice Shahid Waheed, Justice Irfaan Saadat Khan and Justice Naeem Akhtar Afghan were also part of the bench. However, Justice Musarrat Hilali didn't join the bench due to illness.

During hearing of the SIC's lawyer, the chief justice remarked that the candidates who are not in front

Continued on page 2

University of Balochistan's 90-day sit-in ends as govt releases salaries

QUETTA (APP): The government of Balochistan has announced the release of salaries for university employees, resulting in the end of the 90-day sit-in by Balochistan University staff.

On Tuesday, Provincial Education Minister Raheela Hameed Durrani arrived at the protest site organized by employees against the non-payment of salaries, where she held talks with the teachers and subsequently announced the end of the sit-in.

The Provincial Education Minister expressed her regret that the teachers were on the streets instead of in the classrooms. She announced the payment of

salaries to the employees up to June.

Talking to the protesting teachers, the Education Minister emphasized that employees should not have to take to the streets to receive their salaries, as salaried individuals rely on their wages to run their households.

"On the directives of Chief Minister Balochistan Sarfaraz Bugti, the dues of university employees are being paid," she maintained. She hopes that the upcoming budget will allocate funds for university teachers for the entire year. Subsequently, the university employees announced the end of their 90-day sit-in.

Govt. of Balochistan orders to register case of Sanjdi mishap against mine owner, 2 others

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Government of Balochistan has ordered to register case against three persons including the owner of coal mine in which a mine manager, contractor and nine workers died in Sanjdi area on Tuesday night.

According to the spokesman of provincial government, Shahid Rind, an official letter has been dispatched to the concerned police station for registration of FIR by the Mines and Minerals Department.

It may be mentioned here that 11 persons including the Coal mine Manager, contractor and nine mine workers were died due to the leakage of poisonous gas and suffocation.

Meanwhile, the Provincial

VATICAN: Federal Minister for Interior shaking hands with Pope Francis.

Interior Minister meets Pope Francis in Vatican City

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Interior, Mohsin Naqvi on Tuesday met Pope Francis at the Vatican City during his visit to Europe.

The Minister was accorded a warm welcome upon his arrival in the Vatican City.

During the meeting, both sides discussed ways to promote peace, brotherhood, interfaith harmony and dialogue.

Pope Francis commended Pakistan's efforts towards immediate repair and reconstruction of Churches in the aftermath of Jaranwala tragedy.

The Pope said that his message to the people of Pakistan was peace, adding "We all should work together for establishing



KARACHI: Chairman Senate, Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani exchanging views with Kamran Tessori, Governor of Sindh during meeting held at Governor House in Karachi.

Till completion of hearing IHC stops implementation of death sentence on five former Naval officers

ISLAMABAD (Online): Islamabad High Court (IHC) has stopped implementation of death sentence order in respect of five former NAVY officers till the completion of hearing of petition in the court.

These six former officers were court martialled for their involvement in attack on Navy Dockyard in Karachi.

Justice Babar Sattar issued written order on the petition of NAVY officers that they were not given right to fair trial in attack on NAVY Dockyard in Karachi.

It was said in written order as per petitioners they were awarded death sentence in general court martial. They were not provided the assistance of any lawyer during court martial.

interests of state.

ECP reserves verdict on petition to change election tribunal in ICT constituencies

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) reserved its verdict on Tuesday regarding the petition seeking the replacement of election tribunal for three National Assembly constituencies of Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT).

A three-member bench, headed by Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Sikandar Sultan Raja, conducted the hearing of petitions filed by three member national assemblies (MNAs) of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz, who were elected from the federal capital in the last February elections.

Petitioner Tariq Fazal Choudhry's lawyer argued that according to the Code of Civil Procedure (CPC), the tribunal is under the Election Commission. He claimed that a candidate produced a document from

his pocket, which the tribunal promptly accepted.

The lawyer stated that he would not directly quote the language of the Election Tribunal but would adhere to arguing legal points. Nevertheless, the tribunal began imposing fines on the petitioners for their failure to appear before it.

The tribunal's remarks cannot be quoted. Furthermore, Form 45, (submitted by the PTT candidates), was accepted without being cross-checked.

The lawyer claimed that no legal regulation had been adopted and the proceedings were initiated. In response, Chief Election Commissioner Sikandar Sultan Raja inquired whether the lawyer meant to say that a witness would have been produced and cross-checked. The lawyer replied that the trial had not

commenced while the judgment had already issued.

The CEC questioned whether the tribunal should proceed with its judgment. The lawyer argued that under the Election Act, the Commission has the authority to establish and change election tribunals as needed. They suggested appointing retired judges to lead additional tribunals instead. Urging a halt to tribunal proceedings, they emphasized the commission's power to examine counter ballot boxes thoroughly.

The CEC queried the legal basis for halting the proceedings. The lawyer asserted that all powers under the CPC are vested in the Election Commission, allowing it to establish multiple tribunals. They questioned the High Court Registrar's authority to handle such applications.



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister's Coordinator on Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Romina Khurshid Alam in group photo with participants of workshop during closing session organized by Woman Media Center.

CPWB stresses collective commitment to support, protect children affected by aggression

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairperson of Child Protection and Welfare Bureau Punjab Sara Ahmed emphasized the collective responsibility of society on the occasion of International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression to be aware of the effects of all forms of abuse against children. Talking to a private news channel, she said that the International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression is celebrated every year on June 4 to provide an opportunity to recognize and honor these innumerable children around the world including Pakistan.

creates awareness about serious violations of children's rights and calls for action to protect their welfare.

Expressing deep concern over the increasing number of violence against children in the country, she said that children are the most vulnerable members of our society and the impact of violence on their lives is devastating.

She calls on governments, citizens, policymakers, communities, and individuals to prioritize the well-being and rights of children and take concrete steps to prevent and combat aggression against them.

Nationwide anti-polio campaign underway

ISLAMABAD (APP): A varied duration anti-Polio vaccination campaign is underway in full swing across the country where polio workers are visiting door to door to administer anti-polio drops to the children below the age of five.

According to details, transit camps have also been set up at bus stops, hospitals and railway stations to administer polio drops to maximum children.

During the drive, more than 16.2 million children would be administered anti-polio drops.

Provincial Health Minister Syed Qasim Ali Shah talking to a private news channel said that polio was crippling diseases and it was the responsibility of all segments of the society to support the government's efforts to defeat the ailment.



ISLAMABAD: Former Chairman Senate Sadiq Sanjrani shaking hand with the member of Pakistan Football League (PFL) UK in the reception of foreign delegation at local hotel.

DC leads operation against Margalla fires with local support

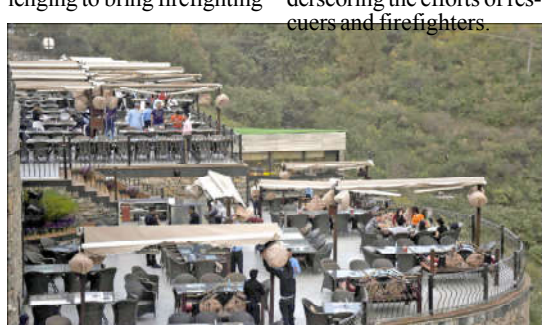
ISLAMABAD (APP): Deputy Commissioner (DC) Islamabad, Irfan Nawaz Memon Tuesday highlighted the ongoing efforts to tackle the fire incidents, with 500 people hired by the Capital Development Authority's (CDA) environment wing this season to act as watchdogs and manual fire control operatives. In recent days, fire incidents have been reported across the Margalla Hills, prompting swift action from the district administration, said the ICT's Administration spokesman.

vehicles or water pipes to the mountains.

The DC confirmed the arrest of three suspects believed to have started some of the fires.

Meanwhile, a main accused also arrested by the district administration and environment wing CDA.

Nawaz also engaged with residents of villages near the hills, holding meetings and making announcements in mosques to seek their cooperation. "We have reminded them that these forests belong to all of us, and we must protect them together," he said. The community has been urged to report any suspicious activities to the authorities concerned. The DC emphasized the difficulty of extinguishing fires on pine leaves, underscoring the efforts of rescuers and firefighters.



ISLAMABAD: People are enjoying food at a local restaurant on Margalla Hills at Pir Sohawa in the Federal Capital.



ISLAMABAD: National Monsoon Coordination Conference-2024 is underway, at National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) Headquarters.

NDMA's monsoon coordination conference 2024 held

ISLAMABAD (APP): The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) on Tuesday convened the National Monsoon Coordination Conference 2024 to take necessary measures by relevant stakeholders for tackling heavy rainfall in the monsoon season.

The two-day day National Monsoon Coordination Conference 2024 and Simulation Exercise commenced here at its Headquarters' National Emergencies Operation Center (NEOC) with all provincial and federal authorities, line departments and stakeholders on board to share prevailing situation.

It's a two-day activity with stakeholders line departments, humanitarian agencies and donor organizations to foster coordination among disaster management stakeholders.

In the welcome remarks, Chairman NDMA, Lt General Inam Haider Malik said it was the first conference on monsoon prior to the rainy season whereas the authority has planned the moot after rigorous consultations of three months before the season.

General Malik underscored that the NEOC was

providing national and regional capability to provide long-term weather forecast for taking preemptive measures before any major disaster. He added that the NEOC could generate in advance projections for ten months that could help provide guidelines for better responses to disasters.

The Chairman NDMA mentioned that the Authority had held numerous simulation exercises to enhance capability of provincial disaster management authorities (PDMA), whereas there was room for scaling up of capabilities at provincial level.

IGP Islamabad chairs meetings with police officers at CPO

Independent Report
ISLAMABAD: According to details, Inspector General of Police (IGP) Islamabad, Syed Ali Nasir

IGP Islamabad, Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi, asked about the pending cases from investigation officers. He directed all officers to



Rizvi, chaired important meetings at the Central Police Office (CPO) Islamabad, a police public relations officer said.

The IGP Islamabad reviewed the performance of the Investigation Wing, conducted an audit of anti-riot equipment in the Law and Order Division, and assessed the ongoing work regarding the revamping of Safe City Islamabad.

review the "Pucar-15" calls and register the cases. Additionally, he instructed the police officers to contact the applicants and gather feedback on the progress made on their applications. He emphasized the need for police officers to improve the quality of their investigations and to ensure that the challans of all cases are submitted to the relevant courts timely.

Chairman CDA ensures quick solutions to public grievances

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman of the Capital Development Authority (CDA), Muhammad Ali Randhawa, attentively listened to the complaints of the individuals on Tuesday and promptly directed the resolution of their issues.

people they serve. He stressed the importance of prioritizing and swiftly resolving the problems brought forward by citizens. To instill confidence and trust in the institution, Randhawa committed to personally engaging with individuals to listen to their concerns and ensure their prompt resolution.

Speaking on the occasion, Muhammad Ali Randhawa emphasized the fundamental duty of public servants was to address the issues faced by the

He directed the implementation of safety protocols for the construction of Park Road.



ISLAMABAD: Chief Guest Former Prime Minister Shahid Khqan Abbasi, and Guest of honour Ambassador of Belgium Charles Delogne awarding a shield to participant of Pakistan Environmental Award held at PNCA in the Federal Capital.

Contributions of Sikh diaspora communities to peace highlighted

ISLAMABAD (APP): The participants of a symposium on Tuesday highlighted the contributions of the Sikh diaspora communities in promoting global peace, harmony, and prosperity as well as the role of the Government of Pakistan in preservation and maintenance of Sikh holy sites in the country.

The symposium titled "Sikhism: Contributions to global peace & prosperity and role in the Far East," was organized by the Institute of Regional Studies (IRS) here.

It gathered experts on the subject from the Far East Region, a news release said.

Speaking on the occasion, Federal Minister for Law and Justice, Azam Nazeer Tarar highlighted the

significance of Pakistan as the birthplace of Sikhism, the respect that the government and the people of Pakistan accorded to Sikh sacred sites, and the warm reception they extended to Sikh pilgrims since the creation of Pakistan.

He lauded the contributions of Sikh diaspora communities to various sectors of economies of their home countries.

The participants of the symposium highlighted that the spirit of Sikhism was deeply embedded in the values of peace, equality, selfless service, and empowerment of communities to take collective action for promoting peace-loving, service-oriented, and inclusive societies.

The participants highlighted that the Sikh diaspora communities al-

ways contributed towards promoting global peace and harmony as well as the rich cultural and spiritual traditions of Sikh religion.

The speakers particularly emphasized the Sikh religious principle of "Seva" (selfless service) as a motivating factor in promotion of harmony among the Sikh diaspora communities and a culture of service to humanity.

The speakers talked about various aspects of the Sikh tradition of selfless service such as feeding the hungry through the free communal kitchens known as Langars.

They shared that Langars served free food to anyone in need irrespective of his or her background.

The participating delegates from Malaysia, and Australia shared specific

KP Governor meets with federal minister, discuss IT promotion

ISLAMABAD (APP): Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Faisal Karim Kundi on Tuesday met with Federal Minister for Science, Khalid Maqbool Siddique in Islamabad and discussed avenues of promoting information technology in the province.

They discussed promotion of information technology in the country, and especially in KP province, said a press release issued here.

KP Governor and federal minister also discussed matters to establish campus

over the subject matter.

Faisal Karim Kundi also suggested to allocate admission quota for students of southern districts in Comsats University and added that he desired to create opportunities for KP youth to venture into field of information technology.

He also highlighted significance of modern technology to compete in the contemporary world and to take country towards progress and development.

Khalid Maqbool Siddique appreciated interest of KP Governor to empower youth and assured



of Comsats University in D I Khan and concerned authorities were directed to prepare a feasibility report

Rominan says: Govt committed to ecosystem restoration, environ. conservation for future generation

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister's Coordinator for Climate Change, Romina Khurshid Alam on Tuesday emphasized that the government was committed to ecosystem restoration and protect the environment for future generations. She was addressing the seminar as chief guest by National Institute of Maritime Affairs (NIMA), in collaboration with the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and Bahria University (BU), to commemorate World Environment Day, a news release said.

Romina Khurshid Alam insisted on the significance of environment day and steps taken by government of Pakistan for ecosystem restoration.

The event brought together eminent government officials, environmental ex-

perts, activists, and students to address pressing environmental issues facing Pakistan's coastal communities. The guests included Norwegian Ambassador Per Albert Ilsaas, Sri Lankan Minister A.Christy Ruban, Farzana Altaf Shah, DG Pakistan Environmental Protection Agency, Amb. Zakarya, Executive Director COMSATS, Gauhar Zahid Malik, President & Executive Editor at Pakistan Observer and Muhammad Ibrahim Khan, WWF-Pakistan's representative.

The theme of the seminar was "Coastal Erosion Management, Mangroves Preservation & Ecosystem Rehabilitation" under the overall United Nation's theme of "Land Restoration, Desertification and Drought Resilience".



ISLAMABAD: Swiss Ambassador to Pakistan, George Steiner meet on Tuesday with Chairman Red Crescent Pakistan Sardar Shahid Ahmed Laghari.

Chairman PRCS meets Swiss Ambassador

ISLAMABAD (INP): Swiss Ambassador to Pakistan, George Steiner on Tuesday commended the Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) for its outstanding service during natural disasters and crises.

The ambassador expressed these views during a meeting with PRCS Chairman Sardar Shahid Ahmad Laghari who visited the Swiss Embassy, said in a Press Release issued here.

He emphasized that all countries had been affected by climate change but Pakistan had suffered particularly severe impacts.

By aiding flood-affected families, Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) fulfilled its duty to humanity in that regard.

The meeting addressed various subjects such as Pak-Swiss relations, mutual cooperation, and the urgent humanitarian

challenges brought about by climate change.

The ambassador Steiner noted that Pakistan ranked seventh on the climate risk index, which was extremely concerning, and emphasized the need for active participation and stringent measures to combat global warming.

He commended Chairman Laghari for his efforts to modernize the PRCS and enhance diplomatic relations. Additionally, he acknowledged the significant actions taken by PRCS under Laghari's leadership, highlighting the ongoing and future initiatives dedicated to serving humanity. Furthermore, the ambassador assured new avenues of support for PRCS. The meeting concluded with both parties exchanging commemorative souvenirs, marking the occasion as a step forward in fostering deeper collaboration.

Participants of symposium expressed their appreciation for the preservation and upkeep of the Sikh holy sites in Pakistan.

They maintained that important holy sites like Gurdwara Janam Asthan in Nankana Sahib, Gurdwara Darbar Sahib in Kartarpur, and Gurdwara Panja Sahib in Hassanabdal were preserved and maintained well by the local Sikh communities with the support of the Government of Pakistan.

Among the key participants of the symposium were Prof. Dr. Harwinder Singh, Founder, Harvey Gill Associates (Malaysia); Adv. Dato Pretam Singh, Founder, Pretam Singh Nor

& Co. (Malaysia); Mr. Gurbax Singh Bains, Supreme Sikh Council (Australia); Professor Dr. Manjit Singh, Partner, MSSMR (Malaysia); and Adv. Sucha Singh, former President of the Malaysian Gurdwara Council.

The speakers also shared information about the activities either directly organized or participated in by leaders of the Sikh diaspora communities for the promotion of interfaith harmony.

They mentioned several interfaith conferences and events they had participated in or organized in their countries.

They further shared that the Sikh communities were also active in the education sector through establishment of schools and provision of scholarships.

The participants highlighted the importance of peace, tolerance, and inclusivity and the need to build a more peaceful and

CM Murad inaugurates training centre for persons with disabilities

Distributes Rs 71m among NGOs working for differently-abled persons

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah inaugurated a Vocational Training Centre for Persons with Disabilities here on Tuesday.

The ceremony was attended by provincial secretaries, notables and heads of different NGOs working for persons with disabilities.

The CM was told that 240 persons with disabilities, including 120 girls have been enrolled at the Vocation Centre and they are being imparted vocational training.

Out of 240 students, 60 have been enrolled in Computer Science, 72 in Tailoring, 48 in Beautification and 60 in Mobile Repair.

The CM directed the Secretary DEPD to run the centre effectively and he would provide more facilities and equipment if needed.

Syed Murad Ali Shah distributed cheques worth Rs 71.252 million to NGOs working for the purchase of assistive devices for differently-abled persons. The cheque distribution ceremony was held at the Chief Minister's House and attended by Secretary to CM Raheem Shaikh, Secretary of the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPD) Tauha Farooqi, heads of the NGOs and rehabilitation centers.

The Chief Minister said that his government has established rehabilitation centers for disabled persons across the province to facilitate parents to enroll their differently-abled children to become effective members of society.

The NGOs given cheques include Ida Rieu Welfare Association Rs 29.135 million, JS Academy of Noor-e-Ali Trust Rs 10 million, Marie Adelaide Leprosy Centre (MALC) Rs 11.446 million, Autism Care & Rehabilitation Organization (ACRO) Rs 1.557 million, Pakistan Association of Blind (PAB) National Rs 9.430 million, Special Children School Karsaz of Pak navy Rs 4.178 million, Imran Rehabilitation Centre (Shareef Haroon Trust) Rs 3.5 million, NGO for Development of Special Persons (NDSF).



KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister, Syed Murad Ali Shah along with disable persons unveils the plaque during inauguration ceremony of the Vocational Training Centre for Persons with Disabilities Ancholi, held at CM House in Karachi.

CM Punjab orders to meet deadline for rehabilitation of roads across Punjab

Maryam also launches Kisan Card to facilitate farmers

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif has directed the authorities concerned to ensure to meet deadline for the construction, repair and rehabilitation of roads across Punjab.

She was chairing a meeting to review progress on the construction, expansion and rehabilitation of roads in the province, here on Tuesday.

The chief minister was briefed in detail about the progress made so far in the roads maintenance program in the Province. She was also briefed on the

construction and maintenance of 5 major expressways in Punjab.

Minister for Communication & Works Malik Soheb Ahmed Bharat, and Secretary C&W Sohail Ashraf attended the meeting.

Meanwhile, Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif has initiated the registration process for the Kisan Card, underscoring her commitment to boosting the productivity and prosperity of farmers.

Under the project, agricultural loans worth Rs 300 billion will be given to

farmers annually. 500,000 farmers in Punjab, owning up to 12.5 acres of agriculture land, will be able to benefit from the project. The CM informed that in order to apply for the card, land must be registered in Land Record Center, and the mobile SIM must be registered against applicant's own ID card number. Maryam Nawaz Sharif said every farmer will be able to get an easy loan of up to Rs 150,000 for one crop season using Kisan Card. Farmers will be able to buy fertilizers, seeds and other agricultural inputs with the card.

Cooperation with Qatar will be further increased in various fields: Governor

LAHORE: The Ambassador of Qatar to Pakistan, Ali Bin Mubarak Al Khattar called on Punjab Governor, Sardar Saleem Haider Khan at Governor House Lahore, here today. Both sides discussed cooperation between the two countries in trade and other fields.

Speaking on the occasion, Punjab Governor, Sardar Saleem Haider Khan said that Pakistan and Qatar have brotherly relations. He said that cooperation with Qatar will be further increased in various fields. Punjab Governor said that the Pakistani workforce is playing the role of a strong bridge between the two countries. He said that Pakistan is grateful to the government of Qatar for hosting the expatriates. Governor Punjab said that Pakistan wants to benefit from Qatar's expertise in the Oil and Gas sectors. He appreciated Qatar for showing Islamic teachings and values to the whole world during the hosting of the Football World Cup. Governor Punjab said that Pakistan is a peaceful country and its people are loving and hospitable. Governor Punjab said that the world needs to be shown the real face of Pakistan.



LAHORE: Ambassador of Qatar to Pakistan, Ali Bin Mubarak Al Khattar called on Punjab Governor, Sardar Saleem Haider Khan at Governor House.

KP Govt to declare Dara Adam Khel as Commercial City, KP Finance Minister

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Minister for Finance and Law Aftab Alam Afridi Advocate has said that FATA University is going through an evolutionary process and we are confident that this university will perform better not only nationally but also internationally.

He assured that the provincial government will solve the problems being faced by FATA University on priority basis. He said that Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is rich enough in great natural resources, but unfortunately the federal government is in control of our resources and has robbed our rights. "We are making full use of every forum to achieve our rights and also recorded its protest to the Federation," he added.

He expressed these views while addressing as guest of honor at the opening ceremony of academic blocks at FATA University in Adam Khel on Tuesday, in which Provincial Minister for Higher Education Meena Khan Afridi was the chief guest while Sher Ali Afridi MPA specially participated in the event. The Finance Minister on this occasion announced that the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government is going to declare Dara Adam Khel as a commercial city and the Chief Minister will formally inaugurate it soon.

Health minister visits THQ Hospital Kalar Kahar, inspects health facilities

LAHORE (APP): Provincial Health Minister Khawaja Salman Rafique on Tuesday paid a surprise visit to Trauma Centre Tehsil Headquarters Hospital, Kalar Kahar, and inspected the health facilities being provided to the patients there.

Medical Superintendent Trauma Centre, Chief Executive Officer Chakwal and Assistant Commissioner Sahil Cheema along with other faculty members were also present on the occasion.

The minister said, "We discussed about the up-gradation with the management of the trauma centre. Unfortunately, the previous government did not think of the improvement of Kalar Kahar trauma centre". During the PML-N government.



KARACHI: Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM-P) Rabita Committee Senior Deputy Convener, Syed Mustafa Kamal along with others addresses to media persons during press conference held at Pakistan House in Karachi.

Performance of food dept remained exemplary in 100 days: Minister

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Food Minister Bilal Yaseen said that the Punjab Chief Minister has fulfilled the promise of providing affordable and quality food to the public and during the first 100 days of the provincial government, the performance of the Food Department remained exemplary.

He said this while addressing a seminar organized by the Pakistan Dairy Association in a local hotel on Tuesday. He said that it was the most valuable relief for 130 million people in the first 100 days of the government and under the leadership of Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz, Punjab has taken a lead in significantly reducing the prices of food items.

Prices of flour, wheat, roti, naan, and semolina have decreased by up to 48% in the first 100 days, with the availability of affordable and quality food, the issue of food affordability for the common man has been resolved, he added.



HYDERABAD: Governor Sindh Kamran Tesori distribute cheques to the relatives of Cylinder Blast Victims and talking to them during his visit at incident area Pretabad Hyderabad.

Religious scholars' conference reaffirms to promote harmony in society

MUZAFFARABAD (APP): A religious conference organized here on Tuesday by Majlis Ulema Azad Jammu and Kashmir in collaboration with the Department of Religious Affairs Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Sufi Forum and Ulama Mashaikh Council reaffirmed its commitment to play vital role for creating solidarity and harmony in the society and guiding the people to firmly stand with the armed forces of Pakistan for ensuring integrity and security of the country.

The conference titled "Role of Pulpit and Mehrab in Creating Religious Harmony and National Unity" was presided over by renowned scholar, Maulana Syed Muhammad Abdul Khabair Azad while Chairman Islamic Ideological Council Allama Dr. Mufti Muhammad Raghab Hussain Naimi was the chief guest.

The conference was attended by Chief Secretary Azad Kashmir Muhammad Daood Muhammad Breach, Secretary Religious Affairs and Auqaf Sardar Muhammad Zaffar Khan, member Legislative Assembly Pir Syed Ali Raza Bukhari, besides Ulema and scholars of all sects including Pir Amitaz Ahmed Siddiqui, Allama Kifayat Hussain Naqvi, Maulana Intiaz Ahmed Abbasi, Maulana Zaid Bustan, Maulana Maqsood Ahmad Tauhidi, Allama Asif Akbar Qadi, Maulana Mushtaq Qadi, Allama Azmat Hayat, Mufti Abdul Khaliq, Allama Syed Sadiq Naqvi, Dr. Shaheen Kausar, Maulana Abdul Majid, Maulana Saleem Ijaz, Qazi Shahid Hameed, Maulana Ayub Khan Saqib, Maulana Mumtazul Haque Qasmi, Syed Tofail Kazmi, Maulana Abdul Ghaffar Salafi, Mufti Muhammad Ahmad Khan, Maulana Daniyal Shahab.



LAHORE: Consul General of China Zhao Shiren, and Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Syeda Fateeha Zahra Kazmi visiting the exhibition regarding Pak-China Culture and Environment at Home Economics College University of the provincial capital.

Qasim Shah visits Dogra Hospital in Bara Tehsil, Khyber District

PESHAWAR: Health Minister Syed Qasim Ali Shah, accompanied by MNA Iqbal Afridi, MPA Abdul Ghani and Sohail Afridi visited the Category D Dogra Hospital in Bara Tehsil, Khyber District. During his visit, tribal elders and local leaders honoured the minister with a traditional tribal turban.

Minister Shah inaugurated a 90 KVA solarisation project at the hospital. He also opened a water filtration plant for clean drinking water, a newly constructed conference room, and a new laboratory. Additionally, the minister administered polio drops to a child at the hospital.

While inspecting the ongoing outpatient department (OPD) services, Minister Shah listened to the patients' concerns and assured that the staffing shortages at Dogra Hospital would be addressed soon. He emphasized his commitment to prioritizing healthcare services in the tribal districts, acknowledging the hardships faced by the tribal people.

He noted that medicines were dispatched a week ago and that his visit was to ensure their proper delivery and use.

PTI's election symbol plea referred to larger bench

LAHORE (APP): The Lahore High Court (LHC) on Tuesday referred a petition, filed by the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) challenging the Election Commission of Pakistan's (ECP) authority to withdraw a political party's election symbol, to the LHC chief justice with a request to fix the matter before a larger bench for further hearing.

The court held that identical petitions were already pending before the larger bench, therefore, it would be appropriate

ANF recovers 49 kg drugs in five operations

RAWALPINDI (APP): Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) in its ongoing operations against drug trafficking conducted five raids across the country and managed to recover 49 kg drugs and arrest three accused, said an ANF Headquarters spokesman here on Tuesday.

He informed that 4.4 kg ice was recovered from a parcel booked for Australia at a courier office in Islamabad. 424 grams of ice was recovered from a passenger going to Doha at Islamabad Airport while 35 kg hashish was recovered from Panjgur.



LAHORE: Provincial Health Minister and Emergency Services Khawaja Salman Rafique talking to patient during his surprise visit to Trauma Centre Tehsil Headquarters Hospital, Kalar Kahar.

Meena Afridi says: Federal Govt should pay Rs. 2000 billion arrears to KP

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Minister for Higher Education and Libraries Meena Khan Afridi while expressing his extreme concern over the news of the closure of funds for the provincial universities by the Prime Minister, who imposed an educational emergency in the country. The Provincial Minister demanded that instead of closing the funds of the universities, it should be enhanced. Despite this, as

Efforts underway to control spread of dengue: Zaneera

RAWALPINDI (APP): Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Headquarters Zaneera Aftab on Tuesday said efforts were underway to control the spread of dengue larvae and no negligence would be tolerated. Chairing a meeting to review anti-dengue arrangements, she directed the health officials to expedite anti-dengue surveillance activities for tracing larvae, adding better results could be achieved if surveillance was carried out under an effective.



KARACHI: Garbage collectors take usable items from a dump site on the eve of World Environment Day in the Port City. World Environment Day (WED) is celebrated every year on 5 June to raise global awareness to take positive environmental action to protect nature and the planet Earth.

Two criminals injured during encounter with police

MULTAN (APP): Two criminals were shot injured by the firing of their own accomplices during an exchange of fire with police near Jalal Baqri graveyard in premises of Chehyak police station here on Tuesday early hours. According to police sources, two criminals Ameer Hamza s/o Abdul Qayyum and Sajawal s/o Amjad Ali were in police custody in the cases number 43/24 and 1988/23 under sections 394, 302/392/411 respectively.

UN experts urge all countries to recognise Palestinian statehood

Monitoring Desk GENEVA: A group of United Nations experts called on Monday for all countries to recognise a Palestinian state to ensure peace in the Middle East.

mediate declaration of a ceasefire in Gaza and no further military incursions into Rafah," they said. "A two-state solution remains the only internationally agreed path to peace and security for both Palestine and Israel and a way out of generational cycles of violence and resentment."

recognise a Palestinian state, saying they bolster Hamas. Some 55 per cent of all structures in the Gaza Strip have been destroyed, damaged or possibly damaged since war erupted in the Palestinian territory eight months ago, according to preliminary satellite analysis by the UN.



Sebastien Delogu, deputy for La France Insoumise (LFI) party attends a pro-Palestinian protest in central Paris, France.

Japan's Nagasaki holds off inviting Israel to peace ceremony

Monitoring Desk TOKYO: The Israeli ambassador to Japan has not yet been invited to Nagasaki's annual peace ceremony, said city officials who instead sent the embassy a letter calling for a Gaza ceasefire.

Russia's foreign minister again visits Africa, this time in Guinea, as some ties cool with the West

Monitoring Desk CONAKRY: Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov arrived Monday in Guinea on his latest visit to West Africa, where coups and growing discontent with traditional allies like France and the United States have contributed to some countries' shift toward Moscow.

Labour poised for 'biggest majority' in 100 years

Monitoring Desk LONDON: The UK's Labour Party appears poised for its largest parliamentary majority in a century, it emerged on Monday.

UN forecasts La Nina could help lower temperatures this year

Monitoring Desk GENEVA: The return of the cooling La Nina weather phenomenon this year should help lower temperatures somewhat after months of global heat records, the United Nations' weather agency said on Monday.



Conservation technician at the National Museum Nina Wajman talks to the media in front of artworks, rescued from Boersen during the fire, at the National Museum's warehouse in Vingø, Denmark.

China accuses MI6 of using state workers to spy for UK

Monitoring Desk BEIJING: China on Monday accused Britain's Secret Intelligence Service (MI6) of recruiting a couple who worked for the central government to spy for the UK, adding to months of mutual espionage allegations between Beijing and Western powers.

Palestinians say Israeli forces kill two in West Bank

Monitoring Desk NABLUS: Palestinian officials said Israeli forces shot dead two Palestinians in the occupied West Bank on Monday, as Israeli police confirmed undercover agents had killed a wanted man in the territory.

Table with columns: S. No, T.S.No, Name of Work, E/Cost. Contains multiple entries for solar system installations and other construction work.

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Jury selection begins in Hunter Biden's criminal trial

Monitoring Desk WILMINGTON: Jury selection kicked off in a criminal case against Hunter Biden, a historic prosecution that could further influence the 2024 presidential election four days after Joe Biden's rival Donald Trump became the first former US president to be convicted.

Three arrested after coffins found at Eiffel Tower

Monitoring Desk PARIS: French police arrested three people on Monday after five empty coffins wrapped in French flags with the words "French soldiers from Ukraine" written on them were found near the Eiffel Tower on Saturday.

President reaffirms Pak commitment to protect environment through innovative solutions, partnerships

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Asif Ali Zardari has reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to protect environment and surmount environment related challenges to ensure a healthier, safer and more resilient planet for the future generations.

The president, in a message on the occasion of World Environment Day being observed on June 5, said that the Day highlighted "our shared responsibility" to protect the environment for the future generations.

Issues of land degradation, desertification, and droughts. "Pakistan is among the few countries that have been most affected by the adverse impacts of climate change. During the past few years, Pakistan has witnessed diverse climate phenomena, including floods, droughts, heatwaves, and forest fires," he added.

Although Pakistan was taking steps to tackle desertification, land degradation and drought through the restoration of degraded forests, and agricultural lands, but much more needed to be done, he stressed. "We need to adopt sustainable land management practices, and water conservation techniques, besides supporting community action to promote forestation in the rural and urban residential areas," he opined.



QUETTA: Senator Dostain Domki, Parliamentary Secretary Muhammad Khan Lehri, MPA Zarak Khan Mandokhail and Chairman BDA Captain (ret'd) Javed meeting with Governor Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail

Vision & conscious efforts needed to achieve goal of quality education: Governor

Independent Report QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail has stated that the slogans of quality education are attractive and pleasing, but the getting concrete results are conditional with the vision and conscious struggle in practical field.

Chancellor of University of Lorailai, Dr Ehsanullah Kakar, Principal Secretary to Governor, Hashim Khan Ghilzai were also present on the occasion. The Governor appreciated the initiatives of digitalization and conversion of electricity on the solar system in the University of Balochistan.

Blood donation camp for thalassemia patients held

GWADAR (INP): In Gwadar, Rural Health Center Ormara organized a blood donation camp for thalassemia patients with the support of local community and Pakistan Army.

Bilawal grieves over deaths of miners in gas, labourers in firing incidents KARACHI (APP): The Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has expressed his grief and sorrow over the deaths of miners and labourers in two separate incidents of gas leakage and firing in Balochistan.



QUETTA: MPA Sheikh Zarak Khan Mandokhail meeting with Provincial Minister Sardar Abdul Rehman Khetran

Situation of gender based violence in Balochistan reviewed

QUETTA (APP): A meeting under the chairmanship of Advisor to the Chief Minister on Women Development Department, Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi, here on Tuesday held to review the situation of gender-based violence in Balochistan.

head of UNFPA Balochistan. Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi emphasized the need for necessary amendments in laws, formation of rules of business, and implementation of laws to prevent gender-based violence.

Tarar grieved over demise of senior journalist Amir's mother

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaullah Tarar on Tuesday expressed deep grief and sorrow over the death of the mother of senior journalist Amir Sajjad Syed.

Heatwaves intensify crisis for millions in Pakistan, warns IRC

ISLAMABAD (INP): As Pakistan braces for severe heatwaves, the International Rescue Committee (IRC) has issued a dire warning about the escalating threat posed by rising temperatures. With 8.6 million people already facing food insecurity, the heatwaves are expected to impact up to 26 districts, compounding the devastating effects of recent droughts and extreme flooding.

families. The educational sector has also suffered, particularly in Sindh and Balochistan, the provinces hardest hit by the heatwaves and floods. An IRC report revealed that the educational disruption caused by the 2022 floods exceeded the impact of the two-year COVID-19 school closures. Since March 2020, 2 million children in Pakistan have been unable to access education, with another 3.5 million experiencing ongoing interruptions due to the floods.

sized the disproportionate impact of climate change on Pakistan, despite the country generating less than 1% of global greenhouse gas emissions. "The devastating impact that extreme weather events are having on communities across Pakistan cannot be underestimated," Baloch stated. "Heatwaves, in particular, can have long-lasting and far-reaching effects on future generations." The IRC report highlighted that 14% of surveyed households in Sindh reported disruptions to their children's education due to heatwaves.



ISLAMABAD: The Federal Minister for Economic Affairs, Ahad Khan Cheema, chairs the 4th meeting of the International Partners Support Group (IPSG) at the Prime Minister's Office.

Pakistan seeks to emulate Chinese economic model: PM Shehbaz

'We are coming with serious plans; to return with great dividends': PM conveys to Chinese firms

ISLAMABAD (APP): As Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif departed for a five-day official visit to China, he reiterated the commitment to strengthening bilateral ties by engaging in discussions with Chinese business leaders to secure investments and yield dividends, mutually beneficial for companies on both sides.

ends that will benefit Chinese and Pakistani companies and the two countries will have their relations strengthened and become much higher than the Himalayas or any other highest peaks and deeper than the deepest oceans," the prime minister said in an interview with the representatives of different Chinese media groups including Xinhua news agency, national broadcaster CCTV and CGTN Urdu, prior to his first official visit to China after assuming office.

He said through the visit, Pakistan hoped to promote interaction between enterprises in both countries, utilize Special Economic Zones and Pakistan's labor advantages to establish joint ventures, facilitate the transfer of industries and technologies, and enhance Pakistan's manufacturing output, to promote constructing upgraded China-Pakistan Economic Corridor.

Naval Chief for addressing grave threats to marine ecosystems due to anthropogenic activities

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Naveed Ashraf on Tuesday demanded the stakeholders and nation as a whole to address the grave threats to marine ecosystems due to the anthropogenic activities posing serious risk to marine life and ecology.

ness on the challenges facing our environment such as; pollution, illegal wildlife trade, unsustainable consumption, rising sea levels and food insecurity. This year's theme for the WED is 'Land Restoration, Desertification, and Drought Resilience'.

Court orders for immediately de-sealing PTI Central Secretariat

ISLAMABAD (Online): Islamabad High Court (IHC) has ordered to de-seal immediately Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Central Secretariat.

In his message in connection to the World Environment Day issued by the Pakistan Navy, the Admiral said, "World Environment Day" (WED) is observed on 5th of June each year and calls for protecting our natural surroundings.

The occasion will serve as a stark reminder of the urgent need to protect our land, sea, and everything in between. He said, "Pakistan's long coastline provides access to rich resources of livelihood for millions of people. Our marine resources are a treasure trove of biodiversity that support a vast array of marine life, from majestic sea turtles to colourful coral reefs."

Justice Saman Riffat Intiaz of IHC issued reserved decision on Tuesday. The court accepted PTI petition against Capital Development Authority (CDA) and ordered to de-seal the office immediately.



QUETTA: Central President Tehreek Ittehad Sadaat Pakistan and Provincial President PML Ulema Mashaikh Wing Syed Saifur Rehman Taran, SR Nasir and Rafiqur Rehman Sanjrani meeting with acting Chairman Senate Saydal Khan Nassar

Provision of timely & quality facilities to people of Kalat included in priority, says Zia

Independent Report QUETTA: The Provincial Minister for Home and Tribal Affairs, Mir Ziaullah Langove has stated that provision of timely and quality facilities to the people of Kalat is included in his top priorities.

was briefed about the measures in context of the provision of facilities in the phase-II of Khaliqabad complex. He was briefed in detail about the sub-divisional complex, sports complex, 30-bedded hospital and PHE boring in the complex.

Vawda refuses to apologise over his anti-judiciary outburst

ISLAMABAD (Online): Senator Faisal Vawda has refused to tender unconditional apology in contempt of court case.

The Executive Engineer B&R Abdul Ghaffar Mandokhail and Executive Engineer Public Health Engineering briefed the Minister Home. The Minister Home

On the other hand Mustafa Kamal has tendered unconditional apology. He has filed reply as well. Senator Faisal Vawda filed his reply in connection with contempt of court notice in Supreme Court (SC). Faisal Vawda said in the reply that press conference was not aimed at committing contempt of court.

Dummar grieves over 11 deaths in Sanjdi Coal Mine

HARNAI (APP): Provincial Minister Haji Noor Muhammad Khan Dummar expressed his grief over the death of 11 workers in Sanjdi Coal Mine, Harnai on Tuesday. According to details, Provincial Minister for Food and leader of Pakistan Muslim League-N (PML-N), Haji Noor Muhammad Khan Dummar, expressed profound sorrow and grief over the tragic death of 11 workers due to the accumulation of toxic gas in a coal mine in Sanjdi, Quetta.

Sharing the grief of the bereaved families, the minister said that Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti has taken notice of the incident and a case has been registered against those responsible. He stated that transparent investigations have been ordered into this heart-wrenching incident. Action will be taken against those who displayed negligence and failed to comply with mining regulations.

Its purpose was betterment of the country. Court should exercise restraint in moving forward contempt of court proceedings. The contempt of court notice be withdrawn. Faisal Vawda presented scripts of speeches of Maulana Fazlur Rehman, Rauf Hassan and Shehbaz Sharif. His reply contains 16 pages. On the other hand Mustafa Kamal has tendered unconditional apology. Hearing of case will take place today (Wednesday).



HUB: Members of District Bar Association are holding protest demonstration for acceptance of their demands, at District and Session Court premises.

EAD commends global support at fourth IPSG meeting

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Economic Affairs, Ahad Khan Cheema on Tuesday commended the global support in chairing the 4th meeting of the International Partners Support Group (IPSG) at the Prime Minister's Office Islamabad.

enue, Foreign Affairs, Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, and the Climate Change Division. Additionally, representatives from bilateral and multilateral development partners, including ambassadors from Azerbaijan, Sweden, Kazakhstan, Norway, Australia, and diplomats from Germany, China, UAE, South Korea, USA, Qatar, Turkey, Netherlands, Russia, Japan, France, Switzerland, as well as officials from the Canadian and British High Commissions, participated in the event.

This meeting marked almost two years since the devastating floods of 2022, aiming to review the progress of flood recovery and realign efforts for a resilient Pakistan, said a press release issued here.

Representatives from various international organizations such as UNDP, World Bank, ADB, IMF, AIB, UNRC, EU, KfW, UNICEF, IsDB, WFP, AICS, and USAID were also present.



SHENZHEN: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif arrives in Shenzhen on his 5-day official visit of China.

IHC says: If date is not given for LB polls in IBD then contempt of court notice will be issued to FG, EC

ISLAMABAD (Online): Islamabad High Court (IHC) has sought report within 7 days for holding Local Bodies (LB) election in Islamabad.

Justice Mohsin Akhtar Kayani inquired from Election Commission (EC) authorities why the local bodies election are not being held.

IHC also suspended property tax notices on new rate. Justice Mohsin Akhtar Kayani remarked CDA is causing destruction in all the city in the name of MCI. You levied taxes of millions of rupees without local government.

EC authorities told schedule has been given with reference to delimitation of constituencies. Justice Mohsin Akhtar Kayani remarked delimitation has been done to the extent of 125 union councils.

The case regarding non holding local bodies election in federal capital came for hearing before single bench of IHC led by Justice Mohsin Akhtar Kayani Tuesday. Barrister Umar Ijaz Gillani and other lawyers appeared on behalf of the petitioners.

There is no need of new constituencies. This is Supreme Court (SC) decision and IHC decision too that local government election have to be held. Are all the governments including PTI founder, Nawaz Sharif and Shehbaz Sharif responsible for it that no one held local government election in Islamabad.

Justice Mohsin Akhtar Kayani remarked the petitioners will have to deposit property tax at old rates. They will be able to levy tax following the approval by the local government.



KILLA SAIFULLAH: MPA Molvi Noorullah visiting center of Benazir Income Support Program

All communities enjoying religious freedom in Pakistan: Law Minister

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Law and Justice, Senator Azam Nazeer Tarar on Tuesday said that all religions were enjoying complete religious freedom in Pakistan.

role in the development of the country. He further said that promotion of interfaith harmony was need of the hour.

Addressing a ceremony, he welcomed all the people of the Sikh community who arrived in Pakistan. The minister said that the people of this country respected the traditions of Sikh community as there was a strong connection between the two sides. The Sikh community has vibrant

Azam Nazeer Tarar said that teaching of "Guru Nanak" negate the materialism, adding that no religion permits for hate and violence. Service to the humanity should be our mission, he said, adding that the Prime Minister of Pakistan has sent his greetings to the Sikh community.

Pak & Saint Vincent, Grenadines establish formal diplomatic ties

UNITED NATIONS (APP): Pakistan and Saint Vincent, an island country in the eastern Caribbean, Monday established formal diplomatic relations between the two countries.

lomatic relations between the two countries. Welcoming Ambassador King to the Pakistan Mission, the Pakistani envoy said that Pakistan and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines have had a long tradition of a 'warm, close and cooperative' relationship at the UN. "The establishment of formal diplomatic relationship between the two friendly countries will lead to further deepening of ties," Ambassador Akram said.

Akram said. "We now look forward to more intensive interaction between the tourists, business delegations, and the people of the two countries." Describing Saint Vincent and Grenadines envoy as an ally, Ambassador Akram lauded her strong advocacy at multiple UN forums, especially as president of ECOSOC, saying that her leadership was an example of how small nations can make a big contribution.