

Independent

Member APNS & CPNE

Chief Editor: Syed Farooq Shah

www.dailyindependent.com.pk Quetta

Ph: 2841470/2841473 REG: No. BC-116 B/ID-445 Vol XXV No. 310, Zil Hajj 25, 1445 AH Tuesday July 02, 2024 Pages 08, Price Rs.15

Business friendly policies infuse foreign investors' confidence: PM Shahbaz

Underlines need to enhance trade, investment between Pakistan, Kazakhstan

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Monday said that the business friendly policies of the incumbent government had stabilized the country's economy and restored confidence of the foreign investors.

He said that Pakistan was moving on the right path towards economic stability, while steps were taken to provide relief to the public in the current fiscal budget.

The prime minister expressed these views during a meeting with a delegation of leading businessmen that called on him, the PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

The delegation included Shahzad Saleem, Zaid Bashir, Mussadiq Zulqarnain and Shehryar Chishti.

The members of the delegation praised the prime minister for the economic turnaround and provision of a conducive environment for the businesses and investment activities.

Meanwhile Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Monday while noting the positive trajectory of bilateral ties between Pakistan and Kazakhstan emphasized the need to enhance trade and investment, besides focusing on regional connectivity and security.

The prime minister received the Ambassador of Kazakhstan to Pakistan H.E. Yerzhan Kistafin for a courtesy call at the Prime Minister House, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

The prime minister conveyed his greetings to the President of Kazakhstan Kassym-Jomart Tokayev and expressed his desire to strengthen the excellent bilateral relations between Pakistan and Kazakhstan.

He said he was looking forward to his meeting with President Tokayev during his upcoming visit to Astana for the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Council of Heads of State meeting on July 3-4.



Ambassador of Kazakhstan to Pakistan H.E. Yerzhan Kistafin calls on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif in Islamabad

Role of able & valiant officers Crucial for good governance, states Governor Balochistan

ISLAMABAD (APP): National Institute of Management Quetta, Anis Arif and Principal Secretary to Governor, Muhammad Hashim Khan Ghilzai were also present on the occasion.

Addressing the ceremony, Governor said that we have closely observed the honesty, ability, hard work and affection of the honest and able officers with people of the province.

He said that Balochistan has unique status than other provinces in many ways. Our traditions and values offer one another to move ahead together, he added.

Jaffar Mandokhail pointed out that our population is also least than other provinces and if officers deputed here play role of public servants instead of their lord, and keep their doors open for common men, then not only the public issues would be resolved easily, but governance would also be improved.

PM to undertake a two-day official visit to Tajikistan from today

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif is scheduled to undertake a two-day official visit to Dushanbe, Tajikistan from July 2-3, on the invitation of President of Tajikistan Emomali Rahmon. During his visit, the prime minister will meet President Emomali Rahmon, Chairman of Majlisi Namoyandagon of Majlisi Oli Mahmadoir Zoir Zokirzoda and Prime Minister Qohir Rasulzoda, according to a Foreign Office press release. The visit is a part of regular high-level exchanges between Pakistan and Tajikistan.

The two sides will engage in wide-ranging discussions on areas of mutual interest to further deepen bilateral cooperation especially in the areas of regional connectivity, trade, people-to-people contacts and energy as well as cooperation on multilateral issues.

Work to be started for cleanliness under PPP mode: CM vows to take concrete decisions for resolving civic issues of Quetta taking all stakeholders in confidence

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has stated that Quetta city is the face of our province and as such concrete decisions would be taken for resolving the civic issues of Quetta taking all stakeholders in confidence in next meeting.

The Chief Minister was chairing meeting on the issues being faced by Quetta, solution to them and beautification of the city, here on Monday.

The members of provincial assembly belonging to Quetta participated in the meeting.

The suggestions about provision of education, health, water and electricity in Quetta city were sought from the participants. They were also asked to give suggestions about improvement in communication, traffic and cleanliness situation.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister said that practical measures have been started for effective cleanliness and beautification of the Quetta city.

He said that work would be started for cleanliness of Quetta under the Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode.

He said that an organized strategy would be prepared for resolving the issues of traffic in Quetta city.

He also announced that a festival would be organized in Quetta city every month.

Besides, we have also started steps for rehabilitation of drug addicts in Quetta.

Meanwhile, the MPs belonging to Quetta presented recommendations for resolving different issues of Quetta city.

He directed to provide facility of lift for more effectiveness of the parking plaza located on Circular road in Quetta.

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar addressing a press conference.

He said that there is no tax on solar panels, text books, pensioners' income, fertilizers, charitable hospitals and health equipment, and it is all due to the prime minister who wants the nation to be prosperous and self-empowered," he said.

The minister said there were multiple sectors on which the tax rates were reduced to 35% from 45%.

PM Shehbaz also ensured that the petroleum development levy to be maintained at Rs 60 in the current fiscal year. However, only Rs 10 margin had to



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

Credit goes to PM for low taxes with exemptions to multiple sectors: Tarar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Information, Broadcasting, Culture and National Heritage Attaullah Tarar on Monday said that credit for minimum taxes and tax exemptions to multiple sectors in the budget went to Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif who ached tough negotiations with the IMF.

"The prime minister played a proactive role in negotiations with the International Monetary Fund to ensure minimum duties and tax exemption for different sectors," he said while addressing a press conference.

"Let me be very clear

Continued on page 2



QUETTA: Members of Central Anjuman Tajran Balochistan are holding protest demonstration against taxes and prolong electricity load shedding during summer season, at Quetta press club.

BISE announces Matriculation exam result: BRC Loralai students clinch top two positions, shares 3rd position with Cadet College Kohlu's student

ISLAMABAD (APP): The students of Balochistan Residential College (BRC) Loralai clinched top two positions and shared third position with a student of Cadet College Kohlu in the annual examinations of Secondary School Certificate (Matriculation) 2024 as its result was announced here on Monday.

According to the Controller Examinations, Balochistan Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education (BISE) Quetta, Ms. Abida Kakar, the BRC students namely Rasad Khan secured first position obtaining 1054 marks while the BRC's Zainullah Khan clinched second position by getting 1048 marks.

Two other students of the same institution (BRC) Abdul Rehman and Syed

Abdul Aleem stood third in the Matric examination securing 1047 marks. Similarly, Cadet College Kohlu's Shahzad Khan also obtained 1047 marks to share third position with the BRC students.

The Controller Examinations, BISE informed that a total of 143,849 students had appeared in the examinations of them 121,362 were declared successful showing success percentage of 84.36 percent.

A total of 50,558 candidates were declared successful out of total 67,800 candidates appeared in the examinations of 9th class while a total of 70,804 could pass the 10th class examination out of total 76,049 candidates. The pass percentage remained 74.57 percent and 93.10 percent in 9th and 10th classes respectively.



QUETTA: Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfraz Bugti presiding over a meeting regarding Land Record Digitalization of Revenue Department

240 tenders released for different projects on July 1: Process of tendering starts on first day of new financial year for 1st time in history, maintains CM

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan and India on Monday exchanged lists of prisoners in each other's custody through diplomatic channel, in Islamabad and New Delhi.

These lists are exchanged simultaneously, in pursuance of the Consular Access Agreement of 2008 on the 1st of January and 1st of July every year, a Foreign Office press release said.

Pakistan handed over a list of 254 Indian or believed-to-be-Indian civilian prisoners and fishermen in Pakistani jails. India shared a list of 452 Pakistani or believed-to-be-Pakistani civilian prisoners and fishermen in Indian jails. A list of 38 missing Pakistani defence personnel, believed to be in India's custody since the wars of 1965 and 1971, was also handed over by Pakistan.

The Government of Pakistan has called for immediate release and repatriation of all Pakistani prisoners who have completed their sentence in India. A request for special consular access to various believed-to-be-Pakistani prisoners, including the physically - and mentally-challenged prisoners, has been made and for expeditious confirmation of their national status, the press release added.

Three family members killed in explosive device attack

GWADAR (INP): Three members of a family including mother and two children were killed while another critically injured in explosive device attack on a house here, police said on Monday.

According to details, unidentified accused attacked a residential house in Kech area of district Gwadar with explosive device.

As a result of blast, a woman and her two children present outside the house were killed on the spot while



QUETTA: Provincial Advisor for Women Development Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi being briefed about Benazir Women Crisis Center

Benazir Bhutto Women Crisis Center to be activated in Quetta: Dr. Rubaba

ISLAMABAD (APP): Advisor to the Chief Minister of Balochistan on Women Development Department, Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi has announced plans to activate the Benazir Bhutto Women Crisis Center in Quetta, making it a model center for women's protection. She emphasized the need for establishing and activating women crisis centers at the divisional and district levels to provide emergency assistance to women in distress.

During her visit to the Benazir Bhutto Women Crisis Center, Dr. Buledi expressed her commitment to resolving the issues facing the center, including administrative and financial matters, and sought the support of stakeholders and non-governmental organizations working for women's rights. She also announced plans to establish active women crisis centers at the divisional and district levels in Balochistan to provide immediate protection to women in emergency situations.

The manager of the center, Rubina Zehri, welcomed Dr. Buledi and briefed her on the center's activities. Dr. Buledi appreciated the center's efforts and assured her support for its activation. She also received a souvenir from the center's manager at the end of her visit.

Pakistan, India exchange lists of prisoners

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan and India on Monday exchanged lists of prisoners in each other's custody through diplomatic channel, in Islamabad and New Delhi.

These lists are exchanged simultaneously, in pursuance of the Consular Access Agreement of 2008 on the 1st of January and 1st of July every year, a Foreign Office press release said.

Pakistan handed over a list of 254 Indian or believed-to-be-Indian civilian prisoners and fishermen in Pakistani jails. India shared a list of 452 Pakistani or believed-to-be-Pakistani civilian prisoners and fishermen in Indian jails. A list of 38 missing Pakistani defence personnel, believed to be in India's custody since the wars of 1965 and 1971, was also handed over by Pakistan.

The Government of Pakistan has called for immediate release and repatriation of all Pakistani prisoners who have completed their sentence in India. A request for special consular access to various believed-to-be-Pakistani prisoners, including the physically - and mentally-challenged prisoners, has been made and for expeditious confirmation of their national status, the press release added.

He emphasized that many affected journalists are holding the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister and the ruling provincial party accountable for these brutalities.

He condemned the suppression of journalism

through violence, attributing these acts to fascist elements.

"The PTI is evidently fearful of independent journalism and has lost the trust of the people," he said. "Their consistent reliance on undemocratic tactics and conspiracies to cling to power is disgraceful."

Reaffirming PPP's unwavering support for the journalist community, he declared, "We believe in press freedom and will not allow anyone to stifle the press."

He called upon relevant institutions and parliament to take decisive action to safeguard journalists and uphold press freedom in KP.

He said that the purpose of his first visit to the institutions of the Ministry of Information at Quetta after being elected as the chairman was his ownership.

"Balochistan is the most important unit of the country and this most important unit will not be allowed to be neglected under any circumstances," he added.

The chairman of the committee said that he believed in practical work and would raise voice on the floor of the National Assembly to further improve the standard of PTV Bolan's programs.

Pullain Baloch said that PTV Quetta has played a vital role in exhibiting and highlighting the culture and artistic heritage of Balochistan.

He said that the Quetta stations of the federal information departments have been done positive and constructive work for the promotion of the local languages and culture of Balochistan.

He said that the purpose of his first visit to the institutions of the Ministry of Information at Quetta after being elected as the chairman was his ownership.

"Balochistan is the most important unit of the country and this most important unit will not be allowed to be neglected under any circumstances," he added.

The chairman of the committee said that he believed in practical work and would raise voice on the floor of the National Assembly to further improve the standard of PTV Bolan's programs.

Pullain Baloch said that PTV Quetta has played a vital role in exhibiting and highlighting the culture and artistic heritage of Balochistan.

He said that the Quetta stations of the federal information departments have been done positive and constructive work for the promotion of the local languages and culture of Balochistan.

He said that the purpose of his first visit to the institutions of the Ministry of Information at Quetta after being elected as the chairman was his ownership.

"Balochistan is the most important unit of the country and this most important unit will not be allowed to be neglected under any circumstances," he added.

The chairman of the committee said that he believed in practical work and would raise voice on the floor of the National Assembly to further improve the standard of PTV Bolan's programs.

Pullain Baloch said that PTV Quetta has played a vital role in exhibiting and highlighting the culture and artistic heritage of Balochistan.

He said that the Quetta stations of the federal information departments have been done positive and constructive work for the promotion of the local languages and culture of Balochistan.

Issues of federal information dept's in Quetta to be resolved on priority basis: Pullain

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman National Assembly's Standing Committee on Information and Broadcasting, Pullain Baloch on Monday said the issues faced by the federal information departments working in Quetta would be resolved on priority basis whereas efforts would be taken to strengthen the state-owned media organizations with modern tools to promote the pro-public narrative.

The Chairman made these remarks during his visit to the offices of Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) Quetta Bureau, PTV Quetta Station and Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation (PBC) station.

Pullain Baloch said that he will try to resolve the problems of the federal information institutions functioning in the provincial capital of Balochistan in order to bring innovation and improvement in the work of the institutions.

He said that the purpose of his first visit to the institutions of the Ministry of Information at Quetta after being elected as the chairman was his ownership.

"Balochistan is the most important unit of the country and this most important unit will not be allowed to be neglected under any circumstances," he added.

The chairman of the committee said that he believed in practical work and would raise voice on the floor of the National Assembly to further improve the standard of PTV Bolan's programs.

Pullain Baloch said that PTV Quetta has played a vital role in exhibiting and highlighting the culture and artistic heritage of Balochistan.

He said that the Quetta stations of the federal information departments have been done positive and constructive work for the promotion of the local languages and culture of Balochistan.



QUETTA: Chairman NA Standing Committee for Information and Broadcasting Pullain Baloch meeting with GM Syed Faheem Shah during his visit to PTV Quetta center

SC resumes hearing on SIC plea challenging denial of reserved seats

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Supreme Court has resumed the hearing on the petition filed by the Sunni Ittehad Council an ally of the PTI challenging the denial of reserved seats in the national and provincial assemblies. A full-court bench, led by Chief Justice of Pakistan Qazi Faez Isa, is conducting today's proceedings. Other judges on the bench are Justice Syed Mansoor Ali Shah, Justice Muneeb Akhtar, Justice Yahya Afridi, Justice Aminuddin Khan, Justice Jamal Khan Mandokhail, Justice Muhammad Ali Mazhar, Justice Ayesha A. Malik, Justice Athar Minallah, Justice Syed Hassan Azhar Rizvi, Justice Shahid Waheed, Justice Irfan Saadat Khan and Justice Naeem Akhtar Afghan. Lawyer Sikandar Bashir, representing the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP), is presenting his arguments before the 13-member full court.

Party lawyer Farooq H Naek is also scheduled to advance his arguments. The PTI had, after losing its electoral symbol "bat", directed the independent candidates who won election with its backing to join the SIC.

In March, the ECP ruled that the SIC was not entitled to claim quota for reserved seats "due to having non-curable legal defects and violation of a mandatory provision of submission of party list for reserved seats".

Later, the ECP accepted applications of the opposing parties and decided that the seats in the National Assembly and provincial assemblies would not remain vacant and would be allocated by a proportional representation process on the basis of seats won by political parties. The development resulted in the PTI-backed SIC losing a total of 77 reserved seats - 23 National Assembly seats (20 women and 3 minorities), 25 Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Assembly seats (21 women and 4 minorities), two Sindh Assembly seats (women) and 27 Punjab Assembly seats (24 women and 3 minorities).

The PTI dismissed the ECP verdict as unconstitutional. The SIC then challenged the ECP ruling in the Peshawar High Court, but its plea was dismissed.

In May, a three-judge bench of the apex court took up a petition filed by the SIC. The court suspended the ECP decision to allocate SIC's reserved seats to other parties.

Justice Mansoor Ali Shah, during the proceedings, remarked that the mandate given by the people should be properly represented in parliament. The court sent the matter of reserved seats to the Judges Committee to decide whether the case would be heard by the same bench or a larger bench would be constituted.

Justice Mansoor Ali Shah, during the proceedings, remarked that the mandate given by the people should be properly represented in parliament. The court sent the matter of reserved seats to the Judges Committee to decide whether the case would be heard by the same bench or a larger bench would be constituted.

Justice Mansoor Ali Shah, during the proceedings, remarked that the mandate given by the people should be properly represented in parliament. The court sent the matter of reserved seats to the Judges Committee to decide whether the case would be heard by the same bench or a larger bench would be constituted.

Justice Mansoor Ali Shah, during the proceedings, remarked that the mandate given by the people should be properly represented in parliament. The court sent the matter of reserved seats to the Judges Committee to decide whether the case would be heard by the same bench or a larger bench would be constituted.



QUETTA: Group photo of grooms during mass marriage ceremony organized by Mass Marriages Committee held in Quetta.

Pakistan 'hopes to secure' fresh IMF loan program in July

ISLAMABAD (INP): The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has expressed satisfaction with the recent measures taken by the Pakistan government, paving the way for a new loan program, sources said on Monday. As per details, Pakistan hopes to secure a new IMF loan program in July as the budget 2024-25 prepared under IMF conditions has also been approved, fulfilling one of the major requirements set by the international lender.

Sources indicate that the government is continuing to meet other conditions set by the IMF. Work is underway to increase the basic electricity tariff in light of NEPRA's decision, with the new rates expected to be implemented in July.

Timely implementation of monthly and quarterly electricity adjustments is also being carried out. Finance ministry officials anticipate that an agreement for the new loan program will be finalized in July. The new program is expected to range between \$6 billion and \$8 billion, although the exact amount has yet to be finalized.

The new loan program with the IMF is projected to span three years. The National Assembly (NA) on July 28 approved the Federal Budget for the fiscal year 2024-25 with a total outlay of Rs18,870 billion.

Gas pipeline blown up by unknown men in Mach

MACH (INP): A gas pipeline was destroyed by an explosion in the Mach area of Balochistan, disrupting gas supplies to various regions including Quetta.

According to the Sui Southern Gas Company (SSGC) sources, a 24-inch diameter gas pipeline passing through the Bolan area of Balochistan was targeted and blown up by unknown perpetrators at the Kohbash area.

The incident is being investigated through different angles as it may be an act of terrorism, Pakistan Levies reported.

The sources further state that after the completion of security clearance in the area, the repair work on the affected gas pipeline will commence, and it may take more than 48 hours to complete.

According to the SSGC (Sui Southern Gas Company) spokesman Safdar Hussain, the company immediately started the repair work on the damaged gas pipeline.

Hussain further stated that the team on the ground has focused its efforts on repairing the pipeline as soon as possible, with the aim of restoring the gas supply by the next evening.



ISLAMABAD: A delegation of leading businessmen calls on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

Credit goes to PM for low... continued from page 1

be given as a contingency measure, he noted. The minister said the provision of Rs 38 per unit electricity to exporters was a major relief for industry, clarifying that the exports dividends were only taxed in the budget.

No tax had been imposed on low wagers while only Rs 1,200 would be deducted from the salaries of those who earned Rs 100,000, he said, adding the high salaried persons were taxed in the budget.

He termed the 15 per cent increase in minimum wage from Rs 32,000 to Rs 37,000 as a major step of the government to provide a relief to the salaried class urging the private sector to ensure its implementation in letter and spirit.

The minister said he had requested the Pakistan Broadcasters Association and All Pakistan Newspapers Society to ensure minimum wage and clear all the outstanding dues of journalists and media workers.

Responding to the critics, Tarar said Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif had introduced home-grown reforms to ensure growth of the national economy which was in free fall by the end of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) government.

The economic reforms reflected his out of the box approach that had a sole purpose to boost the revenues and curtail the expenditures for the current fiscal year, he added.

The minister said the dissolution of the Public Works Department and privatization of state-owned enterprises were practical demonstration of his vision for bringing down the expenditures, and to increase the revenues. Moreover, the government was carrying forward its agenda of digitizing the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR).

The prime minister, he said, had formed a downsizing and rightsizing committee which would be chaired by Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb to implement the privatization agenda of the government for the SOEs.

The minister categorically stated that the cabinet members were not withdrawing any salary, perks and privileges that showed their commitment to reducing the expenditures.

Tarar said he had requested for merging the Culture Division into the Information Ministry as it was part of the latter in the past.

He lauded Interior Minister Moshin Naqvi for taking a decision to bring the Narcotics Control Department under the Interior Ministry which had set a good example for curtailing the state expenditures.

The minister said the privatization process for the Pakistan International Airlines was moving forward at the rapid pace as multiple visits for potential pre-qualified bidders had been arranged to show them its assets.

The privatization of the PIA would be carried out in accordance with the law and transparency would be ensured during the process, he added.

To achieve the Rs 13 trillion revenue target set by the FBR for the current fiscal year, he said the government had initiated the process of its digitization to remove loopholes and leakage in the system.

"Without spending the state money, the prime minister took an out of the box solution for digitizing the FBR," he said. PM Shehbaz garnered the support of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in engaging McKinsey & Co. for the ongoing digitization of the FBR, which was appreciable, he added.

Sindh govt demands Governor Tessori to step down immediately

KARACHI (INP): Led by Pakistan People's Party (PPP), the Sindh government has demanded of the Governor Muhammad Kamran Khan Tessori to step down immediately. While addressing a press conference in Karachi on Monday, Sindh Minister for Excise and Transport Sharjeel Memon rebuked the Muttahida Qaumi Movement-Pakistan (MQM-P) for allegedly promoting "hated and violence" in the province.

MQM-P has become irrelevant at the local level, he claimed and said that the party's politics of hatred and accusations were outdated. "They are no longer visible at the Union Council level," he added.

Criticizing MQM-P Convener Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui for his remarks against the former prime minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto regarding quota system, the PPP leader said that Bhutto was the one who made Pakistan a "nuclear power".

He noted that the MQM-P was indulged in hiring its workers in local government institutions, adding: "The party's demands to end the quota system are inappropriate." Sharjeel Memon said that the MQM-P even today was responsible for a number of Sindh issues, adding that the party had new vacancies banned through stay order. "They have always tried to stop employment of people", he alleged.

The provincial minister further criticised the MQM-P leadership, saying that they left the party founder Altaf Hussain during "bad times". "Khalid Maqbool and the rest of the leadership are not ready to accept their leader", he added.

Recalling the past incidents, he claimed that the MQM had been involved in various nefarious activities, including the killing of innocent people during their strikes. The PPP leader also accused the MQM of being a puppet of foreign powers, saying that they might taking orders from their "masters in London".

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

He demanded resignation from Governor Tessori to resign, accusing him of failing to address the issues caused by the MQM-P. "It is inappropriate to make baseless accusations against our martyred leaders. Governor Sindh should resign immediately," he added.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The undersigned invites sealed Percentage rate tenders based on composite schedule of rates 2018 Government of Balochistan from interested contractor/firms for the works mentioned below :- **Tender Fee Rs. 1500 of each TSE/Works and deposited in head of account C02725-02 through Bank in NBP, Earnest Money 2% of E/Cost offered Rate in Shape of Call Deposit for each work.**

Sr.No.	Name of scheme	E/Cost
1.	Construction of WSS's for KILLI MULLA ALI MUHAMMAD BADARI, KILLI MUHAMMAD HASSAN BADARI, KILLI HAJI GHULAM QADIR SHAMBOV BADARI & KILLI ABDUL SALAM MUHAMMAD BADARI WADH UNDER PSDP NO-5398 Under PSDP Program 2024-25 District Khuzdar. Civil Work TSE-232406465983 Solar & Pipe TSE-232406466033	14.115 M 15.583 M
2.	Construction of WSS's for KILLI MIRWANI & RAKHIYA BADARI, KILLI NOOR M. BADARI, KILLI YASIR AHMED BADARI, KILLI HAJI KHAN M. BADARI & KILLI HULAM QADIR QASIM KHAN BADARI WADH. UNDER PSDP NO-5427 Under PSDP Program 2024-25 District Khuzdar. TSE-232406466053 Solar & Pipe TSE-232406466063	14.115 M 15.583 M
3.	Construction of WSS's for KILLI HAJI MURAD M. BADARI, KILLI ABDUL QADIR KILLI SHAMBAV, KILLI BASHIR AHMED BADARI, KILLI SALEH M. GHAWARANI BADARI & KILLI ATTA M. KHUDA BUX WADH. UNDER PSDP NO-5599 Under PSDP Program 2024-25 District Khuzdar. TSE-232406466123 Solar & Pipe TSE-232406466143	15.583 M 9.829 M
4.	Construction of WSS's for KILLI M. ALAH B. L. SINJARO CHAB, H. R. SINJARO CHAB, H. RODENI MASJID M. KAHN, M. JAN L. KAHAN, F. M. L. KAHAN, SHADI K. L. KAHAN & HASHIM L. KAHN ORNCH. UNDER PSDP NO-5601 Under PSDP Program 2024-25 District Khuzdar. TSE-232406466183 Solar TSE-232406466263	10.990 M 21.939 M
5.	Construction of WSS's for KILLI USMANBAD OLIA BADARI WADH, KILLI AMANULAH BADARI, KILLI MUMTAZ AHMED BADARI, KILLI NORULAH BADARI, KILLI ABDUL KABER BADARI & KILLI QADIRBUX WADH. UNDER PSDP NO-5606 Under PSDP Program 2024-25 District Khuzdar. TSE-232406466893 Solar & Pipe TSE-232406466933	22.614 M 7.020 M
6.	Construction of WSS's for KILLI JAN MERWANI REKO ORNACH, KILLI SHAKEL LANGOV, KILLI LAJ. JAN OMRIAN ALAHYARZAI, KILLI NADEEM MULAZAI CHAKULI MULAZAI, KILLI SIRAJ SIAHPAD KUNKARKI ORNACH. UNDER PSDP NO-5757 Under PSDP Program 2024-25 District Khuzdar. TSE-232406466953 Solar TSE-232406467043	7.850 M 14.115 M
7.	Construction of WSS's for KILLI MIR PASAND KHAN BADARI WADH, KILLI INAYAT ULLAH BADARI, KILLI MUHAMMAD WARIS BADARI, KILLI AFZAL KHAN BADARI & KILLI GAHWAR KHAN BADARI WADH. UNDER PSDP NO-5807 Under PSDP Program 2024-25 District Khuzdar. TSE-232406467063 Solar & Pipe TSE-232406467103	15.583 M

Procurement shall be made the Balochistan Public Procurement Rule 2014. **ELIGIBILITY:** The Contractor must have valid registration with Pakistan Engineering Council in relevant Category and registration with tax authority's i.e (NTN, sales tax & BRA Department) where applicable. Three years relevant work experience. Turn Over of last three years. **METHOD OF PROCUREMENT:** Single stage One Envelope Bidding Procedure **BID SECURITY:** The bid must accompany bid security in shape of Call Deposit of amount specified above in the name of the undersigned form a scheduled bank. **TENDER DOCUMENTS:-** The bidding documents can be obtained from the office of the undersigned upon payment (Non Refundable) Bidding Documents fee amount mentioned above against each work through green challan under head C02725-02 Receipt the NIT and Bidding documents can also be downloaded from BPPRA web site. **ISSUANCE OF TENDER DOCUMENTS:** Tender documents issued from the date of publication of NIT to at 11:00 am. **LAST DATE OF BID SUBMISSION:-** The tender must be submitted latest by 17.07.2024 at 11:00 AM. **TENDER OPENING:** All tenders will be opened on same day at the office of undersigned at 12:00 PM. **Place of Issuance and Submission will be:** All tenders will be opened on same day at the office of undersigned at 12:00 PM. Address: Office of the Executive Engineer PHE Division at Khuzdar. Phone NO.0848412523, Fax NO.0848412523 & Email. phedud@gmail.com. Bid Validity Period:-90 days. **Note:-** Only the Original contractor/firm are allowed to participate in the tender with original CNIC. Agent/representative will not be allowed. The undersigned reserve the right to reject all or any bids with out assignment of any reason thereof, it may be noted that (Pay Order and Bank Draft will not be accepted/entertained) and firm's complete title/name should be written on the call deposit. other terms & Condition seen/obtain in the Office of the undersigned in office hours.

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING, DIVISION KHUZDAR.

PRQ No.08/01-07-2024
www.dpr.gov.pk @dpr_gob @dprgob @dprgob

TENDER NOTICE

The Irrigation Division Harnai intends to carry out the following Development Works for the year 2024-25 and invites sealed tenders on composite schedule of rates 2023 GoB for the PEC Registered Government Contractors. Earnest Money 2% Tender Fee Rs.2000/- and Completion Time 12 Months for each work.

S.No	Name of work.	E/Cost
1.	CONSTRUCTION OF FLOOD PROTECTION WALL AT ZARGHOON GHAR HARNAI PSDP No. 3265 (2023-24) TSE-232406466873	19.81 M
2.	CONSTRUCTION OF FLOOD PROTECTION WALL AT KHOSH, ZARDALO, ZUZH MURGHIA HARNAI PSDP No. 3442 (2023-24) TSE-232406467113	49.52 M
3.	CONSTRUCTION OF FLOOD PROTECTION WALL AT SHARAGH, SPIN TANGI, HARNAI PSDP No. 3444 (2023-24) TSE-242507467223	49.52 M

The Procurement shall be carried out in accordance with the BPPRA rules 2014 and Amended 2019. **ELIGIBILITY OF CONTRACTORS:** Valid registration certificate of PEC in the relevant category and having following Specialization Codes: CE 04 (irrigation only), CE 10 General Civil Engineering Works: Slope Protection Earthworks, sub-soil drainage, Waterproofing etc. Valid registration certificates from Income Tax Authority (NTN) and Baluchistan Revenue Authority (BRA). The firm/ Contractor either blacklisted nor involved in any Litigation / Arbitration (Attach all certificates and the affidavit (on non-judicial stamp paper) of not blacklisted nor involved in any litigation / arbitration) Authorized Representative's will only be allowed, having a specific Authorization letter for the Scheme mentioned above. (The Authorization letter/ deed must be provided on Non-Judicial Stamp Paper Valuing Rs. 100, duly attested by first class Magistrate). Rate analysis of offered rates. Detailed Technical Evaluation Criteria is mentioned in the Bidding Documents. **METHOD OF PROCUREMENT:** Bids are invited on Single stage two envelope procedure (Technical & Financial Proposals). Financial Proposals of bids found Non-responsive by the procurement committee shall be returned un-opened to the respective bidders. The interested Contractors / Firms are required to provide Technical Proposal comprising information regarding Experience, Personnel Capabilities, Financial Status, Equipment Capabilities and other relevant information as explained in the Bid Soliciting Documents (one original + one copy) in sealed envelope & the Financial Proposal in separate envelope, clearly labeled each accordingly. **BIDDING / TENDER DOCUMENTS ISSUANCE:** The tender documents shall be obtained till 18th July 2024, from the office of the undersigned on production of green challan (as bidding documents fee) to be deposited in the head of account C-03434 in the National Bank of Pakistan. The NIT & Bidding Document can also be downloaded from www.bppra.org.pk. **SUBMISSION OF BIDDING / TENDER DOCUMENTS:** The last date & time for submission of tender documents will be 19/07/2024 at 1.00 P.M. Only the Bid (Technical Proposals) will be opened on the same date 19/07/2024 in the office of undersigned at 2.00PM, before procurement committee and in the presence of Contractors/ Firms or their authorized representatives. Date and time for opening of (Financial) Bids will be communicated to only the shortlisted contractors after evaluation of the technical bids accordingly. **BID SECURITY:** Bid Security of 2% of estimated cost in the shape of call deposit from any scheduled bank as mentioned against the contract shall be enclosed with the bid (Technical Proposal). The Competent Authority reserves the right to accept/reject any or all bids at any time prior to acceptance of a bid, due to cogent reason. Any further information regarding the bid can be obtained from Office of the Undersigned on any working day. The office of the Executive Engineer, Irrigation Division Harnai. Tel #0833-520083 Executive Engineer, Irrigation Division, Harnai

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER IRRIGATION DIVISION HARNAI

PRQ No.3101/30-06-2024
www.dpr.gov.pk @dpr_gob @dprgob @dprgob

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The undersigned invites sealed Percentage rate tenders based on composite schedule of rates 2023 Government of Balochistan from interested contractor/firms for the works mentioned below :- **Tender Fee Rs. 2000 of each TSE/Works and deposited in head of account C02726 through Bank in NBP, Earnest Money 2% of E/Cost offered Rate in Shape of Call Deposit for each work.**

Sr.No.	Name of scheme	E/Cost
1.	SOLAR WATER BORE FOR THE VILLAGES OF BELA UTHAL LAKHRA LIARI AND KANRAJ DISTRICT LASBELA FIRST PHASE. UNDER PSDP-5441 TSE-232406465573	19.07M
2.	CONSTRUCTION OF COMMUNITY BASE WSS AT GOTH HASHIM BANDEJA BELA DISTRICT BELA. UNDER PSDP NO 5529 TSE-23406465633	9.50M

Procurement shall be made the Balochistan Public Procurement Rule 2014. **ELIGIBILITY:** The Contractor must have valid registration with Pakistan Engineering Council in relevant Category and registration with tax authority's i.e (NTN, sales tax & BRA Department) where applicable. Three years relevant work experience. Turn Over of last three years. **METHOD OF PROCUREMENT:** Single Stage One Envelope Bidding Procedure **BID SECURITY:** The bid must accompany bid security in shape of Call Deposit of amount specified above in the name of the undersigned form a scheduled bank. **TENDER DOCUMENTS:-** The bidding documents can be obtained from the office of the undersigned upon payment (Non Refundable) Bidding Documents fee amount mentioned above against each work through green challan under head C02726 Receipt the NIT and Bidding documents can also be downloaded from BPPRA web site. **ISSUANCE OF TENDER DOCUMENTS:** Tender documents issued from the date of publication of NIT. **LAST DATE OF BID SUBMISSION:-** The tender must be submitted latest by 18.07.2024 at 11:00 AM. **TENDER OPENING:** All tenders will be opened on same day at the office of undersigned at 12:00 PM. Bid Validity Period:-90 days. other terms & Condition seen/obtain in the Office of the undersigned during office hours.

Executive Engineer, Public Health Engineering, Division Lasbela at Uthal

PRQ No.3099/30-06-2024
www.dpr.gov.pk @dpr_gob @dprgob @dprgob

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Senior Assistant Director Local Government Rural Development Sibi invites sealed percentage rate tender based on composite schedule of rates 2023 Government of Baluchistan from interested contractor /firms for the works mentioned below: **Bid Security 2% and Time limit 30-06-2025 for each work**

S.No	Name of Work	E/Cost
1.	HOME SOLAR SYSTEM IN TUNIA, NIHAL MACHI, GOTH LAL SHAH, GOTH ABDUL REHMAN MACHI, KHANO, GOTH PEERO IN DISTRICT SIBI. TSE-242507467663	40.000 M
2.	HOME SOLAR SYSTEM IN WAZEERA, GOTH SAIFULLAH DOMKI, DARGAH MIR HASSAN, MUSAT ALANI, GULLA WERH, TALLI MUHALLAH SULEMANZAI IN DISTRICT SIBI. TSE-242507467733	40.000 M
3.	HOME SOLAR SYSTEM IN RAILO GULAB, BAILOO, SHAIKH MAHMUDANI, KUBAD BAGHDAR, ALLAH DINABAGHDAR, KATBAR HAKIR IN DISTRICT SIBI. TSE-242507467743	40.000 M
4.	HOME SOLAR SYSTEM IN KHAIWAH, HIJO MAACHI, WAZEER MAACHI, SANWAL MAACHI, RAILO MIAN KHAN IN DISTRICT SIBI. TSE-242507467753	40.000 M
5.	MAINTENANCE AN DRENOVATION OF SOHBAT SARAI DISTRICT SIBI. TSE-242507467843	10.000 M
6.	SPECIAL REPAIR OF EID GAH LEHRI DISTRICT SIBI. TSE-242507467883	10.000 M
7.	CONSTRUCTION OF BOUNDARY WALL MOULOFO QAEOER GRAVEYARD LEHRI DISTRICT SIBI. TSE-242507467933	20.000 M

The procurement shall be carried out in accordance with Baluchistan Public Procurement Regulatory Authority Rules 2014. (amendment up to date) **Eligibility:** The contractor must have valid registration with Pakistan Engineering Council in relevant category along with specialized codes as per bidding documents accordingly and discipline, bidder must have completed three assignments of similar nature of work in last three years, Audit report of 3 years and registration with tax authorities i.e. (NTN, Sales Tax & BRA department) where applicable must provide fresh no blacklisting and no litigation declaration/certificates on 100/ pkr attested affidavit. Respective(s) of bidding firm(s) must submit fresh power of attorney on 100/pkr attested affidavit for further details kindly see the bidding documents. **Method of Procurement:** Single stage, One envelope Procedure. The bidding documents can be obtained from the office of undersigned office. **Bidding / Tender Documents:** Issuance: Tender form / document have issued to original contractor or authorized person from the date of advertisement published in News paper till submission date and time on production of amounting Rs.2500/- (Non Refundable) as bidding documents charges deposit in shape of Green Challan in the account of Govt Head (5673-7) in National Bank of Pakistan. Bid security / earnest money, valid Engineering Council certificate (Original) in required category, income tax certificate (NTN) etc. **Submission:** Last date for submission of document is 19-07-2024 at 1:00 PM. **Opening:** The tender will be opened on 19-07-2024 at 2:00 PM. Place of issuance, submission, inquiries and opening will be: Address: Office of the Senior Assistant Director Local Government Sibi E-Mail address: mkhansilachi@gmail.com **Terms & Conditions:** Under following conditions bid will be rejected:- Conditional and telegraphic bids/tender. Bid not accompanied by bid security of required amount and form. Bid received after specified date and time. Black listed firms / contractors. Other term & conditions may be obtained from the Office concerned. Unsigned or partially signed bidding documents by the bidder will be rejected. Bid Validity Period (90) Days. Note: It may be noted that no pay order will be accepted / entertained and firm's complete title / name should be written on the call deposit. (Pay order and Bank Draft will not be acceptable).

SENIOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT SIBI

PRQ No.11/01-07-2024
www.dpr.gov.pk @dpr_gob @dprgob @dprgob

Pakistan making efforts to benefit from UN's carbon trading system: Romina

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister's Coordinator for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Romina Khurshid Alam on Monday said Pakistan was making efforts to benefit from the UN's carbon trading system.

She made these remarks during the meeting with a 3-member delegation of the United Nations Environment Programme's Denmark Mission, led by Senior Economist, which called on Coordinator to Prime Minister on Climate Change Romina Khurshid Alam here at the Ministry of Climate Change & Environmental Coordination.

During the meeting Advisor Carbon Credit Markets, Urwah Khan at the United Nations Environment Programme briefed the PM's climate advisor Romina Khurshid Alam about carbon market-related initiatives for their potential benefits Pakistan can gain by selling its carbon credits from different sectors including cement, oil & gas, textile and other industrial industries, a news release said.

He also assured the PM's climate aide of his organisation's fullest technical and non-technical support to build up policy infrastructure and its implementation for creating enabling environment for various potential sectors including cement, waste, textile, oil & gas, telecom and information technology sectors to generate and sell their carbon credits in the international carbon credit markets.

Both sides agreed to work together to enable Pakistan's various industrial sectors to sell their carbon credits in the international carbon trading markets and earn financial benefits.

"We are very much aware of the huge untapped economic potential the carbon markets offer for Pakistan to generate carbon credits in the international carbon market and earn economic gains by selling the carbon credits," said the PM's climate aide during the meeting.

Carbon markets are international trading systems in which carbon credits are sold and bought to compensate for their greenhouse gas emissions by purchasing carbon credits from entities that remove or reduce greenhouse gas emissions.



ISLAMABAD: A 3-member delegation of the United Nations Environment Programme's Denmark Mission led by Senior Economist Xianli Zhu called on Coordinator to Prime Minister on Climate Change Romina Khurshid Alam in the M/o Climate Change & Environmental Coordination.

NDMA activates NEOC in anticipation of rain-related emergencies in Punjab, Sindh

ISLAMABAD (APP): Based on predictive modelling, the NDMA's National Emergencies Operation Center (NEOC) has been reported a significant activity from the eastern Indian side, indicating intense cloud bursts that may hit Pakistani areas.

"Repeated early warnings have been shared with all provinces, and moderate to heavy rainfall is likely to start over the upper catchments of all major rivers particularly Sutlej, Ravi & Chenab from July 2, 2024," the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) in its news release said.

The NDMA has also issued an alert regarding lightning, according to which lightning was expected to strike in various parts of South and Central Punjab and Islamabad during July 5-7.

"This may lead to rapid rises in water levels, flash flooding events, and urban flooding in metropolitan areas. NDMA warns that the anticipated rainfall poses a significant risk of low to medium level flooding in River Sutlej, with water levels expected to reach low flood levels (approximately 50,000 cusecs) by July 5 and high flood levels (approximately 120,000 cusecs) by July 10, 2024," the NDMA said.

The NDMA is working closely with federal and provincial departments to ensure preparedness and response to this potential emergency.

The public was advised to remain vigilant and follow instructions from local authorities.

The NDMA advised public to stay informed and download 'Pak NDMA Disaster Alert' mobile app for timely alerts and closely monitor weather reports and updates on the flood situation, follow instructions, evacuate immediately if orders are issued by local authorities, protect yourself from floodwater, avoid contact with floodwater, which may be contaminated or contain debris or electrical wires.

Develop an evacuation plans with your family, identify a safe location, and create an emergency kit with essential supplies. Travelers are advised to avoid unnecessary travel in case of heavy rainfalls and likely flooding situations.

National Engineering Robotics Contest to be held from July 9-13

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Department of Mechatronics Engineering at College of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering (EME), NUST will arrange the annual National Engineering Robotics Contest (NERC) 2024 from July 9-13.

According to the NUST, the participants, during the event, will showcase their innovation and technical prowess in various categories including Indigenous, Modular, RoboWars, and Aero. Over the years, NERC has become a prestigious platform, fostering the growth of robotics and engineering skills among students.

The contest not only highlights cutting-edge robotic technology but also encourages collaboration and creativity among the nation's budding engineers.

The National Engineering Robotics Contest (NERC) is a collaboration between the NUST and the STEM Careers Program HEC to promote robotics research in Pakistan.

The 20th NERC 2024 will be hosted by the Department of Mechatronics Engineering and the Society of Mechatronics Engineers, Pakistan. It provides a platform for evaluating and comparing various robotic designs, control algorithms, and architectures.

NERC 2024 is the 20th edition of this prestigious event where participants from school, colleges and universities from all over Pakistan compete in the five-day period. NERC offers an opportunity to learn and exhibit their ideas in the field of automation and robotics. The focus of NERC 2024 theme is to create an autonomous robot that can automate tree plantation drive. In this theme, the robot's task is to prepare the soil for plantation by removing any rocks, garbage etc present in the soil and then planting a tree at defined locations in the field.



ISLAMABAD: An artisan displaying model and sculptures of different things at Rawal Chowk in the Federal Capital.



ISLAMABAD: The outgoing Ambassador of Belgium to Pakistan, Charles Delogne called on President Asif Ali Zardari at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

Ombudsperson playing leading role in safeguarding women's right: Fauzia Viqar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Ombudsperson for Protection Against Harassment of Women at the Workplace Fauzia Viqar, Monday said that her department was playing pivotal role for providing free of cost excess to speedy justice for women at workplace and spreading awareness for people living in remote areas. Talking to PTV news channel, she stressed that media should create more awareness about gender harassment through talk shows and implementing laws against harassment of women at workplaces. Federal Ombudsperson for Protection of Women Against Harassment (FOSPAAH) at Workplace is an autonomous body dedicated to safeguarding the rights and dignity of women, she explained its department working.

She said it was necessary to provide a proper work environment to women with zero tolerance for discrimination, fear and harassment.

She said that society needed to bring changes in its attitudes towards gender issues to empower women, adding, government is committed to ensure equal access to justice and providing safe environment for women in society.

Fauzia also emphasized a collaborative efforts between government agencies, civil society organizations and other stakeholders to promote gender equality and women empowerment in the country.

Replying to a question, she said FOSPAAH is committed to strengthening public grievance redress mechanisms in the Ombudsman offices of Pakistan and Azad Jammu and Kashmir by enhancing core capacities and achieving higher levels of professionalization in all Ombudsman offices.

To another question, she asked the students and elders to approach the Ombudsman Office without any difficulty in case of any irregularity and harassment or property related issues.

She also lauded the performance and achievements of the Ombudsmen in providing expeditious and free of cost justice to the people against administrative injustices. FOSPAAH will further increase its outreach and efficiency to provide speedy justice to women in harassment and property cases at their doorsteps, she affirmed.

Secretary KA&GB chairs high level meeting regarding Aug 5 events

ISLAMABAD (APP): Ministry of Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit Baltistan, Secretary Waseem Ajmal Chaudhry on Monday chaired a high-level meeting to discuss and review the overall plan being devised to organize events on August 5, 2024, the 5th anniversary of Indian Illegal act of abolishing of special status of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK). The meeting was attended by officials and focal persons of various ministries and departments including Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Islamabad Police, Ministry of Information Technology and Telecom, Capital Development Authority (CDA), Ministry of Education, National Heritage and Culture Division, Cantonment Board, District Management representatives of Islamabad & Rawalpindi and others, said a press release.



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

British Council recognizes Outstanding Headteachers with Leadership Excellence Awards

ISLAMABAD (APP): The British Council hosted the School Leadership Excellence Awards in Multan, Islamabad and Peshawar to recognize the achievement of 423 outstanding Head teachers in Federal, Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa towards enhancing leadership empowerment, promoting good governance, inclusive leadership and driving instructional excellence in their schools.

The events were attended by the Minister Elementary and Secondary Education Department, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa - Mr Faisal Khan Tarakai, Director General, Federal Directorate of Education - Mr Tanwir Ahmed, Education Secretary South Punjab - Dr. Ubaid Ullah, Director General Education, Overseas Pakistanis Foundation - Mr Mahesh Ahuja along with the British Council team.

James Hampson, Country Director of the British Council in Pakistan said: "Our Schools Connect Leadership programme for headteachers is specially designed to improve school governance and enhance quality, access, engagement, and learning. Our focus is on building capacity of headteachers so that they can play an effective and more inclusive and enabling environment for quality education in Pakistan. Congratulations to all the headteachers who participated in the training and earned the School Leadership Excellence Award."

Faisal Khan Tarakai, Minister Elementary and Secondary Education Department, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa said: "Our collaboration with the British Council has empowered some of our school heads with the skills needed to lead their schools towards excellence. This partnership underscores the importance of international connections in enriching our educational landscape, particularly in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa."

Completing their professional development journeys around the national school head teacher Standard, leading and managing teaching and learning (instructional leadership), school leaders have shown real results in their schools and the communities they serve. Some have gone on to create school based projects on sensitive topics like mainstreaming transgender students which has sparked interest and conversations not only during panel.

Experts highlight importance of data for effective migrant management

ISLAMABAD (APP): The experts at a seminar on Monday underscored that data was the key to effective management of Afghan migrants on Pakistani soil.

This was stated by experts who were speaking at a panel discussion organized by the Institute of Regional Studies (IRS) here, a news release said.

This was stated experts who were speaking at a panel discussion organized by the institute of regional studies.

The speakers highlighted that it was essential to have a central repository of data on Afghan migrants, including the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) mandated refugees, the Afghan Citizenship Card (ACC) holders, as well as the undocumented Afghans. They underscored that currently the data was not being maintained under one roof for ready and effective utilization by the Government of Pakistan.

They also called for more efficient coordination between the Government of Pakistan and UNHCR on the matter.

In his introductory remarks, President IRS Ambassador Jauhar Saleem stated that Pakistan had adopted various approaches to managing Afghan migrants and continues to strive for the best possible solution. The goal, he said, was to ensure the safe return of Afghan migrants to their homeland with respect and dignity while also ensuring the security of Pakistan's citizens.

Human Rights lawyer, Syed Muaz Shah, shared that since the Taliban takeover in Afghanistan in 2021, Pakistan had seen an increase in the numbers of Afghan refugees from 1.44 million to 2.18 million.

He acknowledged Pakistan's sovereignty in implementing the repatriation policy while also emphasizing the unique situation faced by Afghan refugees in the country. He added that many Afghan refugees wanted to work and settle in Pakistan as they had established their lives in the country and felt a stronger connection to Pakistan than to Afghanistan.

Shah emphasized the importance of recognizing their right under international law to seek refuge and work in Pakistan.

Brigadier Shozab Majeed, an international law and Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) expert, noted that Pakistan had managed Afghan refugees without foreign assistance since 1996, causing significant stress on Pakistan's economy. He suggested that providing Afghan refugees with opportunities that add value to Pakistan could help mitigate the economic burden.

Without such measures, he added, existing loopholes could be exploited leading to increased terrorism in the region. He advocated for statistical research to determine the contributions Afghan refugees could make to Pakistan's economy.

Former Secretary Defence, Lt. Gen. @Asif Yasin Malik, emphasized that the solution lay in incentivizing Afghan refugees in Pakistan to repatriate to Afghanistan through a well-planned and urgent policy action in collaboration with the UNHCR and the Afghan interim government. This tripartite approach, he maintained, would ensure the safety and security of all people living in Pakistan. He stressed that such a policy needed to be pragmatic and time-sensitive.

Ayesha Raza urges parents to cooperate with Polio teams

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime minister's focal person on polio, Ayesha Raza Farooq on Monday urged every segment of society to play a role in eradicating poliovirus from the country.

Talking to a PTV news channel, she said that the anti-polio campaign began in forty-nine selected districts of the country today where more than 9.5 million children under five years of age will be administered polio vaccine drops. She also urged parents to cooperate with polio teams visiting their doorsteps.

She said sixteen districts in Balochistan, eleven in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, sixteen in Sindh and six in Punjab are part of the campaign, adding that, door-to-door polio campaign will be conducted in specific Union Councils of Islamabad as well.

"Government is sending polio vaccination teams to citizens' doorsteps, especially in areas where the virus is present, adding, guardians and parents of children should open their doors for these health workers who are hardworking in sever heatwave condition".

Replying to a question, she said Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif was working on this matter where he has conducted high-level meetings with all four provinces' chief ministers, and within the next two months, we will also launch another high-quality level drive nationwide.

She said that the government was extending every possible assistance and security measure to protect polio workers.



ISLAMABAD: Volunteers distribute free meals to laborers and those in need, ensuring no one goes hungry during challenging times at Aabpara in Federal Capital.

Int'l workshop on 'Making STEAM Education Fun with Traditional Toys' on July 11

ISLAMABAD (APP): Recognizing the importance of Traditional Toys, ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF) will hold an International Online Workshop "Making Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) Education Fun with Traditional Toys" on July 11.

According to the ECOSF, the workshop is being organized jointly by ECOSF in collaboration with the National Science Museum of Thailand (NSM).

The teachers and students can participate in the workshop to learn the STEAM through an innovative concept of Traditional Toys.

The last date to register for the workshop is July 10 while the details of the workshop can be accessed through web link: <https://www.ecosf.org/STEAM-Education-Fun/>

The evolution of toys always mirrors the changes in society and technology. Traditional toys have communicated with humans and dealt with the problem of identity.

They have also conveyed messages, old patterns, beliefs and some rites that are being forgotten.

Monsoon rains to enter Islamabad, other cities this week: DG

ISLAMABAD (APP): Director General of the Department of Meteorology Mehr Sahibzada Khan Monday said that officially monsoon rains are about to enter Islamabad and other cities of the country on Monday (today), where above normal rainfall will bring the mercury considerably down.

Talking to PTV news channel, he said that the meteorological department has predicted rain at a few places in the upper parts of the country during the next 24 hours, adding, there is a possibility of rain at a few places in North East Punjab and Upper KP and weather in Islamabad and surrounding areas.

He said Meteorological department had already issued the weather advisory and urging all relevant institutions to make emergency arrangements in anticipation of potential flooding and storm damage.

He said the advisory warns of possible flooding in rivers located in Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Gujranwala, Sialkot, and Kashmir, due to the expected heavy rains.

Met Department has directed all concerned institutions to take emergency measures to address any adverse effects caused by the predicted weather conditions, he added.



ISLAMABAD: Citizens of the Federal Capital enjoying a moment of leisure on the swings at a public park.

Daily Voice of Masses Independent

Tuesday July 02, 2024

Resolution 901

On Friday, two days after a stinging endorsement from the US House of Representatives of widespread concerns regarding the legitimacy of our recent general election, the National Assembly formally dismissed 'Resolution 901' as "interference" in Pakistan's internal affairs and an "attempt to undermine the state".

The Pakistani counter-resolution against HR901 did not pass with the same overwhelming support accorded to the latter, however. Our parliament was only able to get a simple majority of lawmakers to endorse the repudiative resolution, while the US Congress had seen 85pc of its membership voting 98pc in favour of a "full and independent investigation of claims of interference or irregularities" in the Feb 8 election.

The PTI refused to vote in favour, saying it was not consulted. Instead, it seemed to be reveling in the world's self-appointed 'democracy police' rebuking the Pakistani government, which, it must be said, should drop the pretence that all is well when it clearly is not.

Our lawmakers' failure to stand united in the face of foreign criticism may not have been unexpected, given the vitiated political climate, but it was still disturbing to witness. Matters are now at a point where our representatives do not care if the world perceives Pakistan as a house divided. The treasury benches' condemnation of those who refused to vote in favour would only have solidified this perception.

The nay-sayers were immediately branded 'terrorists', 'traitors', and 'enemies of the state' who had, in the words of one particularly self-righteous MNA, "no right to call themselves Pakistanis". With such a propensity to spew venom against political opponents, it is no wonder that our parliamentarians are having trouble finding common grounds, even where questions of national sovereignty are concerned.

It may be recalled that the US Congress's resolution had also condemned "attempts to suppress the people of Pakistan's participation in their democracy, including through harassment, intimidation, violence, arbitrary detention, restrictions on access to the internet and telecommunications or any violation of their human, civil, or political rights".

But while it is a fact that these are all realities for the Pakistani people, it is not up to a foreign parliament to dictate how we should be running our country. Likewise, this publication has demanded a transparent inquiry into the last general election, but it does not believe anyone except the people of this country can make that demand.

The US has its own messy legacy to consider of sabotaging democratic governments and propping up dictators around the world. Our problems are our own to resolve. The country has suffered much from foreign interference and must learn to act as a sovereign state. At the same time, it cannot expect to act poorly and not get noticed.

Maleeha Lodhi

On his first visit to Srinagar after he was re-elected prime minister, Narendra Modi declared that elections in occupied Jammu and Kashmir would soon be held. He also indicated that its statehood would be restored.

Meanwhile, the Election Commission of India announced that updated electoral rolls for J&K would be published on Aug 20. To understand the significance of this development and what the BJP government's motives and intentions are, it is necessary to rewind and recall what happened five years ago and thereafter.

Ever since India illegally annexed J&K in 2019 by abrogating Article 370 of its constitution, which gave the state special status, it has tried to convey the impression that the situation there was normalising. Aug 5, 2019, had, in fact, opened a new chapter in the tortured history of the occupied territory.

The bifurcation of the state and its absorption in the Indian union was in brazen violation of UN Security Council resolutions and

was condemned throughout the state. A prolonged lockdown and communication blackout followed, the military siege tightened, public assembly was banned, the press silenced and Kashmiri leaders jailed, including pro-Delhi politicians, to prevent a popular upsurge against the move, which robbed the Kashmiri people of virtually all their rights.

The Modi government's claim that, over time, normalcy and stability had returned to Kashmir, was belied by continuing repression and human right violations, curbs on political activities, crackdown on the media, jailing of journalists, and induction of additional troops into what was already the world's most militarised region. Leaders of the All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC) continued to languish in jail or house detention.

Modi's earlier efforts to hold legislative elections by enticing pro-Indian political leaders to participate came to naught. In June 2021, he invited these leaders to a round table conference on Kashmir. The aim was to consolidate the 2019

action by persuading select politicians to rejoin a revived political process and create a facade of 'normality'. But even handpicked Kashmiri leaders rejected the government's controversial delimitation move and, instead, demanded restoration of J&K's statehood. The meeting ended in failure.

In May 2022, India's Delimitation Commission carved out new electoral constituencies in J&K that aimed to disempower the Muslim population. The delimitation plan handed Jammu six more seats in the 90-member J&K Assembly, while Kashmir was given only one more. Under this plan, Jammu's representation went to 43 seats, leaving Kashmir with 47. This, despite the fact that, according to the 2011 census, the Kashmir Valley's population was seven million, while Jammu's was 5.3m. Delhi's move to recast the electoral map was rejected across Kashmir. APHC leaders denounced it while pro-Delhi Kashmiri politicians called the plan unacceptable as it sought to alter Kashmir's demography and aimed to turn the Muslim

majority into a minority.

The post-2019 period saw almost every aspect of life for Muslims in occupied J&K come under assault by the BJP government. A series of steps — administrative, demographic, electoral — were taken to disempower and disenfranchise Kashmiris and alter the Muslim identity of Kashmir.

Several actions mimicked Israeli settler policies in occupied Palestine. Demographic changes involved new domicile rules, with millions of so-called domicile certificates issued to non-Kashmiri outsiders, who became eligible after abrogation of Articles 370 and 35A of the constitution. Voting rights were also given to non-residents. Properties were confiscated and new laws introduced to enable land to be seized from locals and transferred to outsiders.

In 2022, BJP authorities seized the J&K Waqf Board and all its properties across the region. This marked a drive to take control of all prominent places of religious significance for Muslims in the occupied territory, including shrines. Religious leaders and Is-

lamic scholars were arrested and prayers barred in many mosques across Kashmir. These and other measures sought to systematically erode Kashmiri religious identity and culture.

The announcement about polls in J&K comes against this grim backdrop of Delhi's use of force and fraud to marginalise Kashmiri Muslims and set the stage for assembly elections, designed to "endorse" and legitimise its 2019 action. The government is legally obliged to hold polls by Sept 30, 2024, by the supreme court verdict of December 2023, which upheld the abrogation of Article 370 as 'constitutional'. The last assembly elections were held in 2014.

Apart from having to comply with the supreme court order, the Modi government has read the higher turnout in the Lok Sabha elections in J&K as a return to normalcy. Turnout in the three Lok Sabha constituencies in Kashmir certainly went up compared to the past, although in Srinagar, two-thirds of voters didn't cast their ballot. Still, the higher turnout

was disingenuously cast by BJP leaders as 'vindication' of the abrogation of Article 370.

This was contrary to reality, which was so strongly evidenced by the election of Abdul Rashid Sheikh from Baramulla. A fierce opponent of abrogation, he won from jail, being incarcerated on terrorism charges, defeating former chief minister Omar Abdullah. His campaign was run on the slogan "Jail ka badla vote se leinge" (Voting will avenge the jailing). The support he drew across the board, especially from youth, reflected the depth of Kashmiri anger with Delhi in what was widely seen in the Valley as a vote against India.

There are some indications that many Kashmiris may want to use the vote in the assembly elections to convey their discontent and rejection of Delhi's policies. This could be a departure from the past, when they boycotted polls as a sham process under occupation. With other avenues to voice their demands closed, the vote may become a vehicle of protest against Delhi. - - Courtesy Dawn

The fall of Gate 47

Naseer Memon

While 'Form 47' continues to be the talk of the town, 'Gate 47' is generating a very different kind of buzz in Sindh.

For context, on June 20, Gate Number 47 of Sukkur Barrage suddenly collapsed, leaving Sindh's irrigation system in a lurch. Water diversion to seven canals had to be curtailed at a time when irrigation demand for Kharif crops was peaking in the province. As a result, there has been considerable consternation among growers as their rice, cotton and sugarcane crops need water.

Sukkur Barrage forms the spine of Sindh's agriculture economy, irrigating 80 per cent of all agricultural land in the province. The authorities are scrambling to manage the crisis with the help of Chinese experts who were already working on rehabilitating the barrage. The irrigation minister has also constituted a departmental committee to investigate the matter.

Boasted as a marvel of irrigation engineering, Sukkur Barrage has endured many technical chal-

lenges since its inception. Constructed in 1932, the barrage not only helped create a sizeable agricultural economy but also shaped the sociopolitical fabric of Sindh. Scholar Daniel Haines has unravelled the sociopolitical dynamics of the barrage in his book, *Building the Empire, Building the Nation: Development, Legitimacy and Hydro-politics in Sindh, 1919-1969*.

Before the advent of a perennial irrigation system during the British era, agriculture in Sindh was practised through primitive inundation canals. In an arid area with a scant average annual rainfall of 100mm, versus potential annual evapotranspiration of over 2,200 mm, rain-fed irrigation could only yield minuscule production.

Sir M. Visvesvaraya and Nawab Ali Jung Bahadur authored an insightful analysis, titled *Report on Lloyd Barrage and Canals Project in Sindh*, which reads: "In the greater part of Sindh, the yearly rainfall is negligible and only 10 per cent of the cultivated area is dependent on it. On the rest of the area, there can

be no crops without an artificial supply from the river".

This unfavourable climate prompted British engineers to contemplate a barrier on the Indus in Sindh to harvest river flows for growing crops. Col Walter Scott proposed a structure on the Indus between Sukkur and Rohri in 1847. However, for about six decades, the project did not gain any traction with Bombay authorities. Dr T. Summers revitalised the scheme in 1904, and it was finally endorsed by the Bombay Legislative Assembly on June 9, 1923. Physical work started in 1927, and the barrage was commissioned in 1932.

The stone masonry barrage has 66 gates, each having a span of 60 feet (18.2 metres). The structure began developing technical issues soon after its commissioning. It was observed that the right bank canals were drawing excessive silt. A hydraulic model study conducted in 1938-41 prompted authorities to construct a silt excluder and permanently close the 10 gates that had become dysfunctional due to siltation. This major deviation

from the original design resulted in a reduction of the barrage's flood passage capacity from 1.5 million to 0.9m cusecs.

Since then, 11 flood events have been recorded at Sukkur Barrage which have surpassed 0.9m cusecs, including six floods of more than 1.1m cusecs. The largest flood that passed safely was in 1976, of 1.166m cusecs. In 2010, the structure safely saw off a super flood of 1.131m cusecs; however, a breach near Torri bund upstream had relieved the barrage structure from a major thrust that could possibly have buckled it.

The recent collapse of a gate is not the first such incident in Sukkur Barrage's history. Previously, Gate Number 31 collapsed with a big bang in the early hours of Dec 20, 1982. A technical report titled *Failure of Sukkur Barrage Gate No. 31 and Replacement Programme Study*, authored by Engr A.R. Memon, provides an in-depth analysis of the incident. A half-inch thick steel skin plate and an upper girder of the gate were smashed. Since December is a low flow time

and the annual closure was just a few days away, it was easier to manage the crisis. Closure was advanced by a few days, and the pond level decreased by discharging water. The Pakistan Navy and Karachi Shipping Corporation were mobilised to replace the damaged gate with one of the 10 closed gates. The entire operation was completed within two weeks.

Subsequently, the Overseas Development Administration of the UK provided financial assistance for consultancy services for a technical investigation and replacement of all gates. Sir M. Macdonald & Partners and Newton Chamber (Ltd) were engaged as consultants, who conducted a thorough inspection of the Barrage. The study revealed that corrosion had reduced the gate's strength and structural fatigue ultimately led to collapse of Gate Number 31.

A similar, comprehensive investigation of the abrupt failure of Gate Number 47 is required. The irrigation department in Sindh is plagued by rampant corruption, inefficiency and incom-

petence. Bad governance and substandard oversight also need to be probed. The engineering failure of any structure does not occur without prior symptoms. An efficient surveillance system could have rung a timely alarm bell before the mishap actually occurred, and perhaps some timely action could have averted the incident.

The ageing barrage infrastructure in Sindh also needs major overhauling. The Sukkur, Kotri and Guddu barrages were constructed in 1932, 1958 and 1963, respectively. Currently, a World Bank-financed Sindh Barrages Improvement Project is being implemented, which also includes the rehabilitation and modernisation of Sukkur Barrage. An urgent technical inspection of all gates of Sukkur and other barrages must be conducted before the onset of the fast-approaching monsoon season. A forbidding forecast of above-normal temperatures and rainfall demands extra vigilance and the maintenance of flood management structures.

Policing the police

Mohammad Ali Babakhel

The establishment of dedicated Police Complaints Authorities has been a long-standing demand in the discussion on police reforms in Pakistan and India. PCAs were introduced in neighbouring India in 2006 under the Indian supreme court's orders. Although the Pakistan Police Order, 2002, envisioned police complaints authorities, they have yet to be made functional in Pakistan.

The Indian supreme court issued seven directives for structural police reforms when it issued its judgement on the matter, including establishing PCAs at state and district levels. This was an outcome of the realisation that without accountability, the police cannot win public trust. So far, 23 states in India have constituted State Police Complaints Authorities (SPCAs), while 18 have constituted District Police Complaints Authorities (DPCAs).

The PCAs are mandated to check police excesses, recommend punishments, and suggest policy improvements to change police behaviour. The DPCAs are empowered to inquire into complaints against officers up to the rank of the DSP. At the same time, SPCAs deal with complaints against officers above the rank of the DSP and investigate cases of serious misconduct.

Under court directives, the SPCAs are to be headed by retired superior court judges, while DPCAs are to be headed by retired district judges. Other members should include retired civil or government servants, police officers, and members of civil society. However, the judgement is silent on eligible members' required

qualifications or skills. Ensuring diversity is another challenge. In some instances, PCAs are dominated by serving and retired officers, but the presence of serving officers impacts credibility negatively and defeats the fundamental principle of natural justice: that no one can be a judge in their own case. If serving officers are part of the oversight, it loses credibility.

The credibility of PCAs is also dependent on the selection process of their chairpersons and members. The chair of the SPCA is selected from a panel of retired high court judges proposed by a senior judge. Members are chosen from a panel prepared by the State Human Rights Commission or Public Service Commission.

To ensure fairness in the selection of independent members, the Sikkim Police Act has adopted an independent selection panel, but in other states, members of PCAs are appointed at the sole discretion of the governments. The idea of having an independent selection committee to ensure safeguards against political appointments. This is not possible without political neutrality and autonomy. Best practices dictate that such positions be advertised so selections can be carried out transparently, and citizens should be given opportunities to submit objections about the members to be considered.

In the absence of independent investigators, PCAs would remain dependent on the police. The Kerala, Assam, and Haryana Police Acts make a provision for hiring retired and independent investigators. However, no police law in India gives a time limit for inquiries, which results in an increase in pendency and erosion of public faith in

PCAs to deliver justice. Therefore, setting a time limit for such inquiries is also necessary.

Since PCAs are public institutions, they are expected to be accountable. The submission of annual reports is one of the measures to ensure accountability. This report should be laid before the legislature and accessible to the public. The Tripura and Uttarakhand Police Acts specifically mention the provision of separate budgets, but in India, the budgets of most PCAs are administered through the home department-e-n-ns, with PCAs having no role in budget-making, which limits their independence. Without adequate financial independence, the oversight bodies cannot function independently. Lastly, PCAs in developing societies often limit their outreach efforts, so public outreach, including the introduction of websites, should consciously be made part of police laws.

In Pakistan, the Police Act of 1861 did not envision any complaint management apparatus. The Police Order of 2002 did, however, envision the establishment of public complaint authorities, using the term 'complaint' 71 times in its text. Chapter X of the Police Order deals with the composition and functions of federal and provincial PCAs. However, since all provinces have opted for different police laws, PCAs are yet to become functional in Pakistan.

Policing the police is not possible without functional PCAs, public safety commissions as envisioned in the Police Order, and regional police complaint authorities as mentioned in the KP Police Act of 2017. Public safety will remain elusive till these checks are introduced. -- Courtesy Dawn

Economic fallout

Ajaz Ahmed

What happens to an economy when it is hot outside? Globally, record-breaking temperatures have been witnessed in the past few years. There is evidence that heatwaves dampen economic output, causing GDP losses and exacerbating global inequality. For instance, projections for the US economy show that rising temperatures could reduce economic growth by up to one-third over the next century.

Moreover, the assumption that economic damage from global warming is confined to the agriculture sector is no longer true, as climate change and environmental degradation pose significant risks to the macro economy and financial systems. For example, climate change will affect individual and household income, sectors of the economy, energy markets, inflation variability, financial markets, innovation, and rising public debt, among other things.

While rising global temperatures have a profound impact on economies all over the world, the phenomenon is still poorly understood due to the complexity of climate-related risks and their interactions with the real economy. Scientific studies are being conducted to estimate the impact of global warming on different sectors of the economy. However, there is consensus that macroprudential measures are critical to mitigating climate-related risks, as without mitigation measures, physical risks from climate change-driven natural hazards — heatwaves, windstorms, floods, and droughts — are likely to increase significantly.

While the marginal effects of temperature rise

are different in different regions, persistent increases in global temperature have serious implications for economic growth, productivity, and efficiency. However, the sensitivity of different economies to the impact of global warming depends on their reliance on different sectors of the economy, which can be susceptible to changing temperatures. Thus, climate change will be a critical factor in shaping responses to macroeconomic conditions in the near future.

Decarbonisation is no longer a matter of choice, as reducing carbon intensity in production processes and energy use is unavoidable to lower carbon emissions per unit of output produced and make production cleaner. Yet, the decarbonisation of economies for net-zero targets will affect both output and inflation, exerting changes in monetary policy and macroeconomic conditions in most countries. So, the key question for economy pundits, especially those from the developing world, is how to reduce carbon-intensive economic activity, without it having consequences for productivity, efficiency, and economic growth.

Climate change can potentially increase inflation and the debt-to-GDP ratio, resulting in economic uncertainty and tighter fiscal and monetary policies, which may lead to lower demand via lower spending and reduced economic activity. The transition to net zero would require the deployment of tools such as tax, subsidy, and regulation, resulting in increasing abatement costs. This can potentially generate relative price shocks, pushing up aggregate inflation, which is likely to necessitate changes in

monetary policy, not to mention net-zero transition having an effect on inflation. Furthermore, the structural transformations required for the transition to net zero are expected to alter monetary policy channels.

Since climate change increases the frequency and severity of shocks, it may become very difficult for central banks to regularly read such shocks. In other words, identifying regular shocks — of an unknown nature — to the economy, will complicate the assessment of the monetary policy stance, which will often find itself confronting a trade-off between output and inflation stabilisation. Therefore, macroeconomic policy responses must take into account the impact of extreme weather events, the decarbonisation of economies, and net-zero transition.

As the impact of climate change is regional and global, it may invoke structural adjustment processes that transcend national borders, thus necessitating assessment of macroeconomic implications and formulation of models that provide insight with regional and sectoral differentiation.

Existing analytical frameworks and macroeconomic modelling tools are inadequate and unsuitable for grappling with the dynamic nature of climate uncertainty and design-informed policy responses. Therefore, policymakers need to review and, where required, improve and align their toolkit to adapt to the new challenges. Nevertheless, reducing uncertainty and creating an enabling environment to pacify reactions will be highly critical in the future as climate change will remain a major global risk for some time. -- Courtesy Dawn

CM Sindh reviews arrangements for Muharram Majaalis, directs for security of processions

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Monday presided over a joint meeting with administration and religious scholars to finalise arrangements for Majaalis and processions during Muharram ul Haram.

The CM said there would be no load-shedding from Muharram 1 to 12 for which he issued directives to KE, HESCO and SEPCO.

The meeting was held

at CM House and attended by provincial ministers including Sharjeel Memon, Nasir Shah, Saeed Ghani, Zia Lanjar, Riaz Shah Shirazi, Chief Secretary Asif Hyder Shah, IG Police Ghulam Nabi Memon, Commissioner Karachi Hassan Naqvi, Additional IG Karachi Imran Yakoob, Secretaries of different departments, Asadullah of water Borad, Haris Siddiqui of KE and Solid Waste Management representative Ulema

kram - Allama Syed Razi Naqvi, Molana Mohamad Hussain and others also attended the meeting.

Addressing the Ulema the CM said that province had full religious harmony where people had been living in peaceful environment.

He said: "I am sure this practice of mutual respect would further strengthen." After consultation with Ulema-e-karam (religious scholars) the CM directed the IG Police to provide

necessary security to the Majalis and Moharram processions across the Sindh province.

The Ulema pointed out that most of the roads and the drain in the city were better but even then, drainage systems in the streets, particularly where Majalis were scheduled to be held.

At this, the CM directed the water board to ensure the repair of the drainage system in the city. The KMC would repair its roads, if necessary.



LAHORE: Acting Governor Punjab Malik Muhammad Ahmad Khan in a group photo with a delegation led by the Deputy Speaker of the New York State Assembly, Mr. Phil Ramos, at Governor's House.



LAHORE: Citizens busy in their routine works and heading towards their destinations in the first rain of monsoon since morning in the provincial capital.

Punjab Governor says Legislative assemblies of Punjab, NY can benefit each other's experiences

Independent Report
LAHORE: A delegation led by the Deputy Speaker of the New York State Assembly, Mr. Phil Ramos, called on Acting Governor Punjab Malik Muhammad Ahmad Khan at Governor's House, Lahore. During the meeting, discussion was held on promoting Pakistan-US relations, parliamentary affairs, education, health and other sectors. In the meeting, Acting Governor, Malik Muhammad Ahmad Khan also endorsed the resolution regarding making New York and Punjab a

sister state. Speaking on the occasion, Acting Governor Punjab Malik Muhammad Ahmad Khan said that the resolution regarding making New York and Punjab a sister state will enhance cooperation between the American state and the province of Punjab in the fields of trade, health and education. He further stated that the legislative assemblies of Punjab and New York can benefit from each other's experiences. He said that the government was focusing on boosting the economy and uplifting the education

sector. The Acting Governor said that the Punjab Assembly is playing its role in the establishment of a strong democratic system. The Deputy Speaker of the New York State Assembly, Mr. Phil Ramos, said that he will play active role to increase the cordial relations between the United States and Pakistan. He said that the United States values its relations with Pakistan. Mr. Phil Ramos said that US Government was keen to make an agreement with the Punjab government in the field of nursing.

Dy Speaker inaugurates emergency services at Sir Sadiq Hospital

BAHAWALPUR (APP): Deputy Speaker of the Punjab Assembly Malik Zaheer Iqbal Channar has said that according to the promise made by Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif, a Children's Complex and Burn Unit will soon be constructed in Bahawalpur to improve medical facilities in the region further.

The people of Bahawalpur had long demanded the Children Complex and Burn Unit, which the current government will fulfill. He expressed these

views while inaugurating the emergency services at Sir Sadiq Muhammad Khan Abbasi Hospital in Bahawalpur. He mentioned that due to the efforts of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and MNA Malik Muhammad Iqbal Channar, Bahawalpur was gifted with a 450-bed hospital currently providing public services efficiently. He stated that with the revival of emergency services at Sir Sadiq Muhammad Khan Abbasi Hospital in Bahawalpur.

GCU signs MoU with five Iranian universities

LAHORE (APP): An eleven-member delegation of Presidents (Vice Chancellors) from various Iranian universities on Monday visited the Government College University (GCU) Lahore to enhance academic and research collaboration.

The GCU Lahore signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) with five Iranian universities: University of Religions and Denominations, Hakim Sabzevari University, Quom University, Islamic Azad University, and Bu-

Ali Sina University. The formal ceremony was presided over by the GCU Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Shazia Bashir and attended by prominent figures, including Punjab University Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Khalid Mehmood, Home Economics University Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Faleeha Zahra Kazmi, and GCU Dean Prof. Dr. Sultan Shah. In her welcome address, Prof. Dr. Shazia Bashir highlighted several GCU initiatives, such as the establishment of a counseling center.

ANF recovers 833 kg drugs in seven operations

RAWALPINDI (APP): Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) while conducting seven raids across the country managed to recover 833 kg drugs and arrested three accused, said an ANF Headquarters spokesman here on Monday.

He informed that 748 grams ice was recovered from a passenger going to Qatar at Bacha Khan International Airport. 400 grams ice was recovered from a parcel sent to Australia from a cargo office in Rawalpindi. 460 kg opium was recovered from Mashkhal and 319 kg opium was recovered from an area near Pishin Road Quetta.

CS KP visits site of burnt shops in Nothia

PESHAWAR (APP): Chief Secretary of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Nadeem Aslam Chaudhary on Monday visited the site of the recent fire in Nothia here to be abreast of losses and damages incurred by the fire in busy shopping area.

During the visit, Deputy Commissioner of Peshawar, Afaq Wazir provided a detailed briefing to the Chief Secretary on the damages caused by the fire.

Minister orders making Kisan card awareness campaign more effective

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Agriculture Minister Syed Ashiq Hussain Kirmani said that the Kisan card awareness campaign aimed at providing guidance to farmers should be made more effective.

He said this while presiding over a meeting at Agriculture House on Monday. He said that the timelines of projects related to 'Transforming Punjab Agriculture Plan' should be implemented in letter and spirit.

He said that the Kisan package launched by the government was inevitable for the prosperity of farmers. The minister was

informed that till now more than 220,000 applications had been received for the Kisan card and after scrutiny 105,000 of them had been approved.

The minister said that green tractors would be provided to farmers on a 70 percent subsidy. "It is mandatory for farmers to have a Kisan card to get a green tractor," he said and directed relevant authorities to form a dashboard for the monitoring of the Transforming Punjab Agriculture Plan and present a plan for boosting production of canola, soybean etc.

Govt committed to providing best healthcare facilities : CM

CM also reviews arrangements for rainwater disposal

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif has said the government is committed to providing the best healthcare facilities for every citizen.

In a meeting with Provincial Health Advisor Major General (Retd) Azhar Mehmood Kayani to discuss reforms in the health sector here on Monday, she said: "I have decided to revolutionize the health sector. The health sector is very close to my heart."

The CM agreed to take all possible measures

for the early completion of health projects, saying that work has started on the up-gradation of all health centers, THQ and tertiary hospitals. Medicines for heart diseases, TB, cancer and hepatitis are being delivered at patients' doorsteps, she noted. "I was very happy when a lady showed me home-delivered heart medicines of her husband," she said.

CM Maryam Nawaz Sharif said field hospitals and clinics on wheels project were one of the most successful projects.

In a few weeks, 1.2 million people have been treated at their doorsteps. She explained field hospitals have X-rays, free lab tests and ECG along with free medicines, highlighted that 500 more clinics on wheels would be added soon.

The CM said to check shortage of doctors in remote areas, incentives were being given to doctors, adding that the provision of free medicines in the hospitals which was stopped in the past had been restarted. Maryam Nawaz said the scope of field hospitals.

Minister appreciates Punjab CM's initiatives for minorities

LAHORE (APP): Provincial Minister for Minority Affairs Ramesh Singh Arora on Monday urged the representatives of various religious minorities to encourage their children towards education, especially focusing on filling job vacancies, as there are still approximately 32,000 vacant posts in Punjab.

During a meeting with representatives of various religious minorities at his camp office, he said Chief

Minister Maryam Nawaz had outlined a five-year roadmap on her first day in the Punjab Assembly, addressing all segments of society with special attention to weaker sections.

The minister said that CM Maryam Nawaz distributed grants on Easter and personally visited Maryam Abad to share celebrations of the Christian community. She also initiated the wheat harvest at Kartarpur on the festival of Baisakhi.

Two die, three injured in Upper Kohistan accident

PESHAWAR (APP): At least two people were killed and three others injured when a vehicle fell into a deep gorge in Upper Kohistan area, police informed on Monday.

According to police, five people were onboard the vehicle when it plunged into a deep gorge after its driver lost control over the vehicle in Lotar area of Upper Kohistan.

The rescue teams shifted the victims to District Headquarters Hospital Dasu, where doctors pronounced two as dead.



KARACHI: Sindh Minister for Information, Transport, Excise Dept Sharjeel Inam Memon, Minister Syed Nasir Hussain Shah addressing a press conference in the provincial capital.

NCSU, join hands with FJWU to tackle Climate Change

RAWALPINDI (APP): In a groundbreaking effort to combat the escalating climate crisis, a team of scientists from North Carolina State University (NCSU), USA, joined hands with Fatima Jinnah Women University (FJWU), to conduct a joint research project on "Climate Change Impacts on Glaciers, Rivers, and Oceans." This initiative is a part of the project "Developing the Next Generation of Female Environmentalists; Pakistani Women University Climate Change Consortium".

The project is aimed to empower female students in Pakistan by equipping them with advanced climate science

knowledge and skills. A distinguished team of seven scientists from NCSU, including Prof. Dr. Lewis Owen, Prof. Dr. Jingpu Paul Li, Prof. Dr. Walter Robinson, Dr. Carrie Thomas, Dr. Roberto Mera Velazquez, Dr. Jamila Simpson, and Ms. Lucia Manatschal-Riedener, led the two-day project briefing event, funded by the US State Department. Dr. Lewis Owen, Dean of the College of Sciences at NCSU, brought his extensive expertise on the glacial history of the Himalayan mountains, providing invaluable insights into the region's geomorphological changes due to climate change.



KARACHI: Teachers of Sanghar protesting for the regularization of their jobs at Karachi Press Club in the Provincial Capital.

Peace Committee stresses unity to maintain peace

MULTAN (APP): Punjab government is committed to collaborating with religious scholars from all sects to maintain and promote peace, said Commissioner Multan Maryam Khan.

In this connection, she stated, full authority has been granted to the district administration to maintain security.

Commissioner Multan Division Maryam Khan said this while presiding over a meeting of the Divisional Peace Committee. Commissioner

Khan observed that the Municipal Corporation was tasked to repair and maintenance of the routes for Muharram processions. Tenders for high-quality work have been issued, and the C&W department has been brought on board.

The Punjab Highway Department will conduct all patchwork. MEPCO officials have been instructed to fix sagging electrical wires along the routes and to prevent load shedding and voltage issues in the affected areas.

Anti-power theft drive intensified in Mardan circle

PESHAWAR (APP): The Peshawar Electric Supply Company (PESCO) Mardan circle has intensified drive against kunda mafia and defaulters in Sargharh and surrounding areas. During this operation, over 100 electricity thieves and defaulters were arrested on the spot and transferred to local police stations. Assistant Commissioners and Takhte Bhai Junaid Khalid led the operation and was accompanied by SE PESCO Mardan Circle Ikramullah Khan, XEN PESCO Takhte Bhai Division Feroz Shah Khan, Patwari Taj Wali Khan, SDO PESCO Sargharh Kamranullah Dawar, Line Superintendent Shehzad Ali Khan, and Line Superintendent Hidayat Khan.



MANSEHRA: TIKA Vice President Umit Naci Yorulmaz inaugurating lab at department of architecture in Hazara University.

Punjab keeping religious scholars on board for Muharram peace

MULTAN (APP): The Punjab government is keeping religious scholars from all schools of thought on board for Muharram peace and Multan divisional administration and police have chalked out an elaborate security plan to deploy 10,000 personnel across Multan division.

Presiding over a divisional peace committee meeting, commissioner Maryam Khan, said that administrations of all districts have been given full authority by Punjab government to ensure peace during upcoming sacred month of Muharram ul Haram.

She said that tenders for repairing the procession routes have already been issued to ensure quality work and

asked municipal corporation to ensure route are ready before time. She said that C&W department has also been brought on board adding that the Punjab highway department will handle all the patchwork. Coordination with Mepco officials was ongoing to correct improperly hanging wires along the routes, she said and added that instructions have been given to avoid loadshedding and address low voltage issues in the relevant areas. Maryam Khan emphasized the installation of streetlights along the procession routes for the convenience of mourners. She said, Wasa has been tasked with replacing manhole covers. RPO Multan Captain (Retired) Sohail Chaudhry said.

1400 police cops deployed to provide security to polio teams

RAWALPINDI (APP): As many as 1,400 police personnel have been deployed to provide security to polio teams during the ongoing anti-polio campaign, informed police spokesman here on Monday.

Police are working alongside 677 teams of polio workers to ensure security during the campaign. Senior officers are actively supervising and guiding the police personnel involved in polio campaign.

According to SSP Operations (retd) Hafiz Kamran Asghar, the security of polio teams is a top priority. He informed that to ensure the security of the teams, the police personnel were also patrolling in their respective areas.

He emphasized that the Rawalpindi Police are fully committed and using all available resources to protect the lives and property of citizens.



LAHORE: Activists of Pakistan Markazi Muslim League protesting against the increase in the prices of electricity bills, petrol and LPG gas in front of the press club of the provincial capital.

CPI inflation recorded at 12.3% in June

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Consumer Price Index (CPI) based inflation increased to 12.6 percent on year-on-year basis during June 2024 as compared to the corresponding month of last year, Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) reported Monday.

According to PBS data, the CPI based inflation during the same month of last year was recorded at 29.4%.

On month-on-month basis, it increased to 0.5% in June 2024 as compared to a decrease of 3.2% in the previous month and decrease of 0.3% in June 2023. According to data, CPI inflation Urban, increased to 14.9% on year-on-year (YoY) basis in June 2024 as compared to an increase of 14.3% in the previous month and 27.3% in June 2023. On month-on-month (MoM) basis, it increased to 0.6% in June 2024 as compared to a decrease of 2.8% in the previous month and an increase of 0.1% in June 2023.

CPI inflation Rural, increased to 9.3% on year-on-year basis in June 2024 as compared to an increase of 8.2% in the previous month and 32.4% in June 2023. On month-on-month basis, it increased to 0.3% in June 2024 as compared to a decrease of 3.9% in the previous month and decrease of 0.8% in June 2023.

The Sensitive Price Indicator (SPI) inflation on YoY increased to 16.6% in June 2024 as compared to an increase of 15.3% a month earlier and 34.9% in June 2023. On MoM basis, it increased by 1.33% in June 2024 as compared to a decrease of 4.0% a month earlier and an increase of 0.2% in June 2023.

The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) inflation on YoY basis increased to 10.6% in June 2024 as compared to an increase of 9.9% a month earlier and an increase of 22.4% in June 2023. On MoM basis, it increased by 0.4% in June 2024 as compared to a decrease of 2.5% in the previous month and decrease of 0.3% in corresponding month of last year i.e. June 2023.

The core inflation measured by non-food non-energy Urban increased to 12.2% on (YoY) basis in June 2024 as compared to an increase of 12.3% in the previous month and 18.5% in June 2023. On (MoM) basis, it increased by 0.6% in June 2024 as compared to an increase of 0.4% in previous month and an increase of 0.7% in corresponding month of last year i.e. June 2023.

The core inflation measured by non-food non-energy Rural increased to 17.0% on (YoY) basis in June 2024 as compared to an increase of 17.0% in the previous month and 25.2% in June 2023. On (MoM) basis, it increased by 0.9% in June 2024 as compared to an increase of 0.5% in previous month and an increase of 0.9% in corresponding month of last year i.e. June 2023.



ISLAMABAD: Businessman and member of Economic Advisory Council Jahangir Khan Tareen along with MNA Aoun Chaudhary called on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

Finance Minister hails FBR exceptional performance in surpassing revenue target

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister of Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb on Monday commended the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) for its outstanding performance in surpassing revenue collection target for financial year 2023-24, with a total collection of Rs 9,311 billion.

The minister visited FBR headquarters and held a meeting with Chairman FBR Malik Amjed Zubair Tiwana and Members of the Board, said a news release.

Minister of State for Finance and Revenue Ali Pervez Malik also joined the meeting through video link.

The minister expressed confidence in FBR's capabilities and hoped that the Board would continue to play a pivotal role in achieving the Government's fiscal objectives.

The Minister of State also appreciated FBR team for exceeding the annual revenue target despite multiple odds and issues.

M u h a m m a d

Aurangzeb along with Chairman FBR and Members of the Board also cut a cake to celebrate the FBR's performance for not only achieving the revenue collection target for the financial year 2023-2024 but also surpassing it.

The meeting underscored the government's commitment to strengthening the FBR and supporting its initiatives aimed at enhancing revenue collection, digitisation and economic documentation.

Bilal urges businessmen to cooperate with govt

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Food Minister Bilal Yaseen has said that business segments should cooperate with the government for providing relief to people.

According to official sources here on Monday, he said that facilitators of profiteers and hoarders deserved no leniency.

He said that during the last 24 hours, 629 flour mills, flour dealers and retail shops had been checked. Bilal Yaseen said that 128 places had been checked in Lahore division, 64 in Faisalabad, 30 in Sahiwal, 80 in Rawalpindi division, 74 in Sargodha, 40 in Multan division, 38 in Bahawalpur, 88 in DG Khan, 42 in Gujrat and 45 in Gujranwala.

He said that supply of flour was strictly monitored during Sunday holiday. A sufficient stock was available at retail shops and in wholesale markets in Lahore and other big cities of Punjab, he added.

He said that due to increase of transportation of wheat in markets it helped to reduce prices.

People should lodge their complaint on toll free number 080002345 against those who were illegally selling flour and 'Roti' at higher rates. The Punjab food department had imposed a fine of Rs 470,000 besides issuing warning notices to profiteers and law violators, he said.



BEIJING: Minister of State for IT and Telecommunication Ms. Shaza Fatima Khawaja arrives in China to participate in Global Digital Economy Conference 2024 being held from July 2-5 in Beijing.

SMEDA launches 10-year cluster-based development plan

LAHORE (APP): Small and Medium Enterprises Development Authority (SMEDA) Monday evolved a 10-year Cluster-Based Development Plan for growth of the SMEs sector.

Federal Secretary Industries and Production Dr. Fakhar e Alam Irfan unveiled the plan here at a ceremony arranged by SMEDA to reveal international Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Day. SMEDA Chief Executive Officer Soerat Aman Rana, GM (Policy & Planning) Ms. Nadia Jehangir Seth and GM (Outreach Division) Raja Hassanien Javed also addressed the ceremony.

On this occasion, Federal Secretary said, "Our nation's economic landscape thrives on the dynamism of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), which play a pivotal role in driving growth, innovation, and job creation." He noted that the ten-year Cluster Based Plan for SMEs included five sectors- Fruits & Vegetable Processing, e-bike, Pharmaceutical, Sea Foods, and Marble & Granite. These studies, on these sectors, are a result of the collaboration between the SMEDA and the Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, guided by the consultation with private sector.

The plan has been meticulously charted based on the selected sectors potential for growth of exports and employments that also aligns with our Strategic Trade Policy Framework (STPF) for 2020-25.

Pak earns US \$633m from travel services' export in Jul-April

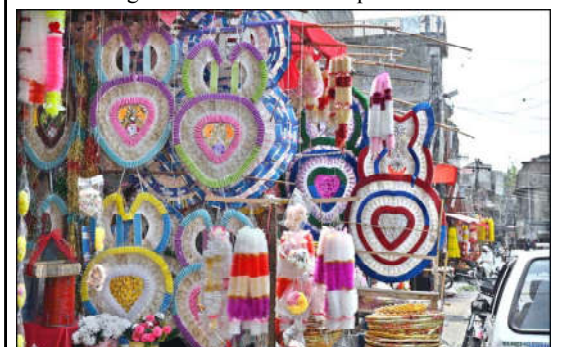
ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan earned US \$633.198 million by providing different travel services in various countries during the ten months of the fiscal year 2023-24.

This shows a decrease of 27.61 per cent as compared to the US \$874.700 million worth same services provided during the corresponding months of the last fiscal year 2022-23, the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) reported.

During the months under review, personal travel services also decreased by 28.08 per cent, from US \$868.020 million last year to US \$624.278 million during July-April 2023-24.

Among these personal services, the exports of health-related expenditure rose by 255.59 per cent while the education-related expenditure increased by 98.97 per cent.

In addition, the other personal services witnessed a decline of 30.71 per cent.



RAWALPINDI: A local vendor showcases beautiful garlands made with currency notes at his shop at Bani Chowk neighbourhood in the city.

ADB approves 50 mln USD loan, grant to Kyrgyzstan

MANILA (Xinhua/APP): The Asian Development Bank (ADB) on Monday said it has approved a funding of 50 million U.S. dollars to support fiscal and public management reforms in Kyrgyzstan to enable more public funding for the nation's low-carbon transition and climate adaptation needs.

The funding includes a 43-million-U.S.-dollar policy-based concessional loan and a 7-million-U.S.-dollar Asian Development Fund grant.

Vulnerable to macroeconomic shocks and climate change impacts, Kyrgyzstan is prioritizing structural reforms to improve fiscal sustainability, domestic resource mobilization, public sector governance, and efficiency to foster economic growth.

The ADB's Sustainable Fiscal Management and Governance Improvement Program, consisting of two subprograms, aims to strengthen public financial management, improve corporate governance and procurement of state-owned enterprises.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance & Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb in a meeting with the Executive Committee Members of P@sha (Pakistan IT Industry Association) led by Chairman P@sha Mr. Muhammad Zohaib Khan.

Pakistani exhibitors tap opportunities at China-Eurasia Expo

BEIJING (APP): Pakistani exhibitors showcased copper, jewelry, jade, handmade carpets and other products at the 8th China-Eurasia Expo held in Xinjiang, China.

Abbas Muhammad, a Pakistani jeweler who has lived in Xinjiang for 20 years, told the local media that his participation in the China-Eurasia Expo would bring benefits to his business.

Abbas has two companies, one in Pakistan and the other in China, primarily dealing in jewelry, jade, and other items. Among these, emeralds and other gems from Pakistan are highly sought after by Chinese consumers.

At the expo, he was busy attending to the customers and sold over RMB 100,000 worth of products in the past few days.

There were some new faces at the expo. Faisal Rasheed, a Pakistani handmade carpet merchant, came to Xinjiang from Beijing to participate in the expo.

He said that he believed the Pakistani goods would be successful in China, which was a huge market.

Pakistani merchants have been participating in the China-Eurasia Expo for several consecutive years. The diverse range of exhibits from around the world has embarked on a journey along the Silk Road to converge at the expo.

Exhibitors expressed their hope to integrate more effectively into the Chinese market through Xinjiang, a gateway open to the West. Themed "New Opportunities of Silk Road."



GILGIT: A worker busy in embroidery work on pillow and bed sheet at his setup.

SAU, FAO sign MoU to boost climate-resilient farming, support farmers

HYDERABAD (APP): The Sindh Agriculture University (SAU) Tandojam and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to promote modern agricultural practices and assist small farmers to deal with climate change, besides improving water use, increasing production and enhancing marketing through Farmer Field Schools (FFS).

The MoU in this regard, was signed by the Vice Chancellor SAU Dr. Fatch Mari and FAO Senior Scientific Officer and Head of Sindh Office James Robert OKOTH.

According to the SAU spokesperson, this initiative is part of the broader project "Climate-Resilient Agriculture and Water Management for Transforming the Indus Basin."

Under this agreement, SAU and FAO will work to holistically improve climate-resilient agriculture and water management practices and integrate these improvements into agricultural extension courses at higher education institutions in Sindh and Punjab.

The signing ceremony took place in the senate hall of SAU, where Vice Chancellor Dr. Mari emphasized the importance of supporting small farmers, addressing climate change threats, intercropping, and providing farmers with the necessary capacity building, seeds, water and marketing assistance to enhance production and prosperity. He noted that training programs for farmers through farmer field schools would be further strengthened with the help of university experts and FAO.

100 environment-friendly buses to run in Faisalabad

FAISALABAD (APP): The government is contemplating to run 100 environment-friendly buses in Faisalabad while in later phase this facility would be extended at tehsil level also.

This was stated by MNA Chaudhry Shehbaz Babar while addressing the meeting of District Coordination Committee (DCC) Faisalabad. Being convener of the committee, he also presided over the meeting and said that the Punjab government under dynamic leadership of Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz was spending huge funds to improve life stranded of the masses by providing them basic amenities at their door steps. He took briefing about Inter-City Bus Service and said that in first phase 100 environment-friendly buses would start providing service in Faisalabad within the limits of Ring Road, however, in later phase, this facility would be enhanced at tehsil level so that the students and industrial workers could avail from this service at maximum extent. He also stressed the need of tight security arrangements for Muharram-ul-Haram and said that DCC meeting should also be convened before Ashura. He said that public welfare and development projects would be executed on war-footing. He said that efforts would be accelerated.



LAHORE: Representatives of Anjuman Tajran, Malik Ejaz, Khalid Bashir addressing a press conference against inflation in the press club of the provincial capital.

FCCI worried over accumulation of sewage and rainwater on roads, in commercial centers

FAISALABAD (APP): Normal business activities are affecting due to the accumulation of sewage and rainwater on important roads and commercial centers due to the poor performance of WASA, said Dr Sajjad Arshad, Senior Vice President Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FCCI).

Talking to a delegation of traders during a meeting in his office, he said that light showers have converted low-lying areas into ponds of water. He said that WASA disposal stations were also not working satisfactorily which further aggravated the situation.

He said that in downtown areas, businesses of billions of rupees were transacted daily which were also suffering due to stagnation of rain and sewer water. He criticized the poor performance of WASA which failed to take preventive measures despite the clear prediction of heavy rains during this monsoon.

He alleged that WASA is issuing only statements while the ground realities are altogether different.

He demanded an impartial audit of WASA by a third party and take irresponsible and negligent officers and officials to task. He further said that dangers of urban flooding were imminent and hence, the level of green belts along main roads must be lowered to accommodate the rainwater and save roads from unnecessary wear and tear.



KARACHI: Shopkeeper displaying chargeable fan after demands' increase due to shortage to electric city supply in provincial capital.

China completes its largest LNG storage base

NANJING (Xinhua/APP): A subsidiary of China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC) has completed the construction of China's largest LNG storage base, a move that aims to ensure energy security and support green growth in the Yangtze River economic belt.

The base in the city of Yancheng, east China's Jiangsu Province, has a group of gas tanks with a combined LNG storage capacity of 2.5 million cubic meters, the company said.

It has four tanks each with a storage capacity of 220,000 cubic meters and six larger tanks each with a storage capacity of 270,000 cubic meters.

Li Feng, vice president of CNOOC Gas and Power Group, said the base is connected to the country's major gas pipelines and provides supplies to provinces including Jiangsu, Henan, Anhui and Shandong.

Once fully operational, the base will have the capacity to process up to six million tonnes of LNG annually, equivalent to 8.5 billion cubic meters of natural gas.

This volume is enough to sustain residential gas needs in Jiangsu Province.

Fighting rages in Gaza City's Shujaiya for fourth day

Monitoring Desk
GAZA STRIP: Heavy battles and bombardment hit Gaza City's Shujaiya district for a fourth day on Sunday, months after Israel declared Hamas's command structure dismantled in the northern area.

Tens of thousands of Palestinians have fled the devastated neighbourhood, where the army said it has fought Palestinian fighters both "above and below ground" in tunnels.

Months of on-and-off talks towards a Gaza truce and hostage release deal have meanwhile made little progress, with Hamas saying there was "nothing new" in a revised plan presented by US mediators.

The Israeli military said ground and air forces had carried out raids on compounds used by fighters and "eliminated several terrorists" over the past 24 hours. It also reported clashes in central Gaza and the southern Rafah area, a week after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu de-

clared that the "intense phase" of the offensive that started on October 7 was nearing an end. The United Nations humanitarian agency OCHA estimated that "60,000 to 80,000 people were displaced" from Shujaiya since new fighting broke out there on Thursday and the army issued evacuation orders.

For those who remain, "our lives have become hell", said 50-year-old Shujaiya resident Siham al-Shawa. She said people were trapped as strikes could happen "anywhere" and "it is difficult to get out of the neighbourhood under fire". "We do not know where to go to protect ourselves," Netanyahu said. Israeli "forces are operating in Rafah, Shujaiya, everywhere in the Gaza Strip".

According to a statement from Netanyahu's office, he told his cabinet that "dozens of terrorists are being eliminated every day."

Six people were killed in an air strike at dawn targeting a house in Rafah, said

medics at Nasser Hospital where the bodies were taken. Artillery shelling also rocked parts of the city, witnesses said.

The Israeli military launched a ground operation in Rafah in early May, leading to the closure of a key aid crossing. The United Nations and other relief agencies have voiced alarm over the dire humanitarian crisis and the threat of starvation the Israeli siege has brought for Gaza's 2.4 million people.

"Everything is rubble," said Louise Wateridge from UNRWA, the UN agency supporting Palestinian refugees, speaking from the city of Khan Yunis. "There's no water there, there's no sanitation, there's no food. And now, people are living back in these buildings that are empty shells."

In Israel, thousands of protesters again took to the streets of Tel Aviv on Saturday, demanding greater efforts to return the remaining prisoners, and calling for early elections.



A Palestinian woman bakes unleavened bread in a makeshift oven while sitting on the rubble of buildings destroyed in the Israeli bombardment, as some residents return to the city of Khan Yunis.

Israel FM says 'Iran deserves to be destroyed'

Monitoring Desk
JERUSALEM: Israeli Foreign Minister Israel Katz said on Saturday that Iran's message of an "obliterating war" made it worthy of destruction. "A regime that threatens destruction deserves to be destroyed," Katz said in a post on X. He also said Israel will act with full force against Iran-backed Hezbollah if it does not stop firing at Israel from Lebanon and move away from the border.

Iran's UN mission said on Friday that if Israel embarks on a "full-scale military aggression" in Lebanon, "an annihilating war will ensue." The Iranian mission also said in the post on X,

Japan successfully launches an advanced Earth observation satellite on its new flagship H3 rocket

Monitoring Desk
TOKYO: Japan successfully deployed an upgraded Earth observation satellite for disaster response and security after it was launched on a new flagship H3 rocket Monday. The H3 No. 3 rocket lifted off from the Tanegashima Space Center on a southwestern Japanese island and released its payload about 16 minutes later, putting it into a targeted orbit as planned, the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, or JAXA.

North Korean officials sport Kim Jong Un pins for first time

Monitoring Desk
SEOUL: North Korean officials wore pins with a portrait of Kim Jong Un in public for the first time in pictures released by state media on Sunday, the latest step in the development of a cult of personality about the leader.

The officials, speaking at a key meeting chaired by Kim of the exclusive state's ruling party, wore the typical party logo pin on the right lapel and, on the left chest, the pin with Kim's face against a flag-shaped red background.

The 10th Plenary Meeting of the 8th Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, which reviews the party's performance for the first half of the year, began on Friday, state news agency KCNA said.

The Kim dynasty that has ruled North Korea since its founding after World War Two has sought to strengthen its grip on power by building cults of personality around itself.

Kenyan activists call for more protests as govt pledges austerity

Monitoring Desk
NAIROBI: Kenyan activists called for protesters to take to the streets again on Tuesday, with many rejecting appeals from President William Ruto to dialogue following his decision to withdraw proposed tax hikes.

At least 24 people were killed in clashes between protesters and police last week, when parliament was briefly stormed and set ablaze. The protests, which have been led by young people and organised largely on social media.

UN chief lauds move to limit proliferation of small arms

Monitoring Desk
UNITED NATIONS: UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres has praised the adoption of a strong outcome document at the end of a conference dedicated to combating illicit small arms and light weapons worldwide, saying it is an important sign of progress.

The proliferation, diversion and misuse of small arms and light weapons continue to undermine peace, security and sustainable development around the world fuelling conflict and armed violence and causing devastating human costs, the UN chief said in a statement. He congratulated member states on successfully concluding the Fourth Review Conference, welcoming the setting up of an open-ended technical expert group to address developments in small arms and light weapons manufacturing, technology and design.

Mr Guterres also recognised the commitments the states have made to strengthen international cooperation and assistance and to implement gender-responsive policies.

He expressed hope that the progress will help strengthen our collective and national efforts to combat illicit small arms and light weapons until the next review conference in 2030.

The UN chief added that he hoped the commitments regarding small arms would inform discussions at the 'Summit of the Future' in September to find forward-looking and action-oriented solutions for a more peaceful future.

Iran election shows declining voter support amid calls for change

Monitoring Desk
TEHRAN: The first round of Iran's presidential election revealed shrinking support for both reformists and conservatives even though some voters are pushing for change by backing the sole reformist candidate, analysts say.

Masoud Pezeshkian, the reformist contender, and ultraconservative Saeed Jalili led the polls held on Friday to replace the late ultraconservative president Ebrahim Raisi, who died in a helicopter crash last month.

Friday's vote, marked by a historically low turnout, "clearly shows that both reformists and conservatives' bases have considerably shrunk," said Ali Vaez of the International Crisis Group think tank.

In the lead-up to the election, Iran's main reformist coalition supported Pezeshkian, with endorsements by former presidents Mohammad Khatami and Hassan Rouhani, a moderate. "The reformists brought out the big guns and tried their best to mobilise their base," Vaez said on social media platform X, but "it was simply insufficient." Likewise, the conservatives failed to garner sufficient votes "despite the tremendous resources they deployed," he added.

Vaez pointed out that the combined votes of Jalili and conservative parliamentary speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf, who came in third, totalled 12.8 million.

That figure was well below Raisi's nearly 18 million votes in the 2021 election. Of the 61 million eligible voters, only about 40 per cent cast ballots, marking a record low turnout in the Islamic Republic where some people have lost faith in the process.

More than one million ballots were spoiled.

For Vaez, the decline in turnout, from around 49pc in 2021, was "a real embarrassment for the leadership" in Iran.



Marine Le Pen, head of the French far-right Rassemblement National parliamentary group in the National Assembly, casts her ballot in the first round of elections in Henin-Beaumont.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Executive Engineer, Patfeeder Canal Division Dera Murad Jamali Invites Sealed Tender Form F-I (as per schedule A/B) based on prevailing market Rates, Government of Balochistan amended up to date from interested contractors/firms for the work listed below :- Tender Fee Rs.2500/- Deposited on Head of Account C-03434

S.No.	Name of work	E/Cost	Bid Security 2%
1	Strengthening of Left Side embankment of Patfeeder Canal from RD.261 to RD.281+000 District. Sohbat Pur.	33000000	660000

Procurements shall be carried out in accordance Balochistan Public Procurement Regulatory Authority Rules 2014. ELIGIBILITY (a) The Contractor must have Valid Registration with Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) for the year 2023-24-25 in relevant Category, with specialization relevant Codes of CE05/6 (Irrigation only) (b) Registration with relevant tax departments i.e (NTN, Sales tax and BRA) where applicable and Active upto date.(c) Presence on FBR Active Taxpayer List. (d) The Firm/ Contractor never being blacklisted, from any procuring agency of Pakistan. (e) The bidder must have completed at least 2 assignment similar nature of work last 3 years. (f) Turn over of at least 23100000/- PKR Amount in 3 Subsequent Previous Years showing financial capacity of the Bidder/Firm. (g) Authorized Representative of Company will only be allowed, having a specific Authorization letter for the schemes mentioned above (The Authorization letter/ deed must be provided on Non-Judicial Stamp Paper Valuing Rs.100,duly attested by First Class Magistrate. Method of Procurement: Single Stage- One Envelope Procedure will be adopted. Issuance of Tender Documents: The bidders can be obtained the bidding documents from the address mentioned below on production of Green challan (as bidding documents fee mentioned above) to be deposited in the head of account C-03434 in the National Bank of Pakistan (The NIT & Bidding Document can also be downloaded from www.bppra.org.pk. Deadline Submission of Bidding/ Tender documents: The last date and time of submission of bidding/ tender documents will be 22nd July 2024 at 12:00 PM. Technical and Financial Proposals from intending Contractors sealed in two separate envelopes clearly marked with work title and type of proposal. Opening: The Technical Bid will be opened on 22nd July 2024 at 1:00 PM, before Procurement Committee in the presence of contractors or their authorized representative/ agents and their Financial Bid will be retained and only successful bidders will be called/ invited through courier for opening of Financial Bid. The Financial Bid of disqualified bidders will be un-opened. Bid Security: The Bid Security 2% of estimated cost in the shape of Call Deposit from any schedule Bank as mentioned against the contract shall be enclosed with the bid (Technical Proposal) Bids Validity: Ninety Days (90) days Address: Executive Engineer, Patfeeder Canal Division Dera Murad Jamali Phone-0838-710533

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
PATFEEDER CANAL DIVISION
DERA MURAD JAMALI

PRQ No.13/01-07-2024
www.dpr.gov.pk @dpr_gob @dpr_gob @dpr_balochistan

NOTICE INVITING E-BIDDING

The Executive Engineer, Irrigation Division Jhal Magasi, invites through B-PPRA Electronic Public Procurement System (EPPS)sealed tenders forms (as per schedule B) based on composite schedule of rates 2023 Government of Balochistan from interested contractors/firms for the works listed below:- Bid Security 2% in (Rs), Tender Fee Rs.2000/- and Time of Completion 12 Months for each work

S.#	Name of work	E/Cost	Bid Security
1	LINING OF PANJUK CANNEL PHASE III TEHSIL GANDAWAH DISTRICT JHAL MAGASI PSDP 2024-25 AT S.NO 3036 TSE-232406467023	70.00 M	1,400,000/-
2	CONSTRUCTION OF FLOOD PROTECTION BUND FOR NIGORE VILLAGE TEHSIL JHAL MAGSI PSDP 2024 - 25 S.NO.3071 TSE-232406467163	80.00 M	1,600,000/-
3	DE-SILTING OF PATFEEDER CANAL RD 620+000 TO 680+500 DISTRICT JHAL MAGSI PSDP 2024-25 AT S.NO 3282 TSE-242507467283	65.00 M	1,300,000/-

ONLY ELECTRONICALLY BID WILL BE SUBMITTED, NO PHYSICAL BID IS REQUIRED

Eligibility of Bidders: a. Procurements shall be made under B-PPRA Rules 2014 amended up-to-date. Bidding is open to all bidders who meet the following Basic Eligibility Criteria: b. An individual bidder having Valid PEC registration in the relevant Category or above with specialization codes in CE04 Irrigation Only. c. Has completed one (02) Contract of similar nature as a Contractor (but not as Sub- Contractor) during last five (05) years with completion certificates. d. Has an average turnover of 70% of Project Cost during last three years e. Active registration certificates from Income Tax Authority FBR (NTN) and Balochistan Revenue Authority (BRA) f. Has a minimum Bank Credit Line Facility / Available Account Cash equal to at least 30% of the project cost; (Attach duly certified Bank Certificates. g. The contractor has not been blacklisted earlier by any government agency or private organization. No Litigation Affidavit, in case of Litigations, history should be enclosed (Attach affidavit on Rs. 100 non-judicial stamp paper duly attested by Oath Commissioner). h. The amount of Bid Security shall be 2% of the quoted amount in the form of CDR or a Bank Guarantee issued by a Scheduled Bank in Pakistan in favour of the Employer valid for a period 28 days beyond the Bid Validity date. i. Submission of an application on firm letterhead signed/stamped along with Original CDR and Green Challan is mandatory to be submitted in office on or before date of Bidding. j. Any firm not meeting the above mandatory requirements shall be declared Non-Responsive. k. The contractors quoting rates below or above the approved project cost must attach Rate Analysis for each item of work. Such bids without proper rate analysis shall be rejected at opening. l. As per BPPRA rule 25 (sub rule 4 amended rule) conditional bid shall not be entertained & (sub rule 3) Method of Procurement: Single Stage-Two Envelope Procedure. The bidding documents can be obtained from the office of the under-signed upon payment of bidding document fee through Green Challan in the NBP under Head of account C-03434. The Bidding Documents duly filled attached with copies of supporting documents i.e List of Machinery /Equipment and company staff must be delivered in sealed envelopes by hand or thought registered mail before 19th July-2024 at 11:30 PM at office of the mentioned below. Tender opening: envelope containing technical bid will be opened on 19th July-2024 at 12:30 PM on EPPS System 2nd envelope containing financial bid of technically qualified bidder will be opened later, financial proposal of technically non-qualified bidders will not be opened and thus will be unopened Bids Validity: Ninety (90) days Address: Irrigation Quarter, Gandawah Bypass Road Jhal Magasi. Phone & Fax No. 0838-612097 Email: xenjhalmagasi2019@gmail.com

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
IRRIGATION DIVISION JHAL MAGSI

PRQ No.19/01-07-2024
www.dpr.gov.pk @dpr_gob @dpr_gob @dpr_balochistan



TEHRAN: Female athletes attend a campaign event for Iranian presidential candidate Saeed Jalili at a Zurkhaneh, a traditional gymnasium, during a campaign event.

North Korea fires two short-range ballistic missiles, one launch fails

Monitoring Desk
SEOUL: North Korea fired two short-range ballistic missiles but one launch failed, South Korea's military said Monday, a day after Pyongyang warned of "fatal consequences" following major joint exercises in the South.

South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said the military had detected two launches, the first at 5:05 am (2005 GMT) and the second around 10 minutes later.

"The short-range ballistic missile launched at around 05:05 flew approximately 600 km (372 miles)," it said, adding the second one travelled 120 km.

Sunday Times newspaper backs Labour Party in UK election

Monitoring Desk
LONDON: Britain's Sunday Times newspaper endorsed the main opposition Labour Party on Sunday for the July 4 parliamentary election, saying in an editorial that the country needs a "radical reset" after 14 years of Conservative rule. The newspaper, owned by Rupert Murdoch's News UK, has backed the Conservatives at every election since 2005 but said on Sunday that the country could not carry on with what it said was now an "exhausted" party. "We believe it is now the right time for Labour to be entrusted with restoring competence."

France votes in election that could put far right in government

Monitoring Desk
PARIS: French voters began casting their ballots on Sunday in the first round of a snap parliamentary election that could usher in the country's first far-right government since World War Two, a potential sea change at the heart of the European Union.

President Emmanuel Macron stunned the country when he called the vote after his centrist alliance was crushed in European elections this month

Ukraine dismisses reports on bolstering troops near Belarus

Monitoring Desk
KYIV: Ukraine's border guards dismissed claims from Belarus that it was reinforcing troops on their mutual border, describing the reports as an information operation from Minsk with Moscow's support.

Belarus, a close Russian ally that has provided support for Moscow's 28-month full-scale war in Ukraine, said last week that Kyiv was bolstering its forces along the frontier. The Kremlin said on Monday the report was a cause of concern.

LAND ACQUISITION

"SECTION-IX UNDER LAND ACQUISITION ACT 1894"
"CONSTRUCTION OF TRUMPET INTERCHANGE AT SARIAB CUSTOM, CHOWK QUETTA"

Whereas, the draft declaration under section 06 & 07 of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 has been issued by the Commissioner, Quetta Division, Quetta vide No. 10/RB/Acq/QTA/2024/2259-67 dated 05th April, 2024 with respect to land situated at different Mahal & Mauza Khushkaba Sariab, Tappa Shadenzaal-II, Tehsil Sariab Quetta, measuring 296848 Sq. (detail given in the schedule appended below), is needed to be acquired by C&W Department through Executive Engineer, Project Division-1, Quetta for public purpose namely "Construction of Trumpet Interchange at Sariab Custom Chowk". It is hereby notified that the land in locality (details can be seen obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours) is likely to be acquired for the aforesaid purpose.

Whereas, I, Lt (R) Saad Bin Asad, Deputy Commissioner/Collector, Quetta do hereby call upon the concerned landowners (name whereof mentioned in the schedule appended below) to appear before the undersigned in person or through their representatives / counsels within Fifteen (15) days from the date of receipt of this notice for putting in their objections, if any. If they fail to appear before the undersigned within the stipulated period it will be presumed that they are willing to give the said land in their occupation to the Deputy Commissioner, Quetta for the aforesaid purpose.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
QUETTA

PRQ No.17/01-7-2024
www.dpr.gov.pk @dpr_gob @dpr_gob @dpr_balochistan

TENDER NOTICE

TSE-232406466153 Only electronic bid will be submitted, No physical bid is required. Note: In All Procurements of GOB Whether Through Electronic or Manual Bid Submission, It is Mandatory For All Bidders to Get Registered At Electronic Public Procurement System of BPPRA GOB. THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PROVINCIAL B&R I SURAB invites bids from Eligible Bidders for execution of following works for the Year 2024 based on Composite schedule rates 2018 on Percentage Rates Tender Fee Rs.2000/- and Bid Security 2%

S.No	Name of Works	E/Cost
1	CONSTRUCTION /REHABILITATION OF BLACK TOP ROAD FROM N-85 TO KILLI TAKARI FIDA MUHAMMAD MERWANI GAWANDAM DISTRICT SURAB (LENGTH 5.50 KM) (PSDP NO. 1763 - Z2024.0044	118,857,440

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules - 2014. Eligibility of Bidders: Presence in Active Tax Payer List. The bidding firm must not be blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan. Balochistan Revenue Authority Registration is required. The bidder must have completed 2 Assignment of similar nature of work. Turn over of at least 83,200,208 PKR Amount in 3 subsequent previous years showing financial capacity of the firm. Registration with Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) C-4 and above (Upto 200 million) in Relevant Category And Specialized Code is CE10(I) (General Civil Engineering Works), CE01-(I) (Road and Pavements Drainage & Retaining Structure). Affidavit of no Litigation Non-Black Listing history where decision went against the Firm. The contractor must produce an oath certificate duly attested by oath commissioner narrating that all the supporting documents attached with bid are not fake, in case if any document at any stage of the contract found fake. The action will be taken against the firm and its owner Audit Report Last Three Year Showing Turn Over (I) (General Civil Engineering Works), CE01-(I) (Road and Pavements Drainage & Retaining Structure). Procedure of Procurement: Single Stage One Envelope Bidding Procedure Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Bank Guarantee/Deposit at Call of 2% specified above in the name of the under-signed from a scheduled bank. Tender Documents: The NIT & Bidding Document can be obtained electronically from www.bppra.gov.pk Issuance of tender Documents: Complete Bidding Document can be viewed at www.bppra.gov.pk Last Date of bid submission: Bid can only be submitted electronically latest by 19 July, 2024 till 11:00 AM through supplier dashboard. Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day at 12:00 PM on EPPS System Address: old B&R Rest House Surab Phone no: 0814587565 Email: chakarrafali1985@gmail.com

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER-ROADS
CW PP&H Department District
Surab

PRQ No.06/01-07-2024
www.dpr.gov.pk @dpr_gob @dpr_gob @dpr_balochistan

CPEC emerges as catalyst for investment, technology transfer: Chairman Senate

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman Senate, Syed Yousaf Raza Gillani has said that China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has become a catalyst for not only investment but technological transfer, skill development, and knowledge sharing between the two friendly nations.

He was addressing the launch ceremony of the "China Chamber of Commerce Sustainable Development Report 2023" of CCCPK (formerly "All-Pakistan Chinese Enterprises" Association APCEA), co-organized by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) here at the Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services (PIPS) Hall.

The report was unveiled by Chairman Senate, Syed Yousaf Raza Gillani, Chinese Minister Counsellor, Yang Guangyuan, Prime Minister's Coordinator on Climate Change, Romina

Khurshid Alam, and Chairman CCCPK, Wang Huihua. Syed Yousaf Raza Gillani said Pakistan has faced a lot of testing times whereas the perseverance and patience of its masses created narratives of resilience emanating from the stories of resilient and successful men and women bracing all the challenges.

He said that the CPEC is a nonpartisan agenda in Pakistan as all of its opposition parties support the government on it. The Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) was the first under the leadership of then President Asif Ali Zardari who paved way for initiation of the CPEC.

Moreover, the successive governments of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM), and the current government rendered extreme commitment for CPEC, he added. He said the government of Pakistan was mindful of the

challenges faced by the Chinese companies, and people working on various projects under CPEC and was ensuring fool proof security for the Chinese citizens.

Gillani informed that the bureaucratic processes were being streamlined and Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) like institutions were developed to expedite different projects under the second phase of CPEC or CPEC 2.0.

"CPEC has created 155,000 skilled and unskilled jobs for local masses in Pakistan. However, the signing of MoU for CPEC's second phase underscores continued collaboration in industrial development, green energy initiatives, low carbon development, and other areas," the Chairman Senate said.

CPEC 2.0, he said, would upgrade and implement renewed focus on industrialisation, sustainability, and

inclusivity.

"Pakistan lauds President Xi Jinping's commitment and funding of \$100 billion for Greening BRI for eco-friendly development. Chinese banks play a fundamental part in greening of the CPEC projects, pivotal for development and environmental protection. Both countries are eager for collaborative green initiatives such as green bonds, concessional financing, and Just Energy Transition Partnerships (JETPS). I urge Chinese to work out solutions to improve access to these financing tools and initiate all economic transactions in Chinese RMB instead of USD," Gillani said.



ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate, Syed Yousaf Raza Gillani attending launching ceremony of the "China Chamber of Commerce Sustainable Development Report 2023" of CCCPK (formerly "All-Pakistan Chinese Enterprises" Association APCEA), co-organized by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) here at the Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services (PIPS) Hall.



BEIJING: Minister of State for IT and Telecommunication Ms. Shaza Fatima Khawaja in a meeting with Cybernet and PEACE Cable Management in Beijing, China.

Outgoing ambassador calls for persevering efforts to fortify Pakistan-US relations

NEW YORK (INP): Outgoing Pakistani ambassador to the United States, Masood Khan called for persevering efforts to strengthen Pakistan-US relations, despite periodic ups and downs.

Pakistan on Friday decided to replace Khan and appoint Additional Foreign Secretary (Middle East and SIFC) Ambassador Rizwan Saeed Sheikh as envoy to the United States.

At a farewell dinner organised in honour of the outgoing Pakistani envoy, United States Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Elizabeth Horst Friday praised Khan, for his services towards building "bridges between Islamabad and Washington."

"On behalf of the State Department, I just want to note that the US-Pakistan relationship is in the best place it's been in years, in part, in large part to what Ambassador Masood Khan has done to represent Paki-

stan, to build bridges between Islamabad and Washington," said Horst.

On behalf of the State Department, the US official acknowledged that the ties between the two countries, like any longstanding relationship, have experienced friction at times, but "because of you, we know how we can talk through this and we have a framework to talk through friction", she added.

Khan was given agreement by the US Department of State for serving as ambassador to Washington in February 2022. He was nominated for the post by the then prime minister Imran Khan in November 2021.

In his farewell note, Khan wrote: "A robust relationship between our two nations is work in progress, backed by a history of nearly 77 years."

As he completed his assignment as the ambassador of Pakistan to the US, he said since March 2022, after taking charge of the

office, he had tried to build strong Pak-US relations.

The envoy thanked a host of entities including "American friends" from the administration, Congress, state governments and assemblies, International Financial Institutions (IFIs), think-tanks, media, civil society and the private sector, as well as the diaspora community for the support in building the bilateral ties.

"I am indebted to the influential Pakistani-American professional organisations that have helped me, our missions, and our two nations to navigate through challenging but promising landscapes," he maintained.

Khan said he was confident that the same would extend full support to his successor as well.

"As I leave, I wish you all success and prosperity. Have faith in Pakistan and keep nurturing Pakistan-US States ties," he concluded.

Third Doha Talks: Pakistan and US hold consultations on Afghanistan

DOHA (INP): In Doha, Qatar, Pakistan and the United States held consultations on Afghanistan during the third 2-day Doha talks, reported on Monday.

The consultations between Pakistan and the US took place in Doha, where US Special Representative for Afghanistan, Thomas West, and his delegation met with the Pakistani delegation.

The Pakistani delegation included Special Representative Asif Durrani, Pakistan's Ambassador to Qatar Dr Muhammad Ijaz, and Head of Mission in Kabul Obaid-ur-Rehman Nizamani.

According to the report, before the United Nations-sponsored conference in the capital city of Qatar, the Pakistani delegation had significant meetings Sunday.

Diplomatic sources said that the parties discussed the matters related to the situation in Afghanistan, the third Doha conference, and options.

The Pakistani delegation also had meetings with delegations from other countries, including a meeting with Russian Special Representative Zamir Kabulov.

Additionally, the Pakistani delegation met with the European Union delegation, led by Special Representative Tomas Niklasson.

The Afghan Interim Government is also participating talks and conference this year. The Afghan Taliban interim government had boycotted the participation of Afghan women and civil society representatives in the last second Doha talks.

For the first time, special representatives on Afghanistan from around the world is sit in front of the Afghan Taliban in the Doha talks.

Yesterday, representatives of Afghanistan's Taliban government began meetings with UN officials as they attended talks in Doha with special envoys to the Central Asian country for the first time.

The two-day, UN-hosted meeting in Qatar is the third of its kind in the gas-rich emirate in just over a year but the first to include Taliban authorities who seized power in Afghanistan in 2021. UN officials and over 20 envoys, including the US special representative to Afghanistan, were expected to meet with the Taliban government's delegation led by spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid. The talks in Doha were due to discuss increasing engagement with Afghanistan and a more coordinated response to the country, including economic issues and counter-narcotics efforts.

CM directs to digitalize land record of Quetta city completely in beginning of September

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has directed to the Senior Member Board of Revenue (MBR) to completely digitalize the land record of Quetta city in the beginning of September this year.

The Chief Minister said that settlement is necessary for the better land record as such, adding he directed to complete the settlement of Quetta city within two months.

The Chief Minister was presiding over the land record digitalization here on Monday.

Those who were present in the meeting were included the provincial ministers Mir Asim Kurd and Mir Ali Madad Jatak, parliamentary secretary, Mir Liaquat Lehri, members of the provincial assembly and other concerned high ups.

The meeting was briefed about the matters about land record and its digitalization besides other related issues.

During the briefing, it was informed that fards (documents of ownership of land) and transfers of the land have been digitalized through land record information management system.

He also directed to ensure merit and transparency in the process of recruitment of patwaris.

The system included E-stamping, GIS system and revenue record.

Preliminarily, the revenue record has been digitalized in Quetta, Jaffarabad, Pishin and Gwadar through the land record information management system.

Similarly, it was also informed that the facilitation system has also been established through LRIMS.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister stressed that cooperation of land settlement office is unavoidable.

Return of leaders to PTI halted until Imran's release from jail

ISLAMABAD (INP): The process of any Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader returning to the party has been halted until the release of the party's founder, former premier Imran Khan, from jail.

According to media reports, this decision has been made by PTI founder Imran Khan himself. The sources said that only after Imran Khan's release would the return of leaders be decided.

Following the PTI founder's instructions, a seven-member committee has also been constituted to determine the inclusion of any leader in the party again. This committee will be headed by former foreign minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi, while former speaker Asad Qaiser, Hamid Khan, Shehryar Afridi, Barrister Gohar, and Shibli Faraz will be members. Additionally, a female member will also be included to oversee the return of women to the party. PTI leader Shandana Gulzar will provide reports on women's cases and reasons for leaving the party.

CM dismayed over absence of doctors, medical staff and poor cleanliness

LAHORE: Ameer Jamat-e-Islami Hafiz Naeem-ur-Rehman addressing a press conference.

Visits Mufti Mehmood Hospital Kuchlak

QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has expressed displeasure over the absence of doctors and other medical staff from their duties and poor cleanliness situation in Mufti Mehmood Memorial Hospital (MMMMH), Kuchlak.

The Chief Minister directed to the Special Secretary Health to dismiss all the absentee staff of the MMMH.

Mir Sarfraz Bugti was on surprise visit to the MMMH on Monday where he went round of different departments and sections of the Hospital and inspected the health facilities being provided to the patients there.

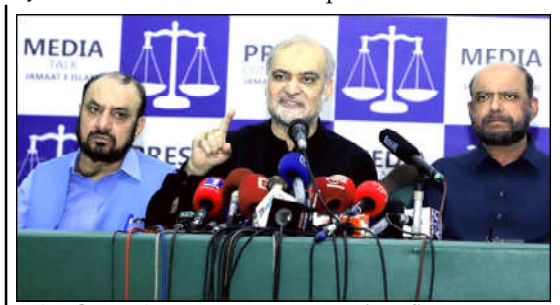
He also inspected the record of attendance of the doctors and other staff at the Hospital. He was displeased with absence of

doctors and other medical staff from their duties and directed to the Special Secretary Health to take disciplinary action against those found absent from their duties.

The Chief Minister on an occasion asked the Medical Superintendent of the Hospital not to hide the facts rather tell the truth.

He regretfully pointed out that billions of rupees are provided for medical treatment of the poor people, however, there are no results of the same.

He directed to the Medical Superintendent of Mufti Mehmood Hospital to improve the attendance of doctors and situation of cleanliness in the Hospital within couple of days. Stern action would be taken if the situation was not improved, adding the Chief Minister warned.



LAHORE: Ameer Jamat-e-Islami Hafiz Naeem-ur-Rehman addressing a press conference.



CHINA: Ambassador of Pakistan to China, Khalil Hashmi spoke at China-SCO round table on Digital Connectivity on the sidelines of China-Eurasia Expo. The Ambassador underscored the importance of digital connectivity in the Eurasian region, & Pakistan's potential as a burgeoning digital economy.

Rs 500 mln allocated for Dera-Allah-Yar development: MPA

QUETTA (APP): PML-N Parliamentary Secretary for Population Welfare Hadiya Nawaz Behrani on Monday said that Rs 500 million was allocated for the financial year 2024.25 for various development programmes of Dera-Allah-Yar.

It was her desire to develop her home town as a model city and that was why she had got earmarked such a hefty amount in order to provide maximum basic facilities to its people, she said while talking to the media outside the Balochistan Assembly.

Hadiya Nawaz said she had already finalized development projects and soon work on them would be started.

She said a carpet center would be set up in the city for skill training of the youth for which Rs 30 million has been earmarked. Similarly, Rs 20 million was specified for the construction of the press club

building, she added.

Likewise, MPA Hadiya said, Rs 10 million was earmarked for the repair and restoration of the temple so that the Hindu community members could perform their religious rituals, she added.

She said Rs 75 million was kept aside in the budget for the repair and rehabilitation of the Officer's Club phase one, Rs 10 million for taxi stands, Rs 10 million for the Government Model High School examination hall, and Rs 32.25 million for the rehabilitation of Bilal Football Mini Stadium.

The MPA said work many other projects in the Dera Allah Yar city and surrounding areas, installation of electricity poles and transformers, tuff tiles, water drainage schemes and roads would be carried out in cooperation with the Federal Government and non-governmental organizations.

Hashmi meets with Minister of State for IT in Beijing

BEIJING (APP): Pakistan Ambassador to China Khalil Hashmi met with Minister of State for IT and Telecommunications Shaza Fatima Khawaja and leaders of Chinese and Pakistani companies here on Monday.

During the meeting held at Pakistan House ahead of Global Digital Economy Conference being held in Beijing, the ambassador had a useful interaction with the state minister and the leaders of the companies.

"Useful interaction today at Pakistan House between Minister of State for IT & Tel@ShazaFK, leaders of companies, ahead of Global Digital Economy Conference, part of follow up of prime ministers' recent visit," ambassador posted on social media platform X formerly known as Twitter after the meeting.

The state minister has arrived in the Chinese capital on Monday morning to participate in the Global Digital Economy Conference being held from 2 to 5 July 2024 in Beijing.

She is leading a delegation of 20 IT companies from Pakistan for developing business to business cooperation with the Chinese companies.

Naqvi lauds FC and Police Personnel foiling terrorists' attack on Takhta Baig

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi on Monday paid tribute to the bravery of FC and police personnel who foiled the terrorists' attack on Takhta Baig police checkpoint in District Khyber.

The Interior Minister said that the sacrifices of Shaheed FC official Shahzad and Shaheed Police official Ejaz, who laid down their lives fighting against terrorists, will always be remembered by the nation.

He said that the brave officers and jawans of

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Police and FC have played a key role in the war against terrorism. The Interior Minister praised the bravery of Shaheed FC official Shahzad and Shaheed Police official Ejaz, who fearlessly thwarted the terrorists' attack. He said that the nation salutes the sacrifices of the two martyrs who laid down their lives fighting against terrorism.

Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi further said that the sacrifices of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Police and FC will never be forgotten.

Petroleum dealers announce nationwide strike on July 5

KARACHI (INP): The Pakistan Petroleum Dealers Association has announced a nationwide strike on July 5, against the government's decision of 0.5% advance tax, says in media reports. According to Pakistan Petroleum Dealers Association (PPDA) chairman, Abdul Sami Khan, stated that talks are scheduled with the government in Islamabad on Monday, but if they fail, the petrol pumps will be shut down across Pakistan as planned.

Expressing his concern over the advance turnover

tax, he said that the strike may be extended beyond a day if necessary. The chairman urged the government to withdraw the tax immediately as it will make impossible for the petrol dealers to run their businesses. Yesterday, the federal government increased the petrol price in the country by Rs 7.45 per litre for the next fortnight.

The Finance Division has officially issued a notification, fixing the new price of petrol at Rs265.61 per litre, Rs7.45 up from the previous Rs258.16 per litre, burdening the inflation-hit public.

Three labourers shot dead in Lakki Marwat

LAKKI MARWAT (INP): In a tragic incident, three labourers were shot dead by unknown armed men in Lakki Marwat, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

As per details, the labourers were targeted near Gorkha Shah Hussain in Lakki Marwat. The deceased were identified as Farooq, Naqeeb and Saleh Khan. The bodies were moved to the hospital by the police and rescue teams. Further details were awaited.

Earlier, at least 14 passengers had been offloaded from buses and shot dead on the Makran Coastal Highway in Balochistan's Ormara town. According to Levies sources, 15-20 unidentified armed men had intercepted five coaches travelling between Karachi and Gwadar near the Buzi Top area.

The assailants had checked the identity cards of passengers and offloaded 16 of them. They then had opened fire, killing 14 of the offloaded passengers as two managed to escape from the scene.

Indian troops martyred 12 Kashmiris in June

ISLAMABAD (APP): Indian forces' personnel in their unabated acts of state terrorism martyred twelve (12) Kashmiris during the last month of June in Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

According to a report released by the Research Section of Kashmir Media Service, today, of those five youth were martyred by the troops in fake encounters or custody.

During the month, at least twenty-six people were injured after Indian troops and police personnel used brute force on peaceful protesters while five hundred seventy civil-

ians, mostly youth and political activists including prominent lawyer and former head of Kashmir Bar Association Mian Abdul Qayoom, were arrested under black laws, Public Safety Act (PSA) and Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) during at least one hundred ninety-six (196) cordon and search operations in the month, the report added.

The Modi regime did not allow Kashmiris to offer Eidul Azha prayers at historical Jamia Masjid and Eidgah in Srinagar. The troops also damaged two houses while a woman was molested in the month.



QUETTA: Leader and members of Central Anjuman Tajran Pakistan are cutting cake during celebration ceremony held in Quetta.



QUETTA: Additional Chief Secretary Home Zahid Saleem presiding over a meeting regarding zaireen management