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# PM wants expansion of bilateral trade between Pakistan, Tajikistan through enhanced connectivity

PM, President Emomali vow to further strengthen Pakistan-Tajikistan ties

Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday stressed upon expansion of bilateral trade between Pakistan and Tajikistan as the expansion of bilateral trade. current volume did not reflect the current level of brotherly relationship between the two countries. Addressing a presser along with President of Tajikistan Emomali Rahmon, the prime minister said that today, they had signed a number of MoUs which would be very helpful in furthering their bilateral ties.

especially mentioned the agreement over strategic partnership. "These agreements will go a long way in furthering our brotherly ties and of course, expanding our scope of cooperation in the coming days," he added.
Prime Minister

Shehbaz Sharif also assured Tajik president that he

Kozintsev, held at CM House in Karachi.

Syed Murad Ali Shah on

Tuesday lauded the role

of Sports Journalists for

disseminating informa-

tion about the sports ac-

tivities among the people,

CM lauds role of Sports

Journos on 'World

Sports Journalist Day'

KARACHI (APP): The sports journalists.
Sindh Chief Minister The Chief Minister

DUSHANBE (APP): Prime him to further cement the brotherly ties not only in fields of agriculture, education, health and promotion of investment but also in

He underlined that the both countries required to work closely and fix targets as how to increase their bilateral trade and investment, citing transportation of goods from port of Karachi to Tajikistan via Afghanistan and then from Dushanbe to Karachi port via Afghanistan through a rail-road con-The prime minister minister termed this existing for both countries'.

The prime minister apprised that he had very fruitful and productive oneon-one meeting with the menace for years and paid holding delegation level man lives and of course, meetings in which they dis-suffered from colossal ecocussed to explore trade and nomic losses to the tune of investment opportunities.

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister, Syed Murad Ali Shah in meeting with the delegation from Russian SBER Bank, led by its international head, Timur

said that the news of sports

journalists created fond of

Sports journalists provided

He said that the

among the youth.

He said Pakistan would be keen to be a part of China, Tajikistan and Afghanistan trade corridor project, adding 'it would be another opportunity to broaden the multilateral

trade' in the region. He also expressed the confidence that the CASA 1000, would be completed soon, bringing prosperity in this region.

Minister

Prime

Shehbaz Sharif also referred to another MoU pertaining to relaxation of visas renectivity project. The prime quirements and said that it would be very helpful for opportunity as 'an area of both countries in further huge economic importance achieving their goals. The prime minister said the two brotherly countries had been the victims of terrorism; Pakistan faced this Tajik president, besides a huge price in terms of hubillions of dollars



Khurram as a focal person to discuss investment opportunities and collaborate with Sberbank with the educational, and health institutions of the provincial government.

tive Mr Nevzorrov Denis, Russian Consul General in Karachi Mr Fedorov Andrey, and others.

Memon, Secretary School Education Zahid Abbasi, Secretary to CM Raheem Shaikh, Secretary Local Govt Khalid Hyder Shah, Secretary Investment Raja Khurram, and Secretary Transport Asad Zamin also

Sberbank International Head

Education technology velop innovative solutions Sindh. Murad Shah said that platforms for online learnwith the Reform Support Unit (RSU). The CM also sug-

gested the bank's partner-ships with educational institutions. Sberbank could partner with private Sindh to offer student loans or other financial products tailored to the education sector for students' study in Russia

Murad Ali Shah also discussed Sberbank's ineducational institutions in schools or renovating existareas under Corporate So

vestment in the health sector known as Doctor's educational management making decisions based on

# Law and justice have to be relied upon for sake of justice: CJP ISLAMABAD (Online): remarked parliamentary Chief Justice of Pakistan system is based on politi-

(CJP) Qazi Faez Isa has remarked constitution and law have to be relied upon for the sake of justice.

'We have to rely on law and constitution for sake of justice. Supreme Court (SC) decisions are based on justice. In every decision the constitution was followed. Some judges will be wise. I am not so much wise. Let Pakistan tread on the path of constitution once, CJP gave these remarks during the hearing of case related to reserved seats of Sunni Ittehad Council (SIC) Tuesday.

Justice Mansoor Ali

Shah remarked we cannot close the eyes. If we cannot see the entire picture then what we have to do with the powers of full jus-tice. We all know that so many independent candidates succeeded in polls by showing their affiliation with PTI.

Justice Munib Akhtar tion of EC correct.

system is based on political parties. The question is this the independent candidates in such large number came from where. Did the people elect them as independent on their own. Did the Election Commission (EC) not declare these people independent. If it has been done so then should the court not correct this mistake. Should that legal option be not adopted which corrects this mistake. On one side it is being said EC is constitutional institution which can do every thing. EC has official correspondence with assembly secretariat.

EC is accepting members of SIC. How can EC change its stance on the matter of reserved seats.

Justice Minallah remarked Attorney General it is not simple appeal. It is case of rights of people. You want we declare the misinterpreta-



**ISLAMABAD:** Former Federal Minister and senior leader of the Awami National Party, Mr Ghulam Ahmed Bilour, called on President Asif Ali Zardari, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

### President Zardari, Bilour discuss national issues

ISLAMABAD (APP): Former Federal Minister Ghulam net with President Asif Ali Zardari on Ti day to discuss the country's overall political, security, and law and order situation.

Speaking to senior leader of the Awami National Party (ANP) Ghulam Ahmed Bilour, the president emphasized the importance of collaboration among all political parties to address national issues and achieve political and economic stability. President Zardari said that consultation and consensus among all political parties on major national issues were indispensable. Former Railways Minister Bilour congratulated President Zardari on assuming the office of the President of Pakistan for the second time.

### IG Sindh holds a video link meeting at **DIG** office

MIRPURKHAS (APP): A Umarkot Asif Raza Baloch, video link meeting regarding holy month of Muharram was held on

Tuesday under the chair-manship of IG Sindh, Ghulam Nabi Memon.

According to press release issued here, DIG Mirpurkhas, Javed Sonharo Jaskani, SSP Mirpurkhas

Captain (retd) Muĥammad

Asad Ali Chaudhry, SP

SSP Tharparkar Shabbir Ahmed Sithar and a fivemember delegation comprising religious scholars, and organizers of processions and congregations from the division partici-

pated in the meeting. The IG directed to arrange a contingency plan to maintain law and order during the holy month.



HYDERABAD: Sindh Minister for Prisons, Ali Hassan Zardari, presented shields to the position holders during the passing out parade ceremony of the 18th basic training course for prison constables and lady prison constables at the Sindh **Prisons Staff Training Institute.** 

### Imran Khan alleges intelligence agency's interference in jail matters

**Monitoring Desk** ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founding chairman Ìmran Khan has criticised the alleged interference of the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) in civilian matters. In an informal media talk inside Adiala Jail today, the incarcerated former prime minister said, "We have filed a petition in court questioning the presence of ISI Majors and Colonels in Adiala Jail."

"The ISI has no authority in civil matters or judiciary interference. The

prison superintendent is following ISI orders, leading to the transfer of two officers to ensure no leniency is shown to me."

Talking about the results of the February general elections, the PTI founder expressed confusion stating, Five months have passed since the elections, and I still do not know who won or lost." He also spoke about the recent resolution by the US Congress on alleged election irregularities in Pakistan highlighting that it had passed with 85% support.

### Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif addresses the media in a press conference in Qasr-e-Millat, Dushanbe. CM, Russian Sberbank discuss investment in education, health, steel mill restoration

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah in his meeting with a delegation of Russian Sberbank led by its international head Timur Kozintsev discussed investment opportunities in education, health and tech-

Secretary Investment Raja

The meeting was held at CM House and was at-tended by Sberbank Deputy Trade Representa-

Senior Minister for Information Sharjeel

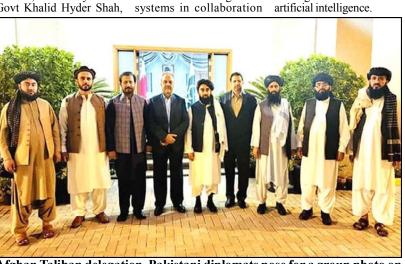
attended the meeting.

Timur Kozintsev told the CM that their bank invested in the business, healthcare, education, science, public administration, agriculture, planet, legacy and future. He added that they were working in various countries including China, Southeast Asia countries, Iran and various other coun-

The chief minister said that there were investment opportunities in school education for Sberbank. He added that the Banks could invest in (EdTech) startups that defor education delivery in this could involve financing ing, digital textbooks, or schools or universities in

vestment in Infrastructure development in Sindh. The Bank could extend grants in projects that improve the infrastructure of Sindh, such as building new ing ones in flood-affected

cial Responsibility (CSR) The CM and Timur o Sberbank also discussed insmart assistant under which support is extended for



Afghan Taliban delegation, Pakistani diplomats pose for a group photo on sidelines of Doha-III conference.

Pakistan, Afghan Taliban

hold face-to-face talks

on TTP

Zabihullah Mujahid terms interaction

'good', hopes relations between two

Durrani

ISLAMABAD (Agencies):

Pakistan and the Afghan Taliban held crucial talks,

first in several months, in

the Qatari capital as part of

the latest push to iron out

the residence of Pakistan's

Ambassador to Qatar, be-

tween Pakistan's special

envoy on Afghanistan Am-

bassador Asif Durrani and

Chief Taliban spokesper-

were leading their countries'

respective delegations at the

third meeting of the Doha

Pakistan's Ambassador to

process on Afghanistan.

Durrani and Mujahid

On the sidelines,

son Zabiullah Mujahid.

The talks were held at

Pakistan (TTP).

### opportunities of entertainon the occasion World Sports Journalist Day being observed today, ment to the youth through their reporting. He further said that He said that the awareness of sports activities were best described by He said that the creating awareness of sports for healthy activities was a commendable act. Constitution.



DUSHANBE: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif meets Prime Minister of Tajikistan H.E. Qahir Rasulzada at the airport in Tajikistan.

### **Excise dept to reinforce** checking for preventing drug trafficking

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Excise department on Tues-of drug peddlers. day, decided to reinforce checking mechanism on directed to start construchighways and inter-provincial borders and enhance manpower in narcotics control wing to prevent drug trafficking and make drug control operations more effective and efficient.

The decisions were taken in a high-level meeting held in Karachi with Sindh Senior Minister for Information, Transport, Excise, Taxation and Narcotics Control Sharjeel Inam Memon in chair and Secretary Excise, Taxation and Narcotics Control Saleem Rajput, DG Narcotics Control Usman Ghani Siddiqui and other officers in attendance, said a statement issued here.

It was decided in the meeting that the checkpoints of the Excise Department on the highways will be made fully activate and new checkpoints will be constructed on the inter- transportation and sell of provincial border routes to drugs

Sharjeel Inam Memon tion and repair works of checkpoints at the earliest and said that Excise officials will be posted at the checkpoints for ensuring effective checking round the

He said that it was also decided to transfer more than 100 constables from the motor vehicle wing to the narcotics control wing to strengthen the human resource of Narcotics Control Wing.

Drug testing in educational institutions will start soon and preparations in the regard were in final stages, the minister said adding that drugs were seriously affecting the society and actions should be taken on daily basis to eliminate the menace of drugs from the country. He also instructed to start an effective system of snap checking to prevent

### **summons** Senate to meet on July 4

**President** 

ISLAMABAD (APP) President Asif Ali Zardari on Tuesday summoned the Senate to meet on on July 4. The Senate will meet at the Parliament House on Thursday at 1700 hours, according to a President House press release. The president summoned the

extracurricular activities session in exercise of the powers conferred on him under Article 54 (1) of the

### **Imran moves** court against not arranging his talks with his sons

ISLAMABAD (Online): PTI founder Imran Khan has filed petition in the court on not arranging his

talk with his sons. The court issued notice to Adiala jail administration on Imran Khan plea. The court sought reply from jail administration

till July 03. Judge Malik Ejaz Asif of AntI Terrorism Court (ATC) Rawalpindi heard

The petition said jail administration has made no arrangement for talking to his children by Imran Khan. Making contact with my children is my legal and constitutional right. Jail superintendent has provided no facility. It was said in the petition I want to talk to my sons Qasim Khan and Suleman Khan. Whats app facility is also not being provided to talk to my sons.

### **DSP** dismissed by IG Sindh

MIRPURKHAS (APP): IG Sindh has dismissed DSP ( Legal) Ahmed Karim Jilani for involvement in transporting gutka on the departmental inquiry report of DIG, Tanveer Alam

According to a letter received by SSP Mirpurkhas, Ahmed Karim Jilani was arrested by customs officials in Jamshoro district on March 10, with gutka in his car. In the inquiry report,

strict legal action has also

been recommended against

the arrested private driver

Barkat Qureshi

neighbours would improve Qatar invited Zabiullah Mujahid over a dinner where they held formal talks with Ambassador Asif

Mujahid termed his interaction with Pakistan as "good" and expressed the their differences on the banned Tehreek-e-Taliban hope that relations between the two neighbours would improve. Durrani, meanwhile, said he discussed the Doha meeting and regional issues with the Taliban delegation. The meeting took place against the backdrop of simmering tensions between Pakistan and the Afghan Taliban government. Tensions deepened further after Pakistan indicated it might resort to cross border strikes to target the terrorist hideouts of TTP.



UZBEKISTAN: Focal Person to PMYP for Green Youth Movement & International Linkages, Syeda Amna Batool receiving a souvenir from Minister of the Youth Affairs of Uzbekistan, Alisher Sa'dullayev at OIC Youth Forum.

### Six spokespersons for Sindh Govt appointed

KARACHI (APP): Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has appointed six spokespersons for Sindh Government with immedi-

According to notification issued by Chief Secretary on Tuesday, Barrister Aslam Islam Shaikh, Sarmad Palijo, Abdul Wahid Halepoto, Makhdoom Fakhar Zaman,

Muhammad Ali Rashid and Sadia Javed has been appointed as spokespersons for Sindh Government.

### Karachi becomes 11<sup>th</sup> most polluted city in the world

KAŘACHI (INP): Karachi becomes 11th most polluted city in the world Unaware of air pollution, the suffo-cating child suffers from malnutrition. The Meteorological department said in Karachi winds are blowing from the southwest direction at a speed of 22 km per hour and current temperature is 32 degrees Cel-

"The intensity of heat is being felt at 38 degrees," the Meteorological department said, adding that, today the maximum temperature is likely to reach 37 degrees. The minimum temperature was recorded at 31.5 degrees Celsius. The percentage of humidity in the air is 70 percent.

Among the most polluted cities in the world Karachi is in the eleventh place Karachi has become the fifth most polluted city in Pakistan

# Daily Aoice of Masse. Independent

### 'Cruel jest'

Another year and another missed opportunity to set things right. But what is it for those who, by all appearances, consider themselves unaccountable to the public and unfussed by their miseries?

Precisely three weeks ago, Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb had solemnly declared that there were "no sacred cows" in his eyes and that "everyone would have to contribute to the economy". The pronouncement had come a day before the federal budget for the new fiscal year was unveiled, and it had momentarily ignited some hope that Pakistan, at long last, was serious about setting itself on a path of equitable taxation and sustainable spending under a 'technocrat' finance minister. Between then and this weekend, however, the nation has realised that the finance minister's 'assurances' had been little more than a cruel jest. Speaking at a news conference on Sunday, Mr Aurangzeb could only express his condolences to the salaried class on the higher taxes he had imposed on

It is now widely accepted that the coalition government's 'crisis budget' will achieve little more than strangulating those already paying their dues while allowing sacred cows to fatten themselves even further. Actual economic course correction has once again been put off for another time.

The term 'deepening the tax net' is being used widely in a bid to rationalise what was clearly another half-hearted attempt at fixing the state's perennial revenue woes. It is little more than a euphemism, a fig leaf for our decision-makers' continuing unwillingness or inability to meaningfully expand

To add insult to injury, the government has not felt compelled to cut its own expenditures in any meaningful way: those paying will just be forced to pay even more to fund its profligacy. Meanwhile, the trader class, whose activities remain largely undocumented, have been let off once again, presumably because of political expediencies.

Likewise, while a big show has been made of increased taxes on real estate, these will apply mainly to ordinary citizens and not to those who belong to the armed forces or the federal or provincial bureaucracies. Our lawmakers have also managed to have their travel allowances increased from Rs10 per kilometre to Rs25, increased the number of travel vouchers they receive annually from 25 to 30, and also introduced a measure which would see unused air tickets from one year carry over to the next instead of being cancelled.

The audacity of such measures should be illustrative enough to show how the ruling classes continue to privilege themselves while throwing the rest of the nation under the bus. That this is happening while the authorities clamour for an umpteenth IMF bailout explains why this country remains unable to break its shackles and find a more prosperous future for its teeming millions.

# **Economic butchery**

Wednesday July 03, 2024

tent struggle to increase economy, undermining diciary remain untaxed, the tax-to-GDP ratio, a efforts to formalise the perpetuating a system of crucial measure of its fiscal health.

Despite numerous efforts, many potential taxpayers remain outside the formal tax net. Recent policies have unfairly targeted existing taxpayers, driving talent and capital away and pushing the nation towards disaster. The recent passage of the this flawed strategy, threatening long-term economic stability.

For the past decade, Pakistan ĥas relied heavily on taxing non-filers and compliant taxpayers to boost its revenues. Originally, the aim of collecting taxes from non-filers was twofold: generate immediate revenue and use the gathered data to bring the non-filers into the tax net. Sadly, the state failed to achieve the latter. Instead of leveraging this data, it has merely increased taxes for non-filers, using it as a short-term revenue tool rather than a longterm strategy for fiscal health.

The Finance Act exacerbates this issue, further increasing the rate of tax on non-filers and imposing tax rates as high as about 60 per cent on existing filers' income.

flawed. Unlike Scandinavian countries, where high tax rates are balanced by extensive social services and a robust public infrastructure, taxpayers here see little or no return on their contributions. The disparity creates a significant trust deficit, with taxpayers feeling alienated. High taxes on compliant taxpayers have stifled economic activity, reduced investment, and encouraged tax evasion.

When individuals and businesses perceive

AmmarAther Saeed the tax system as punitive gains of selected elites and unbalanced, they are Pakistan is teetering on more likely to engage in the edge of economic tax evasion and operate taxation. Allowances of collapse due to its persis- within the informal economy and broaden the tax base.

This approach of persistently targeting compliant taxpayers has already driven away skilled professionals and entrepreneurs. With the ever-increasing tax burden becoming unbearable, talented individuals have started seeking Finance Act exemplifies favourable environments abroad, reducing the domestic talent pool and stifling potential economic growth and innovation. This exodus of human and financial capital se-

> nomic prospects. The state's strategy extends to imposing indirect taxes on essential goods such as milk, baby products, and petrol. This decision is nothing short of economic

> Pakistan's long-term eco-

hampers

verely

butchery. By taxing these basic necessities, the state is placing an unbearableburden on the shoulders of ordinary citizens, particularly those from lower-income households. The cost of living will skyrocket, pushing millions deeper into poverty and triggering widespread discontent.

Imagine a family struggling to buy milk for their children because it This approach is has been taxed to the point of unaffordability. Picture parents grappling with the soaring costs of baby products while trying to provide the best care for their newborns. Envision the devastating impact of rising petrol prices on transportation costs, leading to increased prices for all goods and services. This is not a mere policy error; it is a catastrophe in the making, an unparalleled disaster that threatens to unravel the

Furthermore, the Dawn

from properties have been preserved from the armed forces and juperpetuating a system of inequality. No concrete measures have been to bring taken agric-ultural inc-ome within the federal tax fold nor have there been clear directives to provincial gover-nments to collect more taxes on agri-culture eli--minate tax leakages. This sele--c--tive taxation preserves the status quo for the elite, while

To address these issues, it is essential that Pakistan learns from the successful strategies of other countries. Pakistan should focus on bringing informal sectors into the formal economy through targeted policies and robust enforce-

burdening the average

Leveraging technology to streamline tax compliances and employing data analytics of data collected from nonfilers to track economic activities and ensure tax compliance, the tax-to-GDP ratio in Pakistan can grow organically. Moving forward, the

focus needs to shift from overburdening existing taxpayers to broadening the tax base. The state should immediately implement comprehensive reforms to make the tax system more inclusive and transparent to bring the informal economy into the tax net through incentives and effectively using non-filer data to identify with the help of technology and data analytics to bring them into the tax net. Without immediate and decisive reforms, Pakistan will remain on a collision course with catastrophe; it faces a doomsday scenario where our inaction today becomes the tragedy of tomorrow. -- Courtesy

# **Engaging parents**

### Fahad Zafar

Pakistan's education books, teaching materisystem faces significant challenges on two fronts. Firstly, there is a staggering number of out-ofschool children, esti- tendance, children are mated at 26.2 million. This means that a sizeable portion of the children is not accessing any formal education. Economic factors, cultural barriers, and inadequate infrastructure are the primary reasons. For instance, in

work or domestic responsibilities over schooling, especially for girls. Additionally, many remote areas lack adequate school facilities, making access to education physically challenging. These children are denied the opportunity to develop essential skills and knowledge, that perpetuates cycles of poverty and limits their prospects. This lack of education not only affects their personal growth and future opportunities but also hinders national development

Secondly, the quality of education for the 43m children in school in Pakistan is another major concern, as most experience poor learning outcomes due to factors like overcrowded classrooms, lack of qualified teachers, outdated teaching methods, poor resources, etc.

governance, insufficient Overcrowded classrooms make it difficult for tion their children reteachers to give individual attention to stu- between parental perdents, hindering effec- ception and educational tive learning. Many teachers lack proper training and qualifications, which impacts ment plays a vital role in their ability to deliver a child's learning jourquality education. Traditional teaching methods, often focused on rote learning, do not foster children's education, critical thinking or problem-solving skills. Addi- to perform better acationally, schools fre- demically, have higher tions. -- Courtesy Dawn

sources such as textals, and adequate facilities, further compromising the learning environment. Despite school atnot acquiring the necessary skills and knowledge to thrive in an increasingly competitive Education Evidence Adglobal economy.

23pc of students at age 10 can read and undertext. This indicates a significant gap in foundasome areas, cultural norms may prioritise tional literacy, which is and academic success.

Despite the significant educational chalparents overwhelmingly express satisfaction with the schooling system. Data from the Pakistan Social and Living Standards Measurement surveys of 2014-15 and 2019-20 reveal that over 94pc of parents reported satisfaction with schooling in the country.

Mathematics and Science Study assessment, 76pc of parents expressed satisfaction, and in the more recent National Achievement Test in 2023, 75pc of parents indicated complete satisfaction with schooling. This apparent paradox faction and the reality of connect between parents' perceptions and the actual quality of educaceive. Bridging this gap reality is crucial for improving learning outcomes. Parental engageney. Research shows that when parents are actively involved in their children are more likely

quently lack basic re- attendance rates, and demonstrate improved behaviour. Active engagement includes activities like helping with homework, attending parent-teacher meetings, and encouraging a positive attitude towards

The 2022 Global visory Panel report rec-Shockingly, only ommended several lowcost parental involvement approaches that instand age-appropriate cluded direct communication from schools to parents, engaging children in educational accrucial for future learning tivities, reading books to a child (if the parent is literate), and sharing simple exercises with lenges facing Pakistan, parents via text or phone

Direct communication from schools, such as regular updates and progress reports, helps keep parents informed and engaged in their children's education. Encouraging parents to read to their children and engage in educational Similarly, in the 2019 activities at home pro-Trends in International motes early literacy and cognitive development. Sharing simple exercises and learning activities via text or phone can provide parents with practical tools to support their children's learning at home. Supporting the role of parents should be a compobetween parental satis- nent of public policy in the medium term, as it poor educational out- can have a lasting impact comes suggests a dis- on children's educational outcomes.

At the same time, it is critical to generate a broader understanding of Pakistan's foundational learning challenges. While some challenges throughout the country, Pakistan's education landscape is heterogeneous, and delivery is devolved to the provinces. Each province has its unique set of challenges and priorities, which must be addressed through tailored solu-

# Commerce News

# Pakistan, Azerbaijan Commit to enhance bilateral trade, economic cooperation

ISLAMABAD (APP): Commerce Ahsan Ali Preferential Pakistan, Azerbaijan on Tuesday agreed for officials. bilateral enhancing economic and trade Khan highlighted the Sharifov relations to increase the Pakistani government's Azerbaijan's readiness for trade and investment dedication to forging robust closer cooperation with cooperation between two

countries. Both sides determined on the necessity of a longterm and practical mechanism to enhance monitor bilateral trade and cooperation to suggest ways forward to achieve the desired aim.

Deputy Foreign Minister of Azerbaijan, Mr. Samir Sharifov, called on Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan at his office, said a press release issued here.

Ambassador of Azerbaijan,

**Independent Report** 

ISLAMABAD: Fatima

Fertilizer, a leading name in

Pakistan's agriculture sector,

and JazzCash, Pakistan's

largest digital wallet, have

financial inclusion and

economic empowerment for

predominantly unbanked,

enabling them to actively

participate in the formal

Mangi, and other senior

Minister Jam Kamal economic relations with other nations

He emphasized that. over the past three months, the government has made significant strides in enhancing diplomatic and

great importance to its relationship Azerbaijan. We must continue to advance our cooperation in various sectors including tourism, transport, energy security, The high-profile and defense, though this meeting was attended by Mr. Khazar Farhadov, efforts," said Minister Jam. He also urged the need

The partnership

between Fatima Fertilizer

and JazzCash will facilitate

secure, fast, and reliable

transactions, making

financial processes more

Agreement and Bilateral Transit Trade Agreement.
Deputy Minister Deputy

conveved Pakistan across all fields of mutual interest. He apprised that the

President of Azerbaijan plans to visit Pakistan soon, during which several MoUs are expected to be economic ties, achieving notable developments. signed. Minister Jam also proposed to hold B2B "Pakistan attaches meetings which may either in Pakistan or in with Azerbhaijan.

On the occasion, Azerbaijan minister Deputy Minister, Sharifov highlighted the ease of travel between the two countries, noting that Azerbaijan received 55.000 Pakistani visitors last year due to its Federal Secretary for for an early conclusion of favourable visa policy.

TMAs directed

to reduce

expenditure

on fuel

PESHAWAR (APP): Provincial Minister for

Local Government (LG),

Arshad Ayub Khan on

Tuesday directed Town

M u n i c i p a l Administrations (TMAs)

to reduce their fuel

expenses and said that

timely measures were

needed to avoid financial

During his visit to

ocal Council Board

Hayatabad, he inspected

various sections of the

Chairing a meeting of Mardan and Peshawar

Municipal Officers, he

directed to reduce fuel

expenses and said that the

expense of smaller

m u n i c i p a l

administrations was one

reduce the patrol bill and

said that "we cannot

avoid financial crunch if

corrective measure were

He directed to

million rupees.

not taken

constraints.

Division

# 2024全球数字经济大会

Minister of State for IT and Telecommunication Ms. Shaza Fatima Khawaja in a group photo following visiting booths of different tech companies on the occasion of Global Digital Economy Conference 2024 in Beijing.

# Pakistan, Belarus agree to enhance cooperation in diverse fields

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan and Belarus on Tuesday while expressing satisfaction at the trajectory of bilateral relations agreed to enhance cooperation in all issues of mutual interest.

The sixth round of Bilateral Political Consultations between Pakistan and Belarus was held here. Additional Foreign Secretary Pakistani side while the Belarusian side was headed by the First Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Lukashevich, Foreign Office Spokesperson said in a press release.

The two sides reviewed the entire range of bilateral relations covering political relations, highlevel engagement and dialogue, trade and investment, military and (Europe), Ambassador security cooperation, Shafqat Ali Khan led the education, and people-to-

people contacts. The two sides also agreed to continue cooperation at multilateral including at the United Nations, and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). Ambassador Sergei Lukashevich also called on Foreign Secretary Muhammad Syrus Sajjad Qazi.Bilateral areas of cooperation and important regional and global developments

# **OGDCL** collaborates with NCSW for women empowerment

ISLAMABAD (APP): Oil and Gas Development the Company Limited (OGDCL) has partnered with the National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW) to empower women and foster their growth within the company.

Ahmed Hayat Lak, MD/CEO of OGDCL, and Nilofar Bakhtiar, Chairperson of NCSW, on Tuesday, signed a Letter of Intent (LoI) to formalize this collaboration. The signing ceremony was held here at the OGDCL Head Office. This strategic partnership underscores

OGDCL's commitment to

recognizing and honouring invaluable contributions of women within its operations. Earlier this year, OGDCL unveiled its Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Policy to foster a more inclusive workplace culture. The collaboration between OGDCL and NCSW is poised to set a new standard for gender inclusivity and empowerment in

Pakistan's corporate landscape. OGDCL is committed to promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion, ensuring a workplace where every

### 7<sup>th</sup> Final Year **Engineering Design Projects** Expo begins

PESHAWAR (APP) Special Assistant to KP CM on Industries, Commerce and Technical Education, Abdul Karim Tordher on Tuesday inaugurated the 7th Final Year Engineering Design Projects Expo 2024 of Engineering Universities

The exhibition has been organized in collaboration with Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) here at Hayatabad.

Models of various engineering projects prepared by the students of engineering universities Khyber across Pakhtunkhwa have been showcased in the event.

# meets Aleem Khan ISLAMABAD (APP): for the promotion of

Russian Ambassadors

Communications, Board of Investment and Privatization Abdul Aleem activities. Khan Tuesday met with

Russian Ambassador Albert P. Khorev and discussed matters of mutual interest and bilateral cooperation in multiple fields.

In this meeting, detailed discussions were held on road connectivity between Russia and Pakistan which could greatly increase trade and cargo activities between both countries, said a press

connect Russia through

bilateral trade which would also help other countries to boost their commerce

Abdul Aleem Khan said that Pakistan attached importance to trade relations with Russia due to its great significance in the region. The Central Asian countries and South Asia were also equally important for trade activities for which Pakistan was ready to invite investment from these countries, he added.

He also informed about his recent visit to Central Asia. In the Speaking on the meeting, they also occasion, the minister said discussed in detail the that Pakistan was keen to promotion of bilateral trade and creating an effective Central Asian countries mechanism for investment and back to Karachi Port matters on both sides.



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of the Russian Federation to Pakistan, Albert P. Khorev called on Federal Minister for Communications, Board of Investment and Privatization Abdul Aleem Khan.

### **Property tax problem** would be taken up at relevant forum: MD

Industries Development Board (SIDB) Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Habibullah Arif has said that the problem of the property tax industrialists would be

Managing Director (MD)

taken up at the concerned forum. He was talking to a delegation of industrialists which called on him in his office on Tuesday. President,

Industries Peshawar Waheed Arif was leading the delegation, Deputy Managing Director (DMD) SIDB, Nauman Fayyaz was also present on the occasion.

PESHAWAR (APP): congratulated him on his appointment as Managing Director SIDB and expressed good wishes for them. Speaking on the

occasion, the Managing Director SIDB said that his doors are opened for the industrialists as they are doing commendable job of providing employment to hundreds of the people to earn livelihood for their families. He said that first commercial plaza has been Estate, constructed for the industrialists and invited them to come and display their products in it. He said that beside closure of all illegal shops, cleanliness system at the estate would delegation also be improved.

### payment ecosystem. This digital payments Furthermore, by leveraging collaboration aims to drive

Fatima Fertilizer and JazzCash sign

MOU to pioneer digitalization of

**Agri-Sector Payment Ecosystem** 

signed a Memorandum of efficient for farmers. It will

Understanding (MOU) to also enable our Sarsabz

revolutionize the agri-sector Pakistan Farmer App for

Fatima

Fertilizer's

extensive dealer network

this initiative will provide

farmers with a seamless

and accessible platform to

manage their finances.

receive payments.

# CM GB chairs meeting on security arrangements for Muharram

GILGIT (APP): Chief brotherhood, Minister of Gilgit Baltistan Haji Gulbar Khan chaired a high level meeting arrangements during Muharram Ul Haram. The discussed measures to ensure peace and security during the month of Muharram.

The Chief Minister emphasized the importance of maintaining law and

preventing hate speech and

ensure implementation of the law, hold daily meetings with district commissioners and police officials, enhance security arrangements in social media and take Baltistan. action against hate speech, install CCTV cameras and promoting use drones for surveillance,

and provide necessary facilities for processions and majaalis, establish a special He directed officials committee to ensure peace strict and security.

Wednesday July 03, 2024

The meeting was attended by high-ranking officials, including the Home Secretary, Secretary of Health, and Inspector sensitive areas, monitor General of Police Gilgitcommissioners and other officials joined the meeting via video link.

### 19 children injured, three critically in Matta school collapse

PESHAWAR (APP): At least 19 school children were injured, three of them critically, when roof of a private school caved in Matta tehsil of Swat district on Tuesday.

According to Rescue 1122 the incident occurred in Tangar area of Matta where the roof of a dilapidated private school caved in, injuring 19 children, three of them critically. All the children were recovered from the debris and after first-aid shifted to Tehsil Headquarters Hospital Matta.

### Training on **Presentation** of hospital acquired

MULTAN (APP): training session "Prevention of Hospital-Acquired Infections and Antimicrobial Resistance" was held at Children's Hospital here

training was to raise awareness about the prevention of hospitalacquired infections and antimicrobial resistance.

doctors about modern methods and precautions to ensure patient safety.



GILGIT: Chief Minister Gilgit-Baltistan Haji Gulbar Khan presiding over the meeting regarding the security arrangements in the coming month of

# **BISP** to introduce skill training initiative to make beneficiaries out of poverty

Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme Senator Rubina Khalid Tuesday said that a new skill training initiative is being launched to help members of deserving families start their own businesses and rise out of

She was speaking during a visit to the BISP's Campsite at Government High School Iqbal Town in

The visit aimed to

(APP): provided to deserving the current payment women who come to receive the Kafaalat quarterly stipend.

During her visit, Senator Rubina Khalid engaged with the women beneficiaries, listened to their concerns, and assured them BISP's of commitment to addressing their issues.

She instructed the BISP staff to conduct surveys at tehsil offices to prevent overcrowding at payment centers.

The BISP staff briefed the Chairperson on

### system. She emphasized the

importance of disbursing payments to all deserving women in a fair and transparent manner.

Earlier, Senator Rubina Khalid also addressed media representatives at BISP Central Zonal Office in Lahore, highlighting the impact of the programme. She shared that 9.

million deserving families benefit from BISP and the program's scope is being further expanded.

### **Police starts** search, strike operation in DIKhan

DERA ISMAIL KHAN (APP): The district police of DIKhan on Tuesday started search and strike operations in the district against anti-state and criminal elements to ensure security in the district. According to the police spokesman, on the direction of District Police Officer Dera Nasir Mahmood, Parowa Circle and City Circle Police conducting search and strike operation and snap checking within their respective circles

### Federal Ombudsman's intervention ensures payment of dues to retired employee

Federal Ombudsman Ejaz intervention on Tuesday has facilitated the payment of outstanding dues to a

retired Army employee. According to the details, Ali Khan, a resident of Mansehra and a former employee of the F.F., had lodged a complaint at the Federal Ombudsman Secretariat's regional office in Abbottabad against CMA Lahore, citing longpending arrears amounting to Rs. 133,235. Upon receiving the complaint, Regional In-Charge Abdul Ghafoor Baig issued notices to CMA Lahore. Following a thorough

ABBOTTABAD (APP): investigation, CMA Lahore issued a cheque for Rs. 133,235 to Ali Khan.

Expressing his gratitude, Ali Khan thanked Federal Ombudsman Ejaz Ahmed Qureshi and Regional In-Charge Abdul Ghafoor Baig for resolving his longstanding issue. Abdul Ghafoor Baig highlighted that the Federal Ombudsman's institution serves as a public court, providing prompt and înexpensive justice. He reiterated that the Federal Ombudsman is regarded as the court of the poor, ensuring equal, immediate, and affordable justice as a guardian of human rights. He further elaborated



LAHORE: Opposition Leader in Punjab Assembly, Malik Ahmed Khan Bhachar along with others addresses to media persons during press conference held at Lahore press club.

### **Senior minister announces** commencement of second phase of anti-smog campaign

LAHORE (APP): Senior next three months, commencement of second phase of the anti-smog campaign. In a statement issued here, she stated that Chief Minister of Punjab, Maryam Nawaz Sharif, has mandated the strict enforcement of laws and regulations under the Smog-Free Punjab vision.

She noted that the first phase, which spanned three months, focused on providing facilities, implementation. Strict technical assistance, actions will be taken equipment, and technology across all sectors. Over the residues.

Provincial Minister environmental protection Marriyum Aurangzeb on laws and regulations will be Tuesday announced the rigorously enforced in industries, agriculture, traffic, and other sectors, she said, and warned that violations of environmental laws will result in fines, penalties, and arrests.

Furthermore, the senior minister affirmed the commitment to achieving a complete ban on plastic with Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif personally overseeing its against the burning of crop

# International News

# Israel orders Palestinians to flee Khan Younis, signaling likely new assault on southern Gaza city

**Monitoring Desk** KHAN YOUNIS: The Israeli army ordered a mass evacuation of Palestinians from much of Khan Younis on Monday, a sign that troops are likely to launch a new ground assault in the Gaza Strip's second largest city. The order suggested Khan Younis will be the target in the latest of Israel's repeated raids into parts of Gaza it had previously invaded during the past mearly nine months, pursuing Hamas militants as they regroup. Much of Khan Younis was already destroyed in a long assault earlier this year, but large numbers of Palestinians have since moved back in to escape another Israeli offensive in Gaza's southern-most city, Rafah.

rael released the director of political spectrum. Gov-Gaza's main hospital after ernment ministers and op-

**Monitoring Desk** 

GENEVA: The UN refugee

agency said on Tuesday it

is expanding its Sudan aid

plan to Libya and Uganda,

after a surge in arrivals in

those countries of people

fleeing the 14-month-old

world's worst displacement

crisis with some 12 million

forced to flee their homes

and more than 2 million dis-

placed across borders. The

latest expansion of the UN

response plan brings to

seven the number of Afri-

can countries taking in large

numbers of Sudanese refu-

gees. The arrivals in Libya,

northwest of Sudan, raise

the prospect that the refu-

gees may continue their

journey to Europe across

the dangerous Mediterra-

nean route - a scenario which UNHCR's chief has

already warned about if aid

document published on

Sudan is already the

Sudanese civil war.

months without charge or trial over allegations the facility had been used as a said he and other detainees were held under harsh condetained Palestinians have been set free by Israel.

The decision to release Mohammed Abu Selmia raised questions over Israel's claims surraided twice since the start of the nearly nine-month war with Hamas.

His release triggered The order came as Is- an uproar across Israel's

Tuesday showed that the

agency expects to receive

149,000 in Libya before

year-end. It projects 55,000 for Uganda which

does not share a direct bor-

der with Sudan and already

hosts 1.7 million refugees

and asylum seekers from

desperate situation and

desperate decisions that

people are making, that

they end up in a place like

Libya which is of course

extremely, extremely diffi-

cult for refugees right now," the UNHCR's Ewan

Watson told reporters in

Geneva, saying most had

arrived there from Darfur

where ethnic violence has

gees have already arrived

in Libva since last year

with arrivals accelerating

in recent months and

many thousands more

At least 20,000 refu-

"It just speaks to the

other crises.

escalated.

A UNHCR planning unregistered, Watson

**UN seeks aid for Sudan** 

refugees fleeing to

Libya, Uganda

holding him for seven position leaders expressed outrage and insisted Abu Salmia played a role in Hamas' alleged use of the Hamas command center. He hospital — though Israeli security services rarely unilaterally free prisoners if ditions and tortured. AP they have a suspicion of correspondent Charles de militant links. Prime Min-Ledesma reports dozens of ister Benjamin Netanyhu's office called the release "a grave mistake." Monday's evacuation call covered the entire eastern half of Khan Younis and a large swath of the Gaza Strip's southeast rounding Shifa Hospital, corner. Earlier in the day, the which Israeli forces have army said a barrage of rockets out of Gaza was fired

from Khan Younis. The order suggested Abu Selmia and other a new assault into the Palestinian health officials city was imminent. Ishave denied the accusa- raeli forces fought for weeks in Khan Younis earlier this year and withdrew, claiming to have destroyed Hamas battalions in the city.

Philippine says

to be 'relentless'

in protecting

interests in South

China Sea

**Monitoring Desk** 

MANILA: The Philippines told China it will be

'relentless" in protecting

its interests and uphold-

ing its sovereignty, sover-

eign rights, and jurisdic-

tion in the South China

Sea, its foreign ministry

recognised the need to "re-

store trust, rebuild confi-

dence, and create condi-

tions conducive to pro-

ductive dialogue and inter-

action," the Philippine

foreign ministry said in a

statement following the

ninth meeting of the

China-Philippines Bilat-

eral Consultation Mecha-

nism on the South China

Sea in Manila. Philippine

undersecretary Theresa

Lazaro and Chinese vice-

foreign minister Chen

Xiaodong "had frank and

constructive discussions"

on the South China Sea.

foreign

But both countries

said on Tuesday.

### Trump says he can end the Russia-Ukraine war in one day and Ukrainians. I want **Monitoring Desk** UNITED NATIONS: Donald Trump has said re-

peatedly he could settle the war between Russia and Ukraine in one day if he's elected president again. Russia's United Nations ambassador says he can't.

When asked to respond to the claim from the presumptive Republican nominee, Vassily Nebenzia told reporters nian crisis cannot be solved in one day.

them to stop dying. And I'll have that done — I'll have that done in 24 hours." He said that would happen after he met with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and Russian President Vladimir Putin. And he keeps repeating the claim on the campaign trail.

During last week's debate with President Joe Biden, Trump claimed, "If we had a real president, a president that knew that was respected by Putin ... he would have

# Ukraine releases thousands of prisoners so they can join fight against Russia

DNIPROPETRÖVSK RE-GION: At a rural penal colony in southeast Ukraine, several convicts stand assembled under barbed wire to hear an army recruiter offer them a shot at parole. In return, they must join the

You can put an end to this and start a new life," said the recruiter, a member of a volunteer assault battalion. "The main thing is your will, because you are going to defend the motherland You won't succeed at 50%.

yourself, even 150%." Ukraine is expanding the draft to cope with acute battlefield shortages more than two years into fighting against Russia's full-scale invasion. And its recruiting efforts have turned, for the first time, to the country's prison population. Although Ukraine does not announce any details of troop deployment numbers or casualties, frontline commanders openly acknowledge that they are facing serious manpower problems as Russian continues to build up forces in eastern Ukraine

### **British PM** Sunak hunts for votes among the

robots at dawn **Monitoring Desk** LUTON: Badly lagging in the race to win Britain's election, Prime Minister Rishi Sunak went hunting for votes among robots and staff in a retail distribution centre on Tuesday, kicking off his first campaign stop of the day before 5 a.m (0400 GMT).

Sunak, who has often looked exhausted as he crossed the country during a six-week campaign, started the penultimate day of campaigning before Thursday's vote in a vast Ocado warehouse in Luton.

### Nine killed in Seoul after car hits pedestrians

**Monitoring Desk** SEOUL: At least nine people were killed and four others were injured when a car struck pedestrians near Seoul city hall on Monday, police said.

There were six fatalities at the scene, while three others were pronounced dead after being rushed to hospital, firefighter Kim Chun-soo said.

South Korea's Yonhap news agency reported that a 68-vear-old driver crashed into people who were waiting at a traffic signal. He was driving in the wrong direction and hit two other vehicles before ploughing into the pedestrians

## 107 killed in stampede at religious event in India's Uttar Pradesh

**Monitoring Desk** PRADESH: UTTAR Nearly 107 people were crushed to death at a Hindu religious gathering in northern India on Tuesday with

many others injured, a senior government official said. A large crowd had gathered near the city of Hathras for a sermon by a popular preacher but a fierce dust storm sparked panic as people were leav-

Many were crushed or trampled, falling on top of each other, with some collapsing into a roadside drain in the chaos.

'The attendees were exiting the venue when a dust storm blinded their vision, leading to a melee and the subsequent tragic incident," Chaitra V, divisional commissioner of Aligarh city in Uttar Pradesh state, told AFP. "We ... are focusing on providing relief and medical aid for the victims," she added.

Hours after the trag- of India news agency

edy, she told reporters the toll had surged past a hun-

"Initial information. is that 107 people have died," she told reporters.

Most of the dead were women, according to state chief medical officer Umesh Kumar Tripathi, who told reporters "many injured" have been hospitalised. Lines of ambulances carried the injured to hospitals.

Wailing women and crying men gathered outside one mortuary in the town of Etah, where many of the dead were taken, seeking news of their relatives.

Deadly incidents are common at places of worship during major religious festivals in India, the biggest of which prompt millions of devotees to make pilgrimages to holy sites.

"When the sermon finished, everyone started running out," Shakuntala, a woman who gave only one name, told the Press Trust

### North Korea brags of new missile with 'super-large warhead.' Outsiders doubt the North's claim

**Monitoring Desk** SEOUL: North Korea said Tuesday it had test-fired a new tactical ballistic missile capable of carrying "a su-per-large warhead," a claim quickly disputed by South Korean officials and experts who speculate the North likely fabricated a successful test to conceal a hotched launch. It's the second time

that South Korea has questioned North Korea's claim on the development of new weapons in recent days, as the rivals are locked in heightened animosities over the North's testing activi-

The North's official Korean Central News Agency said Monday's test involved the Hwasongpho-11 Da-4.5 missile, which can carry a 4.5 ton-class warhead. It said the test was meant to verify the weapon's flight

stability and hit accuracy at the maximum range of 500 kilometers (310 miles) and the minimum range of 90 kilometers (55 miles).

The test apparently refers to the two ballistic missile launches that South Korea said North Korea performed Monday. Joint Chiefs of Staff

spokesperson Lee Sung Joon said at a briefing later Tuesday that the second North Korean missile was found to have fallen on an uninhabited area near Pyongyang, the North's capital.

He said he could find few previous test-launches by North Korea that have aimed at ground target sites.

The South Korean military has said the second North Korean missile possibly traveled abnormally during the initial stage of its flight.

### Commissioners and Municipal Chief Officers between chief officers and from across Punjab line departments in districts. participated via video link. He directed that all available resources be utilized for The minister stated that CM Maryam Nawaz drainage. If any drains have Sharif has ordered effective not been de-silted measures across the immediate cleaning should province during the be ensured, he added and season, warned that action would be emphasizing the need to taken if government the same directives are not promptly enthusiasm for cleanliness followed.

LAHORE: Controller General of Accounts

Magbool Ahmed Gondal inaugurated the newly

Minister reviews

monsoon preparations

LAHORE (APP): On the exhibited during Eid-ul-

Adha. The minister praised

the cleanliness efforts during

Eid-ul-Adha, calling them

commendable.

renovated building of DGPR.

directives of Chief Minister

Maryam Nawaz Sharif,

Minister for Local

Government Zeeshan Rafiq

chaired a meeting at the Civil

Secretariat on Tuesday to

review the monsoon

attended by Secretary

Local Government Shakeel

Ahmad Mian, Special

Secretary Asiya Gull, and

Secretary LG Board

Rizwan Nazir. Deputy

The meeting was

preparations in detail.

### mentioned that the CM is personally visiting districts at the onset of the rainy season and that he will also infection held be conducting visits to review the arrangements. He directed that lessons learned from initial rains should be used to make improvements. Zeeshan Rafiq emphasized the importance of continuous coordination

on Tuesday. The purpose of the

It is aimed to inform

safety of traders RAWALPINDI (APP): Commerce to meet the Regional Police Officer business community, which (RPO) Babar Sarfaraz. City Police Officer (CPO) Khalid Hamdani and Chief Traffic Officer (CTO) Taimur Khan paid a visit

Police chiefs assure

of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) here on Tuesday. President RCCI Saqib Rafiq and Group Leader RCCI Sohail Altaf and office bearers welcomed

to the Rawalpindi Chamber

the RPO and his team. President Saqib Rafiq said that this is the first time that the three chiefs of Rawalpindi Police have in more effective measures visited the Chamber of against criminal elements.

shows their seriousness to strengthen the interaction and communication stakeholders to solve their problems. RPO Baber Sarfraz in his remarks said that the business community is the backbone of country's economy and added that the RCCI was playing an important role in promoting community policing in society. He said the Safe City project in Rawalpindi will be fully operational by the end of this month, which will help

for which they urged masses

**Dutch King Willem-Alexander and Prime Minister Dick Schoof pose with** the new members of the Dutch Government at Palace Huis ten Bosch in The Hague, Netherlands.

### Monday that "the Ukrai-At a CNN town hall in May 2023, Trump said: 'They're dying, Russians never invaded Ukraine."

**Monitoring Desk** 

grueling fight against Russia. you have to give 100% of

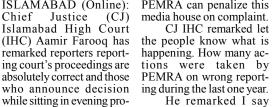
### 99.99 percent reporting is correct: CJ IHC

ISLAMABAD (Online): PEMRA can penalize this Islamabad High Court (IHC) Aamir Farooq has remarked reporters reporting court's proceedings are absolutely correct and those while sitting in evening programs is problem.

The reporters reporting court's proceedings are reporting correctly. Those who announce decision by sitting in programs in the evening is problem. First criminal trial was telecast in US on TV in 1975. I am protector of rights of people. I cannot deprive entire world of this right, CJ IHC remarked during the hearing of the petition seeking nullification of PEMRA notification regarding ban on court reporting here

Chief Justice of Pakistan inquired was any thing reported wrongly. Upon it PEMRA issued notification. I don't think that such thing was done by high court or registrar sent any

The court remarked that if I have not said any thing and it is reported then given by me here.



99.99 percent reporting is correct. Point one percent can be human error. I believe this may have been done in SC too. If some one does any thing wrong then PEMRA should take action against it. When court issues signed decision then it becomes public property. Decision of judge should be criticized not judge. We should encourage debates on court's decisions. Court's decisions should be highlighted that law was like this. But in decision there is this mistake. PEMRA has imposed complete ban on court's report-

CJ IHC remarked there was time when 20 to 25 people sitting in the court could hear the court's proceedings. Now this is age of media. Man sitting in US can hear observation



DUSHANBE: Prime Minister, Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif lays a floral wreath at the monument of Ismail Samani in Dushanbe.

### PM given guard of honor on arrival for a two-day Tajikistan visit

DUSHANBE (APP):Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday was given a guard of honor as he arrived here on a two-day visit at the invitation of President of Tajikistan Emomali Rahmon. As the prime minister arrived at the Qasr-e-Millat, he was warmly received by President Rehmon.

The national anthems ter stood at the salute dias. Later, the smartly

Tajik armed forces pre- Tariq Fatemi.

prime minister which he reviewed. Later, both Prime Minister Shehbaz and President Emomali Rahmon introduced their respective delegations to each other.

The prime Minister's delegation comprised Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Muhammad Ishaq Dar, of both the countries were Defence Minister Khawaja played as the prime minis- Muhammad Asif, Information and Broadcasting Minister Attaullah Tarar and

### **Azadi March case:** Former speaker NA Asad Qaisar appeared in the court

ISLAMABAD (Online): PTI leader and former speaker National Assembly (NA) Asad Qaisar has appeared in the court in Azadi

The court directed police to file challan on next hearing. The case registered against Asad Qaisar in police station I-9 during Azadi March came up for hearing in district and sessions court Islamabad Tuesday

Asad Qaisar appeared in the court along with his counsel Ayesha Khalid. The case was heard by Judicial magistrate

Muhammad Imran. The court directed police to file challan on next hearing. The court adjourned the hearing of the case till July 20. On previous hearing court had confirmed the bail of Asad



KARACHI:Pakistan minority rights campaigners protest the sentencing of a Christian man to death for sharing an allegedly blasphemous TikTok post,

### NDF organise project closing ceremony of construction of shelters

NAWABSHAH (APP): National Disability & Development Forum (NDF) is pleased to announce the successful completion of its project titled "Construction of 10 Shelters at Village Adam Khan Gupchani." This project, aimed at providing critical housing infrastructure in a flood-hit area, was generously funded by Iltizam Relief Society, Malaysia.

The closing ceremony of this impactful initiative took place on yesterday at village Adam Khan Gupchani near to Gupchani near to Nawabshah, where key stakeholders, community leaders, and beneficiaries gathered to celebrate the culmination of months of hard work and the dedication of

The project was urgent need for shelter facilities in Village Adam

iltizam Relief Society.

Khan Gupchani, which had been severely affected by floods 2022. Through the collabora-

tive efforts of NDF and the generous support from Iltizam Relief Society, Malaysia, ten durable shelters have been constructed to provide safe and sustainable housing solutions for the local residents. We are immensely grateful to Iltizam Relief Society, Malaysia, for their unwavering support and commitment to improv ing the lives of vulnerable communities," said Tariq Hussain Channar Program Manager of NDF.

This project demonstrates the power of collaboration and collective action in addressing pressing social challenges. Mr. Abdullah Ghumro said that National Disability & Development launched in response to the Forum (NDF) is dedicated to promoting the rights and improving the quality of life.



York State Assembly, Phil Ramos and his delegation, which included parliamentarians and APPAC

# **Deputy Speaker New York State** Assembly calls on CM Sindh

ing course for the New remarkable progress in re-

KARACHI (APP):A del- retary Health Irfan Baloch, egation led by Deputy Speaker of the New York State Assembly, Phil Ramos, on Tuesday called on Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah.

The delegation comprised of parliamentarians and APPAC office bearers which agreed to pass a resolution from the assembly to declare Karachi as the sister city of New York.

The meeting was held at CM House and was attended by Health Minister Dr Azra Fazal Pechuho, Minister Education Sardar Shah, Chief Secretary Asif Hyder Shah, Secretary to CM Raheem Shaikh, Sec-

Tarar for further

strengthening

economic ties

with Canada

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Infor-

mation, Broadcasting, Na-

tional Heritage, and Culture, Attaullah Tarar, em-

phasized the importance of

strengthening economic ties

with Canada during a meet-

ing with the Canadian High

Commissioner to Pakistan,

Leslie Scanlon, on Tuesday.

Minister Tarar highlighted

the mutual benefits of en-

hanced economic relations

between the two countries.

They also addressed vari-

ous key issues, including

bilateral relations and the

government's economic ini-

**DSJ** visits

central jail

MIRPURKHAS (APP):

District and Sessions Judge

(DSJ), Inayatullah Bhutto

here on Tuesday visited

According spokesmen of central jail, Mirpurkhas,

the DSJ directed to pro-

vide technical training to the

prisoners to enable them to

got employment after their

release from the prison and

become respectable citi-

cal training would not only

have a positive impact on

the prisoners, but would

also improve their mental

prisoners' religious, techni-

cal and cultural education.

and physical health.

He added that techni-

In their discussion,

Secretary U&B Abbas Baloch and others. The 32member delegation includes NY Assembly Member Alec Brook, American Pakistani committee's Dr Aijaz, Imtiaz Rahi, Imtiaz Pirzada, Amir Memon, Dr Tariq Ibrahim, Rukhsana Mahmood and others.

The Deputy Speaker of the New York State Assembly, Mr. Phil Ramos, informed the Chief Minister that during his last visit in 2023, he and the Sindh government had agreed to declare New York as the Sister City of Karachi, but the matter was still pending.

Gwadar International Air-

port being constructed in

Gwadar, Balochistan prov-

ince, has been completed in

hensive understanding of

airport operations, Chinese

aeronautical regulations,

airport management, avia-

tion safety, aircraft mainte-

nance, security and logis-

tics," said Subhash Chader,

senior assistant director of

communication, navigation,

and surveillance in the elec-

tronics engineering division

of Pakistan Civil Aviation

Khalid, senior deputy di-

rector of commercial devel-

opment and cargo opera-

tions with the PCAA, said,

novation and infrastructure

Muhammad Qayyam

Authority (PCCA).

It provided a compre-

Hainan, China.

The CM stated that the Sindh Assembly was in a budget session and that in the next session, he would pass the resolution for sister cities from the assembly. Mr. Ramos mentioned that the New York Assembly would follow the Sindh Assembly and pass the resolution.

The Chief Minister assigned the task to the Chief Secretary, Asif Hyder Shah, to prepare a draft resolution in consultation with the Deputy Speaker of the NY Assembly and send it to him for approval.

The meeting also reached an agreement to establish or upgrade the ex-

cent decades. The unique ar-

chitecture of the airports

reflects careful planning

and design to meet the

course, participants visited

Hainan Free Trade Port's

one-stop aircraft mainte-

nance industrial base to ex-

plore potential cooperation

opportunities with Paki-

stan in related industries,

ment of about 1.62 billion

yuan (\$220 million) and a

footprint of about 15 hect-

ares, the one-stop mainte-

nance base aims to leverage

the policy advantages of the

port to expand the aircraft

maintenance market. It aims

to become a high-level, in-

maintenance platform serv-

Project Manager Human

Ramzan Dayo gave a

briefing on the ongoing

projects, and highlighted

that with the support of

UNICEF, the first phase

of work has commenced in

taluka Diplo, in which 160

villages from six Union

Councils of Diplo had

The Human Appeal, with UNICEF's assis-

tance, was constructing 60

toilets in primary and sec-

ondary schools, 10 in hos-

pitals and 160 in villages.

rated that Human Appeal

was also working to im-

prove the daily lives of in-

dividuals in rural areas.

Under the WASH project,

representatives from the

departments of health,

education, local govern-

ment and public health en-

gineering along with other

stakeholders had been

trained to effectively

implement and manage the

Dayo further elabo-

been selected.

Muhammad

Appeal

"The technological in- telligent, one-stop aircraft

With a total invest-

China Daily reported.

During the training

needs of travelers."

isting Nursing College in the province and elevate it to an institution of international repute. The AAPAC would assist the provincial government in enhancing the professionalism of the nursing college.

It was also agreed to collaborate on improving education, facilitating trade delegations, and exchanging student delegations to enable the sharing of experiences and expertise between the people of both states/provinces.

As a token of respect and honour, the Chief Minister presented Ajrak and Sindhi caps to the visiting delegation.

### **Justice Aalia** Training completed for Neelum **New Gwadar International** nominated as Airport in Hainan, China LHC chief iustice BEIJING (APP): The traintestament to the province's

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Judicial Commission of Pakistan (JCP) has unanimously nominated Justice Aalia Neelum as the firstever woman Chief Justice of Lahore High Court

The Commission, headed by Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa, unanimously approved Justice Neelum's name for the coveted position.

She was third in the seniority list of the Lahore High Court after the elevation of former LHC CJ Malik Shahzad Ahmad Khan and Justice Shahid Bilal Hassan to the Su-

### Street criminal arrested after encounter

KARACHI (APP): The Pakistan Rangers Sindh and Police in a joint operation, apprehended an individual involved in multiple robberies and street crimes in the Saifal Goth area.

The suspect, identified as Hajiullah, was caught after an encounter during which he attempted to steal a motorcycle and fired shots at the resisting owner, according to a Rangers spokesperson on Tuesday.

### Police arrest gutka seller

KARACHI (INP): The Jamshed Quarters police station of district East apprehended a woman on suspected of being involved in the gutka trade

SSP East told that police arrest Rehmat Bibi alias Rehmati, wife of Muhammad Hussain, on a tip-off, and seized 50 packets of gutka from her possession. She had previously been arrested for a similar offense and has served jail time. A case has been registered, and further investigations underway.

### **Special anti-polio** drive launched following reported case in Keamari KARACHI (INP): In re-

sponse to a reported polio case in Keamari, a special polio eradication campaign has been launched by the Health Department of Sindh.

The Health Department has initiated a targeted campaign in Keamari district, administering polio drops to children under 5 years old until July 13. This action follows the recent discovery of a 3-year-old girl in Keamari contracting the poliovirus. The campaign aims to immunize children across Keamari, including those with zero doses of polio vaccine, to prevent further outbreaks. According to the Emergency Operations Center Sindh, two polio cases have been reported this year from Sindh— one from Shikarpur and another from Keamari district. A spokesperson for the EOC mentioned that environmental samples across 15 districts in Sindh

### All political parties need to join hands for economic political stability: President

ISLAMABAD (INP): of the country came under President Asif Ali Zardari has said that all political parties will have to work together for economic, political stability and addressing the problems being faced by the country.

He stated this while talking to former federal minister and senior leader of Awami National Party (ANP) Ghulam Ahmed Bilour who called on him in Islamabad on Tuesday.

During the meeting, overall political, security and law and order situation for the second time.

President Asif Ali Zardari emphasized that all political parties need to work together for economic and political stability and addressing the country's problems.

Consultation and consensus with all political parties on important national issues is inevitable, he added.

ANP leader Ghulam Ahmad Bilour congratulated Asif Zardari on assuming the office of President



chairing a special meeting to review amendments to the proposed laws and rules for establishment of the Punjab Enforcement Regulatory Authority

### **UN body demands** immediate release of PTI founder

GENEVA (INP): A United Nations (UN) human rights working group demanded the immediate release of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder and former prime minister Imran Khan, maintaining that he was detained in 'violation of international law'.

"(The) appropriate remedy would be to release Mr. Khan immediately and accord him an enforceable right to compensation and other reparations, in accordance with international law," the Geneva-based UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention maintained read in its report.

The UN body also maintained that Imran Khan

(The) working group concludes that his (Imran Khan) detention had no legal basis and appears to have been intended to disqualify him from running for political office. Thus, from the outset, that prosecution was not grounded in law and was reportedly instrumentalised for a political purpose," the report

Earlier, Spokesperson for the US Department of State Vedant Patel termed the cases against Imran Khan as an 'internal matter of Pakistan'. He said that the US government urged the Pakistani government to respect human rights and funinstrumentalized for a po- damental freedoms.

### Sri Lankan envoy praises CPEC & Gwadar impact ; eyes deeper ties with Pakistan across sectors

C Wijegunaratne, on Tuesday highlighting Pakistan's pivotal economic developments linked to CPEC and the operationalization of Gwadar Port, expressed his country's commitment to furthering diplomatic, economic and cultural ties with

Pakistan. He stressed the importance of long-term policies focusing on youth development, agriculture, and water security for sustained growth in an exclusive chat with APP.

Ravindra emphasized the necessity for Pakistan to formulate long-term policies that prioritize youth development, agricultural sustainability, and enhanced water security to sustain economic growth effectively.

Regarding bilateral ties, the envoy reiterated Sri

ISLAMABAD (APP): Sri Lanka's commitment to Lanka's High Commis- strengthening relations sioner Admiral ® Rayindra with Pakistan across mul tiple fronts, including trade, tourism, and defence.

He pointed out Sri Lanka's pivotal role as an international transshipment hub, particularly for megacontainer ships like the Triple E-Class, which cannot dock at all ports due to their size. He anticipated the

operationalization of Gwadar Port would provide Pakistan with significant revenue opportunities, particularly for transit trade to the Central Asian Republics (CARs).

Reflecting on the historical camaraderie between the two nations, Admiral Wijegunaratne recalled Sri Lanka's steadfast support for Pakistan during critical junctures, including providing crucial logistical support during the 1971 war.



protest demonstration against robberies in their area, at Hyderabad press club.

## **SMIU** to organize international conference on environment: VC

KARACHI (APP): Noted heat, floods and heavy

environmentalist Nasir Ali Panhwar on Tuesday met Vice Chancellor Šindh Madressatul Islam University Dr Mujeeb Sahrai at his office.

Matters related to environmental issues facing theworld including Pakistan were discussed.
Dr Mujeeb Sahrai

said Sindh Madressatul Islam University will organize an international conference on environmental soon where national and international environmentalists will be invited.

He said due to climate change specially people of Pakistan were passing through severe problems such scorching

He recalled the di-

saster caused by rains and floods in 2022 when properties, crops and houses specially of those people who were living on the right bank of the Indus River had badly damaged.

Nasir Ali Panhwar said there was a need to aware masses about the environmental challenges and emphasized the need that each citizen of the country must plant a tree

Nasir Ali Panhwar also presented a copy of his latest book titled "Earthly Matters" to Dr Mujeeb Sahrai

### KARACHI: Pakistan minority rights campaigners Inayatullah Bhutto protest the sentencing of a Christian man to death said that a creative and profor sharing an allegedly blasphemous TikTok post, fessional environment was found in the jail for the prisin Karachi. **Monitoring of NGOs in** Senior Superinten-t, Central Jail, Shahabuddin Siddiqui was Tharparkar underway to also present on the occasion and briefed the judge about ensure effective service

delivery: ADC-I In-charge HYDERABAD (APP): **Ombudsman** The Additional Deputy Sukkur holds Tharparkar Asif Ali open court Khaskheli has announced that the district administra-

SUKKUR (APP): Incharge of the Federal Ombudsman Sukkur Region Syed Mahmood Ali Shah conducted an open court at his Office on Tuesday and listened to the public complaints against various departments.

A number of people appeared in the 'khuli katchery and the In-charge issued directives for the redressal of complaints. Syed Mahmood Ali

Shah directed officers of the departments concerned to address the complaints as soon as possible.

### Hot, humid weather forecast for Sindh

KARACHI (APP): The Pakistan Meteorological Department on Tuesday predicted hot and humid weather in most parts of the Sindh province during the next 24 hours. However,

cloudy weather is predicted in the coastal areas of the province While, thundershowers predicted in Mithi.

Badin, Umarkot, Thatta, Tharparkar Mirpurkhas. Mainly, hot and humid is likely to prevail in

the province

MIRPURKHAS (APP): Deputy Commissioner, Dr. Rashid Masood Khan has inaugurated anti-polio campaign in the district which will continue till July, 5. District Health Officer

tion was actively monitor-

ing the work of various

non-governmental organi-

zations (NGOs) operating

oversight was to ascertain

which NGOs were per-

forming effectively and

whether the local populace

was benefiting from their

services. According to a

handout, Khaskheli made

this statement while pre-

siding over a meeting fo-

cused on evaluating the

performance of NGOs at

although NGOs were col-

laborating with the district

administration to enhance

public welfare, it is cru-

cial to maintain a system

of checks and balances for

all institutions to maxi-

mize the benefits to the

He emphasized that

Darbar hall, Mithi.

The objective of this

within the district.

District Health Officer Mirpurkhas Dr. Ashok Kumar, Area Coordinator WHO, Tahur Hussain and other relevant officers were also present, said a handout

# DC inaugurates polio drive

Mirpurkhas Dr. Jairam Das, Manager PPHI Colonel ® Akhtar Ali. District Focal Person Polio Program Dr. Naravan Das. Additional

fixed, the deputy commissioner added.

issued here. The target to immunize polio drops to 348,465 children up to 5 years in the district had been

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