

Independent

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Extensive briefing conducted on initiatives of CM Sarfraz Bugti-led government:

Political process necessary till grassroots level for making Balochistan complete hub of peace, stresses Chairman PPP

Bilawal Batutto Zardari says narrative of terrorism has to be defeated to foil nefarious designs of terrorists; urges Balochistan government to expedite compensation process initiated for affectees of 2022 floods

Independent Report
 QUETTA: The Chairman Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhatto Zardari has emphasized upon initiating political process up to grassroots level in order to make Balochistan complete hub of peace.
 He also stressed that the narrative of terrorism should have to be defeated for foiling the nefarious designs of terrorists.
 The Chairman PPP hailed the first Youth Policy and stressed to implement it fully so as to provide maximum opportunities to youngsters.
 He directed to complete the projects of health in the province immediately.
 In addition to this, the Chairman Bilawal directed to expedite completion of the project of construction of homes for those affected in the floods of 2022 in the province.
 Similarly, he directed to take steps on emergent basis for improving the infrastructure all over Balochistan.
 The Chairman PPP expressed these views and is-



ASTANA: Prime Minister, Muhammad Shehbaz in a group photo with the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Plus Summit, held in Astana.

Pakistan to pursue anti-terrorism, dispute resolution, multilateralism goals during UNSC term: PM

Demands Israel's accountability for war crimes in Palestine

ASTANA (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday while calling effective multilateralism a key to address regional and global challenges, reiterated Pakistan's commitment to just and peaceful resolution of outstanding and ongoing disputes, opposing unilateral and illegal use of threats or force, and combating terrorism. The prime minister, addressing the summit of SCO Plus format, said during its 2025-26 term as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, "Pakistan remains committed to pursuing just and peaceful resolution of outstanding and ongoing disputes, opposing resort to unilateral and illegal use of threats or force, combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, and advancing SCO agenda in partnership with member states."
 The SCO Plus format meeting was held on the sidelines of the 24th Summit of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) at the Palace of Independence in the capital city of Kazakhstan.
 The prime minister told the gathering that complex global and regional challenges could be best addressed through effective multilateralism within the UN framework.
 He said Pakistan brought to the UNSC its rich experience and expertise, and strong legacy of contributions towards the maintenance of peace and security.
 He congratulated President of Kazakhstan Kassym-Jomart Tokayev for holding the SCO summit and expressed the hope that the Astana Declaration and other documents adopted at the event would go a long way in strengthening efforts for the objectives of peace and prosperity.
 Highlighting the increased incitement to hatred and discrimination based on race and religion, in particular Islamophobia, climate-induced disasters and post-COVID-19 impacts on the

Pakistan committed to strengthen SCO for peace: PM

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday, reaffirming Pakistan's commitment to SCO objectives of peace and prosperity, urged the member states to put in their collective efforts against terrorism, poverty alleviation and dispute resolution, particularly the ongoing Israeli barbarism in Palestine.
 "I reaffirm Pakistan's commitment to working together to strengthen SCO as an active and integrated regional forum to achieve the common objective of peace and prosperity in line with the Shanghai spirit," the prime minister said addressing the 24th Summit of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), which commenced here in the capital city of Kazakhstan.
 Titled "Strengthening Multilateral Dialogue – Striving Towards a Sustainable Peace and Prosperity", the summit is being attended by leaders from Pakistan, China, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkiye, Uzbekistan, Belarus, Iran, Kyrgyzstan, India and others.

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Terrorists' organizations killing common poor Balochs levelling allegations of spy to appease to lords, says Zia

Independent Report
 QUETTA: The Provincial Minister for Home and Tribal Affairs, Mir Ziaullah Langove has stated that the terrorists' organizations are massacring the common poor Balochistan after levelling allegations of "spy" against them.
 In an official statement issued here on Thursday, the Provincial Minister Home said that at the time when Balochistan is progressing on path of development and prosperity today, the terrorism activities are being carried out in Pakistan especially



QUETTA: Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfraz Bugti addressing dastarbandi ceremony of Nawab Arbab Umar Farooq Kasi

CM, tribal chieftains, elders participate: Senator Arbab Umar Farooq assumes responsibilities of chieftain of Kasis

Independent Report
 QUETTA: The eldest son of late Nawab Arbab Abdul Zahir Kasi, Senator Arbab Umar Farooq Kasi assumed the responsibilities of new Nawab (chieftain) of Kasi tribe here at a grand dastar bandi (turban wearing) ceremony held at the Arbab House here on Thursday.
 The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti as well as the tribal chieftains, elders and other dignitaries from different walks of life were in attendance at the dastar bandi ceremony.
 Prominent among them were the representative of Chief of Sarawan, Nawab Aslam Raisani, Nawabzada Lashkari Raisani, Sardar Kamal Khan Bangulzai, Nawab Muhammad Khan



ASTANA: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif interacts with the world leaders on the sidelines of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Summit.

SC suspends LHC decision, ECP notifications on tribunals' formation

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Supreme Court of Pakistan on Thursday suspended the verdict of Lahore High Court (LHC) and the notification of Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) regarding the establishment of election tribunals, and ordered to address the matter with consultation.
 A five-member larger bench, led by Chief Justice of Pakistan Qazi Faez Isa and comprised on Justice Amin Ud Din Khan, Justice Jamal Khan Mandokhail, Justice Naem Akhtar Afghan and Justice Aqeel Abbasi heard the appeal against the establishment of election tribunal.
 In its order regarding the hearing, the court said that the ECP's lawyer showed the letter dated June 27, to the registrar LHC. The ECP first wrote letters to the high courts of four provinces for establishment of election tribunals.
 The first two tribunals were formed with collaboration of LHC which were insufficient, after that the names of six more judges were sent by the LHC as tribunals.
 It said that the ECP appointed only two judges out of six as tribunals. The dispute rises after the LHC formed more tribunals, it added.
 The top court said that the ECP is a constitutional institution while the Chief Justice LHC is also the head of a constitutional institution. The matter could have been resolved if a meeting of chief justice LHC and ECP convened, it said, adding that the top court respects the both institutions.

Maintaining balance between resources & issues big challenge: Governor

Independent Report
 QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail has underlined the need to increase the gross national product, build capacity and strengthen tax recovery system further.
 The Governor pointed out that our natural resources are less, but social issues are more than them.
 He said that it is a challenge for the government to maintain balance between the limited resources and issues being faced by the people.
 However, the economic experts can provide guidance to meet the requirements of increasing population in the limited resources.
 The Governor was speaking to the Provincial Minister for Finance and Mines & Mineral Development, Mir Shoaib Nausherwani who called on him here at the Governor's House on Thursday.
 During the course of meeting, the overall political situation of the country and province as well as transfer of fruits of development and government's initiatives at the lower level and other matters of mutual interests were discussed.
 Speaking on the occasion, Governor stressed that we have to make serious decisions for stabilizing the country's economic system besides benefitting the general public from the fruits of development in the province.
 He was of the strong view that financial matters would be improved by reducing the non-development expenditures.
 He also said that we can secure our future with mutual consultation and combined efforts.



QUETTA: Provincial Finance Minister Mir Shoaib Nausherwani meeting with Governor Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail

Armed Forces, CJCS, Services Chiefs pay tribute to Capt Karnal Sher Khan

Independent Report
 RAWALPINDI: The Armed Forces of Pakistan, the Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee, and Services Chiefs pay a heartfelt tribute to the indomitable Captain Karnal Sher Khan Shaheed, Nishan-e-Haider, on the 25th anniversary of his supreme sacrifice.
 His exemplary leadership and unwavering courage inspire us to defend Pakistan at all costs. Captain Karnal Sher Khan's heroism in the Kargil War etched his name in history with bravery, unshakable commitment, and unwavering loyalty.
 His martyrdom serves as a poignant reminder of the ultimate sacrifices made by the Armed Forces to safeguard our motherland.
 Let us remember these heroes who have laid down their lives in defence of our motherland. The nation is proud of its gallant sons.



QUETTA: Inspector General of Police Balochistan Abdul Khaliq Sheikh talking with Ulema of different sects and leaders of Anjuman Tajiran regarding security arrangement during Muharramul Haram. Commissioner Quetta Hamza Shafqaat is also present

Conflicts in Ziarat Sanrzi tribe calls Jirga on July 10

Independent Report
 ZIARAT: The Sanrzi tribe has called a jirga on July 10 due to the ongoing tribal tensions in Ziarat.
 The Sanrzi tribe has convened a Jirga at the Sandeman Tangi Ziarat to address the intense tribal conflicts in the district.
 All members of the Sanrzi tribe are requested to ensure their participation in the said Jirga.

Senate resolution on Bajaur blast demands effective measures by govts to contain terrorism resurgence

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Upper House of the Parliament on Thursday unanimously approved the condolence resolution tabled by Senator Kamran Murtaza condoling the sad demise of Senator Hidayat Ullah in bomb blast incident in Bajaur demanding the federal and provincial governments to take active measures against terrorism resurgence in the country.

The 340th Senate session started almost eight minutes late with Chairman Senate, Syed Yousaf Raza Gillani in Chair that commenced with the recitation of Holy Quran verses from Surah Al Waq'iah that highlighted the bounties of the Almighty on pious and virtuous believers in the hereafter as a reward for their good deeds on the earth.

Prior to the motion, the Chair announced the members for the panel of presiding officers of the 340th session including Senators Anousha Rehman, Saleem Mandviwalla and Abida Ateeba.

The Chair directed the mover Senator Kamran Murtaza to lead prayer for the departed soul of Senator Hidayat Ullah Khan and his colleagues who got killed in a bomb blast incident.

Presenting the motion to the House, Senator Kamran Murtaza read the motion, "This House ex-

presses its profound grief and sorrow over the sad demise of former Senator Hidayat Ullah and his colleagues in a tragic incident of bomb blast in Dama Dola area of Bajaur on 3rd July, 2024."

Senator Hidayat Ullah belonged to the Bajaur Agency of erstwhile FATA. He was elected as Member of the Senate for two consecutive terms i.e., March, 2012 to March, 2018 and March, 2018 to March, 2024 as an Independent Member from FATA. During his tenure, Senator Hidayat Ullah always raised his voice for the rights of the under privileged people of tribal areas.

He remained an active member of the Senate of Pakistan and also served as the Chairman of the Senate Standing Committees on Aviation, Communications, Industries and Production and also as a member of various other Standing Committees. He was well respected and widely liked by amongst all members.

The late Senator always took active part in debates on important legislation and other issues of national and public importance. The services rendered by him would be long remembered and his loss will be deeply mourned.



ASTANA: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif meets with President of the Republic of Belarus H.E. Aleksandr Lukashenko on the sidelines of Shanghai Cooperation Organization Summit.

Pakistan to pursue anti-terrorism...

Continued from page 1

countries, he said the challenges necessitated unity of thought and action, upholding the value of peaceful coexistence, resolving disputes, and reposing confidence in multilateralism.

He also drew attention to the unprecedented sufferings of Palestinian people, including the killing of over 37,000 people and displacement of millions others. He also endorsed the UNHRC Council's Commission of Inquiry report calling Israel's acts war crimes and the International Court of Justice terming it genocide, besides calling for accountability.

"We must call upon the international community, in particular the UN Security Council, to uphold its responsibility and ensure an immediate ceasefire, free flow of humanitarian assistance, and protection of civilians in Gaza. UN must ensure the implementation of its resolutions for peaceful settlement of all long-

standing disputes," he remarked.

Highlighting the issue of climate change, the prime minister mentioned the 2022 floods in Pakistan causing an "unimaginable loss" of lives and properties despite the country's minimal contributions to carbon omission.

He said the generous financial and technological assistance to vulnerable countries would enable them to rebuild, adapt, and achieve resilience.

He also emphasized undertaking fundamental reforms in international financial architecture to make it more effective, inclusive, and equitable.

Prime Minister Shehbaz reiterated that Pakistan would continue to strengthen multilateral institutions and enhance global cooperation to realise the common objectives of equitable and peaceful world order, respecting principles of self-determination, sovereignty, and non-interference.

Govt to convene APC on Operation Azm-e-Istehkam

ISLAMABAD (INP): The government has decided to convene an All Parties Conference (APC) to address the concerns of political parties regarding Operation Azm-e-Istehkam, sources said on Thursday.

According to sources privy to the development, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif is considering calling the APC upon his return from Kazakhstan, where he travelled to attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit. PM Shehbaz will seek to gain the confidence of all parties during this conference.

Terrorists' organizations...

Continued from page 1

ernment can be silenced against those massacring the innocent Baloch peoples?

He also questioned that which war of freedom is to target armless and innocent people in different districts of the province including Quetta.

He said that the poor Baloch youth are being enticed in the name of so-called independence.

He said that the government believes in dialogue and we are offering to hold negotiations from the day first.

However, how to hold talks with those who don't want negotiations and are indulged in the terrorism. He clearly said that the terrorist organizations don't believe in negotiations, they just want to impose their ideology through massacre and terrorism, which otherwise is the ideology of enemy country, India, however, the state of Pakistan would never let succeed those playing in the hands of enemy country, he maintained.

He also said that the network and nexus of terrorists organizations with India spy agency "RAW" have been exposed.

Still, we are ready to hold talks remaining in the framework of Pakistan, adding he asserted.

He urged the youth to come forward and serve the country and not harm it on saying of the aliens.

He said that Baloch youth have to decide now to make Balochistan developed or give in hands of the terrorists.

He stressed that we have to fight the war of state against terrorism with political responsibility and joint strategy.



ASTANA: Prime Minister, Muhammad Shehbaz in a group photo with member states during Shanghai Cooperation Organization Summit, held in Astana.

Political process necessary till...

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Minister for Industries, Ali Hassan Zehri, parliamentary Secretary Mir Asghar Rind, spokesman of provincial government, Shahid Rind, Chief Secretary Shakeel Qadir Khan and other high ups were also present.

The Chairman PPP was briefed about health, education, law and order, provincial budget for new financial year besides the flagship programme.

He was also briefed about the Benazir Bhutto Scholarship Programme, Peoples Air ambulance and Peoples Green-bus service besides establishment of NICVD in Quetta, Gambat Institute of Liver transplant, skill workers card Programme and Rescue 1122 service.

It was informed that 300 percent increase has been made in the development budget of education sector in Balochistan.

Similarly, 129 percent increase has been made in the budget of health sector. In addition to this, health on wheel programme has also been launched to provide healthcare facilities in remote areas of the province.

The process of distribution of free medicines has also been started for the cancer patients in the province.

The Chairman of PPP was also informed that the process of solarization of more than 30,000 agricultural tube wells has also been started.

According to a press release issued here by the PPP Media Cell, Pakistan People's Party, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, urged the Balochistan government to expedite the compensation process initiated for the

affecteds of 2022 floods.

"The housing project for those affected by the 2022 floods should be accelerated. Every possible step shall be taken to compensate the calamity stricken masses of Balochistan and Sindh," he said while addressing a meeting held at CM Secretariat Quetta here on Thursday. Chief Minister Sarfaraz Bugti, provincial ministers, chief secretary and IG Police were prominent among others who attended the meeting. PPP Chairman while expressing his resolve against the wave of terror, remarked, "in order to thwart the terrorists' intentions, it is necessary to defeat the narrative of terrorism," "To restore peace and bring political stability in Balochistan, he termed political processes at the grassroots level as mandatory. The first youth policy for Balochistan is a positive development; he lauded, urging that its implementation in letter and spirit is crucial to provide more opportunities for the youth. Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari was briefed on various flagship programs in Balochistan, including the Benazir Bhutto Scholarship Program, People's Air Ambulance and People's Green Bus Service, the establishment of NICVD and Gambat Institute of Liver Transplant in Quetta, the Skilled Workers Card Program, and Rescue 1122 Service. He was informed that the developmental budget for education in Balochistan has been increased by 300%, and the developmental budget for health by 129%. Additionally, the Health on Wheels program has been launched to provide health facilities in remote areas of Balochistan.

Pakistan committed to...

Continued from page 1

The prime minister's address encompassed all major regional and international issues, including terrorism and extremism, Islamophobia, instability in Afghanistan, poverty, climate change, regional connectivity, and resolution of disputes. The prime minister said that Astana held significance for Pakistan where the country had formally joined the SCO in 2017 and congratulated Belarus for being the newest member.

He also felicitated Chinese President Xi Jinping on assuming the SCO chair-

manship for 2024-25 and expressed confidence that under his visionary leadership, the SCO would continue to grow and prosper.

He told the international gathering that Pakistan aligned itself with socioeconomic and security objectives of the SCO as the country's association with the Organization went back centuries. He said during 23 years, the SCO had established itself as a credible and effective transregional organization.

He said contemporary realities of globalization and interdependence necessi-

tated "working together and joining hands for a secure, peaceful and prosperous future for our people".

"SCO leaders have repeatedly underscored the importance of investing in connectivity in the SCO region through transport corridors and reliable supply chains... Promoting use of national currencies within SCO can help avoid international financial shock. Pakistan supports the proposal of an SCO alternate development fund mechanism to give impetus to various stalled initiatives," he remarked.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

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 Irrigation Division Dera Bugti invites bids from Eligible Bidders for execution of following works for the Year 2024 based on Composite schedule rates 2018 on Percentage Rates. **EARNEST MONEY 2% in shape of CDR, Tender Fee Rs.2000/- and Date of Completion up to 30th June 2026 from the date of start.**

S.#	NAME OF WORK	E/COST
1.	Construction of Lakyal Dam Pehlawaq. TSE-242507481633	120.520 M
2.	Construction of Padal Dam Pehlawaq. TSE-242507482563	110.800 M

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 Amount in 3 subsequent previous years showing financial capacity of the firm is mentioned in the bidding documents. Registration with Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) C-4 and above (Upto 200 million) In Relevant Category And Specialized Code is CE04(iii) (dams only). Green Challen Rs.2,000/- Deposited in National Bank of Pakistan. Call Deposit / Bank Guarantee @ 2%. **Procedure Of Procurement:** Single Stage Two 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 22 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: Irrigation Department Dera Bugti Phone no: 0835410564 Fax no: 03456070155 Email: nisarahmedmugher650@gmail.com.

PRQ No.104/04-07-2024
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EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
IRRIGATION DIVISION DERA BUGTI

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The undersigned invites sealed Percentage rate tenders based on composites schedule of rates 2018 Government of Balochistan plus 4% BST (Where applicable) from interested contractor/firms and Drilling Agencies for the works mentioned belows:- **Earnest Money 2% of Estimated Cost offered Rate in Shape of Bank Call Deposit, Tender Fee deposited in head of account C02726 through Bank in NBP**

S#	NAME OF WORK	E/Cost	E/Money	T/Fee	T.S.No.
1	Solar for Water Supply Scheme SainaTunia. PSDP NO.4781				
	i). Drilling & Development of Bore.	2.134 M	42000	1500	242507485573
	ii). Civil Work.	2.741 M	55000	1500	242507485673
	iii). Solar System.	4.666 M	93500	1500	242507485803
	iv). Supply of Pipe	0.400 M	8000	650	242507485873
2	Solar for Water Supply Scheme MouzaShahek. PSDP NO.4633				
	i). Drilling & Development of Bore.	2.134 M	42000	1500	242507485903
	ii). Civil Work.	2.741 M	55000	1500	242507485943
	iii). Solar System.	4.666 M	93500	1500	242507485963
	iv). Supply of Pipe	0.400 M	8000	650	242507485983
3	Construction of WSS Goth Allah RakhyaBanguani PSDP.5660				
	i). Drilling & Development of Bore.	3.948 M	79000	1500	242507486093
	ii). Civil Work.	2.859 M	57200	1500	242507486123
	iii). Solar System.	5.493 M	110000	1500	242507486183
	iv). Supply of Pipe	0.558 M	11200	650	242507486253
4	Construction of WSS Goth Khamisa Khan Ginsar PSDP NO.5822				
	i). Drilling & Development of Bore.	3.948 M	79000	1500	242507486353
	ii). Civil Work.	2.859 M	57200	1500	242507486373
	iii). Solar System.	5.493 M	110000	1500	242507486413
	iv). Supply of Pipe	0.558 M	11200	650	242507486463
5	Construction of WSS Goth Sadam Hussain Banguani PSDP NO.5993				
	i). Drilling & Development of Bore.	3.948 M	79000	1500	242507486503
	ii). Civil Work.	2.859 M	57200	1500	242507486533
	iii). Solar System.	5.493 M	110000	1500	242507486583
	iv). Supply of Pipe	0.558 M	11200	650	242507486693
6	Construction of WSS Goth Gul Hassan Mouza Bakhar PSDP NO.5843				
	i). Drilling & Development of Bore.	3.948 M	79000	1500	242507486713
	ii). Civil Work.	2.853 M	56000	1500	242507486813
	iii). Solar System.	5.493 M	110000	1500	242507486873
	iv). Supply of Pipe	0.587 M	14000	650	242507486903
7	Rehabilitation of WSS Saifabad PSDP No.5851				
	i). Supply of Pipe.	10.128 M	203000	5000	242507486993
	ii). Civil Work.	4.666 M	93500	1500	242507487013
	iii). Solar System.	5.493 M	110000	1500	242507487033
8	Installation of 2 Solar Tube Well for WSS Badram PSDP No.5420				
	i). D&D of Bore. 2.No.	5.761 M	115500	1500	242507487053
	ii). Civil Work.	2.721 M	54500	1500	242507487063
	iii). Solar System. (2 Set)	10.544 M	211000	5000	242507487083
	iv). Supply of Pipe	0.783 M	16000	650	242507487093

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 Drilling Agencies must have registration with Drilling Directorate I&P Department (CE-6, CE-9 & CE-10 & above in relevant discipline and registration with tax authorities i.e (NTN and sales tax and BST Department), where applicable. Three Years Relevant works Experience. Turn Over of last three years. **Method of Procurement,** Single stage, single envelopes Procedure: **Bid Security:** The bid must accompany bid security in shape of Bank Call Deposit of amount specified above in the name of the undersigned from a scheduled bank. **Tender Documents:** The bidding documents can be obtained from the Office of the undersigned upon payment (Nonrefundable) 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 to till 24-07-2024 at 11:00 AM. **Last date of Bid Submission** The tender must be submitted latest by 24-07-2024 at 12:00 PM. **Tender Opening:** All tenders will be opened on same day at the office of undersigned at 01:00 PM. **Place of Issuance and submission will be:** Address: Office of The Executive Engineer PHE Division Jhall Magti at Gandawah Telephone: 0837-430173 Fax No. 0838-430173 E-mail address: xenpheihamagsi@gmail.com Bid Validity Period:- 90 days The undersigned reserve the right to reject all or any bids without assignment of any reason thereof. 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)

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EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING DIVISION JHALL MAGSI

TENDER NOTICE

TSE-232406466673 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 Project Director Chief Minister Package for Quetta Development 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.1000/- and Bid Security 2%**

S.No	Name of Work/s	E/Cost
1	Development of Roads and Allied Infrastructure, from Science College, Hockey Chowk to Akram Hospital (Package -I)	1,672,580,600

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 1 Assignment of similar nature of work. Turnover of at least 1,000,000,000 PKR Amount in 3 subsequent previous years showing financial capacity of the firm. Registration with Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) C-1 and above (Upto 2500 million) in Relevant Category and Specialized Code is CE09(i) (Sewerage Works), CE10(ii) (Slope Protection System), CE10(v) (Landscaping & Horticulture), CE01-(i) (Road and Pavements Drainage & Retaining Structure). Bid Security of 2% of estimated cost Tender processing fee of amount Rs. 1000 in account No. C02716 having head, PD, CMPQD. Only for the firms already engaged with PMU - CMPQD, it is mandatory for them to provide performance certificate. **Procedure of Procurement:** Single Stage Two 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 26 July, 2024 till 10:00 AM through supplier dashboard. **Tender opening:** All tenders will be opened on same day at 11:00 AM on EPPS System Address: House No. 81-A Chaman Housing Scheme Airport Road Quetta Phone no: 03337868226-0310-8258192-0333-7977122 Fax no: 0812864466 Email: dpuquettacity@gmail.com

PROJECT DIRECTOR
Chief Minister Package for Quetta Development

AB No.17/04-07-2024
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NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Executive Engineer-(Roads) Communication WPP&H Department District Nushki invites sealed tender G.O. B amended up to date from interested contractors/firms for the work listed below:- **Earnest Money 2% of E/Cost, Tender Fee Rs.2000/- and Time limit 2 Years for each work**

S.No.	Name of Work	E/Cost
1.	CONST OF BT ROAD KILLI M.HASSAN M.HASNI MALL DISTRICT NUSHKI PSDP NO 1637 (Z2024.0325) TSE-242507482123	19.812 M
2.	CONST OF BT ROAD AND DRAINS ASYABANAT DISTRICT NUSHKI PSDP NO 1642 (Z2024.0327) TSE-242507482133	19.810 M
3.	CONSTRUCTION OF BT ROAD HAJIAZIZAHMED MENGAL STREET SENATOR COLONY NUSHKI PSDP NO 1504 (Z2024.0320) TSE-242507482153	14.86 M
4.	CONST OF BT ROAD AND DRAIN SARDAR LIAQUAT MENGAL STREET QAZIABAD AT NUSHKI PSDP NO 1636 (Z2024.0324) TSE-242507482163	21.791 M

The procurement shall be carried out in accordance with Balochistan Public Procurement Regulatory Authority rules, 2014 **BASIC ELIGIBILITY:** The Contractor must have registration with Tax authorities i.e. (NTN, BRA and Sales Tax Department), and in Valid Registration with Pakistan Engineering Council in required Category (C-5) who have enlistment/renewal for the year valid up to date. Three Years Relevant Work Experience in Road Turnover last three years showing financial capacity of the firm Bidder must have Audit report for last 3 years **METHOD OF PROCUREMENT:** Bidding (Technical and Financial) Will be carried out by Adopting "Single Stage-Two envelope Bidding Procedure". **BIDDING/TENDER DOCUMENTS:-** Issuance: - The contractors/ firms having registered with PEC in aforementioned required category or above discipline can obtain the bidding documents from the address mentioned below on production of green challan (non-refundable) form deposited in the head of account C-02716 DDO Cod: 7005 through Government Treasury Nushki/ National Bank of Pakistan Nushki before 22 July, 2024. Bidding Documents can be downloaded from website of BPPRA, from the date of publication of this invitation in newspapers till one day prior to the last date of submission or the Same can be Purchase From the Office of Executive Engineer (Roads)Communication WPP&H Department Nushki during working hours till the day of opening of Tenders before 11 AM with pay order/Demand Draft Amounting Rs.2000/-in favor of Executive Engineer Roads The contractors/ firms who obtain bidding documents by downloading them from BPPRA website will also be required to produce deposited green challan form of above mentioned fee. The documents if requested by mail will be promptly dispatched by registered mail for which cost of mail will be borne by the applicant however under no circumstances the Procuring Agency will be held responsible for late delivery or loss of documents so mailed **Earnest Money** As mentioned above should be submitted Deposit at Call from a scheduled Bank. **DEAD LINE OF SUBMISSION:** The Bidding Documents duly filled and attached with copies of supporting documents must be delivered in sealed envelopes by hand or through registered mail to the address mentioned below on or before 22 July, 2024, at 11:00 AM. **OPENING:** The tender document will be opened on 22 July, 2024, at 12:00 PM, before procurement committee in the presence of contractors or their authorized representatives/agents. **PLACE OF ISSUANCE AND SUBMISSION WILL BE** Address: Executive Engineer (Roads) Communication WPP&H Department District Nushki Telephone No. 082587 2191 E-mail Address: shairbaloch55@gmail.com. **TERMS AND CONDITIONS:** Terms and conditions are mentioned (incorporated) in detail in bidding documents. A Procuring Agency may cancel the bidding process at any time prior to the acceptance of a bid of proposal, as per provision in BPPRA, rule, 2014. Bid validity period Ninety (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. The participant contractors should have allotted Road Codes in concerned **Category C-5** or above. Produce Original CN.LC, PEC and NTN Certificate. Similar nature of work at least 3 Nos, Contracts completed in last (03) Three Years, value of each contract should not be less than the Engineers Estimates against the respective contract. As applied for However, the letter of Award. Completion Certificates of these works duly attested. All Prospective bidders are required to provide an ownership Certificate or lease agreement of the equipment's i.e Rollers(i) Dumpers (ii)Grader(iii)Generator (iv) Bitumen Plant, (v) Air Compressor (Heavy duty) (vii) Excavator furnished along with Technical Proposal on Judicial Stamp Paper duly attested by First Class Magistrate. Which can be verified by B&R during evaluation of Technical Proposal. All Prospective bidders are required to submit the authenticity of availability of technical staff (i) Highway Engineer (B.E. Civil with at least 3 years relevant field experience), (ii) Quantity Surveyor (DAE Civil with at least 5 years relevant field experience), (iii) Surveyor (DAE, Civil With at least 5 years relevant field experience) on Judicial Stamp-Paper duly attested by First Class Magistrate The bidder(s) will be required to offer his/their bid(s) by quoting an %age above/below of the estimated cost of a particular Routine Maintenance contract. This % age will be applicable for each item of BOQ for which work schedule will be issued with no change of rate. The bidder(s) will also provide Non Black Listing of the respective Firm by any Govt: Department on Judicial Stamp Paper duly attested by the First Class Magistrate along with the Technical Proposal. All the Prospective bidders are required to sign and stamp each pages of Technical & Financial Bids, which is mandatory. The Firm(s) providing unsubstantiated or incorrect information /document(s) shall be liable for legal action and disqualification or termination of contract at any stage. Reserves the right to accept or reject all or any bid (S) as per the BPPRA Rule, 2014.

PRQ No.110/04-07-2024
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EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (Roads)
Communication WPP&H Department District Nushki

Recent climate disasters resulting in losses of \$30b to Pakistan's economy; Ahsan

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Ahsan Iqbal highlighted the devastating impact of recent climate disasters on Pakistan's economy, resulting in losses amounting to \$30 billion. The minister emphasized the ongoing struggle to recover and rebuild the economy, particularly in the severely affected provinces of Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, said a press release issued here.

The minister was chairing a meeting with a delegation from the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) here Thurs-

day to focus on the Carbon Market. The meeting was attended by the Member Climate Change Ministry of Planning and senior officials. "Pakistan requires substantial investment to enhance its climate resilience and mitigate future climate challenges," the minister asserted.

"Our domestic resources are insufficient to make these necessary investments. Therefore, we are actively seeking opportunities to leverage economic growth and attract investments. It is imperative to finalize our Carbon Policies responsibly so that we can collaborate effec-

tively with our development partners and channelize investment into Pakistan."

The minister stressed that despite Pakistan's minimal contribution to global carbon emissions, the country faced severe repercussions in the form of floods, erratic rainfall, and extreme temperatures. He emphasized the international community's responsibility to assist nations like Pakistan, which bear the brunt of climate-induced disasters despite contributing negligibly to the problem.

"At the Geneva conference in 2022, over 95

percent of commitments were in the form of loans, placing a heavy burden on us despite our negligible role in causing these issues," he added.

Ahsan Iqbal reiterated Pakistan's commitment to transitioning from high-carbon to low-carbon solutions. He also mentioned the ambitious renewable energy plan initiated by Prime Minister Mian Shehbaz Sharif, aimed at enhancing sustainable energy projects.

"We welcome your support to work together for environmental betterment and to minimize future disasters."



ISLAMABAD: A high-level three-member technical delegation of Qatar, led by Colonel Ahmed Abdullah Al-Abdullah calling on Coordinator to Prime Minister on Climate Change Romina Khurshid Alam at the Ministry of Climate Change & Environmental Coordination.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Secretary, Education and Professional Training Mohiuddin Ahmed Wani visiting book stall during the Inaugural ceremony of the new subjects introduced at secondary, higher secondary level at National Curriculum Council Secretariat.

HEC, UNHCR discuss collaborative initiatives for Afghan refugees in Pak

ISLAMABAD (APP): A delegation of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) called on Chairman Higher Education Commission (HEC) Dr Mukhtar Ahmed and discussed issues pertaining to Afghan refugees in Pakistan.

Director General HEC Scholarship, Ms. Aaysha Ikram and Project Director Allama Iqbal Scholarships for Afghan Students, Mr Jehanzeb Khan also attended the meeting.

Chairman HEC Dr Mukhtar Ahmed welcomed the UNHCR delegation comprising Ms Philippa Candler, Country Repre-

sentative, UNHCR Pakistan, Ms Oksana Panasenko, Senior Programme Officer, and Ms Shahida Sultan, Associate Education Officer.

He shed light on the HEC's role in the promotion of higher education in Pakistan. He informed the delegates about the HEC's Allama Muhammad Iqbal Scholarships Programme for Afghan Students under which a large number of Afghan students are acquiring higher education in top Pakistani universities.

He said the students graduating from Pakistan go back and play their role in the development of their country.

He said the Afghan students studying under HEC scholarships are provided equal facilities that are available to Pakistani students. He added that the HEC also provides training to Afghan Government officials for their capacity building.

Ms. Philippa Candler appreciated HEC for extending scholarship opportunities to Afghan students as it will play a significant role in the reconstruction and development of Afghanistan.

She showed interest in collaborative initiatives between HEC and UNHCR for the Afghan refugees in Pakistan.

Pak, Kazakhstan discuss bilateral cooperation in sports, tourism

ISLAMABAD (APP): Adviser to the Prime Minister on Political and Public Affairs, Rana Sanaullah, met with Kazakhstan Ambassador to Pakistan, Yerzhan Kistafin to discuss bilateral cooperation in sports, tourism and cultural exchange.

The meeting was also attended by Federal Secretary for Inter-Provincial Coordination (IPC), Nadeem Irshad Kiani, said a statement issued here Thursday.

Both expressed interest in strengthening bilateral relations and explored

opportunities for cooperation in sports, tourism and cultural exchange.

Rana Sanaullah, who holds the portfolio of IPC Ministry, appreciated Kazakhstan's efforts to strengthen bilateral ties and expressed hope that cooperation in sports and tourism would further enhance relations between the two countries.

Experts from both countries would soon hold an online meeting to discuss possible memorandums of understanding in the sports sector.

Health, education, housing priority of govt: Bilal Kayani

ISLAMABAD (APP): Convener of the Parliamentary Task Force on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Bilal Azhar Kayani on Thursday said that the provision of health, education and housing facilities was priority of the incumbent government.

He said this in a meeting with Representative of United Nation's Population Fund (UNFPA) in Pakistan, Dr. Luay Shabaneh who called on him here at the Parliament House. The Convener informed the progress and developments of the parliamentary task force regarding the re-evaluation and re-designing of the SDGs

progress tracking mechanism, the suggestions received from the Chief of SDGs at the Ministry of Planning and Development, the collaborations and agreements drawn upon the visit of the UN Pakistan Resident Coordinator along with the issue of population growth due to which the resources and service delivery mechanism for better health, quality education, food production and housing have become a challenge. Both sides focused on alleviation of the problems arising in the provision of quality education, health services, food production and housing due to the unanticipated increase.

Mushahid says: Pakistan's system working in unison can achieve any daunting task convincingly

ISLAMABAD (APP): Former Chairman Senate Defence Committee, Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed on Thursday said the country's state system working in unison can achieve any daunting task convincingly while upholding loyalty, patriotism, meritocracy and nation's first motto paramount in every endeavour. He was addressing the silver jubilee celebration of Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI), Pakistan's premier think tank ranked 74th in the global index, celebrated here at its 25th anniversary.

Senator Mushahid was the pioneer and founder of IPRI and chief guest on the occasion who

had conceived the idea of IPRI as a think tank in 1999, when he was Minister for Information.

Since its inception, IPRI has evolved on a very fast pace extending significant contribution towards international relations, lawfare, governance and public policy while also rendering services towards strategic studies and economic security.

The celebration was attended by IPRI Veterans, notables of the city, ambassadors, retired service personnel, academicians and media persons.

Senator Mushahid emphasized on the urgent need to develop a rapid response think tank on stra-

tegic communication to craft media narratives for Pakistan.

He observed that challenges exist, but these can be easily resolved collectively as think tanks need to provide clarity and an image of diversity on the global stage. He reiterated Pakistan's image as a peace-loving state, wherein its people are a victim of terrorism, and at the same time have contributed immensely to the global community. Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, praised IPRI's dedication, leading to its position as one of the major pillars among think tanks of the Global South, but more significantly, in the world.

DC chairs meeting; reviews anti-polio arrangements

ISLAMABAD (APP): Deputy Commissioner (DC) Islamabad, Irfan Nawaz Memon has chaired a meeting and reviewed the arrangements for the ongoing anti-polio drive in the Federal Capital. The city's polio campaign has entered its fourth day with health workers tirelessly working to ensure every child receives anti-polio drops.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Overseas Pakistanis Ch Salik Hussain addressing a press conference at OPF head office in the Federal Capital.

IG Islamabad orders officers to eliminate crime from Islamabad

ISLAMABAD (APP): Inspector General of Police (IGP) Islamabad chaired a meeting at the Central Police Office Islamabad late at night.

The meeting was attended by DIG Islamabad Syed Ali Raza and all zonal SPs. IG Islamabad issued orders to prevent crimes, make patrolling effective, and complete investigations of pending cases in a timely manner.

Special tasks were

drug campaign "Nasha ab Nah" and eliminate drug dealers from the city.

All officers should ensure the immediate arrest of proclaimed offenders, judicial fugitives, and TOs involved in organized crime, serious crimes, murder, kidnapping, and other criminal cases, he added.

Investigation officers should seek assistance from Safe City Islamabad monitoring system to combat crimes and speed up work, complete the investigation of cases, and submit the

CDA planning to establish state-of-the-art Bus Terminal: Randhawa

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman Capital Development Authority (CDA) Muhammad Ali Randhawa on Thursday said that the authority is planning to establish state-of-the-art Bus Terminal in the federal capital.

He said this while chairing a meeting here to discuss the establishment of a state-of-the-art bus terminal in Islamabad which was attended by senior officials from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the CDA.

Muhammad Ali di-

rected that a study be conducted to identify three to four potential sites for the new terminal which should be well-connected to all parts of the city.

He urged CDA and ADB teams to work together to explore various proposals. The meeting also resulted in the decision to develop an Urban Transport Master Plan for Islamabad.

Muhammad Ali said the finalized proposals would be presented to the designated forum for approval.



ISLAMABAD: Volunteers donating blood for Thalassemia patients at Sector I-8 in the Federal Capital.

Islamabad Expressway signal-free project to be completed by August 14

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman Capital Development Authority (CDA) Muhammad Ali Randhawa on Thursday said that the construction work on the Islamabad Expressway, signal-free project would be completed and inaugurated by August 14 next month.

Following the directives of Federal Minister for Interior Syed Mohsin Naqvi, Chairman CDA has been assigned to personally oversee the development projects in the federal capital.

Chairman CDA conducted a comprehensive visit to the Islamabad Expressway while reviewing the ongoing construction at key locations including Sawan bridge, Japan underpass, Railway bridge and Bhinder bridge.

Muhammad Ali said that under the directives of

the Minister for Interior, the construction work on the long-stalled project has advanced at an unprecedented speed by the authority.

The concerned officials informed the CDA chief that, for the first time, construction work is being conducted around the clock to meet the deadline.

They said that significant progress has been made on the complex and challenging bridges and structures of the project over the past two months.

Muhammad Ali appreciated the efforts of the CDA, contractors and consultants for their dedication in accelerating the project towards completion.

"Maintaining such a rapid pace of work on the project, despite the constant 24-hour traffic on the Islamabad Expressway is commendable," he said.

NH&MP organises lecture on conflict management

ISLAMABAD (APP): The National Highways and Motorway Police (NH&MP) organized a lecture titled "Conflict Management and Handling Aggression / Female Driver" here on Thursday.

According to Motorway Police North Zone spokesperson, Muhammad Saqib, the aim of providing training to Motorway Police officials was to resolve conflicts with road violators during duty in a better way.

During the training, through various videos and exercises, officers were made aware of the various situations that arise and how to deal with them in the best professional manner.

IHC disposed off over 1000 cases in June

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Islamabad High Court (IHC) has disposed off 1,023 cases, in the month of June, demonstrating its commitment to timely justice. According to the report issued here Thursday, Chief Justice of Islamabad High Court, Aamer Farooq has disposed off 471 cases, while, Justice Mohsin Akhtar Kiyani followed, resolving 162 cases. Similarly, Justice Babar Sattar decided 83 cases and Justice Mian Gul Hassan Aurangzeb handled 81 cases. Meanwhile, Justice Ijaz Sardar Ishaq Khan resolved 69 cases, Justice Tariq Mehmood Jahangiri managed 57, Justice Samman Rifat Imtiaz dealt with 56, and Justice Arbab Muhammad Tahir decided 44 cases.



ISLAMABAD: Rafaqat Ali Tanoli along with others protesting in front of the press club to arrest the killers of his son (Shakeel Tanoli).

IHC wraps up PTI petition on allowing PTI by district admin to hold public meeting

ISLAMABAD (Online): Islamabad High Court (IHC) has wrapped up PTI leader Aamir Masood Mughal petition on allowing PTI by district administration to hold public meeting in Islamabad and issuance of NOC.

On the complaint by PTI counsel for not giving time for arrangement of public meeting Justice Babar Sattar remarked "You are big party. You will bring out people from their homes within a few hours. You say what. Deputy commissioner should now bring out people from their homes. He gave these remarks during the hearing of the case on Thursday.

During the hearing the state counsel informed the court permission has been given to PTI to hold public meeting near Tarnol Chowk on July 6. Shoaib Shaheen counsel said the petitioner met deputy commissioner on June 26 under the orders of court. Deputy Commissioner (DC) was asked to issue NOC. DC was con-

tacted 20 times from June 26 to yesterday.

Justice Babar Sattar inquired from counsel for PTI district administration has given you permission to hold meeting.

The counsel replied we have not been given NOC. On the other hand we have informed the court one day earlier today. We were not given time for making preparations for public meeting. Later the court wrapped up petition on issuance of NOC.

It may be mentioned that PTI leader Umar Ayoub had said a day before they will hold historical public meeting in Islamabad on July 6.

He said in his statement on social media website X we are going to hold a big public meeting in Islamabad on July 06. The public meeting will be for release of Imran Khan and against the inflation. The public meeting will take place on the platform of Tehreek-e-Tahaffaz-e-Pakistan on July 6 in Islamabad.

Russian Ambassador visits AIOU

ISLAMABAD (APP): Ambassador of Russia to Pakistan, Mr Albert P.Khorev in a meeting with Vice Chancellor, Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU), Dr Nasir Mehmood discussed the potential for enhanced mutual understanding and relations between Pakistan and Russia.

During his visit to AIOU on Thursday, the ambassador also mentioned that establishing the Russian language center at AIOU last year is an example of Russia's excellent relations with Pakistan, especially with AIOU.

The Russian Ambassador visited the Institute of Educational Technology (IET) and the Russian Language Center at AIOU and expressed special interest in providing technical support and upgrading both centers. Albert P. Khorev expressed his desire to provide the latest cameras and equipment to the IET.

He also mentioned that they would offer various technical facilities, support, and training.



ISLAMABAD: Senator Pervaiz Rasheed, Chairman Senate standing committee on communications presiding over a meeting of the committee at Parliament House.



also assigned to the zonal SPs to formulate effective strategies to prevent crimes and provide a safe environment for citizens. IG Islamabad said that all police officers should further accelerate the ongoing anti-

challan to the relevant courts.

He further said that a zero-tolerance policy will be adopted against corruption, and any negligence in the line of duty will not be tolerated.

DIG visit Traffic HQs to review its functioning

ISLAMABAD: DIG Islamabad Syed Ali Raza visited Traffic Police headquarters Faizabad and reviewed measures to further improve the performance of traffic police, a public relations officer said.

Chief Traffic Officer Islamabad Muhammad Sarfraz Virk and other senior officials were also present on the occasion. CTO Islamabad gave a detailed briefing to DIG Islamabad about the functioning of the Traffic Police.

DIG Islamabad listened to the problems of the staff and directed them to resolve them on priority basis. He also directed to ensure strict action against those who violate traffic rules.

The DIG Islamabad was told that special squads have been constituted to maintain the flow of traffic and to control accidents. He said that these

squads are ensuring smooth flow of traffic and coordinating traffic systems in the federal capital.

DIG Islamabad said that strict action is being ensured against those not wearing seat belts, using mobile phones while driving, lane violators and motorcyclists riding on bikes without helmets.

DIG Islamabad Syed Ali Raza directed the officials to ensure merit in issuance of driving license and address citizens' issues.

It was also observed that violations of traffic rules and accidents have also been significantly reduced due to the efficiency of special checkpoints, he maintained.

He further said that all possible steps would be taken for a disciplined traffic system in the city. He further said that the safety of lives and property of citizens is our foremost priority. No laxity will be tolerated in this regard.

Daily Voice of Masses
Independent

Friday July 05, 2024

Elusive justice

In Pakistan, justice of any form is, more often than not, difficult to come by. Recently, judges and prosecutors from across the country found themselves in agreement at a seminar in Karachi on the need to urgently reform the colonial-era Code of Criminal Procedure, which, it seemed from the discussion, was the biggest hurdle they faced in ensuring justice.

Several other proposals also came forth, among which were some to improve the investigation and prosecution of criminal activity through improved coordination and communication between investigators and prosecutors, with a view to preventing the collapse of cases due to insufficient or defective evidence.

Other recommendations included the introduction of deterrent measures to prevent frivolous and false litigation, a pervasive issue plaguing the legal system. Yet more changes were sought from the legislative branch, including depoliticisation of the police and proactive legislation on legal reforms from the political leadership.

One need only conduct a brief survey of those who have come into contact with the legal system to realise that it is fundamentally broken. From antediluvian laws to a corrupt enforcement apparatus, from a perennially understaffed judicial system to inept prosecution and perverse penal systems — none work towards ensuring justice, one of the most basic duties of any state towards its citizens.

These days, it is just as common for the accused to walk free in instances where it seems obvious that a crime has been committed as it is for a seemingly innocent citizen to be punished for an obviously fabricated crime for which there is no compelling evidence on the record. It is no wonder, then, that victims often run from the justice system, instead of turning to it: they would rather resign themselves to living with injustice than dare to hope for reparations from the state.

A similar sentiment was expressed by former prime minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi on the same day the Pakistan Prosecution Forum was discussing reforms. Perhaps exasperated by an accountability case which has, by Mr Abbasi's account, "been pending for five years without progress", the politician said the country "will not progress till NAB exists". NAB, the state's tool of choice for putting out-of-favour politicians out of commission, has provided some of the most prominent examples of how perverted our legal system can be.

However, as discussed earlier, the actual problem is much deeper. Till the Pakistani justice system institutionalises the fundamental principles of justice — fairness, equality and entitlement — it cannot fulfil its responsibilities. It also seems that the tools it is equipped with — ie, various laws and procedures — are insufficient for this purpose. Therefore, the legislature needs to step up and address the existing deficiencies in the legal system. This is one of the most pressing issues of our time.

Ali Tauqeer Sheikh

Climate change has begun to infringe on the freedom of believers to perform Haj freely and fearlessly. The world was shocked to learn that almost 1,500 individuals died of the heat during the pilgrimage. Heatwaves everywhere in the world, as in Pakistan, have become mercilessly hotter, frequent, and longer. The developments in attribution sciences are able to clearly assign the share of climatic changes to increased temperatures and precipitation. This emerging field of inquiry has begun to guide climate adaptation, risk management, commodity price hedging, insurance, and the landscape of international climate finance.

Detection and attribution of climate change has emerged as an active area of research that uses various methods to link observed changes in climate caused by human activities. This helps determine whether human influence can be distinguished from natural weather cycles, processes and variabilities. Causation, also known as detection and

attribution studies, is used to attribute trends, extreme events, impacts, and sensitivity to human-caused climate change. Several attribution techniques are applied for increasingly reliable, timely, and actionable information for climate adaptation and risk management efforts.

Almost 50 studies over the last 10 years or so by the World Weather Attribution (WWA), ClimateMeter and several others have conducted studies to ascertain whether or not climate change is altering the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events (EWEs), helping to determine how climatic changes affect specific trends. These studies can now be undertaken on an almost real-time basis.

Attribution science is now able to provide quantitative assessments of how climate change has affected the odds of similarly extreme weather occurring in the future. Quantifying can now provide scientific evidence on how the likelihood and intensity of specific EWEs has increased. WWA has, for example, found that

heatwaves have become 1.2 degrees Celsius hotter than in pre-industrial times. Likewise, a study found that the 2022 heatwave in India and Pakistan was 30 times more likely due to climate change. A recent rapid assessment by ClimateMeter on the heatwave during Haj found that, without the influence of human-caused climate change, temperatures would have been 2.5°C cooler. ClimateMeter and WWAs regularly conduct rapid assessments of the role of climate change in particular EWEs.

There are, however, also significant challenges and limitations. An integrated, nuanced approach is required to effectively leverage this emerging field of climate science. A careful consideration of the limitations is needed when applying attribution findings to predict and manage future climate-related risks and damage. The goal of such studies is to provide the best available science-based information to support risk management and climate adaptation. Researchers acknowledge the limitations and uncertainties in their analyses,

recognising that "we don't know" or "no significant trend" are valid findings, as many of the 50 studies by WWA concluded.

Some studies have used "source attribution" to link climate damage to specific emitters, such as fossil fuel companies. This could potentially support liability claims and policies to hold emitters accountable. A Dutch court, for example, has recently ordered Shell to reduce emissions based on this type of attribution. As the world's second largest oil producer, Saudi Arabia owns Aramco, which is one of the largest corporate emitters of greenhouse gas emissions. According to a report, it is reportedly responsible for more than four per cent of the world's historical carbon emissions.

Meanwhile, the heat during this year's Haj is directly linked to global fossil fuel burning and has affected the most vulnerable pilgrims, posing an ethical dilemma for the kingdom that is considered the home and custodian of Islam and its universal values.

Extreme event attribution can potentially be used to inform discussions

around loss and damage. Attribution science can inform international policy discussions on L&D mechanisms. While researchers use rigorous methods, some uncertainty remains in precisely quantifying specific EWEs. This could limit the direct application for compensation. There are also concerns that attribution findings could be misrepresented or used for political purposes of assigning blame or liability, rather than informing constructive solutions. L&D encompasses a wide range of slow-onset changes and non-economic losses that are not always fully captured by extreme event attribution. It is argued that the slow-onset needs criteria-based approach using averages and trends, rather than relying solely on detailed singular event studies for L&D policy and finance mechanisms.

Further, uneven data quality and research infrastructure in developing countries poses challenges for applying attribution science to the L&D agenda. Attribution has played a central role in global climate negotiations since the

early 1990s, but attribution science has begun to play an important role only in recent years. It is used in financing adaptation and litigation, and will underpin L&D funds. These efforts can influence the global conversation around climate justice and help integrate findings in new approaches to L&D policies and financial mechanisms. For L&D-related financing mechanisms, the methodological refinement will probably provide rapid attribution assessments, and enable a more immediate response and support in the aftermath of extreme events.

Extreme weather events are already having significant economic consequences. They damage property, critical infrastructure, impact human health and productivity, and negatively affect key economic sectors like agriculture, trade, industry, and urban planning. Indirect costs from supply chain disruptions and uncertainty are also substantial. Businesses face growing risks from damage to their facilities, supply chain disruptions and resource scarcity. -- Courtesy Dawn

Right to reproductive health**Sahar Bandial**

As women, many of us have traversed through the uncomfortable changes brought on by puberty with an incomplete understanding of their meaning and consequences; we often braved, sometimes challenging, pregnancies without access to requisite information or satisfactory healthcare. Our exact experiences may have differed depending on our geographical location, income strata and ethnicity. But the absence of a rights-based discourse around our access to sexual and reproductive healthcare has been a common factor.

Women's right to sexual and reproductive health has been recognised as a fundamental human right under the international human rights framework, and is seen as intrinsically linked to the right to life, dignity, education, information, and equality before the law.

The right to sexual and reproductive health is defined as the right to attain a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being in all matters related to the reproductive system (Plan of Action, In-

ternational Conference on Population and Development). It guarantees women (and men) the freedom and autonomy to take decisions regarding her body, in particular her sexual and reproductive health, and to determine the number and spacing of children, without coercion or discrimination (General Comment No. 22, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; Article 16, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women [CEDAW]). It also entitles women affordable and non-discriminatory access to healthcare facilities, services, and information on family planning and reproductive health, so as to enable full enjoyment of the right (General Comment No. 22, ICESCR).

A recent report by the UNFPA titled *Interwoven Lives, Threads of Hope: Ending Inequalities in Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (2024)*, paints a dismal picture of the state of sexual and reproductive health rights in Pakistan: less than 33 per cent of women have the autonomy to make decisions regarding their sexual and reproductive health;

only 52pc women are able to take decisions about their general health; and 55pc exercise decision-making powers regarding engagement in sexual intercourse. Although a significant proportion of women report the exercise of decision-making power with respect to the use of contraceptives, the contraceptive prevalence rate for married women aged 15 to 49 years stands at 40pc (with the usage of modern contraceptive methods being even lower). The maternal mortality rate in Pakistan is 154 per 100,000 births, with one woman dying every 50 minutes on account of pregnancy-related complications. It would reportedly take Pakistan 122 years to achieve zero maternal deaths and 93 years to fulfil the needs for family planning.

Most women in Pakistan then lack the autonomy to take decisions that impact their sexual and reproductive health; several do not have access to necessary information and services regarding family planning and contraceptive use; and too large a number die during childbirth.

It is worth noting that in this backdrop, a rights-

based discourse around reproductive health and maternal health has gradually taken root in our jurisprudence. In *Human Rights Case No. 17599/2018*, the Supreme Court of Pakistan recognised that a woman's right to well-informed and controlled pregnancies is rooted in the constitutionally recognised rights to life, equality, education, information, and due process of law, and emphasised the state's obligation to impart sufficient information about family planning.

In a more recent case (*Sabeen Asghar vs Punjab*) concerning the provision of maternity leave, the Lahore High Court drew upon the international law obligations of Pakistan, including those under ICESCR and CEDAW, to conclude that "a woman's right to safe motherhood is not only a right to health but also a right to life", which entitles her to "necessary care to ensure ... [her] safety and health during pregnancy and childbirth". A violation of the right to safe motherhood infringes on the guarantee of equal treatment and protection of dignity of person under the Constitution of Pakistan.

This judicial articula-

tion of a woman's reproductive rights is centred around her experience of reproduction and child birth. The scope of sexual and reproductive rights in the international human rights framework is, however, much broader. Efforts were made in the past to imbue the entitlement to reproductive rights (as defined in CEDAW) in national-level legislation, albeit in vain.

In 2019, a draft bill on reproductive rights, was prepared with consultation of legislators, human rights activists, policy workers, lawyers and relevant government departments for promulgation in Punjab.

The proposed law — applicable to both public and private healthcare establishments — defined reproductive rights in line with international human rights law.

It obligated the state to ensure comprehensive reproductive healthcare through the provision of: accurate information and counselling on reproductive health, including age appropriate sexuality education in schools; safe and effective contraceptive methods and family planning services; safe and effective antenatal, childbirth, and post-

natal care; and safe abortion, services, as permitted under the law; prevention, management, and treatment of infertility and sexually transmitted infections; development and enforcement of reproductive health manuals and protocols; and training and gender sensitisation of personnel at reproductive healthcare establishments. The proposed law set lofty objectives for the state to fulfil. It appears, however, that the proposed law was not eventually presented for promulgation.

One may ask, does the framing of women's sexual and reproductive health as a human rights issue in judicial pronouncements or legislation have any real significance? After all, maternal morbidity, insufficient and unequal access to adequate and quality sexual and reproductive healthcare, and women's inability to take decisions regarding their bodies are complex problems, rooted in the insufficiency of resources, lack of education, patriarchy, social taboos, political conflict(s), and skewed state priorities, which require more than judicial pronouncement or legislative recognition to be addressed.

Mango diplomacy**F.S. Aijazuddin**

It was a brave attempt. Our embassy in Washington, after having failed to stem the tsunami of the US Congressional vote on Resolution HR 901 (368 for, seven against) threw a mango party to influence Biden's faltering administration.

The last time this friendly fruit had been used in our diplomacy was in the 1950s, when some mangoes grown in the Chinese embassy (then in Karachi) were sent to Chairman Mao Zedong.

Later, president Ziaul Haq tried to sweeten Mrs Indira Gandhi's sourness with lychee juice. She remained unmoved. To her, it tasted of military blanco.

At the recent mango party in DC, the gu-est of honour — Elizabeth Horst, principal deputy assistant secretary in the State Department — spoke feelingly about the Pak-US "long-standing relationship" as being in "the best place it's been in years". She neglected to say that she was there out of official necessity, nor that she was on her way to Sri Lanka as the next US ambassador there.

Nor did she dilute the message by the bipartisan US House of Representatives, urging President Joe Biden "to collaborate with Pakistan in upholding democracy, human rights, and the rule of law". The House assumes that 81-year-old Biden is still composes mentis and can remember where Pakistan is.

Biden has probably forgotten that he came to Lahore on Feb 18 to monitor the 2008 general election. He asked a minister in the interim Punjab cabinet what would be the outcome. He was told: "The parties have to accept its conduct, its consequences, and the novelty of a coalition government." The results came in. The PPP and PML-N had to form a coa-

lition government. They fell out. The PPP then allied itself with the MQM, ANP and JUI-F.

Sixteen years have passed since the time when the US felt Pakistan was important enough to send three senators there to report on its general elections. Now, if we appear on the State Department's screen, it is for the wrong reasons.

Resolution HR 901 should not have come as a surprise, either here or in the US. It had been gestating since November 2023, a bipartisan indictment, parented by a Republican from Georgia and a Democrat from Michigan. It emphasised "the importance of free and fair elections, calling for a thorough and independent investigation into any claims of interference or irregularities in Pakistan's 2024 elections".

It also "urged Pakistan to uphold democratic and electoral institutions, human rights, and the rule of law, and respect the fundamental guarantees of due process, freedom of press, assembly, and of speech of the people of Pakistan". Contestants in Miss Universe pageants have made more convincing appeals for world peace and harmony.

Going further, "the resolution condemned efforts to suppress democratic participation in Pakistan. It specifically denounced harassment, intimidation, violence, arbitrary detention, and restrictions on internet access, as well as any violations of human, civil, or political rights". Every-thing, except the stinking kitchen sink.

Our missions in Washington and the UN had enough notice of HR 901 to sandbag against its impact. Our government, awakened from a cipher-induced stupor, reacted by shooting its messengers. It removed our representa-

tives in Washington and New York.

Their replacements have a difficult task ahead. They have to develop a strategy that must anticipate Biden's funeral without sporting black armbands. They must prepare themselves for the probable (inevitable?) coronation of Donald Trump.

A hurricane of change is blowing through the world's democracies. Great Britain is likely to have a Labour government after 14 years of continuous Conser-vatism. In France, Mac-ron watches helplessly as its electorate oscillates between the far right and far left. Iran's voters are being asked to choose between hardliner Saeed Jalili and the relatively less conservative Masoud Pezeshkian. The low turnout of Iranian voters reflected their diminished interest.

In such a volatile environment, the natural question is whether our Foreign Office is equipped to do its job. Gone are the days when India's MEA envied Pakistan's nimble diplomacy. They begrudged that we got more of a bang for our buck.

Today, our foreign ministry is in the hands of a former chartered accountant. He divides his time between part-time responsibilities as deputy prime minister and his enduring love, the finance ministry.

Some in the foreign ministry think we should not take Resolution HR 901 seriously. Others apprehend that the massive endorsement of it is a warning to our government that we are losing friends faster than a politician sheds principles. The Chinese, the Saudis, the UAE, and now the US are palpably inching away from us. Isolation, to paraphrase Paul Cezanne, may temper the strong; it is the stumbling block of the uncertain. -- Courtesy Dawn

Peace or weapons?**Naem Sadiq**

On Feb 28, 2013, the then interior minister Rehman Malik, in a written reply, informed the National Assembly (NA) that his ministry issued 11,776 prohibited bore arms licences in 2008; 27,551 in 2009; 5,789 in 2010; 8,369 in 2011; and 15,988 in 2012, thus empowering parliament with 69,473 prohibited bore weapon licences. A simple calculation suggests that on average every MNA got 203 prohibited bore weapon licences over a period of five years. This must be the world's most well-armed parliament, whose assets could spark envy in any member of the National Rifle Association (NRA).

On Aug 21, 2019, the government issued SRO (1)/2019, lifting the ban on issuance of prohibited bore weapon licences for nine categories of individuals — the president, prime minister, Senate chairman, NA Speaker, governors, chief ministers, federal ministers, Supreme Court and high court judges. They were now free to purchase or receive as gifts lethal weapons of "prohibited" bore category. The notification was objected to by a Supreme Court judge who wrote, "the judges' code of conduct did not permit receiving such gifts. What moral authority will the government exercise in tackling the spread of weapons by encouraging the spread of yet more lethal prohibited bore weapons?"

On Sept 25, 2021, the government announced a yet more crazy and classist notification extending the list of beneficiaries of prohibited bore weapons licences to include all members of the Senate, the national and provincial assemblies, and all Grade 21 and 22 officers. Generously, it clarified that they were all en-

titled to not one but two prohibited bore arms licences.

In 2024, information received under the right to information law revealed that KP had issued 68,951 arms licences in the last 10 years, while Sindh blessed its citizens with 115,467 in the same period.

It is beyond comprehension that a nation in such dire need of peace and tolerance would engage in such proliferation of the instruments of crime, violence and militancy. One can safely assume that every gun licence in Pakistan was issued without mandatory verification, training, background check or written test. They were either issued as an act of appeasement or through political clout, status, power or bribe. Perhaps, Pakistan could have had greater success in combating terrorism if, instead of the wishy-washy '20-point National Action Plan', it had chosen just a single-point agenda of eliminating all weapons. Here is how it could still be accomplished.

The government must understand that crime and militancy in Pakistan stems from its own flawed arms-promoting policies, its legal and illegal gun-licensing facilities and its failure to monitor the sale, smuggling and spread of weapons. Arms possession must be declared as the exclusive domain of the state; no citizen, regardless of his or her status, wealth, influence or political clout, should be allowed to possess, carry, store, buy, sell or display a weapon — licensed or otherwise.

In compliance with Article 256 of the Constitution, private militias operated by militants in urban, riverine and mountain areas, regardless of their size and patrons, must be disbanded via the full

might of the state. The import, sale, purchase, transportation, delivery and possession of all kinds of weapons — except those in use by law-enforcement agencies — must be banned. Issuance of all types of gun licences must be banned; those already issued must be declared null and void. The discriminatory and discretionary Arms Ordinance should be struck down. Starting with unlicensed weapons, all citizens must be made to surrender their weapons through an incentivised buy-back scheme.

Private weapons manufacturing in areas like Darra Adam Khel ought to be regulated and directed towards export rather than home consumption. The Small Arms Survey (Switzerland), in its 2018 report *Estimating Global Civilian-Held Firearms Numbers*, estimates 43.9 million guns held by civilians in Pakistan — far more than the combined number held by all the law-enforcing organisations of the country.

We could learn much about gun control from Australia, the UK, New Zealand, Japan, China and Vietnam, which have successfully and smartly tackled this menace. On the other hand, successive Pakistani governments have contributed actively to violence and militancy via the issuance of uncontrolled gun licences, creating special provisions of prohibited bore arms for its militant elite (violation of Articles 25 and 256), using weapons as an instrument of political bribe and neglecting the rampant smuggling and sale of illegal arms. It has two choices: pursue peace and progress or remain embroiled in the world of militancy and armed militias. It would do well to log out of its NRA mindset. -- Courtesy Dawn

Salman Rafique visits PDMA to review monsoon arrangement

LAHORE (APP): Provincial Minister for Health and Chairman of the Cabinet Committee on Disaster Management, Khawaja Salman Rafique on Thursday reached Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) Headquarters to review monsoon rains preparations and river conditions.

He toured the PDMA control room where Director General PDMA Irfan Ali Kathia briefed him in detail about the status of monsoon rains and water levels in rivers and working of the department to meet the challenges.

Minister Rafique also reviewed the safety measures in place across the province regarding the monsoon rains.

On the occasion, Khawaja Salman Rafique said that preparations were complete to tackle the torrential rains and

potential floods in Punjab and an awareness campaign was being conducted regarding precautionary measures.

"We are making every effort to ensure timely measures for the protection of human lives and all the departments, divisional and district administrations should maintain close coordination, as coordination between PDMA and other institutions will prove extremely effective in disaster prevention," he added.

Director General PDMA Irfan Ali Kathia said that all the resources would be utilized to address the potential flood threats and precautionary arrangements have been completed in vulnerable districts.

"Due to climatic changes, Pakistan may face severe rains and flood conditions", he warned.



LAHORE: Provincial Minister for Information and Broadcasting Azma Bukhari and Provincial Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Syed Ashiq Hussain Kirmani talking to the media in a press conference in DGPR of the provincial capital.

KP Govt to utilize receipts from oil, gas on concerned districts

Independent Report
PESHAWAR: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government has decided to further improve the production bonus guidelines issued for the better utilization of the receipts in the districts with oil and gas production capacity and to involve the district administrations of the respective districts in the consultation process for the purpose.

Work has been started on forming committees for the utilization of using the income from oil and gas reserves discovered in Dera Ismail Khan and North Waziristan in the development process in the respective districts so that the population related to the natural resources of oil and gas could be benefited to maximum extent.

In this connection, the Energy and Power Department of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in light of the instructions of the KP Chief Minister organized a one-day consultative seminar was organized in a local hotel regarding the improvement of the guidelines of production

bonus funds in the oil and gas producing districts here on Thursday.

The special guest at the seminar was Tasfeen Haider, Special Secretary Energy and Power while Additional Secretary Oil and Gas Akhlaq Ahmed, Deputy Secretaries Asif Ali, Javed Afridi and the representative of companies working for the production of oil and gas, Mari Petroleum, Al Haj Petroleum Companies, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Oil and Gas Company and district administration were also present in the consultation seminar.

Speaking on this occasion, Special Secretary Tasfeen Haider said that out of the total national crude oil production 42 percent of the about 30,000 barrels of oil per day, is being produced in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

He said that oil and gas are produced at 16 places in the southern districts of the province, Kohat, Karak, Hangu and Lakki Marwat, which is earning receipts to the tune of billions of rupees.



RAWALPINDI: Water and Sanitation Agency (WASA) establish Flood Response Unit at Gawalmandi near Nullah Lai as pre-monsoon spell is expected to start from Thursday to Sunday and assured that all necessary arrangements have been made in this regard by Rawalpindi Development Authority (RDA).

Minister for ensure quality and transparency in development projects

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Local Government Minister Zeeshan Rafiq on Thursday directed the officers to design all the projects keeping in minds of the next ten years, besides completing within its stipulated time.

A meeting with his chair held at Civil Secretariat, in which the progress of ongoing development schemes under the Punjab Local Government Department was reviewed.

Special Secretary Local Government Asia Gul briefed the Provincial Minister on all the projects.

The Local Government Minister

directed to complete the ongoing public welfare schemes promptly and in line with Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz's vision, ensure quality and transparency.

A significant amount has been allocated for development schemes in the new budget and it is now our duty to ensure timely completion of the projects, stated Local Government Minister Zeeshan Rafiq.

He said that repair schemes for broken streets and drains should be completed on a priority basis and all the projects should be designed following the following demands of future.



GILGIT: Governor Gilgit-Baltistan Syed Mehdi Shah addressing during the Paigham-e-Pakistan Conference, an initiative to maintain peace and harmony in Gilgit-Baltistan organized by Govt of Gilgit-Baltistan.

CM chairs meeting to finalize Muharram security plans

PESHAWAR (APP): Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Sardar Ali Amin Khan Gandapur, chaired a meeting to review the arrangements for Muharram ul Haraam.

The meeting was attended by the Chief Secretary, IG Police, Additional Chief Secretary Home, and other senior officials.

The meeting discussed the security plan for Muharram, which includes the deployment of 40,000 security personnel, including FC and Pakistan Army troops, to ensure the safety of processions and majalis.

A central control room will be established to monitor the security situation, and CCTV cameras will be installed to oversee the processions.

Special arrangements have been made for sensitive areas, including additional security forces and the establishment of special check posts. Mobile services will be suspended in these areas, and social media will be monitored to prevent the spread of hate speech.

Health and rescue services will be on high alert during Muharram, with special teams deployed to handle any emergencies.

Chief Minister directed officials to ensure a peaceful Muharram, emphasizing the importance of maintaining law and order and preventing any untoward

incidents.

He also appealed to the public to cooperate with the government in maintaining peace and harmony during the month.

Religious scholars and public figures will be engaged to promote peace and harmony and to prevent the spread of hate speech.

Tents will be set up along procession routes to provide shade for participants, and electricity arrangements will be made to ensure an uninterrupted power supply. A coordination system has been established among all relevant departments and agencies to ensure the smooth observance of Muharram.

KP Governor condole loss of lives in Haripur road accident

PESHAWAR (APP): Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor, Faisal Karim Kundi here Thursday expressed condolences over loss of four lives in a road accident in Haripur district.

The Governor while expressing sympathy with the bereaved families, has prayed for eternal peace of the deceased and early recovery of the injured.

At least four persons died when a passenger van fell a deep ravine in Haripur district.



RAWALPINDI: Senator Irfan Siddiqui, DG Saeed Ahmed, Assistant Director, Musrat Shahruckh visiting the cultural stall on the occasion of "Potohar Mela" in Radio Pakistan Rawalpindi.

BISP-KP DG directs for more BISP centers in DI Khan

DERA ISMAIL KHAN (APP): Benazir Income Support Program (BISP) Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Director General (DG), Zohra Aslam on Thursday directed the authorities concerned to open more centers to benefit maximum women. She stated this during her visit to different BISP centers in Dera Ismail Khan wherein she also inspected the arrangements and distribution process of the stipend amount among the beneficiaries. The director general expressed her satisfaction over the arrangements. However, she directed the BISP staff to further improve their behaviour towards the beneficiaries. Speaking on this occasion, Zohra Aslam informed that about 130,000 families were being benefitted through BISP. Similarly, she said, the educational stipends were being provided to the children of BISP's beneficiaries under 'Waseela-e-Taleem' program. Besides, she added, the 'Benazir Nathonuma Centres' were also established for children's malnutrition.

She directed the BISP authorities to open more centers so that maximum women could get benefit of this program.

ET LHC summons arguments on petition filed against success of Nawaz

LAHORE (Online): Election Tribunal (ET) Lahore High Court (LHC) has sought arguments on the petition filed against success of Nawaz Sharif from NA-130 in general election. Judge Anwar Hussain of ET LHC took up for hearing the petition filed by rival candidate Dr Yasmin Rashid against success of Nawaz Sharif from NA-130 in general election Thursday.

ET inquired during the hearing of the petition have notice been issued in this petition.

The counsel for petitioner replied no, notice have not been issued in this matter.

Later the ET while summoning arguments on maintainability of petition against success of Nawaz Sharif from NA-130 adjourned the proceedings till first week of September.

It is pertinent to mention here Dr Yasmin Rashid candidate of Sunni Itehad Council (SIC) from NA-130 has challenged success of Nawaz Sharif. She has taken plea in her petition that Nawaz Sharif has been declared successful from NA-130 through rigging. According to form 45 Nawaz Sharif was defeated in the election.

Commissioner Karachi chairs rain emergency meeting

KARACHI (APP): Commissioner Karachi Syed Hassan Naqvi presided over a meeting regarding rain emergency here on Thursday. The meeting reviewed the progress of cleaning storm water drains and other preparations for expected monsoon rains. The Deputy Commissioners, KMC, PDMA, Water Corporation, Cantonment Boards and other civic agencies officials briefed the Commissioner about the step being taken for implementation of decisions made in the previous rain emergency meeting. The deputy commissioners briefed the meeting about the arrangements being made for the desilting of storm.

CM presents Sindh Govt's 15-year progress through pictorial presentation

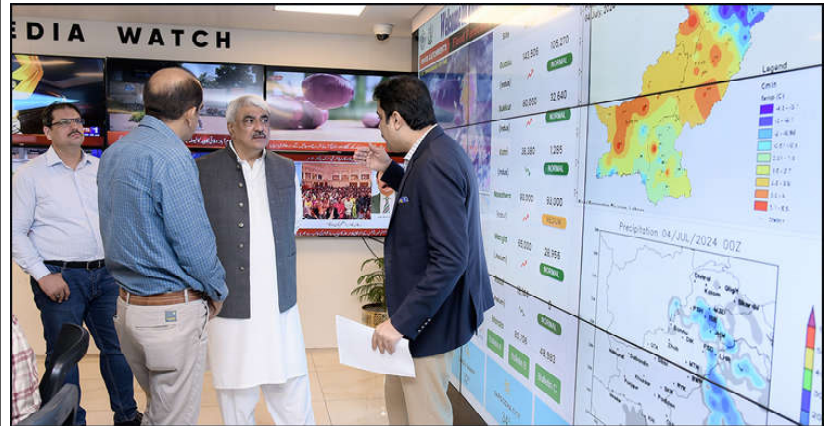
KARACHI (APP): Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah, under the banner of Vision Sindh, on Thursday toured various areas of the province to showcase the development initiatives undertaken by the PPP government over the past 15 years through pictorial and video representations on a big screen at the Auditorium of the provincial assembly to the participants.

The members of civil society, representatives of chambers of trade and commerce, media houses and their associations such as APNS, PBS and CPNE, religious leaders of different faiths, provincial ministers, Chief Secretary, IG Police and secretaries of various departments attended the first ever such an elaborated and comprehensive presentation.

The chief minister stated that the total power generation based on Thar coal was 3240 MW. He

provided a breakdown, explaining that Thar Coal Block-I, which was installed for \$2 billion, generates 1320 MW. Thar Coal Block-II has generated 660 MW since July 2019. Thar Energy Limited has been generating 330 MW since September 2022. Thal Nova Power Thar Limited has been generating 330 MW since February 2023, and Lucky Electric Power at Port Qasim has been generating 660 MW since March 2022. Murad Shah mentioned that Thar Block I and II alone would ensure the energy security of the country by generating power from local resources, saving foreign exchange. The CM also mentioned that the ongoing projects, including Coal to Gas fertilizer, Keti Bandar Park of 10,000 MW, and Dhabeji Special Economic Zones, would help ensure the economic security of the country once they are commissioned.

Shah discussed the flood protection (FP) Bund, which stretches from Sehwan to Chukki along the Chukki of Sindh on the Right Bank of River Indus. This serves as the primary line of defense against hill torrents from the Khirthar Range for the Right Bank of River Indus in Sindh. The Bund was renovated after the 2022 floods, with the top rehabilitated and new stone pitching provided on the waterside for added protection. The CM said that the capacity of the Danister Tail Regulator, taluka Sehwan, was 1,500 cusecs which was enhanced by constructing the new Danister Tail Regulator upto 6,000 cusecs. With the capacity enhancement of the Danister Aral head regulator, the flood discharge capacity of Manchhar to the Indus River has been enhanced from 37,000 cusecs to 83,000 cusecs.



LAHORE: Provincial Minister for Health and Chairman of the Cabinet Committee on Disaster Management, Khawaja Salman Rafique visits Provincial Disaster Management Authority Headquarters to review monsoon rains preparations and river conditions.

15 dead, 1342 injured in Punjab road accidents

LAHORE (APP): At least fifteen people died while 1342 were injured in 1238 road accidents in all 37 districts of Punjab during the last 24 hours. Out of whom, 615 people with serious injuries were shifted to different hospitals, while 727 people with minor injuries were treated on the spot by Rescue Medical Teams.

Analysis show 746 drivers, 52 underage drivers, 136 pedestrians, and 475 passengers were among the victims of road crashes. Statistics show that 262 road accidents were reported in Lahore which affected 278 people placing the provincial capital at top of the list followed by Faisalabad 89 with 110 victims and at third Multan with 79 road accidents and 75 victims.

According to the data, 1096 motorbikes, 85 auto-rickshaws, 125 motorcycles, 31 vans, 17 buses, 29 trucks and 127 other types of auto vehicles and slow-moving carts were involved in road accidents.

LHC orders police to ensure recovery of brother of Gill

LAHORE (Online): Lahore High Court (LHC) while ordering police to ensure recovery of brother of Dr Shahbaz Gill adjourned the hearing of the case till July 18.

Justice Amjad Rafiq of LHC heard the petition Thursday.

Home secretary Punjab Noor ul Amin Mengal, DIG operations Faisal Kamran and other officers appeared in the court.

The state council told during the hearing data of geo fencing was obtained on Monday under the orders of the court. Geo fencing data is being analyzed. Justice Amjad Rafiq inquired do the numbers of agencies not come to fore or they come.



LAHORE: Punjab Local Government Minister Zeeshan Rafiq chairs meeting to review ongoing development schemes under the Punjab Local Government Department.

Qasim visits Medical Complex to inaugurate welfare initiatives

PESHAWAR: Health Minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Mr. Syed Qasim Ali Shah, visited Hayatabad Medical Complex today for the inauguration of important public welfare projects.

He was received and welcomed by the President of IDF-HMC, Dr. Nazeef Ullah.

The Health Minister was briefed on the launch of the Free Drugs Bank for underprivileged cardiac patients at Heart Link, Cardiology Department by Chairman Cardiology Dr. Shah Sawar. This initiative will ensure needy individuals receive lifesaving medicines without cost burden.

Dr. Shah Sawar also briefed the Minister on the newly launched Executive Clinic that utilizes cutting-edge technologies to expand access to specialized cardiac care.

Mr. Faisal Khan, briefed the Minister on how the new Telemedicine

Services leverage technology to provide remote care.

Other attendees included Chairman BoGD Dr Amjad Faheem, Medical Director Prof Dr. Shehzad Akbar, Director Admin Dr. Sherzaman and Clinical Coordinator Dr. Muhammad Shah.

In his address, the Health Minister commended the vision of establishing these projects aimed at fulfilling the govt goal of equitable healthcare for all. He praised the diligent efforts of Dr. Shah Sawar and staff in overcoming challenges through innovation.

The launch of these life-impacting services is a milestone in realizing the provincial government's vision of a prospering Khyber Pakhtunkhwa with its citizens' wellbeing as a priority.

The residents of KP express gratitude to the Ministry and HMC for these welfare-centric initiatives.

Punjab to set up Polio Counters at entry points of province

LAHORE (APP): On the directions of the Chief Minister Punjab, the provincial government has stepped up its efforts to ensure the complete eradication of polio and has decided to establish polio counters at all 14 entry and exit points of the province.

The decision was taken during a meeting of the Provincial Taskforce on Polio Eradication held at the Civil Secretariat. Provincial ministers Khawaja Salman Rafique, Khawaja Imran Nazir, Chief Secretary Punjab Zahid Akhtar Zaman, Secretary Health Ali Jan, Punjab Polio Prevention Program head Khizar Afzal and officers concerned attended the meeting. The participants

agreed to raise the target of routine immunization to 95 percent for prevention of polio and other diseases.

Khawaja Salman Rafique said that during the next anti-polio campaign, all the provincial ministers would be present in the field with the polio teams. He mentioned that a different mechanism for polio eradication would be devised for each district. He said that the deputy commissioners, and CEOs health should inform about the problems hindering the desired goals of polio eradication.

Khawaja Imran Nazir said that if needed, a health emergency would be declared in the province in connection with polio.

Privatization Commission asked for ensuring cooperation with companies

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Privatization, Investment Board and Communications Abdul Aleem Khan on Thursday directed that all stakeholders should be taken on board for the privatization of national institutions and the Privatization Commission should ensure its full cooperation to the companies coming forward with serious offers.

The minister was chairing a high-level meeting of the Board of Privatization Commission to finalize the privatization

of various institutions and regarding important issues related to it, said a press release.

Abdul Aleem Khan said the Prime Minister wants the privatization of PIA as soon as possible so there should be no further delay while completing the remaining process in this regard. He said that Privatization Commission should attain financial autonomy by reducing its dependence on the Federal Government and ensure increase in its own resources. Moreover, Federal Minister

Privatization Abdul Aleem Khan, Minister of Finance Muhammad Aurangzeb and Minister of Law Azam Nazir Tarrar held a meeting to review the progress on privatization of House Building Finance Corporation. In this meeting, it was agreed that the protection of the employees of the institution will be kept in view during its privatization. The technical and legal aspects of the privatization of the House Building Finance Corporation (HBFC) were also discussed in the



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Privatization / Chairman Privatization Commission, Abdul Aleem Khan chairing 220th meeting of the Privatization Commission Board.



ISLAMABAD: Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), Senator Rubina Khalid, and Country Director of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Mr. Yong Ye, met at BISP Headquarters, Islamabad to discuss empowering BISP beneficiaries through innovative skill development and global job market integration.

Shaza advocates for enhancing technological exchanges between Pakistan, China

ISLAMABAD (APP): State Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunication Shaza Fatima Khawaja has advocated for enhancing technological exchanges and cooperation between Pakistan and China, aiming towards a more robust digital future together.

In an interview with China.com.cn, she highlighted China's transformative digital economic development as nothing short of a miracle and expressed her anticipation for strengthened technological collaboration between the two nations.

Currently in China to attend the 2024 Global Digital Economy Conference at the Beijing National Convention Center, Shaza Fatima Khawaja believes the conference will catalyze meaningful cooperation. It offers a platform for companies from both countries to explore joint ventures, share best practices, and engage in knowledge exchange.

She said that China has established its leading position in global technology and innovation. China's progress in artificial intelligence, big data, cloud computing and

NY State Assembly Deputy Speaker meets Minister for Commerce

ISLAMABAD (APP): A high-level delegation led by Deputy Speaker New York State Assembly Phil Ramos on Thursday met with Minister for Commerce, Jam Kamal Khan to explore the avenues for enhancing mutual trade interests between the two regions.

The meeting emphasized several key areas of collaboration, including the establishment of a Sister State relationship between New York and various Pakistani provinces, which would bolster cooperation in trade, health and education sectors. Both sides also discussed the potential signing of agreements and Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) to formalize and improve trade relations, said a press release.

Speaking on the occasion, Jam Kamal highlighted the importance of multi-level connectivity, people to people, business to business and government to government to enhance bilateral relations. He said that 60 percent of Pakistan's population was youth with significant potential, especially in nursing and healthcare sectors, which could be tapped into with proper guidance and road maps.

Jam Kamal mentioned that Pakistan dominated the textile sector and highlighted the recent participation of Pakistani companies in international exhibitions such as the Travel and Adventure Show and the Texworld New York.

EuroAsia Pak Digital Forum to forge new digitalized CPEC

BEIJING (APP): Minister of State for IT and Telecommunications, Shaza Fatima Khawaja said that in the next stage, the collaboration between Pakistan and China would extend from traditional to new or upgraded economic corridors such as transportation, circulation and exchange of data.

"Pakistan's human resources could not be underestimated in the world. 60% of our population is under the age of 35, which is both an opportunity and a challenge. By working closely with China to provide systematic sci-tech training to such a huge talent pool, we are going to maximize the role of our

valuable resources in such a digital age," she said at the EuroAsia Pakistan Digital Economy Forum held in Beijing.

The Minister gave a detailed introduction to the experience gained by Prime Minister Sharif after his recent visit to China with a delegation, repeatedly emphasizing that the Pakistani government has regarded the digital field as a top priority for current governance, CEN reported on Thursday.

Dr. Zhao Baige, recipient of the "Medal of Excellence President" National Honorary Medal of Pakistan, echoed by a series of specific suggestions. "Training of all types and levels badly

need to be a top priority. Training at not only the government level, but also non-governmental and corporate levels should be included in the entire system, due to the cross-border connections are the key to the success of the entire digital economy revolution."

Moreover, Pakistani partners are very eager to form a CPEC digital economy park, in which Beijing has very rich experience. We hope that through our step-by-step construction, the China-Pakistan Digital Corridor will become an important leader in the global digital economy.

Regarding the digitalized CPEC.



KARACHI: Activates of Jamate islami hold protest against K-Electric at Saddar locality.

IESCO to replace all meters with AMI by 2030: Dr Amjad

ISLAMABAD (APP): Under digitization and up-gradation programme, Islamabad Electric Supply Company (IESCO) has planned to replace all existing old meters with state of the art advance metering infrastructure (AMI) meters till 2030 across its all six circles aimed at ensuring accurate meter reading, billing, controlling power theft and reducing load-shedding.

Briefing the media persons here Thursday, the IESCO Chief Executive Officer Dr Muhammad

Shipping activity at Port Qasim

KARACHI (APP): Seven ships, Maersk Cape Town, MSC FIE-X, W-Kyrenia, Mulberry Express, Marangas Aselepius, Hafnia Turquoise and CMB Jordans carrying Container, Palm oil, LNG, Mogas and Coal, berthed at Container Terminal, Liquid Terminal, Elengy Terminal, Oil Terminal and Bulk Terminal respectively on Wednesday.

Meanwhile four more ships, MSC Positano, Atlantic Spirit, FSM and Achilles-S carrying Container, Palm Kernel, LPG and Coal also arrived at outer-anchorage of the Port Qasim on during last 24 hours.

A total of ten ships were engaged at PQA berths during the last 24 hours, out of them two ships, Maersk Cape Town and Alora left the port on today morning while two more ships, MSC FIE-X and Hafnia Turquoise are expected to sail on Thursday.

Poultry meat price surges in Bahawalpur

BAHAWALPUR (APP): The price of poultry meat has once again surged in Bahawalpur, violating the rate fixed by the government authorities.

APP learned on Thursday that the government authorities had fixed the rate of poultry meat at Rs 377 per kilogram in Bahawalpur, but it was sold out at Rs 430 per kg. Meanwhile, eggs' price has also increased as they were sold out at Rs 240 per dozen. Beef was sold out at Rs 900 to 100 per kg, and mutton was sold out at Rs 1900 to 2200 per kg. It is recalled here that the department concerned had fixed the price.

BISP-ADB to connect beneficiaries with global job markets and skill programs

ISLAMABAD (APP): Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) and Asian Development Bank (ADB) have joined hands to strengthen technical collaboration for empowering BISP beneficiaries and lifting them out of poverty through innovative skill development and global job market integration. This was shared during a meeting between Chairperson BISP, Senator Rubina Khalid and Country Director of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Mr. Yong Ye.

Speaking on the occasion, Senator Rubina

S.Arabia wins Presidency of ACAO Executive Council

RIYADH (SPA/APP): The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia unanimously won the presidency of the Executive Council of the Arab Civil Aviation Organization (CAAO) during the 28th Ordinary General Assembly meeting in Rabat, Morocco. Minister of Transport and Logistic Services, Eng. Saleh Al-Jasser, stated that this victory reflects the Kingdom's high status in international and regional organizations and its significant role in civil aviation.

Al-Jasser expressed gratitude to Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud and Saudi Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud.



FAISALABAD: Farmers busy in thrashing corn crop at their field.

NA Committee for ensuring resource mobilization for farmers

ISLAMABAD (APP): The National Assembly Standing Committee on Food Security and Research on Thursday emphasized the need to ensure farmers support with resources mobilization such as high-quality seeds, fertilizers and access to credit for sustainable agriculture development in the country.

Chaired by Syed Hussain Tariq as its Chairman, the Committee also stressed the need to focus on expanding research initiatives to develop climate-resilient crop varieties to maintain national food safety and security, said a press release.

The Committee underscored the importance of farmer-friendly policies. It also recommended to provide adequate support mechanisms, including access to affordable

funding for agricultural universities and research institutions to develop new farming techniques and seed varieties. Collaborations with international agricultural research organizations were also discussed.

The Committee stressed the need for training programs to educate farmers on modern agricultural practices. Extension services and farmer field schools were suggested as effective means to disseminate knowledge and improve farmers' skills.

Recognizing the pivotal role of farmers in agriculture, the Committee underscored the importance of farmer-friendly policies. It also recommended to provide adequate support mechanisms, including access to affordable



LAHORE: All Punjab LPG Distributors Association and shopkeepers hold a protest demonstration in front of press club of the provincial capital.

NPM Committee reveals significant inflation decline from 18.5% to 12.2%

ISLAMABAD (APP): The National Price Monitoring Committee (NPM) meeting on Thursday revealed significant inflation decline from 18.5% to 12.2% over the Past Year.

In the National Price Monitoring Committee meeting a significant reduction in inflation over the past year was reported.

Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Reforms, Prof. Ahsan Iqbal chaired a meeting of the National Price Monitoring Committee held today in Islamabad, said a press release issued here on the meeting witnessed the attendance of Member-Support

BFC received 243 applications during June

SIALKOT (APP): According to the instructions of the Punjab government, Business Facilitation Centre (BFC) Sialkot received 243 applications during the month of June. No Objection Certificate (NOCs) have been issued on 210 applications whereas 13 applications have been sent to the concerned departments for further action, while work on 20 was in progress. These details were told by the Manager BFC Syed Haider Munir to the Deputy Commissioner Muhammad Zulqarnain during the briefing regarding the monthly performance report.

The Manager BFC said that out of total 243 applications from businessmen, 100 applications were related to the energy department, 37 of District Health Authority (DHA), 33 of FWF and 31 applications were received for NOC of Punjab Food Authority.

Manager BFC Syed Haider Munir said that since the establishment of the center in January,

Federal Govt should cancel all contracts with IPPs: Atif Ikram

ISLAMABAD: Independent Report Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry Atif Ikram Sheikh has said that the federal government should cancel all contracts with IPPs and procure electricity from

Farid, Coordinator Diplomatic Committee Muhammad Ahmed, Chairman Coordination Malik Sohail Hussain and others.

Federation President Atif Ikram said that Pakistan's energy sector has



been trapped in contract issues with IPPs since 1994. Exorbitant electricity prices have led to large-scale industrial shutdowns and job losses.

The payment of two trillion to fourty companies is economically crippling. IPPs receive payments even when power is not generated or supplied.

Atif Ikram Shaikh said that these agreements led to an increase in revolving credit, which reached Rs 2.64 trillion as of February this year.

Chairman EPZA urges business community to set up private EPZs

KARACHI (APP): Chairman Export Processing Zone Authority (EPZA) Saifuddin Junjo has urged the business community to take advantage of EPZA's two new concepts of Private and Public Participated export processing zones.

The concepts allow potential investors having the required capital and land to develop, maintain and operate private EPZs whereas Public

Participated EPZs could also be developed and maintained by the developer but operated by EPZA, he informed to a meeting during his visit to the Karachi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI), said a statement issued here on Thursday.

Delivering a presentation on "Private and Public Participated EPZs", Chairman EPZA stated, "We have created this opportunity in line.



ISLAMABAD: Senator Anusha Rahman Ahmad Khan, Chairperson Senate standing committee on commerce presiding over a meeting of the committee at Parliament House.

Israel approves biggest West Bank land seizure in decades

Monitoring Desk

JERUSALEM: Israel has approved its biggest land seizure in the occupied West Bank in more than three decades, a move criticised by activists on Wednesday as detrimental to Palestinian peace hopes.

The 12.7-square-kilometre of land in the Jordan Valley was officially declared "state property" in June, according to an official declaration revealed by the Peace Now group.

"The size of the area designated for declaration is the largest since the (1993) Oslo Accords, and the year 2024 marks a peak in the extent of declarations of state land," Peace Now said.

The Israeli government has seized a total of 23.7 square kilometres in the West Bank since the start of the year, it said. When land is declared "state property", Palestinians lose private ownership rights and are barred from using it, Peace Now said.

Israel captured the

West Bank, east Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip in the 1967 Arab-Israeli war. Since then, it has constructed dozens of settlements across the West Bank, home to more than 490,000 Israelis, which are illegal under the international law.

About three million Palestinians reside in the West Bank. In the 1980s, Israel seized hundreds of square kilometres of land, halting seizures in 1992. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's first government resumed them in 1996.

Israel's hard-right Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich announced one earlier seizure in March, when he slammed those "in Israel and the world who seek to undermine our right over" the West Bank.

Peace Now criticised Netanyahu and Smotrich, accusing them of prioritising "a handful of settlers" over resolving the political conflict or ending the war.

Images on social media showed people of all ages wading across the Blue Nile. Activists in both states say there is little shelter or food aid for the incomers. In Gedaref, they faced an onslaught of heavy rain while stranded in the state capital's main market with no tents or blankets after schools that had served as displacement centres were emptied by the government.

Another airstrike hit a car in the southern city of Deir Al-Balah, killing three people, officials said.

In Maghazi refugee camp in central Gaza, two Israeli airstrikes killed five Palestinians, health officials said. In Shejaia an airstrike killed four and wounded 17, medics said.

Images on social media showed people of all ages wading across the Blue Nile. Activists in both states say there is little shelter or food aid for the incomers. In Gedaref, they faced an onslaught of heavy rain while stranded in the state capital's main market with no tents or blankets after schools that had served as displacement centres were emptied by the government.



Palestinians react, following an Israeli strike near a UN-run school sheltering displaced people, in Khan Younis.

More than 136,000 displaced by spread of war in southeast Sudan, UN says

Monitoring Desk

CAIRO: More than 136,000 people have fled Sudan's southeastern Sennar state since the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces began a series of attacks on towns, the United Nations said on Wednesday, the latest wave of displacement caused by Sudan's almost 15-month long war. They join nearly 10 million people driven from their homes since war broke out between the RSF and the regular army.

The war has sparked accusations of "ethnic cleansing" and warnings of famine, mainly in RSF-controlled areas across the country. The RSF on June 24

White House says Biden not pulling out of race

Monitoring Desk

WASHINGTON: Joe Biden is "absolutely not" pulling out of the White House race, his spokeswoman said on Wednesday, as pressure mounted on the veteran Democrat following his disastrous debate performance against Donald Trump.

The 81-year-old Biden has told a key ally he must convince the public quickly that he can do the job, the New York Times and CNN reported, raising the stakes for Biden's first post-debate TV interview, scheduled for Friday. "He knows if he has two more events like that, we're in a different place," the ally said.

China's Xi urges regional security bloc to resist 'external interference'

Monitoring Desk

BEIJING: China's President Xi Jinping told a regional economic, defence and security bloc that includes Russia and its latest member Belarus that member-nations must work together to resist "external interference" and firmly support one another.

"In the face of the real risks of small yards with high fences, we must safeguard the right to development," Xi was quoted by Chinese state television CCTV as saying in Astana at the 24th Meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO).

The 10-member bloc must handle "inter-

nal difference" with peace, seek common ground, and resolve co-operation difficulties, Xi added.

The Chinese president also stressed the need to jointly promote scientific and technological innovation, and to maintain the stability and smoothness of industrial and supply chains.

Since its inception in Shanghai in 2001, the SCO has expanded from a regional organisation with six members into a trans-regional bloc with 10 full members, including Belarus, which officially joined on Thursday.

Other members of the bloc include India, Iran and Kazakhstan.

Iran candidates hold final rallies before presidential run-off on Friday

Monitoring Desk

TEHRAN: In a bustling Tehran prayer hall, ultra-conservative Saeed Jalili has rallied fervent supporters ahead of Friday's runoff presidential vote, while his reformist rival Masoud Pezeshkian stirred up a crowd in a nearby stadium.

The two candidates held their final campaign rallies late on Wednesday night, after leading the first-round vote in snap elections to succeed president Ebrahim Raisi who died in a helicopter crash in May.

Chants of "All Iran says Jalili" echoed as thousands of supporters of the hardline former nuclear negotiator gathered at the Grand Mosalla mosque in central Tehran, buzzing with excitement.

Jalili promised "strength and progress" if elected, as posters of the

late ultraconservative Raisi adorned the walls, bearing the slogan: "A world of opportunities, Iran leaps forward."

At an open-air stadium elsewhere in the capital, Pezeshkian made the case for "unity and cohesion", his supporters' chants invoking another former president — the reformist Mohammad Khatami who has endorsed their candidate.

"Long live Khatami, long live Pezeshkian!" called the spirited crowd, waving green flags adorned with the reformist candidate's "For Iran" slogan.

At the prayer hall, women draped in black sat in a designated section, separated from the men. But all burst into rapturous applause as Jalili made his entrance.

Hurricane Beryl steams towards Cayman Islands, Mexico after striking Jamaica

Monitoring Desk

KINGSTON: Hurricane Beryl steamed towards the Cayman Islands and Mexico on Thursday, after thrashing Jamaica with intense wind and rain, causing floods and power outages after forging a destructive path across smaller Caribbean islands over the past couple of days.

The death toll from the powerful Category 4 hurricane climbed to at least 10 across the region, and is widely expected to rise further as communications return on islands damaged by flooding and deadly winds.

As Beryl moved away from Jamaica early on Thursday, the island discontinued its hurricane warning but kept a flash flood watch, the Meteorological Service of Jamaica said on X.

By late Wednesday, the storm's eye was about 100 miles (161 km) west of Kingston, according to the US National Hurricane Center (NHC), as its core headed toward the Cayman Islands. Packing maximum sustained winds of 130 miles per hour (209 kph),

Beryl was expected to dump 4-6 inches (10-15 cm) of rain on the Cayman Islands into Thursday, where a hurricane warning was in effect and life-threatening surf and rip currents were possible, NHC said.

A hurricane warning was also in force for the eastern coast of Mexico's Yucatan peninsula. Around 0900 GMT, the Category 3 hurricane was just 55 miles from Grand Cayman and about 440 miles off Tulum Mexico, NHC said.

Beryl's eyewall skirted Jamaica's southern coast, pummeling communities as emergency groups evacuated people from flood-prone areas.

"It's terrible. Everything's gone. I'm in my house and scared," said Amoy Wellington, a 51-year-old cashier who lives in Top Hill, a rural farming community in southern St. Elizabeth parish. "It's a disaster." A woman died in Jamaica's Hanover parish after a tree fell on her home, Richard Thompson, acting director general at Jamaica's disaster agency said in an interview on local news.

Massive overcrowding, lack of exits and slippery mud contributed to deadly stampede in India

Monitoring Desk

LUCKNOW: Authorities say massive overcrowding, insufficient exits, and other factors contributed to a deadly stampede at a religious festival in Northern India that killed at least 121 people.

Five more people died on Wednesday morning, local official Manish Chaudhry said, and 28 were still being treated in hospital. The stampede happened on Tuesday afternoon in a village in Hathras district in Uttar Pradesh state, as large crowds rushed to exit a makeshift tent. It was not immediately clear what sparked the panic.

Authorities are investigating what happened and have launched a search for a Hindu guru known locally as Bhole Baba, as well as other organizers.

Deadly stampedes are relatively common at Indian religious festivals, where large crowds gather in small areas with shoddy infrastructure and few safety measures.

Overcrowding, poor planning and bad weather were among factors noted

as contributing to the disaster. Some quarter of a million people turned up for an event that was permitted to accommodate 80,000, held in a tent set up in a muddy field. It's not clear how many made it inside the tent.

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath told reporters that a crowd of devotees surged towards the preacher to touch him as he was descending from the stage, causing chaos as volunteers struggled to intervene. An initial report from the police suggests at this point thousands of people thronged toward the exit, where many slipped on the muddy ground, causing them to fall and be crushed by the crowds. Most of the dead were women. The preacher's Sri Jagar Guru Baba organization had spent more than two weeks preparing for the event.

Devotees from across the state, which with over 200 million people is India's most populous, traveled to the village, with rows of parked vehicles stretching three kilometers.



Britain's opposition Labour Party leader Keir Starmer and his wife Victoria Starmer walk outside a polling station during the general election in London, Britain.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The following tenders are invited from Govt: Contractors/Firms/Agency who has deposited their enlistment/Renewal fee for the current financial year 2024-25. Time limit 30-06-2025 for each work

S.No	Name of Scheme	Qty	E/Cost.	TS NO.
1-	WATER SUPPLY SCHEME HAJI ZARIF ASGHARLOON DISTRICT LORALAI. PSDP NO.5357 FY-2024-25. D/D of Bore. S/I of Solar System. Providing PE Pipes 110mm. Civil Work.	1 No. Bore 1 Set. 1300 Rft. 1 Job.	2505557/- 4986039/- 611,637/- 1738198/-	242507479423 242507479893 242507479543 242507479113
2-	Solar WATER SUPPLY SCHEME AT KILLI POTI KHADARZAI HABIBULLALORALAI. PSDP NO.5848FY2024-25. D/D of Bore. S/I of Solar System. Providing PE Pipes 110mm. Civil Work.	1 No. Bore 1 Set. 1300 Rft. 1 Job.	2,505,557/- 4986039/- 611,637/- 1,738,198/-	242507479033 242507479993 242507479123 242507479213
3-	Constt: of WATER SUPPLY SCHEME IN U/C DARGAI, KUDAZAI, DARGAI SHABOZAI, BARNIMA, TOOR THANA AND AGHBARG DISTRICT LORALAI. PSDP NO.5799 FY-2024-25. D/D of Bore. S/I of Solar System. Providing PE Pipes 90mm. Civil Work.	6 No. Bore 6 Set. 3480 Rft. 1 Job.	7,653,588/- 16885758/- 1,117,846/- 3,587,454/-	242507477283 242507480163 242507477713 242507477943
4-	Constt: of WATER SUPPLY SCHEME IN SHAH KAREZ, KOHAR KAREZ AND NIGANG DISTRICT LORALAI. PSDP NO.5528 FY2024-25. D/D of Bore. S/I of Solar System. Providing PE Pipes 90mm. Civil Work.	6 No. Bore 6 Set. 3480 Rft. 1 Job.	7,653,588/- 16885758/- 1,117,846/- 3,587,454/-	242507476513 242507480173 242507476623 242507476963
5-	Constt: of WATER SUPPLY SCHEME IN U/C PATHAN KOT 1&2 AND BAWAR DISTRICT LORALAI. PSDP NO.5348 FY-2024-25. D/D of Bore. S/I of Solar System. Providing PE Pipes 90mm. Civil Work.	6 No. Bore 6 Set. 3480 Rft. 1 Job.	7,653,588/- 16885758/- 1,117,846/- 3,587,454/-	242507473063 242507480183 242507473373 242507473433
6-	Constt: of WATER SUPPLY SCHEME IN U/C ASGHARLOON, ZANGIWAL, JOGEZAI, ZANGIWAL KUDAZAI, ORYAGAI KAKARAN DISTRICT LORALAI. PSDP NO.5941 FY-2024-25. D/D of Bore. S/I of Solar System. Providing PE Pipes 90mm. Civil Work.	6 No. Bore 6 Set. 3480 Rft. 1 Job.	7,653,588/- 16885758/- 1,117,846/- 3,587,454/-	242507478453 242507480113 242507478543 242507478903
7-	Constt: of WATER SUPPLY SCHEME IN U/C SAGAR, NASARABAD 1&2 DISTRICT LORALAI. NO.5591 FY-2024-25. D/D of Bore. S/I of Solar System. Providing PE Pipes 110mm 3300 Rft & 90mm 4220 Rft. Civil Work.	4 No. Bore 4 Set. 7520 Rft. 1 Job.	6,596,626/- 13,099,017/- 2,908,165/- 6,886,472/-	242507472533 242507480203 242507472803 242507472873
8-	Constt: of WATER SUPPLY SCHEME UC KACH AMAQZAI, SURGHUND DISTRICT LORALAI. PSDPNO.5530 FY-2024-25. D/D of Bore. S/I of Solar System. Providing PE Pipes 90mm. Civil Work.	4 No. Bore 4 Set. 2320 Rft. 1 Job.	5,306,488/- 11,257,173/- 745,220/- 2,486,677/-	242507471833 242507471963 242507472953 242507472143

ELIGIBILITY. The Firm (Single Entity) must have registered with PEC in C6 and above. The Firm/Contractor must have registration with taxation authorities i.e (N.I.T & Sale tax Department BRA, Active tax Payer of FBR and valid registration with Pakistan Engineering Council. Earnest Money 2% of the Estimated Cost. The Detail Technical Criteria is attached in Bidding Documents. Authorized Representatives 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). Detail Financial Soundness with required Turnover given as per Criteria specified in the Bidding Documents. Under taking on Judicial Stamp Paper that the firm was never black listed by any Government / Semi Government Organization. Rate analysis in case of rate offered below estimated cost must be submitted with financial bid. Bank Guarantee or CDR in case of rate offered below 10% estimated cost must be submitted with financial bid. No any tender will be accepted without complete Book of bidding documents which are published on BPPRA website duly signed and stamped by the Firm/Contractor. All the terms and condition specified / mention in the bidding documents will be applicable on the whole bidding process. **METHOD OF PROCUREMENT.** Single stage, Two envelope **BIDDER/TENDER DOCUMENTS.** Issuance: Tender forms/Documents will be available from the date of publication in the News Papers, on BPPRA website or on presentation of requisite documents, Challan of tender fee bid security earnest money, income tax certificate etc in the office of XEN PHE Division Loralai. The tender fee of Rs. 1500/- of each work in the Head of Account PHE Revenue Receipt (CO-2725-02) National Bank of Pakistan duly verified by Treasury officer. **Submission:** Last date of submission of tender documents is 19/07/2024 at 11:30 PM. **Opening:** The tender will be opened on 19/07/2024 at 12:30 P.M. **Place of issuance and address etc:** Executive Engineer PHE Division Loralai Ph/Fax No.0824400004. **Note:** It may be noted that no pay order will be accepted/Entertained and Firms/Contractors complete title/Name should be written on call deposit. If call deposit of Firm/Contractor found fake action will be taken against the defaulter under rules. The undersigned reserved the rights to Accept/Reject all or any one tender without assigning any reason.

**EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING, DIVISION
LORALAI.**

PRQ No.91/04-07-2024
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NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Executive Engineer, Irrigation Division Jhal Magshi, invites sealed tenders forms (as per schedule A & B) based on composite schedule of rates 2023 Government of Balochistan from interested contractors/firms for the PSDP works 2024-25 listed below: **Bid Security 2% in (Rs), Tender Fee Rs.2000/- and Time limit 12 Months for each work.**

S.#	Name of work	E/Cost	Bid Security
1	CONSTRUCTION OF FLOOD IRRIGATION MINOR HATHIARY AREA DISTRICT JHAL MAGSHI PSDP NO.3269 TSE-242507481043	40.00 M	800,000/-
2	DE-SILTING OF GOLANI MINOR PSDP NO.3357 TSE-242507481073	30.00 M	600,000/-
3	DE-SILTING OF BEGARI CANAL DISTRICT JHAL MAGSHI PSDP NO.3427 TSE-242507481103	45.00 M	900,000/-
4	DE-SILTING OF NADIRABAD MINOR DISTRICT JHAL MAGSHI PSDP NO.3431 TSE-242507481133	25.00 M	500,000/-
5	DE-SILTING OF 60 NUMBER WATER COURSE PSDP NO.3433 TSE-242507481263	35.00 M	700,000/-
6	DE-SILTING OF TANGOTI MINOR PSDP NO.3466 TSE-242507481283	25.00 M	500,000/-
7	DE-SILTING OF MOLVI MINOR PSDP NO.3468 TSE-242507481353	25.00 M	500,000/-
8	DE-SILTING OF 65 MINOR AND 31 MINOR JHAL MAGSHI PSDP NO.3474 TSE-242507481393	32.00 M	640,000/-

Procurements shall be made under B-PPRA Rules 2014 amended up-to-date. **Eligibility of Bidders:** a) An individual bidder having Valid PEC registration valid up-to-date in the relevant Category or above with specialization in Irrigation Only. b) 3 assignments of Similar Nature and Complexity during last 3 years. c) Has an average Turnover 70% of Project Cost during last three year. d) Active Registration Certificates from Income Tax Authority (FBR (NTN) and Balochistan Revenue Authority (BRA) e) The Contractor has not been blacklisted earlier by any Procurement Agency or private organization. f) The amount of bid Security shall be 2% of the Project Cost in the form of Call Deposit issued by a Scheduled Bank in Pakistan in favour of the Employer. g) The Bidding Document can be download from B-PPRA Web: or obtained from the office of the undersigned upon payment of bidding document fee mentioned against each through Challan in the NBP from any Branch under Head C-3434 h) The Bidding Documents duly filled attached with copies of supporting documents must be delivered in sealed envelopes by hand or address from date of NIT to 22nd July-2024 before 10:30 AM at office of the undersigned. i) Application in original on letterhead duly signed and stamped. j) Authorized Representatives 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). k) As per BPPRA Rules 25 (Sub rule 4 amended rule) conditional bid shall not be entertained. **Method of Procurement** Single Stage Two Envelope Procedure. Any firm not meeting the mandatory requirements shall be considered Non-Responsive and its Bid will be returned unopened. **Evaluation Criteria:** Submit list of Machinery, Staff and Labour on Company letter Head. **Tender opening:** envelope containing technical bid will be opened on 22nd July-2024 at 11:30 AM at mentioned blow address & 2nd envelope containing financial bid of technically qualified bidder will be opened later, & the date which will be communicated after evolution of technical bid, financial proposal of technically non-qualified bidders will not be opened and thus will be unopened. **Bids Validity:** Thirty (90) days
Address: Irrigation Quarter, Gandawah Bypass Road, Jhal Magshi. Phone & Fax No. 0838-612097
Email: xenjhalmagshi2019@gmail.com

**EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
IRRIGATION DIVISION JHAL MAGSHI**

PRQ No.97/04-07-2024
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NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Sealed gallop tender on form 'B-I & B-II as per schedule 'A&B' are invited from the approved Government Contractor/Firm of Public Health Engineering Department Balochistan who are enlisted / renewal their name for the current financial year 2024-25 for the following works

S.No	Name of Work	Qty	E/Cost
1	WSS KILLI IABBAS TEHSIL GULISTAN IN DISTRICT KILLA ABDULLAH PSDP NO. 5798 i) D/D of Bore up to 800 feet Depth TSE-242507486593 1 Job 5,242,000/- ii) Supply & Installation of Solar Machinery (15 HP) TSE-242507486783 1 Set 6,352,000/- iii) CIVIL WORK (Laying, Joining of PVC Pipe Line) 1100 Rft 1 Job 288,200/- TSE-242507486793		
2	WSS KILLI KILLI NAJEEBULLAH & OBAIDULLAH TEHSIL GULISTAN IN DISTRICT KILLA ABDULLAH PSDP NO. 5375. D/D of Bore up to 700 feet Depth TSE-242507486843 2 Job 7,938,000/- ii) Supply & Installation of Solar Machinery (12 HP) TSE-242507486853 2 Set 11,252,000/- iii) CIVIL WORK (Laying, Joining of PVC Pipe Line) 2880 Rft 2 Job 608,000 TSE-242507486883		
3	WSS KILLI MALAK SAEED TEHSIL GULISTAN IN DISTRICT KILLA ABDULLAH PSDP NO. 5340. D/D of Bore up to 700 feet Depth TSE-242507486893 1 Job 3,969,000/- ii) Supply & Installation of Solar Machinery (12 HP) TSE-242507486913 1 Set 5,626,000/- iii) CIVIL WORK (Laying, Joining of PVC Pipe Line) 1440 Rft 1 Job 301,000/- TSE-242507486923		
4	WSS KILLI KILLI ABDUL RAUF & MUHAMMAD ABBAS TEHSIL GULISTAN IN DISTRICT KILLA ABDULLAH PSDP NO. 5419. D/D of Bore up to 700 feet Depth TSE-242507486943 1 Job 3,969,000/- ii) Supply & Installation of Solar Machinery (12 HP) 242507486983 2 Set 11,252,000/- iii) CIVIL WORK (Laying, Joining of PVC Pipe Line) 2880 Rft 2 Job 608,000/- TSE-242507487003		

The Contractor must have registration with Drilling Directorate I&P Department or PHE Department E&M Division Quetta with tax authorities i.e. (NTN & sales tax Department) valid registration with Pakistan Engineering Council in category who have deposited enlistment Renewal Fee for the Year 2024-25. Tender fee deposited in head of account C-02725-02 through green Challan form original in National Bank of Pakistan Chaman Rs. 650/- & Rs 1500/- of each work and fulfill all the requirements of BPPRA **METHOD OF PROCUREMENT** Single stage single envelope procedure **BIDDING TENDER DOCUMENTS** Issuance: Tender Form/Documents will be issued to bidders / contractors on publishing of notice in newspaper up to 23-07-2024 at 11 A.M from the presentation of requisite documents i.e tender fee (nonrefundable), Bid security / Earnest Money 2% in shape of call deposit valid. For Supply of Pipe only Manufacturer are participate in the tender. No any authority letter is allowed to an other **SUBMISSION** last date of submission is 23-07-2024 at 1.00 PM **OPENING** The tender will be opened on 23-07-2024 at 2.00 PM **PLACE OF ISSUANCE** Submission inquiries and opening will be :- ADDRESS:- Office of the Executive Engineer PHE Division Killa Abdullah Email Address: Headclerk10071967@gmail.com **NOTE** It may be noted that no pay order will be accepted/entertained and Firm complete title name should be written on call deposit. Only original Contractor are allowed to Participate in the tenders. Agent/Representative will not be allowed. **CONDITIONS** All the terms and conditions can be seen/obtain in the Office of the undersigned in any office hours

**EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING DIVISION
KILLA ABDULLAH**

PRQ No.114/04-07-2024
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US report on religious freedom in Pakistan runs contrary to facts: FO

ISLAMABAD (Online): Pakistan while rejecting US report in regard to religious freedom has said report runs contrary to the facts. Over half report is wrong and is made without investigation. Every person enjoys religious freedom in Pakistan.

This was said by Foreign Office Spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch on Thursday during her weekly media briefing.

During the weekly media briefing, the spokesperson emphasized that the report overlooks Pakistan's efforts to ensure religious freedom and does not aid in promoting human rights.

The report recommended that the US State Department designate 17 countries, including Pakistan, as Countries of Particular Concern (CPC) due to severe violations of religious freedom, criticizing the country for systemic

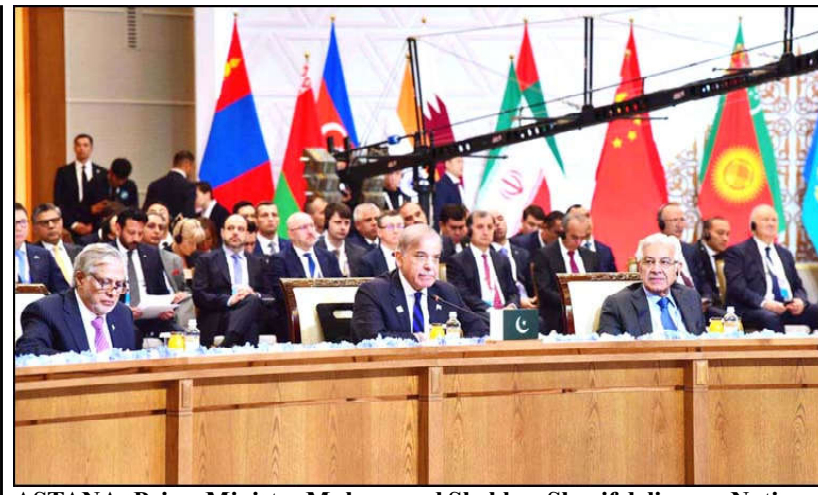
issues like the enforcement of blasphemy laws and the failure to protect religious minorities from forced conversions. The other recommended countries include Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Burma, China, Cuba, Eritrea, India, Iran, Nicaragua, Nigeria, North Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Vietnam. Mumtaz also announced that the government has approved Gaza's medical students to complete their education in Pakistan. These students will soon join Pakistani medical colleges to pursue studies in cardiology, surgery, and other fields. Regarding Afghanistan, the spokesperson mentioned that Asif Durrani represented Pakistan at the Afghan conference in Doha. A meeting between Afghan and Pakistani officials took place on July 1, where Durrani highlighted concerns about ter-

rorists receiving support from within Afghanistan.

Both nations are actively discussing these concerns. Pakistan has serious reservations about the support for terrorists originating from Afghanistan, and these issues were addressed during the Doha meetings.

Prime Minister of Pakistan, Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif is in Kazakhstan for the twin Summits of SCO Council of Heads of State (CHS) and SCO Plus from 03-04 July 2024 in Astana, Kazakhstan. He is accompanied by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar and other senior members of the Cabinet and senior government officials.

At the SCO Council of Heads of Summit Meeting today, the Prime Minister will share Pakistan's perspective on important regional and global issues.



ASTANA: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif delivers a National Statement at Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Summit.

Govt efforts lead to inflation drop amid global economic pressures, Prof. Ahsan Iqbal

ISLAMABAD (Online): Planning Minister Prof. Ahsan Iqbal chaired a meeting of the National Price Monitoring Committee held today in Islamabad. The meeting witnessed the attendance of Member-Support Services, Joint Chief Economist, AC Islamabad, senior officials from the Line Ministries and Planning Ministry, representatives from Provincial Governments, and the Senior General Manager of Utility Stores.

In his opening remarks, Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal directed that the National Price Monitoring Committee be convened monthly to establish a rigorous monitoring mechanism aimed at controlling market prices. He emphasized the importance of maintaining vigilant oversight to stabilize the prices of essential commodities across the country.

A significant reduction in inflation over the past year was reported. The inflation rate decreased from 29.4% in June 2023 to 12.6% in the current year, marking a notable downward trend. Significant decrease observed in Food prices, where the Food inflation in Urban cities dropped from 40.8% in June 2023 to 2.6% in June 2024 and in Rural Areas dropped from 41.5% in June 2023 to 1.3% in June 2024. Despite global inflationary pressures, Pakistan has managed to reduce its inflation rate, although the prices of imported items have seen an increase in June 2024.

The meeting highlighted the substantial price difference between various edible items available at Utility Stores and those in the open market, attributed to government subsidies intended to facilitate the public at large.

The Minister instructed that price behavior in regional countries be closely monitored. He highlighted the necessity of being aware of demand and supply dynamics during special occasions such as Eids and Ramadan to ensure price stability. He called for the establishment of robust mechanisms for price stabilization and storage of products, noting the recurring nature of price acceleration behaviors.

To minimize price variance during the upcoming Ramadan, the Minister directed effective stock management. He also instructed Deputy Commissioners to scrutinize discrepancies between wholesale and retail prices and to intensify price enforcement activities to regulate market prices.

Minister Iqbal emphasized the need for anticipatory governance to minimize market shocks rather than merely reacting to them.

Pakistan, Belarus reaffirm commitment to strengthen trade, economic ties

ASTANA (APP): Pakistan and Belarus on Thursday noted positive growth in all aspects of their bilateral relations over the past decade reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthen mutually beneficial cooperation and economic and trade relations.

The bilateral relations were discussed in a meeting between Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and President of the Republic of Belarus Aleksandr Lukashenko on the sidelines of the SCO Summit here.

A wide range of topics, including political relationship, trade and investment, military cooperation and regional issues, were discussed.

Prime Minister Shehbaz congratulated President Lukashenko on Belarus' membership of the SCO underlining that this would further strengthen the organization. He highlighted Pakistan's policy of economic revival through export-led growth, strengthening of public finances, and attracting investment from friendly countries. The two leaders also discussed global and regional developments and reviewed progress on various aspects of work under the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO).

The prime minister shared Pakistan's efforts and desire for a peaceful and stable region.



Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Bugti receiving Chairman PPP Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on upon at Quetta Airport

CM, Ministers, party leaders welcome: Chairman PPP Bilawal Bhutto Zardari reaches Quetta on 2-day visit

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Chairman Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP), Bilawal Bhutto Zardari arrived in the provincial metropolis on Thursday afternoon.

Upon his arrival, the Chairman PPP was welcomed by the Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti, Deputy Speaker Balochistan Assembly, Ms. Ghazala Gola, provincial ministers and members of the provincial assembly belonging to PPP besides

the party leaders at Quetta airport.

Soon after his arrival, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari drove to Chief Minister's secretariat where he attended the briefing by the provincial government functionaries about performance of the government departments and other official matters.

The Chairman PPP also held meetings with the Chief Minister and provincial ministers and party leaders at the CM's secretariat.

PTI leaders dispel rumours about rift, say Imran Khan will be next premier

RAWALPINDI (INP): PTI central leaders Omar Ayub, Shibli Faraz, Shahryar Afridi and Raouf Hasan have asserted that the next prime minister will be prisoner number 804, saying they were united and would remain so.

Outside the Adiala Jail, Opposition Leader in National Assembly Omar Ayub said they were not allowed to meet the PTI founder.

Ayub said the PTI founder rightly said that their fight was with duflers. "There is no division in the party. No one can ban the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf," he said.

He further said the party founder had the right to meet the opposition leader. He threatened to

summon the administration of the jail to the National Assembly and the Senate.

Shibli Farz on the occasion said the mandate of the people was stolen in the elections. He said "hired people" were being brought back on TV channels.

Amir Mughal was arrested when he asked the DC for permission to hold a rally.

Shahryar Afridi said there was no question of division in the party. He said the PDM could not compete with the PTI.

Shandana Gulzar also denied rift in the PTI. She said they were facing 40 cases each. She said the prime minister and the Punjab chief minister should stop worrying about the PTI.

Body to be formed to monitor dev. works of NGOs in Chaman, DC

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Deputy Commissioner Chaman, Captain (Retd) Raja Athar Abbas has stated that a committee would be formed to monitor the works being done by the nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) in Chaman.

The Deputy Commissioner urged the NGOs to submit progress report of the activities and development works to the district administration on quarterly basis.

He asserted that NGOs would not perform without the prior permission and approval of the district administration.

The Deputy Commissioner Chaman was presiding over the meeting of the representatives of the NGOs in Chaman on Thursday.

The meeting was briefed about the overall performance and activities of NGOs in Chaman district.

The Deputy Commissioner on the occasion appreciated services of different NGOs in different sectors especially in education and health sectors.

He, however, urged all the NGOs and the subsidiaries of the United Nations to play their wholehearted role in development of Chaman.



QUETTA: Deputy Commissioner Quetta Saad Yasir addressing press conference regarding seizing smuggling plastic bags.



QUETTA: Provincial Education Minister Raheela Hameed Khan Durrani inaugurating anti-harassment cell at Directorate of Education

PM directs to evolve roadmap for bolstering bilateral cooperation with Russia

ASTANA (Online): Prime Minister (PM) Shehbaz Sharif has directed to evolve road map for fortifying bilateral cooperation with Russia.

Soon a high ranking delegation of Pakistan will visit Russia.

PM Shehbaz Sharif is likely to visit Russia. This big decision has been made for bolstering ties in diverse sectors between the two countries with reference to meeting between PM Shehbaz Sharif and Russian president Vladimir Putin.

According to government sources PM has constituted a committee for making preparations for a visit of high level delegation to Russia and for evolving road map for bilateral co-

operation.

This committee will comprise 16 members with federal minister for planning Ahsan Iqbal as head.

The other members of committee will include federal ministers for trade, petroleum, energy, Rana Ahsan Atzal coordinator of PM will also be part of the committee.

Secretaries of power division and ministries of finance, food security, trade, petroleum, foreign affairs, railway, industries and production and planning will also include in the committee.

Committee will work out road map for bilateral cooperation with Russia in energy, gas and oil, steel mills, agriculture, railway and banking.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training, Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui meeting with Deputy Speaker of New York State Assembly Mr. Philip Ramos at Ministry of Education.

Significant rainfall, potential flooding risk across multiple regions in country: NEOC

ISLAMABAD (APP): The NDMA's National Emergencies Operation Center (NEOC) anticipated a significant rainfall across various regions of the country until July 9th.

The affected areas include northeastern parts of Punjab, particularly the eastern rivers' catchment areas, Potohar, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK), southern Sindh, Azad Jammu & Kashmir (AJK), and Gilgit-Baltistan (GB), a news release said.

The anticipated moderate to heavy rainfall may cause urban flooding and was likely to induce rapid rises in water levels in nullahs, triggering flash flooding across the northern regions of Punjab (Sialkot), KPK, and AJK. Additionally, this precipitation was expected to result in high discharge levels

within the eastern rivers. Suttlej River Expected to experience a low flood stage with approximately 50,000 cusecs of water while Kabul River Predicted to reach a medium flood level with approximately 95,000 cusecs.

"These conditions are expected between until July 9th. Extreme rainfall may also lead to additional releases from Indian reservoirs, including Salal, Bhakra, and Pong Dam, which could directly impact the Chenab and Suttlej rivers.

Moreover, NEOC has predicted moderate to heavy rainfall in Gilgit-Baltistan until July 8th, which may trigger flash flooding in local nullahs. Areas such as Chigar and Khaplu are at risk of flash flooding during heavy rains," it said.



QUETTA: Chief Secretary Balochistan Shakeel Qadir Khan presiding over a meeting regarding prevention of smuggling of sugar in the province

Governor visits residence of BUIITEMS student died in bus mishap, condoles death

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail visited the residence of student of Balochistan University of Information Technology, Engineering and Management Sciences (BUIITEMS) Ali Akbar who died in the University's bus accident, here on Thursday.

Also accompanied with him were the Member of Provincial Assembly, Zarak Khan Mandokhail and Advisor to Chief Minister for Environment, Nasimur Rehman Musakhail.

The Governor and others expressed condolence death of BUIITEMS student with the bereaved family and offered fataha for the departed soul.

He also prayed that may Allah Almighty rest the departed soul into its eternal peace and give enough strength and patience to the bereaved family to bear the tragic loss of his death.

He also said that we are with the bereaved family in the time of grief.

Seven of a family die, 10 injured as van falls into ditch in Haripur

PESHAWAR (APP): Seven people of the same family were killed and ten others sustained critical injuries when a van carrying them fell into a deep ravine near Chehakai area of Haripur district in the small hours of Thursday.

According to Rescue 1122, the ill-fated family was traveling from Swabi Meera area to Islamabad airport when it plunged into a gorge while navigating a sharp turn in the vicinity of Sadar police station Haripur. Seven people died instantly and ten others sustained critical injuries. A total of 17 family members were aboard the vehicle to receive one of their relatives at Islamabad airport. Rescue 1122 said women and children were among those killed and injured in the mishap, adding that the death toll might increase as some of the injured were in critical condition.



QUETTA: Governor Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail offering fataha on sad demise of student of BUIITEMS Ali Akbar killed in bus incident

Balochistan govt provides scholarships to 75000 students

QUETTA (APP): The Balochistan government has provided scholarships to 75,000 students so far as part of the pro-education policy of the incumbent government to provide quality education to the youth of the province and bring back the alarming number of out-of-school children.

The government has increased the allocation for BEEF by Rs two billion in the current budget 2024-25 and allocated two billion rupees for out of school children, an official of Balochistan government told APP.

The Benazir Bhutto Scholarship Programme had been launched in Balochistan. Under the programme, the youth from all segments including mi-

norities and transgenders would be provided educational scholarships from primary to higher levels.

He added that the PhD students from Balochistan would be given full scholarships to study in the top 200 universities worldwide.

In a landmark development, the University of Oxford has agreed to provide scholarships to students from Balochistan, Pakistan, under the Benazir Scholarship Program.

The agreement, in this connection, was signed between the Oxford University and the Government of Balochistan last month.

He said the government has determined to provide the best educational facility to the chil-

dren of labourers and the students from the down-trodden section of the society would be awarded scholarships every year.

The government has already announced to enrol 400 children of labourers from Balochistan in the best higher educational institution across the country in the first phase of the programme.

In the next phase, around 1000 children of workers would be provided quality education on a scholarship basis in the best institutions across the country. During the next two years, the Balochistan would provide technical education to over 30,000 youth in various field and sent abroad for employment.



QUETTA: Voice for Baloch Missing Persons Leader, Mama Qadir along with others addressing to media persons during press conference, at protest camp outside Quetta press club.

Belorussian minister reiterates for bringing new dimensions in Pak-Belarus relations

ISLAMABAD (APP): First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Belarus, Sergey Lukashevich has reiterated the preamble of new dimensions in the relations between Pakistan and Belarus on the 80th anniversary of the independence of Belarus. Today's modern Belarus is the result of a prolonged struggle against global colonial powers 80 years ago and now the country is widely known for its commendable economic development and its strong role in the world political arena, he said.

The visiting First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Belarus said this while addressing on the 80th Independence Day of Belarus along with Federal Minister for Industries and Production Division, Rana Tanveer Hussain and Ambassador of Belarus, Mr

Andrei Metelitsa here Thursday.

Mr Lukashevich said that on July 3, Belarus would celebrate the 80th anniversary of its liberation from the Nazi invaders and July 3rd Independence Day of the Republic of Belarus, was the day of liberation of our capital, Minsk, in 1944.

He said the cruel events of the Great Patriotic War will forever remain the tragic pages in the memory of the people and that was swept through all the settlements of our Homeland, touched or scorched with fire every inhabitant living on the territory of Belarus.

The Belorussian Minister said that he was grateful to all those people present at the event held on the occasion of the independence of Belarus for participating in the event.

Italian Ambassador meets Interior Minister

ISLAMABAD (APP): Italian Ambassador to Pakistan Marylina Ermelin on Thursday met with Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi to discuss issues of mutual interest.

Discussing the bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest in the meeting, the interior minister told the ambassador about his recent very successful and effective visit to Italy.

Mohsin Naqvi told the ambassador that in a meeting with the Italian Minister of the Interior, it was agreed to work together against illegal human trafficking and in this regard, a delegation of the Italian Ministry of Interior will soon visit Pakistan.

Gilani greets people, Congress on USI-Day

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman Senate, Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani, extended warm felicitations to the people, Congress, and government of the United States of America on the occasion of American Independence Day on Thursday. In his message, he conveyed his best wishes and warm sentiments of goodwill to the political and parliamentary leadership of America on this significant occasion, according to a press release.