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Bugti emphasises crucial role of education in democracy and societal advancement

CM announced the inauguration of a new graduate scholarship aimed at empowering a deserving Balochistan student to pursue STEM subjects at Oxford

ISLAMABAD (APP): cluding Professor Stephen The Oxford Pakistan Blyth (Principal of LMH), Programme ("OPP") Helen Mountfield KC future aspirations. hosted its annual may din-ner & fundraiser at the University of Oxford.

The dinner was attended by around 150 distinguished guests, including Malala Yousafzai, Chief Minister of Balochistan Sarfaraz Bugti, Aamir Ibrahim, Mohammed Khaishgi, Farouq Sheikh OBE, Professor Kamal Munir (Pro-Vice-Chancellor at the University of Cambridge), Farmida Bi CBE, Senator Anwaar ul Haq Kakar, and Sarwar Khawaja.

Senior academics and administrators from within the University of Oxford ure at this historical college were also in attendance, in-

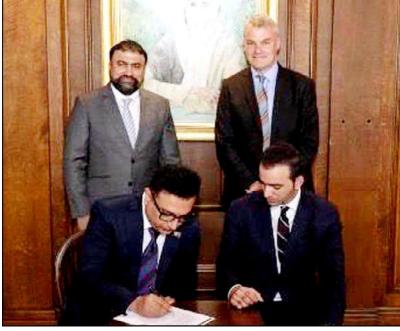
tween past leadership and (Principal of Mansfield College), Professor Speaking to a distin-guished audience, he Professor Jonathan Michie (Pro-Viceemphasised the crucial role Chancellor of the Univerof education in democracy sity of Oxford), Professor and societal advancement. Petra Schleiter (Joint Head of the Politics Departner marks a significant milement), Professor Paul Chaisty (Head of the Ox-

stone in our commitment to nurturing future leaders from Balochistan and in his ford School of Global and Area Studies), and Dr address. On this note, the Samina Khan (Director of CM announced the inauguration of a new graduate scholarship aimed at em-Undergraduate Admissions & Outreach), said a press

powering a deserving Balochistan student to pur-On this occasion, Chief Minister of Balochistan, sue STEM subjects at Ox-Mir Sarfaraz Bugti, comford. He articulated how memorated the profound legacy of Mohtarma this initiative not only addresses educational dispari-Benazir Bhutto, whose ten-

Continued on page 2

He stated that this din-



Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti witnessing signing of scholarships agreement between Oxford Pakistan program and University of Oxford for the students from Balochistan

Those talking of isolation of Pakistan living in fool's paradise: Ishaq Dar

Deputy PM urges healthcare professionals to serve needy, deserving with compassion, empathy

ISLAMABAD (Online): Deputy Prime Minister (DPM) and foreign minister Ishaq Dar has said those talking of isolation of Pakistan at international level are living in fool's paradise.

Young doctors have pivotal role in the society. Saving life of one man is tantamount to save the whole humanity. Doctors should work in professional manner, he said this while addressing convocation of HBS Dental and Medical

tors to work in professional manner. They should treat the patients in friendly manner

ing work on fast paced basis for betterment in all sec-

restoring our lost prestige, he added.

APP adds: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar on Saturday urged healthcare professionals to stay committed to their noble profession by undertaking the responsibility towards the needy with compassion and

empathy. Addressing a convoca tion ceremony of HBS Medical and Dental Col lege, the deputy prime minister said that in the

Live-streaming of NAB amendments case can be misused politically: SC

Says apprehensions about hearings being used for "political purposes and point scoring" proved correct when Imran Khan detoured in speech

ISLAMABAD (INP) - The consideration when we had Supreme Court on Saturday issued detailed verdict while justifying its earlier rejection of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government's plea for live-streaming the NAB amendments case hearing

In the detailed order is-sued on Saturday, the apex court said that the plea of government was rejected as it wasn't a case of public interest.

The broadcasting of the court proceedings of cases involving politicians can be used for political point-scoring", the SC stated in its detailed order. Not every case can be live-streamed, observed the top court. "This was a paramount

Shehbaz Sharif to slash

the prices of petroleum

litre and diesel price by

Rs7.9 per litre for the next

leum products have seen a

products.

inflation.

Rs3.86 per litre.

the last fortnight.

dismissed the application. And, our apprehension proved correct later in the day. When Mr. Niazi [PTI founder Imran Khan] ad-dressed this Court on (30 May 2024) he also mentioned other cases, the general elections held on 8 Feb-ruary 2023, a commission of inquiry and his incarceration; all these matters have nothing to do with the subject matter of these appeals. This cannot be permitted as it would thwart the proper administration of justice, read the order.

The case was heard by a five-member SC larger bench headed by Chief Justice Oazi Faez Isa and com-

Continued on page 2



KHALIQABAD: Home Minister Mir Ziaullah Lango listening problems of people at Kot Lango

Finance Ministry defies **PM** directives to



QUETTA: Different delegations meeting with Governor Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail

Federal minister calls for minority judges in higher judiciary

release

Pakistan reports college here Saturday. He held the services of fourth polio case of 2024

Prime Minister (PM) Shehbaz Share are commendable in education field. Significant steps are being taken for betterment in health department.

It is obligation of doc-Government is continu-

We will soon succeed in

Continued on page 2

LAHORE (APP): Federal Minister for Law, Justice and Human Rights Senator Azam Nazir Tarar has expressed his aspiration for judges from minority communities to join Pakistan's higher judiciary.

Speaking at the Justice A.R. Cornelius Conference held at a local hotel on Saturday, he emphasized the importance of religious freedom and minority rights in Pakistan. The event was organized by the Bright Future Society and Implementation Minority Rights Forum Pakistan.

Pakistan's Constitution guarantees complete religious freedom, aligning with Islamic teachings on the

cisions benefiting minorities, and lauded Justice Cornelius for his legacy of equal justice. Supreme Court Justice Mansoor Ali He highlighted that Shah echoed Tarar's sentinoting the ments, Constitution's protection of minority rights and advocating for the appoint-

rights of minorities. ment of minority judges to He lamented the decline the higher judiciary.

LAHORE: Federal Minister for Law and Justice, Azam Nazeer Tarrar, addressing the Justice AR **Cornelius Conference 2024.**

Vietnamese envoy's wife found hours after going missing in Islamabad the search for the

ambassador's wife. He also

directed Rizvi to personally

visit the ambassador's resi

dence, brief him on the ef-

forts, and gather more in-

tice, seven additional police

teams were formed. They

were provided with photo-

graphs of the ambassador's

wife and utilised Safe City

cameras to trace her move-

ments from F-8/1, where

she had left her home.

Following Naqvi's no-

formation.

Independent Report ISLAMABAD: The wife of Vietnam's ambassador was found by federal police within an hour of Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi's notice. She had gone missing after leaving home in a distressed state. According to police sources, the ambassador reported to the Margalla police station and the police helpline on Sunday af-

ternoon that his wife had left their residence at 11am for a beauty parlour but had not returned after several hours.

In response, a police team was formed under the supervision of SP City. Interior Minister Naqvi, currently on a visit to the UK, took notice of the situation and instructed IGP Sved Ali Nasir Rizvi to expedite

kistan on Saturday rein religious tolerance postported the fourth poliovi-Afghan war but reiterated rus case of the current year, Quaid-e-Azam sources within the Ministry of Muhammad Ali Jinnah's National Health said. vision of a united, tolerant society. He mentioned onfrom Bharkan union going efforts to establish a council in Sindh's Minority Rights Commis-Shikarpur district besion and proposed reserv-

came the latest victim. ing quotas for minority law The health department officers and legal advisors. official said the virus was He praised retired Jusdetected in stool samples tice Tassaduq Hussain collected from a child, add-Jillani for his landmark deing that he had developed symptoms of paralysis on May 21.

This is the fourth polio case in 2024 as Pakistan had earlier reported three cases. All of the previous three cases reported this year were from Balochistan.

Pakistan and Afghanistan are the only two countries in the world where the poliovirus, which causes paralysis and can be a lifethreatening disease, is endemic.

Last year, six polio cases were reported in the country which included four from the northwestern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) province and two from the southern port city of Karachi

FIA issues notices to PTI bigwigs over uploading of controversial video

of the Pakistani diaspora. ISLAMABAD (INP) - The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) issued noof CDHT, he was briefed tices to senior Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leaders Barrister Gohar, Omar Ayub and Raoof Hasan over the issue of uploading controversial video by the of-

ficial account of PTI founder Imran Khan. tries All three bigwigs of PTI have been summoned to appear before FIA on

Tuesday at 11.am. "An attempt was made to incite the people against the state and its institutions by uploading the video through official account of PTI founder," said the notice issued by the FIA.

According to FIA sources, on May 26, a pro-The police located her using a combination of surpaganda video was tweeted veillance footage and celluwith reference to Sheikh lar technology. The entire Mujibur Rahman from the search operation took four official X handle of PTI's hours, with the final hour founder. A tweet from his being the most crucial folaccount surfaced in which lowing the minister's notice. he urged people to read the She was subsequently Hamoodur Rehman Commission report on the 1971 debacle.

Continued on page 2



Federal Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal in a group with Chinese businessmen during a visit to Chengdu city in Sichuan, China

Planning Minister urges Chinese entrepreneurs to participate in CPEC Phase II

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives, Ahsan Iqbal visited Chengdu city in Sichuan, China and had a lion. Covering an area of 237 sqkm, the zone incomprehensive tour of the cludes a financial district, Chengdu High Tech Develbiotechnology city, and a opment Zone (CDHT). According to press release issued by Planning

science and technology park, employing more than 750,000 people, and regis-tering over 4300 enter-Commission here Saturday, the minister also met with prises The minister thanked Chengdu based entrepreneurs, and businessmen, the local officials for their interested in becoming part briefing and invited them

of Phase-II of the Chinato participate in Pakistan's Pakistan Economic Corridevelopment, especially vis-à-vis CPEC Phase-II. dor (CPEC), and members and to develop technology During Minister's tour parks in Pakistan, sharing their valuable experiences

tariff will be applicable af-ter approval from federal government. **ECP** rejects single

panel by LHC for election tribunals ISLAMABAD (Online): Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) has rejected single panel name by Lahore High Court (LHC)

in connection with election tribunals and decided to resort to Supreme Court (SC) The meeting of ECP was held under Chief Elec-

tion Commissioner (CEC) on Saturday.

the meeting on decision of LHC and ECP powers in connection with election tribunals

vealed that due to the impending election year, approximately 61 billion ruparliamentarians' schemes tribunals under election act. in the current financial year.

cut petrol price ISLAMABAD (INP): The sumer prices, based on the Finance Ministry has de- price variations in the international market. fied the directives of Prime Minister Muhammad

According to a PMO press release, Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif has directed the Fi-The premier directed nance Ministry to reduce the finance ministry to cut the price of petrol by petrol price by Rs15.4 per Rs15.4 per litre and diesel by Rs7.9 per litre.

It cited the premier as fortnight to bring relief to saying: "As a result of the the public grappling with people-friendly policies of the current government, However, the finance there has been a clear cut in inflation."

ministry brought the price of petrol by Rs4.74 per litre Petrol is used in moand the price of diesel by torbikes and cars and is considered an alternative to The press release issued compressed natural gas by the finance division (CNG), especially in the states: "The prices of petro-

Punjab province. Diesel is widely used decreasing trend in the inin the transport and agriternational market during culture sectors; therefore, a reduction in its price is "The Oil & Gas Regupoised to significantly latory Authority (OGRA) impact inflation counhas worked out the con- trywide.



QUETTA: Chief Secretary Balochistan Shakeel Qadir Khan inspecting development projects at Hanna Lake

Federal govt likely to slash funds for discretionary development schemes

ISLAMABAD (INP): However, in a departure The federal government is from previous practices, set to slash funds for disthese funds are now subcretionary development ject to termination. schemes of members of Furthermore, with recommendations parliament, citing recomfrom both the IMF and mendations from the International Monetary Fund World Bank, funding for provincial projects is also (IMF). The proposed slated to be halted. Notachanges aim to align with IMF conditions in the budbly, there are proposals to get for the upcoming financial year 2024-25.

reduce the health development budget from 26 billion rupees to 17 billion rupees and allocate 32 billion rupees less for the education sector, pees were allocated for compared to the previous year's budget of 83 billion rupees.

Furthermore, in line

The legal team briefed

The inner sources re-The legal team told the meeting ECP is of opinion that Chief Justice (CJ) LHC can not decide on his own about name of one judge for

on the High Tech Development Zone's history, visit Pakistan, and engage development profile, spewith authorities and busicial policies to attract both nesses, so that meaningful domestic and foreign incooperation could take vestment, and pillar indusplace. This was greeted positively by both the Municipal leaders and The CDHT, established in 1988, is one of the zonal officials.

QUETTA: Parliamentary Secretary Minority Af-

fairs Sanjay Kumar and Spokesman of Government

of Balochistan Shahid Rind giving away amount of

Rs. 01 million to widow of Rashid Masih

by Chengdu Municipal and expertise. The minister also inleaders, and zonal officials, vited relevant experts to

electricity tariff by Rs 3.28 per unit ISLAMABAD (Online): first national high-tech NEPRA has issued the dezones in China. In 2023, cision to enhance the electhe CDHT realized a zonal tricity tariff by Rs 3.28 pe GDP of over US\$ 43 bil-

unit. According to decision of NEPRA, hike of Rs 3.28 per unit in electricity tariff has been approved.

The increase in electricity tariff has been made under the head of quarterly adjustment.

NEPRA issues

decision to enhance

The increase in power tariff will be applicable for the month of June, July and August.

NEPRA has sent the decision on enhancement in

power tariff to federal gov ernment. The increased power Daily Soice of Masse Independent Quetta



ISLAMABAD: Cyclist take part in cycling on celebration of World Bicycle Day orginazed by Turkmenistan Embassy & Serena Hotels

Pakistan aims for T20 glory in historic US World Cup

Exciting tournament kicks off today with USA, Canada opening match

NEW YORK (INP): As Pakistan marks 15 years since their triumph in the 2009 T20 World Cup, hopes are high for a repeat victory under the leadership of Babar Azam.

The historic tournament was going to be held in the United States for the first time, has fans eagerly anticipating another potential win. In 2009, Pakistan,

captained by Misbah-ul-Haq, clinched the T20 World Cup title. Since then, the team has faced challenges in reclaiming the top spot. This year, however, supporters are optimistic that Babar Azam and his squad will bring the trophy home. Babar has assured fans of his commitment to achieving

victory in America. Notably, the West Indies and England are the only nations to have won the T20 World Cup twice. India, Sri Lanka, and Australia have each secured the title

stan is not among the top favorites this year, they are widely expected to reach the

semi-finals. The T20 Cricket World Cup, which be-gan in 2007, saw In-dia win the inaugural tournament.

asts around the be world will be watching closely, world will hoping for a stellar performance from Pakistan

Meanwhile the much-anticipated ICCT Twenty20 World Cricket Cup will kick Indies. off today with the inaugural match set to begin at 5:30 am Pakistan Standard

Time. Cricket enthusi-asts are eagerly awaiting the clash between the host na-

once. Although Paki- Texas, marking the beginning of an exciting tournament.

The World Cup promises a thrilling series of matches, with a total of 55 games scheduled, bringing together some of the best cricketing talent from As the competi-tion unfolds in the US, cricket enthusi-usi-usi-tion unfolds in the usi-tion unfolds in the tion unfolds the tion unfolds in the tion unfolds encounter of the tournament will see the West Indies facing Papua New Guinea. This game will commence at 7:30 pm Pakistan Standard Time in the city of Providence, West

> As the teams gear up for an intense competition, fans worldwide are set to witness a festival of cricket, filled with

skill, strategy, and sportsmanship. The ICCT Twenty20 World tion, USA, and their Cricket Cup is sure to northern neighbors, captivate audiences, Canada. This open-ing game will take watch event for place at the Grand cricket aficionados Prairie Stadium in everywhere.

ISLAMABAD (Online): Islamabad High Court (IHC) has issued written decision of suspension of sentence in respect of Islamabad Police ASI Zahoor convicted in case of on appeal and sentence for providing secret informa-

termed as secret information

or secret documents: IHC

short period.

The three years sen-

tion to Russian diplomat. Justice Mohsin Akhtar tence awarded by trial court Kayani of IHC issued 5to ASI Zahoor is being suspage written order.

It has been said in written decision that according to forensic analysis report messages of threat alert report were found in the mobile phone of the appellant.

The threat alerts issued by NECTA and interior nal decision.

Naming of hospital depts after **CM Maryam challenged in LHC**

LAHORE (INP): A petition has been filed in Lahore High Court (LHC) challenging the naming of government hospital departments after Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz.

The petition was filed by Advocate Nadeem Sarwar on behalf of a citizen Mushkoor Hussain, stating that this move is an unconstitutional act.

According to the petition, national buildings and institutions are usually named after individuals who have offered valuable services to the country, not political figures. The petition stated that after becoming Chief Minister, various hospital departments were named after Maryam Nawaz.

Vietnamese envoy's wife....

Continued from page 1 handed over to her husband, who then returned to their residence

for the missing wife. He informed the ambassador that seven different teams had been formed to search for A spokesperson for his missing wife, who had

Punjab White wins PM Youth Talent Hunt National Men Handball League

Miscellaneous

PESHAWAR (APP): Un-White got third position. beaten among top 10 teams Punjab White remained unacross the country, Punjab beaten in the 10 teams White clinched the Prime battles, two teams each Minister Youth Talent from Punjab, Sindh, Hunt National Men Hand-Balochistan, ball League-2024 played here under the aegis of University of Peshawar on Saturdav Špokesperson of the

Prime Minister of Pakistan and Pakistan Muslim League (N) former MPA Ikhtiar Wali Khan graced the occasion as chief guest who witnessed the thrilling final played between Punjab White and Punjab Green. Surprisingly both Punjab White and Green

Sports University of Peshawar with the support of Higher Education Commoved to the final where in mission, Islamabad. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Threat alerts cannot be

The final of the National League was played in a hotly contested encounter. Besides Ikhtiar Wali Khan, Vice Chancellor Peshawar University Professor Dr. Jahanzeb Khan, President Asian Handball Federation Dr. Shafiq, Di-

started, Ikhtiar Wali Khan said While several games will be held respectively, he said that apart from the laptop scheme, an employ-

rector Sports Peshawar ment scheme is also being University Bahre Karam, launched for the youth, he Director Sports University added. There is also a need Rs. 240,000 cash prize.

of Central Punjab Arshad to improve them so that Sattar, Rana Amjad Iqbal, these children can go ahead Mahr Ahmad Khan Herl and brighten the name of (University of Sargodha), the country and the nation. Director Sports Shah Abdul Latif University Khairpur, Sindh Muhammad Murad Pirzada, Deputy Registrar Dr. Noorzada and other important personalities

Earlier, Peshawar University Vice Chancellor Professor Dr. Jahanzeb Khan said that for the first time, Peshawar University hosted a national sports event, which is a welcome

Page 02

thing. It is hoped that the players and officials from other provinces will take away good memories with them, he said, adding, University of Peshawar is a vibrant unit of HEC that is why there is always sporting activities. He also advised the youth to give due attention to their sports as well as a healthy mind re-Prime Minister Youth Talsiding in a healthy body. ent Hunt program has been At the end, the chief

guest gave away trophies, medals and cash prizes to the players. Peshawar got third position trophy and Rs. 120,000, Punjab Greens took runners-up 180,000 and Punjab White won the winner trophy and

Tickets sale soar for Pakistan, Saudi Arabia football clash

ISLAMABAD (INP): Online tickets sale are in full swing for the highly anticipated international football match between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia, set to take place on June 6 in Islamabad Jinnah Sports Stadium. Ticket prices are structured to accommodate different preferences: general stand tickets are available for Rs. 750, VIP stand tickets for Rs. 1,500, and VVIP enclosure tickets for Rs. 4,000. Fans can conveniently purchase their tickets through a private company's website. With the match slated to begin at 8:30 PM at Jinnah Sports Stadium within the Pakistan Sports Complex Islamabad and over 25,000 fans are expected to fill the stands, generating significant buzz and excitement.



UAE : Hussain Muhammad, Consul General of Pakistan Consulate Dubai honored Khalid Hussain Chaudry, President Pakistan Social Centre Sharjah (PSCS) along with his team members with appreciation certificates for serving Pakistani community in UAE during the recent rains.

Indian troops Those talking of isolation of....

martyr eight Kashmiris in Mav

Continued from page 1 Sharif and former healthcare sector, the Prime Minister professionals should Muhammad Nawaz healthcare sector, the Prime

pended. The appellant should file surety bonds worth Rs 2 lac which can be deposited in the form of cash too. The appellant should appear in the court on every hearing till the fi-

ministry cannot be termed as secret information or secret documents. The appellant is entitled to suspension of conviction due to possibility that early decision will not be made

Pakhtunkhwa, and Prime Islamabad. Minister's Youth Talent Hunt National Men Handball League Punjab White grabbed the title by defeating Punjab Green 32-20 in the thrilling final match while Khyber Pakhtunkhwa won the third position in the League organized by Directorate of

Khyber

were present. Speaking on this occasion, İkhtiar Wali Khan said that former Prime Minister

Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif is a visionary leader who started the talent Hunt Program in 2013 for which he allocated Rs. 6 billion. This is the effort to attract more and more youth towards healthy activities and that is the reason why the



QUETTA : Pakistan Chest Society leader, Dr. Shereen Khan along with others addresses to media persons during press conference held at Quetta press club

Continued from page 1

ties but also enhances the linkage between local aspirations and global educational standards.

The chief minister was accompanied by Principal Secretary Imran Zarkoon Khan, an alumnus of Oxford, who initiated the setup of this scholarship. His deep connection to Oxford and dedication to advancing educational opportunities for Balochistan's youth played a crucial role in bringing this initiative to fruition.

He announced that the scholarship, supported by the OPP and its benefactors, stands as a tribute to the visionary leadership of Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto and continues under the guidance of her son, Bilawal Bhutto. It is designed as more than financial aid; it is a fundamental commitment to the educational transformation and empowerment of Balochistan's youth.

He felicitated all contributors for their role in actualizing this transformative project, heralding it as a fundamental step towards educational equality and empowerment. The establishment of this scholarship marks a pivotal step toward educational equality and the empowerment of the next generation of leaders from Balochistan

The OPP is the first academic initiative of its kind that is geared towards increasing the representation of Pakistani students and scholars at a leading global university. Since its establishment three years ago, it has become the single largest Pakistan-focused academic platform outside Pakistan. Conceived and developed by Pakistanis, it is a

truly home-grown initiative nounced his generous donation of $\pounds 100.000$ to initiate that is going from strength to strength. this endowment fund, which The OPP represents a was met with enthusiastic

Bugti emphasises crucial role....

the significant impact of

such financial support, dis-

actual outcomes.

pioneering effort to catalyse approval. a range of Pakistan-focused The core team of the OPP initiated this year's initiatives at the University dinner by outlining the exof Oxford. Spearheaded by Professor Adeel Malik (Aspansive vision and recent sociate Professor of Develachievements of the OPP, opment Economics at Oxemphasising the necessity ford), Dr Talha J. Pirzada to expand academic discus-(Lecturer in Material Scisions about Pakistan beyond ence & Junior Research Felconventional narratives. Dr low at Oxford), Haroon Talha J. Pirzada, Professor Adeel Malik and Haroon Zaman (Associate at Travers Smith LLP), and Zaman each highlighted the crucial role of education and

Minahil Saqib (Associate Director at Barclays), the OPP has two core objectives: i) to address the cussing how the OPP serves underrepresentation of Pa- as a link between educational kistani and British Pakistani students at Oxford; and ii) to raise the academic profile of Pakistan and Pakistanrelated areas of interest amongst Oxford's faculty.

support an impressive array Just before the dinner commenced, a significant of scholars. This year, 11 annual strategic advisory outstanding scholars spanboard meeting took place at ning a wide range of discithe Lady Margaret Hall. plines have been beneficia-The meeting included a prories of the OPP. Their fields ductive discussion on the of study include Education. future directions of the OPP, Development Studies, Clicovering scholarship availmate Change, Law, Music, ability, accessibility mea-Chemical Biology, Clinical Epidemiology, Medical Sta-tistics and Computer Scisures and post-study employment opportunities for scholars. ence.

Additionally, the OPP The session was attended by prominent figures has provided numerous studentships to financially from the Pakistani and British Pakistani academic and assist on-course Pakistani students at Oxford in need business communities, in addition to the core OPP and throughout the year. To-LMH development teams. gether with its partners, the Discussions at the meeting OPP's scholars have received in excess of £460,000 focused on strategies for the OPP and explored potential in funding. collaborations amongst the

The OPP team also disattendees. Notably, on the announcement of the launch cussed its outreach efforts. the Allama Igbal Lecture of an endowment model for Series and the notable OPP, Sarwar Khawaja an- progress made by the OPP

Islamabad police stated, "Within four hours, Islamabad police traced the wife of Vietnam's ambassador. Seven teams worked on this case using Safe City cameras and cellular technology. The lady has been sent home with her husband.

IGP Islamabad reached the residence of the Ambassador of Vietnam. On this occasion, the DIG Operations, SSP Operations, and the investigation team were also present.

IGP Islamabad briefed the Vietnamese ambassador about the ongoing police action regarding the search Islamabad Police.

her promptly.

mended them.

over the past year. Dr Pirzada also once again expressed his gratitude to Sarwar Khawaja for announcing his generous donation of £100,000 which marked the establishment of an OPP endowment fund.

Following the opening remarks, Minahil Saqib spoke about the empowerment of scholars and their vears communities through the programme, emphasising the broader influence of these scholarships beyond mere financial support. An engaging video presentation then highlighted the stories of OPP scholars, showcasing their varied backgrounds and impressive achievements. butions.

The video demonambitions, inspirations and strated how their education They also highlighted how the OPP, now in its at Oxford has been lifechanging and focused on their future ambitions to second year of granting scholarships, continues to utilise their experiences for broader benefit. Notably, Jabir Ali, the 2024 OPP Ali Tarin scholar from the small village of Kundal Khokhran in southern Jhang, Punjab, and the son of a modest farmer, delivered an emotive speech at this event.

He spoke extensively about how the scholarship has profoundly influenced his life and his community and indicated his plans to give back to such initiatives in the future. Professor Stephen Blyth, the Principal of LMH, followed suit by offering a warm welcome to everyone while simultaneously highlighting the efforts of the OPP. He underscored the significance of LMH's enduring relationship with Pakistan, noting distinguished alumnae such as Benazir Bhutto and Malala Yousafzai.

He further articulated

been traced with the help ISLAMABAD (ÅPP): In of Safe City cameras and cellular technology.

The Ambassador of Vietnam visited the office of the SSP Security Division. He thanked IGP Islamabad Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi and his team for findlast month of May.

ing his wife and assisting On this occasion, IGP Islamabad appreciated the efforts of DÎG Operations and his team and com-

He emphasized that the safety of all the ambassadors residing in Islamabad is the first priority of the

the natural alignment between OPP's goals and LMH's commitment to diversity, inclusion, and the of

the top court.

Malala Yousafzai, Nobel Peace Prize laureate and a distinguished alumna of Lady Margaret Hall, reaffirmed her support for the OPP initiative, highlighting her personal involvement from its inception and her

commitment to ensuring that all girls receive a full, quality education. She rehimself for the case

flected on her role in establishing two scholarships that assist Pakistani female students in pursuing their academic goals at the University of Oxford, a step that promotes leadership

and academic distinction. Additionally, Ms Yousafzai announced the introduction of the OPPfacilitated Graduate Scholarship for Palestinian Students, part of the Refugee Academic Futures Programme at Oxford. She highlighted how this scholarship will help to break down the financial barriers that prevent Palestinian students from accessing Oxford's esteemed educational opportunities.

the Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK), Indian troops in their continued acts of state terrorism martyred eight Kashmiris during the

According to the data issued by the Research Section of Kashmir Media Service on Saturday, of those martyred three youth nations as the country were killed in fake encounters or in custody

Live-streaming...

Continued from page 1 prising Justice Amin-ud-

they formed the gov-Din Khan, Justice Jamal Khan Mandokhail, Justice ernment, the country was on the verge of de-Athar Minallah and Justice Hasan Azhar Rizvi fault, but they took

minister

that journey.

The petition for the live-streaming was rejected by the apex court in a 4-1 verdict with Justice Athar Minallah disagreeing with the majority judgement.

Earlier, PTI founder Imran Khan had challenged the NAB amendments in

among the comity of Imran Khan, the incarcerated founder of the Panations as claimed by kistan Tehreek-e-Insaf certain critics," he (PTI), had joined the preadded. vious proceedings via video link from Rawalpindi's that in the past, when-ever the PML-N gov-Adiala Jail. His request seeking personal appearernment strived to put ance in the case is pending the country on the path with the apex court. of progress and pros-

The former prime min ister also interacted with Chief Justice Qazi Faez Isa and informed him about difficulties he had been facing in seeking legal assistance about the case.

He said he was kept in solitary confinement and Prime had no facility to prepare

accord high priority to Sharif would take the the needs of the de- country to a new level serving and should not of economic prosperity forget the high values as envisaged by Quaide-Azam Muhammad taught by Islam which emphasised making ef-Ali Jinnah and Allama forts for the betterment Muhammad Iqbal. of others.

others. The deputy prime Dar said that to- minister said that a gether, they could committee had been transform Pakistan working to address isinto a developed and sues of the medical secprosperous country tor, adding it would asamong the comity of sess healthcare demand and supply in the counhad immense capacity. try, ensure quality edu-He said that the nation cation and propose policy measures to the was resilient enough to overcome all chalprime minister.

He also lauded the lenges. He also lauded the He cited that when contributions of the private sector in imparting medical education, adding that a significant number of students were being drastic steps to ensure graduated every year economic turnaround. The deputy prime in the country. He also further underlined the need to stressed upon making make further efforts to of sincere efforts to beshape the younger come a member of G20. minds for future challenges and said that co-"Things are turning around and Pakistan is ordination was crucial in shaping the new generation with skills. not more in isolation

The future of the healthcare system in Pakistan was bright, he added.

He also regretted The deputy prime minister also wished success for the new medical graduates and reminded them that they were entering into perity, some hidden hands tried to disrupt a new phase of life full of challenges and opportunities. They had The foreign minister expressed confichosen a noble duty dence that the incumand profession as under bent government un-Islamic teachings 'savder the leadership of ing a life tantamount to Minister saving the whole hu-Muhammad Shehbaz manity', he advised.



QUETTA: Inundated road by overflowing sewerage water, creating problems for residents and commuters, showing negligence of concerned authorities, at Raisani Road

empowerment marginalised groups. Professor Blyth explained how LMH has actively supported and facilitated the

initiatives under OPP since its inception and expressed his enthusiasm for its rapid progress over just a few

Following the dinner, the Principal expressed his gratitude to the OPP's broad and varied community of donors, acknowledging their crucial support. In a special ceremony, he presented certificates to recognize their significant contriDaily Aoice of Masse Independent Quetta

Kyrgyzstan still ideal country for medical education of foreign students: Kyrgyz Ambassador

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Ambassador of Kyrgyzstan to Pakistan, Ulanbek Totuiaev on Sunday said that Kyrgyzstan is still an ideal country for medical education of foreign students and their government has always provided a good educational environment to foreign students.

Talking to APP, Ambassador of Kyrgyzstan to Pakistan, Ulanbek Totuiaev said that recently, some local criminal elements attempted to disrupt the situation in Kyrgyzstan but their government handled the situation according to the constitution. Pakistani students are now safe in Kyrgyzstan and can continue their education, he added. The ambassador said that Kyrgyzstan has always been an ideal country for Pakistan's students in medical education and students from Pakistan are coming from different provinces to get quality educational environment there. He said that the relations between Pakistan and Kyrgyzstan are ideal and the history of mutual diplomatic and economic rela-

tions between the two Is- leased on one of the social lamic brother countries is media pages, as a result of rooted in the ancient 'Silk which on the night of last Route.

the people of both coun-

tries should also be aware

of it. Replying to a ques-tion, he said that the situa-

tion was completely under

the control of law enforce-

ment agencies and the safety

of citizens and public order

were ensured. Ĥe said there

people among the partici-

that on the evening of last

pants of the incident.

May 18 in Bishkek a crowd He said that recently of people gathered demandsome elements want to ing that the foreigners be spoil the bilateral relations brought to justice. From the moment inbetween Pakistan and Kyrgyzstan, which both formation about the incicountries are aware of and

dent was received, law enforcement agencies of the Kyrgyz Republic took prompt measures to detain persons involved in the event, both foreign citizens (four Egyptian citizens) and around 10 citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic. The chief and nine

officers of the Internal Afwere no seriously injured fairs Directorate of the Sverdlovsk region were removed from their positions The ambassador said after riots on the night of May 18.

May 13, a fight broke out between local and foreign He said that on May citizens in one of the hos-20, 2024, in Astana, on the sidelines of the SCO Countels in the eastern part of Bishkek and then the pocil of Foreign Ministers, Minister of Foreign Affairs lice opened a criminal case under the Criminal Code of of the Kyrgyz Republic Zheenbek Kulubaev had a the Kyrgyz Republic and all participants in the brawl bilateral meeting with the were taken to the police Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of

the fight and injured Kyrgyz citizens was re-

Hussain Muhammad, Consul General of Pakistan Consulate Dubai honored

Khalid Hussain Chaudry, President Pakistan Social Centre Sharjah (PSCS)

along with his team members with appreciation certificates for serving Paki-

Citizens applaud China's role

in Pakistan's satellite missions

leader, Deng Xiaoping. Another user posted

on social media that launch-

department. He said that a video of Pakistan Mohammad Ishaq Dar

Govt to set up ECE centers in existing primary school 100 classrooms to enhance childhood education facilities ISLAMABAD (APP): intellectual, emotional, social, and moral growth, The Government of Pakistan is establishing Early Childhood Education

(ECE) centres in existing primary school 100 classrooms in Islamabad to enhance early childhood education facilities and ensure quality education for young children.

filiations a

This project aims to provide a foundation for lifelong learning by focusing on the critical early years, facilitating foundational learning and skills, said a press release here on Saturday.

It aligns with Sustainable Development Goals (SDG-4 and SDG-5), ensuring children are well-prepared for formal schooling. Initially, fifty urban and fifty rural areas are selected for the construction and renovation of 100 classrooms into ECE centres with appropriate furniture and materials and providing trained Montessori chers and support staff.

As a result the project significantly improves educational infrastructure.

val Headquarters.

Pakhtunkhwa.

tions officer.

in Kinsala village, Khyber

Islamabad administration

remains vigilant in its

The initiative pro-

ment, including physical, through Education Service DISPATCHES TUTT RESILIENCE C



ISLAMABAD (APP): Hajj pilgrims from around the world have expressed heartfelt gratitude to Saudi authorities for their exceptional services, which have transformed their sacred journey into a profoundly comfortable and spiritually enriching experience.

APITALNEWS

From advanced cooling systems to carefully sourced materials, every detail has been tailored to enhance the pilgrimage jour-ney. "The advanced cooling systems have been an absolute lifesaver, especially during the peak hours of the pilgrimage. They've made the entire experience so much more comfortable and enjoyable for me." - A grateful pilgrim Syed Shabbir from India remarked, wiping the sweat from his brow.

"I've been truly impressed by the sourcing of materials. It's evident in every corner of the holy sites, from the sturdy construction to the serene atmosphere it creates. It's made me feel truly con-

 ney." - Another pilgrim Abdul Rehman from Bangladesh expressed with a smile, feeling a deep sense of percease Similarly, Ariof of peace. Similarly, Arief, another pilgrim from Indonesia, shared his sentiments, saying, "The care and attention to detail put into every aspect of our journey have truly made me feel at home here. I am grateful for the exemplary services provided, which have made this sacred pilgrimage a truly

Page

03

unforgettable experience. Managed by the Zamzam Water Department, the provision of cold Zamzam water around the clock at Masjid e Nabvi stands as a testament to the meticulous care provided by the Saudi authorities. An astounding 300 tons of Zamzam water are trans-ported daily from its source in Makkah to the Prophet's Mosque, according to reports from the Saudi Press Agency (SPA). Rigorous testing ensures the water's purity before it is distributed to thousands of cool-

ers strategically placed nected to the sacred jour- throughout the mosque.



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Vietnam meeting with Inspector General of Police (IGP) Islamabad Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi.

APHC condemns deteriorating HRs situation in **IIOJK**

ISLAMABAD (APP): The All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC) has strongly denounced the alarming deterioration of human rights in Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) especially since Narendra Modiled Indian government scrapped the territory's special status in August

24,015 since August 5 2019. In the just conclud-ing month of May, eight Kashmiris, including three in fake encounters or custody, were martyred, 703 vouth were arrested, and four were injured, he added.

He criticized the Indian government's actions aimed at suppressing the freedom of expression and perpetuating a culture of fear through draconian meaman Advocate Abdul sures in the occupied terri-

tude for China's support in launching Pakistani sateling of this satellite would Pro. after the successful deployment of back to back ages.

areas.

Demand for female

nursing staff in

stani community in UAE during the recent rains.

The successful satel- nomic activities in the lite launch received apcountry plause not only from over-The satellite will play seas Pakistanis but also a pivotal role in the socioeconomic uplift of the counfrom those residing in try by strengthening its China The internet was communication infrastructhoughts on social media, a flooded with congratula- ture. tory messages celebrating It will help meet the Pakistan's flourishing space growing demands of the felecom sector and address missions.

ISLAMABAD (INP): The a saying from late Chinese areas to access quality education and healthcare services that were previously unavailable to them.

It will also support eaddress several issues we governance and e-com-According to Gwadar currently face in Pakistan, merce, which will help particularly internet out-ages. streamline government services and boost eco-

Learning during the which helps reduce dropearly years plays a critical out rates, improve attenand formative role in acdance, and enhance retenquiring concepts, develoption. The project targets ing skills and attitudes, and enrolling 6,000 students nurturing hidden potential, annually, thereby improvlaying the foundations for lifelong learning. This pe-riod is marked by rapid ing the early childhood education enrollment ratio and

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator

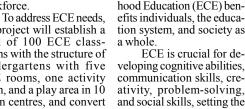
Mohammad Ishaq Dar, delivering remarks as Chief Guest at the 1st Convoca-tion Ceremony of HBS Medical and Dental College.

ensuring gender equality by providing equal educational opportunities for boys and

Economically, the project creates 300 jobs, including teaching and nonteaching positions and contributes to developing a skilled and educated workforce

the project will establish a total of 100 ECE classrooms with the structure of kindergartens with five ECE rooms, one activity room, and a play area in 10 urban centres, and convert 50 existing classrooms into ECE centres in rural schools.

The provision inspecialised cludes Montessori teachers (PPS-05), Montessori Teacher/ Aide (PPS-04), and support



stage for enhanced learning outcomes in subsequent grades. Children who re-

ceive ECE before enrolling in primary school exhibit lower dropout rates, improved attendance, better

Providers (ESP) or FDE.

physical, intellectual, emo-

tional, social, and moral de-

hood care and education

significantly positively im-

pact children's future learn-

ing, careers, and adult lives

as responsible citizens. In

vestment in Early Child-

Quality early child-

velopment.

retention, and completion, staff (Ayas, PPS-01), hired motes holistic developand smoother transitions to higher educational levels. 2019

The APHC spokes-

Rashid Minhas in a state- tory. With nearly one mil-

two space satellites ICUBE-Q and PAKSAT MM-1, they expressed their appreciation for China's role in Pakistan's space missions. their

people from countrywide

have expressed their grati-

lites into space.

Expressing number of Pakistanis view China's support in their space missions as a significant collaboration that enhances their capabilities and strengthens bilateral ties.

They regarded China's assistance as crucial in initiating and advancing Pakistan's satellite capabilities, fostering a robust partnership in space exploration.

On X (formerly Twitter), a user expressed gratitude and credited the Chi-

NG PAKI

conference.

The Overseas Employment

Corporation (OEC), an at-

tached department of the

Ministry of Overseas Pa-

kistanis and Human Re-

source Development,

would export around 100

female nursing staff to a

that the demand for female

nursing staff in Malaysia

was increasing with the

passage of time due to the

highly qualified and expert

staff of health already

working in the different

already announced the ap-

plication from job seekers

to apply for Malaysia and

prescribed qualifications

nurses were required for the

recognized institution.

and experience.

He said that **ÖEC** had

He informed that 100

hospitals in Malaysia.

An official told APP

health firm in Malaysia.

The report says, the the increasing demand for launch of PAKSAT MMhigh-speed internet and 1, Pakistan's second comseamless connectivity. munication satellite will bring a multitude of benefits to the country. It will significantly improve internet connectivity across Pakistan, especially in remote

The satellite will support tele-education and telemedicine services, alnese side. The user quoted lowing people in remote future.

Therefore the launch of MM-1 is seen as a testament among the locals to the strong collaboration and partnership between Pakistan and China in the field of space technology. They believe this partnership will continue to benefit both countries in the Ramesh hints Govt change.

worsening political situation after budget (INP) SLAMABAD

ISLAMABAD: Founder of Pak Air Lines Interna-People's Party leader Dr tional Dr. Farhan Iftikhar Abbasi addressing a Press Ramesh Kumar has hinted at change in government and worsening political conditions in an interview with a private TV channel.

Dr Ramesh Kumar said, he was seeing wors-ening situation and change of the government this year.

Nursing Council and a minimum of three years of reget,

lated working experience in the hospital setting. He said that specialized post-basic training in Operation Theatre (OT)/ ICU and paediatrics would be preferred, and he/she should not be older than 45 years. The basic monthly salary would be 3,000 to 4,500 RM. The health firm

would provide an allowance per month, including a general nursing allowance for pediatric nurses. Specialized Allowance for ICU and OT. Allowances include a Specialized Allowance of 1100 RM, a General Nurs-

ing Allowance of 700 RM, and a and a Degree Allowance of 400 RM and Post Basic Allowance, 800 RM. "The source also shared the terms and conditions

Intensive Care Unit (ICU) with a diploma in nursing, of the employment contract, as a bachelor of science in nursthe salary of the confirmed eming, or a post-RN from a ployee will be reviewed in March each year based on the indi-The candidate should vidual employees

Malaysia increasing ISLAMABAD (APP): have registration from the "The situation will further worsen after a difficult bud-

"I am knowing things thus not seeing the PML-N government to remain in power," he said. "After dif-ficult conditions where the game will head will clear in September and October. he said. He said, "It is going to be seen, the conditions will improve with reelection or any other setup

emerges". "I am also seeing Nawaz Sharif's U-turn to the anti-establishment stance," he said. "If the political situation turns toward the PTI's founder, it will bring more destruction for the country", he said.

Ramesh Kumar said,' I have remained associated with the PTI's founder and running a government is not possible for him," he added. "His stars are good

but running a country is difficult for him," he said.

ISLAMABAD: Former Senator Mustafa Nawaz Khokhar addressing the book launching ceremony of Mohsin Dawar.

Fire on Margalla hills partially controlled

teams are actively combating flames, even at the location of the stupa, where a fire has ignited.

spread to high temperathe Margalla Hills. Memon stated that the fire near Gandian village, behind Faisal Masjid, has been brought under control, while efforts are underway to extinguish the blaze near Kanijal village, close to Na-Despite challenges. underway including the spread of fire

multi-pronged approach to firefighting efforts. Rescue tackle the situation. 1.050 feet.

ICP conducted a special anti-riot and anti-terrorist training demonstration

Independent Report the conclusion of the spe-ISLAMABAD: Following cial training courses, police the special directive of the officers presented a practi-

the



cal demonstration of the Inspector General of Police exercises. IGP Islamabad (IGP) Islamabad, Syed Ali Sved Ali Nasir Rizvi re-Nasir Rizvi, the Islamabad Capital Police carried out a viewed the special exercises, special anti-riot and antiwith DIG Law and Order terrorist training course to and other senior police ofcope with any situation reficers also present on this lated to peace and security, occasion. The Anti-Riot Unit.

as stated by a public rela-Counter-Terrorism Depart-ment, and Red Zone com-He mentioned that at

mandos participated in the training courses. During these exercises, police per-sonnel demonstrated their

their ability to disperse any unlawful protests using six different formations, encompassing various tactics and techniques to manage and control such situations effectively.

Millat High school where Moreover, the CTD he discovered his love of and Red Zone commandos poetry. He later entered also presented a practical Emerson College Multan demonstration for dealing for Intermediate Studies, with and countering terrorwhere his poetry readings ist elements attracted large crowds.

ment in Srinagar said that lion troops deployed, the occupation troops have IIOJK has become one of martyred 875 Kashmiris, the most militarized zones injured over 2,400, and ar- globally, the spokesman rested approximately said.

During the last 24

curred at isolated places in

Gilgit-Baltistan and upper

the hottest place in the

country on Friday with

Jacobabad remained

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Hot weather to prevail in most areas with chances of isolated rain: PMD

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pa- air was prevailing over kistan Meteorological Demost parts of the country. partment (PMD) has fore-A shallow westerly wave cast mainly hot weather for was also prevailing over most areas of the country upper parts of the country. during the next 24 hours. While very hot weather hours, very hot weather prevailed over most plain with dust raising winds are likely in southern parts. areas of the country. However, rain-thunderstorm oc-

However, windstorm with isolated rain-thunderstorm is expected in Gilgit-Baltistan, Kashmir, upper Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, northeast Punjab, Potohar region and Islamabad.

temperature surging up to According to the synoptic situation, continental 50 degrees Celsius.



ISLAMAAD: Participants of World Bicycle Day Race passing through Constitution Avenue in the Federal Capital.

Death anniversary of poet Riaz-Ur-Rehman Sagar observed

ISLAMABAD (APP): He traveled to Lahore The 11th death anniversary to begin his career. He finof veteran lyricist and poet ished his schooling in Riaz-ur-Rehman Sagar was Multan and then moved to observed on Sunday and Lahore in 1957, a private rich tributes were paid to channel reported. In Lahore, Saghar him for his lifetime services to the Pakistani film indusfound a job at Lail o Nahar,

an Urdu-language weekly Riaz-Ur-Rehman magazine, where he worked Saghar was born on Decemfor a year but soon realized ber 1, 1941, in Bathinda, it was not his place of in-Punjab, his family emiterest. He moved on to grated to Pakistan as refu-Nawa-i-Waqt daily newsgees following the indepenpaper and while there, he dence of India. did his Intermediate and Saghar enrolled in bachelor's degrees in

'Punjabi Fazil' Riaz-ur-Rehman's published works include Aangan Aangan Taaray' 'Arz Kiya Hai', 'Wo Bhi Kya Din Thay' and 'Chand Jharokay Mai'

skills in maintaining peace, safeguarding public and private properties, confront-ing criminal elements, and effecting arrests, while also showcasing the use of water cannons, tower rappelling, and other advanced techniques.

The police officials successfully demonstrated

cusecs water ISLAMABAD (INP) Indus River System Authority (IRSA) Saturday released 285,000 cusecs water from various rim sta-

tions with inflow of 294,800 cusecs. According to the data released by IRSA, water level in River Indus at Tarbela Dam was 1468.56 feet and was 70.56 feet higher than its dead level of 1,398 feet. Water inflow and outflow in the dam was recorded as 118,600 cusecs and 120,000 cusecs respec-

tively. The water level in River Jhelum at Mangla Dam was 1188.75 feet, which was 138.75 feet higher than its dead level of



tures and strong winds, Memon assured that precautionary measures have been implemented to contain further escalation. Notably, three individuals have been apprehended on suspicion of starting the fires, with ongoing interrogations

Firefighters and helicopters have been deployed to aid in extinguishing the

blaze, underscoring the

IRSA releases 285.000

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OPINION

Daily Independent

Daily Aoice of Masse Independent

Sunday June 02, 2024

Another approach

In recent times, there has been growing concern over the misuse of social media for orchestrating defamatory campaigns against the government, judiciary, military, and even journalists and private also bringing about the elecindividuals. The state has responded with various legislative measures, such as the broadening of the Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act and, more recently, the defamation law passed by the Punjab Assembly.

There has been heated debate on the appropriateness and effectiveness of these acfrom tions, and even as they agree that something must be done to check the abuse of social conflict that raised internamedia platforms, rights activists and journalists have correctly warned that any measures to check unlawful and destructive activity must be calibrated so that they are not used to restrict constitutional freedoms of speech and expression. No one denies the problem; the difference is in the approach proposed to be seventh and last phase of voting. This will be the fifth taken to address it.

One of the country's most powerful forums recently issued a strongly worded statement on 'digital terrorism' highlighting the gravity with which it views deviant activities online. The forum's concern over the abuse of social media is shared by all, including the media, but equating social media dissent with acts of terrorism seems to be problematic.

Pakistan has endured a long

tional oil prices, taking in-**Aqdas Afzal** flation to 38pc in May 2023 If there were a central bankbefore coming down to 17.3pc in April. ers' roll of honour, it would

prominently feature Paul Where inflation created Volcker's name, perhaps challenges for everyone, it even at the very top. Volcker, who died in 2019 impacted the most vulnerable or poor segments of at the age of 92, singlesociety the most, given they handedly tamed inflation in spend a disproportionately the US, which had touched large fraction of their in-15 per cent in 1980, by riscomes on food — last year, ing above political affiliafood inflation had reached an tions to do the right thing. unbelievable 48pc.

No one has specifically Resisting tremendous political pressure, Volcker connected the present poraised interest rates, taking litical instability with this them as high as 21.5pc in inflation, as the recent po-1981, killing inflation, but litical upheaval is seemingly driven by structural factors toral defeat of his benefacof the political system itself. tor, president Jimmy Carter. Still, the political crisis' per-Despite Volcker's epic sistence and unending social battle against inflation, his unrest make a convincing legacy remains somewhat case for attributing some mixed, mainly because of the causal power to two-plus steep economic costs atyears of very high inflation. tached to the 'Volcker In a sense, this back-

shock' that came in the breaking inflation is reminisshape of the 1981-82 recescent of Weimar Germany of sion, unsustainable fiscal the 1920s, when facing the mother of all inflations, Gerdeficits and rampant unemployment above 10pc. many veered to the extreme Over the last two years, right, opening up space for just like the US in 1980, Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Pakistan, too, has suffered Party, enabling them to skyrocketing seize power democratically, in--flation, though of even but then turning Germany larger magnitude. It started into a fascist-totalitarian with the Russia-Ukraine

There is no ambiguity

Money and man about whether very high inthat has all but stopped, flation devastates society. But economists are not en-

tirely sure how much influence high interest rates hold in controlling inflation. Whereas some economists argue that, instead of raising interest rates, central bankers should target money supply, others say that inwithout merit.

flation is also a supply-side phenomenon, meaning that supply shortages feed into price spikes, leaving inflation somewhat immune to interest rates. Not only do these per-

pectives raise questions about the impact of monetary policy, they also highlight concerns about the huge economic cost that comes from very high interest rates in the shape of anaemic economic growth and almost no job creation.

This was one reason why the recent State Bank decision to keep the interest rate unchanged at 22pc was scrutinised, with some analysts clamouring for a decision review. These analysts argue that since inflation has now come down

significantly, Pakistan's central bankers should have lowered interest rates by at to spur economic growth mentation

'slowbalisation', nations like given the high cost of bor-However, these analysts may have missed out

on some very important developments that, when taken into context, demonstrate that the decision to keep rates unchanged is not

First, data reveals that inflation has not really come down as expected in big advanced economies such as the US and UK. Higherthan-anticipated inflation numbers have stopped American and British central bankers from slashing interest rates. Though the impact is not significant, inflation in advanced economies does push inflation higher in emerging economies by raising international commodity prices, in particular. Moreover, there are additional challenges emanating from fraught geopolitics as international oil prices could suddenly spiral upwards on top of this higherthan-anticipated inflation in advanced economies.

Second, the world is probably witnessing the possible end of globalisation and free trade. In this new least 100-200 basis points era of geo-economic frag- forex reserves to play this and game

the US that previously championed free trade, are increasingly becoming inward-looking and protectionist as demonstrated by the US slapping a 100pc tariff on Chinese electric vehicles. The IMF calculated the long-term impact of these trends to cost 7pc of global GDP or \$7.4 trillion. For this reason, analysts believe that these structural transformations, whereby nations are busy rewiring their supply chains, are going to be inherently inflationary for a few years.

Third, lower interest rates could bring about a sharp depreciation in the exchange rate as capital will head to destinations where it can obtain a higher return. This is sometimes referred to as the 'carry trade'. Recently, the Japanese yen fell to a 34-year low against the US dollar primarily because of the interest rate differential between Japan and the US. Sitting atop more than \$1tr of forex reserves, Japan made quick interventions to the tune of \$60 billion to prop up its currency. Needless to say, Pakistan does not have the

more targeted.

On counting day, pa-

VPAT machines ran-

the rules provide no satis-

such counts do not tally

with machine counts. Par-

Last, despite whatever has been said about inflation coming down, it still clocked in at 17.3pc compared to 12 months ago — not a small number. But, this purported 'drop' in inflation is driven, in large part, by what is called the 'base effect', meaning that prices were towering so high a year ago that even a significant absolute increase would look like a modest percentage change. Falling inflation does not mean falling prices; they are still increasing, but at a slower rate. It should then not come as a surprise that people are up in arms against rising prices in various parts of the country.

What this analysis points out is that despite ntense scrutiny, Pakistan's central bankers had good reason to keep interest rates unchanged. If tailwinds and trends continue, there would be a strong case for lowering interest rates next month. But, perhaps the most important message of this analysis is that central bankers must never give in to political - or social pressure to always do the right thing, just like Paul Volcker.-- Courtesy Dawn

odi machinations

Tahir Mehdi

There is an unusual stakeholder in the ongoing Indian elections — the electronic voting machine. The last batch of Indian voters will press buttons of their choice on this machine this evening, concluding the general election in India held solely through EVMs. But never before has the potential for its manipulation been so vehemently debated

and feared. It can be partly attributed to the Modi government's ruthless use of state institutions to further its political games. The Election Commission of India (ECI), which otherwise has an enviable reputation, was no exception this time

Controversies regarding ECI appointments began a year before the elections. The Indian constitution empowers the governas many election commis-

and approached India's supreme court. The court decided in March 2023 that until parliament enacted a specific law, a three-member committee comprising the prime minister, leader of the opposition and the chief justice would select the commission members. The Modi govern-

ment, however, enacted a law in December 2023 replacing the chief justice with a union minister chosen by the prime minister. This effectively meant that power remained with the sitting government. Incidentally, one commissioner retired in February 2024 and the other in March under dubious circumstances. The government quickly exercised its new powers and filled the two vacancies a month before the elections. The chief election commissioner has already been facing criticism on various matters, especially his defence of the right to privacy ment to appoint a chief and of donors of political parties under the controversial

The machine itself raises hard questions. The ECI took around 25 years to 'perfect' the machine before abandoning the paper ballot in 2004. Around the same time, a number of other countries were attracted by these machines and tried them. Germany's highest court threw a spanner in the works in 2009 by ruling in favour of a complaint, which had pointed out that EVMs require voters to have blind faith in technology as by pushing a button in the machine, they could not be sure if their vote had gone to the intended candidate, in contrast to marking/ stamping the paper ballot. Germany abandoned the machine and

stuck to the paper ballot. Indian machine enthusiasts, however, worked out a way to get around this weakness, introducing the 'Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail'. This required the insertion of a third machine, the VVPAT unit, between the earlier two, sioners as it wants. A law electoral bonds scheme in-later fixed the number of troduced by the Modi gov-which voters push the buternment but quashed by the control unit in which the It is, however, not just votes are recorded. When a voter pushes a button, the VVPAT is instructed to print a chit with the name

and symbol of his/her chosen candidate. The chit remains visible to the voter for seven seconds through a glass window after which it drops into a concealed compartment. India used this three-unit machine on a trial basis in 2014 and adopted it for the entire general election in 2019. The VVPAT, how-

ever, has thrown up more questions than it has answered. Yes, the voter can now see which candidate he/she has voted for, but no one can be sure if the VVPAT unit has correctly conveyed the same to the control/storage unit. The names and symbols of candidates are uploaded to VVPAT units, after nominations and allotment of symbols have been finalised, by attaching an external device, mostly a laptop, to the unit. This increases the chances of EVMs'

demanding the hand counting of chits from all VVPATs but the ECI has refused to oblige, probably because higher incidences of mismatches between hand and machine counting will make the whole system more controversial. After voting ends, the machines are stored in strong rooms until counting day, which may be exposure to weeks away. Parties have malware, besides making been apprehensive about them vulnerable to manipu-EVMs' security during the

addition, EVMs know the machines have not been which number stands for tampered with during the storage period. The ECI launched an which candidate, making potential manipulation

app in 2019, which provided two-hourly updates per chits stored in five on the turnout in real numbers, but during the curdomly selected from rent elections, it issued the amongst all used in a conturnout only in percentage terms, until a party knocked on the supreme stituency segment are manually counted too, but court's door. Though the court refrained from issufactory solution in case ing directives, the ECI decided to publish the turnties and experts have been out details in real numbers. The details of the first five phases have thus been published 36 days after the start of polling. However, this belated action may not be sufficient to counter all conspiracy theories regarding EVM manipulation during the storage period.

On June 4, all EVMs will be brought from the strong rooms to counting centres, and their seals will be broken to push the result buttons. Besides the next government, lation by hackers, national storage period. If, how- these results will decide

and painful struggle against militancy and terrorism, marked by the loss of thousands of lives. Conflating the genuine threat it poses — and which the nation continues to face — with the online actions of a few misguided individuals or miscreants seems to be taking the matter too far. Instead, We still haven't figured out the authorities would see better results in taking a more reflective approach. It seems crucial in this respect to acknowledge that the polarisation in our society is not solely a result of what is being said on social media. Neither can members of the ruling class, be they civilians or military officers, distance themselves from what is happening — they are a part of the Aug 11, 1947, he declared his support for peace, same society as their critics.

The extreme emotions currently being expressed online seem to be a reflection of the deep social and political angst that has engulfed the country. Unless the root causes of this instability are addressed, ordinary people can be expected to continue to act in ography Jinnah: A Life, posited that Jinnah's perways that are detrimental to sonal beliefs in secularism both the state and society. That is why merely labelling critics as 'digital terrorists' and initiating a new crackdown seems unlikely to bear results; instead, it could even exacerbate the discontent. What is needed, instead, is a broader, inclusive debate on how we as a nation can manage and mitigate the challenges posed by social media while respecting freedom of expression. Side by side, a softer, more empathetic approach is required to mend the rifts within society. It is only with patience and fortitude that this issue may be resolved.

commissioners at two and the practice continued for supreme court. decades without being challenged. But in recent times, the lack of trust in the comparties have found it risky to trust Modi for the job mission that is making par-ties nervous about EVMs.

Jinnah's children

Bina Shah

Jinnah never intended for exactly Pakistan to be divided who Mohammad Ali Jinnah from India in this manner. Quaid-i-Azam — is or was, even in 2024. Historian Avesha Jalal states in her 1985 seminal Westernised liberal secuwork, The Sole Spokesman, that Jinnah branlar, or champion of religious freedom for Mus-lims? Brilliant statesman dished the possibility of a partition on a religious basis only to secure more or failed politician who played the religion card? This national confusion protections for the Muslims in a united India. Congress rejected this idea swirls as we consider whether Jinnah's personal and actually made Partilife really was a reflection tion a reality, one that of what he intended Paki-Jinnah did not really believe in. stan to become

In Jinnah's Constituent Assembly speech of harmony, and pluralism. He envisioned Pakistan and India living as tranquil neighbours. Eminent Pakistani scholar Prof Akbar S. Ahmed supports this interpretation of Jinnah's intentions in his play Gandhi and Jinnah that was presented at this year's KLF

Lawyer Yasser Latif Hamdani, author of the bimatched his political ones - that he was opposed to bringing religion into politics. Islamic fundamentalists are the ones who turned Pakistan into a fundamentalist state completely the opposite

of what Jinnah wanted. Renowned publisher Ameena Saiyid, who has overseen the publication and opinions. of scores of books about Jinnah, agrees that Jinnah envisioned a secular, egalitarian country with Musims living in peace with Christians, Hindus, Parsis, and open borders appeared. with India. She recalls Roland multiple tense conversations she held with his daughter Dina, on the phone and in person. "It was as if she needed to unburden herself and talk about her great disappointment with what her father wanted and what

the country had become." But others say that point anyway.

ine Quaid-i-Azam, the founder of the nation, as a text that Mohammad Ali Jinnah authored in order to achieve his own political ends, we begin to see why he is interpreted so differently by so many in Pakistan. Perhaps the same can be applied to the idea of Pakistan, an--other

Anatol Lieven writes interlinked 'text' that we in Pakistan: A Hard Country to interpret and study, try that the "slogan of Palike a Rosetta Stone from kistan" was used by 1947. As Bar-thes said. Jinnah to win control over "text is a tissue drawn the Muslim League, and to from force Congress to agree to cent-r--es of culture". But United India where unlike the Rosetta Stone, Muslims shared power Jinnah's 'text' cannot be 'deciph-er--ed', only 'diswith Hindus. His vision of entangled' from its cultural a secular Pakistan where Muslims would be contexts. If Pakistan is a con-

"people of state" was one idea; another, that Pakicept, and the story of the stan could exist as an au-Quaid is a 'text', that text tonomous entity in a is open to the interpretawider, united South Asia. tion of scholars, historians. But a lack of numbers in biographers as well as Congress meant that regular citizens, students, Jinnah had to rely on even schoolchildren. The "Muslim street power" to intention behind Pakistan's creation will persuade others of his poalways be contested, as This introduction of each generation seeks to religion into politics gave interpret the meaning and rise to the obscurantist Paintent of Pakistan anew. kistan we live in today. Wise old men may shud-Ameena Saivid believes der at this approach but it Jinnah is held hostage to

people who want his enmism for a nation continudorsement of their ideas ously trying to reinvent itself amid today's chal-"His name, imagined lenges life, and politics are being Pakistan is undeniable used to influence others in without him, we would the narrative ... In the process, the real Jinnah has not exist. But it's time we become blurred, even disface the future with a sense of him standing firmly be-In literary critic hind us as we create a new Barthes's sense of meaning, belonging and purpose in the 21st century. We can only suc-

groundbreaking 1967 essay 'The Death of the Author', it is argued that once a text is published, it loses its connection with the author's intentions and becomes subject to reader Jinnah's orphans .-- Courinterpretations. In fact, it tesv Dawn

cal strength.

is the reader's interpretation that has primacy over any other. Barthes says we cannot precisely detect what the author intended, which is not the

Perhaps if we imag-

innumerable

Bonn can narrow down

does offer a certain dyna-Jinnah's influence on

ceed in resolving our crisis of identity when we gence across topics under think of ourselves as Jinnah's children, not the roadmap of keeping

1.5 alive. As the most impor-

ton of their choice and the for external devices. More of each voting phase, par- ance test of their lives. It importantly, it was candi- ties can tally it with the date-agnostic as it total votes polled by all international debate on recognised and recorded candidates as revealed on replacing the paper ballot candidates only as a num- counting day. This can en- with machines. -- Courber. But after the VVPAT's sure, to a large extent, that tesy Dawn

will influence the raging

COP28 to SB60

Aisha Khan

upcoming Conference of The 60th session of the Parties, the Bonn dialogue Subsidiary Bodies will must initiate several key take place from June 3actions for adoption of a 13, 2024, at the World financial package at COP29. As finance re-Conference Centre Bonn. mains the most hotly As the overall political contested and contenprogress on the road to COP29 remains slow, SB tious issue the SB meetings should link the adwill be key for negotiaaptation financial package tors to recalibrate their to the NCQG process, positions and identify arencompassing discuseas of compromise. with sions on categories. a view to laying the groundwork for an outscope contributions quantum, quality, time come at COP29.

The upcoming cli-mate conference will be frame and frequency. judged on how it delivers tries, conversations on loss and damage and the on three core tasks: 1) agreement on a new postglobal goal on adaptation 2025 climate finance goal (GGA) will be very important. This includes that lays the groundwork agreement on terms of for the free flow of fireference for the 2024 renance to developing counview of the Warsaw Intries to meet their Nationternational Mechanism ally Determined Contriand increased profile of butions commitments; 2) L&D in NCQG negotiabuild momentum for the tions as sub-goals with next generation of nagreater clarity on coorditional climate transition nation, coherence and and resilience plans; 3) complementarity beguide countries on how to tween previous dialogues. follow up and deliver on and the scale of L&D fithe outcome of the first nance needed to feed into Global Stock Take (GST).

The extent to which NCOG negotiations. The GGA progress in Bonn will set the stage differences will determine the COP29 outcome. The for a meaningful outcome at COP29. The UAE most important task for Framework for Global negotiators will be to Climate Resilience (UAE push beyond fixed posi-FGCR) does not have adtions on the new collecequate financial provitive quantified goals sions for adaptation to (NCQG) that can unlock give hope of meeting tarprogress in negotiations gets. This makes it necand pave the pathway for a final solution. To this essarv for parties in Bonn end, the talks must use to agree to modalities of UNFCCC processes to the UAE-Belem work programme by developcontinue the implementaing indicators and targets tion of outcomes from COP28 and the GST. to ensure that an inclusive This is the time to build and participatory appressure on the COP29 proach is used to guide presidency and the COP the process At COP28, the overtroika of the UAE, Azerbaijan and Brazil to all strategy for advancing the GGA identified ditake ownership of the UNFCCC process from mensional and sectoral targets but weak financial Bonn to Baku and steer provision remains a stumparties towards conver-

bling block. SB60 needs

to emphasise the need for

tant dialogue before the concessional to push the agenda forward.

It is important to use AE-FGCR and the NCOG on climate finance to create synergies for catalysing adaptation action The off-resisted inclusion of Means of Implementation as an integral part of finance will once again come in the way of closing the financial gap for adaptation. This year the issues under discussion must build momentum on decisions taken at Dubai with an For developing couneye on giving the agenda a meaningful thrust for concretising action in

Belem at COP30. To restore confidence in the multilateral system. negotiators in Bonn must make cross-cutting conversations an int-egral part of the UAE-FGCR and make efforts towards operationalisation during the work programme to ensure comprehensive and effective implementation.

The SB60 should avoid losing time on fighting agenda battles, and focus on matters relating to resilience and adaptation. The foremost consideration should be narrowing the submission scope guided by experts' out-puts to help receive targeted inputs and generating discussion to capture additional views from parties and stakeholders.

As the planet inches closer to crashing the 1.5 guard rail, the mood in the Global South is souring and platitudes are no longer acceptable to the people. With patience running out for promises without a plan. SB has its work cut out for escalating COP29 priorities into leader-level engagement.

Bonn offers an opportunity for building bridges between developed and developing countries around a shared vision and driving political that is grant-based and zones. -- Courtesy Dawn

Daily Aoice of Masse Independent

Sunday June 02, 2024

CM Maryam says Police must control crime as she accountable to 1.3 billion people

affected.

corruption.'

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif presided over a special meeting to review the overall law & order in the province here on Saturday.

The IG Police gave a briefing about the overall law and order and police performance.

The CM said,"I am accountable to 13 crore people; the police should control crime and one cannot turn a blind eye to reality. I will not tolerate any no-go area in Punjab. The crime rate will have to be brought down across the province under any circumstance. If the crime rate is on the rise then the people overlook reforms and development projects of the government.

She maintained, "The police are making sacrifices

but black sheep persist as well. I side with the police check-post. I laud the performance of the IG and stand behind the force. Police, RPO Sargodha and I expressed solidarity with DPO for protecting and the police force by donning a uniform. We are providing persons from a mob. More complete resources to the than 50 percent decrease in police so that their dacoity incidents in Lahore performance is not is affected. We are cor welcome." commented.

introducing an analysis and labourers being looted after inspection system in order to evaluate police taking their salaries was performance and eliminate not only sorrowful but also The CM said that 14 special check-posts were being established to stop dacoity inter-provincial smuggling. We are meeting every demand of the police force animals should be in the shape of the eradicated. A crackdown provision of vehicles, should continue on a gadgets, ammunition and training. It is our foremost responsibility to ensure police should make protection of every police effective measures to stop personnel standing on a firing incidents.

LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz presides over the meeting to review law and order situation in province. she repair work on Kohat The CM said

shameful. "I have given a deadline to the RPO PESHÂWAR: Khyber Sheikhupura to overcome Pakhtunkhwa Minister for incidents Snatching and theft incidents of sacrificial Finance and Law Aftab Alam Afridi Advocate on Saturday visited fire-affected Kohat Grid Station and inspected ongoing maintenance work. permanent basis for the elimination of drugs. The by Members Provincial

Gumbat Sajid Iqbal. LGH gynecologists achieve major success in life-saving operation

Minister inspects

Grid Station

Independent Report General Hospital (LGH) has successfully saved the life of Sumera Amjad, a 48year-old mother of two, by performing a highly complex operation to remove a 25 kg tumor from her fibroid uterus.

Independent Report

He was accompanied

The operation, which lasted five hours, was carried out by the skilled team of the Gynae Department Unit 3, including Dr. Shabnam Muhammad Ali, Dr. Maryam Zulfiqar, Dr. Nadia Sabeen, Dr. Aroosa, Dr. Sajida, and Dr. Usman. According to LGH

sources on Saturday, the patient had been suffering from severe abdominal pain and various gynecological issues for an extended period. Despite visiting hospitals, her condition continued to deteriorate. suffering.

Eventually, she sought LAHORE: A team of treatment at the gynecologists at Lahore Gynecology OPD of LGH, General Hospital (LGH) where Dr. Laila Shafiq and her expert team conducted comprehensive examinations and discovered the massive tumor in her uterus.

Recognizing the urgency of the situation, the medical team decided to proceed with the operation at LGH. The successful removal of the tumor not only saved Sumera Amjad's life but also alleviated the agony she had endured for so long. Principal of Post Graduate Medical Institute & Lahore General Hospital, Professor Dr. Al-Fareed Zafar, praised the gynecology team for their outstanding performance. "I am pleased that the team of LGH gynecologists was able to relieve the patient from her prolonged

FIA Peshawar

Zone recovers

fake medicine

PESHAWAR (APP): The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) Peshawar

Zone recovered a big

consignment of fake

medicines worth millions

of rupees here on Saturday.

first raid in Gulbahar Anam

Sanam Chowk, the accused

named Dawood, Sulaiman

and Muhammad Ali were

arrested. Fake medicines

worth Rs 250,000 were to

be smuggled to other

districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and

Afghanistan were seized.

the house of the accused

named Shoaib, the value of

seized fake drugs of worth

Shoaib confessed that Dr

Fawad had given fake

One mln kids to

be given anti

polio doses

from June 3

MULTAN (APP): About

one million kids will be

during a drive commencing

from June 3 in district

Commissioner Wasim

campaign

While talking to

vaccinating a kid at Shehbaz Sharif Hospital

here on Saturday.

media persons.

Deputy

Rs. 40.35 million.

medicines

partnership.

Multan

the

In its second raid, at

In the initial statement

on

the

by

FIA conducted the

generating depts to achieve targets KARACHI (APP): Sindh emphasised that the directed Chairman SRB Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has government's priority for the next financial year is to directed the revenue implement policies and collecting department to initiatives to stimulate economic growth and raise the scope of development all citizens' living works and poverty standards. "Our focus will be on investing in key

CM Sindh reviews resource

mobilisation, directs revenue

The CM said the

He said that the Sindh

ational

ews

This he said while sectors such as education, presiding over a meeting healthcare, provision of regarding resource mobilisation here at CM safe drinking water, sanitation, infrastructure, and agriculture", he added. House.

The meeting was attended by Senior Minister ET&NC Sharjeel priorities would be achieved when the revenuecollecting departments would achieve their revenue targets. Revenue Board (SRB) had a target of Rs235 billion for

Two die in

accidents on Saturday.

speeding truck hit a motorcycle near the wood market in Darya Khan. Consequently, the motorcycle rider Muhammad Hanzila (20) died on the spot due to multiple injuries. In another incident, Muhammad Ibrar, a resident of Sahiwal, along with his mother, was traveling on a motorcycle on the Sahiwal-Farooka road when a rashly driven car coming from the opposite direction.

Wasif Memon to reach the target and send him proposals for next year's

Page

05

targets. Murad Shah directed the SRB to suggest relief for the taxpayers and proposals for enhancing the SST net for the next financial year. The SRB chairman assured the chief minister that his organisation would reach the target and he would

submit his proposals. The CM said that the E&T dept has a target of Rs143 billion and it has to achieve it Minister E&T Sharjeel Memon said that he had taken strict measures to achieve the 2023-24 and the track tax collection target and record of the SRB showed would hopefully, give r concerned officers. that it had been surpassing him good news at the The chief minister its collection targets. He end of June 2024.

> LAHORE: Punjab Minister for Primarv and Secondary Healthcare Department Khawaja İmran Nazir and Minister for Specialized Healthcare and Medical Education Department Khawaja Salman Rafique addressing a Press conference regarding

Punjab ministers acknowledge media's role in health policy awareness

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Health Minister Minister for Primary and Khawaja Salman Rafique Secondary Healthcare assured the delegation of swift action Khawaja

LAHORE: Governor KPK Faisal Karim Kundi in a group photograph with Rangers guards and other officials at Mazar-e-Iqbal. **Governor KP**

Pak govt, people hold great love and reverence for Saudi Arabia: Saleem

Independent Report LAHORE: Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Nawaf bin Saeed Al Maliki called on Punjab Governor, Sardar Saleem said that President Asif Ali Haider Khan at Governor Zardari and the incumbent House Labore During the

is conducive environment for foreign investors in Pakistan. Governor Punjab government are determined

to

PESHAWAR investors should invest in Governor Pakistan adding that there Pakhtunkhwa, Faisal Karim Kundi on Saturday met with Punjab Governor, Sardar Salim Haider Khan and discussed matters of

mutual interest. Both the governors

meets with

Governor

Punjab

(APP)

Khyber

Assembly Daud Shah concerned to immediately Afridi Advocate and Shafi restore the electricity and Jan and Chairman Tehsil accelerate the repair work.

The minister was

informed that electricity has been restored to most parts of the city and the remaining areas would be provided electricity within the next five days. He was told that workers are busy round the clock to repair the damaged grid station.

achieve their targets so that The law minister directed the authorities

works and poverty alleviation can be ensured.

Memon, Chief Secretary Asif Hyder Shah, SMBR Baqaullah Unar, Secretary Finance Fayaz Jatoi, Secretary Excise Saleem Rajput, Secretary to CM Raheem Shaikh, Chairman SRB Wasif Memon, and other concerned officers.

road accidents SARGODHA (APP): Two people were killed in road



meeting, issues of mutual interest, Pakistan-Saudi relations and promotion of Saudi investments were discussed. Talking on this occasion Governor Puniab Saleem Haider Khan said relations between Pakistan and Saudi are deeply rooted in shared religion and culture. He added that the Pakistani government and people hold great love and reverence for Saudi Arabia. He said that Saudi Arabia has always offered support to Pakistan in every difficult time. Governor Punjab thanked Saudi Arabia for its continuous support to Pakistan at international forums. He said that Saudi

increase foreign investment. Governor Punjab further said that the Muslim Ummah should raise its voice at international forums against the atrocities of the relations between two Israeli army on the

Palestinian people. Saudi ambassador Nawaf bin Saeed Al-Maliki said that Pakistan is like his second home. He said that the role of Pakistani workforce in the development of Saudi Arabia is commendable. Later, Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan was met Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi at Governor House Lahore

exchanged pleasantries and congratulated each other on assuming responsibilities. They both reiterated further improve

> provinces and play role for country's development and progress, said press release issued here. Various matters

including promotion of higher education, enhancing of trade and business activities were also discussed in the meeting. Sardar Salim Haider and Faisal Karim also

agreed to take steps for creating platform for people of both provinces to take benefits of mutual experience.

Salt mines

inspected

SARGODHA (APP): In-

Ombudsman Regional

Office Sargodha, Mushtaq

Ahmad Awan, inspected

salt mines in Kalabagh, in

release issued by the

Regional Office on

According to a press

Ombudsman

Mianwali district.

Federal

charge

Federal

LΟ

LAHORE: Provisional Minister for Information Azma Bukhari addressing a press conference at D.G.P.R office in the Provincial Capital.

PTI has another May 9 plan in their minds: **Azma Bokhari**

with it.

Naeem Haider

Raoof

Zain Qureshi of PTI

made it clear on a TV

channel the other day that

Imran's X account without

his permission, while

Paniutha said that

Hassan

LAHORE (INP): Punjab which was formerly Information Minister known as Twitter] Azma Bokhari on Saturday said the PTI had another May 9-like plan in their mind and added that a

commission should be rejected the claims that formed on why the PTI founding chairman Imran Khan "is doing all this" against the national institutions and the country.

"Does he wants to do politics or something else is his agenda," she remarked and said that the anarchy and violence was in the genes of PTI, adding that the

social media team, Bokhari not only party reminded the reporters. executed the May 9 another PTI leader, talked violence but had also written letters to the IMF about dragging the provinces into a fight for derailing the talks between the two sides.

Addressing a press conference, Bokhari said the tweet [the post on X agenda.

eulogising Sheikh Mujibur minimum wages fixed by Rehman was still the the government should be pinned post on the X strictly enforced. account of Imran, as she the PTI founder and his party have nothing to do

Pakistan

Boxer, others on June 14 in ATC Lahore

the nothing was posted on LAHORE (Online) Hearing of case against Abid Boxer and others will their leader had praised the and escaping from police

against Abid Boxer. The hearing of the against each other, she said

and added that dividing the country was their party



LAHORE: Chief Guest Mr. Justice Sved Mansoor Ali Shah addressing the Justice AR Cornelius Conference 2024.

Several new schemes approved for developing tourism in Chitral

Independent Report PESHAWAR: In the new budget of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, several new schemes have been approved for the development of tourism in Chitral and sufficient funds have been allocated.

Saturday, the in-charge This was disclosed by Wafaqi Muhtasib met the the Advisor to the Chief labourers working on the site and inquired about Minister their problems. He went Pakhtunkhwa on Tourism and Culture Zahid Chanzeb inside the salt mines and reviewed the ongoing work. in his office in Peshawar in Mushtaq Ahmad Awan a meeting with various took a detailed briefing delegations from Chitral who thanked the provincial from the management of the Mineral government for allocating Development Corporation schemes and new additional funds for the and told them that the tourism sector in Chitral. He said that new schemes

government-level Hearing of case Tirch Mir and schemes to against Abid provide easy loans to with all amenities in their

former inspector police be held in Anti Terrorism Court (ATC) Lahore on June 14.Case of snatching official arms from police

custody is registered

case against Abid Boxer, Hamid Ullah and others will take place on June 14.

homes to accommodate foreign tourists. In addition celebrating the to traditional Kalash festivals and the Shandur Polo Ferstivity in a more organized manner, new projects have been added so that tourists can enjoy visiting Chitral twelve months of the year, he maintained. He said that Khyber the experience of visiting foreign tourists in rented

houses has proved to be quite successful in Gilgit-Baltistan, which not only increases the number of tourists but also increases the income of the local people. He assured that the tourists of Chitral will go back to their countries with pleasant memories of the include hospitality and a good

image of the place. organisation of Jashan Zahid Chanzeb said that a new scheme called Families residents of Chitral to Based Accommodation for the construct additional rooms Foreign Tourists.



KARACHI: Cantonment Board Clifton Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Syed Zaki Haider Rizvi exchanges views with Member Provincial Assembly MPA Dr. Fauzia Hameed during meeting held at his office in Karachi.

Imran Nazir and Minister their concerns and accepted of media in disseminating government policies to the public. The acknowledgment came

during a meeting with a delegation from the National Press Club held on Saturday. Khawaja Imran Nazir emphasized the collective responsibility in enhancing the health system, stating, 'We all have to play a role in improving the health system." He welcomed the ournalists to the Health Department, underscoring the media's function as a vital conduit between the facilities in Puniab's government and the people. hospitals.

for Specialized Healthcare an invitation to visit the and Medical Education National Press Club in Department Khawaja Islamabad and its Camp Salman Rafique have Office in Rawalpindi. He recognized the crucial role reiterated that under the leadership of Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif, significant efforts are being made to improve patient care. The delegation, which included President PFUJ Afzal Butt. Secretary National Press Club Navar Ali Secretary Finance National Press Club Waqar Abbasi, and President Lahore Press Club Arshad Ansari, discussed mutual interests and the challenges faced by journalists regarding healthcare and treatment



LAHORE: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi meeting with Punjab Governor, Sardar Salim Haider Khan at Governor House.

172 govt buildings to get 47mw electricity under solarization

provided through the solar

100 government

through

KARACHI (APP): Sindh solarization 21.7MW of Energy Minister Syed Nasir Hussain Shah has electricity was being said that 172 public sector buildings will initially be provided with 47 MW of electricity through solarization in three through

different phases. He expressed these views at the Energy Department during a meeting with a delegation of the World Bank's technical mission, according to a communique

given anti-polio doses on Saturday. The World Bank mission was led by Senior Energy Specialist/Task Team Leader Dmytro Glazkov while Project Hamid Sindhu inaugurated Director Sindh Solar Energy Mahfooz Qazi and others were also present on the occasion. The Minister Energy

directions of the chairman of PPP Bilawal Bhutto Zardari free electricity should be provided to the gave more details and said that in the first phase of people as soon as possible.

panels to 34 public sector buildings, While in the second phase will be completed by 2024 and 23 government buildings will be provided with 10 MW of electricity through solar panels. Similarly, in the third

phase, there was a plan to provide 15 MW electricity to buildings solarization from July

2024. Nasir Shah said that 4MW floating solar will be installed at Hyderabad Qasimabad treatment plant. He told the delegation that according to party manifesto and

Daily soice of Masse, Independent Sunday June 02, 2024

Pakistan, China sign MoU to help invest in key projects for promotion of industrial coop.

BEIJING (APP): The National Bank of Pakistan (NBP) has agreed to partner with China-Pakistan International Silk Road Industry Investment Management Company Limited by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to facilitate investment in key projects for promotion of industrial cooperation between China and Pakistan and supporting the establishment of special economic zones and other sectors of economy and bilateral trade.

Economic Minister, Aslam Chaudhary, Liu Jiang Hua from China-Pakistan International Silk Road Industry Investment Management Company Limited, Representatives Dan Zhou from Government, Hai Nan Province, Zhang Yu Bo, MCC & Bank of Tianjin witnessed the signing ceremony held at Pakistan Embassy here on Saturday.

The event was also from it

joined virtually by Riaz Hussain, SEVP and Group Chief, International, Financial Institutions and Remittances Group and Hasan Jamal, SVP, Corridor (CPEC) and Investment Banking Group National Bank of Pakistan, Head Office, Karachi.

Addressing participants on occasion, Aslam Chaudhary briefed them about the incentives offered by the present units. government to attract the investment especially from China.

He informed that special economic zones are being established across Pakistan where the Chinese enterprises could relocate their industry and export products to different countries taking advantage of preferential agreements signed by Pakistan with various countries.

foreign

The Minister said that Pakistan having a population of over 225 million is itself a big market and the Chinese companies could benefit

He said that the government is focusing the industrialization in the second phase of China Pakistan offering opportunities in various sectors. He invited the

the Chinese entrepreneurs to come to Pakistan and avail facilities and incentives for setting up their industrial Aslam Chaudhary

opined that the MoU would help the Chinese companies for investment in different projects and promote industrial cooperation between the

two countries. Speaking on the asion, Chief occasion, Representative of NBP, Sheikh Muhammad Shariq told the audience that the National Bank of Pakistan Economic is the largest and stateowned bank and amongst

the Domestic Systematic Important Bank from Pakistan, operating with 18 overseas branches located in South Asia, Central Asia.



QUETTA: Balochistan Governor Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail in a group photo with President Anjuman-e-Tajiran Double Road Malik Nadir Khan Achakzai and other traders.

Resilient energy can save 175,000 lives, contribute \$296m to Pakistan's economy: UNICEF

new report by UNIĆEF finds that ensuring a consistent energy supply for health facilities in Pakistan could save over 175,000 lives by 2030 and contribute US\$296 million to the economy by 2044. investment.

The report, titled "Reliable energy to save 175,000 lives, boost Pakistan's economy," emphasizes the importance of "resilient energy" -reliable, flexible, and accessible power that can withstand disruptions like power outages and floods.

This type of energy relevant considering supply is crucial for Pakistan's recent improving health, declaration of an education New industrial zones to

KARACHI (APP): Sindh participants regarding the Minister for Industries and Sindh Industrial Policy. Commerce Jam Ikramullah

industrial development in Sindh were discussed. In the meeting, the

proposal for establishment of the Sindh Industrial Development Corporation under Public Private Partnership was appreciated. Industrial development in other districts of Sindh along with Karachi was emphasised. The Provincial from all over Sindh including Karachi. Dharejo speaking in the meeting said that new

ISLAMABAD (INP): A education, and water emergency, where millions services across Pakistan. of children are out of The study, conducted by school. Resilient energy the Economist Impact could also power nearly Unit, estimates that 20% of off-grid schools in investing in resilient two provinces. Pakistan has faced energy could yield returns

up to three times the initial extreme heatwaves recently. with temperatures exceeding 50 The report highlights benefits beyond just healthcare. Providing degrees Celsius. This strains the power grid and stable electricity to schools makes it difficult to maintain cooling systems could reduce dropout rates and improve learning in hospitals and schools, outcomes, potentially adding US\$2.3 billion to endangering children's

health. the economy by 2040. "Children rely on schools, health centers, and This is particularly safe drinking water, but these facilities often lack a stable electricity supply."

Stone crusher market tax objections addressed

SARGODHA (APP): delegation of the Supreme Council Crusher Market, led by PML-N Member National Assembly Dr Zulfiqar Ali Bhatti met with Regional Tax Office Chief Commissioner Dr. Faheem Muhammad at his office on Saturday.

the

According to a press release issued by RTO, the Supreme Council Stone Crusher Market team raised objections to data collected by Federal Board Industrial Enclave, a to initiate ambitious of Revenue Sargodha, to which the Chief government spread over the Zones which would, as

Business and trade delegation from Pakistan ends its visit to Ethiopia

Page

06

initiatives to liberalize the

infrastructure, and create

an investor-friendly

environment. He reiterated

the Sialkot chamber's

commitment to facilitating

collaborations between

Sialkot-based exporters

improve

Ethiopian

economy,

and

SIALKOT (APP): As a Ethiopia's appeal as an business and trade investment destination, delegation from Pakistan citing its strategic concluded its visit to Ethiopia.

OMMERCENEWS

President Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) Abdul Ghafoor Malik expressed heartfelt gratitude on behalf of the delegation. SCCI President Abdul

Ghasfoor Malik highlighted the delightful experience of staying in Addis Ababa, noting the city's beauty, cultural heritage, the resilience and warmth of its people.

Malik commended the Ethiopian government's vision and dedication to economic growth and development. He particularly acknowledged Ambassador of Ethiopia to Pakistan Jemal Beker Abdula for his tireless efforts and meticulous planning in

visit. Malik praised his commitment to strengthening ties between business communities of both nations. The SCCI president emphasized



investments in sectors such as sports goods, sports wear, leather products, surgical instruments, gloves, and workwear.



LAHORE: Punjab Minister for Local Government Zeeshan Rafique inspecting the stall at Property exhibition at Expo Centre.

Shah lays foundation stone of Sukkur **Industrial Enclave**

SUKKUR (APP): Assembly (MNA), Syed

Member of National industrialisation in the country and enhancing the Khurshid Ahmad Shah on volume of exports by Saturday laid the creating an enabling foundation stone of Sukkur environment for investors

PESHAWAR: CM KPK Sardar Ali Amin Gandapur chairing a meeting of

Mineral Investment Facilitation Authority.

Power generation from Thar coal reaches 2,640mw, Poised to hit 3,280mw 4.3m consumers by year's end: Malik

HYDERABAD (APP): Thar coal to strengthen the Thar coal is currently c o n t r i b u t i n g approximately 2,640 MW of electricity to the national oil is Rs 49 per unit, from grid from its two blocks, RLNG Rs 51 per unit and

country's economy. He noted that the cost of electricity from furnace

1.315 feeders PESHAWAR (APP) Peshawar Electric Supply Company (Pesco) is providing electricity to its 4.3 million consumers through 1,315 feeders in

PESCO

provides

electricity to

through

and

Gold rates dip

by Rs.1,400

system

from

Jewellers

be established: Dharejo Points of Sindh Industrial Policy for Dharejo has said that the new industrial zones will be established under the

Sindh Industrial Policy. He stated this during a meeting held in Sindh Secretariat that was attended by Secretary Industries and Commerce Muhammad Yasin Shar Baloch, MD SITE Ghazanfar Qadri, other and of Chamber of Commerce Minister Jam Ikramullah

with power generation expected to reach about per unit, while Thar coal buring 3,280 MW by the end of this year. Azhar Malik, Vice President of Site Operations at Sindh Engro Coal Mining Company (SECMC) for Thar Coal Block II, disclosed this while speaking to the media in Islamkot, Tharparkar.

Malik mentioned that each block produces 1,320 MW of electricity.

He highlighted that Thar coal could save Pakistan \$8 billion annually by generating cheaper electricity and suggested shifting cement and urea fertilizer plants to Shanghai Electric Company

generates electricity at Rs 24 per unit and with fully restored to 548 increased production, this feeders of category 1 and cost could drop to Rs 20 2, said a press release per unit, benefiting both issued here on Saturday. domestic and industrial Proper load management has been done on remaining users. He added that feeders due to ratio of Pakistan's electricity demand peaks at 35,000 losses MW in summer, but Thar overloading. coal reserves could generate 100,000 MW of cheap

During the last 12 hours, 64 Pesco feeders electricity for 200 years. have been affected by fault Currently, SECMC at different times. Pesco generates approximately operation teams have 1,320 MW from Block II restored power to 28 feeders by repairing the fault immediately. with an additional 1,320

Afghan consul agrees over joint efforts to solve problems faced in Pak-Afghan mutual trade

PESHAWAR (APP): Transport Consul General of the Consulate Afghan Consulate Peshawar Mohibullah Shakir has agreed to make joint efforts Khel and Protocol Officer to solve the problems faced in Pak-Afghan mutual and transit trade to remove the obstacles. The agreement by the Afghan envoy came during a meeting held at the Afghan Consulate with businessmen dealing in Pak-Afghan trade, said a press release issued here on Saturday.

by Coordinator Pak- community, traders, Afghan Joint Chamber of industrialists, exporters, Commerce and Industry (PAJCCI), Ziaul Haq Sarhadi, former senior vice president of Sarhad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI), Engineer

per tola ISLAMABAD (APP): The per tola price of 24 karat gold decreased by Rs.1,400 and was sold at Afghan Syed Rs.240,300 on Saturday compared to its sale at Muhammad Faiz, Former Rs.241,700 on last trading Hafiz Deputy Commercial kir has Attache, Dr Hameed Fazil day. The price of 10 grams of 24 karat gold also decreased by Rs.1,200 to Shahidullah Zaheer were also present on the Rs.206,019 occasion.President of Rs.207,219 whereas the Frontier Customs Agents

prices of 10 gram 22 karat Association (FCAA) Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, gold went down to Rs.188,850 from Zia-ul-Haq Shardi spoke on Rs189,950, the All Sindh the occasion and apprised Sarafa participants of the meeting Association reported. about different issues faced The price of per tola business the silver decreased by Rs.80 to 2,820 whereas that of ten gram silver went down transporters including restoration of Afghan

Rs.68.58 Rs.2,417.70. The price of gold in the international market decreased by \$16 to \$2,326 from \$ 2,342.

During the last 12 hours, the power has been

representatives

officers

Economist Qaiser industrial zones would be Bengali along with his team

established under the Sindh briefed the meeting Industrial Policy.

FAISALABAD: Owners proudly display their pets

during the competition 26th International camel

FBR faces Rs33bn

tax revenue shortfall,

needs Rs1,289bn in June

Rs1,289 billion in June.

exceeded its revenue target

for May 2024 by Rs15

billion, collecting Rs760

billion against a target of

collection

in tax revenue.

Bull Association at UAF Stadium.

Revenue (FBR) is

grappling with a tax revenue shortfall of Rs33

billion for the current

May 2024, the FBR collected Rs8,126 billion,

slightly below the target of

Rs8,159 billion intended to

be collected for the 11

months of this financial

year, according to informed

sources. To achieve the

overall tax revenue target of

existing industrial area has

no more space to set up

Rs9,415 billion for the Rs745 billion.

Atif urged govt to

announce a new industrial

From July 2023 to

financial year.

Commissioner assured them of the correctness of the data and his full cooperation in this regard.

General Secretary Supreme Council Stone Crusher Market, Rana Economic Muhammad Irshad Khan, requested the Chief Commissioner to give time till 3 June for a detailed reply with reference to the statistics and suggested that notices related to the figures be postponed for one week according to the actual data. Sindh

It was decided in the meeting after consultation that a detailed meeting should be held with all country. stakeholders on June 3.

400 acres of land under a a corollary, create job public-private partnership opportunities, bring in new to promote industrial development. Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Sindh

technology and attract foreign investment, he added. On the occasion Board Director SSMC Qasim Naveed Qamar, Zones Management Company, Abdul Azim Aqili briefed MNA Syed Khurshid Ahmad Shah about the project at the project site. On the occasion, Syed Khursheed Ahmed Shah said that the Sukkur Abbasi, Industrial Enclave is a Government venture, conceived and designed to increase and improve the exports of the main

Chief Technical Officer, Farid Ahmad Sheikh, Former President of Sukkur Chamber of Commerce Aamir Ghori, Divisional Commissioner Sukkur, Fayyaz Hussain Deputy Commissioner Sukkur Dr MB Raja. Dharejo, Assistant Commissioner Rohri, Project Manager Naeem Sheikh, Marketing Head Hammad Shams and officers and employees



Its

HUB: Residents of Asad Chowk block road as they are holding protest demonstration against the prolonged electricity load shedding during hot weather of summer season, at RCD Highway road in Hub.

PESHAWAR

regulations and orders.

demanded

Tanveer stresses for agricultural reforms to

develop economy LAHORE (INP): Federal Minister for Industries Production and Food

Security, Rana Tanveer Hussain has stressed for agricultural reforms to departments

ceremony in Lahore, he said prosperous farmers can ensure a prosperous Pakistan. The Minister said provision of relief to farmer community is the government's top priority. He said multiple measures are being taken in the domain of food security as it is a great challenge across the world.

(APP): community asked the Traders on Saturday government to end issuance the of illegal notices, government to take harassment and pragmatic steps for unnecessary actions by improving law and order concerned authorities. situation. They urged Traders want permanent provincial and federal tax and authorities to respect dignity during actions and enforcement of rules and During a joint meeting of various trade bodies and associations of Peshawar held under chairmanship of the Sarhad Chamber of Commerce and Industry

solutions to border-related issues. They demanded steps to make a fully functional dry-port. The government should pay attention to developing small and medium scale business and industry, along with the mining, marble sector, they stressed. The traders asked the government to retain (SCCI) Fuad Ishaq at the tax-exemption for erstwhile Chamber House here FATA/merged district and Saturday, the business Provincial

document Ilam-o-Khabar, establishment of liaison committee between the two countries and gave Manzoor Elahi, Director various suggestions.



HYDERABAD: Vendor displaying slippers and sandals to attract the customer at Makki Shah road.

zone in Islamabad ISLAMABAD (APP): new industrial units. As Chairman of the Capital Area of Pakistan Business Forum (PBF), Atif Ikram Sheikh has urged the have come almost in the federal government to middle of the city with no officially announce a new industrial zone in Islamabad to promote industrial sector and attract investment.Addressing the members of Islamabad Industrial Association on Saturday, Atif Ikram who is also President FPCCI, said Islamabad has seen plentv of fast expansion during the last 15 years, and the

important issue

per Master Plan of Islamabad, the industrial area of sectors I-9 and I-10 adequate space available for establishment of additional industrial units,' he pointed out. Ikram said that industrial estate played a pivotal role in bringing prosperity to a larger extent with poverty reduction through creating job opportunities. Urging the government to give due consideration to this

develop economy. Addressing

Traders demand pragmatic steps for maintenance of law and order situation

of

Daily Joice of Masse **Independent** Quetta

Sunday June 02, 2024

International News

Page 07

since the United States and

Britain launched a cam-

paign in January to counter

Houthi attacks off Yemen's

a video purporting to de-pict bloodied men wounded

in a strike on a Hodeida ra-

in Hodeida said many fight-

ers were among the killed

and wounded, but he could

not specify an exact figure.

ministry said its planes

launched strikes in "a joint

operation with US forces

against Houthi military fa-

cilities to degrade their abil-

ity to persist with their at-

tacks on international ship-

The ministry said in-

The channel broadcast

A hospital employee

The British defence

Biden presents Israel's new Gaza ceasefire plan

Monitoring Desk WASHINGTON: US President Joe Biden called on Hamas to agree to a new offer from Israel on releasing prisoners in exchange for a Gaza Biden, who has supceasefire, saying this is the best way to begin began. winding down the deadly conflict.

In his first major address outlining a solution to the eight-month conflict, Biden said the proposal started with a sixweek phase that would see Israeli forces withdraw from all populated areas of Gaza.

"It's time for this release of hundreds of war to end, for the day after to begin," Biden said in a televised address from the White House, adding that "we can't lose this moment" to seize the chance for peace.

"Israel has offered a talks remained underway, tiable" Biden said. comprehensive new proposal. It's a roadmap to an enduring ceasefire and lives up to its committhe release of all hos- ments, a temporary of Rafah

tages," he said. The 81-year-old ceasefire would become, in the words of the Israeli Democrat put particular pressure on the Palestinian group. "Hamas needs ported Israel with mili-

tary aid since the conflict Biden said the first six-week phase would include a "full and complete

The group said ear-lier on Friday it had inceasefire, withdrawal of formed mediators it Israeli forces from all populated areas of Gaza. would only agree to a release of a number of "comprehensive" truce prisoners, including women, the elderly, the agreement including a prisoner swap if Israel halts its "aggression". Ismail Haniyeh, the wounded, in exchange for

head of Hamas's Qatar-Israel and the Palesbased political office, reiterated that the group's tinians would then negotiate during those six core demands — includweeks for a lasting ing a permanent ceasefire ceasefire — but the truce and full Israeli withwould continue if the drawal --- "are non-nego-

Biden did not signifi-

proposal, the cessation of hostilities permanently," added Biden. Biden's announce-ment of the proposal

comes after repeated at-tempts to end the war have stalled. Hamas insists that any ceasefire should be permanent.

"As long as Hamas cantly address Israel's as-

Palestinian prisoners."

Presidential candidate of the ruling MORENA party Claudia Sheinbaum waves during her closing campaign rally at Zocalo Square, in Mexico City, Mexico.

President Joe Biden,

Trump had been given an

opportunity to defend

himself in the same justice

system that applies to all

Trump will appeal historic conviction

Monitoring Desk NEW YORK: Donald who will face Trump in Trump said on Friday he the Nov. 5 election, said would appeal the guilty verdict that made him the first US president convicted of a crime, though he will have to wait until after Americans. his sentencing on July 11

before taking that step. In rambling remarks at anyone to say this was Trump Tower lobby in rigged just because they

Heatwave kills 33, including poll officials,

in India

Monitoring Desk BHUBANES WAR: Thirty-three people, including election officials on duty, died of suspected heatstroke in India's states of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Odisha on Friday, and the

"It's reckless, it's dangerous, it's irresponsible for heatwave in the region is expected to continue until



New Zealand's Defence Minister Judith Collins, Malavsia's Defence Minister Dato' Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin, Singapore's Defence Minister Ng Eng Hen, Australia's Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Richard Marles, and Britain's Director General (Security Policy) Paul Wyatt meet on the sidelines of the Shangri-La Dialogue for the Five Power Defence Arrangements (FPDA) Defence Ministers'

US, allies 'gravely concerned' by North Korea-Russia cooperation

Monitoring Desk WASHINGTON: The allies said on Friday they are "gravely concerned" by deepening cooperation between North Korea and Russia and called for an end to North Korean arms transfers for use against Ukraine.

The US secretary of state and foreign ministers from Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, South said

Twenty drown in boat accident in eastern Afghanistan

Monitoring Desk KABUL: Twenty people, including children, drowned when a boat sank during a river crossing in Afghanistan's eastern Nangarhar province on Saturday, a provincial official

said. "A boat with women and children on board sank on Saturday morning at 7am in the river in the Basawul

area of Momand Dara district" of eastern Nangarhar, said Quraishi Badloon, the head of the province's information department, in a post on social media platform X

Korea and Britain, as well the EU High Representa-United States and its main tive, issued a joint statement highlighting their recent coordination of sanctions measures in response to such activity. "Our governments stand in resolute opposition

to these continued arms transfers, which Russia has used to strike Ukraine's critical infrastructure, prolonging the suffering of the Ukrainian people," they

survived the accident, the cause of which was being investigated. The Nangarhar Infor-

ment said the authorities had sent a medical team and ambulances to the area, in a message shared with the

had been recovered and efforts were underway to find the others, provincial government officials said.

Residents in the area regularly cross the river using boats often in poor condition, as there is no nearby bridge, local media re-He said five people ported.

Prabowo says Indonesia willing to send peacekeeping troops to Gaza

Monitoring Desk SINGAPORE: Indonesia's president-elect, Prabowo Subianto, said on Saturday that his country was willing to send peacekeeping troops to enforce a ceasefire in Gaza if required.

Speaking at the Shangri-La Dialogue, Asia's premier security conference, Prabowo said U.S. President Joe Biden's three-phase proposal for a ceasefire in Gaza was a step in the right direction.

Canada raised foreign interference concerns with China

SINGAPORE: Canada warned China against meddling in its elections during a rare meeting of the countries' defence chiefs, its defence minister said on Sat-

urday. I raised the concern of foreign interference in all the manifestations that it might take, including interference in our institutions, including our elections, but also actions of collusion against the Chinese diaspora in Canada.

US, UK air strikes claim 16 lives in Yemen strikes among the deadliest

coast

dio building.

of Aden".

Monitoring Desk HODEIDA: The United States and Britain carried out air strikes on Yemen in what they said was a bid to degrade their maritime attack capabilities, with Houthi media reporting 16 killed.

The Houthis have been targeting shipping around the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden since November, citing solidarity with Palestinians in the Gaza Strip

Journalists heard loud explosions in the capital Sanaa and the port city of Hodeida from Thursday night to Friday. Strikes also targeted

telecom infrastructure in the town of Taez, the ping in the Red Sea and Gulf Houthi-controlled Al Masirah television reported.

telligence indicated two sites Citing health authorities, the TV station said 16 people were killed and more than 35 were wounded in Hodeida alone, without specifying if they were civilians or Houthi fighters.

SINGAPORE: Ukrainian

torcade amid heavy secu-

rity, Zelenskiy said in a

statement on the social

media platform X that he

had come to gather sup-port from the Asia-Pacific

delegates.

near Hodeida had been involved in the attacks on shipping, "with a number of buildings identified as housing drone ground control facilities and providing storage for very long-range drones, as well as surface-

The toll reported by drones, as well a Al Masirah would make the to-air weapons".

Zelenskiy arrives in Singapore for Shangri-La Dialogue **Monitoring Desk**

Switzerland.

"Global security is President Volodomyr impossible when the Zelenskiy arrived in world's largest country Singapore for the Shangridisregards recognised bor-La Dialogue conference on ders, international law, and Saturday, where he planned to meet US Dethe UN Charter, resorts to hunger, darkness, and nuclear blackmail," the statement said, referring fense Secretary Lloyd Austin and discuss support for his embattled to Russia, which invaded Ukraine in 2022. country in an address to

The statement said After arriving at the Zelenskiy planned to hold several meetings, including several meetings, including with Singapore's Presi-Tharman dent Shanmugaratnam and Prime Minister Lawrence Wong, Timor-Leste President José Ramos-Horta. region for a peace summit Austin, and Singaporean planned for June 15-16 in investors.

US, China defence chiefs lock horns on Taiwan at Asia security summit

Monitoring Desk SINGAPORE: The US and Chinese defence Ching-te this month, US chiefs locked horns on Air Force Major General Patrick Ryder said in a Taiwan in their first faceto-face meeting in two years on Friday, but both expressed concern about recent provocative PLA sides emphasised the need to keep military-to-mili- activity around the Taitary communications open. US Defense Secrewan Strait, and he reiterated that the PRC should not use Taiwan's political tary Lloyd Austin and transition - part of a nor-China's defence minister, mal, routine democratic Dong Jun, met in Singapore on the sidelines process - as a pretext for coercive measures," Ryder of Asia's premier defence summit, the Shangri-La said after the 75-minute meeting. Dialogue. The Philippines' president was to He was referring to give a speech at the meetthe People's Liberation Army and the People's Reing later in the day that public of China. Dong was expected to touch on warned Austin that the US sensitive South China Sea should not interfere in claims The US-China rela-China's affairs with Taiwan, defence ministry tionship is expected to spokesperson Wu Qian loom over the dialogue, as told reporters. The US apare the wars in Ukraine and Gaza, and the South proach to Taiwan violates commitments made by the China Sea tensions. United States and sends the During the meeting wrong signal to "separatist with Dong, Austin expressed concern about forces" in Taiwan, the days of confusion spokesperson quoted Dong Chinese military activity as saying. Beijing calls Lai near Taiwan, including af-ONDON: Britain's oppoter the island's presiden- a "separatist". sition Labour Party said that

Monitoring Desk

mation and Culture Depart-

media. At least five bodies

Manhattan, he repeated complaints that the trial was a "rigged" attempt to House hobble his comeback White House bid.

"If they can do this to me, they can do this to anyone," Trump, 77, said in an unscripted 33-minute speech. Applauded by supporters, he took no questions from reporters.

"We're going to be appealing this scam," he

Trump will have 30 days from the date of his July 11 sentencing to file a notice of appeal.

Saturday, authorities said don't like the verdict, India has been expe-Biden, 81, said at the White riencing a blisteringly hot

summer and a part of the The New York hush capital Delhi recorded the money case against Trump country's highest-ever was considered the weaktemperature at 52.9°C this est by many legal experts, week, though that may be but it resulted in a stunning revised with the weather conviction and is likely to department checking the be the only one of the four sensors of the weather facing the ex-president to be station that registered the tried before the November reading

While temperatures in He has been indicted north-western and central in Washington and Georgia India are expected to fall in on far more serious charges the coming days, the preseeking to overturn his vailing heatwave over eastern India is likely to continue for two days, said India's Meteorological Department (IMD).

South Africa election ends 3 decades of **ANC dominance**

election

Monitoring Desk MIDRAND: South Africans angry at joblessness, inequality and power shortages have slashed support for the African National Congress (ANC) to 40 per cent in this week's election, ending three decades of dominance by the party that freed the country from apartheid.

A dramatically weakened mandate for the legacy party of Nelson Mandela, down from the 57.5pc it got in the previ-ous 2019 parliamentary election, means the ANC must share power with a rival in order to keep it — an unprecedented prospect.

'We can talk to everybody and anybody,' Gwede Mantashe, the ANC chair and current mines and energy minister, told reporters in comments carried by the South Afri-

can Broadcasting Corporation (SABC), dodging a question about who the party was discussing a possible coalition deal with. Vote tallying from Wednesday's poll was entering its final stages on Saturday, with results from 99.53pc of polling stations giving the ANC 40.21pc. The main opposition

2020 election loss to Demo-

crat Joe Biden.

party, the Democratic Alliance (DA), had 21.80pc, uMkhonto we Sizwe (MK), a new party led by former president Jacob Zuma, managed to grab 14.60pc, while the far-left Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF), led by former ANC youth leader Julius Malema, got 9.48pc.

"We have achieved our mission: [...] to bring the ANC below 50pc. We want to humble the ANC,' Malema told journalists at the results centre



US-sanctioned

Guards commander Vahid Haghanian is among candidates who registered on Saturday to become Iran's next president following the death in a helicopter crash of Ebrahim Raisi, state me-

dia reported. Haghanian, a close aide Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, told reporters after registering that his qualifications were based on "experience from serving 45 years in the presidency and the leader's office". The US Treasury designated, opens new tabHaghanian in

2019 among nine individuals in Khamenei's "inner circle responsible for advancing...domestic and foreign oppression"

PM Modi in general election Monitoring Desk gress party was projected to win more than 120 NEW DELHI: Indian Prime Minister Narendra seats Exit polls have a

TV exit poll summary

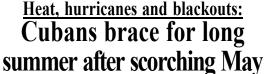
projects victory for Indian

Modi's Bharatiya Janata patchy record in India as Partv-led alliance is prothey have often got election jected to win a majority in outcomes wrong, with anathe general election that concluded on Saturday, an lysts saying it is a challenge to get them right in the large exit poll summary by the NDTV news channel said. and diverse country. Nearly one billion The summary of two

exit polls projected the ruling National Democratic Alliance (NDA) could win more than 350 seats in the 543-member lower house of parliament, where 272 is needed for a simple maority

The NDA won 353 in the 2019 election.

The opposition "In-dia" alliance led by the Con-the same day. and results are expected



parts

Monitoring Desk IAVANA: If May is any indication, Cuba is in for a long, hot summer, says Havana horse and buggy driver Osmel Valdes.

The 52-year-old Havana resident runs a transport service through the Cuban capital's sweltering streets. Shade is hard to come by so he lays a piece of scrap cardboard atop his horse between rides to give it respite.

This month the heat has been terrible," he says. Across the island nation, summer temperatures

arrived nearly two months early, made worse by hourslong blackouts amid fuel shortages and power-plant failures. With night-time temperatures reaching 27 degrees Celsius (80 degrees Fahrenheit) and daytime temperatures soaring to 35

people were eligible to

vote in the seven-phase

election that began on April

19 and was held in scorch-

ing summer heat in many

mission will count votes

polled in electronic vot-

ing machines on June 4

The Election Com-

C, there is no escape, local to inmates by the governresidents say. ment, prisoners will have Meteorologist their remaining sentences Ramon Perez, who works cleared - regardless of for Cuba's Climate Cenlength - if they agree to ter, says May looks to be serve in the army without

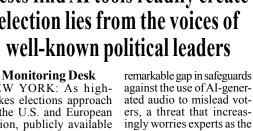
the warmest on the Caribbean island since 1951, when record-keeping began here.

Tests find AI tools readily create election lies from the voices of well-known political leaders

NEW YORK: As highstakes elections approach in the U.S. and European Union, publicly available artificial intelligence tools can be easily weaponized to churn out convincing election lies in the voices of leading political figures, a digital civil rights group said Friday.

Researchers at the Washington, D.C.-based Center for Countering Digital Hate tested six of the most popular AI voice-cloning tools to see if they would generate audio clips of five false statements about elections in the voices of eight prominent American and European politicians

cruiting prisoners to join the fight against Russia, and In a total of 240 tests, more than four thousand the tools generated convincing voice clones in 193 Under a deal offered cases, or 80% of the time, the group found. In one clip, a fake U.S. President Joe Biden says election officials count each of his votes twice. In another, a fake French President leave until the end of the Emmanuel Macron warns citizens not to vote because At that point, they of bomb threats at the polls. would be granted parole. The findings reveal a aren't safe.'



technology has become both advanced and accessible. While some of the tools have rules or tech barriers in place to stop election disinformation from being generated, the researchers found many of those obstacles were easy to circumvent with quick workarounds. Only one of the companies whose tools were used by the researchers responded after multiple requests for comment. ElevenLabs said it was constantly looking for ways to boost its safeguards.

"It's so easy to use these platforms to create lies and to force politicians onto the back foot denying lies again and again and again," said the center's ČEO, Imran Ahmed. "Unfortunately, our democracies are being sold out for naked greed by AI companies who are desperate to be first to market ... despite the fact that they know their platforms simply



Voters queue up to cast their ballots at a polling station during the seventh and final phase of voting in India's general election in Chandigarh.



Monitoring Desk

Diane Abbott, Britain's first

Black woman lawmaker,

would be able to run in the

July 4 election after confu-

sion over her candidacy

sparked a backlash within

Starmer told reporters that

Diane Abbott was "free to

go forward" to contest her

est serving Black member

of parliament who was first

elected in 1987, had been

suspended by the party for

Ukrainian

prisoners apply

to join army in

return for parole

Monitoring Desk

KYIV REGION: In its

quest to fill the dwindling

ranks of its infantry,

Ukraine has turned to re-

have applied so far.

seat in northeast London.

Labour leader Keir

Abbott, Britain's long-

the party.

over a year.

Daily **Independent**, Quetta

Sunday June 02, 2024

invest in key projects for

Addressing the par-

them about the incentives

offered by the present gov-

ernment to attract the for-

eign investment especially

He informed that spe-

The Economic Minis-

from China.

Faisal Kundi says: May 9 mastermind should be punished

Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi on Sat-selves from the person op-erating the X account, addurday said the May 9 mastermind should be the first to be punished, as he called for holding those accountable for the violence perpetrated on that day.

Talking to media persons at the mausoleum of Allama Igbal, he said the PTI were not taking responsibility for the post shared on X and, at the same time, avoided deleting the same.

He was referring to the post shared on the official account of PTI founding chairman Imran Khan, in which he has been equated with Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

The latest remarks come after the military on Thursday again called for holding the planners, facilitators and executioners of May 9 violence accountable and warned that the country would remain hostage to the elements hatching conspiracies in case of a failure. Kundi said the PTI



LAHORE: Governor KPK Faisal Karim Kundi talking to the media after his visit to Mazar-e-Iqbal.

Pakistan to welcome

ISLAMABAD (INP): In-Naqvi Saturday said Pakistan will welcome UK's support to tackle the challenge of cybercrimes.

He made the remarks during his meetings with Director General of the National Crime Agency James Babbage and Director General National Security of Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office Jonathan Allen in

London

LAHORE (INP): Khyber was even distancing theming that they were in habit of committing the crime and resorting to wailing simultaneously They want to come

into power yet again just like they had in the past, he remarked. Kundi said they were ready if the PTI wanted to hold talks with the democratic forces, but he wasn't in a position to say anything if the aim was to use the establishment's shoulders to grab power

At the same time, he said that the Governor's House won't become part of any conspiracy and noted that the PTI was a political party. Criticising the language used by Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur, Kundi said no one could stop anyone from moving freely, but praised him for arguing his case with arguments at the Special Investment Facilitation Council meeting held earlier in the week

UK's support to tackle cybercrimes' challenge The Interior Minister

terior Minister Mohsin emphasized the need for greater collaboration between the two countries in the fight against drugs.

pointed out that Pakistani nation and forces have made unprecedented sacrifices in the war against terrorism. He said there is a need to adopt a common strategy to deal with the menace.

The Interior Minister also visited Cabinet Office National Situation Center in

interest in the working of

the center, noting that the

importance of such a cen-

ter in a crisis-like situation

stated the establishment of

a National Situation Center

will be reviewed in Pakistan

The Interior Minister

cannot be denied.

Mohsin

Nagv



QUETTA: A delegation led by President Balochistan Forum Environmental Journalists Zahir Khan Nassar meeting with Governor Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail

Similarly, the food in-

Controlling inflation, provision of employment opportunities govt's top priorities: Masadik

SLAMABAD (APP) them, he said. He said factors like

Minister for Petroleum Dífloods and natural calamivision Dr Masadik Masood Malik on Saturday said that ties besides Russian-Ukraicontrolling inflation and nian and Middle East conproviding employment opflicts caused an increase portunities to the people commodity cycle. were the government's top However, owing to the efforts of the incumpriorities

Addressing a press conference here, he said on bent government and targets given by the Prime the directives of the prime Minister, the ratio of the minister, maximum relief Consumer Price Index was being ensured to the (CPI) has decreased from masses and inflation wit-37 per cent to 17 per cent, nessed a gradually decrease he said. in the country.

The premier has given flation has also reduced targets to all the ministers from 40 per cent to 11.5 per to serve the people and recent adding that we were going towards stability. Prices of petroleum prod-ucts have also been slashed duce their burden by controlling inflation and creating job opportunities for

Unannounced loadshedding in country challenged

in LHC LAHORE (Online): June 01 (Online): Unannounced load shedding continuing in the country has been challenged in Lahore High

Court (LHC). The miscellaneous pe tition in this regard has been filed by Judicial Activism

panel in LHC. The petition said unannounced load shedding is continuing in the country

ithout any reason. Load shedding is being observed from 6 to 8 hours in the cities and 10 to 12 hours in the villages.

The petitioner requested the court to order

try

and around Rs 25-26 per litre relief on petrol was given to the people in one month, he added.

He expressed the hope that inflation would further witness a down trend in the days ahead. Tractors' purchases have also registered a 50 per cent

tion recorded a 17 per cent jump in the last one year, he added The minister said the overnment would give a balanced and relief-oriented budget with an increase in

30 per cent increase in tax collection. The country's exports also witnessed an increase while imports have de-

creased, he said. He said more incen tives would be given to small business and IT sec-

tors in the budget. To a question, he said the PML-N government

set up power plants to generate electricity at affordable rates. They always gave preference to the State rather than their personal politics, he said.

tion and dialogue. PML-N economy and democracy he said.

To another question, he said there were always doors open in politics and his party leadership always called for reconcilialeadership always stressed the need for a charter of

BEIJING (APP): The Na-tional Bank of Pakistan cial Institutions and Remittances Group and Hasan (NBP) has agreed to part-Jamal, SVP, Investment ner with China-Pakistan Banking Group National Bank of Pakistan, Head International Silk Road Industry Investment Manage-Office, Karachi. ment Company Limited by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to ticipants on occasion, Aslam Chaudhary briefed

facilitate investment in key projects for promotion of industrial cooperation between China and Pakistan and supporting the establishment of special economic zones and other sectors of economy and bilat-

cial economic zones are being established across Paeral trade. Economic Minister, Aslam Chaudhary, kistan where the Chinese Liu Jiang Hua from Chinaenterprises could relocate Pakistan International Silk their industry and export Road Industry Investment products to different coun-Management Company tries taking advantage of Limited, Representatives from Dan Zhou Governpreferential agreements signed by Pakistan with ment, Hai Nan Province, various countries. Zhang Yu Bo, MCC & ter said that Pakistan hav-

Bank of Tianjin witnessed the signing ceremony held ing a population of over at Pakistan Embassy here 225 million is itself a big on Saturday. The event was market and the Chinese also joined virtually by Riaz companies could benefit Hussain, SEVP and Group from it



LAHORE: Ambassador of Saudi Arabia Nawaf bin Saeed Al Maliki meeting with Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan

Supreme Court sends anti-smuggling law to **Parliament for review**

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Supreme Court of Pakistan has sent the Anti-smuggling Act 1977 to the Parliament for review with recommendation of amendment in the law on Saturday. The apex court in its verdict said that the anti-smuggling law has scores of lacunae. "The anti-smuggling law only allows accused the right to

appeal," the decision read. Denying the right to appeal to government means the Anti-smuggling Act benefiting accused," the of the verdict, written by

have been dispatched to the

Law and Justice Commis-

sion, Secretary Law and the

Attorney General of Paki-

stan. Referring a case, the

court said that the Anti-Nar-

gling Act," decision read The matter restricted between the judge and the accused after the accused present their stance. The complainant's role come to an end in the law after reporting the judge," verdict read

'The ANF will not be an affected party of the decision after its role ends with complaint. In the antismuggling act, the ANF or the state have not been given any right to appeal and only the affected party court observed. The copies i.e accused have right to appeal under the law," ac-

MUZAFFARABAD: Federal Minister for Kashmir Affairs, Gilgit-Baltistan and Saffron Engineer Amir Makam is being briefed on the progress of the development projects related to Azad Kashmir under the Federal Public Sec tor Development Program

Muqam assures provision of funds to AJK for timely completion of development projects

increase while urea produc-

On the occasion, the London. He expressed deep Interior Minister was briefed about the functioning of British institutions and close cooperation was agreed upon. It was decided that Pakistani officers will be trained by the National Crime Agency regarding cybercrimes and counternarcotics.

as well PRESS CLUB QUETTA

QUETTA: Health and Rural Development (HARD) Balochistan Coordinator, Rubina Baloch along with others addresses to media persons during press conference held at Quetta press club

Parliament determined to safeguard rights of journalists: NA Speaker

ISLAMABAD (APP): Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq has said that the parliament is determined to spearhead the legislation for protecting reporters and journalists, especially the ones attached to print media.

In a felicitation message to the newly elected members of the Council of Pakistan Newspapers Editors (CPNE), he congratulated Arshad Ahmed Arif and Ijaz-ul-Haq on their successful election as President and Secretary General

racy

provision of basic rights to reporters and journalists. While acknowledging

the role of print media, he said that "Parliament and media are dovetailed to further the cause of democ-

of CPNE, respectively.

He expressed confidence that the newly elected members will carry out every possible effort in making CPNE a proactive organisation, dedicated to protecting and ensuring the

Four dacoits killed in alleged police encounters LAHORE (APP): Four robbers were killed in two alleged police encounters in the provincial capital on

Saturday. Police said that the encounters took place in Muslim Town and Kahana during which four robbers involved in robbery and murder cases were killed. Police said that the

accused killed in Muslim Town were identified as Abdul Qadir and Prince Kashif. They had killed a professor during a robbery in Iqbal Town a few days

for ending unannounced MUZAFFARABAD (APP): Federal Minister load shedding in the coun-

for Kashmir Affairs & Pakistan CG Gilgit Baltistan and SAFRON Engr Amir meets President Muqam has reiterated that Pakistan was committed to **PSC Sharjah** the cause of the Kashmiri DUBAI (APP): Counsel people till they get the right to self-determination in ac-General of Pakistan Consucordance with the resolulate Dubai, Hussain

tions of the United Nations Muhammad on Saturday Security Council. met President Pakistan So-Addressing a press conference here at a local cial Centre Sharjah (PSCS) Khalid Hussain Chaudry hotel after a briefing by and his team members to AJK top government offiacknowledge the cials about progress on fedorganization's outstanding eral Public Sector Developforts in providing aid to ment Programmes (PSDP)

akistani families affected

by recent floods.

The Consul General paid tributes to the President of Sharjah Social Center for the tireless efforts during the floods in provision of food and water to the stranded Pakistani families.

fairs and Interfaith Harmony, Chaudhry Salik Hussain on Saturday urged the Hajj welfare staff (Moavineen-e-Hujjaj) to perform their responsibili-

ties with devotion as serving the pilgrims is a sacred duty. He said this on the occasion of orientation sessions held by the Hajj mis-

should be deployed to assist pilgrims visiting the Haram Sharif for Umrah or

projects and AJK's Annual in all forms at all costs. The development program minister said that the (ADP) besides meeting delegations, the minister said that the issue of Kashmir and its people was of prime

importance to Pakistan which was consistently advocated at international level in the United Nations and different other international forums Engr Amir Muqam

said that this support to the Kashmir cause is because Pakistan considers Kashmir its jugular vein and will continuously strive to provide support for the free-dom of the Kashmiri people

To enhance pilgrims experience Salik emphasises devotion, effective communication for Hajj welfare staff

ISLAMABAD (APP): enhance the experience of Minister for Religious Af-pilgrims and help them navigate the area with comfort, Pakistan's given multicultural nature with language diversity," he added. He urged the supporting staff to ensure that the pilgrims should be provided with the best possible facilities and services during their stay for Hajj, showing compassion and empathy towards them in addition to their duties. The minister noted that properly marked and men-supported

who may feel distracted.

minister said that the present regime has taken various measures to support the smooth functioning of the government in AJK

cotics Force (ANF) in a He said the federal complaint in year 1998 said government has transferred that a man Ubaid Khan the funds, staff and assets made property with smugrelating to the Kashmir gling. "The ANF has only a "the special Council in Islamabad to AJK Government. He role of reporting the special said that funds amounting to approximately Rs.7.5 billion have been transferred from Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) to the Government of AJK.

Visit visa

to 15, Dhu al-Hijjah). The Directorate reported that more than 20,000 visit visa holders had violated Hajj regulations by staying in Makkah, Saudi Press Agency (SPA) reported on Saturday. It stressed that violators of these regulations would face penalties according to the Kingdom's laws and instructions These measures aim to en sure the safety of those with Hajj permits, allowing them to perform their rituals in a secure and peaceful environment, the Saudi Directorate said.

"The Peshawar High Justice Shahid waneed and comprised of seven pages,

Court (PHC) dismissed the ANF's appeal against the court's decision in the case because 'it was not an affected party'," verdict read. "The anti-smuggling laws, across the world, give the state or government the right to appeal. It will be appropriate if the parliament revisits the law to give the right to appeal to the state," the apex court verdict suggests.



QUETTA: Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (JUI-F) leader; Mir Usman Badini along with others addresses to media persons during press conference held at Quetta press club

QWP asks government to compensate people of merged districts

PESHAWAR (APP): left-out houses in the sur-Qaumi Watan Party (QWP) Chairman Aftab Ahmad extended an invitation to the QWP leader to a con-Khan Sherpao on Saturday asked the government to compensate the people of sultative meeting in the merged districts who Islamabad. suffered losses during the

war on terror.

Assuring the delegation of his support, Aftab He was talking to a Sherpao said the tribal people offered matchless delegation of tribal elders from South Waziristan at sacrifices for the restoration Watan Kor here. The memof peace, therefore, the govbers of the delegation in-formed the QWP leader ernment should properly compensate them for the about the problems being faced by the people of

The delegation also

He also endorsed the demand to increase the The delegation said compensation amount and to include the houses in the survey which were earlier missed. The QWP leader demanded the government to fulfil the lawful demands of the tribal people or else dis-They said after the content would grow among them. He said the OWP had always supported the genuine demands of the tribal people and would spare no However, the elders effort to help them get their due rights.

He said the restoration of peace was made possible due to the unprecedented sacrifices rendered by the amount and to include the tribal people

Hafiz Naeem says: Ruling elite rule in Pakistan, make investment in other countries

LAHORE (Online): JI Amir Hafiz Naeem Ur Rehman has said 87 percent of tax payment goes to payment of loan and interest. "2800 billion rupees are paid to IPPs under the head of capacity charges. The ruling elite is not ready to cut down its privileges. They shift all the financial burden to the people at the behest of IMF. Fake govhere Saturday. ernment cannot bring betterment. The claims for investment are sheer fraud. JI has framed national agenda he stressed. Commence- people.

against injustice and for the ment of talk's process beprotection of people rights. tween Pakistan and Af-I will make important anghanistan is highly laudable, he remarked. Islamabad and Kabul will nouncements in Karachi after two days. Gaza Million March will be held in have to demonstrate re-Karachi today (Sunday), sponsibility for the sake of this was said by JI Amir Islam, prosperity of people Hafiz Naeem ur Rehman and peace in the region. while addressing a press conference in Mansoora He reiterated friendship with India is not ac-

ceptable. Iran-Pakistan gas pipe-Consensus on formline will have to be con-45 is solution to problems, structed at every cost to he stressed. Chief Justice overcome shortage of gas, should ensure justice to



money to the people yet. KARACHI: Grand Democratic Alliance (GDA) Senior Leader, Pir Sadaruddin They also demanded an in-Shah Rashidi presides over the high level meeting, held at Raja House in crease in the compensation Karachi

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bus pick-up points could facilitate the transportation of pilgrims to and from their residences. He urged guides to be proactive in guiding pilgrims to the right ways towards their

destinations, ensuring they were readily available to assist those

holders barred to perform Hajj ISLAMABAD (APP) The Saudi Arabian General Directorate of Public Security clarified that visit visas do not permit Hajj participation and advised it holders to avoid visiting holy Makkah between 15 11/1445 AH and 15/12 1445 AH, (15, Dul Qaddah