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Ph: 0300-3898091 Vol: 06. No. 156 Muharram 12, 1445 AH Friday July 19, 2024 Pages 04 Price Rs. 12.00

97th Anniversary of PLA hosted at GHQ Pakistan, China ties exceptional, based on unwavering belief in each other: COAS

Both militaries continue to engage in bilateral cooperation; Relations between Pakistan Army and Peoples Liberation Army are strong-Army Chief; No force can destroy brotherhood between two militaries: Zaidong.

RAWALPINDI (Agencies): Revitalising bilateral ties between Pakistan and China, Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Syed Asim Munir has said that they "are exceptional and have always weathered the vicissitudes of the strategic environment with mutual trust and unwavering belief in each other's support".

The army chief made the remarks on the occasion of the 97th Anniversary of the founding of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) of China hosted at the General Headquarters in Rawalpindi, a statement issued by the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said on Thursday.

military's media wing, Chistan Jiang Zaidong was the tion, demonstrating the cluded

chief guest on the occasion. iron-clad brotherhood be-Defence Attaché Major General Wang Zhong, Chinese Embassy officers and officials from the tri-services of Pakistan attended

the event. General Munir, while welcoming the Chinese guests, congratulated the PLA and praised its contribution to Chinese defence, security and the nation's development.

During his speech, the army chief termed the Pak-China bilateral ties "exceptional" and based on "unwavering belief in each other's support".

"Relations between the Pakistan Army and the Peoples Liberation Army According to the are strong and both militar-

tween the two countries,' he concluded.

Speaking on the occasion, Ambassador Zaidong thanked COAS Munir for hosting the event for the 97th anniversary of the founding of the PLA.

"Pakistani military has always been at the forefront of countering terrorism and has made great sacrifices for the peace and stability of Pakistan and the region," the diplomat

"We stand ready to work with our brethren to combat terrorism and firmly believe that no force can destroy the iron-clad friendship between China and Pakistan and the ies continue to engage in brotherhood between the nese Ambassador to Paki- bilateral military coopera- two militaries", he con-



RAWALPINDI: Chief of the Army Staff, General Sved Asim Munir, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong Maj Gen Wang Zhong, Defence Attaché, Chinese Embassy officials and officers from tri-services of Pakistan cutting cake at the 97th anniversary of the founding of Peoples Liberation Army (PLA) of China, hosted at the GHQ.

CM sets time line for removing encroachments, restoring parking areas in city

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah presided over a meeting to follow up on the progress of removal of encroachments from the city, Malir Expressway, TP-4, Hub Canal and the removal of encroachments from the footpaths, green belts and roads from the

Those who attended the meeting included pro-vincial ministers, Saeed Ghani, Zia Lanjar, Mayor Karachi Murtaza Wahab, Chief Secretary Asif Hyder Shah, PSCM Agha Wasif, Commissioner Karachi Hassan Naqvi, SMBR Baqaullah Unar, MD SSWMB Imtiaz Shah, Secretary Finance Fayaz Jatoi, Secretary Transport Asad Zamin, Secretary Planning Khair Mohammad Kalwar, Afzal Zaidi, Karachi CEO Water Board Salahuddin, Zubair Channa and PD Malir Expressway Niaz Soomro

The CM said that the footpaths are meant for the people to move hassle-free on the city roads, but they have been encroached upon under the nose of the administration. "Now, the green belts of the roads have also been encroached upon by the Dhabas and other such make-shift type of settlements.

Commissioner Karachi Hassan Naqvi said that the assistant commissioners have started documenting encroachments on the footpaths, roads green belts and even debris put encroachments.

DG SBCA Rasheed Solangi, Special Secretary Local Govt Aisha Hameed, MC on the roads for under-construction buildings. He added that the administrastruction buildings. He tion would submit a detailed plan to the government for removal of the encroach-

At this, the CM said that it was the job of local bodies, local administration and the police not to allow encroachment on the public spaces but "sorry to say I compelled to take up such issues' Mayor Murtaza

Wahab told the CM that he was working on the plan for the removal of encroachment from the KMC roads in a planned manner. "Due to Muharram activities, the tasks could not be taken up," he said and added now it would be completed by removing all kinds of

PM Shehbaz directs increase of Appellate Tribunals to 100 for accelerated tax case handling

ISLAMABAD (APP): mulation of a strategy to Prime Minister recover unlawfully issued Shehbaz refunds. Muhammad Sharif on Thursday in-Appellate Tribunals be increased to 100 to expedite

the resolution of tax cases. Chairing a review meeting on reforms and digitization in the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR), the prime minister also directed an increase in the number of Appellate Tribunals for Customs cases and the creation of a dashboard to evaluate the performance of Tax Appellate Tribunals.

The prime minister stated that tax refund fraud amounting to Rs 800 billion was uncovered in the past four months, and emphasized further improvements to the tax refund system.

The prime minister expressed that increasing revenue was achievable through reforms in the FBR. He lamented the unfortunate and unnecessary delays in many of the FBR's reform projects.

The prime minister emphasized zero tolerance for delays in sales tax refund payments and in-

The prime minister distructed that the number of Appellate Tribunals be intion and Investigation Department of the FBR and the development of a strategy to centralize all ongoing reform projects within the FBR. The prime minister instructed the relevant authorities to employ the latest technology and the best personnel for the digitization of the FBR. Shehbaz Sharif instructed the implementation of a unified sales tax system for all taxpayers by October 2024.

The prime minister was briefed that a unified sales tax return system, successfully implemented by the telecom sector, was being introduced for taxpayer convenience. FBR aimed to integrate with revenue authorities across the country through a unified sales tax platform.

The prime minister assured timely funding for upgrading the customs system and directed the FBR to devise a strategy for designing and implementing structed the immediate for- the new software system.



HYDERABAD: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah visit along with advisor attending the mourning procession of Aashura on Youm-e-Ashura, the 10th day of Muharram-ul-Haram station road.

Sindh Home Minister hails Sindh Police for ensuring best security during 1st-10th Muharram

Lanjar on Thursday hailed Sindh Police for ensuring the best security measures from 1st Muharram-ul-Haram to Ashura in the

and sense of duty are wor-thy of praise and apprecia-

He said the difficult tasks and making any event successful could be achieved only with the co-

operation of entire team.

KARACHI (APP): Sindh individual and collective efsuccessful and effective in making Muharram Majalis, processions and other gatherings peaceful and safe in

am to Ashura in the all respects.
ince. "We hope that He said: "All of your Sindh Police's perfortireless work, dedication mance will continue to the best, and you will make all future events safe and peaceful.

The role of other law enforcement agencies and Sindh Rangers during Muharram-ul-Haram is also worthy of praise," he



SUKKUR: Provincial Minister for Energy, Development and Planning, Syed Nasir Hussain Shah talking to media persons, in Sukkur.

Mayor sets timeline for effective management of KMC hospitals

departments.

KARACHI (APP): Mayor Karachi Barrister Murtaza Wahab on Thursday directed that the KMC hospitals should be managed more effectively within the next 10 days and all Medical Superintendents were asked to submit their proposals to improve the functioning of the hospitals. Chairing a meeting of the Medical and Health Department officials of the KMC, Murtaza Wahab said the attendance of employees must be ensured and a biometric system should be installed in all hospitals. He warned that the persistently absent employees should be dismissed according to the rules and regulations. He emphasized enhancing medical facilities at the Abbasi Shaheed Hospital and activating all of its

Mayor Karachi Barrister Murtaza Wahab said Karachi Metropolitan Corporation was spending a substantial amount of its budget on providing medical services to citizens. Therefore, these hospitals should play an effective role in providing standard healthcare facilities to the poor and middle-class citizens. The Mayor also suspended the services of Senior Director Admin and Accounts of Medical Department, Rashid Sabzwari on his absent from duty.

Murtaza Wahab particularly emphasized improving the functionality of emergency wards, OPDs, and laboratories of KMC run hospitals through technical and professional skills possessed by doctors.

meeting on the reforms and digitisation of the Federal Board of Revenue. Largest bus manufacturer | Zardari wishes "Yutong" to set up plant in Karachi: Sharjeel

KARACHI (APP): Sindh nounced that the installa-senior Minister Sharjeel tion of the Yutong plant in Inam Memon on Thursday said that Yutong, the world's largest bus manufacturer, has decided to set up a manufacturing plant for intra-city and electric buses

Yutong Middle East CEO Robin and other officials called on Sindh Senior Minister Sharjeel Memon and informed that Yutong had decided to set up a plant in Karachi in response to the invitation extended by Senior Minister Sharjeel Memon in July

Karachi will commence within three months. The project is expected to be completed next year, with Yutong's intra-city and electric buses being built in

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a review

He stated that EV buses and hybrid diesel buses will be manufactured at the plant, promoting industries and creating new employment opportunities.

Sharjeel said that the production of buses in Karachi will save Pakistan's foreign exchange, and the

Sharjeel Memon an- also benefit the country. PPP affirms support for govt, cabinet decisions

Monitoring Desk KARACHI: The PPP secretary general on Thursday said that the party will "stand with the federal cabinet's decisions", days after a few senior party members decried the government's announcement to ban the PTI. Earlier this week, the federal government announced that it had decided to ban the party and seek Article 6 proceedings against its founder Imran Khan, ex-president Dr Arif Alvi, and former National Assembly (NA) deputy speaker Qasim Suri.

The move appeared to be an attempt to prevent the PTI from becoming the single largest party in the NA as the announcement

relief given to the party by the top court in the case of the reserved seats as well as to the party chief in the Iddat case. The announcement attracted flak from across the political spectrum, with stakeholders from different parties terming the move "undemocratic." Several senior PPP leaders also opposed the move, with former senators Rabbani and Farhatullah Babar openly criticising the idea.

PPP stalwart Khursheed Shah said the party's leadership — despite being part of the ruling coalition was not taken on board regarding the decision.

amid PTI ban controversy

On the other hand,

COVID-hit Joe Biden a speedy recovery

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Asif Ali Zardari on Thursday expressed good wishes for the early recovery of President Joseph R. Biden of the United States of America, who has tested positive for COVID-

President Zardari conveyed his sincere hopes for President Biden's good health and well being, according to a President House statement.

Earlier, in a statement, the White House confirmed that President Biden has tested positive for COVID-19.

PPP chief pays tributes to **Shaheed** Shahnawaz

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto Zardara ta Shahand glowing tributes to Shaheed Shahnawaz Bhutto on his 39th martyrdom anniver-

In a press release issued by the Media Cell Bilawal House, he said the enduring Shaheed legacy of Shahnawaz Bhutto, highlighting his revolutionary thoughts and unwavering struggle for democracy

He said that Shaheed Shahnawaz Bhutto's legacy is a beacon of light. 'Shaheed Shahnawaz Bhutto's martyrdom day reminds us of the numerous sacrifices the Bhutto family has made for democracy in Pakistan," he said.



Rahman presiding over a committee meeting at Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP).

MOM leaders meet Governor Sindh

KARACHI (APP): Senior leaders of Muttahida Qaumi Movement Pakistan Dr Faroog Sattar, Syed Mustafa Kamal and Anis Qaimkhani called on Sindh Governor Muhammad Kamran Khan Tessori here at Governor House on Thursday.

MQM leaders discussed with the Governor issues facing the people of Karachi with special focus on K-Electric's over billing, unannounced load shedding and Federal Government funded development projects in the city. Sindh Ğovernor said that the Federal Govt is providing all possible support for

the development of Karachi city. He further said that priority measures for the maintenance and development of infrastructure are also the need of the hour. He assured the MQM Pakistan's leaders that he will personally talk to the K-Electric management about the complaints of unannounced load-shedding and over-

billing issues. MQM Pakistan's MNAs Dr Farooq Sattar and Syed Mustafa Kamal informed the governor about grievances of the people of Karachi.

IGP Sindh for improving, upgrading facilities in police hospitals

Independent Report

ARACHI: Inspector General of Police (IGP) Sindh, Ghulam Nabi Memon, chaired a review meeting to discuss the improvement and upgrading of facilities in Sindh Police hospitals and dispen-

During the meeting, detailed briefings were provided by DIGP Hyderabad, SSP Sukkur, and the Medical Superintendent of Police Hospital Karachi on the current status of medical facilities and medicines available in these hospitals.

as reported that the Karachi Police Hospital serves 600 patients daily, while the Hyderabad Police Hospital serves over

250 patients daily. IGP Sindh directed that steps be taken to further enhance outpatient department (OPD) facilities in police hospitals. He announced that, soon, police per-

sonnel and their families would be able to access indoor treatment facilities up to Rs one million through a health insurance scheme

The Sindh Police chief emphasized that police hospitals and dispensaries should be upgraded and equipped with better facilities for first aid, medical advice, and medicines. He also instructed that a survey be conducted to identify police personnel suffering from blood pressure and diabetes, and that a three-month supply of medication be provided to these patients.

meeting was attended by the Citizens Police Liaison Committee (CPLC) Chief, Additional IGP Welfare, DIGPs from various departments, and other police officers. DIGP Hyderabad and SSP Sukkur participated via video link

PTI to prove itself a political party: Khuro

LARKANA (APP): Pakistan Peoples Party Sindh Presi dent Nisar Khuro Thursday said that no political party should be banned, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf

(PTI) is a political party, then it has to prove itself in the true sense. In a statement he alleged that PTI

founder should prac-

tically declare his

detachment from the terrorist wing in his Khoro reached village of Peer and condoled with relatives on the

death of media coordinator of PPP's Nazir Dhuki. offered Fatiha and prayed for the eternal peace

of the departed

Syed Bachal Shah, President of PPP Sukkur Division and other leaders were also present on this occasion.

Daily Soice of Masse Independent

A way forward

In the midst of the storm triggered by the government's ill-advised announcement about banning the PTI, there is a ray of hope. Aide to the prime minister Rana Sanaullah clarified that the decision had yet to be okayed by the cabinet. He reportedly told a local publication late Monday that while the government has not finalised its decision, it saw only two choices before it: talks, or all-out war. Mr Sanaullah regretted the fact that PTI founder Imran Khan had not been amenable to

A day later, Deputy PM Ishaq Dar and Defence Minister Khawaja Asif indicated that the matter would be taken forward in consultation with the government's allies and parliament. While the government's stance reflects a paucity of ideas, it is important to note that negotiations and consultation are seemingly not off the table. Before political leaders inflict more damage, they must give talks a chance

If direct negotiations are not possible, one option the government must consider is to form a parliamentary Committee of the Whole comprising all current lawmakers. The entire gamut of major challenges should be put up for debate before this committee, including security, economic issues and the prevailing socio-political instability. Doing so will help take the attention away from the daily ugliness that defines politics today. It may even provide an opportunity to reset the political narrative: it is unconscionable that all politics is being dominated by the travails and intrigues of a handful of individuals while the masses suffer. Leaders from both sides of the aisle may take the debate as an opportunity to demonstrate to their voters that they are not single-issue politicians; that they are cognisant of the challenges before them and have the capacity and will to work them out.

During this time, the political environment should be improved for there to be constructive engagement between the rival factions. It is the responsibility of the parties in government, as wielders of state power, to create the conditions necessary for constructive talks. It is extremely counterproductive for ministers to come on TV and endorse the ongoing victimisation of political opponents, as there is a very real risk that the shortsighted policies being adopted by various state institutions, which are being celebrated uncritically by the government, may end up sabotaging all hopes for greater 'istehkam'. Stability can only return when the cycle of violence stops. The gov-

ernment would do well to heed these words. Meanwhile, the PTI must provide a realistic framework for at least the first few rounds of engagements, which preferably does not involve impossible preconditions. A rigid approach will only extend the party's needless suffering till the government breaks, while a give-and-take approach may yield better results. Politics should not be reduced to a zero-sum game.

After the fall

This week's choreo-

graphed coronation of

Trump at the Republican

national convention in

Nuremberg rally even

without the supplemen-

tary advantage of the

revanchist führer's in-

jured ear. His running

mate is Ohio senator J.D.

Vance, who described

Trump eight years ago as

a putative 'American

Hitler'. He later had a

MAGA epiphany, and

now blames the Demo-

cratic campaign for

Saturday's violence, even

though the motives of the

shooter, a 20-year-old

registered Republican,

are yet to be determined.

prising and unfortunate if

Biden does not step aside

before the Democratic

Party's equivalent event

in Chicago next month.

This year, coincidentally,

is being compared to

1968, when a Democratic

convention in the same

city attracted radical pro-

tests and shocking police

violence. The likeliest

Democratic nominee,

Robert F. Kennedy, had

been shot dead less than

three months earlier,

Martin Luther King Jr's

were particularly infuri-

ated — like King and, to

a lesser degree, Kennedy

nation was perpetrating

in Vietnam. Precisely a

year before he was cut

down, King excoriated his

nation's government as

"the greatest purveyor of

violence in the world to-

and he would be right to-

day — but that does not

penetrate the conscious-

ness of the American po-

litical class, which has vo-

political violence lately

while insouciantly ignor-

He was right then,

The rebels of 1968

by the horrors their

assassination.

It will be both sur-

electorate diminish with Mahir Ali each passing day.

It's emblematic of the current moment in American politics that the incumbent president's physical and mental health remains a bigger cause for concern than that of his challenger even after the latter survived an assassiation attempt.

After informing his Praetorian guard that he was keen to be reunited with his shoes, Donald Trump, a couple of streaks of blood running down his face from where a sniper's bullet had grazed his ear, told his Secret Service protectors to wait while he pumped his fist and encouraged his audience to 'Fight, fight, fight!' before he was led offstage. The clenched fist went up once again as he entered a black van.

Images from the incident will no doubt enhance Trump's chances of re-election four years after a defeat that many of his supporters believe was unfairly engineered. His biggest advantage, though, remains his doddering opponent in the race who is barely able to walk, let alone convincingly run.

Democratic The Party ought to have about two months after recognised long before the presidential debate the horrifying news of debacle of June 27 that relying on Joe Biden to defeat Trump a second time was a mug's game. It has been fairly obvious for what in political terms is an eternity that a physically and intellectually enfeebled president isn't up to the task.

Biden's apparent personal conviction that only he can stave off the serious risk of Trump's return to the White House does not stand up to scrutiny. No one can claim with any certainty that Kamala Harris or another alternative would be an adequate bulwark against the Republican ciferously been decrying candidate, but their chances of making any kind of impression on the ing the extent to which Dawn

the repressive apparat of the state strives to sustain an appalling status quo at home, while taking various organs help to implement it abroad. Milwaukee would have Foreign policy is supposbeen reminiscent of a edly Biden's strong suit. As far as anyone can see, it entails endless conflict between Russia and

Ukraine, and the destruc-

tion of Palestine.

Biden's record as a borderline segregationist senator beholden to corporate America and the national security state, then as vice president and eventually president, does not add up to much. It's accurate but insufficient to claim that Trump would be much worse. The Clinton and Obama Democratic presidencies paved the way for George W. Bush and Trump. Biden could still bow out to give his possible successor a fighting chance. Divine intervention might be required, given his claim that only the Almighty could persuade him to do the decent thing. But family, friends, allies and donors could help to end what has aptly been described as

The gerontocracy

that stretches from the

White House to the divided Senate and the rabidly conservative supreme court isn't America's only problem. Chances are that both its global hegemony (Biden claims to 'rule the world') and the viability of the republic founded in 1776 will diminish in November, for better (in the case of the hegemony) or worse. This verse from an ostensibly apolitical song Paul Simon wrote circa 1968 sadly continues to resonate: Sitting on a sofa on a Sunday afternoon/ Going to the candidates' debate/ Laugh about it, shout about it/ When you've got to choose/ Every way you look at it you lose.' -- Courtesy

Karbala glimpses

Qasim A. Moini

Communities across the Muslim world, particularly in South Asia and the Middle East, are familiar with heartrending epic of Karbala, as the event is firmly embedded in the cultural consciousness, crossing sectarian and, in some cases, even religious lines.

Mention the word Karbala in these societies, and images of thirst, suffering and, most of all, the valiant stand of Imam Husain and his committed followers against a numerically superior Syrian/Kufi force immediately emerge. For centuries, depictions of this fateful battle have been heard from the pulpit and sorrowful verses recounted in noha and marsiya, as well as details mentioned in historical accounts (maqatil). Whoever hears and

reads these accounts is struck by the barbarity unleashed upon the children and kinsmen of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) by the Umayyad forces. Yet, glimpses of that barbarity can be seen today, in a land only a few hundred kilometres from the burning desert of Karbala. That land is Gaza, and Israeli forces have, since Oct 7, 2023, unleashed atrocities on Palestine's defenceless people not too different from the cruelty that was the hallmark of Yazid's troops in Karbala.

Fourteen centuries ago, concepts such as protection of non-combatants and prevention of war crimes were nowhere near as well-defined as they are today. Yet, in this supposedly civilised era, those in sharp suits sitting in Tel Aviv have displayed the same disregard for human life and dignity that the Kufi and Syrian legions did on the day of Ashura

ideology clearly sur- suffering from malnutri-

vives.
The similarities between seventh-century Karbala and 21st-century Gaza are uncanny. When Imam Husain's small force, including women and children, arrived at Karbala on the second of Muharram, the Umayyad forces prevented them from getting water from nearby channels. By the time the day of Ashura arrived, the minor children were crying out due to unbearable thirst, yet the Umayyad generals refused the Imam access to

Similarly, Gaza has

been under an almost air-

since 2007, described as

an open-air prison. After

the Oct 7 events, the Israelis have tightened the blockade, using starvation as a weapon, bringing Gaza to the brink of famine. Seeing images of emaciated Palestinian children is unbearable for anyone with a soul. Clearly, the 'only democracy in the Middle East'. as some describe Israel, is fine with using cruel seventh-century tactics to starve civilians into submission. Moreover, women and children are supposed to be spared during combat. But in Karbala, the granddaughters and other female relatives of the Holy Prophet were meted out unspeakable treatment. In Nafasal Mahmum, one of the more authentic maqatil compiled by the venerable scholar Shaikh Abbas Qomi, it is written that: "...the ladies were drawn out of the tents and the tents were set on fire. The women of the Prophet's family were

the ones in captivity.' The women of Gaza have had to endure simi-'world's most moral The New York Times has in 61AH. Yazid may have said that "nearly 60,000 an unedifying fate. perished, but the Yazidi pregnant women" are Courtesy Dawn

and marauded similar to

tion, dehydration and other healthcare complications. During the event of Karbala, the Umayyad forces showed no mercy, not even to children. For example, Hazrat Oasim, the son of Imam Hasan, who was barely in his teens, was martyred in a particularly barbaric fashion by the Umayyad hordes. Moreover, when Imam Husain was left alone in the field, another of Imam Hasan's children, an infant named Abdullah, rushed to his beloved uncle's defence, but was martyred in merciless fashion. And who can forget the youngest tight Israeli blockade martyr of Karbala, since 2007, described as Abdullah bin Husain, known as Ali Asghar. The suckling was attacked by a powerful arrow piercing his tiny neck while in the

Imam's arms. In Gaza, thousands of children have been slaughtered by the Israelis, while thousands more have been left orphaned. Heartbreaking images of mothers wailing over their murdered children are enough to move even the most stone-hearted

Just as 14 centuries ago, the world watched as the grandson of the Holy Prophet and his family members were surrounded and martyred without mercy, similarly today, the global community silently watches the genocidal spectacle playing out in Gaza. But despite their trials and seemingly unending grief, the people of Gaza can take solace from the example of Husain, who lived with dignity, and preferred to die than bow before oppressors. In one of his bareheaded, bare-feet most famous sermons, Imam Husain emphatically declared "far be it that we accept humiliation". Karbala teaches us lar treatment by the that those who bravely resist oppression will live army'. For example, even forever, while the oppressors will very soon meet

Commerce News

Finance minister reaffirms commitment to export-led growth

Muhammad Aurangzeb here on feedb Thursday reaffirmed the the government's commitment commitment for expanding the mobile to foster export-led growth and providing a conducive environment to local manufacturers.

talking to the delegation of necessity for a stable and Pakistan Mobile Phone supportive Manufacturers Association environment (PMPMA) that called on him here, said a press release issued by the finance ministry.

importance of maintaining

acknowledged the valuable feedback and underscored the entire digital ecosystem manufacturing industry.

local encourages manufacturers.

in the country.

They advocated for measures to ensure that He emphasized the international brands support the domestic industry and consequently,

ISLAMABAD (APP): increasing the focus on the the national economy. The Federal Minister for policy framework for delegation also presented Finance and Revenue, exports. The minister proposals aimed at promoting the growth of the local industry and government's increasing the exports of

According to the Earlier, the PMPMA statement, the meeting delegation thanked the concluded with a mutual The minister was minister and highlighted the agreement on the need for a strategic and supportive policy policy framework aimed at fostering local manufacturing and enhancing export potential, thereby contributing to the broader goals of national economic

Shipping activity at **Port Qasim**

growth and

transformation.

KARACHI (APP): Five ships, X-press Antaila, Zhong Gu Bo Hai, Maya Gas-1, Horizon-1 and Fair Star carrying container, LPG and Gas oil, berthed at QICT Terminal, Engro Terminal, Sui Southern Gas Terminal and Oil Terminal respectively on Wednesday, Meanwhile four more ships, Lucky Chem, Silver Heba, Naeba Galaxy and Milaha Oatar are also Milaha Qatar are also arrived at outer-anchorage of the Port Qasim on during last 24

Eight ships were engaged at PQA berths during the last 24 hours, out of them six ships, X-Press Antalia, Zhong Gu Bo Hai, Ardmore Cherokee, Maya Gas-1, Destiny and Horizon-1 are expected to sail on Thursday.

Cargo volume of 59,341 tonnes. 59,341 tonnes, comprising 51,351 tonnes imports cargo and 7,990 tonnes export cargo carried in 1,119 Containers (649 TEUs Imports and 470 TEUs export) was handled at the port during last 24 hours.



Committee FESCO Board of Directors Mian Farrukh Iqbal has said Faisalabad Electric Supply Company is striving to provide quality service to its consumers and in this connection, help is also being taken from social media and the latest technology for redressing electricity

priority basis. Addressing the 17/45th meeting of Customer on Thursday, he said that complaints.

related complaints on top

services to consumers FAISALABAD (APP): FESCO had precious asset Convener Customer of 5.3 million active consumers out of which 80 per cent consumers belong to domestic category. He said that FESCO complaint numbers remained active round the clock and the people could contact the company through 118 and 8118 for getting their electricity related complaints lodged at any time. New features are also being added in these numbers to facilitate the electricity consumers at maximum extent in addition to providing Services Committee at them the facility to track FESCO Headquarters here updated status of their

SECP management discusses development of capital market

ISLAMABAD (APP): The top management of the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) met with the Board of Directors of the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) to discuss the strategy for the development of the capital

The participants from SECP included Akif Saeed (Chairman), Abdul Rehman Warraich (Commissioner – Securities Market Division) and other senior members of the management, said press release issued here on Thursday. The participants discussed the challenges faced in the capital market and deliberated ways to address them. The meeting was focused on areas such as enhanced governance, operational compliance, increasing the stock market investor base, and striving

continuous digitalization in the capital market. The need for coordination among various stakeholders for development of the market, as well as creating awareness among potential investors, was keenly emphasized during the functions of the Pakistan Software Export Board.

Cotton calendar 2024-25 issued for south Punjab farmers after consultations with experts, WWF

MULTAN (APP): Cotton Calendar 2024-25, dubbed as a roadmap to better and cost-effective pest cotton crop with costeffective pest control mechanism prescribed under the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) model, was released here Thursday on the orders of Secretary Agriculture South Punjab Saqib Ali Ateel after it was finalized following brainstorming by the agriculture

department, experts and World Wild Life Fund (WWF). The initiative was a replication of the year 2021 when the first cotton calendar was issued and

sizable crop with efficient control under the IPM program, said an official release issued here.

The calendar will serve as a comprehensive advisory for farmers who believe the IPM program should continue to be practised on the south Punjab's vast cotton landscape to get higher production.

Farooq Safdar, a cotton farmer from Mauza 5-Kassi Kabirwala, said, it was the IPM program that helped him get 65 Maunds per acre with only two did suffer blackening.

spray proved better against white fly, he added.

A Sadiqabad-based farmer, Muhammad Ishaq said his crop remained safe against white flies and he was able to get 40 Maunds per acre production of

Muhammad Amin from Chak 109 Yamzan, Bahawalpur, said, low chemical sprays under the IPM plan helped friendly pests remain alive while yellow sticky cards and botanical sprays helped tackle the white fly problem and cotton fiber

Shaza chairs **PSEB** board meeting

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister of State for Information Technology and Telecommunication, Shaza Fatima Khawaja Thursday chaired the 60th Board of Directors meeting of the Pakistan Software Export Board (PSEB). Secretary IT Captain (Retd) Muhammad Mahmood was also present, said a news release. Chairman of the Pakistan Software Houses Association (P@SHA), Muhammad Zohaib Khan, attended the meeting via video link. The meeting discussed the mandate and

NA body on Petroleum **Division briefed on** ongoing, new initiatives

ISLAMABAD (APP): on Energy (Petroleum Division) was briefed on Thursday about several ongoing and new initiatives by the Petroleum Division discussion, with an to improve services for emphasis on the main people across the country. The Secretary of the

Ministry of Energy (Petroleum Division) provided a comprehensive overview of the ministry's functions and its attached departments. The meeting was

chaired by Syed Mustafa Mehmood, MNA, and was

also attended by the Federal The Standing Committee Minister for Energy (Petroleum Division). The entire performance of the ministry was examined during the introductory problems and possible solutions The meeting was attended by Members Syed Naveed Qamar, Muhammad Nawaz Khan, Shahid Ahmed, Anwar-ul-Haq Chaudhary, Rai Haider Ali Khan, Dr. Shezra Mansab Ali Khan Kharal, Gul Asghar Khan, Salahuddin



displaying cherry for selling purpose for tourists.

Romanian embassay, PRBC sign MoU to boost trade between Romania, Pak

ISLAMABAD (APP): and recognized the The Embassy of Romania outstanding services to the Islamic Republic of rendered by PRBC Pakistan on Thursday since 2011 in promoting signed a memorandum of bilateral trade between understanding (MoU) with the two countries. the Pakistan Romania Council (PRBC) to strengthen for cooperation between bilateral trade and the Embassy of Romania economic cooperation and PRBC, with the Pakistan.

PREDA, Charge trade. D'Affaires, Embassy of Republic of Pakistan, and Chairman of PRBC, Sohail Shamim FIRPO,

The agreement establishes a framework between Romania and Embassy extending full support to PRBC's The MoU signed endeavours to promote
Eduard-Robert and strengthen bilateral

Additionally, the Romania to the Islamic protocol acknowledges the recent expansion of PRBC through the formation of its North Chapter

KP CM appoints

chairmen DDACs

PESHAWAR (APP): Chief

Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Ali Amin

Khan Gandapur Thursday

appointed Chairmen of

District Development

Advisory Committees (DDACs) for four

Division including Kohat,

Orakzai, Hangu and Karak

districts. According to the

letter addressed to

including Shafiullah Jan

Aurangzeb Khan, Shah

Abu Turab Khan Bangash

and Khurshid Khattak

have been appointed Chairmen District

Development Advisory

Committees for Kohat, Orakzai, Hangu and Karak

districts respectively.

Local

Districts

Secretary

Government

All resources will be utilized to solve public issues: Sardar Saleem

LAHORE: Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider said that the government is trying practically to solve the problems of the people. He added that all resources will be utilized to solve public problems.

He expressed these views while talking on the occasion of holding an open court for solving public problems in Punjab House Rawalpindi. According to the details, an open court was held by Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider in Punjab House Rawalpindi to resolve public issues.

people were present in the security arrangements. open court. Speaking on the occasion, Governor to him regarding the security

LAHORE: Chairman Pakistan Ulema Council

Allama Tahir Ashrafi addressing a press conference

Defamation case

Court seeks arguments on

damage claim of Rs 10blns

by Shehbaz against Imran

arguments on Prime counsel for Shehbaz Sharif

regarding hearing of counsel for PTI founder miscellaneous petition of said he was appointed

Shehbaz Sharif. It has been counsel now in this case.

(Online):

Sessions court has sought

Minister (PM) Shehbaz

Sharif damage claim of Rs

10 billion in defamation

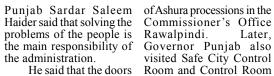
judge Muhammad Farhan

Nabi of Sessions court

Lahore issued written order

Additional Sessions

case against PTI founder.



of the Governor's House are open for the people. He issued instructions on the spot to convey the problems of the people to the concerned officials for redressal.

Haider Khan, visited the Ashura processions in Raja Bazar, Rawalpindi in connection with 10th Muharram. On this occasion, the Punjab A large number of Governor reviewed the

Governor Punjab also visited Safe City Control Room and Control Room established in TMA office. During the visit, the Punjab Governor reviewed the process of monitoring the routes of the processions.

Friday July 19, 2024

lauded administration for making Meanwhile, Governor fool proof security Punjab, Sardar Saleem arrangements and expressed satisfaction over the security arrangements Commissioner Rawalpindi Aamer Khattak, RPO Rawalpindi Babar Sarfraz Alpa, DC Rawalpindi, Hasan Waqar Cheema and other administrative officers were also present on this

Mother allegedly slaughters her three minor children in Abbottabad

ABBOTTABAD (APP) In a shocking and tragic incident, Hajira Bibi, wife of Wajid a resident of Mohalla Musa Zai, Abbottabad on Thursday, allegedly slaughtered her three minor children. The children, aged 3 years, 5 years, and 8 months, were immediately shifted to Ayub Medical Complex for treatment.

7 injured in accident

NOWSHERA (APP): At least seven persons were injured in a police mobile van accident that occurred near Col. Shair Khan Interchange of Nowshera district, tv channels quoting police reported on Thursday.

According to details, a police mobile van was crossing the Col. Shaheed Shair Khan Interchange when it turned turtle due to tyre



of the people during open court for held for solving public problems in Punjab

Govt's Langar, Sabeels to continue till Chehlum of Imam Hussain: Marriyum

LAHORE (APP): Senior Minister Provincial Marriyum Aurangzeb has said that special arrangements for 'Langar' [free food] and 'Sabeels' [cold water points] were arranged on the directions of Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz across province, and the arrangements would continue till 'Chehlum' of

Imam Hussain (AS). Along with members of the cabinet committee on law and order, she visited Karbala Gamay Shah, Lahore's main imambargah, and the mourning procession's culmination point, here on Wednesday. She said the entire cabinet had actively worked in the field and oversaw the law and order and other arrangements. HealthChairman Committee Minister/ Cabinet Khawaja Salman Rafique, Food Minister Bilal Yasin, Finance Minister Mujtaba Shuja-ur-Rehman and Home Secretary Noor-ul-Amin Mengal accompanied the senior minister.

The home secretary gave a briefing on the Muharram main processions across Punjab, including Lahore.

Dawood Khan was also

present. Speaking on the on

the occasion, the provincial

minister directed for

framing a comprehensive

regularization of illegal

housing societies, NOC

KP govt to take action against illegal housing societies

PESHAWAR (APP): Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Minister for Local Government Arshad Ayub Khan Thursday said that heavy fines will be imposed on illegal housing societies and notices will be issued to them, if they still do not register themselves, then and such societies will be sealed.

He expressed these housing societies should views while presiding over be sealed.

Service delivery being improved at govt hospitals: DC KHANEWAL (APP) the meeting, Secretary Local Government

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Muhammad Ali Bukhari said that all possible efforts were being made to improve service delivery at government hospitals to provide the best health facilities to the masses as per directives of the provincial government. During a surprise visit

and other legal requirements should be Basic Health Units fulfilled, otherwise such (BHUs) at Village 136/10-R and 140/10-R on

PPP Sindh MPA calls on Governor KP

Pakistan Peoples Party natural resources. (PPP) Thursday called on Khyber Governor Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi at Governor House and discussed various problems of the province.

During the meeting, Asif Khan, commended the role of Governor Faisal Kundi, acknowledging him as a sincere and dedicated person to represent the province. He praised the Governor's efforts in addressing provincial issues effectively.
Governor Faisal Karim Kundi highlighted

the historical and cultural

PESHAWAR (APP): Asif significance of Khyber Khan, Member of Pakhtunkhwa, Provincial Assembly Sindh, emphasizing its rich

He expressed his commitment to alleviating poverty in the province through sustainable development initiatives harnessing its natural wealth.

The Governor said that efforts related to youth engagement, women empowerment, education. and healthcare were also underway.

He said that plans for establishing a task force to address educational and healthcare challenges in the province were included in priorities



PESHAWAR: Member Provincial Assembly Sindh Asif Khan calls on Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi at Governor House.

LHC orders for demolition of brick kilns causing smog without any notice

LAHORE (Online): Lahore High Court (LHĆ) while ordering to demolish the brick kilns causing smog without notice has remarked deputy commissioners of Punjab

Justice Shahid Karim of LHC issued written orders on hearing of the petitions filed with reference to eradication of

will be responsible if court

orders are violated at brick

Justice Shahid Karim issued 7-page written order on the petitions including petition of citizen Haroon

The court while deputy commissioners of ordering to demolish the Punjab will be responsible.

brick kilns causing smoke has remarked the black smoke emitting from brick kilns constructed on old technology be demolished without issuing any notice.

The court orders are being violated openly on bricks kilns. Environment department is responsible for violation of court's

It was written in the court's orders that we are giving last warning to eputy commissioner Sheikhupura and deputy director environment for implementation of court's orders. If court's orders are violated on brick kilns then

International News

policy

Israel bombards central Gaza as tanks advance deeper in Rafah

said in the court's order that

Saad Sibghat Ullah Sultan

appeared in the court

during the hearing of the

case. Mian Muhammad

Hussain new counsel for

Imran Khan presented his

power of attorney in the

court. It was said in the

written order of court that

CAIRO: Israeli forces bombarded the Gaza Strip's historic refugee camps in the centre of the enclave and struck Gaza City in the north on Thursday, killing at least 21 people, and tanks pushed deeper into Rafah in the south, health officials and residents said.

A barrage of Israeli airstrikes killed 16 in Zawayda town, Bureij and Nuseirat camps and the overcrowded city of Deir-Al-Balah, the last major urban centre in Gaza not to be invaded by Israeli forces, health officials said. In Gaza City in the north, medics said five Palestinians were killed in two separate strikes.

The Israeli military said in a statement its forces killed two senior Islamic Jihad commanders in two

Monitoring Desk

BLENHEIM PALACE:

Britain's new prime minis-

ter, Keir Starmer, called on

Thursday for closer coop-

eration in Europe to advance

support for Ukraine and

tackle the continent's most

pressing problems: illegal

migration, climate change

the European Political

Community (EPC) of

more than 40 nations at

Blenheim Palace, the

birthplace of Winston

Churchill, Starmer made

his bid for a reset in post-

Brexit ties with the Euro-

from the previous Conser-

He distanced himself

Opening a meeting of

and energy security.

cluding one whom it said had taken part in the Oct. 7 attack in southern Israel that triggered the Gaza war.

In Rafah, residents said Israeli tanks advanced deeper in the western side of the city and took position on a hilltop there. The Israeli military said forces located several tunnels and killed several gunmen.

At Al-Amal Hospital, run by the Palestinian Red Crescent Society, in Khan Younis in southern Gaza, Palestinian health officials exhumed at least 12 bodies buried inside the medical facility to rebury them at another location.

showed medical workers digging up bodies from graves inside the facility, wrapping them in white shrouds before placing airstrikes in Gaza City, in- transfer to a new burial site

UK's Starmer calls for deeper

cooperation on Ukraine and

Europe's problems

Areej Hamouda, a mother of one of the dead, clutched some of the sandy

as some relatives watched,

earth from the grave of her son and kissed it before medics exhumed the body. "They (Israel) shot him and he had a loaf of

bread with him, which he had to beg for to get for his daughter, they shot him in the eve and the head - it rained on him, he was washed with blood," Hamouda said, weeping. "He was (lying) there all day long, they weren't able to move him, (then) they pulled him with rope when they brought him to be buried here." The fighting has pushed the 60bed Red Cross field hospital in Rafah to the brink of capacity, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said in a state-

Chinese, ministers to **Monitoring Desk**

OTTAWA: Canada's Foreign Minister Melanie Joly will meet with her Chinese counterpart Wang Yi in Beijing on Friday for talks on bilateral relations and security issues, Ottawa

istry said.
"As the world faces intersecting global issues, engaging pragmatically with a wide range of countries to advance our national interests and uphold our values," Joly said in the statement



the mosque was hit by an Israeli strike, amid the Israel-Hamas conflict, in Nuseirat refugee camp in the central Gaza Strip.

Philippines, China to set up new channels to handle South China Sea rows

Monitoring Desk MANILA: The Philippines and China have agreed to set up new lines of communication to improve their handling of maritime disputes, according to a document and a Philippine diplomatic source, as ties sour over clashes about territory in the South China Sea.

The two countries have traded barbs repeatedly over jurisdiction in the contested South China Sea as the Philippines, emboldened by support of defence ally the United States, challenges China's permanent presence around strategic features in-

side Manila's exclusive economic zone. Three communication channels would be established specifically for maritime issues, according to the source, who provided a document with highlights of an "Arrangement on Improving Philippines-China Maritime Communication Mechanisms", which was signed on July 2. "China has always been committed to working with the Philippines to properly address maritime issues through dialogue and consultation," Foreign ministry spokesperson Lin Jian told a briefing when asked about the agreement.

Police, students clash in Bangladesh as protests over job quotas kill 6 more people

Monitoring Desk DHAKA: Thousands of students armed with sticks

and rocks clashed with armed police in Dhaka on Thursday as the Bangladesh authorities cut some mobile internet services to quell anti-quota

protests that have killed at least 12 people this week. The nationwide protests are the biggest since Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was re-elected to a fourth term in office, and are fuelled by high unem-

ployment among the youth, with nearly a fifth of the 170 million population out of work or education.

Six people died in clashes with police in Dhaka on Thursday, including a bus driver whose body was brought to a hospital with a bullet wound to his chest, and a student, officials told Reuters. Hundreds more were injured, they said. Law Minister Anisul Huq said the government was willing to talk to the protesters.

Biden tests positive for Covid, will self-isolate in **Delaware**

Monitoring Desk WASHINGTON: President Joe Biden, under pressure from fellow Democrats to drop his reelection campaign, tested positive for Covid-19 while visiting Las Vegas on Wednesday and is self-isolating after experiencing mild symptoms, the White House said. White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre announced the positive test for the 81vear-old Democrat after Biden cancelled a speech due to the diagnosis

Saudi crown prince congratulates new Iranian president

Monitoring Desk

RIYAD: Saudi Arabia' crown prince on Wednesday called Iranian presidentelect Masoud Pezeshkian to congratulate him on winning the election, Saudi state nedia reported.

Mohammed Salman and Pezeshkian 'praised the development of relations between the two countries at various levels, stressing the importance of continuing to enhance cooperation in various fields.

US military pier for carrying aid to Gaza will be dismantled whether aid groups will **Monitoring Desk**

military-built pier to carry humanitarian aid to Gaza will be dismantled and brought home, ending a mission that has been fraught with repeated weather and security problems that limited how much food and other supplies could get to starving Pales-

Vice Adm. Brad Cooper, deputy commander at US Central Command, told reporters in a Pentagon briefing on Wednesday that the pier achieved its intended effect in what he called an "unprecedented operation.'

As the US military steps away from the sea route for humanitarian aid, questions swirl about Israel's new plan to use the port at Ashdod as a substitute. There are few details on how it will work and lingering concerns about the coming days."

have enough viable land crossings to get assistance into the territory besieged by war between Israel and Hamas. Cooper said the

Ashdod corridor will be more sustainable and it has already been used to get more than a million pounds of aid into Gaza

"Having now delivered the largest volume of humanitarian assistance ever into the Middle East, we're now mission complete and transitioning to a new phase," said Cooper. "In the coming weeks, we expect that millions of pounds of aid will enter into Gaza via this new path-

He said there is currently 5 million pounds of aid in Cyprus, awaiting transit to Ashdod, and they expect delivery to start "in

French lawmakers vote on parliament president in post-election move

Monitoring Desk PARIS: France's deeply

fragmented parliament met on Thursday for the first time since this month's inconclusive election to vote on the assembly's president, in a ballot that could be key to who calls the shots in the country's politics for years to come.

A grouping of leftist parties unexpectedly came first in the election, ahead of President Emmanuel Macron's centrists and Marine Le Pen's far-right, but no one group won a majority

Electing the lower house of parliament's president, equivalent to a speaker who organises the chamber's agenda and runs debates, is usually a formality. The process has taken on more importance this time, with Macron weakened and a lot of uncertainty over who will form the next government

and how effective it could be in a divided parliament.

The vote could also offer clues as to whether a coalition government that commands a working majority can be formed and what its political colours could be. The New Popular Front (NFP) left-wing alliance, hastily assembled before the snap election, wants to run the government but has been fighting bitterly since the July 7 second round of voting

over who to put forward as prime minister. It hopes its candidate for parliament chief, veteran Communist lawmaker Andre Chassaigne, who is well-liked across party lines, could be

elected. This could be a boost to its chances of forming a government, by showing the alliance can command a majority in the assembly.

vative government which had threatened to withdraw from an international treaty on human rights, offering other European leaders a clean slate.

pean Union.

"Under my leadership, Britain will be a

friend and a partner, ready to work with you, not part of the European Union, but very much part of Europe," Starmer said in his remarks, referring to Britain's exit from the EU after a 2016 referendum.

"United by our determination to defend them (shared values), and certain about what we can achieve together," he told other leaders at the EPC. a grouping distinct from the EU and created after Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022. The one-day meet

ing provides Britain's new leader with another opportunity to push for closer defence cooperation especially before the possible election of Donald Trump, who alongside his new pick for running mate, J.D. Vance. suggests that Europe must do more to protect its own ment on Thursday. Canadian foreign meet in Beijing

said on Thursday.

Joly is making the trip to China, her first as foreign minister, at the invitation of Wang, the Canadian foreign ministry said in a statement. The top diplomats will discuss global and regional security issues as well as "possible avenues for collaboration on common challenges," the min-

increasingly complex and Canada is committed to

Ahsan launches 'Key Findings Report' on first ever digital census-2023

ISLAMABAD (APP): respond to natural calami- have opened our eyes and Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Professor Ahsan Iabal on Thursday unveiled the "First Ever Digital Census Key Findings Report," compiled by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS).

The report, which marks a significant milestone for Pakistan, provides comprehensive data crucial for the development of urban and rural areas and effective disaster response.

Addressing a ceremony, the minister highlighted Pakistan's achievement as the first country in South Asia to conduct a digital census. "The data collected through this census will be instrumental in guiding our development efforts and enhancing our ability to "The results of the census"

ties," he stated.

The census, mandated by the constitution to be conducted every ten years, faced scrutiny in 2017 when pressed concerns over the results, he said.

on this new census began after April 2022.3

In a short period, the minister said, over 120,000 individuals were trained to carry out the digital census, following the PBS

and the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) developed the necessary software under significant time

KARACHI: Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM-

P) Leaders, Farooq Sattar, Mustafa Kamal and oth-

ers participating religious procession to show their

devotion and respect for cradle as they remember

the martyrs of Karbala, during Markazi Ashura

mourning procession in connection of 10th

PTI demands issuance of

reserved seats notification,

CEC resignation

(PTI) has demanded the is- cisions including the re-

Khan said the government and the rulers are running

Commissioner for devising

Muharram-ul-Haram, held in Karachi.

kistan Tehreek-e-Insaf

suance of notification re-

garding allocation of re-

served seats to the party,

declaring imposing any ban

on the PTI would tanta-

mount to government's

after attending joint parlia-

mentary party meeting of

the PTI and Sunni Ittehad

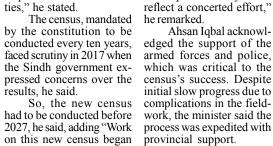
Council (SIC) in Islamabad

on Thursday, PTI Chair-

man Barrister Gohar Ali

was on "a collision course"

Talking to media men



The consensus of all stakeholders was achieved, and the work was completed with the aid of satellite geo-tagging and imagery provided by the Pakistan pace & Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (SUPARCO). The 7th Digital Census was unanimously approved by the Council of Common Interests (CCI).

Pakistan Bar Council demands formation of **Constitutional** Court

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Pakistan Bar Council has called for the formation of formation of Constitutional Court in the country through a constitutional amendment.

As per details, the bar council said that the proposed court would exclusively hear political and constitutional cases, providing timely justice to the

The Pakistan Bar Council believes that the establishment of a constitutional court would save valuable time and provide swift justice to the common man. The council has also expressed support for the appointment of ad hoc udges to help expedite the decision-making process in cases

May 9 cases: Qureshi shifted from Adiala jail to Lahore

RAWALPINDI (Online): PTI leader Shah Mehmood Oureshi has been shifted from Adiala jail to Lahore. Jail sources told Online

Shah Mehmood Qureshi was shifted from Adiala jail to Lahore under stringent ecurity on Thursday Morning for appearance in Anti Terrorism Court (ATC).

It is pertinent to mention here cases related to May 9 are pending hearing

Shah Mehmood Qureshi will be brought back to Adiala Jail after his appearance in ATC Lahore.

It is pertinent to mention here ATC Lahore had indicted former foreign minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi in the case of torching police station Shadman on May 9.

Ex-PTI MPA Adeel Khan arrested

KARACHI (INP): Former PTI MPA Adeel Khan was apprehended following the cancellation of his bail in connection with three cases linked to the May 9 tragedy, as ordered by the Special Anti-Terrorism Court. During proceedings at the Anti-Terrorism Complex in Karachi Central Jail, the court mandated Khan's arrest for non-appearance. Court police promptly ex-

ecuted the order. While Khan faced arrest, other notable PTI figures, including Haleem Adil Sheikh and Raja Azhar, were present in court. The hearing for the three cases, registered at the Tipu Sultan and Firozabad police stations, has been adjourned until August 5.

9-year-old girl allegedly raped in Karachi's Surjani area

KARACHI (INP): A disturbing incident has shaken the Surjani area of Karachi, where a 9-year-old girl was allegedly raped.

The victim's family eported the crime to the police, who have registered case against the accused, quack Barkat.

According to the girl's statement to the police, she was forcibly held and made unconscious.

When she regained consciousness, ound herself without

and tortured him.



Nagvi chairing a meeting of Committee regarding National Drug Survey.

Creating hindrances in jail meetings of Imran HC gives indication for initiating contempt of court proceedings against Adiala jail authorities

ISLAMABAD (Online): Justice Sardar Ejaz Ishaq Khan of Islamabad High Court (IHC) has indicated to initiate contempt of court proceedings against Adiala Jail authorities for creating hindrances in jail meetings of PTI founder Imran Khan.

Justice Ejaz Ishaq Khan has remarked " it is not acceptable at all. He cannot be stopped from seeing any document. If it is done so in future then contempt of court notice will be issued. This is tantamount to block justice process. There are more than 200 cases against Imran Khan. All cases are of political consequences. You want to show it that these all are real cases. Those who come to meet Imran Khan should also

ISLAMABAD (Online):

PTI founder Imran Khan

and Bushra Bibi have chal-

lenged in Islamabad High

Court (IHC) their arrest in

new case of Tosha Khana.

Bushra Bibi have filed petition in IHC Thursday

seeking court's orders for

declaring their arrest illegal

founder and Bushra Bibi

were arrested in other fake

case without any justifica-

tion after their acquittal in

Garhi Khuda Bux.

livery Programme, funded

by USAID, took place at

the Office of the Divisional

Commissioner Sukkur, pre-

sided over by Commis-

sioner Fayaz Hussain

Abbasi and Project Direc-

tor Municipal Service De-

livery Programme, Shah

Zaman Khuhro here on

Superintendent of Railways

Sukkur, Syed Mualim, Di-

rector of Planning SEPCO

Irshad Ali Baloch, and of-

ficials from the Municipal

Programme, SEPCO and

Railway Sukkur attended

cussed the provision of

new electricity connec-

tions by SEPCO to 18

pumping stations in

Jacobabad as part of the

Municipal Services Deliv-

ery Program, and the issu-

ance of NOCs by Pakistan

Railway for the crossing of

The participants dis-

Delivery

Deputy Divisional

Thursday.

Services

the meeting.

besides releasing them.

PTI founder and

The petition said PTI

comply with Jail SOPs. He gave these remarks during hearing of the petition on Thursday The petition in con-

nection with meetings of Imran Khan with his lawyers came up for hearing in the court Thursday. Superintendent Adiala Jail filed the list in connec-

tion with meetings of PTI founder in Adiala jail. Advocate Shoaib Shaheen counsel for said to the court during the hearing let us see this list. Lest it should contain jail hearings in meetings. Our leaders in-

cluding both of the opposition leaders were kept standing and were not allowed to meet Imran Khan despite the fact court had ordered to work out SOP for two meetings in a week. Advocate General

nents, federal and Punjab

governments want to keep

Imran Khan and Bushra

Bibi under detention for long

period. Both were arrested

during the period when their

petitions against their call

up notices were pending

Arresting both of them when their petition

was pending hearing is

based on ill intent. Political

opponents are using NAB

for persistent political vic-

timization. The superior

courts have stressed in their

decisions that arrest cannot

hearing in IHC.

New case of Toshakhana:

PTI founder, Bushra

challenge their arrest

Nikah during iddat case for the sake of political victimbe made merely on registra-

SEPCO & PR to issue new

electricity connection

ization. The political oppo- tion of case.

(AG) said the lawyers who represent PTI founder don't come. The lawyers who are active politically come to meet Imran Khan. Those who had gone to Adiala jail demanded that the meeting of all should be arranged simultaneously. Advocate Shoaib

Shaheen said our vehicles are stopped at a distance of one and half kilometer from

Counsel said a large mirror has been erected between Imran Khan and those who come there to meet him. We cannot give or take any document. We have to speak loudly.

Advocate Shoaib Shaheen said we can neither take into or out of jail a piece of paper. AG Islamabad said we even then provide then opportunity.

PPP chief expresses grief over death of **Sodal Fageer**

ISLAMABAD (APP) Chairman Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Thursday expressed deep sorrow and grief over the death of Sodhal Faqeer, a renowned Sufi singer from Sindh.

"I am deeply saddened to hear about the death of Sodhal Faquer. He was a unique singer with a humble and spiritual disposition," he said in a press release issued by the party secretariat.

He said that Sodhal Faqeer's demise is a significant loss to the world of music in Sindh.

mighty grants the late Sodhal Faqeer forgiveness and a place in His mercy," Bilawal Bhutto added. He extended his condolences to the family and fans of Sodhal Faqeer, praying that Allah grants them patience in this difficult time.

Karachi lawyers' protest against proposal for Ad Hoc judges in SC

KARACHI (INP): Law-yers from the Insaf Law-GARHI KHUDA BUX: Leaders and activists of yers Forum staged a pro-Peoples Party (PPP) are offering Dua at the grave test at the city court, voicof Martyred Mir Shahnawaz Bhutto on his 39th ing their opposition to the death anniversary held at Bhutto Mausoleum in proposed appointment of ad hoc judges in the Su-Commissioner Sukkur Urges preme Court. The demonstration was led by Barrister Fayyaz Soomro, who called for the Pakistan Bar Council to challenge the proposal legally.

Barrister Soomro criticized the political motivations behind the suggestion of ad hoc appointments, emphasizing that the Supreme Court's decision in the Al- Jihad Trust case outlines a clear procedure for appointing judges. He argued that appointing judges on an ad hoc basis undermines the delivery of justice and insisted that udges should be appointed permanently from the High Court.

Second monsoon spell likely in next two days in Karachi

KARACHI Karachi is currently expe riencing hot and humid weather, with temperatures soaring and sea breezes suspended.

The Met Department has forecasted that the weather will remain hot for the next three days, but relief may be on the way as the second spell of monsoon is expected to arrive from July 19 or 20. Residents of Karachi

are enduring a situation of humidity accompanied by light clouds, exacerbating the heat due to the lack of sea breezes

On Thursday, the city recorded a minimum temperature of 32.5 degrees Celsius, with the maximum likely to reach 39 degrees

Pakistan launches national drug survey to combat narcotics menace

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan has initiated a nationwide survey to gather data on drug users, marking a significant step towards creating effective anti-narcotics strategies.

This embarked on a critical mission to combat drug abuse by conducting a national drug survey, the first in 11 years.

The survey, approved by the Federal Minister of Interior and Anti-Narcotics Mohsin Naqvi, aims to collect compreĥensive data on drug users from across the country, including homes, educational institutions, and slums, providing valuable insights for anti-narcotics efforts.

The National Drug Survey will be a comprehensive and authoritative exercise, covering homes. educational institutions, slums, and other areas. The data collected will enable

policymakers to make informed decisions in the

fight against narcotics. Naqvi emphasized the importance of accurate survey data, stating that it will be crucial in shaping effective anti-narcotics strate-

He directed the relevant authorities to finalize the survey methodology and timeline within 15

The Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) and Pakistan Bureau of Statistics will jointly conduct the survey, with international development organizations also being contacted for coopera-

The last National Drug Survey was conducted in 2013, and this new initiative marks a significant step forward in Pakistan's efforts to combat drug abuse and ensure a safer future for its citizens.



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Austria Andrea Wicke on behalf of the Austrian president, pinning the gold medal 'Decoration of Honour in Gold for Services to the Republic of Austria' on the protocol officer of the embassy, Ashraf Khan at an investiture ceremony at her residence in the Federal Capital.

Senate Committee assures to solve businessmen's issues on priority basis

KARACHI (APP): Senate resolved and with collective Standing Committee on Commerce has assured Karachi Chamber of Commerce and Industry representatives that issues of the business community would be resolved on priority ba-

The Standing Committee meeting was held at Karachi Chamber of Commerce and Industry's head office on Thursday with gime there was no way to chairperson of the committee Senator Anusha bail out package. Rehman in the cl

wisdom of the government and its allies problems being faced by city's business community would soon be resolved Karachi is country's industrial hub and Stock Ex-

change is located here which sets right direction of our economic stability, Anusha Rehman said due to wrong doing of the previous reapproach IMF for another

Addressing the busi- ernment was taking conness community, Senator crete steps to get rid of the Anusha Rehman said under IMF permanently. Pakithe leadership of stan needs political stabil-Muhammad Nawaz Sharif ity as no country will belaw and order issue of come a developed nation country's mega city was without it, she added.

Turkish Consulate organizes ceremony to mark failed coup attempt in 2016

KARACHI (APP): Turkish Consulate in Karachi has organized a ceremony to remember 15th July failed coup attempt in Turkiye in

The Acting Consul General of the Republic of Turkiye Ali Fuat Erkurt pay homage to the Turkish people who laid down their lives to protect democracy in he country.

Ali Fuat Erkurt said that we remember and reflect on a dark chapter in our nation's history the coup attempt of July 15, 2016. On that fateful night, a faction within our military, led by the Fettulahist Terrorist Organization, in other word FETO, sought to overthrow our democratically elected governpublic. He was addressing with a "cult" character.

a gathering held at Turkiye Consulate which was attended by large number of Turkish nationals living in Karachi, intellectuals, educationists and elite of city. The Turkiye envoy

said the coup attempt was not just an attack on our government, it was an attack on our democracy, our freedoms and our way of life. FETO, led by Fethullah Gulen, infiltrated our institutions over decades, using deception and manipulation to advance their agenda

He said that their betrayal on July 15th was the culmination of years of plotting against the Turkish state. FETO, which attempted the July 15 coup attempt, is not only a terment and undermine the rorist organization, but also very foundations of our re- an espionage organization

DIG directs to adhere relevant SOPs in on-going construction works

The Deputy Inspector General of Police Tariq Razaq Dharejo has directed to adhere to relevant SOPs in construction issues and high standards of modernity and durability should be the top priority He expressed these

views during his visit to the Regional Police hospital in Police Headquarter.

Medical Superintendent Regional Police hospital Dr. Naeed Ahmed Memon briefed the DIG about on-going develop-ment works in Hyderabad

He said that with the efforts of IG Sindh Police Ghulam Nabi Memon and DIG Hyderabad Range new machinery had been provided in the Pathology and Information technol-

HYDERABAD (APP): ogy department so that treatment of Sindh Police officers and their families could be made feasible.

DIG Tariq reviewed on-going development work in hospital wards, corridors and different departments and instructed to complete renovation work of the hospital in stipulated time.

DIG Tariq Razaq Dharejo lauded the efforts of Dr. Naveed Ahmed Memon and his entire team for providing different facilities to Medical superintendent Regional Police hospital and staff during Ashura

He further directed to provide better facilities to police staff and their family members besides improving services of the Dialysis department.

multi-dimensional strategy to face monsoon rain, flood in Lahore. meeting while DC Tando Muhammad Khan, Tando Allahyar, Badin, Dadu, HYDERABAD (APP):

The Divisional Commissioner Bilal Ahmed Memon presided over a meeting in his office at Shahbaz Hall regarding monsoon.

Addressing the meet-

ing Commissioner said that keeping in view torrential rain and floods of year 2010 and 2022 a multi-dimensional strategy should be formulated and make close contact more effective to face rain as predicted by Meteorological Depart-

Additional Commissioner-1 Ahsan Ali Qureshi, Deputy Commissioner Zain ul aabdin Memon, officers of WASA and irrigation were also present in the up with rain and flood.

Thatta and Matiari partici-

to get Supreme Court's de-

served seats one imple-

against demanded the res-

ignation of the chief elec-

tion commissioner after

the apex court's verdict to

PTI getting back its

"snatched" mandate. "The

Supreme Court's decision

has rocked the government

out of options," he added.

allocate reserved seats to

Omar Ayub once

Shibli Faraz said the

mented," he added.

pated through video link. Commissioner was apprised about the arrangements made for tackling rain and flood issues.

Commissioner said that details about the shortage of funds while carrying out rescue and relief activities should be shared to his office so that necessary funds could be released after talking with relevant authorities. On the occasion, Deputy Commissioner apprised the meeting about the precautionary



SUKKUR: Mayor Sukkur, Barrister Arsalan Islam Shaikh addresses to media persons during press conference, in Sukkur.

Transport Canada declares Pakistan's aviation security satisfactory

KARACHI (INP): In a of passes and addressing major development, the security delegation from Transport Canada on Wednesday completed the security audit of Jinnah International Airport

According to Airports Security Force (ASF), the team conducted thorough inspection of the security arrangements in place at the airport and found them satisfactory. During the audit, the ASF team comprising National Inspectors gave a briefing to the Transport Canada team.

The assessment team was given briefing on security deployment, entry control, screening, issuance tional Airport.

The Transport Canada team commended the efforts of the ASF for taking additional measures to ensure the safety of the Pakistan International Airlines' (PIA) direct flights to

The team also termed the overall aviation security measures satisfactory at the international airports of Pa-

tion that the two-member delegation from Transport Canada arrived in Pakistan on July 15 for the security audit of the Jinnah Interna-

emergency situations.

It is pertinent to men-

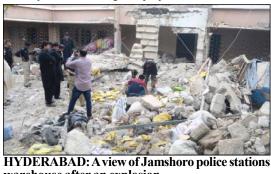
The police have taken the accused into custody, but only after local resi dents had already caught portant meeting regarding the Municipal Services De-Line at four locations, facilitating the project's progress.

drainage pipes on Railway

On this occasion, Divisional Commissioner Sukkur Fayaz Hussain Abbssi said that the Municipal Services Delivery Programme is an important project of the Sindh government, which has already been delayed due to administrative and technical issues.

He urged SEPCO and Pakistan Railway authorities to resolve the obstacles and issues hindering the project's progress, emphasizing that this is a public service project and any delays or problems should be addressed promptly.

He also emphasized that funds are readily available, and SEPCO should expedite the resolution of new electricity connections for pumping stations and railway NOCs on a priority basis, to prevent further delays in the



warehouse after an explosion.