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Information Minister says

Govt decides to ban PTI, initiate treason case against Imran, Alvi, Suri

Attaullah Tarar says government will file a review petition against Supreme Court's reserved seats verdict; Cites May 9 riots, foreign funding for case against PTI; Blasts PTI for creating false narrative around cipher controversy.

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Information, Broadcasting, Culture and National Heritage Attaullah Tarar on Monday announced four major deci- the Constitution which into the country and then sions of the federal the government of banning Pakierment to ban any such a empowers the federal government to ban any such a attacked on the state institution to undermine its stan Tehreek-e-Insaf, filing of review petition in reserved seats case, references against PTI founder and others for subverting the Constitution and strict legal action against handful of overseas Pakistanis for

anti-state activities He announced the decision at a press conference which mainly highlighted the activities of the PTI and its leadership to weaken sovereignty of the country and harm its integrity at the international level.

also featured audio and video clips that allegedly showed involvement of the PTI and its leadership in the 'anti-state' activities.

The minister said: "This is a fact and on the record that the PTI has been involved in the anti-

state activities and to this events that set off in a form end, the government and its of chain, gave a clear underallies have decided to initi- standing of the anti-state ated legal proceedings to ban the PTI under Article 17 of

party."

Tarar justified the action of the government against the PTI which, he were giving shelter and safe heavens to the terrorists and institutions on May 9, default the economy by sabotaging Pakistan's negotiation with the International the terrorists in the counto get a resolution passed against the country in a foreign country's Parliament.

he said, adding "in view of the Election Commission the foreign funding case, of Pakistan (ECP) had given May 9 riots, and the cipher a verdict that the PTI had episode as well as the resobelieve that there is very tactics were used to prevent credible evidence present to further proceeding in the have the PTI banned."

He said a series of PTI government.

agenda of the PTI which first brought terrorist back sovereignty.
On the one hand, they

alleged, obtained foreign on the other hand they refunding to attack the state sorted to attack the army installations including the Corps Commander House in Lahore, he said asking the PTI's founder who gave him Monetary Fund, resettle the authority to bring back disgruntled elements in try and hire lobbying firms settled areas. The minister said the party used the prohibited funding to hire lobbying firms that worked to rnational level.

All these activities of damage the integrity of the PTI were established, country. The minister said received prohibited fundlution passed in the US, we ing, recalling how delaying case during the tenure of the



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Attaullah Tarar addressing a press conference.

He said it was on the record that how the PTI miserably failed to justify and defend the funding received from Israeli and Indian origin overseas per-

He questioned the participation of the PTI leadership in a meeting and dinner which reportedly had a presence of an Israeli bil-

Sharif on Monday said the

government was committed

to investing in modern skills

and professional education

nection with the World

Youth Skills Day, the prime

minister said the greatest

ping them with modern

skills was the need of the

hour to secure the future of

government was equipping

its youth with modern edu-

cation, equal development

opportunities as well as

modern professional train-

ing to compete with the

iterated the government's

resolve to send 300,000

youth for vocational train-

ing in the field of informa-

tion technology and 1000

The prime minister re-

He highlighted that the

In his message in con-

for the youth.

the country

cially at a time when genocide of innocent Palestinians was being committed.

Recalling how the PTI misled the nation by orchestrating a cipher drama, he said it was on record that the PTI founder suggested his confidants to play with an official document. Even Ambassador Asad Majeed, the author of cipher, said onaire in London espe- there was no threat to the

Gov't committed to invest in modern skills, professional

education for youth: PM

ISLAMABAD (APP): said the government was

strength of Pakistan was its outside Pakistan after com-

Shehbaz

Minister prioritizing the women and

the country.

the youth belonging to re-

mote and backward areas of

said training programs in the

field of information tech-

nology were also continued

are honing their skills in and

had also started bringing re-

forms in the institutions

under National Vocational

and Technical Training

NAVTTC and its partner

institutions, the government

is ensuring the provision of

marketable skills and pro-

fessional training to thou-

sands of youth. He said the

government would ensure

modern skills and profes-

sional training to the youth

for their development and

He remarked that with

Commission (NAVTTC).

at the national level.

der these programs."

The prime minister

"Millions of students

He said the government

country in the cipher, but the PTÍ leadership was hell bent upon damaging the diplomatic relations of Pakistan with the other country. He said PTI's former finance ministers Shaukat Tareen reportedly told the then provincial finance ministers to write a letter to sabotage a deal of the Government with

Imposing a ban is no child's play: PTI leaders lambast govt's decision

ers of Pakistan Tehreek-e- plan to ban us over the for-Insaf (PTI) have strongly condemned the proposal to ban their party, stating that PML-N spokesperson is such a move is not a child's unaware that the foreign play. The statement was funding case against us is made during a press con- no longer active. ference by opposition leader Omar Ayub, PTI Chairman Gohar Ali Khan, and Shibli Faraz in Islamabad on Monday.

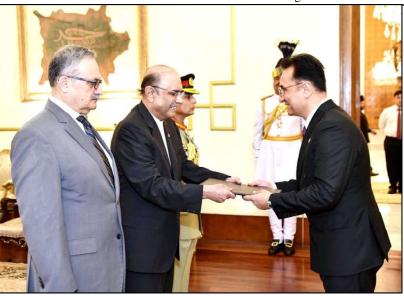
Khan addressed the media, saying, "Today, the government announced its intention to ban PTI, and we strongly condemn this statement. It is a clear contempt of the Supreme Court, which has granted us relief. The Supreme Court has affirmed PTI's right to exist.

He added, "The PDM government is making such statements to divert attention from our seats. Out of want to bring the judiciary

ISLAMABAD (INP): Lead- ceived 30 million. They eign funding case and the cipher case, even though the

Avub stated, "The Supreme Court has declared PTI a legitimate party. Today's press conference reflects their desires. This 'Form 47 government' is a minority government. We demand that the PPP and MQM clearly state whether they support PML-N's statement. They must be explicit about their stance.

He also criticised the government for raising electricity rates and predicted an impending wave of inflation. "They are doing all this to distract the public from the real issues. They 60 million votes, PTI re- under their control.



ISLAMABAD: The Ambassador-designate of Tajikistan, Sharifzoda Yusuf Toir presenting his diplomatic credentials to President Asif Ali Zardari at

Envoys of seven nations present diplomatic credentials to President

ISLAMABAD (APP): The envoys of seven countries including Zimbabwe, Tajikistan, Rwanda, Argentina, Myanmar, Cambodia, and Botswana presented their diplomatic credentials to President Asif Ali Zardari during a ceremony held at

Aiwan-e-Sadr on Monday. The President received credentials from the Ambassador-designate of Zimbabwe, Titus Mehliswa Jonathan Abu-Basutu; the Ambassador-designate of Tajikistan, Sharifzoda Yusuf Toir; the High Commissioner-designate of Rwanda, Ms. Harerimana Fatou; the Ambassadordesignate of Argentina, Sebastian Sayus; the Ambassador-designate of Myanmar, Wunna Han; the broaden cooperation with

LAHORE (APP): An anti-

terrorism court (ATC) on

Monday indicted Pakistan

Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)

leader Shah Mehmood

Qureshi in a case of torch-

ing Shadman Police Station

Arshad conducted the trial

Lakhpat Jail, where PTI

leader Shah Mehmood

ATC Judge Khalid

during the May 9 riots.

Cambodia, Sok Chea; and verse fields, especially the Ambassador-designate of Botswana, Dr. Batlang ture. Comma Serema.

held separate meetings with the President.

Talking to the envoys, the President said that Pakistan had great investment opportunities and foreign countries should benefit from its investmentfriendly environment. He highlighted that foreign investors should explore investment opportunities in Pakistan's agriculture, livestock, Information Technology, energy and mining

The President stated that Pakistan wanted to

ter being brought from

Adiala Jail in Rawalpindi.

During the proceedings, the court indicted PTI

leader Shah Mehmood

Qureshi, who pleaded not

guilty and expressed his

intent to contest the

charges. At this, the court

adjourned the proceedings

prosecution witnesses to

record their statements on

ATC indicts Qureshi

in May-9 case

proceedings at Kot until July 18 and summoned

Qureshi was produced af- the next date of hearing.

Ambassador-designate of all friendly countries in di-

trade, investment, and cul-

He remarked that Paki-Later, the envoys also stan attached great importance to expanding economic cooperation and further maximising trade volume with friendly countries to its fullest potential. He also called for increasing contacts among the business communities to boost economic and trade rela-

> President Asif Ali Zardari congratulated the envoys on their appointment as ambassadors to Pakistan and expressed the hope that they would play their role in further improving mutually beneficial co-

> > PM greets

KP Sharma Oli

for taking oath

as Nepalese PM

ISLAMABAD (APP)

Prime Minister Shehbaz

Sharif on Monday con-

gratulated KP Sharma Oli

for taking oath as the Prime

Minister of Nepal for the

fourth time. "Congratula-

tions to H.E. KP Sharma

Oli on taking oath as the

Prime Minister of Nepal for

the fourth time," the prime

minister wrote on his X

timeline.

for modern agriculture to dignified employment in China. In this context, he every field of life Govt hikes petrol price by Rs9.99, HSD by Rs6.18

Monitoring Desk

ISLAMABAD: The federal government on Monday hiked the petrol price by Rs9.99 per litre and that of nigh-speed diesel (HSD) by Rs6.18/ltr for the next

A notification from the Finance Division said the new petrol price was Rs275.6/ltr and Rs283.63/ltr for HSD due to price variations in the international market. It said there would be no change in the applicable duties and taxes, adding that they would remain at the existing level.

Prices of the two petroleum products were ex pected to increase by more than Rs7.60 and Rs3.50 because of higher global oil prices.

Sources said the prices of petrol and HSD had ncreased in the international market by about \$4.4 and \$2 per barrel, respectively, in the last fortnight.

The government has jacked up the maximum limit of petroleum development levy (PDL) to Rs70 per litre in the Finance Bill to collect Rs1.28 trillion in the current fiscal year against Rs960 billion collection during the previous year, almost Rs91bn higher than the Rs869bn budget target.

During the current fortnight, import premiums on both petrol and HSD have remained unchanged at \$9.60 and \$6.50 per barrel, respectively. On the other hand the rupee depreciated by about 17 paise against the dollar during the fortnight.

20th CPC Central Committee starts third plenary session

Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) started its third plenary session in Beijing on

Monday morning.
President Xi Jinping, who is also the general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, delivered a work report on behalf of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and expounded on a draft decision of the CPC Central Committee on further deepening reforms and advancing Chinese modernization, Chinese State media reported.

The document centers on "further comprehen-

BEIJING (INP): The 20th sively deepening reform and advancing Chinese-style modernization.'

The four-day meeting is important because the Central Committee will issue an authoritative "decision" that will guide policymaking for years to come. With 205 full members and 171 alternate members, the Central Committee plays a pivotal role in shaping both party and governmental leadership in China.

Typically, the CPC holds seven plenary sessions over a five-year term, focusing on various strategic initiatives and policy

Political parties unite against PTI ban, calling it an attack on democracy

JUI, BNP, APP, QWP and JI condemn government's decision

Monitoring Desk ISLAMABAD: The federal government's recent decision to ban the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) has ignited backlash from other political parties, who view the move as a serious affront to democracy. It should be noted that the federal government has decided to file a review appeal against the decision of the Supreme Court on reserved seats and ban Paki-

stan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI). Federal Information Minister Atta Tarar announced plans to file a review appeal with the Supreme Court concerning the ban on PTI and certain electoral seats. Maulana Fazlur Rahman, chief of Jamiat Ulema Islam (JUI), has asserted that to address the ongoing political crisis, the establishment must distance itself from politics. He emphasized that using force against political entities will only exacerbate the existing

turmoil. Fazlur Rahman noted

that if all institutions adhere to their constitutional boundaries, the country can begin to heal. He urged authorities to recognize that the current hybrid system has failed, insisting that the key to resolving the nation's issues lies in holding transparent elections. Sardar Akhtar Mengal,

chief of the Balochistan National Party (BNP), has expressed strong op- a "mockery of the constiposition government's decision to ban the Pakistan Tehreeke-Insaf (PTI). He noted that banning political parties is not a new phenomenon, recalling that the National Awami Party was similarly banned in 1973. Mengal emphasized that such measures do not solve the underlying problems.

He criticised the government's apparent confusion following the Supreme Court's decision and argued that if there is to be a crackdown, it should apply to all political parties the country.

Mengal lamented that

politicians have not learned from past mistakes, underscoring the need for more thoughtful approaches to political issues Liaquat Baloch, Acting

Ameer of Jamaat-e-Islami, condemned government's decision during a press conference in Mansoorah, describing it as the tution, democracy, and the parliamentary system.'

He criticized the government for what he termed "negative politics," asserting that a controversia and unrepresentative government has no right to ban any political party.

Baloch emphasized that such undemocratic tactics pose a significant threat to both the constitution and democracy in Pakistan. He warned that the announcement would likely lead to increased instability and negative consequences for



held productive meeting with Mr. Zhao Chenxin, Vice Chairman of the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) in Beijing, China.

PTI founder arrested in Jinnah House attack case

LAHORE (INP): The Investigation police have formally arrested Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder and former prime minister Imran Khan, in connection with the Jinnah House attack case on May

The police reached Adiala Jail to execute the formal arrest. According to the police, the PTI founder will be investigated under sections related to inciting against the state. The police stated that PTI founder Imran Khan has been ar rested in 12 cases related to May 9 riots, including the Jinnah House attack. The police requested the Rawalpindi court to transfer the suspect to Lahore, but the court denied the transfer due to security concerns

Pak, China friendship to move forward with greater integration in world, regional markets: Ahsan BEIJING (APP): Federal peace, political stability,

Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives, Prof Ahsan Iqbal, stated that as China finalizes its roadmap for the future, the friendship between Pakistan and China will certainly advance. He said that it will in-

volve greater integration of Pakistan and China in the world and regional mar-

On what the world can learn from China's development experience, the minister, who is currently in Beijing for an official visit, told CGTN, "I think China's experience of development gives us four very valuable lessons."

There are four prereqneeds for development:

continuity of economic policies, and continuous commitment to reform.

The minister said that China has shown all four principles to practice, and that is the reason that China has developed so fast, adding, that China has shown a great success story to the whole world by pulling 800 million people out of poverty in the shortest possible time. Prof Ahsan Iqbal said that China has shared its development, and has shared its experience of development with other countries through the Belt and Road Initiative and Global Development Initiative. Pakistan and China uisites that any country enjoy a unique relation-



ISLAMABAD: Motorcyclists crossing road from a green belt due to road closed at Islamabad Highway during Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) sit-in protest (Dharna) at Faizabad flyover.

Daily Soice of Masse Independent

Afghan challenge

The recently released UN monitoring team's report on Afghanistan captures the dilemma confronting the international community where dealing with the country's Taliban rulers is concerned. On the one hand, the Taliban have managed to stabilise Afghanistan after decades of conflict. But on the other, under the hard-line movement's rule, terrorist groups are flourishing on Afghan soil. A third scenario should also be of concern to foreign states, particularly Afghanistan's neighbours: IS-K — which is opposed to the Taliban — is believed to have between 2,000 to 6,000 fighters, and is using Afghanistan as a base for its external operations. Moreover, the terrorist outfit is also looking to poach fighters from other militant groups.

Though the Taliban regime is by no means a progressive pro-people entity, it has managed to bring a semblance of stability to Afghanistan after over four decades of war. The UN report says that as the Taliban "transition from insurgency to governing authority", they have brought down petty corruption and reduced poppy cultivation, while managing to keep the precarious economy afloat.

Perhaps it is because of these limited gains that there has been no mass opposition to the Taliban's obscurantist rule. Afghans are tired of forever wars, while the Western-backed Karzai and Ghani administrations were notorious for their corruption and bad governance. Yet if the Taliban seek full recognition from the international community. they need to do much more, particularly in the areas of women's rights and by creating a more inclusive governance structure, which guarantees fundamental freedoms for all.

With regard to militancy, as the UN report highlights, the global community must keep its eyes and ears open. For example, the report says that the banned TTP has become the largest terrorist group in Afghanistan, and has developed a working relationship with Al Qaeda. Moreover, endorsing what Pakistan has been saying for a while, the report points out that the Taliban rulers are "unable or unwilling" to tackle the TTP threat.

As per the UN, the TTP conducted over 1,200 attacks against Pakistan last year. But it is not anti-Pakistan militants alone that are using Afghanistan as a base. The anti-China ETIM group, Al Qaeda, as well as IS-K, which threatens Iran, the Central Asian states and Pakistan, are all using Afghanistan as a "permissive haven". This requires a coordinated response from the international community, particularly Afghanistan's neighbours, as they are most at risk from terrorist groups.

The Taliban should be told that they need to take action against 'good' militants who support them (TTP, Al Qaeda), as well as 'bad' militants who oppose them (IS-K). On this, there can be no compromise, and foreign states must emphasise that diplomatic recognition and trade relations all depend on greater counterterrorism efforts

Supreme injustice

Rida Hosain

In a way, some dissent the dissent identifies ing judgements reflect studies by expert psywhat could have been, chiatrists, which show still be achieved. To quote Benjamin N. Cardozo, the dissenter speaks to the future. Recently, by a majority of 2-1, our Supreme Court converted a conviction of rape into 'fornication'. In a powerful dissent, Justice Ayesha A. Malik used her pen for a better tomorrow

Before the court, a brother's friend of rape. The trial court and the high court ruled in the woman's favour. At the Supreme Court, Justice Malik Shahzad Ahmad Khan and Justice Jamal Khan Mandokhail found that the woman was a consenting party.

Judges can have genuine disagreements would not respond. Othon whether evidentiary ers blanked out or were standards have been too shocked to react, met — particularly in a and went into a state of criminal case where the liberty of an individual is The majority assumes involved. There can be one type of response, different views on the only type they are whether the evidence able to imagine. before the court is enough to uphold the cation to be proved, it conviction. But instead of limiting themselves to sexual intercourse was the evidence, the majority went on to determine how a rape victim should have reacted.

Since the man was unarmed, the majority held, "a female who is not a consenting party would offer very strong resistance in a case of attempt to commit rape with her" and "no mark of violence whatsoever was noted on the entire finding ignores precebody". The court effectively found that an 'actual' rape victim would have offered strong resistance, and there would be resistance with established precemarks on her body to establish this. This reasoning shifts the onus onto the victim, ie, she should held that delay is of no have done more, she consequence as such

In sharp contrast, some delay in reporting

and what can one day that in cases of sexual violence, victims may have various different types of response fight, flight or freeze. There is no fixed response in rape cases. To say that a woman must 'fight' looks at rape from a masculine lens, and undermines a woman's lived experience. Per Justice Malik, "the offence of rape is made on the woman had accused her body of the victim and her response to this offensive act cannot be standardised".

The New Times magazine did a story, speaking to rape victims about the 'freezing' response. Some victims said they wanted to yell and push and resist, but their body simply involuntary paralysis.

Moreover, for fornimust be shown that consensual. The majority has imputed consent on behalf of the victim, whereas the dissent found that consent must be an unequivocal voluntary agreement. Consent must not be as-

sumed. The majority judgement then holds that there was a two-day delay in filing an FIR. This dent which clearly states that in cases of sexual assault, a lenient view should be taken on delayed reporting. In line dent, Justice Malik writes: "With reference to delay, this Court has should have resisted, cases involve the victim she should have fought and her family's reputatesy Dawn

tion and honour, hence, a crime of sexual offence is immaterial."

The reasoning of the majority has a striking similarity with the Mukhtaran Mai case. In both cases, the court completely disregards the extreme trauma associated with rape, and how this may result in slower reporting. In Mukhtaran Mai's memoir, she expresses how she felt suicidal after the incident: "I have made up my mind. I want to kill myself ... I'm already dead in the eyes of others." It takes time and strength to undertake a le--gal battle, to use this against a victim is an in--justice that ign-ores the cultural and social stigmas associ-

ated with rape. The majority seem to have come up with a rulebook on how victims should react in order to get justice. The 'right' victim fights, the 'right' victim has marks of resistance, the 'right' victim reports immediately.

A few weeks ago, Justice Malik was speaking at a symposium on inclusive justice organised by the Federal Judicial Academy and UN Women. She explained that her reasoning may differ from her male colleagues: "my understanding may be very different because it's based on a different premise, because it's based on my life experiences, it's based on my perspective which is the gender perspective."

The tragic reality in Pakistan is, since men dominate the judiciary, our jurisprudence is dictated by the male lived experience. There is little to no gender sensitisation training in the judicial system, and gender stereotypes remain deeply embedded. The voice, perspective, and lived experience of nearly half the population continues to be overlooked. -- Courout of jobs.

Employment paths

Neda Mulji

Last month, the federal government reversed its decision to slash the HEC's budget but it seems to have been a case of 'too little, too late'. Federally administered cover the main component of their expenditure, which is salaries for ogy teaching. What we teaching and non-teaching staff, but the urgency to improve standards will unaddressed yet Many of our higher

education institutions by the planning ministry churn out large numbers of graduates each year, but there are no systems in place to absorb them into the economic infrastructure, neither are there programmes to ment and change, it upskill the graduates for doesn't lay out the stratjob requirements. Most find themselves navigating an extremely competitive market where they cannot match up to the skills needed to be hired.

With 58 per cent of our population under the age of 24, our higher education system has to step up to deliver the outcomes necessary for economic growth. Over two million Pakistanis are currently in higher education and only 60,000 get the opportunity to study in institutes abroad. Our 3,000 degree colleges have the massive responsibility to produce jobready graduates, which requires investment in infrastructure, technology, industry ties and skills that can serve key economic sectors.

ing the economy must come from creating employment pathways for our young graduates, which implies that outdated curricula and traditional teaching cannot contribute to the change we need. We cannot expect to churn the same wheel and expect different results, and we can no longer afford to keep our young population

In most developed small and promising societies, the vision for ventures may enable growth has come from universities to create humanities education philosophy, literature and culture. Sadly, we've whilst earning themdeprioritised humanities. We have also failed to retion that will help attract tain our doctors and sci- and retain students, creuniversities can hope to entists, and we haven't ating new revenue upgraded our math, engineering and technolare looking at is an economy teetering on the

> Pakistan Vision 2025 highlights some key areas demanding urgent focus. Among these is the need to create jobs. Unfortuthe pillars for improveegy that will address the urgent need for employ-

> brink of decline and we

need quick solutions for

ways such as establishbacked by agencies serving particular geographical communities may prowith available jobs in their area. Tax breaks for comhire and train for the skills needed for the jobs. Employed people spend boost the economy through generating money. Smaller companies can benefit from hiring graduates who have lower salary expectations Any hope for build- and can be trained

quickly Very few universities offer placement centres to help graduates find experimented with incubation centres to set up entrepreneurship opportunities for their students. This is mainly due costs. Supporting entrepreneurship by funding tesy Dawn

head office and discussed

They also discussed

foreign investment in oil KP.

the transportation of oil,

refinery, problems in

this regard and their

Taha.

solutions

economic opportunities for their graduates, selves a sound reputastreams for the institu-

There is much to learn from developed societies. One study of the US economy from 1980 to 2005 found that the annual net employment gro-w-th in the US would have been negative wi--thout small busin-esses. The cumulative effect of small businesses on job crenately, while it highlights ation is massive, especial--ly given that they tend to keep costs low by hiring fresh graduates on re-latively lower sa---laries.

It also creates a Employment path- pathway for development as the small busirecruitment nesses become training programmes that are grounds for the young population who can then transition to the larger companies in due vide quick and easy ac- course. In fact, this isn't cess to match graduates new to us. After independence, Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali panies that hire a set Jinnah initiated a policy quota of fresh graduates of funding small busimay create the impetus to nesses and giving concessions to spur economic growth in key sectors. Jinnah made it more, pay taxes and clear that industrial power was Pakistan's hope to reduce dependence on external help for life's necessities.

Traditionally, developed societies have also created programmes that match small entrepreneurs with the more successful and established ones to create networkjobs, and fewer still have ing synergies within communities. Nowhere is it possible to create jobs without enablement programmes and if we don't empower our growto the costs attached. ing population, we However, the long-term would be running after a benefits outweigh the train that is headed towards disaster. -- Cour-

Commerce News

OGRA takes action against mixing of CO2 with LPG

ISLAMABAD (Online): aiming to safeguard team visited the LPG sites The Oil and Gas precious lives and the in Pano Aqil and observed The Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA) has taken serious note of the issue of mixing carbon dioxide (CO2) with liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) by illegal decanters. In response, OGRA conducted a high-profile meeting chaired by Mr. Masroor Khan, Chairman OGRA, along with authority members, enforcement, legal, and LPG teams. The meeting addressed the potential life risks associated with this dangerous practice and urged provincial Chief Secretaries, the Attorney General, and provincial Advocate Generals to take appropriate action against the illegal decanters.

OGRA is determined to utilize all legal options under its rules and regulations to eliminate properly. such illegal activities,

properties of the general public. It is pertinent to mention that CO2 mixing province, especially at Pano Aqil near Sukkur.

The Assistant Commissioner of Pano Aqil has raided four sites. discovered illegal decanting activities, sealed all the sites immediately, and lodged FIRs against the concerned individuals.

flammable, and the mixing of CO2 poses fatal risks, the general public. including adverse environmental impacts. CO2 has higher pressure than LPG, which can cause serious safety concerns as equipment calibrated for LPG may not function

OĞRA's enforcement

in Pano Aqil and observed that all the sites were being operated illegally and in unsafe conditions. LPG with LPG has been bowsers were being used reported in various for storage instead of locations of Sindh proper LPG tanks, and substandard equipment was found.

In response to these findings, OGRA has decided to exhaust all legal options to eliminate this illegal activity. The authority has advised its legal counsel in Pano Aqil to pursue the case and LPG is highly represent OGRA's point of view for the safety of

> OGRÅ has also written letters to the Commissioner of Sukkur the Custom Collectorate, urging them to ensure safety at the local level by curtailing the illegal sale of LPG in the

KARACHI: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi meets Managing Director Pakistan State Oil (PSO) Syed Muhammad Taha at PSO

World youth skills day: Investing in youth vital for sustainable economic development

other parts of the country, world youth skills day was also observed in Khyber Pakthunkhwa where public and private institutions and youth bodies organized functions and seminars highlighting significance of investment in technical education for sustainable economic development prosperous future of the country. The civil society and youth organizations

PESHAWAR (APP): Like stressing the significance unemployment of youth's role in peace, development and economic progress of Pakistan.

Every year, the day is marked on July 15 aimed promoting empowerment of young people worldwide by focusing on their education and skills development besides employment.

Designated by the United Nations General Assembly in November 2014, the day emphasized also staged a rally in front the significance of of the press club in equipping youth with connection with the day, necessary skills to tackle

poverty besides achieving sustainable development

The theme of the day was 'Youth skills for peace and development' which highlighted the role of youth in peace building and resolution of conflicts.

"In an era of rapid e c h n o l o g i c a l advancements and evolving economic landscapes, the traditional approach of education is undergoing a profound transformation owing to mushroom growth of digitalization.

Shipping activity at

KARACHI Shipping activity was reported at the port where four ships namely, MSC Positano, APL Mexico City, Eco Alice, and Ondo carrying Containers, LPG and LNG, berthed at Qasim International Container Terminal, Engro Vopak Terminal and Pakistan Terminal Gasport respectively on Monday, 14th July-2024.

Kundi said that the on new sites in KP.

PSO must find new sites

for further expansion in

KP: Faisal Karim Kundi

KARACHI (APP): The demand for petroleum Governor of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim the completion of CPEC

Kundi on Monday visited and plans should be Pakistan State Oil (PSO) chalked out to this effect.

foreign investment in oil number of people refinery and other issues associated with the

with Managing Director of transport PSO Syed Mohammed belonged to KP.

chalked out to this effect.

He said that a large

He further said that

The MD PSO said

PSO should find new sites

for further expansion in

that PSO had a big market

and they were also working

business

ISLAMABAD: A vendor arranging and displaying clay pottery on handcart to attract the customers at his roadside setup in the Federal Capital.

Drive on Railway safety, prohibited items in full swing

ISLAMABAD (APP): awareness among the Pakistan Railways awareness campaign was in full swing in order to raise public knowledge of the dangers of trespassing, crossing railroad tracks, and carrying forbidden objects like gas cylinders, guns without a license, cartridges, drugs, and daggers.

"The campaign was launched on the directives of Secretary Syed Mazhar Ali Shah which will not help the department to control accidents but also win the confidence of the passengers of the rail" an official told APP.

The official said, 'Pakistan Railways will use all the social media platforms including print, electronic media, twitter, Facebook, poster and pamphlets to create an

citizens about a safe train journey.'

department has also asked all the divisional superintendents to ensure checking of luggage of passengers at entry points with scanners, metal detectors and walkthrough gates. The official said Pakistan Railways had always given importance to the safety of citizens and its passengers.

'It has been directed to discourage and stop those passengers who are carrying prohibited products. It is suggested to install emergency doors and auto-lock doors in coaches in case of any emergency," he

Zong celebrates Digital Day

ISLAMABAD (APP): Zong 4G, Pakistan's leading mobile network operator, celebrated Digital Day 2024 in grand style.

more than just a celebration; it was a resounding endorsement of CEO Zong 4G's vision of positioning Zong 4G as an Excellence. In doing so, we exemplary information service and technology innovation company.

While welcoming employees to the Digital Day celebrations CEO Zong 4G HuoJunli said "This day was yet another positive step taken towards building Zong as provider and the displays are a testament to that. Today, we align ourselves to our vision of an excellent Information Services and Technology Innovation company in Pakistan. From legacy network expansion, setting up state-of-the-art Data Centers as a backbone of cloud services, to building network-neutral product portfolio" said a

"We had to adapt to the changing landscape of technology and the dynamic consumer The event served as demands. As we entered a new age of Zong, we also embodied our values of Integrity, Openness, Integrity, Ope Responsibility, were able to drive growth within and beyond the organization - growth that was crucial to the Sci-Tech transformation we wished

to see in Zong" he added. He further said, "I am delighted to see the product displays today, we have an attractive an information services portfolio of digital products such as Zong Engage, Zong Road Assistance, and Banking as a Service (BaaS).

These innovations. available through the Zong App, are designed to simplify our customers' lives." MedIQ, a health services provider, offers convenient access to ondemand healthcare, both in-person and via a digital

Training session on e-procurement held

LAHORE (APP): As per direction Commissioner Punjab Social Security Nadia Saqib, a one-day training session was organized in collaboration with the Punjab Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) here on Monday. The session took

place in the auditorium of Punjab Social Security Hospital on Multan Road Lahore. Sixty-five social security officers from hospitals and offices across Punjab participated in the training session. Director Admin Khawaja Waqar Ahmed and other officers attended, while PPRA officers, led by MD PPRA Khawaja Waqar Ahmad, provided the

The participants briefed procurement cycles and received step-by-step hands-on training to familiarize themselves with the e-procurement

PSX witnesses bullish trend, gains 1,211 points ISLAMABAD (APP): whereas the price of shares The 100-index of the stood at Rs 27.228 billion

Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) witnessed bullish trend on Monday, gaining 1,211.51 points, a positive change of 1.52 percent, closing at 81,155.61 points against 79,944.10 points on the last working day.

A total or 441,338,958 shares were traded during the day as compared to 437,315,657 shares the previous day,

against Rs 23.484 billion on the last trading day.

Around companies transacted their shares in the stock market, 265 of them recorded gains and 141 sustained losses, whereas the share price of 51 companies remained unchanged.

The three top trading companies were PIA Holding Company with

Port Qasim

Strict action will be taken on sharing hate material on social media: Minister

FAISALABAD (APP): Provincial Minister for Information Azma Bukhari said that Ashura would be observed under complete harmony and strict action would be taken on sharing hate material on social

Presiding over a meeting at DC Office here on Monday, she took a briefing about Muharram arrangements and said that the government was committed to facilitating the masses during Ashura days. In this connection, Sharbat Sabeel would be arranged on the routes of mourning processions in addition to ensuring tight security arrangements for

Peshawar press club.

members of Khyber Union

of Journalists (KHUJ) and

Peshawar Press Club (PPC) on Monday staged

a strong protest against the

killing of senior journalist and reporter of Aaj News, Malik Hassan Zeb. The

protest demonstration,

attended by a large number

of journalists with placards

in their hands, chanted

participants in majalis, she each information before

She said that CCTV monitoring security arrangements. "Muharram optimum best to observe Ashura in a most befitting manner under tight security

arrangements," she added. She said that activities of social media would also days and no one would be allowed to share hate material or promote

He also directed police officers to verify

PESHAWAR: Journalists are holding protest to

condemn the killing of senior journalist Malik

Hassan Zaib, who was shot dead by two unknown

assailants in the Akbar Pura village Nowshera

district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK), at

PPC, KHUJ stage

strong protest against

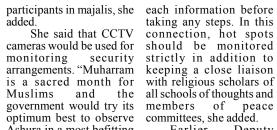
killing of senior journalist

PESHAWAR (APP): The here and demanded arrest

slogans in front of the the journalist, police have

Peshawar Press Club, so far failed to make any

opposite Railways Station progress in the case.



Tuesday July 16, 2024

Earlier, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Abdullah Nayyar Sheikh briefed the minister about administrative and security be monitored strictly arrangements in Faisalabad especially during Ashura and said that 387 CCTV cameras were made functional across the material or promote district to monitor sectarianism in the Muharram security in addition to keeping vigil eye on the movement of suspects

2 workers die while cleaning sewerage

FAISALABAD (APP) Two workers, including an employee of the municipal corporation, died when they were cleaning sewerage in Chak Jhumra police limits.

A Rescue 1122 spokesman said here on Monday that 40-year-old Shakeel Masih, an employee of Municipal Corporation Chak Jhumra, entered into a sewerage at Chiniot Road but he became unconscious due to some toxic gas. Later, his coworker, Sohail Masih, 35, entered the sewerage to save him but he also fainted.

ANF recovers over 86 kg drugs in 5 operations

RAWALPINDI (APP): Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) while conducting five operations managed to recover over 86 kg drugs and arrested 11 accused, said an Headquarters spokesman here on Monday.

He informed that 810 grams ice was recovered from a parcel booked for Bahrain at Karachi Airport.



Law and Order Khawaja Salman Rafique being briefed about security arrangements during Muharram ul Haram at Control Room of Home Ministry.

Minister directs early financial assistance to rain affectees

Independent Report PESHAWAR: Provincial

Minister for Public Health Engineering, Puthtunyaar Khan on Monday directed for providing in time financial assistance to the people affected by the recent heavy rains. Following the directives, Secretary Relief KP, assured the minister that financial relief assistance will be provided to the affected people within the next few days. Former tehsil was also present on the any discrimination.

Provincial Minister Pukhtunyaar Khan said provincial government stands with the rain-affected people at this critical juncture.

The KP government will do its best to compensate for the losses of people incurred by the natural disasters.

He said no effort will be spared in reaching out to the affected people and the financial assistance will be provided to every member, Masoom Wazir affected family without

PDWP approves development schemes worth Rs5.56b

and Working Party Punjab (PDWP) in its 6th meeting of the current financial year, approved two development schemes of SHC&ME and Environment sectors at a

cost of Rs 56.560 billion Preside over by P&D Board Chairman Barrister Nabeel Ahmad Awan here Monday, the meeting approved the following

LAHORE (APP): The Centre at the cost of Rs 56 Provincial Development billion. Investigation of sources of particulate matter for informed decision making in Punjab at the cost of Rs 560 million. P&D Board Secretary Dr Asif Tufail Secretary Environment Raja Jahangir Anwar, Secretary Health Ali Jan Khan, Chief Economist Dr Nasir Iqbal Malik, P&D

representatives of the Establishment of relevant provincial Nawaz Sharif Institute of departments attended the Cancer Treatment and meeting.

Board members, heads and

Azma visits Allied Hospital-I,

inspects facilities

FAISALABAD (APP) Provincial Information Minister Azma Bukhari Monday paid a surprise visit to Allied Hospital-I.

She inspected medical facilities available for patients in emergency and other wards, presence of doctors and paramedics.

She inquired after the patients in different wards. She also inquired from attendants about treatment, availability of medicines and other facilities.

She also checked the functioning of air-conditioners in wards and medicine stock in the hospital's store.

Intel drugs smuggling gang busted

PESHAWAR (APP) Police on Monday arrested four accused including a wanted Afghan ring-leader of an international drugs supply gang during a raid in Tajabad area here.

Police said, a team of Pishtakhara police raided a house in Tajabad area and unearthed a heroin producing factory. Four accused were arrested from the factory. The arrested accused were involved in supplying drugs to Dubai, Afghanistan and other countries. During the intelligence-based raid, police also recovered 60

Health minister visits field hospital, inspects facilities

Provincial Health Minister Khwaja Salman Rafique Monday paid a surprise visit to the field hospital, established in Union Council-143, Fatehgarh.

The minister inquired about the medical facilities provided to people in the hospital. He also inquired from the attendants about treatment, availability of medicines and other facilities. Khwaja Salman Rafique said that the field hospital project was the flagship programme of the

Punjab Thousands of people had been provided with best medical facilities at their doorstep across the province, he added. He said providing best medical facilities to people was the first priority, adding that facilities of lady doctor, free examination and medicine were also being provided in field hospitals

Hafiz Mohammad Aleem, Chudhry Sarwar, Mehar Mudassar, Mian Rashid and Malik Saif ur Rahman were present.



SIALKOT: DSPCIA crime organizer Rana Mahmood ul Hasan is handing over the money recovered from the accused of robbery Rs. 18 lakh to owner Haji Imran at SCCI.

Departments lauded for Muharram arrangements

Independent Report PESHAWAR: Provincial Minister for Higher Education Meena Khan Afridi has lauded the relevant departments for making effective arrangements for Muharram. He said that Capital Metropolitan, District Administration, Rescue

1122, Water and Sanitation Services Peshawar (WSSP), other relevant and departments had made elaborate arrangements and that their efforts will play a crucial role in maintaining peace and order during Muharram.

He expressed these views while visiting various Imambargahs, command posts, and the Kohati.

Supreme Command Post in Peshawar.

On this occasion, the Director General of Capital Metropolitan, Waheed Rehman, ADC Peshawar, AC Peshawar, AACs, WSSP, and other officials also accompanied him.

The provincial minister inspected various Imambargahs in the Qissa Khwani area and reviewed the facilities provided by the government. He met with the heads of the Imambargahs and was briefed on their issues.

He also visited the command post at Khan Raziq police station in Qissa Khwani and the Supreme Command Post in

International News

other

Gaza civil defence says 15 killed in Israel strike on Gaza school

of the killers. Senior Vice

President Imran Yousafzai

in his speech demanded of

the Chief Minister Khyber

Pakhtunkhwa to take

notice of the incident and

direct early arrest of the

killers for an exemplary

punishment. He said despite CCTV footage of

the incident which showed

clear faces of the killers of

Monitoring Desk

GAZA STRIP: The civil defence agency in Hamasrun Gaza said Sunday that 15 people were killed in a strike on a school sheltering war displaced where the Israeli military said it had targeted "terrorists". The strike on the UN-

run Abu Araban site in central Gaza's Nuseirat camp was the fifth on a schoolturned-shelter in eight days.

The Abu Araban school was housing "thousands of displaced people," civil defence agency spokesman Mahmud Bassal told AFP, adding that most of the dead were women and children.

Schools in Nuseirat were the target for two of the earlier school strikes as Israel keeps up its offensive against Hamas Palestinian militants who triggered the war with their

said its air force "struck a number of terrorists who were operating in the area of UNRWA's Abu Araban school building in Nuseirat".

It said the building had 'served as a hideout' and base for "attacks" on Israeli

AFPTV images showed the three-storey complex standing, with clothes and bedding airing out over its railings. A wall bearing the UN logo had been blown out, and rooms inside were damaged.

also run by the United Nations relief agency for Palrefugees (UNRWA), in Nuseirat. UNRWA said about 2,000 people were sheltering there at the time.

The following day, October 7 attack on Israel. four people died in a strike

The Israeli military on the church-run Holy Family school in Gaza City, in the territory's north, according to the Civil Defence agency.

On Monday, Israel hit another Nuseirat school, again saying it was targeting "terrorists" The next day, a hospi-

tal source said at least 29 people died in a strike at the entrance to Al-Awda school in the Khan Yunis area, southern Gaza. Israel says Hamas

uses schools, hospitals and other public infrastructure for military purposes. On July 6, Israeli air-Hamas denies the accusacraft hit Al-Jawni school, tion. France and Germany on Wednesday called for an investigation into the school strikes.

After the Al-Jawni strike, UNRWA spokesperson Juliette Touma told AFP that when the war began "we closed the schools and they became shelters."

US President Joe Biden delivers a statement a day after Republican challenger Donald Trump was shot at a campaign rally, during brief remarks at the White House in Washington, US.

China, Russia start joint naval drills, days after NATO allies called Beijing a Ukraine war enabler

Monitoring Desk

Russia's naval forces on Sunday kicked off a joint exercise at a military port in southern China on Sunday, official news agency Xinhua reported, days after NATO allies called Beijing a "decisive enabler" of the war in Ukraine.

The Chinese defense ministry said in a brief statement forces from both sides recently patrolled the western and northern Pacific Ocean and that the operation had nothing to do with

any third party. The exer-BEIJING: China and cise, which began in Guangdong province on Sunday and is expected to last until mid-July, aimed to demonstrate the capabilities of the navies in addressing security threats and preserving peace and stability globally and regionally, state broadcaster CCTV reported Saturday, adding it would include anti-missile exercises, sea strikes and air defense. Xinhua News Agency reported the Chinese and Russian naval forces carried out on-map military simulation and tactical coordina-

like' conditions on farms

two alleged abusers, also Indian, persuaded their fellow nationals to come to Italy, paying €17,000 each to obtain seasonal working

Some of the migrants were also asked to continue working for free to pay an additional 13,000 euros for a permanent work permit, which in reality they would have never obtained, the police added.

Dubai crown prince appointed **UAE** defence minister

Monitoring Desk DUBAI: The crown prince of Dubai has been appointed as minister of defence for the United Arab Emirates as part of a broader cabinet shuffle, Dubai ruler and UAE Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid al-Maktoum posted on

The 41-year-old Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid al-Maktoum, who has served as Dubai's crown prince since 2008, was also named as one of the UAE's deputy prime ministers.

Seven students drown on summer holidays in Mexico

MEXICO CITY (INP) Seven students drowned in eastern Mexico after their vehicle was dragged into a fast-flowing river as they tried to retrieve a boat from its waters, local government sources said Sunday.

The victims, all between 21 and 23 years old, on Saturday were celebrating the end of the school year and summer holidays at a private residence on the banks of the river in the city of Coatzacoalcos.

After assassination attempt, Trump and Biden seek calm, unity **Monitoring Desk**

MILWAUKEE: Donald Trump arrived on Sunday in Milwaukee, where he will be formally nominated as the Republican presidential candidate later this week after surviving an assassination attempt that has aggravated an already bitter US political divide.

President Joe Biden, a Democrat, ordered a review of how a 20-year-old man with an AR-15-style rifle got close enough to shoot at Trump from a rooftop on Saturday. Trump, as a former president, has lifetime protection by the US Secret Service. Trump, 78, was hold-

ing a campaign rally in Butler, Pennsylvania – a key state in the Nov. 5 election - when shots rang out, hitting his right ear and leaving his face streaked with blood. His campaign said he was doing well.

"That reality is just setting in," Trump told the Washington Examiner on

Sunday. "I rarely look away from the crowd. Had I not done that in that moment, well, we would not be talking today, would we?" One person in the

crowd was killed and two others wounded before Secret Service agents fatally shot the suspect.

Both Trump and Biden on Sunday sought calm and unity.

Trump is due to accept his party's formal nomination at the Republican National Convention with a speech on Thursday. He pumped his fist in the air several times as he descended the stairs from his plane after arriving in Milwaukee. "This is a chance to bring the whole country, even the whole world, together. The speech will be a lot different, a lot different than it would've been two days ago," Trump told the Washington Examiner. Biden delivered a televised address from the Oval Office in the White House on Sunday.

Syrians vote for their next parliament, which may pave the way for Assad to extend his rule

Monitoring Desk DAMASCUS: Syrians were voting for members of a new parliament in an election Monday that was expected to hold few surprises but could pave the way for a constitutional

amendment to extend the term of President Bashar Assad. The vote is the fourth in Syria since mass antigovernment protests in 2011 and a brutal crackdown by security forces spiraled into an ongoing civil war and

comes as an economic cri-

sis grips the country, fuel-

ing demonstrations in the Syria's 2024 parliamentary election excludes rebel-held northwest Syria and the country's northeast under

U.S.-backed. Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces. The number of eligible voters hasn't been announced either and

unlike presidential elections, the millions of diaspora Syrians — whose numbers have ballooned since the civil war — are not qualified to vote for the legislators.

Western countries and Assad's critics say the polling in government-held areas in Syria is neither free nor fair. This year, 1,516 gov-

ernment-approved candidates are running for the 250-seat People's Assembly. Some 8,151 polling stations were set up in 15 voting districts in government-held areas, with results expected to be announced Monday night or the following day. In the last round of elections in 2020, the outcome was delayed for days due to technical issues, according to officials. Assad's Baath Party won 166 seats, in addition to 17 others from allied parties.

Judge dismisses Donald Trump's classified documents case

Monitoring Desk WASHINGTON:

Florida judge appointed by Donald Trump has dismissed the criminal case against the former president on charges of mishandling top secret documents, ruling that Special Counsel Jack Smith was unlawfully appointed. The decision is a ma-

jor victory for Republican presidential candidate Trump, who had been accused of endangering na-tional security after leaving the White House. The decision comes

days after an assassin's bullets flew by him during a campaign rally, streaking the Republican presidential candidate's blood across his face and prompting his security agents to fist in the air, mouthing the

words "Fight! Fight! Fight!"

Hours after the incident, the US Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) said it had identified the shooter in the assassination attempt as 20-year-old Thomas Matthew Crooks of Pennsylvania, US media reported early on Sun-

Federal Judge Aileen Cannon made her ruling after lawyers for the 78year-old argued for a partial stay of proceedings to allow for an assessment of a Supreme Court ruling that a former president has broad immunity from prosecution.

"Former president Trump's motion to dismiss indictment based on the unlawful appointswarm him, before he ment and funding of Speemerged and pumped his cial Counsel Jack Smith is granted," Aileen wrote in

King Charles III to visit Australia and Samoa as he recovers from cancer

Monitoring Desk LONDON: King Charles

III is preparing to visit Australia and Samoa in October, an itinerary that will span 12 time zones and test the monarch's stamina as he recovers from cancer treatment. The trip, announced on Sunday by

Buckingham Palace, marks a watershed moment for the 75-year-old king, who has been slowly returning to public duties after taking a break following his cancer diagnosis in early February. The decision to undertake such a long journey will be seen as a sign of Charles' recovery, even though the program in Australia will be "limited."

international and regional situations and didn't target tion exercises. Italian tax police free 33 Indian workers from 'slave-

Monitoring Desk ROME: Italy's tax police said Saturday they had freed 33 Indian farm workers from "slave-like working conditions" in the northern province of Verona, while seizing almost half a million euros from the two alleged gangmasters. Police said the

permits. The men were then obliged to work in farms for seven days a week and up to 10-12 hours a day, paid only 4 euros per hour, in conditions that the Italian police described as 'slavery.'

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister of State for IT and

Telecommunication Shaza

Fatima Khawaja Monday

said that the present gov-

ernment was committed to

empowering women as

women's role was very im-

portant for putting the

country on the path of de-

'Steps are underway

empower women by

equipping them with digi-

tal skills" she expressed

these views while address-

ing the Webinar titled

"Women Shaping the Tech Landscape of Pakistan" organised by the Ministry

of IT and Telecommunica-

table tech industry where

women have equal oppor-

tunities to succeed", she

velopment.

Shaza says: Govt. committed to

empower women

The minister said it

was very important to pave

the way for more women

to join and lead in the tech

sector by addressing key

barriers such as safe trans-

portation and workplace

digital skills women can also work online while sitting at

home and added that the

Ministry of IT was focused

on skills development and

capacity building of our

youth, especially women.

joint efforts were needed to

create a future where

women were not just par-

ticipants but leaders in the

tech landscape of Pakistan.

percent of Pakistan's popu-

lation comprises youth

which was our asset. She

said in the present era of

technology, it was ex-

tremely important to equip

our youth with the latest

digital skills to enable them

a skilled workforce would

take the country forward.

Shaza Fatima said that

to be employable.

Shaza Fatima said that

She said that seventy

She said with better

inclusivity.

Senate Committee addresses AUQAF rules objections and overviews legislative process

Delegated Legislation, chaired by Senator Naseema Ehsan, held a meeting today at Parliament House.

The objection raised by Senator Maulana Attaur-Rehman against the Augaf Rules, prepared by the ICT administration under the authority of the Waqf Properties Act, 2020, was considered in the meeting. According to Ministry of Interior representatives, all stakeholders were invited on February 9, 2023, to discuss and approve the proposed rules. The process was completed, and although the Ulema Council was not active, a Ulema Committee was formed. The process took one year, reaching its final shape in February 2024.

Senator Maulana Atta-ur-Rehman emphasized the need to consult with the Ulema and gain their trust. He suggested that the reasons should be discussed with the Ulema Council and the relevant

bers unanimously agreed to keep the Ulema Committee on board and to proceed with the consensus of all stakeholders. The committee meeting featured the participation of Senator Bushra Anjum Butt, Senator Atta-ur-Rehman, Senator Rubina Qaim Khani, Senator Poonjo Mal Bheel, the Special Secretary of the Ministry of Interior, the Additional Secretary of the Ministry of Law and Justice, the Chairman of the Council of Islamic Ideology, and senior representatives from the concerned minis-

Furthermore, a representative of the Ulema challenges faced during the proceedings of the rules, adding that the Ministry of Interior deemed the rules incorrect and requested new rules.

Additionally, the Islamic Ideology noted that division must initiate a sumin Islamabad, due to the

documents presented to absence of a waqf manager them. The committee mem- administrators have been given authority. It was observed that a knowledgeable leader should be chosen to facilitate societal harmony and goodness through their preaching.

Moreover, the Addi-

tional Secretary of Law and

Justice briefed the commit-

tee members on delegated and subordinate legislation, reporting that the Rules of Business, 1973, provide for the procedure of making subordinate legislation. He highlighted that, according to Article 8, inter-division consultations with consensus are necessary before finalizing draft subordinate legislation. He further reported that after ficommittee presented the nalizing the draft subordinate legislation, the administrative division is required to consult the Law and Justice Division for vetting under Rule 14. However, if the legislation is to be made by the Federal Govern-Chairman of the Council of ment, the administrative



ISLAMABAD: Additional secretary West Asia and Afghanistan Ahmed Naseem Warraich, Turkish Ambassador to Pakistan Dr Mehmet Pacaci and others stands silent during Commemoration ceremony for the Martyred (Shuhadaas) on the July 15, 2016 thwarted coup attempted by Fethullah Gulen Terrorist Organization (FETO) and Democracy and National Unity Day, at the Embassy of Turkey, in the Federal Capital.

Aleem Khan praises Army's action against terrorists in Bannu

The President of the near Bannu, he expressed Istehkam-e-Pakistan Party and Federal Minister for Privatization, Board of In- alert to counter anti-state vestment, and Communications, Abdul Aleem Khan on Monday paid glowing tributes to soldiers who sac- Pakistan is their first duty. rificed their lives and fami- He praised the Pakistan Pakistan's children.

diers the true heroes of the thwarted the enemy's nation. In a tweet about the plans.

ISLAMABAD (APP): recent security operation gratitude, saying that soldiers are always ready and

Aleem Khan emphasized that the security of tion in Bannu, noting that He called these sol- their excellent performance

PM stands firm on tax laws: Adviser

ISLAMABAD (APP): he has to resign.' Adviser to the Prime Minister on Political Affairs, Rana Sanaullah, on Monday said that the Prime Minister has expressed his unwavering commitment to enforcing tax laws.

news channel, he said that the prime minister showed resolute commitment and issued strict instructions to enforcing tax laws during a recent meeting focused on the economy and taxa-

said that tax laws are designed to address the country," he said. country's economic challenges and must be implemented without exception," be no turning back, even if to weaken the country.

He clarified that the prime minister's statement was purely about economic and tax issues and not related to the current political scenario. He reiterated the Pakistan Muslim Speaking on a private League-Nawaz's (PML-N) readiness for dialogue, even in the face of adversity.

"When the entire party of the PMLN was jailed on false charges, we were in favor of negotiations even then. Today, while in government, we are "The prime minister still willing to negotiate for the broader interest of the

He accused the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaaf (PTI) of deliberately creating he said adding, "there will chaos and spreading hatred

Imran distances himself from May 9 violence

RAWALPINDI (INP): Pa- granted by Judge Khalid kistan Tehreek-e-Ínsaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan said he never urged anyone for violence during his political career of 28 years, saying independent inquiry should be held in May 9 in-

The former prime minister stated this during his video-link hearing at an Lahore's anti-terrorism court in 12 cases related to May 9 violence.

During the hearing,

Khan sought permission to say something and it was happen."

Arshad. He said, "I have never provoked anyone for violent protest in 28 years. An independent inquiry was not conducted into May 9 incidents"

The PTI founder added that he had also filed a petition with the Supreme Court, seeking a fair probe into the May 9 violence.

"I was attacked in Gujranwala and wanted to get the FIR registered against Major General Faisal Naseer but it didn't

charge of

Chief Engineer Muhammad Naeem Jan on Monday assumed the charge of Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Islamabad Electric Supply Company (IESCO) as stop gap arrangement for a period of three months or till appointment of regular incumbent whichever is earlier after completion of contract period of Muhammad Amjad

Naeem Jan took the charge in pursuance of the Board of Director (BoD) IESCO decision made in 231st meeting held on July 9, 2024, said a notification issued here.

SC dismisses bail plea of accused involved in 99 case

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Supreme Court of Pakistan on Monday dismissed a bail petition as withdrawn, of an accused involved in 99 cases.

A three-member bench headed by Justice Jamal Khan Mandokhail heard the bail petition of accused Sajid. Prosecutor Punjab government informed the bench that the accused was involved in 99 cases. Justice Jamal Khan Mandukhel asked that nominated in 99 cases? How is this possible? Are there really 99 cases against the accused? In so many cases, arrest and

then bail would take time. The defence counsel said that his client was disable and previously cases of theft were registered against him. The police officials told the court that the rickshaw on which the accused was caught with drugs was also a stolen rickshaw. The police said that the accused is identified in most cases due to his disability in one leg. A case was registered against the accused in Lahore's Ravi Road police station on March 12,

Naeem Jan assumes **IESCO CEO**

ISLAMABAD (APP)

Naeem Jan is a senior most officer in IESCO and has a vast experience in power sector.

President IIUI inaugurates computer labs funded by Saudi Arabia ISLAMABAD (APP): Dr. said the inauguration of

Hathal Hamoud Alotaibi, President, International Islamic University Islamabad (IIUI), Monday, inaugurated the newly established Saudi funded software engineering computer labs in the Faculty of Computing & Information Technology at male and female campuses of the University separately.

According to the IIUI, these Saudi Funded Labs have been equipped with 210 computers.

The Department of Software Engineering has been provided with 40 computers on each side. It includes Artificially Intelligent Software Lab at Female Campus and Aspire Software Engineering Lab at Male Campus. Similarly, Department of Computer Science received 40 computers for each lab and same gadgets were provided for NextGen Computer Lab at Female campus and Digital Frontiers Computer Lab at Male Campus.

On the occasion, President IIUI, Dr. Hathal,

these latest labs equipped with the latest technology is an important step to strengthen our efforts which will enhance academic uplift and support the university's mission to adopt modern educational trends. The President IIUI emphasized the importance of formulating a comprehensive strategy to meet the technological needs and cope with the upcoming challenges in the present era.

Talking about the strategic planning, he stated it is vital to address the university's challenges and ensure its continued growth. Dr. Hathal expressed optimism about the positive impact of these labs that will help students for their academic develop-ment. The IIUI President stressed upon the faculty to utilize these facilities. Dr. Hathal reiterated his resolve that IIUI would keep providing a milieu of peace and high quality contemporary education integrated with teachings of Islam and latest trends of technology.





ISLAMABAD: The Ambassador-designate of Zimbabwe, Titus Mehliswa

who say that we are afraid

of political opponents, we

have fought dictators, we

have always fought within

against the state, it is the

responsibility of the gov-

ernment to fulfill its duty.

Politics in Pakistan can only

be done by those who do

not have a military wing"

PTI is weakening Pakistan,

I'abad Police conducts flag march

to maintain peace and tranquility

adding that flag marches are

being conducted in various

areas to make security more

effective and added that

strict vigilance would be

maintained like previous

years to maintain law and

march started from the Pa-

kistan Sports Complex and

culminated at the same

point after passing through

various areas of the capital

Ali Raza emphasized that

DIG Islamabad Syed

He added that the flag

order in the city.

'Whoever stands

the constitution and law.

Asif Ali Zardari at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pa-

kistan Muslim League-N

leader Talal Chaudhary on

Monday said that Pakistan

Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) is

committed to anti-state

ideology, therefore the gov-

ernment has decided to ban

it by sending a reference to the Supreme Court.

Talking to the mediapersons on current

important issues, he said

that this decision has been

taken because of PTI's anti-

send a reference to the Su-

preme Court to ban PTI.

We know that there will be

a lot of criticism on this

decision. However, history

will bear witness that PML-

N preferred to suffer po-

litical loss but saved the

that this type of punishment is very difficult for

any party, but PTI forced

Independent Report

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad

Police and other law en-

forcement agencies con-

ducted a flag march in the

city with a purpose to

maintain peace and tran-

relations officer said

quility in the city, a public

He said that, follow-

ing the orders of the Inspec-

tor General of Police

Islamabad (IGP) Syed Ali

Nasir Rizvi. Islamabad Po-

lice has taken comprehen-

sive security arrangements during Muharram Ul Haram

Talal Chaudhry said

The government will

state policies.

state'

Talal Chaudhary says:

Govt to ban PTI

due to its anti-state

ideology

the government to take this difficult decision. He went on saying that all the information in the interest of state to be sent to the Supreme Court in that regard. He questioned that how can the accused of May 9 get bail, the ciphers walk freely and the state does nothing? The reference should go to the Supreme Court, it is hoped that justice will be done, he He said that those

we have to be strategic.'

the Islamabad Police are

taking all possible steps to

maintain peace in the city

adding that all forces are al-

ways alert to tackle any

rity has been enhanced at

all entry and exit points

while the Dolphin Squad is

patrolling in different areas

of the city, adding that all

senior police officers have

been directed to remain in

their relevant areas and

check the duty points ac-cording to the security

point of view. He said that

a crackdown against one-

wheelers, tinted glasses, pillion riding, vehicles with-

out number plates, and

He also appealed to the citi-

zens to cooperate with po-

lice during checking and in-

form police about any sus-

picious activity around them through Pucar-15,

adding that no stone would

be unturned to secure the

lives and property of the

IFA seizes

500 kg of

rotten meat

in Aabpara

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Islamabad Food Authority (IFA) on Monday seized 500 kilograms of retten most detrined for

rotten meat destined for

the Aabpara meat shop to

ensure food safety during

Muharram.
Talking to APP,

Deputy Director Operations of IFA Dr Tahira

Saddique said that the operation, led by the

food safety teams (FSTs), resulted in the

destruction of the tainted meat, the impo-

sition of a heavy fine, and the filing of a case

against those involved.

foul-smelling meat was

discovered concealed in

tor of the Islamabad

Food Authority noted

the presence of insects

on the meat and the lack

of essential records and

documents, highlight-

ing the seriousness of

Siddique, part of the

food safety team, em-

phasized that consum-

ing such contaminated

meat poses severe health risks. The opera-

tion not only targeted

the supplier but also

eliminate the adul-

teration mafia

the offense.

Dr.

the supplier's vehicle.

She said that the

The Deputy Direc-

motorcycles is underway

He said that the secu-

untoward incident.

British lawmaker pledges to raise plight in British

Lauding Tehreek-e-Kashmir UK President

ISLAMABAD (APP): A newly elected UK lawmaker pledged that he will raise voice for right to selfdetermination to people of Jammu and Kashmir in and outside the British Parliament. According to Kashmir Media Service, MP Ayoub Khan, who won as an independent lawmaker, said his support for Kashmir will not any red line since he is not representing any particular party in the British parliament.

"Our fight Kashmiris in occupied Kashmir has to capture the minds of the fair-minded public. That is important, Khan told an event in Birmingham which marked Kashmir Martyrs Day.

tion on the occasion of World Youth Skills Day. The minister was committed to implementing policies and programs that **Parliament** support skills development and empower women at all levels of the tech industry. "It is our vision to create an inclusive and equi-

Fahim Kayani for being "instrumental" in mobilizing support among the British lawmakers, Khan said:

Islamabad police announces comprehensive traffic plan for 9 Muharram procession

KARACHI: Governor Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa

Faisal Karim Kundi being briefed by President

National Bank of Pakistän (NBP) Řehmat Ali

Hasnie on NBP affairs at NBP Headquarters.

Independent Report SLAMABAD: In preparation for the 9 Muharram procession, Islamabad Poice, under the orders of IG Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi, has finalized a detailed security and traffic management

The arrangements have been crafted under the supervision of DIG Islamabad Syed Ali Raza and Chief Traffic Officer Muhammad Sarfraz Virk.

The significant 9 cession will commence from Mian Imambargah in G/6-2, follow its designated route, and return to its start-

ing point. To ensure the smooth flow of the procession, the traffic arrangements have been made.

The road from Fazal Haq Road, Polyclinic to Kulsoom Plaza, will be closed to general traffic.

Citizens are advised to use Jinnah Avenue from Kulsoom Plaza to China Chowk instead.

7th Avenue will be offimits for general traffic on both sides from Daman Koh Chowk to Chand Tara

Chowk Blue Area Out Loop and from 7th Avenue Chowk Suhrawardy.

Alternative routes include Urban Alternate Road, Jinnah Avenue, Suhrawardy Road, and Margalla Road.

Sadar Road will be closed between Iqbal Hall and Melody Chowk on

Citizens can use Abpara Suhrawardy Road as an alternative.

Municipal Road from Muharram Al Haram Pro- Lal Masjid to Shahada Chowk and GPO Chowk

Shaheed Millat Road can be used as an alternative route. Luqman Hakeem

Road from Polyclinic to Iqbal Hall will be closed. Jinnah Avenue will serve as an alternative route. To assist citizens,

traffic police will be deployed at key points to guide and provide alternative routes. Citizens are urged to

use alternate routes during the procession and cooperate with traffic police to ensure a smooth flow of



ISLAMABAD: Security personals placed heavy shipping containers between the roads at sector G-6 for blocked road due to 9th Muharram Ul Haram procession in the Federal Capital.

Education ministry to launch ambitious emerging technology education project

ISLAMABAD (APP): In will encounter in their fu-

a bid to transform Pakistan ture endeavours. into a global IT hub, the launch a landmark project aimed at equipping school skills in emerging technolo-

According to the statement of Education nology Centres will be di-Ministry, the project, vided into two facilities which will establish "Emerging Technology Centres" in 350 schools across Islamabad, AJK, and for co-working and will GB, is part of the also function as co-workgovernment's strategic ing spaces during off planning to strengthen its initiative to make Pakistan a global IT destination.

The centres will serve as conduits for introducing children to emerging technologies such as virtual reality, artificial intelligence, and data analytics, preparing them for the increasingly digital landscape they schools.

The project aims to

Ministry of Federal Educa- develop skills and capacity tion on the directions of the in the IT sector, prepare prime minister, is set to students for a digital future, enhance Pakistan's export and capability in the IT secchildren with cutting-edge tor, and make Pakistan a global IT destination, it added. The Emerging Tech-

Class A and Class B. Class A facilities will provide state-of-the-art spaces hours to address the challenges faced by freelancers and professionals locally.

However, Class B facilities will provide STEM, entrepreneurship, and computer science education to 40,000 students in 320 middle, and high



ISLAMABAD: Senator Naseema Ehsan, Chairperson Senate Standing Committee on delegated legislation presiding over a meeting of the committee at Parliament House.