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PM welcomes

Fitch upgrades Pakistan

rating to CCC+ following



QUETTA: Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti expressing views in Balochistan Assembly

### CM Bugti authorizes opposition to hold talks with protestors on behalf of govt

Says government believes in dialogue to solve the issues; our doors are always open for those who agreed to set on table with us for any kind of talks in order to maintain peace in the province

Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti on Monday has authorized members of the opposition in Balochistan Assembly to hold talks with Baloch Yakjehti Committee on behalf of the government.

Addressing the assembly session, he said that the government believes in dialogue to solve the issues and asked

**Independent Report** 

currency issuer default rat-

ing (IDR) from CCC to

CCC+ by the Credit Rat-

Appreciating the efforts of Finance Minister

Muhammad Aurangzeb

and his team, the prime

minister said the country

and the nation had started

receiving the fruits of the

government's policy of

sacrificing politics for the

sake of state in the shape

of improvement in the

upgrading of Pakistan's

global rating to CCC+ was

the international recogni-

tion of the government's

right economic policies.

In a statement, he said

country's economy.

SLAMABAD:

ing Agency Fitch.

play their vital role in the current situation.

He offered that our doors are always open for those who agreed to set on table with us for any kind of talks in order to maintain peace in the province.

Sarfraz Bugti said that the state would ensure all rights including right to assemble to the people on a

(APP): the opposition members to condition to accept the right to organized. Sarfraz Bugti said the government had held negotiations multiple times to convince the BYC to organized gathering at Turbat instead of Gwadar.

He added that the BYC was decided to hold rally in Gwadar with clear intentions to sabotage the CPEC, development works and malign the country internationally.

The Chief Minister said for- anyone to chock the governeign delegations are to visit Gwadar in August as the second phase of CPEC is to begin, the government was granted the permission to organized the gathering at GDA stadium.

Sarfraz Bugti said the government cannot give the authority to run the government affairs in the hand of Jehtha and would not allow social media.

ment machinery and stop the development process in the province. arfraz Bugti said that intelligence driven war is being run against the country and the province. He said that there is conspiracy against Pakistan, one group is using violence in Balochistanand another group is defaming the state institutions through

### Soldier martyred, 16 injured as violent mob assaults security forces' personnel in Gwadar An officer also among injured as mob in garb of "Baloch Raji Muchi" attacked security forces, says ISPR

violent mob in the garb of so called Baloch Raji Muchi assaulted Security Forces' personnel employed for security duties in Gwadar district that resulted in the martyrdom of a soldier and left an officer and 16 others injured during unprovoked assaults.

The martyred soldier was identified as Sepoy Shabbir Baloch (Age: 30 years; resident of: District Sibi), who embraced shahadat, an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release said.

While on the other hand, fake and malicious propaganda is being spread on social media using doc-

RAWALPINDI (APP): A gain sympathy and support for the unlawful violent march, it said. "Security forces have displayed extreme restraint to avoid unwarranted civilian casualties despite provocations. The violent actions of

the mob are unacceptable and those responsible will be brought to justice," the ISPR said. All citizens were urged

not to fall prey to the propaganda, remain calm and peaceful, and to cooperate with law enforcement agencies in maintaining public safety and order, it added.

"Security Forces of Pakistan, in step with the Nation, remain determined to thwart attempts of sabo-

Moreover, the ISPF said fake and malicious propaganda is being spread on social media using doctored pictures and videos by the propagandists to gain sympathy and support for the unlawful violent march.

'Security forces have displayed extreme restraint to avoid unwarranted civil ian casualties despite provocations," it said adding that the violent actions of the mob are unacceptable and those responsible will be brought to justice. The military's media

wing also urged all citizens not to fall prey to the propaganda, remain calm and peaceful, and to cooperate with law enforcement agentored pictures and videos taging peace and stability of cies in maintaining public by the propagandists to Balochistan," the ISPR said. safety and order.

**IMF** agreement emphasized that the government was working hard Minister Muhammad on the economic reforms agenda, the fruits of which Shehbaz Sharif on Monday would surely reach to the hailed the upgrading of Pakistan's long-term foreign people soon.

The reports of Fitch and other international financial institutions are important for the economic improvement of Pakistan, PM Shehbaz said adding that "we will move forward with more effort and passion on the path of economic improvement of the country". He hoped that the new International Monetary Fund (IMF) programme would further improve the economic activities in the country.

The announcement of another one percent reduction in interest rate by the State Bank of Pakistan was another sign of economic improvement, he The prime minister added



Ishaq Dar alongwith Secretary General of the Commonwealth Patricia Scotland addresses a joint press stakeout at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

### Pakistan committed to CW agenda of connectivity, climate resilience: Dar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar on Monday reiterated that Pakistan remained committed to working with the Commonwealth to promote its agenda of connectivity, education, youth and women empowerment, and climate resilience.

The deputy prin ister, addressing a joint press stakeout with Secretary General of the Commonwealth Patricia Scot-

**Justices Sardar** 

Tariq, Mazhar

Alam take

oath as SC's ad

hoc judges

ISLAMABAD (APP): Justice Qazi Faez Isa, Chief

Justice of Pakistan on

Monday administered the

oath of offices to Justice

Sardar Tariq Masood and

Justice Mazĥar Alam Khan

Miankhel as Ad-hoc Judges, Supreme Court of

oath taking ceremony was

held at Supreme Court of

Pakistan in this regard. The

judges of apex court, Attor-

ney General for Pakistan

members of Pakistan Bar

Council, Supreme Court

Bar Association, senior

lawyers, law officers and

officers of Law & Justice

Commission of Pakistan

Court of Pakistan con-

ducted the proceedings of

Tharparkar:

Registrar Supreme

attended the ceremony.

A simple and dignified

that Pakistan was also resolved to support the initiatives aimed at strengthening and modernizing the Commonwealth to meet the 21st-century challenges, besides continuing to play an active role in building tion in education, youth bridges among member empowerment, capacity

states.

land after their meeting, said across her eight-year term and her role in promoting the Commonwealth's values and mission and modernizing the outlook.

The deputy prime minister lauded her contribution to promoting cooperabuilding, and climate action, besides supporting Paki retary-general, who is on a stan after floods, particu-

### **Govt condemns life threats** to CJP, adopt legal course against such tendencies

ISLAMABAD (APP): The government on Monday strongly condemned life threats to Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa by a certain group and announced initiating legal proceedings so that no one could dare to challenge the writ of the state.

'The law will take its course against the elements behind the provocative and baseless propaganda campaign against the CJP" said Defence Minister Khawaja Asif while addressing a press conference along with Federal Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal.

tempt was being made to

name of religion for vested He said that believing

in the finality of the Holy Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him) is part of our faith. He said that the Supreme Court has already clarified its position on the

right voice in the judiciary. Emphasizing the need

for the rule of law, Khawaja Asif stated that the dicta-He regretted that an attion of any individual of spread bloodshed in the group will not be accepted



Naqvi in a meeting with Chinese Counsel General

### One document passport regime to remain enforced at Pak-Afghan border, Brigadier Umar Hayat

**Independent Report** 

OUETTA: The Brigadier Umar Hayat of Frontier Corps (FC) has categorically stated that the one document passport regime would remain enforced at the Pak-Afghan border.

He said that there has been no talk of the higher authorities with the dharna committee about the national identity cards or tazkara for across border movement.

Brigadier Umar Hayat was speaking to the media persons of Chaman at the FC Qila Chaman on Mon-

He said that the antipassport dharna "parlat" had come to an end on resolving the issues of education and health besides increasing the staff of passport and Laghri package.

He made it clear that the passport regime is enforced

at the Pak-Afghan border Chaman and there was no agreement on the identity cards or tazkara.

He said that the committee had demanded the Laghri package and solution to the issues of education and health not the identity card or tazkara.

He also said that the state had not made any commitment about ending the passport policy. He said that

Chaman parlat earned bad name because of it's antistate narrative and use of political interests. He mentioned that the dharna organizers reiterated that they honour all the laws of state of Pakistan including the enforce-

ment of passport. He said that the dharna organizers also made assurance that they would not become part of any protes against the state laws.

**Funeral prayer** 

of martyred

**FC** official

held in Gwadar

By Special Correspondent

GWADAR: Funeral prayer

was held for Frontier Corps

(FC) official Sabir Baloch,

who was martyred during

protests in Gwadar. The

prayer was attended by

Balochistan's Home Minis-

ter Mir Ziaullah Langau, DC

Gwadar Ahmedullah Larak,

and other high-ranking civil

Ziaullah Langau praised the

martyrdom and bravery of

Sabir Baloch, saying that he

was a true patriot who sac-

rificed his life for the coun-

Minister Mir Ziaullah

Langau said that the govern-

ment and people of

Balochistan stand with the

grieving family of Sabir

Baloch in this difficult time.

He condemned the terrorist

attack that led to Baloch's

martyrdom and said that the

government will take all nec-

essary measures to ensure

Ziaullah Langau also con-

demned the actions of pro-

testers who failed to respect

the dignity and cooperation

of the security forces during

Home Minister Mir

justice is served.

In a statement, Home

and military officials.

ter Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti

The minister pointed out that Qazi Faez Isa is being targeted for many years under various pretexts. He stated there there is an ongoing effort to silence a principled and up-

### "All protestors dispersed; normalcy returns in Gwadar": Ready for talks according to Constitution: Ziaullah

We can't let anyone to challenge writ of state and harm government properties under garb of protests

QUETTA: The Provincial Minister for Home and Tribal Affairs, Mir Ziaullah Langove has categorically stated that we are ready for talks according to the constitution of Pakistan, however,

QUETTA: A delegation of Pakistan People's Party meeting with Chief Minis-

The body of Sabir rity at stake on anyone's Baloch was sent to his nablackmailing. tive area for burial with state Home Minister Mir

**Independent Report** erties under the garb of pro-

The Deputy Commissioner Gwadar, Hamoodur

He also made it clear that we can't let anyone to

and harm government prop-

The Minister Home was presiding over crucial meeting on law and order situation and other related matters in Gwadar on Mon-

can't put the national secu-Rehman, Deputy Inspector General of Police, Makran, Dr Farhan Zahid and other concerned high ups were in challenge writ of the state attendance.

### Govt, Ulema agree to curb religious intolerance

ISLAMABAD (APP): Ulema, belonging to different schools of thought, and the government have agreed that nobody will be allowed to take law into hands in the name of religion.

Addressing a joint news conference, along with Ulema, in Rawalpindi today, Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar strongly condemned the issuance of fatwas against Chief Justice Qazi Faez Isa. He said the Supreme Court, in its Urdu press release, has clarified that believing in the finalMuhammad (Peace Be Upon Him) is part of every Muslim's faith.

The Minister said neither law nor society permits anyone to issue decrees against fellow Muslims' faith. He said a case has been registered against the culprits behind such fatwas, aimed at spreading hatred. He said strict action will be taken in this regard.

He said that the state would respond to the malicious campaign against the Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) and no one would be allowed to decree religious notions against anyone.

Lightning strike claims 8 lives HYDERABAD (APP): As

oath taking ceremony.

many as 8 people died as a result of lightning strike during rain in Tharparkar on Monday, while more than 60 cattle were killed in different areas.

According to details, six individuals lost their lives when lightning struck the village of Akraro in Nagarparkar during the rain. The deceased include 20 year old Ramesh Bheel, 17 year old Ranjit Bheel, 40 year old Bhamro Bheel, 14 year old girl Sagna Bheel, 16 year old Vikram Bheel and 17 year old girl Anita Bheel. Another person, named Tabo was injured and shifted to the civil hospital Mithi for treatment

#### five-day maiden visit here, larly regarding the appointfor serving the organisation ment of a climate finance with "dedication and grace" advisor for Pakistan. Indonesian envoy calls on Jaffar Mandokhail: Governor stresses need to expand relations between Pak & Indonesia in

various sectors further **Independent Report** 

QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail has stated that deep and pleasant relations are established between Pakistan and Indonesia and there is a need to expand these relations in different sectors further according to the changing circumstances and modern requirements.

There would be positive impacts on the bilateral trade and commerce relations between Pakistan and Indonesia with participation of the people associated with the trade



be held in October in Indonesia. The Governor Balochistan was speaking to the Indonesian ambassador to Pakistan, Rehmat Hiniarta Kasuma, who called on him here at the Governor's House on Monday.

During the course of meeting, different matters about bilateral relations between Pakistan and Indonesia as well as the potential of investment in Balochistan and others

### SBP cuts policy rate by 100bps to 19.5% as inflation cools down 'slightly'

SBP Governor Jameel Ahmed says inflation rate eased to 12.60%, while external account continues to improve

**Monitoring Desk** 

ISLAMABAD: The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) on Monday reduced the interest rate by 1% or 100 basis points (bps) from 20.5% to 19.5%, the second cut in a row, citing a slight cooling in the inflation rate — a move that is mostly in line with the general market consensus

Addressing a press conference after the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting, SBP Governor Jameel Ahmad said, "We

have noted that the inflation is on a declining trend.3 "The inflation rate has

come down to 12.60% from 38% while the external account has continued to improve," the SBP governor said adding, "The reduction in the interest rate reflects our confidence in the current economic trajectory.'

Last month, the SBP's MPC trimmed its benchmark interest rate by 150 bps to 20.5%, following a record-high 22% that had been maintained for almost



### Daily soice of Masse Independent

### **Constitutional limits**

Throughout Pakistan's turbulent history, coup-makers and strongmen have looked to the courts to provide legitimacy to their extra-constitutional forays.

Whenever the courts have obliged, these actions have been justified by the 'doctrine of necessity', that odious principle used to legitimise, for example, Ghulam Mohammad's dissolution of the Constituent Assembly, and later the Iskander Mirza-Ayub Khan military coup.

Today, as extreme political polarisation threatens Pakistan's fragile democracy, and unelected forces tighten their grip, people are wondering whether this doctrine will again be resurrected. In this regard, the remarks made by Supreme Court Justice Athar Minallah at a recent event in the US regarding the judiciary's role in protecting the constitutional order bear repeating.

Justice Minallah urged the courts to remain vigilant where defending the Constitution was concerned. He added that mistakes in this regard had been made by the higher judiciary in the past and that if the SC failed to protect the basic law, then "judges are committing misconduct". These frank admissions and stark warnings should be heeded especially by state institutions. There can be no compromise when it comes to respecting the constitutional order, and their lordships have a duty to protect the document. It seemed that after the epic struggle between Gen Musharraf and justice Iftikhar Chaudhry, the 'doctrine of necessity' had been buried. Yet, as things have developed since, it is clear that this doctrine has multiple lives. What gives one hope is the fact that conversations about protecting the constitutional order are taking place, even in a suffocating atmosphere. Whether it is Justice Minallah's remarks, the Islamabad High Court judges' letter regarding interference by intelligence agencies in judicial affairs, or Justice Mansoor Ali Shah's comment about the need to create a 'firewall' around the judicial system, these hints from within the judiciary point to a will to resist unconstitutional moves.

As some observers have noted, an unambiguous institutional response is required; undemocratic forces cannot be allowed to exploit divisions within the judiciary. From their lordships in the SC to the magistrates and trial judges, the judiciary as an institution must pledge to uphold the constitutional framework, and refuse to entertain 'requests' from any quarter to subvert the democratic system.

As Justice Minallah suggested, those who fail to defend the Constitution must face the consequences of their actions. Pakistan's salvation lies in all institutions staying within their legal bounds, and letting civilian set-ups govern with freedom. Of course, there are still many pieces missing from this puzzle — a transparent electoral process, maturity and tolerance in political parties for each other, etc - but only if the democratic process is allowed to continue unhindered can the system correct itself.

### Noble profession or not?

It is always encouraging to see the huge pool of resourceful and talthat we have in our eduments. Having been associated with the field of education for over a them in which they can decade and a half, this writer has gained immensely from the experience of teaching a dents from nearly all biggest advantages of those who practise it remain young in mind and heart, simply because they are conthe younger genera-

As mentioned, Pakistan boasts a huge reserve of young and talented people with imlacks the resources to and other perks, such allow them to exploit as concessions on their potential to the fullest. As a result, young, bright and ambitious individuals who and millions of children manage to secure em- out of school, educaleaving the country for mand as the country greener pastures. A massive brain drain is in erations with the skills progress, with hordes and abilities they need of young people shift- to excel and carve out a ing abroad in search of niche for themselves in better standards of living and a brighter future for their children.

What can educationists do to retain this tionists who can use vast reserve of human resources and help it tencies to groom the realise its maximum potential? The first thing row are direly needed. is to be honest with the For that, training needs profession, which is be- to be provided and incoming increasingly centives given to enchallenging keeping in courage more highly mind the rapidly change educated individuals to ing environment of educational establishments and the increasing commercialisation of academia. However, there are still a large number of educationists that this writer has

realise their hidden

skills and abilities.

While it is widely acknowledged that large number of stu- teachers are overworked, underpaid and walks of life. One of the have minimal job security, there is still a huge this profession is that contribution that they can make, even with their authority curtailed by institutions seeking to win over more 'clistantly in touch with ents'. By and large, it still remains an extremely respectable profession, especially for females, and most women prefer being associated with academia mense potential; unfor- due to its relatively tunately, the country shorter working hours

school fees.

With a massive inployment abroad are tion will remain in deequips its future genthe world. With the vast reserves of the young people we have, bright and competent educatheir skills and compegenerations of tomor-

join this profession. Another depressing reality is that individuals from privileged backgrounds do not join this profession. Nearly all of us are here by accident, and very encountered during her few out of choice. This coming generations. professional journey is especially true for - Courtesy Dawn

Gaitee Ara Siddiqi who are doing their men associated with best to do justice to this profession, who their profession. That mostly belong to lowmeans inculcating a income backgrounds sense of responsibility and are teaching beented young people in their students and cause they were unable nurturing and cultivat- to pursue a profession cational establish- ing them, spotting their in a more promising potential, and fostering field. Most of them are an environment for making just enough spending their days teaching in schools, and their evenings in tuition centres. With

crippling stagflation, the majority is burning the midnight oil but remains unable to make ends meet. As es-sentials become more and more dear, the true ethos of educat-ion is being compromi-sed, like everything else in this country. Because teachers

shape the future of a nation, the government should make a concerted effort to facilitate them by providing tax exemptions and subsidies on basic expenses. A nation which respects its teachers and aims to make their lives easier prospers, grows crease in population and develops. It encourages students to respect and value those who are devoting their lives to enable them to make something of

Let's continue to

keep the flame burning. Those in the profession should keep fighting for their rights. We can do our bit by practising professional honesty to preserve the sanctity and respectability of this occupation, in the hope that it will have a spillover effect and, in time, the government will start offering incentives to the unsung heroes and heroines of this country who may not be fighting on the borders, but are still waging important battles daily (sometimes at their own expense) to ensure a bright future for our

### Facing homelessness

#### **Arif Hasan**

Mauripur Road towards Hawkes Bay, a concrete wall appears area enclosed by the KDA scheme 42 that about two kilometres from the sea and runs multistoried condomini- concrete jungle and along the road on your ums, clubs and high- which protects the sancleft-hand side. After it end eating places. They reaches Hawks Bay argue that if this is true, especially of the flora Drive, it turns left and continues for another ent skills will replace kilometre or so. The area enclosed by the wall contains a number of small fishermen's villages. Roads are being laid within the area enclosed by the wall, and the nullah that flows through this area has been blocked; the space where the water fanned out from the nullah to the sea has been blocked as well. Much of the area has extensive mangrove forest.

this area and around it these schemes have are Brahvi- or Balochispeaking. They claim and big money supthat they had been liv-port. ing here well before the British came. Many of their families own small boats in which they go into shallow waters to environment of the area fish and then take their will be devastated. fish to the many piers Mangrove marshes will their catch. Others are boat-hands on larger WWF has been trying percentage of the

The retail and wholesale trade in fish villagers, but given the unequal relationship between the fishermen and the aartis, the villagers remain poor financially, and are burdened with a 'culture of poverty'. Most of the villages have no education or health facilities, and those that do, function erratically.

livelihoods will be possible.

taken away from them. Rumours are that the new people with differ-

Again and again, they mention the fact that the agricultural vilthe case of Gadap. The lages have lost everyculture. Many of them communities, lowerclaim that they have no The villages within one to turn to since government, politicians

Apart from the livelihood and communityfishing community, the generated will make it the coastal road, is impossible for the green turtle to breed, and they too will disappear is big business for the like the flamingos, pangolins, storks, and ducks at the China Creek and Sandspit

backwaters. The coast now consists of posh villas which are increasingly being used as hotels. Originally, the bye-laws permitted only a singlestorey hut with a remov-The villagers are served the physical and terrified. The rumour is social environment of will be evicted and their villas, which is not

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Federal Minister for Finance

and Revenue Muhammad

Aurangzeb here on Monday

appreciated Prime Minister's

recognizing it as a valuable

scheme for supporting small

and medium enterprises

the Chairman Prime

Programme, Rana Mashhood

Ahmad Khan, the minister

expressed support for the

initiative, highlighting its role

in stimulating entrepreneurial

activity and contributing to

Earlier Rana Mashhood

economic growth.

Minister's

During a meeting with

Programme,

However, we can As a result, they will not still try and salvage the As you drive along only become homeless situation and prepare but also paupers, special bye-laws and zoning regulations for wall will contain stop it from becoming a tity of the environment, and fauna, and all that is related to it. It is important to

note that in the Karachi

master plan 2020, which was approved by the lages have suffered, in city council, special interest was taken to proresidents of Gadap vil- tect the sea fronts of the city. It was proposed thing, including their that the flora and fauna community and their of the area, fishing have been killed while and lower-middle-inresisting eviction from come Karachiites who their lands. They have throng to the beaches become nomads. They and the persons who serve them, are the major stakeholders of any beach development. Under the KSDP 2020. no reclamation from the sea, mangrove marshes, or mud flats, which are fish and turtle nurseries, related concerns of the and the land they require for survival is permitted. Also, all beaches should be accessible to the fishing along the bay to sell disappear and with communities and the them the wildlife that public. No development between the high ships that go out into to protect. The noise water mark and 150 the deep sea. They are and intensive human metres beyond it, on paid on a daily basis, or activity that will be the seaward side of

permissible. While the KSDP was being framed, a citizen's movement for the protection of the beaches was taking place. It has now fizzled out. People are tired for they cannot indefinitely fight the nexus of developers, politicians and bureaucrats. To save the Karachi coastline and its beautiful environable roof. This pre- ment for the citizens of the city, strong institutional arrangements are that the entire area is the beach. Reverting to required that can fight part of KDA scheme 42, this would mean the corruption, which has because of which they demolition of tens of seeped into every aspect of our lives. --Courtesy Dawn

# Commerce News

## Syed Zahid Raza says Pakistan's engagement with Africa has historical roots

Ambassador designate to Mauritius visits Islamabad Chamber

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistan's engagement with Africa has historical roots and is characterized by mutual respect and cooperation.

By harnessing mutual cooperation, Pakistan and Africa can unlock new economic opportunities development. This has been stated by Pakistan's Ambassador designate to Mauritius Sved Zahid Raza during his meeting with former President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Secretary General United Business Group Zafar Bakhtawari at Islamabad Chamber of ties. Commerce and Industry

here on Monday. engagements with Africa delegations' visits to

adding that forging a strong and effective partnership business relations. for peace, progress and prosperity is an indispensable goal, which

should be advanced through a clear vision, consistent policy, and a long-term strategy.

Commerce and Industry in advancing trade relations with friendly countries all over the world said that he would do his level best to strengthen the business to business and

objective, he will do his He said that deeper best to organize business remains a strategic Mauritius especially the imperative for Pakistan, ICCI members for

Zafar Bakhtawari apprised the visiting guest that the Chamber is already Africa focused and has recently celebrated Africa Day in a befitting manner for bringing Pakistan and The Ambassador, the African countries and foster sustainable while appreciating the role closer to each other and of Islamabad Chamber of that the Ambassador to Mauritius who is knowr as the best friend of Pakistan was also among the attendees.

He said that in the changed circumstances, Pakistan's envoys have to people to people work with missionary zeal relations with Mauritius and devotion for the alongside the diplomatic economic betterment of the country and bringing the He said to achieve the countries closer to each other and strengthening business especially in the promotion of Pakistan exports and tourism potential.

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb in a meeting with the Chairman Prime Minister's Youth Programme Rana Mashhood Ahmad Khan.

### Shares rise as Pakistan **Stock Exchange awaits** monetary policy decision

KARACHI (INP): The compared to previous close share prices at the Pakistan of 78,029.50. Stock Exchange (PSX) rose by over 700 points on Monday as the buyers kept their eyes on the State Banks of Pakistan's (SBP) monetary police announcement due later

As the business was set into motion in the first session, the stocks soared by 768.61 points or 0.98 percent, taking the at slightly above 78,000 benchmark KSE-100 index with a sharp drop of nearly to 78,798.11 points as 2,100 points.

Experts were of the view that the market was

reacting positively to a string of factors including monetary policy decision and support by China. On the last trading

day on Friday, the stock market had failed to to protect the psychological level of 80,000 points, closing the week in the red

last week on a highly bearish note as it nosedived over 1,600 points owing to high political uncertainty following the government's potential move to ban a major opposition party.

Bulls returned to the stock exchange on Tuesday as the KSE-100 climbed over 400 points. On Wednesday, the market extended gains, driven by a rally during the earnings season and hopes of policy

#### rate reduction. **RCCI** welcomes interest rate cut RAWALPINDI (APP):

Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) has welcomed the reduction in interest rate by the State Bank of Pakistan.

In a statement issued here today, the Acting President of RCCI Muhammad Hamza Sarosh has lauded State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) for its decision to reduce the interest rate from 20.5% to

He said that the reduction in interest rates will increase business

Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) Zaki Aijaz Regional Chairman and Vice emphasized that the President Zaki Aijaz on Monday demanded of the government to grant and the government should industry status to the packaging sector and revise contracts of Independent Producers ( IPPs).

He said revisiting and these renegotiating capacity payment agreements with the IPPs could solve the problem of high power tariffs, which was a major impediment to industry status. economic growth. He The packaging expressed these views industry is the world while addressing the economy's third-largest members of All Pakistan and fifth-largest industry Corrugated Cartons in Asia

Prime Minister's Youth Business and Agriculture Loan Scheme. The scheme promotes entrepreneurship among youth by providing business loans on simple terms and with less markup through Commercial, Islamic and SME banks.

The discussion covered the current structure of the scheme, including its three operational tiers, and explored the potential benefits and logistics of introducing additional tiers. They underscored the government's commitment to enhancing opportunities for the youth and promoting sustainable business development across



**Finance Minister** 

lauds PM's Youth

**Programme** 

KARACHI: Brokers are busy in trading at Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) in Karachi.

### **FPCCI seeks industry** status for packaging sector

(APP): Manufacturers Association Federation of Pakistan (APCCMA) here at FPCCI Regional Office.

packaging sector is the backbone of all industries grant it industry status to reap maximum benefits. Zaki Ijaz stressed that

packaging is a significant sector where products inevitably reach local and international consumers. This industry is the backbone of our business. but regrettably, this sector has not vet been given

### **SECP** initiates consultation to revamp Mutual & **Pension Fund regimes**

ISLAMABAD (APP): framework for mutual The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) on Monday published a consultation paper, suggesting various alterations to the total expense regime (TER) and distribution paradigm for mutual funds and pension

These suggestions aim guarantee equity and to reduce the burden on transparency in the retail investors, optimize their returns, inculcate better saving habits, and increase retail penetration, said a news release.

The consultation paper is made available on SECP's website to solicit public feedback and comments from stakeholders.

The paper reviews parts including the TER funds, the TER of pension funds, and a review of distribution models.

While evaluating the current TER frameworks for mutual and pension funds, the paper suggests alterations to reduce the financial burden on investors, enhance their long-term returns, and transparency in the expenses of fund managers.

The problems that have impeded the growth of the distribution network and affected retail penetration are discussed in the third part of the Further, paper.

recommends transformative framework to revamp the distribution model and improve its the current regime in three usability and accessibility for average investors.

**'Doorstep Delivery**'

ISLAMABAD (APP): Zong 4G, the leading telecommunication service provider in Pakistan, on Monday announced the launch of its new "Online Booking Portal and Home Delivery Service"

Zong launches

Zong is committed to making digital services accessible to all Pakistanis by offering affordable and convenient solutions. The company's focus

on affordability ensures that everyone can benefit from the power of technology, while its commitment convenience brings services

directly to the doorstep,

said a news release.

According to the official spokesperson for Zong 4G, "Keeping the evolving demands of our customers, Zong's new Online Booking Portal and Home Delivery Service innovates the customers experience.

### Minister, WB team discuss green tourism

Minority Affairs Sardar Ramesh Singh Arora held a significant meeting on Monday with a World Bank team at his camp office.

The meeting was attended by Kiran Fazal Butt, representing the World Bank, along with the team from the Tourism for **Economic Growth Project** while Secretary of Human Rights Ali Bahadur, secretary deputy minorities, PS Syed Sajjad

Imran Haider, and other Provincial Minister for relevant persons were also present. During the meeting,

detailed discussions were held on the topics of minority religious tourism and green tourism. Furthermore, a five-year strategic plan was also discussed

Provincial Minister Ramesh Singh Arora said that Pakistan's cultural and religious heritage holds a unique position worldwide and that it should be thoroughly promoted.

### KP assembly passes **Provincial Ombudsman** (Amendment) Bill 2024

PESHAWAR (APP): The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Assembly on Monday passed the Provincial Ombudsman (Amendment) Bill 2024 while Khyber KP Zakat and Ushr (Amendment) while Khyber KP Zakat and Ushr (Amendment) Bill 2024 the Provincial Bill 2024 the Provincial Secretariat Employees Bill 2024, the Provincial Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill 2024, and the KP Police (Amendment) Bill 2024 were introduced in the

Assembly Secretariat Employees Terms and Conditions of Service Bill 2024 was also presented. The passage of the Provincial Ombudsman (Amendment) Bill aims to the province. The bill, introduced by Law Minister Aftab Alam, passed with a majority

Ombudsman will serve a

three-year term, with a

maximum age limit of 60

Secretariat Employees Terms and Conditions of Service Bill 2024 was referred to the Select Committee, chaired by Law Minister Aftab Alam, with the Deputy Speaker and Advocate General as members.

government proposed amendments to the Police Act 2017. including changes in the recruitment process for enhance accountability in Assistant Sub-Inspectors and increasing the quota for police martyrs' families from 5% to 12.5%.

The Assembly also vote. It stipulates that the adopted several resolutions Parliamentary Leader Ahmad Kundi highlighted years, and will have the deteriorating law and authority to address order situation

### **Investigation into Janikhel** incident referred to KP **Standing Committee**

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly has referred the investigation into the Jani Khel incident, in which four people were killed, to the Standing Committee.

Assembly session, presided over by Speaker Babar Saleem Swati, began with a delay of two and a half hours.

During the session, MPA Adnan Khan of the Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (F) party questioned the Home Department about the 2021 incident in Jani Khel, Bannu, where four bodies were found.

He inquired about the actions taken since the agreement made with the then-Chief Minister but received an unsatisfactory response from the

demanded that the matter tackle these issues.

PESHAWAR (APP): The be referred to the Standing Committee, citing the government's lack of concrete steps to address the issue. Law Minister Aftab Alam clarified that the agreement was made administration, not the Chief Minister, and a package was announced for the affected families.

Provincial Minister Public Health mentioned that talks with the affected families were planned and a package would be announced soon. Adnan Khan persisted in his request for the matter to be referred to the Standing Committee.

Speaker Babar Saleem Swati emphasized the importance of addressing the security concerns of lawmakers and suggested Khan forming a committee to



PESHAWAR: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi presides over the 4th senate meeting of the University of Agriculture D.I.Khan at Governor House.

### **Chairs 18th Senate meeting of Gomal University** Governor stresses for improvement in quality of education, finance

Court adjourns hearing

of Punjab Assembly

illegal recruitment case

LAHORE (APP): An antiafter being brought from

Governor Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi on Monday chaired the 18th Senate meeting of Gomal University Dera Ismail Khan here at Governor House and stressed the administration of the varsity to bring improvement in quality of education and in finance.

Tuesday July 30, 2024

During the meeting, the annual budgets for the fiscal years 2023-24 and 2024-25 conditionally approved,

subject to a re-evaluation by the Senate's standing committee.

Governor Faisal

**IGP** releases

Rs2m for

medical

treatment

Inspector General of Police (IGP) Punjab Dr Usman

Anwar on Monday released over Rs2 million

for providing medical

facilities to police employees in Lahore as

According to the details provided by the IGP office, Constable Shifa

Ullah Khan from DG Khan

was granted Rs500,000 for

knee and leg surgery; Office

Superintendent

Muhammad Shafiq Awan

against Hezbollah and said

Israel was looking for "pre-

sion". Also, Iran's foreign

and Israel would be then

responsible for "the unfore-

seen consequences and re-

actions to such stupid

Lebanon's Foreign Minis-

ter Abdallah Bou Habib on

Sunday called for an "in-

ternational investigation or

a meeting of the tripartite

committee held through

UNIFIL to know the

sponsible for the attack and

"called for the complete

and comprehensive appli-

cation" of UN Security

Council Resolution 1701

that ended a 2006 war be-

Israel

truth" about who was re-

In a statement on X,

behaviour".

Rs500,000.

well as other districts.

LAHORE

to all universities to within six months. He advised Gomal University to complete its third-party audit process

within two months instead of one and to inform the Chancellor's Office in The Governor also

regarding the university's

solarization plan. An allocation of 80 million rupees has been set aside for this purpose, with 40 million rupees

corruption court on jail. Monday adjourned the

hearing of the Punjab

Assembly illegal recruitment case until

September 4 and gave a

final opportunity to former

chief minister Punjab

Chaudhry Parvez Elahi to

appear on the next date of

the hearing. Anti-Corruption Court Judge

Safdar Ali Bhatti conducted

the proceedings during

Khyber occasion issued directives (HEC) and the remaining amount to be covered by conduct a third-party audit the university's own resources, briefed the institutions. "A total of 480

> solarization of the university.' Governor emphasized the need to

directed for details make every effort to secure the necessary funds and mentioned discussions with State Life Insurance to develop a scheme for universities

He urged Gomal provided by the Higher University administration

The other accused

who were on bail also

appeared and marked their

attendance. A counsel on

behalf of Chaudhry Parvez

Elahi submitted an

exemption application,

stating that his client had

not recovered from a

fracture yet and that doctors had advised him to

rest. He pleaded with the

court to exempt Parvez

(APP): Karim Kundi on this Education Commission to provide the required information promptly to facilitate the process and set an example for other He said that technical

issues were noted in the million rupees is required budget preparation, and the complete the committee will review the transparency of the statistics.Governor Faisal Kundi stressed that the university contribute regularly to its pension fund, noting a current need of 1.7 billion rupees solely for pension payments. He expressed the desire for universities to become self-reliant and increase their resources

### Intense rains, RCB personnel put on high alert

RAWALPINDI (APP) Rawalpindi Cantonment Board has put its filed personnel on high alert after the city has witnessed intense rain with gusty winds on Monday. Since the MET Office has predicted more rain during the current monsoon spell in Punjab province, the RCB's filed teams have been tasked to be vigilantly prepared to respond with full magnitude. Rawalpindi Cantonment Board's CEO Syed Ali Irfan Rizvi had issued instructions which accused Muhammad Elahi from personal to all the officers to Khan Bhatti was produced appearance for one day. to all the officers to stay in the

### British High Commissioner, Governor discuss climate change, bilateral issues

Independent Report

AHORE: The British High Commissioner to Pakistan Jane Marriott called on Governor of Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan and discussed ways to strengthening bilateral relations and tackling challenges of climate change during a meeting at the Governor's House here on Monday.

Governor Sardar Saleem Haider said Pakistan attaches great importance to relations with Britain, adding that the British government's cooperation in education, health, social and other sector is commendable. He said climate

change is a global issue, stressing despite having minimum contribution in carbon emissions climate, Pakistan has suffered a lot due to climate change. He said that climate change is occasion.

also having adverse effect on the agricultural sector of the country.

Sardar Saleem Haider Khan said federal and provincial governments are working on various projects to deal with the issue of climate challenge. He said Pakistan has plenty of renewable energy resources. He said that there is a need to bring people towards solar energy to deal with the energy crisis. The Governor informed the British High Commissioner about the efforts to solarize the Governor House Lahore and universities of Punjab.

He hailed the British government for the water management program started in different districts of Punjab.

British Commissioner Marriott, speaking on the



PESHAWAR. Activists of Human Rights Association hold protest outside PPC.

### **US Deputy Chief Mission** appreciates formation of **Youth Assembly**

MULTAN (APP): US under auspices of Deputy Chief of Mission appreciated formation of Youth Assembly at Muhammad Nawaz Sharif University of Agriculture Multan and stated that youth were future of Pakistan and it could play role in promotion of civic, social ustice and gender

He said this while

f Mission "HumAhang" at local Schofer hotel on Monday. The US deputy chief of mission also lauded the active role of the varsity.

He hoped that youth assembly would surely play its role for professional success by shaping minds of the students. He also pledged that US would continue to support such initiatives.

Andrew Schofer addressing ceremony of stated that he was first Youth Assembly, held time visiting Multan.

# International News

### Western powers, UN warn || Tel Aviv against escalation

**Monitoring Desk**MAJDAL SHAMS: While Israeli Defence Minister Yoav Gallant on Sunday vowed to "hit the enemy hard", raising fears that the Gaza conflict will spread after a rocket attack on Golan Heights, the European Union as well as Lebanon called for an indepen-

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres and the Western powers, including the US, Britain France and Germany condemned the attack and appealed for calm, as Iran warned Israel any new military "adventures" in Lebanon could lead to "unforeseen consequences"

dent probe into what hap-

Israel's army called it "the deadliest attack on Israeli civilians" since October 2023 and blamed Lebanon's Hezbollah movement for firing the rocket but the Iran-backed group that has targeted Israeli military positions in the past in response to ille-

gal occupation of territory Israel's "false accusations" and unabated strikes on Palestinians said it had "no connection" to the latest texts to enlarge its aggres-The rocket hit Majdal ministry spokesman

Shams, whose population Nasser Kanani warned Isare Arabic-speaking Druze. rael "any ignorant action of Many residents of the the Zionist regime can lead Druze town have not ac- to the broadening of the cepted Israeli nationality scope of instability, insecusince Israel seized the rity and war in the region" Golan Heights from Syria Prime Minister Ben-

jamin Netanyahu, who returned early from the US and went immediately into a security cabinet meeting, said: "Hezbollah will pay a heavy price" for the attack, "a price it has not paid before". Earlier, Netanyahu had told the US Congress that Israel would do "whatever it must" to secure its northern border.

Blaming Hezbollah for "crossing all red lines", Israel said it hit Hezbollah targets "both deep inside Lebanese territory and in southern Lebanon'

Syria denounced Hungary's Orban says

### tween Hezbollah. No one has full assault, says

LONDON: New footage has surfaced showing the alleged assault of three police officers at Manchester airport, followed by an officer kicking a man in the head. The chaotic scenes, captured in the video obtained by the Manchester Evening News, depict an officer kicking and stamping on the head of a man lying face down on the floor. A Greater Manchester Police (GMP) officer was suspended after the video was widely shared on social media, sparking protests in Rochdale and Manchester city centre. The Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC) announced that the officer is now under criminal investigation for assault. The next steps involve determin-



ister Yoko Kamikawa address a press conference.

### Five killed in Israeli strike on Gaza camp

**Monitoring Desk** GAZA STRIP: The civil defence agency in Hamasrun Gaza said an Israeli strike Sunday hit tents at a declared safe zone in the Palestinian territory's south, killing at least five people.

A witness said a newborn was among the dead in Al-Mawasi near Khan Yunis city, where tens of thousands of displaced Palestinians have sought refuge from the war, now nearing its 11th month. Since Monday, Israeli forces have operated in and around Khan Yunis including in parts of the coastal area of

Miriam al-Astal who lives in Al-Mawasi said a newborn baby was killed. "We were sitting in the tents... when suddenly we heard an explosion," she said. "I swear" there was no militant activity in the area, she said.

Israel had warned on Monday its forces would 'forcefully operate" in the Khan Yunis area — from which troops withdrew in April — and on Saturday the civil defence agency said that 170 people have been killed by the renewed fighting and military operations. The military said its latest operations there were to prevent rocket fire.

west and Strasbourg in

the east. Another attack

on the Paris-Marseille

### French minister says foreign involvement not ruled out in rail sabotage

**Monitoring Desk** 

PARIS: France's interior minister said on Saturday he could not rule out foreign involvement in an attack that sabotaged signal stations and cables on the country's high-speed rail network, causing travel chaos on the opening day of the Olympic Games. Friday's pre-dawn

line was foiled, SNCF has said. There has been no immediate claim of responsibility. 'Who is respon-

sible? Either it's from within, or it's been ordered from abroad, it's too early to say," Interior Minister Gerald attacks damaged infrastructure along the lines Darmanin told France 2 connecting Paris with television cities such as Lille in the

### Iran's Khamenei grants Pezeshkian presidential powers **Monitoring Desk**

TEHRAN: Iran's supr-eme leader Ayatollaĥ Ali Khamenei gave on Sunday his official endorsement of Dr Masoud Pezeshkian as the country's ninth president, following snap elec-tions won by the reformist camp's candidate.

In a message read by the director of Khamenei's office, the supreme leader said: "I endorse the vote (for) the wise, honest, popular and scholarly Mr Pezeshkian, and I am appointing him as the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran."

#### Yemenia Airways to resume flights to Cairo and **India from** Yemen's Sanaa **Monitoring Desk**

CAIRO: Yemenia Airways announced on Sunday that commercial flights from Yemen's Sanaa to Egypt and India will resume starting Sunday evening, Yemen's state news agency SABA said.

Return flights to Cairo will operate once daily, while flights to India will run twice

### US upgrades military command structure

in Japan **Monitoring Desk** TOKYO: The United States on Sunday announced plans for a major revamp of its military command in Japan to deepen coordination with its ally's forces,

The announcement followed security talks in Tokyo between US Secre-tary of State Antony Blinken and Secretary of Defence Lloyd Austin and their respective Japanese counterparts, Yoko Kamikawa and Minoru

as the two countries labelled

China the "greatest strate-

gic challenge" facing the re-

"The United States will upgrade the US Forces Japan to a joint force headquarters with expanded

Forces Japan since its creation and one of the strongest improvements in our military ties with Japan in 70 years." The ministers said in a joint statement that the new command structure would be implemented in parallel with Tokyo's own plans to establish a joint command for its forces by March 2025.

The overhaul is among several measures taken to address what the countries said was an "evolving security environment", noting various threats from superpower China. The statement criticised what it called Beijing's "provocative" behaviour in the South and East China Seas, joint military exercises with Russia and the rapid expanmissions and operational responsibilities," Austin told reporters after the so-called "2+2" talks.

"This will be the most significant change to US

sion of its nuclear weapons arsenal. Beijing's "foreign policy seeks to reshape the international order for its own benefit at the expense of others."

### China's foreign minister warns Philippines over US missile deployment

**Monitoring Desk** BEIJING: Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi has

warned the Philippines over the U.S. intermediate-range missile deployment, saying such a move could fuel regional tensions and spark an arms race. The United States de-

ployed its Typhon missile system to the Philippines as part of joint military drills earlier this year. It was not fired during the exercises, a Philippine military official later said, without giving details on how long it would stay in the country. China-Philippines relations are now at a crossroads and dialogue and consultation are the right way, Wang told the Philippine Foreign Secretary Enrique Manalo on Friday during a meeting in Vientiane, the capital of Laos where top diplomats of world powers have gathered ahead of two summits. Wang said rela-

are facing challenges because the Philippines has "repeatedly violated the consensus of both sides and its own commitments", according to a Chinese foreign ministry statement. "If the Philippines in-

troduces the U.S. intermediate-range missile system, it will create tension and confrontation in the region and trigger an arms race, which is completely not in line with the interests and wishes of the Filipino people," Wang said. The Philippines' military and its foreign ministry did not immediately respond to requests for comment on Ŵang's remarks. China and the Philippines are locked in a confrontation in the South China Sea and their encounters have grown more tense as Beijing presses its claims to disputed shoals in waters within Manila's its exclusive economic zone

### Russia stands to gain as 'irrational' West loses power

BUDAPEST: Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban said on Saturday Russia's leadership was "hyper rational" and that Ukraine would never be able to fulfil its hopes of European Union or

Orban, a nationalist in power since 2010, made the comments during a speech in which he forecast a shift in global power away from the "irrational" West towards Asia and Russia. "In the next long decades, maybe centuries, Asia will be the dominant

China, India, Pakistan and Indonesia as the world's future big powers. 'And we Westerners pushed the Russians into

centre of the world,"

Orban said, mentioning

in the televised speech before ethnic Hungarians at a festival in the town of Tusnad neighbouring Romania.

Orban, whose country currently holds the robecoming a member of the tating EU presidency, has sharply differed from the rest of the bloc by seeking warmer ties with Beijing and Moscow, and he angered some EU leaders when he went on surprise visits to Kyiv, Moscow and Beijing this month for talks on the war in Ukraine. He said that in con-

trast to the "weakness" of the West, Russia's position in world affairs was rational and predictable, saying the country had shown economic flexibility in adapting to Western sanctions since it invaded Crimea in 2014.

picture of airport Manchester mayor **Monitoring Desk** 

ing whether to refer the case to the Crown Prosecution Service and deciding if the officer should face disciplin-

ary proceedings

### President for enhanced representation of women, minorities in govt jobs

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Asif Ali Zardari on Monday called for greater representation of women and minorities in government jobs to enhance their inclusion in the mainstream of society.

The president, talking to a delegation of Federal Public Service Commission (FPSC), led by the senior member Akbar Hussain Durrani, at Aiwan-e-Sadr, said that the Commission should find ways and means to further improve the civil service recruitment process to select the right person for the right job, according to a President House press release.

He said that FPSC had an important responsibility of recruiting civil servants to improve service delivery and promote good governance in the country.



candidates securing high marks during the written examination should be fairly evaluated.

Akbar Hussain Durrani briefed the president about the role and function of the FPSC in recruiting government servants. He also highlighted certain issues being faced by the Commission.

President Zardari assured the delegation of his support and guidance in the resolution of problems and improving the recruitment



QUETTA: Deputy Speaker Balochistan Assembly Ghazala Gola and Provincial Minister Mir Shoaib Nausherwani talking with Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti

### PM commends security forces for successful operation against terrorists

Five terrorists

**KP IBOs: ISPR** 

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Monday commended the officers and personnel of security forces for launching successful operations against terrorists at three separate places in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

In a statement, the prime minister said the security forces fought bravely with Khawarij terrorists in Mohmand, Dera Ismail Khan and North Waziristan Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and killed

He paid tribute to Po-

RAWALPINDI (INP): The

security forces gunned

down five terrorists in three

different intelligence-based

operations (IBOs) con-

ducted in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, the Inter-

Services Public Relations

military's media wing said

that the security forces also

destroyed the terrorists'

hideouts during the IBOs.

nition were also recovered

from the killed terrorists,"

wing said that a killed ter-

rorist Sifatullah was in-

volved in the suicide attack

in Daraban on 12 Decem-

ber 2023 and other criminal

ISPR added

In a statement, the

'Weapons and ammu-

The military's media

(ISPR) said on Monday.

Fitnah-al-Khawarii terror-

He prayed to Allah Almighty to elevate the ranks of the departed soul in Jannah and to grant patience to the family members of the martyr to bear this loss with courage

The joint operation of the security forces proved that the terrorists cannot escape from the officers and soldiers who are determined to defend their homeland the prime minister added.

He said the nation stood by its security forces until the menace of terrorlice Constable Ibrar Hussain ism was completely upwho embraced martyrdom rooted from the country.

was gunned down in the

IBO conducted in North

Waziristan. "Pakistan forces are determined to

eradicate the scourge of ter-

rorism from the country.

Pakistan Army is fighting

against terrorism alongside

law enforcement agencies,

ISPR reported that Pakistan

security forces killed 10 ter-

rorists who attacked Bannu

Cantonment in Khyber

Pakhtunkhwa ISPR. Accord-

ing to military's media wing,

the attackers attempted to

infiltrate the Bannu cantt but

were repelled, leading them

to detonate an explosive-

laden vehicle against the pe-

rimeter wall

RAWALPINDI: Leaders and activists of Jamat-e-

Islami (JI) are holding protest demonstration

against massive unemployment, increasing price

of daily use products and inflation price hiking of

CII chairman

rejects extrajudicial

declarations of death

issue Fatwas (religious de-

crees) or orders for someone's

death," he added. Dr. Raghib

said the council has repeat-

edly stressed that incitement

declarations of apostasy, and

threats to government, state

officials, or ordinary citizens

contradict the clear teachings

of the Holy Quran and

Sunnah. He said the unani-

mous statement of the

"Paigham-e-Pakistan" na-

tional narrative, endorsed

by esteemed religious

scholars and leadrs of all

sects, established that it is

the duty of Ulema and

Muftis to provide religious

Islamic solutions to issues.

electricity and petrol, at Liaquat Bagh

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Council of Islamic Ideology

(CII) Chairman, Dr. Raghib

Hussain Naeemi on Mon-

day declared that labeling an

individual as deserving of

death is both un-Islamic and

illegal. He, in a video state-

ment, emphasized that

such emotional actions

harm the cause of the Fi-

as a constitutional and Islamic

state, has established punish-

ments for all types of crimes

within its legal framework, ad-

ministered through the courts.

'No individual, group, or

mob has the religious or legal

authority to set up courts and

Ďr. Raghib said Pakistan,

nality of Prophethood.

Earlier on July 16, the

the ISPR added.

# ISLAMABAD (APP): during fight against the

gunned down in three

### ians and false propaganda by the Ministry of Energy. TLP senior leader arrested for threatening

The charges against TLP deputy amir include sections of the Anti-Terrorsm Act (ATA), inciting reigious hatred, causing pubc disorder, intimidating the udiciary, threatening the udiciary, interfering in official duties, and obstruct-

ing legal functions. According to the FIR, Qazi Faez Isa.

### **ADC Sibi provides** relief materials to affected man as his house damaged in rain

tional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) General Sibi Asghar Magsi on Monday provided relief material to affected man on behalf of Balochistan government, whose house was damaged

He also visited Karak village area of Sibi district on special directive of Deputy Commissioner Sibi Jahnzaib Sheikh where he inspected the house affected by the rains and provided relief materials to the resident of the affected

It should be noted that the roof and walls of a house in village Karak colawareness and the correct | lapsed due to rains in the past few days.



ISLAMABAD: A delegation of the Federal Public Service Commission (FPSC), led by the senior member Akbar Hussain Durrani called on President Asif Ali Zardari at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

### PM deeply grieved over demise of Saudi Prince Abdullah bin Khalid

bin Turki ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Monday expressed grief over the death of Prince Abdullah bin Khalid bin Turki bin Abdulaziz bin Turki Al-Saud of Saudi Arabia. The prime minister, in

social media post on X, conveyed his condolences to Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud and Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

"My heart goes out to the royal family and the people of Saudi Arabia in this moment of grief. May the departed soul rest in eternal peace," he prayed.

### **Opposition to** protest against the implementation of Article 6

SLAMABAD (Online) The session of the National Assembly will be held today at five o'clock in the evening under the chairmanship of Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq. The opposition to protest against the implementation of Article 6 against former President Arif Alvi, former Deputy Speaker National Assembly Qasim Suri, while the government is likely to present important bills regarding legislation in the National Assembly. There is also a possibility that a privilege motion will be presented in the National ing the media reports regarding the use of free electricity by the parliamentar-

# CJP Isa

LAHORE (INP): Deputy Amir of Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) Pir Zaheerul-Hassan Shah has been arrested in Okara for issuing death threats to Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa.

The TLP senior leader and party workers were earlier booked for issuing death threats to CJP Isa. The case was filed at the Qila Gujjar Singh police sta-

during a protest outside the Press Club, Pir Zaheer Hassan Shah incited hatred against the judiciary and announced a reward of Rs10 million for anyone who brings the head of CJP

QUETTA (APP): Addi-

### Gilani expresses govt's desire to expand bilateral relations with UK

LONDON (APP): Chairman Senate Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani on Monday said that Pakistan greatly values its bilateral relations with United Kingdom (UK) and desires to further expand the bilateral relations to new levels for mutual benefit. The Chairman Senate expressed these views in a meeting here with Speaker of the House of Commons Lindsay Hoyle during his visit to the UK.

The Chairman Senate, along with a delegation of Senators, is visiting UK to explore opportunities for further strengthening bilateral, multilateral and institutional cooperation in diverse sectors.

Chairman Senate was Agha Shahzeb Durrani, partnership.

Ashraf Ali Jatoi and Members of the National Assembly, Syed Abdul Qadir Gilani and Syed Qasim Ali

In his opening remarks, the Chairman Senate highlighted the historical and cultural ties that both sides have enjoyed since long and said that the historical bond between the two has paved the way for deepening political, diplomatic, economic ties and people to people contacts.

He further observed that these ties were further strengthened by Pakistani diaspora, which was acting as a bridge between Pakistan and UK, thus providing solid foundation for a ecompanied by Senators dynamic and prosperous

### Govt not to offer PTI for talks on various issues: Irfan

ISLAMABAD (APP): Parliamentary leader of Pakistan Muslim League (N) in the Senate, Senator Irfan Siddiqui on Monday said the government would not offer to Pakistan Tehreeke-Insaf (PTI) for talks on various issues anymore.

Talking to media outside the Parliament House, he said that it was now time for PTI leadership to request the government for the negotiations to settle down the matters.

Irfan Siddiqui said that

PTI leaders to initiate dialogue with it, adding that the opposition party had always showed reluctance, non-seriousness and immaturity. He said the coalition government would complete its five years constitutional tenure as it was effectively working for the welfare and economic stability of the country.

Commenting on Asad Qaiser's statement about PTI will come into power in December, Irfan Siddiqui said that there was no reearlier, the government's striction and curbs on



**QUETTA: MD Balochistan PIA Abdul Ghaffar** Miankhail meeting with Governor Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail

### NP members stage walkout in assembly over Gwadar violence

**Independent Report** OUETTA: National Party members in the Balochistan Assembly staged a walkout during Monday's session to protest the use of force against peaceful protesters in Gwadar, resulting in violence and the arrest of party leader Mir Ashraf Hussein and his sons.

During the session, members Khair Jan Baloch and Kulsoom Naz Baloch condemned the incident and criticized the government for its actions. The mem-

bers also expressed solidarity with the people of Gwadar and demanded immediate release of the arrested leaders. The walkout was a show of protest against the government's handling of the situation in Gwadar, where peaceful protesters were met with force, leading to injuries and arrests. The National Party has demanded an explanation from the government and sought action against those responsible for the violence.

### BFA foils big attempt to supply 2400 kg unhealthy chicken meat to Quetta

OUETTA Balochistan Food Authority (BFA)'s team on Monday foiled a big attempt to supply unhealthy meat of chicken to Quetta city.

On special directive of Director General of BFA Ateequllah, on tip-off, BFA team led by Deputy Director of Operations checked a suspected truck coming from Multan at Khanuzai area and recovered 2400kg unhealthy chicken meat worth million of rupees from it. According to the laboratory report, the seized meat worth million was

found to be harmful for human consumption after testing samples of meat. Moreover, under the supervision of the BFA team, a large quantity of unsanitary chicken meat was destroyed outside the city at a safe place. On the direction of Director General BFA, further legal action was initiated against the elements involved in the supply of defective meat. DG, BFA said that the authority was active 24 hours a day to check the supply and supply of substandard meat including substandard meat.



ISLAMABAD: Senator Irfan-ul-Haque Siddiqui, Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs presiding over a meeting of the committee at Parliament House.

### We are determined to provide relief to common men under guidance of Chairman PPP, says Chief Minister

Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti says 70 percent approved development projects made part of annual budget for the first time; projects being made compatible with public needs

ister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has categorically stated that we are determined to provide relief to the common men under guidance of Chairman Pakistan Peoples' Party (PPP), Bilawal Bhutto He said that the devel-

opment projects are being made compatible with the public needs. In addition to this, steps are being taken to provide basic amenities of life including health and education to the people.

was speaking to the delegation of Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP), who called on him under leadership of the senior leader of party and Senator Sardar Umar Khan Gorgej here at the CM's secretariat on Monday.

contesting general elections on the party tickets from different constituencies of the province. The Chief Minister said that implementation has been started the development projects from first month of the new financial year. He said that for the first for their solution.

time, 70 percent approved made part of the budget. He said that new era of development would start with implementation on development projects. With this, the standard of living The delegation was of common men would also comprised the candidates be improved in the provce, he added.

He on the occasion urged the PPP workers to use their capabilities for ing the general public.

He also urged them to highlight the public issues so as to ensure implementation on the suggestions

### Speaker BA slams interference of BYC in Govt. affairs

Says roads closures, strikes not solution to any issue

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The Speaker Balochistan Assembly, Captain (Retd) Abdul

Khaliq Achakzai has strongly condemned the interference of Baloch Yekjehti Committee (BYC) in the government affairs. In an official statement

issued here on Monday, the Speaker said that the steps

"unregistered" BYC are other tribes challenging writ of the government. He said that the closure of roads and observing strikes are not solution to any issue as such the BYC should hold constructive talks with the government. He insisted that Balochistan is such a province which doesn't belong to Balochs only rather this

He said that the closure of roads and strikes have paralyzed routine life of al people of the province. Immense hardships and disturbance have caused to the common men due to the situation, he added. The Speaker said that the representatives of Baloch people are already present in the provincial assembly of Balochistan.



**OUETTA: Ambassador of Indonesia to Pakistan Rahmat Hindiarta Kusuma** talking to media during visit Quetta Press Club.

sia to Pakistan. Rahmat

said that Balochistan's

trade connection with the

Central Asian states (CARs) will prove to be

important in the mutual

trade between Indonesia

cation, Balochistan is im-

portant in the economy and

trade of Pakistan, he said in

press release issued here on

embassy of the Republic of

Kusumahas said this while

visited Federation Pakistan

Chamber of Commerce and

Charge d'Affaires of the

Hindiarta

Similarly, due to its lo-

and Pakistan.

Monday.

Rahmat

industry

Balochistan's trade

connection to CARs pivotal in

Pak-Indonesia bilateral trade

QUETTA (APP): Charge with his economic team.

### Naval Chief takes up maritime security during Romania visit

ISLAMABAD (INP): Chief of the Naval Staff d'Affaires of the embassy Admiral Naveed Ashraf | of the Republic of Indone- casion Charge d'Affaires of paid an official visit to Romania and held a joint meeting with the Chief of Defence Staff of Romania and the Chief of the Romanian

According to an ISPR statement released on Monday, they discussed issues relating to regional maritime security and stability, bilateral military cooperation and professional matters of mutual interest.

Besides, Admiral Naveed Ashraf also delivered a lecture on the "Joint Maritime Defence" at the National Defense University of Romania.

Expressing his views on the joint role of naval forces in resolving issues in the maritime domain, he stressed the need for collective efforts by the naval forces to enforce law at the sea. The recent visit of the Naval Chief to Romania will further promote and expand relations between the two countries in general and naval forces in particular.

### Cut in petrol and diesel prices proposed ISLAMABAD (INP)

There is a suggestion to slash petroleum products' (POL) prices following a drop in their prices in the international market during the last two weeks.

Sources said that a proposal had been floated to reduce petrol's price by Rs5.50 per liter; that of high-speed diesel (HSD) by Rs11 per liter; kerosene oil by Rs5.84 per liter and one liter of light-speed diesel by If approved, the price

of one liter of petrol will come down from Rs275.50 to Rs270.10, while that of HSD from Rs283.63 to Rs272.57 Experts, on the other

hand, have said that the strengthening of the Pak Rupee's value has also increased the prospects of a reduction in petroleum products' prices

#### Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Chaired by Senator Irfan ul Haq Siddiqui, held today at Parliament House. The Committee reviewed the performance of the Foreign Services Academy, (FŠA) Institute for Regional Studies, (IRS) and the Institute for Stra-Senator Anwar-ul-

tegic Studies (ISS). The committee also reviewed the number of Pakistanis imprisoned in foreign jails, including the names of the prisoners, the crimes committed, the periods of imprisonment, and the steps taken by the government for their release. During the meeting,

Meanwhile on the oc-

the embassy of the Repub Hindiarta Kusumahas has lic of Indonesia and his team were received by Senior Vice Chairman of FPCCI, Haji Jamaluddin and President Zhob Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the industrialists and business leaders of Balochistan.

The envoy said that due to its location, Balochistan is close to the Central Asian states on the one hand, and on the other hand, it is also connected with the Middle East, Indonesia to Pakistan, which is very important in its future trade. He said that this province of Pakistan can play an important role in the geo economy of Pakistan by using its



QUETTA: Commissioner Quetta and Administrator Metropolitan Corporation, Hamza Shafqat in a meeting with a delegation of Metropolitan Grand Alliance held in Quetta.

### **Senate body on Foreign Affairs convenes**

ISLAMABAD (Online): The meeting of Senate

the chairman and members expressed their displeasure over the non-participation of the heads of the relevant institutions regarding the performance issues of FSA, IRS and ISS. Members emphasized that Parliament is the su- their participation

preme institution and that the heads of these institutions must ensure their participation in committee briefings. The chairman demanded an explanation for the absence of the institution heads and questioned whose responsibility it was within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to ensure their atten-

Haq Kakar remarked that institutions should not adopt such an attitude, asserting that Parliament is the supreme institution. Senator Sherry Rehman added that the committee is important, and the heads of the relevant institutions should have ensured their participation and provided necessary information. The chairman expressed disappointment and directed that the briefing agendas for these institutions be postponed until the next meeting to ensure