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## Efforts continue for recovery of kidnapped persons: Operation Azam-I-Istehkam needed much in Balochistan, maintains CM

Says consultation on for formation of the committee to hold talks with the angry Balochs; Funds to be released for schemes on which pace of work would be faster, asserts Mir Sarfraz Bugti

**Independent Report**  
QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has insisted that the Operation Azam-I-Istehkam is needed much in Balochistan. He said that there is insurgency in the name of religion in other parts of the country, but in Balochistan, there is the bigger insurgency than other parts. However, I invite the common Balochs gone on the mountains to come back. We would embrace them under the peaceful Balochistan initiative, maintained the Chief Minister while speaking to the media persons after the budget session here at the provincial assembly on Monday. The Chief Minister asserted that stern action would be taken against those challenging the writ of State. He informed that he is doing consultation for formation of the committee to hold talks with the "angry "

Balochs. However, he is personally confused as whom to be talked with. How to hold talks with those who are assassinating the people after seeing their identity cards, he added. He stressed that we have to strengthen writ of the State in Balochistan. Referring the abduction of 10 persons from Shaban area, the Chief Minister said that efforts are continued for recovery of the kidnapped persons. Since it is a sensitive matter so we are working with care, he added. Meanwhile The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has categorically stated that the funds would be released for the development schemes seeing pace of work. The funds would be released for the schemes on which the pace of work is expedited and faster.

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ISLAMABAD: Chairman NDMA briefs Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and Chairman Gates Foundation, Bill Gates during their visit of NEOC.



SUKKUR: President Asif Ali Zardari chairing a meeting on the security and law and order situation in Sindh during his visit to Sukkur.

## PTI 'committed suicide' by joining SIC, says CJP Isa

ISLAMABAD (INP): Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa on Monday asked during SIC reserved seat case hearing why Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) committed suicide by joining the Sunni Ittehad Council's (SIC). The Supreme Court (SC) full court headed by Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa is hearing the SIC's plea against Peshawar High Court verdict on reserved seats. On June 22, the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) informed the Supreme Court (SC) of Pakistan that the Sunni Ittehad Council (SIC) is not entitled to reserved seats. In a reply submitted to the apex court in the case pertaining to the SIC's reserved seats, the ECP maintained that The Hamid Raza-led party failed to submit the list of nominees for the reserved seats by the deadline of December 24. The ECP added that it asked the independent candidates joined the SIC after the elections. "The ECP

decided not to give reserved seats to the SIC with a 4-1 verdict," the reply added. The ECP told the SC that the Peshawar High Court (PHC) also upheld its decision. The election watchdog maintained that there is no error in the decision of the ECP as well as the PHC. "According to the constitution of the SIC, a non-Muslim cannot become a member of the party. The provision against the inclusion of non-Muslims in the constitution of SIC is unconstitutional, answer. The SIC is not entitled to reserved seats for women and minorities," the ECP reply added. On May 6, Supreme Court suspended the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) and Peshawar High Court (PHC) verdict on Sunni Ittehad Council (SIC) reserved seats. The three-member bench headed by Justice Mansoor Ali Shah, comprising Justice Muhammad Ali Mazhar and Justice Athar Minallah suspended the verdict pertaining to the allocation of reserved seats to other political parties.



QUETTA: Provincial Minister Mir Asim Kurd Gailo meeting with Governor Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail

## IHC suspends EC decision on appointment of retired judges in election tribunal

ISLAMABAD (Online): Islamabad High Court (IHC) has suspended Election Commission (EC) decision regarding appointment of retired judges in Election Tribunal (ET). The court while issuing contempt of court notice to Anjam Aqeel Khan MNA has sought reply from him within 7 days. The petition filed against appointment of retired judges in ET came up for hearing before Chief Justice (CJ) IHC Amir Farooq Monday. The court inquired where is Attorney General (AG). Additional Attorney General (AAG) told the court AG is engaged in full court of Supreme Court (SC). The CJ inquired what heaven had fallen that you promulgated ordinance

over night. We do so that we abolish parliament. President should run the country through ordinances. This law has been taken from UK. Has it ever been seen there that ordinance was passed. You people have built the factory of ordinances. The court while issuing notice on miscellaneous petition of Ali Bokhari counsel for PTI suspended June 10 decision of Election Commission (EC) for appointment of retired judges in ET. The CJ IHC remarked EC should tell how the judge was partial. The court inquired from Anjam Aqeel had he filed any application in EC. Had he filed any affidavit in EC that what is written in here is true.

## Disqualification case Imran Khan requests early SC hearing

ISLAMABAD (INP): Former prime minister Imran Khan has filed a petition with the Supreme Court requesting an early hearing of his pending appeal against his disqualification as a lawmaker. The petition was submitted through Barrister Ali Zafar. The plea requests the apex court to expedite the hearing of the PTI founder's appeal against his disqualification as a legislator. The petition states that currently, a process is underway to remove Imran Khan from his position as party supremo following his disqualification by the Election Commission. The plea further states that the Election Commission's orders are currently pending in the Islamabad and Lahore high courts, arguing that due to these pending cases, Imran Khan, as the founder of PTI, is unable to contest assembly elections or participate in any by-elections pending the outcome of his

## Three judges elevated to Supreme Court

ISLAMABAD (INP) - The Ministry of Law and Justice has officially announced the elevation of three high court judges to the Supreme Court, following President Asif Ali Zardari's approval on Monday. The judges promoted to the apex court include Justice Shahid Bilal Hassan and Chief Justice Malik Shahzad Ahmad Khan from the Lahore High Court (LHC), and Chief Justice Aqeel Ahmed Abbasi from the Sindh High Court (SHC). The appointments were sanctioned by the president under Article 177 of the Constitution. With Chief Justice Malik Shahzad's elevation from the LHC, President Zardari has appointed Justice Shujaat Ali Khan as acting LHC Chief Justice in accordance with Article 196. Justice Shujaat will serve in this capacity until a permanent appointment is made, as per the notification from the law ministry.

## President for gradual rehabilitation of surrendered criminals of Kacha Areas

SUKKUR (Online): President Asif Ali Zardari has said that criminals of Kacha Area in Sindh, except hardened criminals, willing to surrender to the state should be gradually brought into the mainstream and rehabilitated to make them responsible and productive citizens of the country. He called for taking stern action against hardcore criminals involved in heinous crimes. The President further emphasized the need to improve the road, health, and education infrastructure of the Kacha Areas on a priority basis to improve the socio-economic condition of the people. He advised that a Qaumi Jirga, comprising of tribal chiefs, should be convened to engage and

negotiate with the local population to bring normalcy, prevent crimes, de-weaponize and improve the security situation in the Area. The President expressed these views while chairing a meeting on the security/law and order situation in Sindh, at Sukkur, on Monday. Federal Minister for Interior, Mr Mohsin Raza Naqvi, MNA Syed Khurshid Ahmed Shah, Chief Minister Sindh Syed Murad Ali Shah, Speaker Sindh Assembly Syed Waqar Qadir Shah, Senior Minister Mr Sharjeel Inam Memon, Minister Planning and Development Syed Nasir Hussain Shah, Min

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QUETTA: Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfraz Bugti chairing a meeting about rehabilitation of the drug addicts

## GoB decides to make centers for rehabilitation of drug addicts functional; forms committee

**Independent Report**  
QUETTA: The Government of Balochistan has decided to make the centers reformed under supervision of Social Welfare Department (SWD) for rehabilitation of drug addicts functional in the province. In this regard, the Chief Minister, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti formed a committee for preparing comprehensive recommendations. The committee, as directed by the Chief Minister, would work under supervision of Secretary Social Welfare Department and prepare the recommendations within a week.

The Chief Minister said that the committee would propose measures for accommodation and rehabilitation of 2500 drug addicts. The Chief Minister directed to establish separate centers for rehabilitation and treatment of the drug addict women and keep their particulars secret. The Chief Minister was addressing a meeting about rehabilitation of the drug addicts here on Monday. The Chief Minister was briefed about the functioning of the drug addicts rehabilitation centers in the province including Quetta.

He was highly concerned about the spread of narcotics curse saying that the poison of narcotics is spreading in the society at fast pace. He stressed the need to take effective measures for prevention of the drug addiction in the society on emergent basis. He announced that more drug addicts' rehabilitation centers would be established in collaboration with the welfare organizations. He said that it is also necessary to eliminate the narcotics sellers in addition to the rehabilitation of the drug addicts.

## Parliament has authority to make decisions for welfare of people: Achakzai

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman of Pashtunkhwa Milli Awami Party Mahmood Khan Achakzai said on Monday that parliament, as the representative of the people of Pakistan, has the authority to make decisions for their welfare. Participating in the budget debate, he said that people have elected mem-

bers of the National Assembly to highlight their problems in the supreme forum and to seek solutions for them. He asserted that no one would be allowed to violate the constitution and that the country would be governed according to it. He also advocated for the Senate of Pakistan to be given more powers.

## Bilawal convenes parliamentary party meeting today

ISLAMABAD (Online): Chairman PPP Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has postponed his address in National Assembly (NA) on budget. According to sources Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has summoned PPP parliamentary party meeting in parliament house today (Tuesday). He will preside over the meeting.

## PM expresses resolve for polio-free Pakistan; lauds Gates Foundation's dedication

National Task Force resolves to employ all resources for eradication of polio from Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Monday reiterated that the Federal Government along with all the provincial governments resolved to eliminate the menace of polio forever and said they were fully committed to control its spread through collective efforts. Addressing a meeting of the National Task Force on Polio Eradication, the prime minister said that the polio eradication campaign in the country was progressing positively and they were close to eliminate polio but

unfortunately, things turned negative as the virus returned back in certain parts of Pakistan, still it did not show that they had failed in their efforts. Gates Foundation Chairman Bill Gates, ministers, senior officials and relevant authorities were present during the meeting. The prime minister assured Bill Gates that the government was fully committed "to continue its efforts in our own interests to protect the lives of our children and make them healthier". He said that during the

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## Govt's Operation Azm-i-Istehkam to weaken country further; charges Maulana Fazlur Rehman

**Independent Report**  
QUETTA: The central Ameer of Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (JUI), Maulana Fazlur Rehman has described the government's re-energized national counter-terrorism campaign i.e., Operation Azm-i-Istehkam as Operation Adm-i-Istehkam saying that "this operation would weaken the country further." He categorically stated that the democracy and parliament have lost their case while the country is being weakened further. He said that the country's constitution is

the national pact and our guarantee to live under one roof (of the country). He said that our constitution determines the authority of the provinces and so the jurisdiction of every institution of the country. He said that the there is least writ of the State in the country. The armed organizations are controlling the areas in open whether it in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa or Balochistan. He said that he doesn't know much about Balochistan, but he can

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QUETTA: Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (JUI-F) Chief, Maulana Fazal-ur-Rehman addresses to media persons during press conference, in Quetta.

## Governor directs to QESCO to provide electricity on Agricultural feeders for 6 hours with full voltage

**Independent Report**  
QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail has directed to Quetta Electricity Supply Company (QESCO) to provide electricity on all agricultural feeders for six hours with full voltage. Otherwise, the heavy losses would cause to the standing crops, green orchards and vegetables. He said that there is very important role of agriculture sector to provide food to the people and provide raw material to the industrial sector in the country. He was of the strong view that putting agriculture and livestock on modern lines is vital for economic development of the province. The Governor assured that the Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif would be informed about the hardships being

faced by the growers of the province. The Governor was speaking to the office bearers of Balochistan Zamindar Action Committee who called on him here at the Governor's House on Monday. The former Member Provincial Assembly Malik Naseer Ahmed Shahwani and Abdul Rehman Bazai led the delegation. The Governor said that the agriculture has the status of backbone in the country's economy. But this backbone has been weakened very much due to the spells of drought, devastating rains, electricity load shedding and lack of agriculture package. Due to the situation, this sector can't afford to bear more burden and if the weak backbone was not strengthened, then the zamindars would suffer a lot, adding he feared.



QUETTA: Provincial Ministers, Advisors and MPs expressing their views on provincial budget 2024-25 in the Balochistan Assembly session chaired by Speaker Captain (Retd) Abdul Khaliq Achakzai



## Finance Bill 2024: Senate proposes 128 recommendations to National Assembly

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Senate on Monday proposed a total of 128 recommendations including nine about the public sector development programme (PSDP) for year 2024-25 to the National Assembly for inclusion in the Finance Bill 2024.

The recommendations on the Finance Bill, 2024 would be forwarded to National Assembly which would decide whether or not these recommendations are to be incorporated into the Money Bill.

Out of total 128, some 69 were related to general recommendations on budget 2024-25, eight in Customs Act, 1969, 23 in Sales Tax Act, 1990, 15 in Income Tax Ordinance, 2001, three in the Federal Excise Act, 2005 and one in Abandoned Properties.

Chairman of the Senate Standing Committee on Finance Saleem Mandviwala presented the Senate's budget recommendations which were adopted by the House.

Earlier speaking at the floor of the House, Saleem Mandviwala said that they

were given six days instead of 14 to go through the budget document and prepared recommendations for the lower house of the Parliament.

He said that some 32 associations, chambers of commerce from all provinces and members of the civil society including education, medical, retail, automotive and others met the finance committee and gave their feedbacks.

He went on to say that out of the total Rs 18.9 trillion budget, some Rs 9.75 trillion were to be paid in interest and debt repayments while Rs 2.63 trillion to be borrowed to make up the budget deficit.

He said that 2.9 million non filers were left at large by the authorizes who should be brought into the tax net to increase revenue instead of burdening the poor masses.

He said the committee unanimously rejected increased tax on low tiered salaried class and also the one imposed on baby milk.

He said for the first time persons with disabilities who served in public

departments came to the forum and presented their grievances. They Disabled persons claimed that they were ignored in the budgets passed in the past decade, he said.

He said the committee proposed the government to allocate special allowance, negotiate with them and listen to their problems. Charity hospitals should be given incentives and those charging fee to the masses should be taxed, he added.

He said for the first time taxes were imposed on school children books and stationery items where as general Public and stakeholders demanded to abolish and the committee also supported their demand.

Mandivalla urged the entire house to quit politics on Pakistan's economy. "If this practice continues then the next budget would be the worst," he said. He said that all the political parties have to sign a genuine charter of economy on the pattern of charter of democracy signed by the political leaderships to protect democracy from derailment.

## Govt to launch 'pre-paid supply' project for electricity consumers

ISLAMABAD (INP): The federal government has decided to launch a mega project based on modern technology of "pre-paid supply" of electricity to consumers, reported 24NewsHD TV channel on Monday.

According to media reports, National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (Nepra) has forwarded proposals regarding pre-paid residential supply tariff to the federal government.

The Nepra recommended a power tariff of Rs43.40 per unit for the pre-paid meters.



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs meeting of National Task Force on Polio Eradication.

## DPM Dar lauds Pakistani women's contributions in diplomacy

ISLAMABAD (APP): As the world observes the International Day of Women in Diplomacy on Monday, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Muhammad Ishaq Dar appreciated the services and contributions of Pakistani women in the field of diplomacy.

At the UNGA's 76th Session, the United Nations General Assembly by consensus declared the 24th of June each year to be the International Day of Women in Diplomacy.

The deputy prime minister wrote on his X timeline that throughout the country's history, Pakistani women had made tremendous contributions in the field of diplomacy.

"Stalwarts like Begum Raana Liaquat Ali Khan, Madam Shaista Ikramullah, Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto and many others broke barriers and set the path for hundreds of women diplomats who continue to represent Pakistan on the international stage with grace and dignity," he remarked.

The deputy prime minister applauded the women diplomats and thanked them for their services and contributions.

## NA speaker refuses to allow SIC to set up protest camp in premises of parliament

ISLAMABAD (Online): Speaker National Assembly (NA) Ayyaz Sadiq has refused to accord permission to Sunni Ittehad Council (SIC) to set up protest camp in the premises of parliament.

SIC has sought permission to stage sit in at gate No 1 of the parliament.

According to sources SIC wants to stage protest for the release of PTI founder Imran Khan and against operation Azm Istehkam.

The speaker stopped them from setting up protest camp in the premises of parliament due to security reasons.

Speaker is of the view what is need of camp when opposition members raise this matter daily in the house.

It is pertinent to mention here the delegation led by Umar Ayoub opposition leader in National Assembly had met NA speaker and had sought permission for setting up protest camp.

## Pakistan urges 'adequate' financing for UN body's peace efforts in post-conflict countries

UNITED NATIONS (APP): Pakistan has called for keeping the U.N. Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) financially viable so as to enable the 31-member intergovernmental body meet the reconstruction and other needs of the countries emerging from conflict.

"The peacebuilding architecture plays a critical role in the peace continuum," Pakistani delegate Ansar Shah told a meeting on the commission's 2025 Review of the Peacebuilding Architecture.

"Through marshalling resources, advising on integrated strategies for post-conflict peacebuilding and recovery, focusing attention on reconstruction and institution-building, laying the foundation for sustainable development,

helping develop best practices, and ensuring predictable financing, it makes a real difference on ground," Shah, a first secretary at the Pakistan Mission to the UN, said.

"As one of the largest troop contributors to the UN peacekeeping operations, and a member of the PBC for a long time," he said, "Pakistan fully appreciates the importance of peacebuilding and sustaining peace."

Pakistan is a founding member of this key body.

At the outset, the Pakistani delegate complimented Gambia, a brotherly country, for the "remarkable progress" it has made, with the support of the PBC, in all fields including progress in economic development, the consolidation of democracy and peacebuilding.

Shah called for collective efforts by political, security and development actors for building sustainable peace, warning that failure to prioritize, and reduce the governance deficit, could lead to tragic cycles of relapse.

"Similarly," he added, "addressing root causes of conflicts remains critical to avoiding recurrence."

Noting that post-conflict needs in different countries are varied, from institution-building to economic reconstruction, to judicial and security sector reform, the Pakistani delegate said that there was no one-size-fits-all formula.

"Peacebuilding interventions need to be tailored according to needs," Shah said.



QUETTA: MPA Wali Muhammad Noorzai and Sardar Anwar Nasar meeting with Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Safaraz Bugti

## Operation Azam-I-Istehkam...

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The Chief Minister was expressing his views at the budget session of provincial assembly while the Speaker, Captain (Retd) Abdul Khaliq Achakzai was in the chair on Monday.

The Chief Minister asserted that the release of funds would be made for the schemes in proportion of pace of work on them.

He said that the provincial cabinet has already prepared policy for implementation on the development projects.

However, the briefing regarding speed of work of implementation on the development schemes remained sorrowful.

Expressing vies on the budget, the Provincial Minister for Home, Mir Ziaullah Langove congratulated the Chief Minister and his team on presented good budget for the next financial year.

He said that we have to think about the province from one angle to put it on path of the development.

He stressed that we have to come on one page for improving law and order situation in the province.

He said that the anti-state elements are conspiring to create law and order situation as such we have to come on one page against the anti-state elements.

The Advisor for Women Development, Dr. Rubaba Buledi termed the budget as historic saying that the historic budget was presented.

She said that much preference was given to

## President for gradual.

**Continued from page 1**

wards education, health and climate change sectors in the budget and hoped that there would be improvement in these sectors in time to come.

The Minister Planning and Development, Mir Zahoor Ahmed Buledi said that the provincial budget reflects the aspiration of people of Balochistan. He said that the government has presented balanced and public friendly budget. He said that the public exchequer would be spent on the public welfare.

The Minister Agriculture, Ali Madad Jatak also described the budget as public friendly.

Earlier, the leader of Opposition Mir Zabid Reki alleged that his constituency has been neglected in the budget.

He said that the people of Washuk district are patriotic. But the district was overlooked in the budget, he alleged.

He also pointed out that the projects of Balochistan were ignored in the federal budget.

The member of assembly, Dr. Abdul Malik Baloch said that the provincial assembly should be run according to the traditions.

He charged that most of the schemes of Opposition members have been excluded from the budget. The low cost schemes have been included in the budget, he added.

The members of Opposition also staged walk out from the session on the issue. However, they ended their boycott on assurance of the government committee formed by house.

## South Africa knock West Indies out to enter semi-final with nery win

NORTH SOUND, Antigua and Barbuda (AFP/APP): South Africa edged the West Indies by three wickets in a rain-affected Super Eights match on Sunday to reach the T20 World Cup semi-finals and eliminate the hosts.

Chasing a revised 123 off 17 overs, South Africa stuttered to 110-7 as Roston Chase took three wickets, but they reached their target when Marco Jansen hit the first ball of the final over for six.

Man of the match Tabraiz Shamsi took 3-27 after South Africa won the toss and restricted the West Indies to 135-8 at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium in Antigua.

All-rounder Chase top scored with 52, featuring in an 81-run third-wicket partnership with Kyle Mayers (35 off 34 balls) before giving the West Indies hope by taking 3-12 with his off-spin.

Jansen's unbeaten 21 saw the Proteas to victory at 124-7 when he smashed the final six off Obed McCoy.

"The last time I played here I went for 50 runs and there was a lot of chatter going around," said Shamsi.

"I was happy to come back and perform my role, but credit as well to the guys who bowled before me because they set it up beautifully."

Brought in for seamer Otneil Baartman, the left-arm wrist-spinner got excellent support from fellow slow bowlers Keshav Maharaj (1-24) and captain Aiden Markram (1-28).

Chase was dropped on 11 by Anrich Nortje and made the most of his luck, clearing the ropes twice and hitting three fours.

His partnership with Mayers helped rescue the hosts after they fell to 5-2 in the second over.

Once Shamsi removed Mayers to a sliced catch at deep cover, a steady stream of wickets enabled South Africa to restrict the West Indies.

## PM expresses resolve for...

**Continued from page 1**

told Bill Gates that they held a holistic security conference the other day and held lengthy discussions to counter surge of terrorism and other relevant security issues.

Recalling his meeting with Bill Gates in Riyadh on the sidelines of World Economic Forum (WEF), the prime minister said that they had held comprehensive discussions on polio eradication and health related issues of Pakistan.

Lauding the Foundation's efforts and donations for the polio eradication campaigns and for lifting of sufferings of humanity, he said that Pakistan had been a beneficiary of its financial support over malnutrition, and mother and child healthcare issues.

In the polio eradication campaigns, Gates' cooperation and support had been consistent in the last many years to the tunes of millions of dollars, he added.

The prime minister said that investment in the polio eradication programmes in Pakistan had been significant as during the year 2022 it stood at \$240 million, in 2023 \$263 million and in 2024 \$297 million.

He further informed that during the WEF, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia also pledged \$500 million dollars for the next five years.

He said that there were other areas of cooperation between Pakistan and the Foundation, including the digitization of education and health sectors, expressing gratitude to Bill Gates for support over the digitization of Federal Board of Revenue.

The prime minister said that they would like to

## Gov't Operation Azm-i-Istehkam...

**Continued from page 1**

firmly say that police kept them closed in the thanas in the KP after sunset.

He said that we have to ponder upon as who brought the country and circumstances at this juncture.

The JUI chief stressed the need to set new course of survival and stability of the country, for we are holding talks and negotiations with different political parties.

These views were expressed by Maulana Fazlur Rehman while addressing press conference after meeting with leaders of different political parties here at the residence of JUI's provincial Ameer, Maulana Abdul Wasey here on Monday.

Also present on the occasion were the President of National Party, Dr. Abdul Malik Baloch, Chairman Pashtoonkhaw National Awami Party (PKNAP), Khushhal Khan Kakar, Provincial President of Awami National Party, Asghar Khan Achakzai, chairman of Hazara Democratic Party, Abdul Khaliq Hazara and others.

The JUI Chief said that



QUETTA: A view of trucks parked at a roadside near NLC Office for clearance, at Nawan Kali area in Quetta

**"CANCELLATION OF TENDER"**

The Tenders Notice called by the office of the undersigned under PRQ No.2514/22/05/24 PRQ No.2949/10/06/24 PSPD Nos.7526, 7532, 7535,8403,8404,8405, 8406,7531, 7529, 7530, 7344, 7939, 7351, 7208, 7932 TSE, 232405421293 TSE,232405421363, TSE,232405421393, TSE,232405421423, TSE, 232405421553, TSE, 232405421573, TSE,232405421603,TSE,232405421693, TSE,232405422003, TSE,232405421973, TSE,232405421963, TSE,232406453103 TSE, 232406453153, TSE, 232406453453, TSE,232406454523,TSE,232406454563 TSE,232406454573, TSE,232406454583, are hereby cancelled due to non-reflection schemes in budget 2024-25

**EXECUTIVE ENGINEER  
PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING  
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PRQ No.3062/24-6-2024

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## Amir Muqam for representing his people at all levels

ISLAMABAD (APP): Division in the Cabinet and Parliament, said a press release. The minister said that he was thankful to Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and the members of the Cabinet and especially Rana Sanaullah, Advisor to the Prime Minister, for supporting his stand regarding FATA and PATA tax exemption.

The members of the delegation thanked the minister for his efforts for tax exemption of FATA, Pata/Malakand Division.

The minister also discussed with the delegation the problems faced by the business community and assured to resolve the problems of the business community.



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister, Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif interacts with Members of the National Assembly during National Assembly Budget Session in Islamabad.

## Italy to launch initiative to educate out-of-school children in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Italian Ambassador to Pakistan Marilina Armellini has taken initiative to educate out-of-school children in Pakistan through Interactive Radio Instruction (IRI).

Education remains a distant dream for many children in rural areas of Pakistan. Therefore, she took up the initiative to highlight the benefits of enrollment and education through radio broadcast.

The initiative will also help in sharing practical information on sustainable development practices for schools. In an exclusive interview with APP, the ambassador disclosed that a groundbreaking IRI initiative was set to unfold next month, poised to redefine access to learning for millions of out-of-school children. Italy, in collaboration with local partners and supported by UNESCO, will launch a pioneering "Radio Education" programme to bridge educational gaps and empower underprivileged communities across Pakistan. Pakistan faces stark challenges with a 62% literacy rate and significant disparities in educational

access. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's recent "Education Emergency" pledges a comprehensive effort to integrate millions of out-of-school children into the educational fold. This initiative underscores a pivotal moment in Pakistan's quest for inclusive education and economic progress.

Mariolina responding to a question, underscored the pivotal roles of government, teachers, and parents in fostering a robust educational ecosystem.

Italy, with its rich educational heritage, she said, supported Pakistan through UNESCO-backed projects like radio education in remote areas.

The project not only to promote learning but also empower communities to embrace sustainable practices, enhancing resilience against environmental challenges, she added.

Beyond education, Italy and Pakistan explore economic synergies. With burgeoning trade ties and shared interests in agriculture, energy, and tourism, both nations seek to capitalize on their respective strengths.



ISLAMABAD: People are sitting under the shade of damage bus station as waiting for public transport, alongside Islamabad expressway in the Federal Capital, as needs to attention for concern authorities.

## ICT admin cracks down on dengue breeding sites, arrests 16

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) administration has ramped up its anti-dengue efforts with a series of targeted actions across the Federal Capital, detecting dengue larvae at 53 locations and arresting 16 people for violations of dengue Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).

On the directions of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Islamabad, Assistant Commissioners (ACs) have been conducting extensive surveillance and enforcement activities, resulting in multiple arrests, said the spokesman of the ICT administration. In a recent operation, AC City led a team to inspect commercial areas in sector F-7 and arrested four individuals after dengue larvae were found on their premises. These actions reflect a stringent approach towards controlling the mosquito-borne disease.

Meanwhile, AC Secretariat held a meeting with dengue staff at the Rural Health Center (RHC) in Bhara Kahu to review on-going surveillance strate-

gies. The session focused on refining plans to effectively monitor and control dengue outbreaks in the area.

Similarly, the DC held a review meeting to discuss the status and effectiveness of the current anti-dengue campaign. The meeting included detailed briefings from all Assistant Commissioners, highlighting the comprehensive efforts being made across the city.

On the occasion, the DC emphasized the importance of coordinated action in every neighborhood. The campaign, aimed at identifying and eliminating dengue breeding sites, has seen significant enforcement measures. In one operation, nine people were arrested at Gol Market in F-7 for failing to take necessary precautions against dengue. The shop linked to the spread of dengue in this area has been sealed, and legal actions were taken against the responsible shopkeepers. Similarly, in sector F-1, three more arrests were made as part of the anti-dengue efforts.



Prof. Ahsan Iqbal, Federal Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives, being the Chief Guest, addressed the ceremony of 49th International Nathiagali Summer College on Physics and Contemporary Needs was inaugurated at the National Center for Physics, Islamabad

## Planning Minister inaugurates 49th Intl Nathiagali Summer College on Physics

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Professor Ahsan Iqbal on Monday inaugurated 49th International Nathiagali Summer College (INSC) on Physics and Contemporary Needs, marking a significant milestone in government's efforts to promote excellence in emerging technologies and facilitate international collaboration in scientific research. The summer college is being organized every year by Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC) since 1976, aiming at transferring and sharing scientific knowledge among the scientific community.

Speaking on the occasion, the minister said INSCs have established a tradition of stimulating scientific activities, particularly in the field of Physics, often called the "bedrock of modern science."

## 3-day 'Theatre Extravaganza' to mesmerize art enthusiasts

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan National Council of the Arts (PNCA) in collaboration with the Ajoka Theatre would organize a three-day 'Theatre Extravaganza' from June 25-27 to mesmerize the art enthusiasts.

The event will be held at PNCA with an objective of fostering healthy theatrical activities for the people belonging to the federal capital as well as surroundings who can enjoy the vibrant performances, thought provoking ideas and touching messages.

As per schedule announced by the PNCA, Ajoka's acclaimed production 'Teesri Dastak-The wretched of the earth fight back', penned by Executive Director Shahid Nadeem, will be performed on June 25 to kick off the festival.

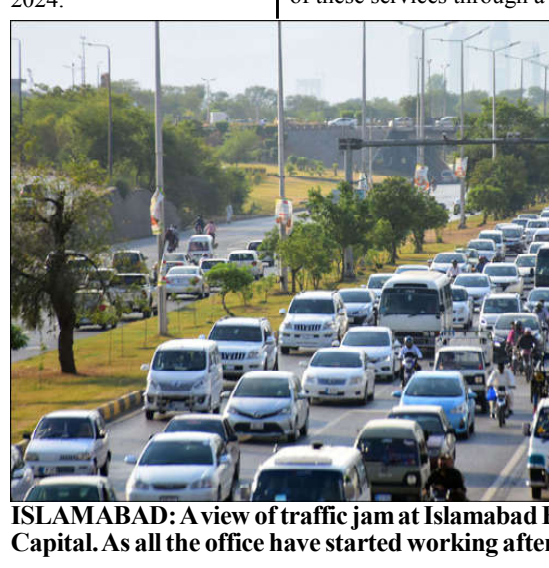
## AIOU celebrates Golden Jubilee

ISLAMABAD (APP): Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) has completed 50 years of its educational journey (1974 to 2024).

According to the AIOU, Vice Chancellor, AIOU, Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood, had decided to celebrate the Golden Jubilee by organizing 24 events throughout the year (January to December 2024).

In this regard, seminars, conferences organized by various departments, alumni ceremony, education expo and Islamabad, Punjab and KPK chapter of convocations were held. Convocation of Balochistan and Sindh chapters is in the pipeline.

A two-day International Conference on Modern Trends in Chemistry was held on February 14 and 15, a two-day International Conference on Research and Practices in Education on February 28 and 29, while a three-day International Conference on Ijtihad Bil Maqasid was held on May 22-24, 2024.



ISLAMABAD: A view of traffic jam at Islamabad Expressway in the Federal Capital. As all the office have started working after Eid Holidays.

He said, Physics plays a foundational role in our understanding of the natural world and underpins many technological advancements. He said, the unwavering commitment of PAEC to host the Nathiagali Summer Colleges for the past 49 years was truly commendable. The minister also acknowledged the pivotal role played by PAEC in the scientific and technological advancements of Pakistan, including energy production, agriculture, medicine, and industry.

He said, over the decades, the PAEC has made significant strides in nuclear research and development, achieving remarkable milestones that have contributed to the socio-economic progress of our country.

According to recent data, the PAEC generates approximately 8.2% of Pakistan's total electricity, playing a crucial role in addressing country's energy needs. In addition to its contributions to energy and healthcare, the PAEC has actively supported research and education in nuclear science and technology, fostering a new generation of scientists and engineers equipped to tackle the challenges of the 21st century.

## Islamabad Police Constable wins best international graduate award in China

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad Police Constable Muneeb Ahsan has been awarded with the honor of best graduate Police Officer in the international police class of 2020-2024 under the Undergraduate Police Exchange Program in China.

The talented officer highlights his perseverance and dedication to excellent performance.



Inspector General of Police Islamabad, Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi, said, Constable Muneeb Ahsan's success

in the examination and interview stages. All these stages were completed on merit and with transparency to ensure that no deserving and capable officer is deprived of their right.

Constable Muneeb Ahsan is the positive face of Islamabad Police, who, through his hard work, dedication, and perseverance, not only paves the way for success but also brings honor to his department.

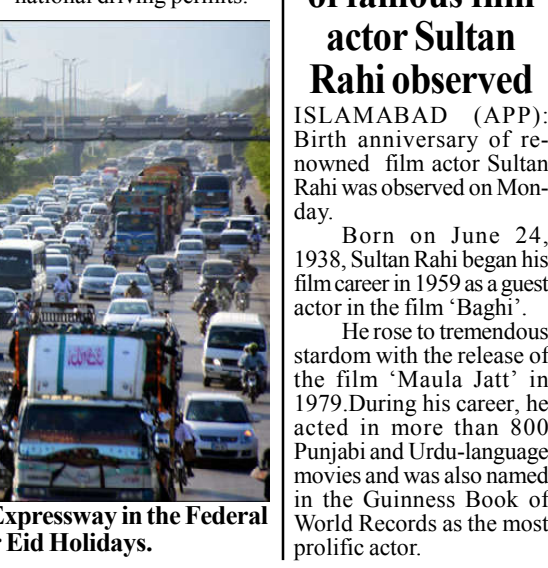
## Excise deptt brings vehicle registration, essential services to Fatima Jinnah park

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Excise Department will be setting up a mobile facility at Fatima Jinnah park in the federal capital on Monday, in a bid to make essential services more accessible.

This initiative is part of the ICT Doorstep initiative, said the spokesman of Islamabad Capital Territory Administration.

He said that from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., excise staff would be stationed at the park's parking lot of Bolan Gate to assist residents with various civic needs.

Residents of the surrounding areas could visit the park to take advantage of these services through a



ISLAMABAD: A view of traffic jam at Islamabad Expressway in the Federal Capital. As all the office have started working after Eid Holidays.

## Randhawa directs to clean, channelize all drains in federal capital

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman Capital Development Authority (CDA) Chaudhry Muhammad Ali Randhawa on Monday directed to clean and channelize all the drains in both urban and rural areas of the federal capital.

Chairing a meeting to assess the preparations for cleaning Islamabad's drains before the monsoon season, he highlighted the importance of valuing all lives, insisting that the work be done indiscriminately.

He instructed the Deputy Commissioner of Islamabad to supervise the entire operation and directed the Environment Wing to quickly clear any blockages in the drains.

Muhammad Ali also tasked the sanitation staff with ensuring the thorough

## Chairs meeting of foreigners security Protection of foreign nationals top priority, says IG Islamabad

ISLAMABAD: Inspector General of Police (IGP) Islamabad, Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi, chaired an important meeting early in the



morning regarding the protection of foreign nationals, a public relations officer said.

He said that, the meeting was attended by DIG Security Muhammad Jawad Tariq, SSP Investigation Hassan Jahangir Wattoo, and other senior police of-

## Anjam demands inclusion of locals in CDA board

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz's Anjam Aqeel Khan said on Monday that local representatives should be included in the Capital Development Authority (CDA) and Housing Foundation boards.

While participating in the general budget debate, he said that representation on these boards would hopefully enhance the performance of the departments.

He said that the stalled development of CDA sectors would accelerate with these incentives.

Highlighting issues of water, health, and education

## IRSA releases 215,600 cusecs water

ISLAMABAD (APP): Indus River System Authority (IRSA) on Monday released 215,600 cusecs water from various rim stations with inflow of 282,800 cusecs.

According to the data released by IRSA, water level in River Indus at Tarbela Dam was 1465.74 feet and was 67.74 feet higher than its dead level of 1,398 feet. Water inflow and outflow in the dam was recorded as 124,700 cusecs and 70,000 cusecs respectively.

The water level in River Jhelum at Mangla Dam was 1182.05 feet, which was 134.05 feet higher than its dead level of 1,050 feet. The inflow and outflow of water was recorded as 42,500 cusecs and 30,000 cusecs respectively.

## Birth anniversary of famous film actor Sultan Rahi observed

ISLAMABAD (APP): Birth anniversary of renowned film actor Sultan Rahi was observed on Monday.

Born on June 24, 1938, Sultan Rahi began his film career in 1959 as a guest actor in the film 'Baghi'.

He rose to tremendous stardom with the release of the film 'Maula Jatt' in 1979. During his career, he acted in more than 800 Punjabi and Urdu-language movies and was also named in the Guinness Book of World Records as the most prolific actor.

ISLAMABAD: Youngsters taking water buckets for home use at G 7 in the Federal Capital.

## NEOC of NDMA releases monsoon projection for key regions

Faisalabad, hill torrents in DG Khan, moderate to heavy rains in Sahiwal, Multan & Bahawalpur is expected.

As per the latest projections from the NEOC Mirpurkhas, Karachi, Hyderabad, Nawabshah, Larkana & Sukkur districts of Sindh will receive 30-75 mm rainfall in the month of July while in second and fourth week of July heavy to very heavy rainfall is expected in these areas. In fourth week of July Astore District of Gilgit Baltistan and isolated places of July while heavy to very heavy rainfall is expected in the fourth week of July, a news release said.

In the first and second week of July Lahore, Sargodha, Faisalabad and Gujranwala Districts of Punjab and capital territory, Islamabad will receive 15-50 mm rainfall at isolated places while in fourth week potential flooding in ICT, Rawalpindi, Lahore, Sargodha, Gujranwala &



Tuesday June 25, 2024

**Time for dialogue**

In the tumultuous landscape of Pakistani politics, the call for dialogue among political forces has never been more crucial. As suggested by PPP chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari, the need for political leaders to engage in dialogue, set aside egos and prioritise national interest over personal grievances is critical. Mr Bhutto-Zardari's remarks underscore a pivotal truth: the strength of democracy lies in the willingness of its participants to communicate; to put the public before point-scoring. His underlying message seems particularly aimed at the PML-N and PTI. Both parties are constantly at loggerheads. Even in times of crises, their confrontation does not pause.

The PPP, by virtue of its position within the government, is uniquely placed to facilitate this much-needed dialogue. With his experience and political acumen, President Asif Ali Zardari can play a positive role if he employs his negotiation skills to bridge the divide. By leveraging its influence within the government, the PPP can encourage PML-N to engage in dialogue, thereby clearing a pathway for the PTI to also come to the table. In fact, not only is mediation desirable, it is imperative for Pakistan's democracy.

Giving tangible hope to a polarised public crushed by inflation and unemployment should be the common goal, one that is hardly achievable if the PTI — arguably the most popular party in the country — remains alienated. The consequences of continued polarisation are dire. If the PML-N and PTI remain mired in mutual acrimony, an ever-widening gap will continue to allow non-political forces to assert themselves.

The three main political parties have had a taste of fraught relations with the establishment — with the PTI the latest target of the latter's displeasure. By uniting, even if temporarily, political parties can reduce external leverage over civilian affairs.

A significant starting point for dialogue is to address each other's grievances, a task that can be taken up by the more rational elements in the parties. All should see the judiciary as a legitimate avenue for redressal, rather than a battlefield for political supremacy. The Supreme Court's role in mediating election disputes, as sought by Imran Khan, is a case in point. Demonstrating that electoral processes are transparent and fair is essential for maintaining the legitimacy of democratic institutions.

The history of our democracy has important lessons on the perils of divisions. Unity is rare, but if there were ever a time for parties across the political spectrum to smoothen matters, it is now. Ironically, the call to end the 'politics of hatred' is coming from one of the youngest parliamentarians. The more experienced of our politicians should know that the path to democratic consolidation lies in political maturity and a shared commitment to national interest. Engaging in dialogue, despite deep-seated differences, is not a sign of weakness but political wisdom.

**Maleeha Lodhi**

At a time when democracy across the world is under challenge, there have recently been a number of developments, some that may shape its future trajectory.

Elections in India saw the BJP lose its majority and its leader Narendra Modi cut down to size — a verdict widely viewed as voters salvaging India's democracy from the authoritarian, autocratic direction a populist demagogue was taking the country in. India may have started to buck the global trend of democratic erosion but elsewhere developments have reinforced this trend.

Europe has just seen far-right parties make stunning gains in the European Parliament polls at the cost of French President Emmanuel Macron and German Chancellor Olaf Scholz's parties.

This prompted Macron to call snap legislative elections in a high-stakes effort to contain Marine Le Pen's National Rally party by turning it into a referendum on the far right. But the spectre looms of Le Pen's party winning power. Opin-

ion polls now show that less than half of French voters see that as a threat to democracy. In the US, former president Donald Trump is the front-runner in the presidential election due in November. Barring any legal impediment, he is poised to regain the presidency. In Britain, Nigel Farage's Reform party is expected to make gains in next month's elections at the expense of the Conservative party.

The resurgence of the far right in the West comes at a time when democracy is already under threat across the world. Democratic regression is now a worldwide phenomenon. Democratic backsliding has been pervasive in countries facing challenges from polarisation, intolerance, anti-minority sentiment and toxic politics. This global trend has been recorded by many international organisations.

In its annual Democracy Report 2024, the Swedish V-Dem Institute finds democracy has declined in almost all regions of the world with "the wave of autocratisation" becoming more pronounced. Its research shows a rollback of

democratic rights and institutions. It says the level of democracy enjoyed by citizens worldwide is down to levels last seen in 1985 — almost 40 years ago. According to the report 71pc of the world's population — 5.7 billion people — live in autocracies — an increase from 48pc 10 years ago.

Similarly, the latest edition of the Global State of Democracy 2023 report by the Stockholm-based International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance sees democracies continuing to contract globally with erosion in checks and balances and constitutional freedoms in nominally democratic states. It finds that for six consecutive years "more countries experienced net declines in democratic processes than net improvements".

Democratic weakening is also the finding by the Economist Intelligence Unit, which conducts an annual survey of the health of democracy in 165 countries, assessing them across five measures. Its report, published earlier this year, says conflict and polarisation have driven a new low for global democracy. Its democracy index

shows less than 8pc of the world's population now reside in full democracies, and that 39pc are under authoritarian rule — up from 37pc in 2022. It designates Pakistan as a country under authoritarian rule, downgraded from the previous year when it was classified as a hybrid democracy. The report classifies India and America as flawed democracies. It finds 37pc of people living in a flawed democracy and 15pc in hybrid regimes.

The rise of the far right or ultra-nationalist populist leaders has much to do with democratic reversals. In countries witnessing this phenomenon elected leaders have acted with impunity to erode civil liberties, curb freedom of expression, suppress dissent, persecute minority groups and undermine any check-and-balance system that holds governments to account. They have shown disregard for democratic institutions and norms, engaged in authoritarian conduct and used hyper-nationalism to rally support, orchestrating anti-minority sentiment that often triggered violence. This has turned their political systems into illiberal or flawed democracies and

deeply divided their societies.

In a recent op-ed in the Financial Times, Gideon Rachman makes a distinction between the far right and the right, which is helpful to keep in mind. The dividing line is their attitudes to democracy. He writes, "If a political leader refuses to accept the results of an election and wants to smash the 'deep state' (in reality, the state itself), then he or she is clearly on the far right." But leaders who pursue reactionary, even racist policies (he includes Italy's Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni) but "within the framework of democratic politics and the rule of law", cannot be regarded as far right. Sometimes, he argues, the line between a new form of authoritarian conservatism and the far right becomes "blurry."

The global trend of democratic regression in the last decade or more raises the question of the underlying factors responsible for this and for the rise of far-right populist leaders. This cannot be attributed to any uniform set of reasons as each country's case is different with distinct factors shaping its politi-

cal trajectory.

Some common features can still be identified although this is not an exhaustive list. They include the failure of traditional political parties and their policies to meet heightened public expectations, growing disconnect between political elites and the people, poor governance, increasing inequality, lack of responsiveness by institutions to public concerns, political polarisation, as well as economic and social discontent spawned by globalisation and the cost-of-living crisis. Many analysts ascribe the far right's surge in Europe to public discontent with soaring inflation, fallout of the war in Ukraine, anti-immigrant sentiment and the cost of green policies.

Pakistan too has seen democratic decline, but for reasons different from those challenging democracy elsewhere. The 2018 election led to a form of hybrid democracy that increasingly shifted the civil-military power balance and gave way to a greater establishment role in governance, the political system and even economic management. -- Courtesy Dawn

**Drivers of extremism****Umair Javed**

What compels a mob to burn someone to death? What explains such amplified levels of anger that an accusation against some person from a marginalised group leads to a lynching?

What reasoning dictates why groups of people — including state functionaries — engage in the violent policing of a minority group, arresting its members and taking away their sacrificial animals from the private confines of their homes?

All three incidents took place recently. Last week, a man was burnt to death in Swat over the alleged desecration of a holy text. In May, a 72-year-old Christian man was lynched in Sargodha on a blasphemy-related accusation. And during Eid, several Ahmadis across Punjab — the number reportedly as high as 36 — were detained by the police on accusations of practising 'Muslim rituals' levelled by Bareilly extremist activists.

Much ink has been spilled trying to understand religious extremism and its outcomes, both in Pakistan and abroad. Existing re-

search points out two sets of factors here — the societal organisation and drivers of extremism; and the role of the state.

On societal organisation, it is well documented that such indoctrination is carried out by clerics, not just through in-person contact in sermons and in madrasahs, but also through highly localised WhatsApp and Facebook groups, as well as content on TikTok. They do it because they believe in it and because it sustains their social status within communities. People pay them respect, provide them with gifts, turn to them for advice and for dispute resolution.

Their words and actions help develop followers of various types. Their closest adherents are socialised into believing that certain events are an affront to religion. Such events require a coercive response. That the response must be immediate. And that it will help further some vague faith-inspired objective, protect the purity of religion, or help restore the natural order of society.

Beyond the immediate actions of violent ac-

tivists, there is a wider segment of people in every community who think the objectives of these zealots are worthy. Perhaps they have not yet been socialised to such a great degree that they take matters into their own hands. However, they frequently appreciate those who do. These people are the ones who will stand on the side while someone is burnt, lynched, or attacked. Their passive support helps sustain this enterprise of violence.

Broadly speaking, this is the organisation of violent religious extremism at the community level. Every case of violence will reveal actors of these three types — the ideologue, the activist, and the passive supporter.

Let's assume that ideologues exist everywhere. Extremist preachers who try to outdo each other by being more extreme are a reality in every society. It is less useful trying to understand why they exist. As long as beliefs and ideologies exist, violent interpretations will likely persist.

But what explains the level of support for their messaging? Here, existing research often turns to restor-

cial and economic conditions. One popular interpretation is that poverty, material distress, and other forms of economic anxiety push people towards extremism.

In Pakistan, religious extremism seems to have an implicit class character. TLP's street cadres, for example, are overwhelmingly young men from working-class backgrounds, many of whom are un/underemployed. It is likely that associating with a movement adds purpose to a listless existence. Sometimes it goes as far as to become a source of power, prestige, and status mobility in a supremely unequal society.

Class politics, however, is not just a preserve of the poor. Relatively better-off traders, merchants, contractors etc also offer support (financial and otherwise) for fundamentalist ideology. In my conversations with bazaar traders in Lahore, I found that these groups are motivated for both self-serving objectives — to gain local respect and status — as well as a way to push back against what they think is the hedonistic agenda of Westernised upper classes. There is thus a different

type of class-based politics also at play here, one that pits un-Islamic elites against pious middling sorts.

The second set of factors concerns the role of the Pakistani state in creating fertile conditions for extremism. National identity and the concept of state authority are tied to Islam, which gives plenty of space to non-state actors to weigh in on how it should be interpreted.

School and even higher education curriculum content is devoted to the creation of ideal (Sunni) Muslim citizens, which casts minority sects and non-Muslims as deviants. Laws have been put in place that police religious practice and create punitive conditions for heterodoxy, which perpetuates vigilantism.

And governance failures and the expedient use of religious actors for political ends — such as geostrategic goals in neighbouring countries or taking down a popular government domestically — ensure that law and order responses to religious violence are either belated or entirely inadequate. Combining both sets

of factors — societal and state-specific — the future does not look optimistic.

On the societal front, there are no mass movements that can challenge religious extremism. Mainstream parties are either complicit or too risk-averse to take this issue on, especially when they are in government. Preachers who attempt more pacifist interpretations find themselves irrelevant or at risk of violence. Economic conditions are worsening, leaving more young people stuck in social stagnation and precarity.

As far as the state is concerned, it has not demonstrated any serious intent at reforming its protocols around religious extremism. Police responses are often belated, and biased against minority groups. Prosecution is largely absent. There is not even a modicum of intention to revisit laws that catalyse violent acts. And extremist groups remain valuable as a strategic asset, especially when needed to stifle democratic processes and teach some non-conforming party a lesson.

**Integrity is the law****Muhammad Mohsin Masood**

What do judges really do? What magic do they use that, not them, but the words they speak, dictate and rule? What is their lot? What objects are hidden under their robes that many try to de-robe them? Surely being a judge is no easy task. You are to judge people, to resolve their disputes, to conciliate and determine rights. But you are also expected to do justice, to ensure fairness, and to protect rights. Above all, you are tasked to apply the law. Ordinarily, this would be enough for most people to lose their heads, not at the guillotine of political chaos, but because of the taxing demands of conscience to do what is right.

Unfortunately, in this land of the pure, perhaps because there is no right or wrong, many judges find themselves in the fray of political chaos. Questions are raised of allegiance, of tribal support, of national loyalties, of favours, kickbacks and foreign conspiracies. Let alone the veracity or otherwise of all this, these questions strike at the heart of the law — what becomes of it? What is the law of this land where judges pronounce judgements merely to dethrone political leaders who have become liabilities? What rules or principles are at play, which set out the legal and political system of the country? These are questions which stare us in the face, yet no answers are attempted by our ruling elite.

There is no need to despair, however, as there can be an attempt at an answer. One of the most influential conceptions of the law was put forth by Ronald Dworkin. According to Dworkin, the law can be thought of as a chain novel where each chapter is being written by the judges when they adjudicate and interpret the law. The interpretation and adjudication of the law should be consistent with the earlier chapters so as to result in a coherent whole.

Just like a novel should make sense, with recurring characters and storylines, so too must the judges lay down the law which fits in with the earlier chapters. On the whole, this coherence should reflect the political ideal of a society. The law should operate to reflect this inherent integrity: a judge is bound by earlier pronouncements yet retains the independence to take the story forward — forward in essence, while retaining the overall conception of political morality in a society.

So, integrity — where the law should fit in with the rest of the picture to present a coherent whole — is the bedrock of a functioning legal system. The spirit of this integrity is to make decisions by choosing an interpretation that the judge believes best from the standpoint of political morality, one that reflects the aims and aspirations of the whole of society.

Integrity is, therefore, not a mechanism of ensuring continuity, but a political ideal that ensures that the institutions of state work together in a way so as to treat the political community on the basis of principles. This integrity cannot be achieved without the personal integrity of individuals within the institutions,

especially legal institutions, to ensure justice, fairness and a commitment to achieving those principles of political morality. Hence, the integrity of a judge is to be judged from their commitment to the principles of our political morality — principles such as respect for individual rights, liberty, a role for religion in society, freedom and accountability; integrity can also be gauged by the way a judge raises these issues in his or her judgements.

In this light, consider the recent judgement of Justice Babar Sattar where—in he initiated contempt proceedings, but in doing so, quite philosophically asked the following questions: is the rule of law to be treated as a device capable of producing nothing other than feel-good rhetoric in Pakistan, or is it to be regarded as a meaningful concept signifying a legal system that affords ordinary citizens the rights and liberties guaranteed by the Constitution? Does our legal system have the ability to give effect to the protections the law affords to citizens, while simultaneously operationalising the obligations it imposes on the exercise of state power? Does our court system have the capacity to minimise the gap between a blackletter law and its enforcement such that the law serves a useful purpose in citizens' daily life and experience?

In asking and then attempting to answer these questions, there is a display of immutable integrity — both personal and professional. If integrity is to provide an answer to these existential questions regarding our state and society, the starting point must be integrity within. -- Courtesy Dawn

**State's failure****Huma Yusuf**

A throng of men encircle leaping flames. They are energised, holding mobile phones aloft to capture the moment. By now, we all know what they are filming, and we are shocked, sickened, scared. Those who feel distanced from this horrific violence — immune by virtue of their class privilege or majority status — should look again. This is what state failure looks like, and it affects us all.

Mob violence is ascendant in Pakistan. And when mobs gather to beat, break and burn, the public focus is on how the state failed in the moment; how it failed to anticipate the violence, defuse the situation or use law-enforcement tactics to control the mob. Police officials are re-posted and inquiries launched, but often to no avail. And so we also recognise impunity as a form of state failure — from Joseph Colony to Jaranwala, none that have joined mobs have faced the legal consequences.

What we have not yet fully acknowledged is that state failure is evident not only in the state's inability to control and punish mobs, but in their very existence. The truth is the mob exists because the state is weak and compromised enough that it needs the mob to survive, to perpetuate its power. In her work on Vigilantes and the State, Rebecca Tapscott argues that in low-capacity states, particularly where militaries have dominated, state institutions often collaborate with "informal" and "non-state violent groups" to enforce their writ.

In Pakistan, the mob is an extension of a semi-authoritarian, hyper-nationalist security state that has peddled religious-national narratives as a way to ensure political control. The entrenchment

of these narratives has required the cultivation of proxies, including violent extremist groups. It has also required the introduction of flawed legislation that is consistently and perversely abused at the expense of the most vulnerable, our religious minorities and other marginalised groups. At the grassroots level, these security policies and laws manifest as the mob.

When mobs in Pakistan mobilise, they do so confident in the knowledge that they are on the side of might, that they are enacting the secret desires of the powers that be, that they are finishing what the state started. The problem with such complicity is that it soon becomes co-option. As the weak response to Madyan and countless similar atrocities have shown, after a point, it's the mob that's in control.

We are not alone in this devolution. Across the border, Hindutva vigilantes emboldened by the BJP's political agenda have carried out lynchings on absurd pretences such as 'love jihad' and the treatment of cows. But the prevalence of a problem does not temper its severity.

Indeed, when the mob is an extension of the state, it is normalised, and mob violence becomes a rational means to an end. Think of Karachi, where the police have had to rescue robbers from lynch mobs intent on doling out their own version of justice. Or consider the chaos in Peshawar lately, where a mob took control of a grid station to protest loadshedding. This mob was duly egged on by a parliamentarian who has clearly internalised the fact that where the mob goes, there lies power.

What is to be done? Too often, the focus is on the quick fix to manage

the state's failure in the moment. And so there is lip service to police trainings and judicial reviews of incidents. The more ambitious among us call for a strengthening of the democratic system to ensure better accountability and, ultimately (hopefully) deterrence.

But strengthening democracy is no easy task. As Francis Fukuyama wrote, "before you can have a democracy, you must have a state, but to have a legitimate and therefore durable state you must have dem-cocracy". Mad-y--an highlights how advanced our st--a--te failure is, and so, how much more challenging the task of building an inclusive democratic system.

We can achieve little until we shift our understanding of mob violence as a moment of madness in which state control failed to the recognition of mob violence as an extension of the state. To address the problem, we must diagnose it, and this will require a full reckoning with our political history, a rewriting of our national policies and narratives, starting with a review of the public curriculum.

To his credit, Ahsan Iqbal started on this path by recommending to parliament that a committee including ulema be formed to consider how religion is being weaponised in Pakistan.

His remarks were shushed and side-lined by the speaker, emphasising how the state and the mob are conflated. It is difficult to confront and disperse a mob — especially one rallied over decades, even centuries, of postcolonial history. But we must find a way, starting with seeing the mob for what it is: our state, and so by extension, us. -- Courtesy Dawn



## CM reviews school reorganization program

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif, chairing a meeting here on Monday, reviewed the public schools reorganization program.

The CM said that a target has been set to construct and rehabilitate 1,000 grounds of government schools in a period of six months. She directed to start weekly and monthly competitions in government schools. She directed a comprehensive mapping of schools to determine facilities and needs across Punjab. She called for a plan to regularize 14,000 AEOs (Assistant Education Officers) and SSEs (Secondary School Educators) in Punjab.

The CM also approved the launch of the Green School Program, under which each student will plant at least one sapling, and digital

mapping of the plants will be completed.

Maryam Nawaz was apprised that CM Punjab School Nutrition Program's pilot project in Rajanpur, Layyah and Bhakkar will start from August. Proposals for the introduction of spoken English and character building classes in government schools were also reviewed. She directed the authorities concerned to restore 603 non-functional schools across Punjab.

The CM directed to assign duties to members of the provincial assembly for monitoring of schools. An overview of making e-transfer easy and feasible for teachers was also taken.

Maryam Nawaz said that introduction of 12 technology courses at matriculation level will be ensured. She also agreed to make school management

councils functional and effective. She added that it will be possible to create a classroom, IT lab and SMC at a low cost. An agreement was also reached on teacher meeting and quarterly student report card in government schools.

The CM directed to issue guidelines for developing a comprehensive school education policy for revamping the school system. She also reviewed the provision of virtual reality room, tech room, art room and other modern facilities in government schools.

It was decided in the meeting to form a Punjab Education Curriculum, Training, and Assessment Authority (PECTAA) by merging Punjab Curriculum and Textbook Board, Quaid-e-Azam Academy of Educational Development and Punjab Examination Commission.



PESHAWAR: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi meets Awami National Party Provincial President Mian Ifrikhar Hussain at ANP Bacha Khan Markaz.

## CM Sindh visits Sukkur barrage, inspected repair work of gates

SUKKUR (APP): Chief Minister Sindh Syed Murad Ali Shah on Monday visited the Sukkur Barrage to inspect the situation and repair work of gates no 44 and 47.

The Secretary Irrigation, Zareef Khroo briefed the Chief Minister about the extent of the damage and combating the emergent situation that necessary repair works of both gates were started on an emergency basis by utilising all available resources with the

irrigation department.

He said that the Irrigation Department is determined to repair both gates and restore supplies to all canals off-taking from Sukkur Barrage today.

CM Sindh said that a five-member investigative committee has been already formed to probe into the damage to the gates of Sukkur Barrage and to determine the cause of damage.

He said that the committee has also been determined to determine the causes of the incident.

## Governor KP acknowledges role of Federal Ombudsman in resolving public grievances

PESHAWAR (APP): Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Faisal Karim Kundi here on Monday acknowledged the important role of Federal Ombudsman Office in resolution of public grievances.

The Governor expressed these views during a meeting with Mushtaq Ahmad Jadoon, regional head of Federal Ombudsman Secretariat of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Mushtaq Jadoon presented performance report of the Peshawar region, including Mardan, Peshawar, and Kohat divisions, to the KP

Governor. He highlighted the ongoing efforts taken on the directives of Federal Ombudsman Ejaz Ahmed Qureshi to quickly address public complaints against federal ministries and divisions in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Governor Faisal Karim Kundi said that the government departments are servants of the people and are accountable. He instructed federal ministries to promptly submit formal reports to the Governor House regarding complaints received from the Federal Ombudsman Secretariat.

## Punjab Governor says: Scouting plays significant role in physical, social, & mental development of youth

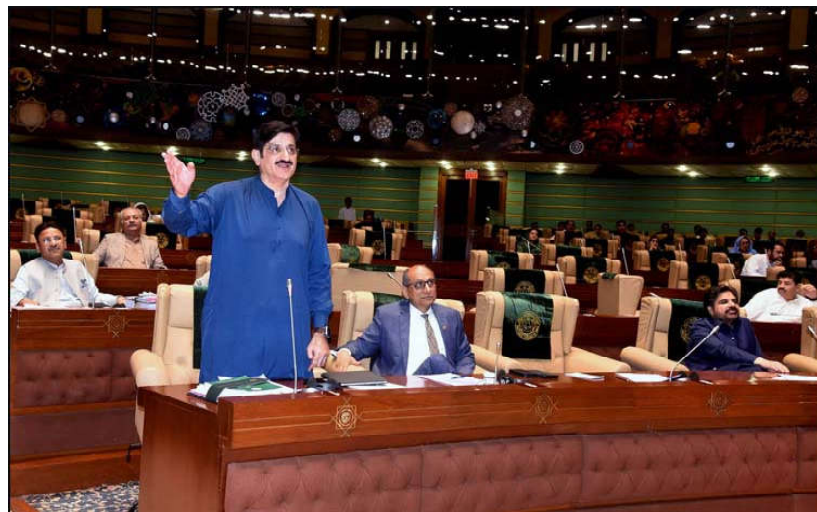
**Independent Report**

LAHORE: Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan as Chief Scout Punjab presided over the meeting of Punjab Provincial Council Punjab Boys Scouts Association here at Governor House Lahore today. In the meeting, the election of provincial commissioner, members of the Boys Scouts Association and important issues were discussed. In the meeting of the provincial council, Ehsan Bhatta was unanimously elected as the provincial commissioner.

Speaking on the occasion, Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan said that scouting plays a

significant and important role in the physical, social, spiritual and mental development of the youth. Governor Punjab said that Punjab Boys Scouts Association has achieved many significant achievements in the field of scouting in the past years and have organized various interesting and positive activities for the youth. He said, however, there is always room for improvement. He said that it is hoped that the Boys Scouts Association would play a role in guiding the young generation towards improvement. He said that it is a matter of honor that the founder of Pakistan, Q u a i d - e - A z a m

Muhammad Ali Jinnah, was the first Chief Scout. Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan expressed the hope that the newly elected leadership would provide more opportunities for the youth, which will instill in them self-confidence, patriotism and leadership. He assured the members that he would play every possible role in the development and promotion of Punjab Boys Scouts Association. On this occasion, Secretary Punjab Boys Scouts Association Muhammad Tariq Qureshi, Secretary Industries, Special Secretary to Governor, Umar Saeed.



KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister, Syed Murad Ali Shah addresses during provincial assembly session on Budget 2024-25, held at Sindh Assembly building in Karachi.

## Shoro assures prompt action to restore Water Supply

SUKKUR (APP): Sindh Irrigation Minister Jam Khan Shoro on Monday has announced that concerted efforts are underway to restore water supply to the canals by expeditiously activating the Sukkur Barrage.

The minister's statement comes as a relief to farmers and agriculturalists in the region, who have been facing severe water scarcity due to damage to the barrage's gates.

Minister Shoro has assured that the necessary repairs and maintenance work are being carried out on a war footing to ensure that the barrage is restored to its optimal functioning level. The minister has also directed the concerned authorities to take all necessary measures to minimize the disruption to water supply and ensure that the canals are replenished at the earliest.

The prompt action is expected to bring relief to millions of farmers in Sindh, who are dependent on the water supply from

the Sukkur Barrage for their crops. The minister's assurance has come as a breather for the agricultural sector in the region, which was facing severe distress due to the damage to the barrage.

In a statement released from Sukkur, Sindh Irrigation Minister Jam Khan Shoro provided an update on the repair works at Sukkur Barrage.

The Minister announced that the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Gate No. 47 has been prepared, paving the way for its restoration.

He told that the Chinese engineers are currently working on the repair of Gate No. 44, which was already underway before the recent accident. The minister's statement aims to reassure that the necessary steps are being taken to restore the barrage to its optimal functioning level, ensuring the timely supply of water to the canals and supporting the agricultural sector in the region.

## Summons of KP CM, Zartaj issued for appearing in court on June 26

RAWALPINDI (Online): Anti Terrorism Court (ATC) Rawalpindi while issuing call up notices to 4 accused including Chief Minister (CM) KP, Ali Amin Gandapur and parliamentary leader of Sunni Ittehad Council (SIC) in National Assembly (NA) Zartaj Gul in the case pertaining to May 9 incident has ordered them to appear in court in Central Jail Adiala on June 26. Malik Ijaz Asif Judge ATC Rawalpindi heard the case Monday.

The summons were issued in connection with case registered in cantt police station. The summons have been issued through SHO Cantt police.

It may be mentioned that PTI had staged country wide protest after the arrest of PTI founder Imran Khan from the premises of Islamabad High Court in connection with Al-Qadir trust case on May 9, 2023. Cantt police had registered case on May 9 under anti terrorism act for causing damage to properties, attacking police personnel and causing harassment among people through siege and arson in the guise of rally.

## Triple murder over old enmity

FAISALABAD (APP): Old enmity claimed lives of three people in the area of Balochni police station.

Police said here on Monday that accused Rana Asif alias Atif Khan, resident of Chak No. 72-RB Bahmani Wala, allegedly opened firing on his rivals to avenge an old enmity on late Sunday night. Consequently, Rana Ghufra Ali received serious bullet injuries and died on the spot, whereas Muhammad Siddique Khan and Rana Muhammad Zubair breathed their last at Tehsil Headquarters (THQ) Hospital Khurarianwala. The police took the bodies into custody and started investigation for arrest of the accused who managed to escape from the scene.



LAHORE: Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan as Chief Scout Punjab addressing the Punjab Provincial Council Punjab Boys Scouts Association here at Governor House.

## KP govt committed to development of southern districts: Minister

**Independent Report**

PESHAWAR: Minister for Agriculture Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Major (Retd) Muhammad Sajjad Barakwal has said the provincial government will take all possible measures to remove a sense of deprivation among people of the southern districts.

As part of efforts, the provincial minister said during his visit to Karak Press Club, that the water crisis being faced by the district would be resolved. He also congratulated the newly elected cabinet of the Karak press club.

In this regard, a feasibility study for an uplift canal from the Indus River via Shakardara and providing canals from the Kurram Tangi Dam and other southern districts would be conducted, resulting in agricultural revolution to the area.

He mentioned that construction of a medical college and an institute of medical sciences would

begin in Karak this year.

Similarly, he added that all obstacles to the establishment of the gypsum city had been removed and work on it would commence soon.

He also revealed that approval has been given for a 32-kilometer Khwara Road to access the mineral-rich Sheen Ghar mountains, enabling the district to get control over its mineral resources. He added that the chief minister had increased the royalty fund for Karak's oil and gas from 10 percent to 15 percent.

He revealed that efforts were underway to release Kohat Division's royalty arrears amounting to Rs 17 to Rs 20 billion. He also said an inquiry would be conducted into the Rs7 billion taken by SNGPL for the gas project from the royalty money. He expressed concern over SNGPL's demand for an additional Rs 14 billion.

## Leave of senior doctors banned at LGH

LAHORE (APP): Amiruddin Medical College Principal Prof Dr Muhammad Al-Fareed Zafar has put a ban on the leave of senior doctors till further orders to ensure timely provision of medical facilities to patients coming in Lahore General Hospital while orders have also been issued to cancel the summer vacations of professors.

A high-level meeting of the Academic Council was held in the committee room under the chairmanship of Principal PGMJ.



LAHORE: Patron Chief of Young Doctors Association Punjab, Dr. Salman Haseeb addressing a press conference at Mayo Hospital in the provincial capital, Dr. Shoaib Niazi, Dr. Mudassar Ashrafi, Dr. Adeel, Dr. Rashid Virk accompanied him.

## Governor Sindh stresses to promote tourism sites of country, cultural activities for youngsters

ISLAMABAD (APP): Sindh Governor Kamran Khan Tessori Monday stressed for the promotion of tourists sites in the country to strengthen Pakistan's economy and enhance 'cultural activities' for youngsters to enable them to be future leaders and effective contributors for society. Talking to a private news channel, he said that Pakistan is blessed with numerous tourist attractions, from civilizations of antiquity to unique heritage including diverse topography from mountains to beaches and religious sites, adding, we need to project the right image of the country to the outside world.

He said present government is committed and taking all possible steps to improve the basic infrastructure including the road network, water and sanitation, safety and security for the promotion of country tourism.

He said government will continuously focus on niche tourism segments such as business events, Eco-tourism, community-based tourism (CBT), medical and wellness, education, and experiential travel to bring more tourists in the country, adding, we want to promote local cuisine as part of our cultural heritage and strengthen local culinary identity. He further pointed

out that there is also need to work on new mechanisms that contribute to boosting tourism between other countries, while we need to focus on increasing the number of flights between other nations. He stressed the need to further strengthen cultural relations and enhance joint cultural activities with brotherly countries to strengthen cultural and people-to-people relations which will produce positive results.

The Governor Sindh also admired hill station of Murree and heaven like valleys of Gilgit-Baltistan which are a matter of immense attraction for tourists all around the world.



KARACHI: Opposition members of district government are holding protest demonstration against Districts Councils Budget 2024-25 during district assembly annual budget session presided by Mayor Barrister Murtaza Wahab, held at Old KMC building in Karachi.

## Mini grids to be set up in each district of Sindh: Nasir Shah

SUKKUR (APP): Provincial Minister for Energy, Sindh, Syed Nasir Hussain Shah Monday said that the electricity generated from the solar park will be supplied to people. He was speaking at the inauguration ceremony of newly constructed road with solar lights here.

He said that people of the Sindh Province are the foremost priority of the Sindh government. We are not in the federal government fold still we are running governments in two provinces, he said.

He said that Chairman PPP, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has promised 300

units free electricity to the people, as around two million households have no electric supply connections in Sindh. "In the first phase we will supply solar panels electricity to them, he added".

The Energy Minister said that mini-grids will be set up in small localities in each district of the province to provide affordable and environment-friendly electricity. If this model project succeeds it will go ahead further, the Minister said. Nasir Hussain Shah said that he has requested the Sukkur Electric Power Company (SEPCO) Chief to bring the load shedding.



LAHORE: Provincial Minister for Health Khawaja Salman Rafique addressing the VCs, Principals, MSs during meeting of Punjab Health Initiative Management Company.



## Aurangzeb assures consideration of PBC budget proposals

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Muhammad Aurangzeb here on Monday assured Pakistan Business Council (PBC) that its recommendations would be considered in the finalization of the budget for FY 2024-25 to whatever extent possible. According to press release issued by finance ministry, a delegation of Pakistan Business Council (PBC) led by Chairman PBC, Shabbir Diwan called on the minister. Minister of State for Finance and Revenue Ali Pervez Malik, Chairman Federal Board of Revenue (FBR), Malik Amjed Zubair Tiwana also attended the meeting. The PCB delegation appreciated the ongoing efforts of government and

discussed the Federal Budget 2024-25 with the finance minister. They also presented specific suggestions and tax proposals for consideration. The minister acknowledged and thanked the PBC for their insights. He also highlighted the FBR's ongoing efforts aimed at broadening the tax base and bringing retailers in tax net.

Aurangzeb assured that decisions would be made through mutual consultation to ensure favorable outcomes for both the public and the business community. **Online add:** A delegation of Pakistan Business Council led by its Chairman Shabbir Diwan called on Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad

Aurangzeb at Finance Division Monday. Minister of State for Finance and Revenue Ali Pervez Malik, Chairman of the Federal Board of Revenue Malik Amjed Zubair Tiwana also attended the meeting. The delegation appreciated the ongoing efforts of government and discussed the Federal Budget 2024-25 with the Finance Minister. They also presented specific suggestions and tax proposals for consideration.

The Finance Minister acknowledged and thanked the Pakistan Business Council for its insights. He assured that their recommendations presented by the Council will be considered in the finalization of the budget to whatever extent possible. The delegation also presented specific suggestions and tax proposals for consideration. The minister acknowledged and thanked the PBC for their insights. He also highlighted the FBR's ongoing efforts aimed at broadening the tax base and bringing retailers in tax net.

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ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance & Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb in a meeting with the delegation of Pakistan Business Council (PBC) led by Mr. Shabbir Diwan.

## KMC council approved budget of Rs. 49,602.138m for FY 2024-25

KARACHI (APP): The Karachi Metropolitan Corporation (KMC) council approved a budget of Rs. 49,602.138 million for the upcoming fiscal year 2024-25 by majority vote. Mayor Karachi Barrister Murtaza Wahab presented the budget in the KMC council on Monday for approval. The budget shows a surplus of Rs. 99.707 million. The total income is estimated at Rs. 49,701.845 million, while the estimated expenditures are Rs. 49,602.138 million. Current Receipts is Rs. 39,718.132 million and Capital Receipts is Rs. 815.213 million, while funds for the District ADP are Rs. 9,168.500 million. Establishment expenses are estimated at Rs. 27,846.975 million, contingent expenses at Rs. 3,176.048 million, repair and maintenance at Rs. 424.355 million, and development projects/works at Rs. 8,986.260 million.

The estimated expenses for District ADP are Rs. 9,168.500 million. Deputy Mayor Karachi Salman Abdullah Murad, Municipal Commissioner S.M Afzal Zaidi, and others were also present on the occasion. While presenting his first budget as Mayor, Barrister Murtaza Wahab emphasized the efforts to provide maximum facilities to citizens at the local level. Regarding development projects, he mentioned that funds have been allocated under the Federal PSDP Development Scheme 2024-25, with a total cost of Rs. 10,000 million for the Karachi Development Package. Rs. 103.256 million has been allocated for road maintenance and repair, Rs. 1,000 million for the improvement of sports grounds, Rs. 111.62 million for the beautification of parks, and Rs. 8,785.118 million for the repair and beautification of bridges, flyovers, and underpasses.

## OEC to export nurses staff to Saudi Arabia

ISLAMABAD (APP): Overseas Employment Corporation (OEC) attached department of Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development would export the nurses staff to Saudi Arabia and all staff would be selected through the walk-in-interviews from the different dates and station including 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> June, 2024 Lahore Shalimar Tower Hotel Jail Road, Lahore. 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2024 Pearl Continental (PC) Hotel Rawalpindi. An official source told APP here on Monday, he said that ICU Nurse with diploma in general nursing or bachelor of science in nursing/ Post RN, at least 02-Years of experience in

respective Categories. CCU Nurse, NICU Nurse, ER Nurse, PICU Nurse, MICU Nurse, Oncology ICU Nurse, Neuro ICU Nurse, Surgical ICU Nurse and LDR Nurse. He said that the following details of facilities which will be entitled to the employee are as follows accommodation and transport will be provided by the company, over time as per Saudi Labor Law, free return ticket after one year, 21 days paid holidays every year. The Candidates must bring their original Diplomas, CNIC, updated CV+ 02 Passport Size Picture. Interested applicants can apply via OEC's website <https://oec.gov.pk/>



ISLAMABAD: Vendors busy in checking the mangoes filled in wooden boxes before buying at Islamabad Fruit and Vegetable Market.

## High level industrial delegation leaves for Turkmenistan

ISLAMABAD (APP): A high-level delegation led by Federal Minister for Industries and Production Rana Tanveer Hussain on Monday embarked on a three-day official visit to Turkmenistan. The delegation, comprising senior officers from the Ministry of Industries and National Food Security is also accompanying the Federal Minister.

The delegation will engage in discussions on bilateral trade, economic relations, industrial and agricultural cooperation with Turkmenistan while cooperation in the energy sector will also discuss. During the visit, the delegation is scheduled to meet with President of Turkmenistan Serdar Berdimuhamedow and the national leader of Turkmenistan and chairman of the People's Council Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedow.

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## Shipping activity at Port Qasim

KARACHI (APP): Three ships, Doris, Al-Jassasiya and Chemtrans Ionian carrying chemicals, LNG and Mogs, berthed at Grain Terminal, Elengy Terminal and Oil Terminal respectively on Sunday. Meanwhile four more ships, Sea Journey, Sinar Mendawai, Horizon-1 and Gaslog Geneva with Canola, Palm oil, LPG and LNG also arrived at outer-anchorage of the Port Qasim during last 24 hours. Four ships were engaged at POA berths during the last 24 hours, out of them none ship left the port on Monday. Cargo volume of 78,492 tonnes, comprising 68,668 tonnes imports cargo and 9,824 tonnes export cargo carried in 727 Containers (296 TEUs Imports and 431 TEUs export).

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QUETTA: A delegation of Zamindar Action Committee led by former MPA Malik Naseer Shahwani meeting with Balochistan Governor Jaffar Khan Mandokhail.

## 30% tax will be imposed on the money kept in the bank by non-filers: Atif

ISLAMABAD: President Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Atif Ikram Sheikh, while talking about the budget anomalies, has said that 30% tax will be imposed on the money kept in the bank by non-filers, thirteen trillion rupees will be collected in a day. Expenses will have to be eliminated. Privatize everything in one year. We have proposed a five-line one-pager tax form. They should implement it. Five crore people will come into the tax net. We don't want a non-filer category, just a filer category. It is necessary that the business community stands with the country and the nation. The businessman-friendly scheme is good, but the non-bailable warrants are reprehensible. The tax culture has to be made respectable. Patron Chief Aptama and former caretaker minister Gohar

Ijaz said that the solution to the country's problems is not with the IMF, but with the businessmen and industrialists. Banks should first deduct 30% on the non-filer's money, then withdraw the money from the bank. When it is 30% for businesses, why is the non-filer's money kept in the bank safe from it? Terminate the agreement with IPP, we will bear the consequences. We will take it, otherwise everyone will die. Bring the business community together. We will build a transmission line for you. In the country, electricity is being sold at 60 rupees per unit. No one can buy electricity at 60 rupees per unit. IPPs contracts should be converted to take and pay. The contracts of IPPs should be terminated, two thousand billion rupees are being paid in terms of capacity, electricity transmission lines have not been installed.



ISLAMABAD: President Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FPCCI), Atif Ikram Sheikh, and Dr. Gohar Ejaz, former federal commerce minister, addressing a press briefing at FPCCI Capital Office, in the Federal Capital.

## SIAL installs 1.8MW solar power system

SIALKOT (APP): The Sialkot International Airport Limited (SIAL) has announced the successful installation of a 1.8MW solar power system, a significant milestone in its journey towards achieving self-sustainability and reducing environmental impact. In a press release, it said the move accentuates its commitment to sustainable development and innovative energy solutions. "The new solar power system is now operational, providing a substantial portion of the airport's energy requirements. This initiative will not only reduce our reliance on non-renewable energy sources but also contribute to significant cost savings and a reduction in our carbon footprint. The capacity of the installed solar system holds 1.8 Megawatts (MW) and is expected to produce approximately 2.4 million kWh annually," it added.

With a phenomenal environmental impact, it will help reduce approximately 1500 tons of CO2 emissions per year. The economic benefits of it will reflect a significant reduction in energy costs, contributing to long-term financial sustainability, it added. A spokesperson for the Sialkot International Airport expressed that the significant step aimed at energy self-sufficiency and environmental stewardship. "This solar power system aligns with our vision of a greener, more sustainable future for the aviation industry."



PESHAWAR: Sarhad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) President, Fuad Ishaq addresses to media persons during press conference, at SCCI House in Peshawar.

## Every trade sector given due representation in policy making: FCCI

FAISALABAD (APP): Every trade, sector and sub-sector has been given due representation in policy making through standing committees concerned and their proactive role could make the FCCI more efficient, productive and result oriented, said Dr Sajjad Arshad, Senior Vice President, Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FCCI). Addressing a meeting of conveners and co-conveners of the standing committees, he said that the FCCI provided a

favorable environment to the standing committees to identify their sector specific problems along with their viable solutions and recommendations. He said that the issues identified by the standing committees are raised at local, provincial and federal level for their solutions and creating maximum facilitation for them. He himself minutely studies the minutes of every standing committee and their workable recommendations are forwarded to the concerned department.

## Training of young Pakistanis with assistance from Huawei to start next month: Shaza

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunication Shaza Fatima Khawaja Monday said that the training of young Pakistanis in information technology and artificial intelligence, with assistance from Huawei, will begin next month. Participating in the budget debate, she said that during Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's visit to China, it was agreed that Huawei would train 200,000 young people in the information technology sector. Shaza Fatima said that the present government is taking effective steps to promote Information and Communications Technology (ICT) in the country. She said that under

the vision of the Prime Minister of Pakistan, the youth of the country are being given training in information technology. She said that the youth make up 70 percent of the country's population and the government is determined to equip them with IT training so they can secure jobs. She said that the government would train around 150,000 young people in the IT sector, who will then play a vital role in the country's economy. The minister said that a three to six-month IT course would enable the youth to earn a respectable income in both local and international markets. She recalled that during the government of Muhammad Nawaz Sharif,

about 100,000 young people were trained. Shaza added that during the same period, youth were provided with interest-free loans and scholarships. The minister mentioned that students were given laptops by the then-government on merit and without any discrimination. The minister said that during the last government, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif had distributed 100,000 laptops among the youth of the country. She recalled that as Chief Minister, Shehbaz Sharif had established E-Rozgar centers and E-libraries for the youth. She said that funds have been allocated in the PSDP for the establishment of IT parks in Islamabad and Karachi.

## Gold rates up by Rs.500 per tola to Rs.242,000

ISLAMABAD (APP): The price of per tola of 24 karat gold increased by Rs.500 and was sold at Rs.242,000 on Monday against its sale at Rs. 241,500 on last trading day. The price of 10 grams of 24 karat gold also increased by Rs.429 to Rs.207,476 from Rs. 207,047 whereas that of 10 gram 22 karat gold went up to Rs.190,186 from Rs. 189,793, the All Sindh Sarafa Jewellers Association reported. The price of per tola and ten gram silver remained constant at Rs.2,850 and Rs.2,443.41 respectively. The price of gold in the international market increased by \$8 to \$2,328 from \$2,320, the Association reported.

## Pakistan's regional exports increase 20% in 11 months

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan's exports to the seven regional countries witnessed an increase of 20.61 per cent in the first eleven months of the financial year (2023-24) as compared to the corresponding months of last year. "The country's exports to the regional countries including Afghanistan, China, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, India, Nepal, and the Maldives account for a small amount of \$4043.371 million, which is 14.09 per cent of Pakistan's overall exports of \$28,678.265 million during July-May (2023-24)," State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) reported. China tops the list of countries in terms of Pakistan's exports to its

neighbouring, leaving behind other countries such as Bangladesh and Afghanistan. Pakistan carried out its border trade with the farther neighbour Sri Lanka, India, Nepal, and Maldives. Pakistan's exports to China witnessed an increase of 35.61 per cent to \$2,553.481 million in eleven months of this year from \$1,889.195 million last year while exports to Afghanistan also witnessed an increase of 6.12 percent from \$478.614 million to \$507.935 million. The country's exports to Bangladesh decreased by 14.56 percent to \$605.744 million this year from \$709.050 million whereas exports to Sri Lanka rose by 36.68 percent to \$361.690 million.



ISLAMABAD: Delegation of technology company ZTE called on Minister of State for IT and Telecommunication Ms. Shaza Fatima Khawaja.

## ZTE delegation calls on Minister of State for IT

ISLAMABAD (APP): A delegation of tech company ZTE called on Minister of State for IT and Telecommunication Shaza Fatima Khawaja on Monday. The matters related to smart phones manufacturing, fiberization, and skills & trainings were discussed in the meeting, said a news release. Member Telecom, MoIT, Muhammad Jahanzeb Rahim was also present in the meeting.

## Pak mangoes arrive in China, delighting e-commerce shoppers with sweet flavors

BEIJING (APP): Chinese consumers are able to enjoy the sweet taste of Pakistani mangoes, as 800 cartons of the prized fruit arrived in China. This shipment, weighing over 3 tons (3,200 kilograms), marks the latest collaboration between Zhitong Batic Ltd in Guangzhou, China and MERA P C Solutions in Pakistan. The mangoes, renowned as the "King of Fruits" in Pakistan, are available for purchase through various Chinese e-commerce platforms, including JD.com's Pakistan Pavilion, Douyin shops, and WeChat accounts. This is the first batch of mangoes imported by Zhitong Batic company this year. They hit the shelves in China at a price of 168 yuan per carton, inclusive of express delivery. Each carton contains mangoes with a net weight of 4 to 4.2 kilograms. Cindy Chen, regional director of the company, told local media that they had carefully selected two varieties, Sindhri and Chaunsa, which are widely

considered the tastiest in Pakistan. "Pakistan boasts over 300 mango varieties. We partner with premium mango orchards, providing guidance on variety selection, cultivation techniques, harvesting, and packaging," said Chen. "Pakistani mangoes are grown naturally, using traditional methods and naturally fermented fertilizers without artificial growth enhancers or bagging. This ensures a pure mango flavor that Chinese consumers love." To maintain the unique taste of Pakistani mangoes while ensuring smooth logistics, a rigorous process is followed from orchards to consumers. Mangoes are harvested, heat-treated and packed before being transported by cold chain to Pakistani airports for air shipment to China. Domestic delivery in China is then handled by SF Express, ensuring freshness and quality. The company once faced challenges in preserving the freshness of mangoes during transportation.

## Tokyo stocks end higher

TOKYO (AFP/APP): Tokyo shares ended higher on Monday, supported by a cheaper yen against the dollar following falls on Wall Street and losses in early trade for the key Nikkei index. The benchmark Nikkei 225 index was up 0.54 percent, or 208.18 points, to end at 38,804.65, while the broader Topix index added 0.57 percent, or 15.50 points, to 2,740.19. The dollar fetched 159.71 yen, against 159.90 in Tokyo's early hours.



## Deadly assaults on synagogue, churches in Russia's Dagestan

**Monitoring Desk**  
MOSCOW: At least seven police officers lost their lives in shootouts with gunmen, as a synagogue, two Orthodox churches and a traffic police station came under attack in the southern Russian region of Dagestan, on Sunday.

The assailants also broke into an Orthodox church in Derbent and killed a local priest. The synagogue in the city, which also came under attack, was allegedly set on fire.

The series of gun and arson attacks in the regional capital, Makhachkala, and the southern city of Derbent also left a national guard officer, while at least 12 officers were injured, including six in an attack on the Makhachkala traffic police station.

The region's interior ministry officials said four gunmen were eliminated

during the operation in Makhachkala.

Russia's Investigative Committee said it had opened criminal probes over "acts of terror", while the hunt for the gunmen was ongoing.

Witnesses could hear shooting near a church in Makhachkala while shootouts were continuing in Derbent, the TASS state news agency reported.

"This evening in the cities of Derbent and Makhachkala armed attacks were carried out on two Orthodox churches, a synagogue and a police check-point," said the National Antiterrorism Committee in a statement to RIA Novosti news agency.

"As a result of the terrorist attacks, according to preliminary information, a priest from the Russian Orthodox Church and po-

lice officers were killed." Sunday is a religious holiday in the Russian Orthodox Church called Pentecost Sunday.

In all, seven police officers had been killed and another 12 wounded in the attacks, the spokeswoman for Dagestan's interior ministry, Gayana Gariyeva, told RIA Novosti.

Russia's National Guard said one of its officers had been killed in Derbent and several others wounded.

Also in Derbent, Gariyeva added, a 66-year-old priest was killed. RGVK broadcaster named the priest as Nikolai Kotelnikov.

"The synagogue in Derbent is on fire," the chairman of the public council of Russia's Federation of Jewish Communities, Boruch Gorin wrote on Telegram.



Smoke rising from a building in Russia's southern city of Derbent; while (right) emergency service vehicles line a street in Makhachkala, also in the country's south.

## 18 Chinese among 22 dead in South Korea battery plant fire

**Monitoring Desk**  
HWASEONG: Twenty-two people were killed — including 18 Chinese nationals — in a massive fire at a South Korean lithium battery factory, the fire department said Monday, one of the country's worst factory disasters in years.

Over 100 people were working in the factory when workers heard a series of explosions from the second floor, where lithium-ion batteries were being inspected and packaged, firefighter Kim Jin-young told media.

In the massive blaze

that ensued, twenty-two people were killed, including 20 foreign nationals — 18 Chinese, one from Laos, and one of unknown nationality, he said. "Most of the bodies are badly burned so it will take some time to identify each one," he added. Firefighters are still searching for one more person who remains unaccounted for, he said, adding that they had managed to contain the largest blaze at the plant and get inside.

Firefighters were "doing cooling operations to prevent the fire from expanding to nearby facto-

ries," Kim said.

Dozens of fire trucks were lined up outside the factory, an AFP reporter saw, with rescue workers carrying bodies, covered by blue blankets, out of the building on stretchers.

Images shared by Yonhap after the fire broke out showed huge plumes of billowing grey smoke rising into the sky above the factory, with orange flames inside the building.

The vast factory had an estimated 35,000 battery cells on the second floor in storage, with more batteries stored in other areas.



Displaced residents walk through the rubble of the damaged UNRWA headquarters in Gaza City.

## Modi calls for 'consensus' as Indian parliament opens after polls

**Monitoring Desk**  
NEW DELHI: Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi appealed to an emboldened opposition for "consensus" Monday, as parliament opened following an election setback that forced him into a coalition government for the first time in a decade. Expected in the first session, which will run until July 3, is a preview of Modi's plans for his third term and the likely formal appointment of Rahul Gandhi as leader of the opposition — a post vacant since 2014. Modi's first two terms in office followed landslide wins for his right-wing Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), allowing his government to drive laws through parliament with only cursory debate.

But now analysts expect the 73-year-old Modi to moderate his Hindu-nationalist agenda to assuage his coalition partners, focusing more on infrastructure, social welfare and economic reforms.

## Deaths during Haj pilgrimage reach 1,301

**Monitoring Desk**  
CAIRO: The number of deaths during this year's Haj pilgrimage totalled 1,301 people, Saudi Arabia's health minister Fahad Al-Jalal said on Sunday.

The minister, quoted by state television, said that deaths were caused by pilgrims "walking long distances under direct sunlight without adequate shelter or comfort".

Fatalities also included a number of elderly people and those suffering from chronic diseases. Some 83 per cent of the fatalities were among people who were not authorised to make the pilgrimage, he said.

Most of the dead were Egyptians. Security and medical sources said on Sunday that the Egyptian death toll had risen to 672 and another 25 were missing.

A total of 236 Indonesians died, according to Indonesian government data, while India's External Affairs agency said 98 Indian citizens died during Haj.

## US directly involved in deadly attack on Crimea, says Russia

**Monitoring Desk**  
MOSCOW: Russia said on Sunday that the United States was "directly responsible" for an attack carried out from Ukrainian territory with five missiles that killed at least five people, including three children, and injured 124 more in Crimea.

The Russian defence ministry said US specialists had set the missiles' flight coordinates on the basis of information from US spy satellites, meaning Washington was directly responsible. Four of the US-delivered Army Tactical Missile

System (ATACMS) missiles, equipped with cluster warheads, were shot down by air defence systems and the ammunition of a fifth had detonated in mid-air, it added. The ministry said four missiles were downed but a fifth changed trajectory after being intercepted "with its warhead exploding in the air over the city".

"Responsibility for the deliberate missile attack on the civilians of Sevastopol is borne above all by Washington, which supplied these weapons to Ukraine."

## US military looks for West Africa 'Plan B' after Niger ousting

**Monitoring Desk**  
GABORONE: The top US general is making a rare trip to Africa to discuss ways to preserve some of the US presence in West Africa after Niger decided to kick out the US military in favour of partnering with Russia in a major setback for Washington.

Air Force General C.Q. Brown, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told reporters before landing in Botswana on Monday for a gathering of African chiefs of defense that he was going to speak with several partners in the region. "I do see some opportunities. And there's countries that we're already working with in West Africa," Brown told reporters traveling with him.

Building on those relationships may "provide opportunities for us to posture some of the capability we had in Niger in some other locations," he added.

Brown declined to say which countries were under consideration. But a US official told Reuters that President Joe Biden's administration has had initial conversations with countries including Benin.

## Netanyahu says he won't agree to a deal that ends the war in Gaza, testing the latest truce proposal

**Monitoring Desk**  
TEL AVIV: The viability of a U.S.-backed proposal to wind down the 8-month-long war in Gaza was cast into doubt on Monday after Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said he would only be willing to agree to a "partial" cease-fire deal that would not end the war, comments that sparked an uproar from families of hostages held by Hamas.

In an interview broadcast late Sunday on Israeli Channel 14, a conservative, pro-Netanyahu station, the Israeli leader said he was "prepared to make a partial deal—this is no secret — that will return to us some of the people," referring to the roughly 120 hostages still held in the Gaza Strip. "But we are committed to continuing the war after a pause, in order to complete the goal of eliminating Hamas. I'm not willing to give up on that."

Netanyahu's comments did not deviate dramatically from what he has said previously about his terms for a deal. But they come at a sensitive time as Israel and Hamas appear to be moving further apart over the latest cease-fire proposal, and they could represent another setback for mediators trying to end the war.

Netanyahu's comments stood in sharp contrast to the outlines of the deal detailed late last month by U.S. President Joe Biden, who framed the plan as an Israeli one and which some in Israel refer to as "Netanyahu's deal."

## Seoul says North Korea has resumed balloon launches likely to drop trash in South Korea

**Monitoring Desk**  
SEOUL: North Korea resumed launches of balloons likely carrying trash toward South Korea on Monday night, South Korea's military said, in the latest round of a Cold War-style campaign on the Korean Peninsula. The launches came days after North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and Russian President Vladimir Putin signed a major defense deal that observers worry could embolden Kim to direct more provocations at South Korea.

A statement from South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said the North Korean balloons were moving south. It said earlier Monday that the military was closely monitoring North Korean moves because northerly or northwesterly winds, favorable for the balloon launches, were forecast. The statement asked South Korean citizens not to touch North Korean balloons and report them to military and police authorities. The military didn't say how it would respond to new balloon launches.

Starting in late May, North Korea launched a series of balloons that dropped manure, cigarette butts, scraps of cloth, waste batteries and vinyl in various parts of South Korea. No highly dangerous materials were found. North Korea said its balloon campaign was a tit-for-tat action against South Korean activists who flew political leaflets critical of its leadership across the border. "When you do something you were clearly warned not to do, it's only natural that you will find yourself dealing with something you didn't have to," Kim Yo Jong said.

## Britain's Princess Anne in hospital with head injury

**Monitoring Desk**  
LONDON: Princess Anne, King Charles' younger sister, is in hospital after suffering a head injury on Sunday, Buckingham Palace said, adding the royal was expected to make a full recovery from the incident which was believed to have involved a horse.

The palace said on Monday that the 73-year-old, the only daughter of the late Queen Elizabeth, had suffered minor injuries and concussion following the incident and she was now recovering at Southmead Hospital in Bristol.



Emergency personnel work at the site of a deadly fire at a lithium battery factory owned by South Korean battery maker Aricell, in Hwaseong, South Korea.

## Taiwan war games to mimic combat as closely as possible

**Monitoring Desk**  
TAIPEI: Taiwan's annual war games this year will be as close as possible to actual combat, no longer just putting on a show to score points but aiming to simulate real fighting given a rapidly rising "enemy threat" from China, a senior official said.

China, which views democratically governed Taiwan as its territory, has been staging regular exercises around the island for four years to pressure Taipei to accept Beijing's claim of sovereignty, despite Taiwan's strong objections.

## Landslide kills eight in China after heavy rainfall

**Monitoring Desk**  
BEIJING: A landslide in a mountainous area of central China has left eight people dead, state media said on Sunday, as parts of the country were placed on high alert for bad weather.

Heavy rain caused a deadly landslide in a village in Hunan province, according to state broadcaster CCTV. Four houses collapsed and all eight missing people "have been found with no vital signs", the channel said.

China has been experiencing extreme weather conditions and unusually high temperatures in recent months.

## India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrives before the opening of the first session at the Parliament in New Delhi

India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrived at the Parliament building in New Delhi on Sunday to begin his third term as leader of the opposition. He is scheduled to address a joint session of Parliament on Monday.



PM Shehbaz, Bill Gates for continuing efforts to eradicate polio, strengthen health system

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and Chair of Gates Foundation Bill Gates on Monday agreed to continue working together to not only eradicate polio, but also to strengthen health systems across the provinces, and to ensure prosperity for all Pakistanis, especially women and girls.

change adaptation, and financial inclusion. He updated Bill Gates about key metrics of the progress made and the challenges faced in these areas.



TULA: Pakistan Military Attache to Russian Federation Brig Muhammad Asif Khan alongwith Pakistan Military Cadets who are participating in games in Russian city of Tula after the opening ceremony.

Rs. 10 billion allocated in provincial budget: CM assures to deal with matters of solarization of agri. tube wells soon

Independent Report QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has assured that the matters about solarization of agriculture tube wells would be dealt with soon.

ness in the federal budget. Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister said that the complaints about electricity shortage would be decreased after solarization of the agricultural tube wells in the province.



FAISALABAD: Lawyer Babar Awan talking to the media outside the Anti-Terrorism Court in the city.

Pakistan's economy hinges on stability, security: Mushahid

ISLAMABAD (APP): Senator Mushahid Hussain Syed on Monday said that political stability and security are vital for boosting economy of this country.

Social Welfare Department to hold anti-drug awareness walk

QUETTA (APP): The Social Welfare Department, government of Balochistan will organize an awareness walk against the ill-effects of drugs on 26th June.

A handout issued here on Monday said that the walk will kick off from Serena Hotel and end at Civil Secretariat Chowk.

Ambassador Anna lauds women role in diplomacy

BRUSSELS (APP): Pakistan's Ambassador to the European Union, Belgium and Luxembourg Anna Baloch on Monday lauding the contribution of women in diplomacy, said that their contributions, often behind the scenes, drove meaningful change across borders.

Occupation and encroachments on drainage nullahs not acceptable at all, asserts Commissioner Quetta

Independent Report QUETTA: The Commissioner Quetta Division, Muhammad Hamza Shafiqat has warned that occupation and encroachments on the drainage nullahs is not acceptable at all and as such action would remain continued against those involved in the encroachments.

rations in advance by all the concerned departments. In this regard, all the Deputy Commissioners were directed to prepare the contingency plan and put all the departments on alert taking timely measures in their respective districts.



QUETTA: Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti expressing his views during Balochistan Assembly session

MNAs underline need for fair distribution of resources among provinces in Budget debate

ISLAMABAD (APP): The parliamentarians on Monday underlined on taking measures for the fair distribution of resources, to take necessary steps for sustainable economic development.

said that the government has presented the budget 2024-25 in a time of huge economic challenges and now the government needs to take necessary steps for sustainable economic development.

ened by fair distribution of resources. Ch Bilal Ejaz, MNA of Sunni Ittehad Council said that more resources need to be allocated for education, health and agriculture in the budget 2024-25.



QUETTA: Provincial Minister Mir Tariq Magsoo and Vice Chancellor BUITEMS Dr. Khalid Hafeez meeting with Governor Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail

Country Director WB calls on Planning Minister

ISLAMABAD (APP): Country Director World Bank, Njay Benhassine on Monday called on Minister for Planning Development & Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal and discussed the progress and current status of the ongoing projects supported by the World Bank.

execution to ensure timely completion. The minister also highlighted the comprehensive nature of the "5Es Framework" that encompasses all the important sectors.

Maulana Fazal condole death of Maulana Siddiq Mengal with son

Independent Report QUETTA: The central leader of Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (JUI), Maulana Fazalur Rehman condoled the death of provincial Naib Ameer of JUI and President of Khuzdar Press Club, Maulana Muhammad Siddiq Mengal with his son, Maulana Fazalur Rehman here on Monday.

During meeting with son of Maulana Siddiq Mengal, the JUI Chief offered for his departed soul and inquired about his family.

He also expressed his best wishes for the bereaved family of Maulana Siddiq Mengal. The JUI Quaid also highlighted the invaluable services of Maulana Siddiq Mengal for the religion of Islam.

Rare leopard killed by villagers in Dera Bugti

DERA BUGTI (INP): A group of armed villagers in Balochistan's Dera Bugti killed a rare leopard after finding the animal in the vicinity of Sul. As per details, the villagers after spotting the leopard chased it and killed it in its den. After killing the predator, the villagers dragged its body from the den and filmed it.



NASEERABAD: Heavy machineries busy in cleaning and maintenance Rabi Canal during cleanliness drive under the supervision of Irrigation Department, in Naseerabad.

Limit of Taxable income of salaried class may be increased: Senator Faisal

ISLAMABAD (APP): Parliamentary leader of Muthahida Qaumi Movement Pakistan (MQMP) in the upper house Senator Faisal Sabzwari on Monday advised the government to increase the limit of Taxable income of salaried class and the tax burden may be decreased.

pay taxes voluntarily if the burden on them is decreased and in the meantime untaxed areas may be found. Farmer should be given blanket exemption, said the senator adding that indirect taxes are more ruthless and they a common Pakistani are paying tax more than his capacity through indirect taxes.

Senator Bilal condole Kasi demise

QUETTA (APP): Pakistan Peoples Party Senator Sheikh Bilal Ahmed Khan Mandokhel on Monday expressed deep sorrow and grief over the passing of the esteemed figure of the Kassi tribe, Nawab Arbab Abdul Zahir Kassi. In his condolence message, he stated that Arbab Abdul Zahir Kassi was a senior political figure in Balochistan, who advocated positive tribal, political, and social values.

Sargodha, Swat mob lynchings Senate unanimously passes resolution "unequivocally condemning"

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Senate on Monday unanimously approved the resolution unequivocally condemning mob lynchings incidents occurred in Sargodha and Swat and demanded the federal and provincial governments to ensure public safety of all including that of vulnerable communities and minorities.

am shocked to see that PTI members in the National Assembly didn't sign the resolution on Swat mob lynching incident that demanded not to weaponise religion and extremism. They have learnt no lesson from the past," she said. She added that the attitude of PTI lawmakers was disgrace to 90,000 civilians and armed forces' martyrs who sacrificed their lives in war on terror.



QUETTA: Chief of JUI Maulana Fazalur Rehman meeting with Provincial Education Minister Raheela Hameed Khan Durrani.

Chinese experts to visit Pakistan at end of June

ISLAMABAD (APP): A delegation of Chinese experts from various fields is scheduled to visit Pakistan at the end of June, aiming to foster innovation, technology transfer, and capacity building.

the ministries to develop a comprehensive roadmap to maximize the benefits of the experts' visit. He said that the focus will be on capacity building of Pakistani experts through training and knowledge sharing, learning from China's experience in innovation and technological advancements, adapting innovative solutions to Pakistan's specific needs, and skill development in key sectors.



QUETTA: Opposition leader in Balochistan Assembly Mir Younis Aziz Zehri meeting with Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfraz Bugti.

IHC wraps up petition seeking recovery of missing citizen of Azad Kashmir

ISLAMABAD (Online): Islamabad High Court (IHC) has wrapped up petition filed in connection with recovery of missing citizen of Azad Kashmir. Justice Mohsin Akhtar Kiyani remarked that the man has been traced. Now you can resort to proper forum according to law.

in the court. During the hearing of the case Additional Attorney General (AAG) Munawar Iqbal Dogal told the court Khurshid Ahmad is in the custody of military on the charges of espionage. Justice Mohsin Akhtar Kiyani remarked ok information about whereabouts of man has come. The court directed the counsel for the petitioner he can approach the proper forum as per law.

China-Pak Health Chinese modern technologies to boost Pakistan's healthcare system

BEIJING (APP): Chinese modern technologies are set to revolutionize Pakistan's healthcare system through the ambitious China-Pakistan Health Corridor initiative. This collaborative effort aims to enhance medical infrastructure, improve patient care, and streamline health services across Pakistan, said Dr. Muhammad Shahbaz, President of China Pakistan Medical Association (CPMA).

Center of Lingang New Area and the International Cooperation and Exchange Conference on Medical Technology with the theme of "Promoting High-level Opening and Creating a Great Health Era" on Saturday in Liangang, Shanghai, he said that by integrating advanced technologies and expertise from China, the initiative promised to address critical healthcare challenges, ensuring better health outcomes and increased access to quality medical services for millions of Pakistanis.



QUETTA: Commissioner Quetta Division Hamza Shafiqat chairing a meeting regarding preparation for upcoming monsoon rains.