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28,000 tube wells in Balochistan to be converted on solar power: PM

Says federal govt to provide 70%, Balochistan to contribute 30% in Rs55 bln solarization project

QUETTA (APP): Prime would provide 70 percent Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Monday said that under an agreement reached between the Federal and Balochistan provincial governments, a total of 28,000 agricultural tube wells in the province would be shifted to solar system within three months

Talking to media after the agreement signing ceremony, the prime minister said the federal government release.

funds while 30 percent ister witnessed an agreewould be contributed by ment signing ceremony bethe provincial government tween the federal and the for Rs 55 billion solarizaprovincial governments for shifting of electricity run tion project. The prime minister tube wells to solar powered

met the provincial cabinet mechanism. in which the federal minis-The prime minister ters and Governor tasked the chief minister to Balochistan Jafar Khan complete the solarization Mandokhel and Chief Minproject within three ister Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti months

were present, PM Office He opined that the completion of project Media Wing said in a press would ensure prosperity of

Earlier, the prime min- the farmers and bring a large area of cultivable land under farming, adding that with functioning of the solar powered tube wells, the farmers would get uninterrupted power supply throughout the day.

During his address to the provincial cabinet, he termed the agreement as 'a deep structured change³ firmly rooted in the government's conceived re-

Continued on page 2



OUETTA: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif talking to the media after the signing of agreement to solarise agricultural tubewells of Balochistan.



QUETTA: Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Ahemd Bugti presides over the Provincial Cabinet meeting.

Imposes ban on new recruitments in public sector universities: **Balochistan cabinet approves to populate** government owned land under Green **Corporation Partnership Project**

Mir Sarfraz Bugti says provincial government working with diligence for Establishing good governance and improving service delivery system

Independent Report The OUETTA: Balochistan cabinet has new buildings are being vincial Minister for Planapproved settlement of the built there. government owned land

ployees, abrupt recruit- Minister for Finance, Min ments are being made and Shoaib Nausherwani, Pro-

The provincial cabinet Zahoor Ahmed Buledi, Prounder the Green Corpora- took the above decisions in vincial Minister Livestock,

ning and Development, Mir

President directs completion of Kachhi Canal project within 18 months

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Asif Ali Zardari on Monday directed the authorities concerned to ensure completion of the Kachhi Canal project within 1.5 years to irrigate around 713,000 acres of land in Balochistan province. The president, while chairing a meeting on the Green Pakistan Initiative (GPI), at Aiwan-e-Sadr, said that the federal gov-ernment would provide funding for the project to ensure its timely completion on a priority basis, a President House press release said.

In the meeting, the president was briefed about the construction of six strategic canals for the Green Pakistan Initiative.

Minister for Interior, Syed Mohsin Raza Naqvi, and senior military officials

attended the meeting. President Zardari was informed that the construction of six strategic canals, viz. Chashma Right Bank Canal, Kachhi Canal, Rainee Canal, Greater Thal Canal, Cholistan Canal, and Thar Canal, would help enhance the agricultural potential of Pakistan by increasing the cultivable area as well as the livestock and fisheries potential of the

country Нe directed to kickstart work on strategic canals for GPI and ensure their early completion, besides lining them with concrete to prevent seepage and wastage of water.

He urged the need to develop Pakistan's irrigation sector along modern lines to conserve water, re-

duce water losses, and enhance water availability.

deployment across country for Muharram security ISLAMABAD (INP): The and numbers of deployfederal government has ment of army troops. granted the approval of army deployment across the country during ployment of army, rangers Muharram to ensure secuand FC personnel.

tect

the province.

Majalis will take place in

the province. Over 215,000

officers and personnel will

perform security duty,

with over 28,000 officers

and personnel will specifi-

Rangers and the Paki-

The federal government has approved deployment of Pakistan Army and civil armed forces in Islamabad, Azad Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan along with provinces, says a notification

The notification mentions that details about army deployment will be discussed with relevant authorities. The deployment of army and civil armed forces has been allowed for an indefinite period.

cally be deployed in Lahore. The army as a quick response force is going to stan Army, along with other be deployed on request of govt security institutions, will help police for peaceprovinces. The provinces will decide about the places ful Muharram.

Tareen elected as

Chairman PAC

Balochistan

Assembly

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Member

Provincial Assembly be-

longing to Jamiat Ulema-e-

Islam (JUI), Asghar Ali

Tareen was elected as the

Chairman Public Accounts

The election of Asghar

The members of the

of its chairman and thus

elected Mr. Tareen for the

important slot. Similarly, the meeting of standing committee for Local Govern-

ment, Gwadar Development

Authority, Balochistan De-

velopment Authority and

Balochistan Coastal Devel-

opment Authority was also

held in which MPA Patrick

Sant Maseih was elected its

Deadlock persists

b/w govt, SIC

on chairmanship

of PAC

ISLAMABAD (Online):

Deadlock persists between

government and Sunni

Ittehad Council (SIC) on

the chairmanship of Pub-lic Accounts Committee

name of Sheikh Waqas

Akram. Government is in-

sisting on providing panel

mentary sources the mat-

ter of chairmanship of PAC

has not been resolved so far.

According to parlia-

containing four names

SIC is adamant on the

chairman.

PAC)

Over 66,000 community volunteers and 45,000 Earlier, the Sindh gov-

Govt greenlights army

volunteers will perform seernment approved the de- curity duty for Muharram processions. Various field forma-With the advent of

tions including CTD, spe-Muharram on Monday (tocial branch, traffic police, day), the Punjab police Dolphin Squad, and Peru, have finalised foolproof sewill perform their duties as curity arrangements to propart of the security plan. Across the province,

processions and Majalis (gatherings) across 633 points have been identified as flashpoints, with As many as 10,700 283 in Lahore alone. processions and 38,000

In Lahore, 54 locations are deemed extremely sensitive, and 229 sensitive, with additional personnel deployed accordingly.

Province-wide, 586 locations are classified as sensitive, and 146 as extremely sensitive. Police will ensure the strict implementation of Section 144 during Ashura, whereas bans on aerial firing.

tion Partnership Project in the province. The cabinet also im-

posed ban on new recruitments in all public sector universities of the province.

In this regard, the Chief Minister expressed concern over the rapid recruitments and construction of new buildings in the public sector universities saying that at the time where the universities are not having enough money to pay salaries to their em-

it's fourth meeting held with Bakht Muhammad Kakan the Chief Minister, Mir and Secretary Higher Edu-Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti in the cation. chair on Monday morning. The provincial minismeeting that the committee ters, advisors and senior would prepare its recom-

high ups of the provincial mendations within a week. governments were in attendance at the meeting. net, the Chief Minister said The cabinet also constituted a special committee for review of the Public Sector Universities Act and making its comparison with

other provinces.

The committee would be comprised: Provincial

that the provincial government is working with diligence for establishing good governance and improving service delivery system in the province. In addition to Continued on page 2

PM congratulates

Muhammad Sharif on Monday held a telephone conversation with Dr. Massoud Pezeshkian, President-elect of the Islamic Republic of Iran, to extend his heartiest felicitations to him on his

QUETTA: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif meets Governor Balochistan Jafar Khan Mandokhel during his one day visit to Quetta.

Kenyan court declares Pak journalistArshad's murder illegal, unconstitutional

Court orders Kenya to pay family of Pak journalist 21.7m as compensation

Kenya High Court judge declared the murder of the Pakistani journalist Arhsad Sharif in Kenya as illegal and unconstitutional penalized the Kenyan police officer involved in the planned target killing. Kenya's Kajiado High

Court has awarded Rs21.7 million to the family of slain

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistani Journalist Arshad Sharif who was shot dead by Kenyan police officers in October 2022.

While delivering her judgement, Justice Stella Mutuku said the use of le-thal force against Sharif by shooting him in the head was unlawful and unconsti Continued on page 2

Office press release said.He said that as brotherly neighboring countries, Pakistan and Iran were bound together by shared history. faith, culture and traditions

Wishing the Iranian President-elect a successful tenure in office.

Deadly road mishap claims life of 4 family members

GWADAR (INP): A dreadful collision between a private car and a truck claimed lives of four family members including a woman here on Monday

According to details, an over speeding truck hit a car on the Makran Coastal Highway near Ormara.

The deadly collision resulted in immediate death of all four members on the

ceased were shifted to a local hospital. The authorities were investigating into the incident

in dev. of Balochistan overall development of the Independent Report QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Sheikh Jaffar province, programme of conversion of agricultural Khan Mandokhail has

Sharif for taking special inspeaking to Prime Minis-

ter during call-on to him here at the Governor House here on Monday.

During the course of in development and prosmeeting, the matters about perity of the province. PM visits Quetta; gets warm

welcome by coalition Govt.

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Prime Minister, Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif paid a whirlwind visit to the provincial capital, Quetta on Monday. Upon his arrival, the Prime Minister was welcomed by Governor, Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail, Chief Minister, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti, provincial ministers, members of the assembly besides other provincial high ups including Chief Secretary, Shakeel Qadir Khan and Inspector General of Police, Abdul Khaliq Sheikh. The Federal Ministers Jam Kamal Khan, Azam Nazir Tarar, Sardar Awais Khan Leghari, Attaullah Tarar and Minister of State, Ali Pervez Malik.

Soon after his arrival, the Prime Minister drove to the Governor House where he had separate meetings with the Governor and the Chief Minister Balochistan.



QUETTA: Activists of Balochistan Sunni Ullama Council hold rally in connection with Hazrat Umar Farooq (RA) Shahadat.

CM tells PM We are hopeful about special attention of federal Govt. for development of Balochistan ment and projects were dis-

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Chief Min-ister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has thanked the Prime Minister Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif for assistance of the provincial government in the projects of solarization of agricultural tube wells in the province. The Chief Minister also stated that we are hopeful for special attention of the federal government for development of the province. Mir Sarfraz Ahmed

Bugti was speaking during his meeting with the Prime Minister here on Monday. During the course of meeting, different matters including overall develop-

cussed. Besides, the projects of public interest included in the federal and provincial public sector development programmes (PSDP). The Chief Minister

also referred to the initiatives taken and being taken by the provincial government for uplift of different sectors. He said that we are paying attention on law and order, education and health sectors Balochistan. The Prime Minister on the occasion appreciated and expressed satisfaction over the initiatives and efforts of Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti for bringing good governance.



PESHAWAR: Chairman Pakistan People's Party Bilawal Bhutto Zardari addressing a press conference along with Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Faisal Karim Kundi at Governor House, in the Provincial Capital.

Bilawal says: Security linked with economic situation; PPP to attend Govt called APC

Zardari said that security was linked with the country's economic situation and his party has principally decided to participate in the Govt's called all parties conference (APC) for a broad-based political consensus on issues related to national security besides ensuring durable peace in the country. Addressing a press conference at Governor House here Monday, Bilawal Bhutto said that an inclusive and across the

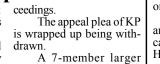
PESHAWAR (APP): Paki- board political consensus stan Peoples Party Chair-man, Bilawal Bhutto related to national security was inevitable on all issues and the decisions once taken at APC would get support of the political forces and the entire nation. He hailed the Prime Minister's decision to invite the PTI in APC. He said that we stand with our brave security forces in their fight against menace of terrorism and demanded strong action against facilitators of terrorists. Bilawal Bhutto said that collective decisions against scourge of terrorism were imperative for durable progress.

Place where Quaid-e-Azam had spent last days set ablaze: Apex Court

ISLAMABAD (Online): Supreme Court (SC) has adjourned till July 11 is wrapped up being withhearing of case against trial of civilians in military courts.

The order said the plea of Lahore High Court (LHC) Bar for becoming respondent is accepted.

Faisal Siddigui told the court he does not want to pursue the petition for direct broadcasting of the pro- since 5 weeks.



A 7-member larger bench of SC presided over

The bodies of de-Suleman Akram Raja counsel for PTI said the family is not being allowed to meet the accused persons



It was decided in the

Addressing the cabi-

Massoud thanked the Prime Minis-ter Muhammad Shahbaz victory in the recently held Presidential elections.

terest in development and The prime minister prosperity of the province. conveyed his good wishes The Governor was for Iran's Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Khamenei and

congratulated him as well as the brotherly people of Iran on the successful po-

litical transition through the democratic process, a PM

tube well were discussed threadbare. Besides, the matters of mutual interests includ-

ter for his special interest committee met for election

ISLAMABAD: Interior Minister Mohsin Nagyi chairing a meeting regard-

Committee (PAC) of the Balochistan Assembly here ing the party matters were also discussed between the on Monday. Prime Minister and Governor Balochistan. While the Tareen as Chairman PAC Governor personally thanked the Prime Miniswas held in the meeting of PAC here in the assembly.

Daily soice of Masse Independent Quetta

Miscellaneous

Tuesday July 09, 2024

Ahsan for transformation in tech education for sustainable development

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal on Monday called for a transformative approach to future of our global technical education, emphasizing the need for digitalization, gender inclusivity, and green practices to drive innovation, growth, and sustainable de-

velopment. He was addressing as the chief guest at a five-day regional conference on 'Empowering Workforce and Gender Inclusivity: Navigating the TVET Landscape through Digitalization and Green Practices" which was organized by the Colombo Plan Staff College (CPSC), Sri Lanka, in collaboration with the National Vocational and Technical Training Commission (NAVTTC) Pakistan, said a news release.

He emphasized the historical partnership be-tween Pakistan and CPSC, highlighting Pakistan's role as a founding member and the significant benefits derived from this collaboration in enhancing the country's technical education capabilities.

"Empowering ships and incentives for feworkforce and gender male students, and ensurinclusivity through digitalization and green practices is not only crucial for the workforce but also for societal advancement," the aimed at bridging the gen-

minister said. He underscored the inclusive workforce, he pivotal role of digital tools added. and technologies in revolutionizing TVET, making training more accessible, engaging, and relevant through online learning plat-

forms, virtual reality simulations, and AI-driven personalized learning. He highlighted a recent mental responsibility. World Economic Forum report indicating that digital transformation could create up to 150 million new roles by this year while displacscoring the need for a

workforce skilled in digital tools and technologies. He also stressed the digitalization and green importance of gender practices, noting their poinclusivity, noting that tential for innovation and women were often underrepresented in STEM digital tools can enhance the careers and vocational training programs

Prof. Iqbal called for policies promoting gender development of sustainable

ing a safe and supportive learning environment. Women in engineering program as an inspir-

ing example of initiatives der gap and fostering a more

As the world moves towards a more sustainable future, the minister emphasized the need for TVET systems to incorporate green practices, preparing the workforce for green jobs and instilling environ-

He highlighted the po tential of the renewable energy sector to create millions of jobs and the importance of incorporating susing 75 million jobs, under- tainable practices into the curriculum. The minister also dis-

cussed the intersection of growth. He pointed out that efficiency and effectiveness of green technologies, while green practices can drive the

equality, providing scholar- digital solutions.



QUETTA: A delegation of PML-N Parliamentarians from Balochistan calls on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

IHC dismisses appeal plea against cancellation of permission PTI gathering

ISLAMABAD (Online): Islamabad High Court gave these remarks during (IHC) has dismissed conthe course of hearing of contempt of court plea against tempt of court plea Monday. Justice Babar Sattar the cancellation of permission for PTI public meetremarked if commissioner ing. Justice Babar Sattar re-Islamabad has suspended marked we have to make the order, you will have to challenge this order. decisions as per law. Deputy Commissioner

Shoaib Shaheen said " (DC) issued an order. Chief award punishment to them. Commissioner (CC) can-Their connivance should celled it. You should file come to public the petition against the or-der of CC.

Justice Babar Sattar remarked You will challenge suspended it.

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E/Cost

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

IRRIGATION DIVISION

DERA BUGTI.

Justice Babar Sattar the order then the technicality of order will be determined. I cannot initiate proceedings of contempt of court on this petition.

Page

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

He further said tell me on what order should I initiate contempt of court proceedings . Do it what you can do in the capacity of lawyer. In the previous meeting DC Islamabad allowed to hold public meeting. Chief Commissioner

Federal

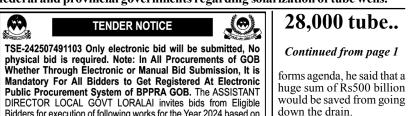
cabinet

meeting

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federal and provincial governments regarding solarization of tube wells.



Burhan Wani remembered on his 8th Martyrdom anniversary at both sides of LoC

Jammu & Kashmir dian occupation.

TENDER NOTICE-CORRIGENDUM

The notice inviting tender called by this office, which published in

daily news papers Quetta vide PRQ No.126/05.07.2024, the

MIRPUR (AJK): (APP): people living at both The public rallies across Azad Jammu and Kash-trol (LoC) and rest of the mir (AJK) besides in world, paid tributes to various parts of Indian the young martyred hero Illegally Occupied of the Kashmir freedom Jammu and Kashmir struggle and his compan-(IIOJK) on Monday were ions on his 8th martyrdom held to reiterate resolve anniversary with the reto continue the noble newal of the pledge to mission of shaheed e continue the mission of Burhan the young martyred i till the Kashmiri till its accom-Hurrivat, Muzaffar Wani till the liberation of the occupied valley from the Indian occupation.

today ISLAMABAD (Online): Meeting of federal cabinet has been called today (Tuesday) in Prime Minis-ter (PM) house.

Important national issues will come under discussion in the federal cabinet meeting to be held under the Prime Minister (PM). The summary of ministries will be presented in the cabinet meeting for plishment through the approval. Overall economic liberation of the motherand law and order situation land from the illegal Inof the country will be reviewed in the meeting.

Balochistan..

Continued from page 1

this, reforms are being brought for improvement in different provincial government departments, he added

The Chief Minister said that it is important to set right direction more than time. We have to impleent the things att

Bidders for execution of following works for the Year 2024 based on Composite schedule rates 2018 on Percentage Rates

Tender Fee Rs.1500/- and Bid Security 3% S.No Name of Work/s E/Cost

CONST: OF B T ROAD TUFTILLES, SEWERAGE 50,000,000 LINE ETC AT LORALAI CITY PSDP No. 3768

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 Authorit Registration is required. The bidder must have completed Assignment of similar nature of work. Turn over of at least 35,000,000 PKR Amount in2 subsequent previous years showing financial capacity of the firm Registration with Pakistan Engineering council (PEC) C-5 and above (Upto 65 million)In Relevant Category And Specialized Code is CE10(i) (General Civil Engineering Works) , CE01-(i) (Road and Pavements Drainage & Retaining Structure), green challan rs. 1500. 2 completed work of similar nature 50% of the estimated cost along with completion certificate in last 05 years attested from issuing authority 1 similar nature work 50% of the estimated cost on-going attested from issuing authority 3%of CDR Estimated Cost Procedure Of Procurement:Single Stage Two Envelope Bidding Procedure Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Bank Gurantee, Deposit at Call of 3 % specified above in the name of the under-signed from a scheduled bank. Tender Documents: The NIT & Bidding Documen can be obtained electronically from www.bppra.gob.pk Issuance of tender Documents: Complete Bidding Document can be viewed at www.bppra.gob.pk Last Date of bid submission: Bid can only be submitted electronically latest by 25 July, 2024 till 12:00 PM through supplier dashboard. Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day at 01:00 PM on EPPS System Address: Office of the Assistant Director Local Government Pathan Kot Road Loralai

Phone no: 0824410886Fax no: Email: mkaleemsadlgrd@gmail.com

SISTANT DIRECTO LOCAL GOVT LORALAI PRQ No.161/08-07-2024 🐓 www.dpr.gob.pk. 😼 @dpr_gob 👩 dpr.gob 👖 @dgpr.baloch

60 TENDER NOTICE 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 (Roads) CWPP&H Dept Chaman invites bids from Eligible Bidders for execution of following works for the Year 2024 based on Composite schedule rates 2018 on Percentage Rates

Do	ercentage Rates			dents of Dufoemstan was
Fe		ach work		also allocated in the train-
Tender Fee Rs.1000/- and Bid Security 2% for each work.				ing programme to be im-
S.	No Name of Work/s	E/Cost		parted by Huawei to
1	CONSTRUCTION OF 2 № BOX CULVERTS	19,048,493		300,000 students in IT sec-
	KILLI HAJI HABIB KHAN & KILLI HAJI MASOOM			tor, he added.
	KHAN CHAMAN TSE-242507491413			He further informed
2	CONSTRUCTION OF BLACK TOP ROAD 3 KM	28,575,698		that the federal government
	KILLI GULARDOZAI DISTRICT CHAMAN			had already set aside funds
	TSE-242507491323			in the fiscal budget for Dan-
3	CONSTRUCTION OF BLACK TOP ROAD AND	35,242,067		ish schools in the province,
	DRAINS AT BY PASS CHAMAN			adding that they were keen
	TSE-242507491263			to broaden Danish schools
Pr	ocurements shall be made under the Baloch		to the divisional level so	
Procurement Rules – 2014. Eligibility of Bidders: Presence in				that students in the entire
	tive Tax Payer List The bidding firm must not be blad		province could be benefit-	
	ocuring agency of Pakistan Balochistan Rever		ted from the education fa-	
	egistration is required The bidder must have		cility.	
As	signment of similar nature of work Other requireme		The prime minister	
in	the bidding document. Procedure Of Procurement		said that when the young	
	vo Envelope Bidding Procedure Bid Security: T		people of Balochistan were	
	company Bid Security in the form of Bank Gurant		equipped with the latest	
	all of 2 % specified above in the name of the under-		education, the country and	
	heduled bank. Tender Documents: The bidding d		province would move on	
be	obtained from the office of the under-signed 1,000 F		path of progress.	
	tender Documents: From the date of publication		The prime minister	
	lly, 2024during office hours on working days Las		also appreciated ideas and	
	bmission: The Tenders must be submitted lates		efforts of the chief minister	
	24till 12:00 PM. Tender opening: All tenders will		and said the today's sign-	
	me day at the office of the under-signed at 01:00 PM		ing of agreement was part	

Address: Office of Executive Engineer Roads, Chaman Phone no: 3008380022 Email: arazigengineer@gmail.com

the federal and provincial governments for the xecutive Engineer (Roads CWPP&H Dept, Chaman progress and prosperity of PRQ No.163/08-07-2024 the country. 🐓 www.dpr.gob.pk. 🔽 @dpr_gob 💿 dpr.gob 🕤 @dgpr.balochista

🗳 www.dpr.gob.pk. 🕞 @dpr_gob 👩 dpr.gob 🗗 @dgpr.balochista The prime minister said that the federal govern-(0)NOTICE INVITING TENDER ment would be absolve of paying Rs80-90 billion bur-

scheme at S.#3 which may be read as under:

3. Food Protection of Agriculture Land of Haji

Sui Dera Bugti. TSE - 242507487703.

Others terms and conditions will remain same

Raheem Bakhsh and others Thuni Matt area

NAME OF WORK.

The Chief Officer District Council Duki invites bids from Eligible bidders for execution of following works for the year 2024, based or a composite schedule of rates, 2023 G.O.B on percentage rates Tender Fee Rs.1000/-, Bid Security 2% for each work.

S# Description of work

AB No.23/08-07-2024

PRQ No.168/08-07-2024

S.#

den which was provided as

subsidy to the province due

to non-payment of bills and

still the farmers community

was getting 2 to 6 hours

process, the issue would be

resolved forever, he ex-

that throughout the world,

the utilization of solar ca-

pacity was tapped for gen-

eration of environment

friendly power which was

considered as the inexpen-

ernment was taking steps

on priority basis for the

provision of solar power

and assured that the federal

government would work

closely with the provincial

government for the uplift of

said that they had reserved

10 percent of additional

quota for the students of

province in a batch of 1,000

graduate students being

sent to China on govern-

ment scholarships to seek

the latest training in the ag-

ditional quota for the stu-

dents of Balochistan was

collective efforts made by

While 10 percent ad-

riculture sector.

The prime minister

the province.

He said that the gov-

sive source of power.

With the solarization

The prime mister said

power supply.

pressed the hope.

Provision and Fixing of Plastic Water Tanks 300 7,400,000 Gallon for UC Nasar Abad-I, II, III, Jungal-I, II & Viala Duki. TSE-242507491943

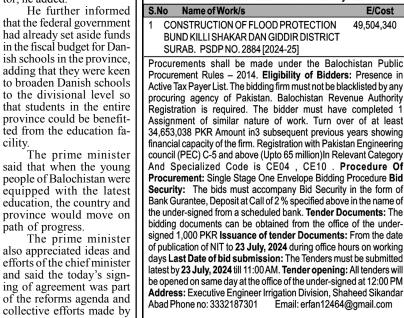
The procurement shall be carried out in accordance with B-PPRA Rules, 2014. ELIGIBILITY: a) Presence in Active Tax paver list.b) The bidders Firm must not be blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan. c) Registration with tax authority i.e. (NTN, BRA) is required. d) The bidder must have completed 2 assignments of similar nature of work. e) Turnover of at least 5.180.000/- PKR Amount in 3 subsequent previous year showing financial capacity of firm. METHOD OF PROCUREMENT: Single stage - One envelope bidding procedure. BID SECURITY: The bids must accompany Bid Security 2% in the form of Deposit at call, Bank Guarantee in the name of undersigned from scheduled bank. TENDER DOCUMENTS ISSUANCE: The bidding document will be issued from the date of publication till 23-07-2024 upto 11:00 AM from the office of the undersigned on production of green challan from amounting to Rs. 1000/- deposited in Account #04170957074 NBP (as tender fee/Bidding documents charges). Or can download from the B-PPRA website through above TSE No.SUBMISSION: Last Date of submission of documents is 23-07-2024 up to 11:00 AM. OPINING: The Tender will be opened on same date 23-07-2024 at 12:00 PM before Procurement Committee in the presence o Contractors or their authorized representative/agents. PLACE OF ISSUANCE, SUBMISSION, INQUIRIES AND OPENING WILL BE: Office of the District Council Duki. Phone No. 0332-8789824 Fax No. 4631987 Email: rafiphilocalist@gmail.com

CHIEF OFFICER DISTRICT COUNCIL, DUKI

TENDER NOTICE TSE-242507491163 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 Enginee Irrigation Division, Shaheed Sikandar Abad invites bids from Eligible Bidders for execution of following works for the Year 2024 based on Composite schedule rates 2018 on Percentage Rates

🗲 www.dpr.gob.pk. 😼 @dpr_gob 👩 dpr.gob 📑 @dgpr.balochista

Tender Fee Rs.1000/- and Bid Security 2%



🐇 www.dpr.gob.pk. 🖌 @dpr_gob 👩 dpr.gob 👖 @dgpr.balochist

PRQ No.157/08-07-2024

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

IRRIGATION DIVISION, SURAB

ing right direction.

He also stressed that we have to prepare such strategy that may benefit the coming generations.

He said that we have to take decisions on merit setting aside the personal interests and expediencies.

He said that we have never refused to provide resources to the public sector universities, but it is necessary to establish effective system of check and balance.

He said that the matters are disappointing, if take review of the quality as compared to the resources provided to them.

Kenyan court..

Continued from page 1

tutional. She faulted the Attorney General, the DPP and other investigating agencies for their laxity in concluding the probe and charging police officers behind Arshad's death.

Kenya's Kajiado High Court has awarded Rs21.7 million to the family of slain Pakistani Journalist Arshad Sharif who was shot dead by Kenyan police officers in October 2022

High Court orders the government to award Ksh 0 million to the family of Pakistani journalist Arshad Sharif, who was mistakenly shot dead by police officers in Kajiado in October 2022, ruling his killing unconstitutional.

While delivering her judgement, Justice Stella Mutuku said the use of lethal force against Sharif by shooting him in the head was unlawful and unconstitutional. A two-member fact-finding team set up by the Pakistani government to probe the killing said it found several contradictions in the version given by Kenyan authorities, and believed it was a case of preplanned murder.

The team travelled to Kenya and conducted a number of interviews, examined and reconstructed the crime scene and examined the deceased's phones and computers.

"Both the members of the (fact-finding team) have a considered understanding that it is a case of planned targeted assassination with transnational characters rather than a case of mistaken identity.

Department. Where applicable Minimum three year works experience Turnover (Bank Statement). The call deposit and Quoted amount should match each other. The firm authorized representative will be allowed having original CNIC and authorization letter/Deed must be provided on Judicial Stamp paper attested by the Notary public Or first Class Magistrate. IEC 61215 & IEC 61730 Certificates. The firm provided Goods Declaration Slip, shipment letter. Joint Venture is not allowed. The contractor/Firm shall Provide a Port clearance certificate. Shipment In contractor/irm shall Provide a Port clearance certificate. Shipment Documents verification. Letter of credit (LC)/IQRA charges/Bill of landing. All documents should be provided in the original to the undersigned. The Contractor/Firm should Download tender Documents by self. 10% Security Deposit Should be submitted by the firm in case of rate offered below 10% of the total cost, in case of failure, Bid may be rejected at any STAGE. of Rupees 100. The tender fee should be deposited in the head of account **C** – **02726-02** –**PHE Tender Fee** through Green challan in National Bank of Pakistan Surab only. For the D/D of Bore, Supply of Solar systems, only the Firms & Authorized dealers are eligible. **Terms & condition** (A)under following condition bid will be rejected. (i)Conditional & telephonic bid / tenders. (ii) bid not accompanied by a bid security of required amount of bid (iii)bid Submitted accompanied by a bid security of required amount of bid (iii)bid Submitted after specified date & time. (iv) blacklisted firms /contractors. (iv) Original Contractor or authority letter mention against each work and original CNIC, Stamp with letter Head. (B)bid validity period 90 days, Firm of Solar must be reputable Dealer/ Distributor, Having three last year work orders with PHE Department, which hold (Eight Hundred Million), Good declaration stip, shipment letter, the company must have (C.4) category. **METHOD OF PROCUREMENT**: Single Stage, One envelope procedure. **BID SECURITY:**2% of total bid Value in the shape of CDR must be submitted in Favor of EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PHE Surab From Scheduled Bank. **BIDDING / TENDER DOCUMENTS ISSUANCE**: The Firm should download NIT and Bidding Document by self The Firm should download NIT and Bidding Document by self From.WWW.BPPRA.ORG.PK SUBMISSION: The last date for submission is 25-07-2024 at 11:00 AM. OPENING: The tender will be opened on 25-07-2024 at 12:00 PM. Place of issuance, submission inquiries, and opening will be: ADDRESS: Office of the Executive Engineer PHE Division Surab. Email: - qayyumXEN50@gmail.com Other terms and conditions are attached to tender documents. NOTE: It may be noted that no paid order will be accepted/entertained and the firm's complete title/name should be written on the call deposit. All the terms & conditions/sites of the work can be seen in-office hours of the undersign .under sign have reserve rights to reject all any bid with any condition. The Tender form/Documents will be download BPPRA web

cutive Engi PRQ No.145/08-07-2024 **PHE Division Surab** www.dpr.gob.pk. 🖌 @dpr_gob 👩 dpr.gob 🛐 @dgpr.balochis Independent Quetta

Minister directs NHA to make organization profitable and resource increasing

Pakistan.

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Communications, Privatization and Board of Investment Abdul Aleem Khan on Monday directed the National Highway Authority (NHA) to make a profitable and resource increasing organization to ensure the selfsufficient in future.

Presiding over a highlevel meeting, the minister said that NHA should bring change in its reputation and become a good name for the nation and the country by working with self-reliance, hard work and honesty, said a press release.

He further said that his first priority in the department is to ensure the construction of a safe and qualitative Motorway from

Sukkur to Karachi, fol- the new and ongoing lowed by the completion of highways from Karachi to Quetta and from Mansehra from multinational compato Babusar Top, as soon as possible.

commercial point of view, the main target of all our private sector. highways' and road network should be the counthat trucks exceeding the tries of Central Asia which

allowed weight should not will be more beneficial for come on any highway of NHA moreover long queues Aleem Khan said that should be eliminated by he is offering new tasks and ensuring "M-Tag" on all departmental plan of action motorways including Lahore-Sialkot sector. under which Government funds will not be wasted in Aleem Khan further said that he himself visit to any way and there will be

zero tolerance on corruption Sindh and Balochistan provinces so that the speed through which maximum benefit could be attained of work on the projects of from minimum expenditure. NHA could be reviewed on He directed that for the spot

nies. He said the authority has to avoid the old work-He said that from the ing system and come forward to compete with the The minister directed

UNHCR's delegation led by UN High Commissioner for Refugees calls on Amir Muqam ISLAMABAD (APP): The UNHCR's high level delegation led by UN High hosting areas in Pakistan. Speaking on the occasion, Federal Minister Engr Amir Muqam said that Pa-Commissioner for Refugees ventions

kistan acknowledge UNHCR's continued sup-Filippo Grandi accompanied by Philippa Candler Representative of UNHCR, Pakistan called on Minisport for Afghan refugees in Pakistan for the past 45 years. He said that Pakistan ter for States and Frontier hosts millions of Afghan Regions & Kashmir Affairs refugees, providing protecand Gilgit Baltistan, Engr tion, education and health Amir Mugam here on Monfacilities. "Currently, there are

The meeting was at-tended by Secretary SAFRON Zafar Hasan, Joint Secretary Refugees Agha Waseem Ahmad and Chiaf Commissionar Af 1.45 million registered Afghan citizens card holders and this does not include a great number of unregistered Afghan refugees and other nationals," he added. The Federal Minister Chief Commissioner Af-ghan Refugees Muhammad Engr Amir Muqam said that Abbas Khan and other se-

nior officials of Ministry of it is a matter of concern that SAFRON and Ministry of there is decline in support Foreign Affairs, a news refor Afghan refugees and de-velopment funds for their

IFA conducts

"We need exclusive, generous and sustainable inter-UNHCR's High Com-

missioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi lauded the people and government of Pakistan for hosting Afghan refugees for over four decades

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Communications, Abdul Aleem Khan presiding over a high level meeting of NHA.

APITAL

He said that UNHCR will organize a global dia-logue likely in October to discuss the issues pertaining to refugees.

He said that Pakistan would be specially invited at this occasion. He expressed the hope that this event will create a new dimension and avenues for the support of refugees across the globe and for the rests

One killed, highlighted Pakistan's **3** injured in unique geostrategic location as a trade and energy hub, accident

ISLAMABAD (APP): three were injured in a hit and run incident near Dawood Chowrangi Landhi Karachi, a private news channel and police reported on Monday.

According to the de-tails, the incident took place when an unknown car hit a motor bike. As result, one person was killed whereas two sustained injuries. The driver of the car escaped from the accident site. The rescue teams reached the spot immediately after the

Tourism

squad playing

active role in

facilitating

tourists

ISLAMABAD (APP):

The Punjab Tourism Squad

(PTS) was playing a pro-active role not only taking

actions against parking mafia but also helping, guid-

ing, facilitating the tourists

influx to the recreational

Talking to APP, the PTS official said that a tour-

ist contacted the Punjab

Tourism Squad and com-

plained about overcharging

by the parking attendants then the squad performing duties at Mall road Murree

responded immediately and

refunded the overcharged

Riasat flays

filing of

references

against judges

ISLAMABAD (INP):

President of the Islamabad

High Court Bar Association

(IHCBA) Riasat Ali Azad on Monday strongly con-

demned the filing of refer-ences against judges. As per details, IHCBA President

Azad emphasised that there

will be no compromise on

an independent judiciary as the country can only progress through the su-

premacy of the constitution

Riasat Ali Azad said any

judge who speaks for an in-

dependent judiciary is es-

sentially advocating for the

constitution and law.

IHCBA President

and law

amount to him.

spots in Murree.

Options for Pakistan NUST think tank holds seminar on "US-China **Strategic Competition**

phasized the need for geo-

political and geoeconomic

innovation to deal with chal-

lenges of the 21st century.

both challenges and oppor-tunities amidst US-China

sists in maximizing oppor-

tunities and minimizing

challenges. President IPRI

its youth bulge as a poten-

tial asset, and its natural

resources worth trillions as

key anchors of a compre-

He said success con-

strategic competition.

(NIPS).

ISLAMABAD (APP): hensive approach to na-Speakers at a seminar on tional development, re-US-China Strategic Comgional connectivity, and petition: Options for Paki-stan" held on Monday emdiplomatic success. In the second key-

Page 03

note, Ambassador Zamir Akram. former Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations, stressed that in the The seminar was arranged by the NUST Insticontemporary geopolitical tute of Policy Studies scenario, Pakistan's options are constrained, The keynote speaker, Ambassador Dr Raza making balanced relations between the US and China Muhammad, President, Islamabad Policy Research unfeasible due to a lack of strategic convergence with Institute (IPRI), empha-sized that Pakistan faces the US

He pointed out that the Indo-US alliance has strengthened Pakistan's strategic partnership with China, leading to the latter's unmatched support in political, defence, economic, and technological spheres, notably through CPEC, worth \$24 billion since 2013.

He advised that China's status as Pakistan's strategic partner, largest trading partner.

Justice Jamal Khan Mandokhail said that ac-

cording to the records

Jinnah House Lahore was

also set on fire during May

9, incidents. It will be seen later that how many days

Quaid-e-Azam stayed in

Jinnah House, he remarked.

The court asked the lawyer that Quaid-i-e-

Azam's residence was set

on fire in Ziarat, where was

the Shuhada Foundation on

that incident and how many

ever, also accepted the re-

quest of foundation to be-

come party in the case. The

The top court, how-

applications did it file?



ISLAMABAD: A view of water level in Rawal Lake has decreased due to below-normal rainfall in the Federal Capital.

out-of-school children can Vice Chancellor, AIOU Professor Dr. Nasir Mahmood Monday said benefit from this university facility and illuminate their lives through education. Additionally, the uni-

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar

chairs a meeting regarding Railways Development Projects, in Islamabad

AIOU to provide free

education facilities to students

of Balochistan, GB, FATA

versity provides fee concessions for those students who are unable to continue their education due to financial constraints, said a news release.

For availing of this facility, individuals can conute to the efforts of the tact the nearest regional ofpresent government tofice of the university. AIOU also offers free

education to prisoners and AIOU is setting an transgender individuals so exemplary role by playing that they can be empowits role in the national ini- ered to become productive and positive members of society.

IESCO introduces **Pro-rata billing** system for conveniences of consumers

lease said

violators.

SLAMABAD (APP) slamabad Electric Supply Company (IESCO) has introduced 'Pro-rata' billing

system aimed at charging customers with 100 per cent accurate meter readings for the convenience of customers. Pro-rate system

would help billing the consumers based on 30-31 days, told IESCO spokesperson in a statement issued here.

readings and days of the

He said Pro-rata bill-

He said IESCO kept check to ensure 100% accurate meter reading through Pro-rate system and added Pro-rata billing vas used to match meter

month.

1278 raids; imposes **Rs 1.7m fines in June** ISLAMABAD (APP): The Islamabad Food Authority (IFA) conducted

items, including expired food, meat, dairy, drinks, leftover/stale foods, and 1,278 raids and inspections MSGs, were discarded durin the Federal Capital during various raids.

ing June, imposing fines totaling Rs 1,724,000 on Deputy Director Operations (DDO) of IFA, Dr. Tahira Saddique, revealed in the monthly performance report that these inspecviolators

tions targeted businesses selling harmful or low-quality food products. Over 54,014 liters/kgs of hazardous oils and other unsafe the IFA

Karachi traffic One person was killed and

Additionally, 588 improvement notices were issued, and 38 food points were sealed for violations. The authority also gave 504 verbal instructions and imposed heavy fines on 107

ing slogans during protest against Indian army on the eve of death anniver-

ET has warned mem-

ET has remarked hear-

The ET adjourned the

Tariq

bership of those members who have not filed reply

ing of all constituencies will

be conducted separately

hearing of case against al-leged rigging in NA-48 till July 9, NA-47 till July 10

and NA-46 till July 11.

didates Monday.

The counsel said ad-

Justice

and on day to day basis.

can be suspended.

sary of Burhan Muzaffar Wani, in the Federal Capital.

ET imposes fine

on PML-N MNAs

for not filing reply

Furthermore, one FIR was lodged for not observing the standard operating procedures (SOPs) set by incident was reported.

school children through providing free education up vides education to prisonto matriculation level for children

tiative of enrolling out-of-

ISLAMABAD (APP):

that the university is ex-

tending free education fa-

cilities for the students of

Gilgit-Baltistan,

Balochistan Province, and

the merged tribal districts

this initiative is to contrib-

wards the enrolment of out-

The objective behind

(formerly FATA).

of-school children.

The university's au-tumn semester for 2024 is commencing from July 15.

The Vice-Chancellor has directed the heads of the relevant regional offices to ensure that this message ful, and positive citizens reaches every household in of society after completthese three regions so that ing their sentences.

ers within jail premises. ing would directly benefit The aim of providing the customers. The number free education to prisonof protected consumers iners is to transform the creased in winter due to less lives of criminals in such a electricity consumption way that they can start a but its numbers decreased new life as civilized, usein summer owing to high

The university pro-

consumption, he added. He said due to Eid-ul-Adha holidays, the billing of one batch of June 24 was definitely affected but its billing was not done over 30 days to avoid inconvenience for the consumers.

office at universities of the four-day event was chaired by Prof. Dr. Bushra ISLAMABAD (APP):

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Pakistani higher education institutions are taking significant strides to transform student support services across universities in Pakistan.

This initiative aimed to equip students with the essential skills needed to thrive in today's competitive global environment, said a news release issued here on Monday.

The 3rd annual summit, organized through USAID's Higher Education System Strengthening Ac-tivity (HESSA), brought together over 100 officials and faculty from 16 partner universities across Pakistan.

This four-day event highlights the robust partnership between the United States and Pakistan, underscoring their joint commitment to enhancing access to quality higher education for all Pakistanis

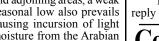
The opening session

Mirza, Member (R&D) Higher Education Commission of Pakistan alongside Maura O'Brien, USAID Deputy Mission Director. Dr. Mirza empha-

while all other main rivers sized the need for universities to foster student belonging. "It is important

for higher education insti-FFC report, monsoon trough along the foothills of tutions to foster a sense of belonging, and empower students to navi Himalyas (India) has temgate and shape their fuporarily become insignificant for Pakistan whereas a tures. As we gather at this strong trough of the westsummit, let's reaffirm our erly wave that was previcommitment to creating inclusive and supportive ously prevailing over the environments where evnorthern parts of Pakistan ery student can thrive,' has now moved eastwards A new trough lies over

Ms. O'Brien high northwestern Afghanistan lighted the importance of Additionally, over northeastern Balochistan soft skills in her remarks. stating, "By prioritizing and adjoining areas, a weak soft skills building, universeasonal low also prevails sities can better prepare stucausing incursion of light dents to meet the demands moisture from the Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal to the upper parts of Paki-stan, up to 3000. feet. of the modern workforce and enhance their career



runs in low flood: FFC

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Federal Flood Com-mission (FFC) on Monday said that River Kabul was flowing in low flood at Warsak-Nowshera reach

ISLAMABAD (Online): Election Tribunal (ET) has of Indus River System sought affidavits again from (IRS) were flowing normal According to daily successful candidates of PML-N in the case against

alleged rigging in 3 constituencies of Islamabad. ET imposed fine amounting to Rs 20000 each on Raja Khurram Nawaz and Tariq Fazal Chaudhry for not filing forms 45 and 47 and com-

plete reply timely The ET also slapped Mehmood Jahangiri heard fine amounting to Rs 20000 the petitions filed by PTI on Dr Tariq Fazal Chaudhry car for not filing reply.

The ET ordered to file journment cannot be given reply within three days. more than three days.

Court rejects PTI founder plea for making contact with his sons on whatsapp

(ATC) Rawalpindi has re-jected petition of PTI founder Imran Khan nominated in May 9 cases for making contact with his

sons on whats app. The court has rejected the plea in the light of report from jail administra-

tion. The court had sought reply from the jail administration on petition of former chairman PTI. The jail administration took the plea in its re-

ply as per jail manual no law is in place in respect of meeting of any accused with

RAWALPINDI (Online): his relatives on whats app. Judge Malik Ijaz Asif of On the other hand as per Anti Terrorism Court court's orders the meeting of the accused with his sons is arranged twice in a month.

The court rejected the plea for talks with his sons by the accused on whats app once in a week.

Former chairman PTI had taken plea in his petition the petitioner is former Prime Minister (PM) who has rendered enormous services in sports, health, poli-

tics and development of the country. The jail administration is hindrance in the meeting between the petitioner and his sons.

SC accepts LHCBA's plea to become party

SLAMABAD (APP): of Shuhada Foundation, The Supreme Court of Pakistan on Monday accepted the request of Lahore High Court Bar As-sociation (LHCBA) to become a party in an appeal against termination of civilians' trials in army courts.

A seven-member larger bench of the top court headed by Justice Amin ud Din Khan and comprising Justice Jamal Khan Mandokhail, Justice Muhammad Ali Mazhar. ISLAMABAD: Members of All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC) shout-Justice Hassan Azhar Rizvi, Justice Shahid Waheed, Justice Irfaan Saadat Khan and Justice Shahid Bilal heard the ap-

peals of federation. At the outset of hear-

PTI's counsel during hearing withdrew the applicaing, the court sought argu-ments from LHCBA's law-yer Hamid Khan on next tion for live streaming of the hearing. The further hearing of

the case was then adjourned till July 11. date of hearing. Addressing the lawyer



ISLAMABAD: Workers of Capital Development Authority (CDA) buy in planting plants of Sunflowers on a green belt alongside Islamabad Expressway in the Federal Capital.

Iranian envoy pays tribute Abdul Sattar Edhi on his 8th death anniversary

nian Ambassador Amiri Moghadam on Monday paid tribute to Abdul Sattar Edhi on his 8th death anniversary. "Today marks the anniversary of the passing of Abdul Sattar Edhi, a man whose legacy continues to inspire millions," he shared a heartfelt message, honoring the life and contributions of this extraordinary humanitarian. Ambassador Amiri said Edhi was a dedicated man and a treasure for Pakistani society adding that he was a humanitarian, philanthropist and ascetic who founded the Edhi

He said his work had

Foundation.

ISLAMABAD (APP): Ira- created the world's largest ambulance network, as well as numerous homeless shelters, animal shelters, rehabilitation centers, and orphanages across Pakistan.

Ambassador Amiri said Edhi's tireless efforts and unwavering commitment to helping those in need had left an indelible mark on Pakistan and the world as his legacy of compassion and service continues to be a beacon of hope and inspiration.

On this solemn day, Ambassador Amiri extended the deepest gratitude for Edhi's selfless service to humanity and prayed, "May God bless his soul."

ISLAMABAD: Members of Sunni Ulema Council are holding a rally in connection of first Muharram-ul-Haram the day of Martyrdom of 2nd Muslim Caliph Hazrat Umar Farooq (R.A) passes through a road.

USAID, Pakistani institutions to enhance student support

she added.

prospects.

River Kabul

OPINION

Daily **Independent** Quetta

Daily A oice of Masse Independent

Page 04

Tuesday July 09, 2024

Taxing targets

After setting a massive revenue target for the Federal Board of Revenue for the next fiscal year, the government seems to be building pressure on the tax authority to perform. It is just as well that this may lead to a tightening of the net around those who have so far managed to evade the the opposition's parliataxman.

A day after another massive shakeup in the FBR, which reportedly saw the transfer of dozens of officers of the Inland Revenue Service and Customs Groups, and with more transfers and postings of senior officers expected over the weekend, the tax authority was told to immediately go after the around 4.5m citizens it had identified, which it thinks are liable to pay taxes but do not. The The recently passed prime minister is also reportedly overseeing an accelerated action plan to digitise one is the external con-straint of getting an IMF and reform the FBR, along deal. It is clear that sewith a review of its existing and required resources. These are all positive signs. Reportedly, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif is serious about cracking down on corruption communicated by the lender. within the FBR, introducing a merit-based culture, and reforming the institution. Worryingly, however, he has aware of their nearly involved two intelligence agencies, according to a report in local media, to 'assist' him in the task of identifying and penalising FBR officials.

he Shehbaz Sharif governbitter government-opposiment faces multiple chaltion clashes in the National lenges - from the opposition, its political allies and from growing public discontent with a dire economic situation as people struggle with a cost-of-living crisis and the punishing burden of taxes. It also confronts a surge in security threats. How has the government managed so far to deal with these multiple fronts? Does it have a firm grip on the political, economic and security situation?

Maleeha Lodhi

Dealing with PTI was never going to be easy. But it was a test of the government's political management skills to engage mentary members in a way that minimised frequent disruptions of proceedings.

However, with the party continuing to be the target of coercive actions by the authorities and their leader and activists in jail, PTI lawmakers have been in no mood to cease their protests in parliament and outside.

Despite a fleeting pause when the prime minister offered talks to the opposition — a move that was dead on arrival in the

Assembly. It has involved rejection by PTI lawmakers of the budget — as "anti-people" — as well as the government's other policy measures including its latest counterterrorism plan. Government ministers have also been lashing out at PTI in and out of the House. But neither has secured the upper hand in this confrontation. Instead, both have reached a virtual

dead end in trying to prevail on the other. A tense and disorderly stalemate persists. A 'normalised' relationship between the federal government and the PTI-run provincial government in Pakhtunkhwa is especially consequential for national stability. Issues concerning allocation of financial resources from the centre, adequate power supply and postings of officials remain a bone of contention between them. They need to be resolved for a proper working relationship to be

current fraught climate tion of the federal there have been unending, government's counterterrorism campaign as its main theatre of operations is obviously in KP.

> Governments always have more to lose from confrontational politics. Certainly, it has distracted the PML-N-led coalition from greater focus on gover-nance. It has laid bare a style of leadership evidenced by the prime minister's dealings with al-lies, in which political engagement or negotiations are left to others. This reinforces his long-standing image as someone more comfortable being an administrator rather than a politi-

cal leader; more at ease with bureaucrats than with politicians who he has to negotiate with. His not-so-frequent appearances in par-Khyber liament also testify to this, which discourages ministers from showing up. This once prompted the elder Sharif, president of PML-N, to say the Shehbaz government should free itself from "bureaucratic influence". Lack of consultation

has emerged as a major grievance with the governestablished. Smooth workment by its principal po-litical ally, the PPP. Aling relations are also necesthough this complaint sur- changes to the finance bill, sary for the robust execu-

time, PPP leaders say it extends to the government's overall functioning and lack of structured and sustained consultation. It prompted PPP legislators to sharply criticise the budget and call it "directionless". Initially, the PPP threatened to boycott the budget session. Its lawmakers only agreed to participate after assurances by senior government lead-

faced publicly at budget

Governance test

ers. Even so, PPP MNAs did not pull any punches in assailing budget proposals. The Senate Standing Committee on Finance, chaired by a PPP senator,

went so far as to call the budget against the national interest and in its report to the House called for withdrawal of several proposed measures. In his speech, PPP chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari also took aim at budget proposals. Significantly he claimed the government had not fulfilled its commitment under the PML-N-PPP agreement, forged at the time of government formation, to consult his party on the budget and related decisions. Despite its misgivings,

the PPP voted for the budreward the elite and punish get. But not before some everyone else.

although this was also in ness Council had this to response to demands by the say: "Sacred cows will graze freely while the golden geese will be cooked." Cerbusiness community. In any case, the whole epitainly, placing the burden of sode underlined fitful manadditional taxation on the agement by the government of its relations with an ally salaried middle class without whose support it marked a failure to equitacannot survive in office. Of bly distribute the pain of course, some of the PPP's adjustment, especially in view of the budget's procomplaints reflect political posturing to bargain for elite measures including salmore from the government. ary increases for civil sersuch as its power-sharing vants. This deepened pubdemands in the Punjab govlic discontent at a time of ernment. Nevertheless, it mounting economic hardship, especially as increassuggests this would remain an uneasy and unpredicting disruptions in power able relationship, especially supply worsened people's as the government has preplight at the peak of sumferred an ad hoc approach mer. to managing it rather than an institutionalised one. The budget was the

The government's lack of a communication strategy to explain budget first major test for the measures and how they would extricate the country Shehbaz government. It evoked criticism across the from the economic crisis board, from political parcontributed to public frustration. In fact, the ties, business community, media and the public at government's weak commularge. Having to meet IMF nication on other counts too conditionalities to qualify has denuded it of the ability to demonstrate it is runfor a new larger Fund loan programme provided the ning the affairs of state purgovernment no choice but posively. Its response to to take painful adjustment the deteriorating security measures. But the budget situation came on the heels was an example of how to of the public expression of concern by a senior Chinese official visiting Pakistan. -

The Pakistan Busi-Courtesy Dawn

Death and taxes

Umair Javed

budget reveals three aspects about the present ruling regime. The first curing a new agreement, by any means necessary, is the primary motivation of decision-makers. The entire budget exercise seems to be working backwards from whatever targets have been

The second aspect is hard domestic constraint. The ruling parties at the centre, especially PML-N, are fully non-existent electoral legitimacy. Their uncertain position in power is thus civil bureaucracy and the military establishment. The third and final

Time will tell how success- N has made a decision appease the external

budget after the first two constraints is to reward the few narrow segments that may still be supporting them in some way. This primarily includes businesses working in the wholesale retail and other undocumented sectors

It is worth exploring these three aspects turn by turn. While some of the economic mess is self-inflicted by the present regime, a large part of it is down to structural deficiencies in Pakistan's economy. A lack of productivity and the consequent inability to earn enough dollars means every government has a forex borrowing requirement, one which makes the IMF more or less indispensable in the far more reliant on the current framework. Any government in this situation, at least one unwilling to take any radical aspect is that the PML- steps, would have had to

outcome of these revenue-related demands.

ings reflect domestic retional wealth, even when alities. An increase in it comes at the cost of pensions and government greater immiseration for officer salaries shows the the rest

This insatiable apentrenched control of the civil and military bureaupetite is being catered to cracy on financial deciby a hybrid regime that sion-making. It is clear is sustained by the (cothat the 'overdeveloped ercive) actions of state Hamza Alavi nearly 50 years and in the second secon state', theorised officials, rather than by the votes of citizens. years ago, is still a valid Even if the regime politicians wanted to resist. way to describe the country. The 'permaand it is far from clear nent' state bequeathed that they want to, they by colonial rule is first barely have any legs to and foremost interested stand on. Finally, after the in feeding itself rather than catering to any

group in society. The same reality is

IMF's conditions and the state officials' own selfserving appetite, there is

fortunate status as fully who hide turnovers and documented taxpayers serves as a convenient way to squeeze out more revenue, whenever re- and a recent piece by quired. This budget has economist Ammar Khan taken full advantage of this, and will further contribute to downward mobility and decreasing living standards that have been the norm for the past few years. It is no wonder that every other conversation within this demographic is about foreign migration.

On the other hand. there are those who continue to operate in the informal sector, such as large swathes of the wholesale and retail sector and others engaged in real estate. Initial claims that the noose is being tightened around these groups as well turn out to be fairly hollow. All that was done is a further segmentation between filer, non-filer visible in the exemption very little space left in categories. Most busi- to stay the same, with a offered in advance taxes the budget for anyone nesses can get away with regime held in place by on the sale of immovable else's concerns. The first this by filing nil/null sales

earn large returns. As former finance minister Miftah Ismail attempted argued, it would have been relatively efficient to implement a fixed income tax regime through commercial electricity connections. That could have then been used as the first step towards greater documentation. Instead, the ruling party has made an explicit choice to protect its core support base, while subjecting every other group to greater taxation

The budget has since passed and is now in force. An IMF deal will likely go through, which means more 'stabilisation in the coming years, with anaemic growth. Barring some great challenge from the judiciary, the political landscape is expected force of the state rather property by civil and to be sacrificed is the and income tax returns, or than through popular

little space is left in the moving electricity price cials who are doing their jobs for a range of prodistortions and various forms of tax exemptions. social and service-oriented objectives. But it This budget is mostly an

is hard to ignore the fact that the vast majority If that external connow see the state as a straint informs the overmeans of securing upall thrust of the budget, ward mobility, greater some of its internal worksocial status, and genera-

ful this strategy will prove. that there is no need or urgency in the current The FBR has generally proven moment to seek greater in turn, makes a set of as in the numerous reguto be a difficult nut to crack support among different groups in society, such for most past governments, as salaried individuals. Therefore, its primary with efforts to reform it invariably encountering resistance as soon as certain thresholds begin to be crossed. That said, it is clear to all and sundry that Pakistan's economic vi- Conference, I briefly chatability depends on the Board's ability to extract revenue in ist fighting corruption and attacking it until it burned line with government policies convener of a network of librarians. My first inand that the room for failure stinct was to dismiss his is no longer there. With the ongoing economic crisis, the But shortly after our enneed for a diligent tax authority has become an existential the bedrock of anti-cornecessity for Islamabad.

The FBR's operational hats? competencies aside, the fiscal policies, as outlined in the derpinning of libraries. Due to their growing rarbudget, have set it up for another huge challenge. It can expect to be reminded very times treated like artefacts soon that taxation is just as much a political issue as it is a fiscal concern. The FBR may begin executing the tax directives more diligently challenged. than before, but how will the government react when the their educative role – various 'protected' classes once again begin agitating dents can use reference their ability to convene against its tax drives?

Not only that, the salaried classes, usually a lot easier to control, also seem to be in text, libraries are places a black mood. Discussions information that helps on various social forums the make informed decithese days are increasingly for, and that empowers turning to questions about them to hold those elected representatives to acwhy they should pay so much count. This conception vate nature, this latter in taxes and if it isn't more sensible to be operating off the government in the the books. This is a dangerous sign for a government at its best, the concept battling a crisis of legitimacy. How delicately and firmly it handles discontent will make or break its tax plans. ^{minded} of their power in November 2023 when the are dwindling and in-creasingly threatened.

impulse for whatever cific when it comes to re-

The external lender, military officers, as well demands in terms of raislations showing government officers sanctioning ing domestic revenue. In recent programmes, the perks and privileges for demands have been spethemselves. I am sure there are a few state offi-

A trusted space

Huma Yusuf

At a recent anti-corruption ted with a Bolivian gentleman who is both an activinvolvement with libraries as an interesting hobby. counter, it clicked: public access to information is ruption, so why wouldn't the activist wear both

I am not alone in for- about Ukraine's history getting the democratic un- and society was unavaility, we tend to consider grabs. them ends unto them-selves. They are somerather than civic spaces, the books inside reframed as relics from a literate past that must be preserved rather than sources of information that should be consumed, considered

Often, our public discourse curtails libraries to quiet places, typically on campuses, where stubooks or work without interruption. This is a critical function, but it misses

the wood for the trees. In a democratic conwhere citizens can access public access, funded by spirit of making the demo-

The world was re-

Russians shelled the Kherson Regional Scientific Library in Ukraine. The library caught fire after the first rocket hit, and the Russians continued owned library boasted collections in 45 languages, many of which focused on the history and ethnography of southern Ukraine, including Russia's 2014 annexation of Crimea. The library's destruction was a political act, a strategic win in Russia's occupation effort; if information able, it was — literally and figuratively — up for It is no wonder then

that preserving and developing libraries is low on the priority list of the Pakistani state, which is mation. more interested in suppressing inclusive politics and disempowering citizens. What hope can libraries have in a context where even social media musings are considered subversive and censored under any pretence? The information that public libraries offer, coupled with communities in real life, is a democratic force not to be taken lightly. And so we have in-

stead the proliferation of private libraries — those in the homes of the educated elite, in private clubs, private schools and sions about who to vote universities, and those under the control of vested community groups.

Despite their priassumes that libraries are category continues to play a key democratic role, engaging local communities, providing accratic system work. And cess to otherwise obscured information, rials. But these spaces

civil

joy of reading. ? genders empathy, which is the starting point for all engagement, understanding and notions of fairness. And those quali-

functioning democracies. -- Courtesy Dawn

This was evident in this paper's coverage of the Sayad Hashmi Reference Library, which is threatened by demolition as it falls on a proposed route for the Malir Expressway. Created and maintained through a communal effort, the library houses 16,000 books with a focus on Baloch literature and culture. Even as demolition day creeps closer, the authorities have yet to offer an alternative location for it. In a clear illustration of the political nature

of libraries, its sponsors and supporters believe that this is due to its links to the Baloch community, with the razing of the library perceived as part of a broader effort to suppress that community's voice and access to infor-The idea of the li-

brary as a political battleground is not new in Pakistan. Some may recall the Western press's gushing coverage of a small library that popped up in Dara Adam Khel at the mat height of the TTP insurgency. A local graduate decided he did not want to join his father's gun shop and set up a small community library next door in the hope that reading would provide both understanding of and sanctuary from the region's collective trauma. Such examples

should not be one-offs. Given the mounting democratic challenges in our country, it is time for society reprioritise the role of the library. And this may best entities be done by going back to basics and celebrating the

economy is complex. There are many overt and Reading, after all, encovert interest groups, who have their fingerprints all over the decisions pertaining to Karachi's development and management. ties are the real fuel of

Local and internahousing need in the city tional investors and develthat remains unmet due to Dawn

white-collar salaried class in the formal sector. Recent estimates place the total number of this group, to which I too belong, at around two mil- couple of hundred thou- nomic death and taxes for lion individuals. Our un- sand are the larger ones, the salaried class.

by turning to even more support. It is then likely cash-based transactions. that the next few budgets The number of wholesale- will look the same as this retail businesses is around one. No respite for the 2.5m. Among these, a weary, with both eco-

Poor livability

Dr Noman Ahmed

In a recent assessment of urban livability, the observes endless land Economist Intelligence supply for investment, Unit rated Karachi as one albeit at the cost of farmof the world's least livable cities. The metropolis indigenous settlements. fared poorly in terms of The eviction of people in stability, healthcare, education, culture, the environment and infrastructure. Karachi now compares with Lagos, Tripoli, Algiers and Damascus. This is hardly sur-

prising for Karachi residents, who are regularly subjected to power shutdowns, the absence of piped water, shortage of public transport, gas loadshedding, broken roads, street crime, toxic air quality, criminal tree-cutting, and other challenges. Despite these odds, the city remains the major contributor to national GDP and revenues from direct and indirect taxation.

Karachi has long been aspiring to a semi-autonomous governance model to address its issues. Barring the City District Government forunder Gen Musharraf, this demand water. has not been realised. As a result of a controversial electoral process, 245 union committees, 25 town municipal corporations, and a metropolitan corporation came into existence about a year ago. All of them are still trying to find a visible role to play in managing Karachi's core affairs. With a limited financial base and executive capacity, people justifiably see these local government organs as mere cosmetic Karachi's political

calities is an ongoing no public scheme for nightmare. Whereas a few investors amass exponential profits, millions see their lives altered for the worse after forced dislocations. The realtors are abetted in their projects by the provincial authorities, the city administration, and high-flying engineers, architects, contractors and service providers. Utility agencies bend the rules to extend their

services to these schemes. The mystery of the sta-tus of the K-4 Bulk Water Supply Scheme for over a decade is an example. To benefit privileged localities, K-4's right of way has been changed. A resident in Bahria Town receives uninterrupted water supply while another in Fedpillar to post to access

To promote costly and state-subsidised the elderly, women and buses on a few routes, the authorities have closed operations on many ordinary bus routes where city transporters offered their services at affordable cials prices. The Bus Rapid Transit is a joke. Constructed at an astronomical cost and inconveniencing residents, the BRT has been Karachi's most financially and operationally the Sindh chief minister unviable transport option and composed of repreever. If and when all seven BRT lines are operational, they will cater to only nine per cent of the total passenger trips. BRT beneficiaries will be IFIs, government officials, consultants and contractors. unless appropriate insti-The losers will be Karachiites.

opers attempt to safe- multiple reasons. For a guard everything that fu- very long time, the city has els their business. One been functioning without a development plan with data on demographic trends at city scale, migralands, fruit orchards, and tions, housing and infrastructure needs, and solutions to urban challenges. planned and unplanned lo- For the past many years, housing the urban poor has been announced. despite the fact that thousands of households are added to the existing tally every month.

Land in the peripheries, earmarked for housing low-income communities, has been given to a dubious mega realtor. As a result, existing low- and middle-income neighbourhoods are densifying fast. Single-storeyed home on 80 or 120 square yards are being swiftly replaced with five- or sixstoreyed structures. Most of these buildings are built without proper design and supervision. They are virtual death traps for the inhabitants. Many such buildings have already eral B Area has to run from collapsed. Poor ventilation and lack of legal electricity connections make life miserable, especially for children. Authorities only wake up in the event of an accident, conduct an inquiry and end up suspending a handful of offi-

To address all these concerns, the city's decision-making and governance mechanism must change. A broad-based steering committee under sentatives from stakeholder groups is needed. The body must be empowered to appraise city affairs and take appropriate decisions. Karachi's livability will not improve tutional arrangements are put in place to address the There is a visible challenges faced by the residents. -- Courtesv

Daily soice of Masse Independent

Tuesday July 09, 2024

CM Maryam chairs apex committee meeting

Quetta

Forum resolved to continue unified efforts for ensuring public safety and well-being in the province.

province.

The

Chief Minister Maryam Action Plan. Nawaz Sharif chaired a meeting of the provincial arrangements for the security of foreign nationals, including the Apex Committee here on Monday.

The meeting was also nationals, including the attended by Commander Chineses employed on Lahore Corps, Chief CPEC and non-CPEC Secretary Punjab, IGPolice projects in the Punjab and other senior government, intelligence and military officers.

The forum took a holistic view of the prevailing security situation in the province of Muharram. and measures being taken to ensure public safety and

LAHORE (APP): Punjab with the revised National tiered employment of various security forces Forum also reviewed will be done for effective comprehensive

security The forum also held extensive discussion on monitoring mechanisms of floods during monsoon and short-term and long-term measures for the protection of people and livestock from anticipated

participants were also briefed on an floods including rescue and relief plans in various elaborate security plan aimed at ensuring peace and harmony during the month contingencies. The forum resolved to continue unified efforts

and measures being taken Effective monitoring for ensuring public safety and of the processions using and well-being in the national security in line high-tech gadgetry and province.



FAISALABAD: Members of Sunni Ulema Council are holding a rally in connection of first Muharram-ul-Haram the day of Martyrdom of 2nd Muslim Caliph Hazrat Umar Farooq (R.A) passes through a road in the city.

Faryal Talpur elected as chairperson of SA Standing **Committee on Home Affairs**

KARACHI (APP): Leader narcotics. Hopefully, we of Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Faryal Talpur was elected as the Chairperson of the Sindh Assembly's Standing Committee on Home Affairs.

In this regard, an important meeting under the chairmanship of the newly elected Chairperson of the Standing Committee for Home Affairs was held here Monday, in which she said that they would all work together to improve good for the Home the affairs and initiatives of Department. The home the Home Department. minister said that Farval The Committee has to keep

will do good things for our city, province and the country. We will do whatever is best, she said. Sindh Home Minister

Zia-ul-Hasan Lanjar extended congratulations to Faryal Talpur for being elected as the chairperson of the Standing Committee on Home Affairs.

He hoped that any legislation to be made under her supervision would be Talpur would further

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah presiding over a meeting of the Agriculture Department at CM House.

CM directs health dept to eradicate polio as 2 new cases detected

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has expressed his displeasure over the detection of two polio cases in the province and directed the health department to intensify efforts to eradicate the disease and fulfil his government's commitment

o polio eradication. He expressed his concerns during a meeting at the CM House to evaluate the progress of polio eradication initiatives. The meeting was attended by various officials including Dr Azra Fazal, Mayor Karachi Murtaza Wahab, Chief Secretary Asif Hyder Shah, IG Police Ghulam Nabi

The first case involved a 30-month-old malnourished boy from the Jatoi tribe in Lakhi area of Shikarpur, who was tested positive for polio on May 11, 2024. The Health Minister,

Dr. Azra Fazal, informed the CM that the child's Memon, Commissioner condition was improving,

Labour colonies, daycare centres top priority: Labour Minister LAHORE

(APP): children of female workers Minister for Labour and and emphasised on ensuring the construction of labour colonies for Human Resources Faisal Ayub Khokhar on Monday visited Punjab Social workers. Security Head office to

He directed the review the operations and initiatives of Labour and Labour and related departments to formulate comprehensive plans within two days and ensure He was briefed by officers from Labour & the installation of Human Resource, Labour biometric machines in offices to verify attendance Welfare, Punjab Social Security and Workers and directed to take Welfare Funds. Secretary immediate action against ghost employees. He Labour Naeem Ghaus,

emphasised that the dignity

compromised.

Karachi Hassan Naqvi, and the paralysis had subsided. Secretary Local Government Khalid Hyder

In response to a question, Coordinator EOC Irshad Sodhar Shah, Secretary Health Rehan Baloch, CEO PPHI mentioned that the child had received three doses of RI OPV and two doses of IPV. Minister Health Dr.

Azra highlighted that 73 per cent of children within six union councils of Shikarpur had been administered IPV.

The second case involved a three-year-old girl from the Malkani tribe in UC Keamari-3 of Karachi, who was diagnosed with polio on June 3, 2024. The affected child had received three doses of RI OPV, two doses of IPV, and over 7 doses of SIAs.

> **Police** arrest 12 suspects involved in murder stolen bikes, drug supply

LARKANA (APP): Larkana police have arrested 12 suspects in serious cases of murder, theft, fraud, undercover and drug dealers, and seized drugs and motorcycles on Monday. In this regard, Hyderi police arrested Muhammad billion.

Development Ali Gopang, the suspect Chairman Barrister Nabeel involved in the Rubina Ahmad Awan presided over of Rs 1320 million murder case, Zamir the meeting. The approved

Meetings/interviews with drugs prisoners banned

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Home Secretary Noorul Amin Mengal on Monday clamped complete ban on conducting meetings/ cases within jail corridors, specifically in the Administrative Block, across the entire province. In a circular issued here, Inspector General of Prisons Punjab Mian

directive aims to curb the

their interactions in these designated areas, it will

and

influence

added

trafficking

ational

ews

underscores a broader strategy to dismantle networks that facilitate the drug trade both inside and outside the prison. This interviews with prisoners move is part of a series of facing drugs and narcotics measures intended to reinforce security protocols and enhance the overall management of correctional facilities in Punjab. He

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said such restrictions would contribute significantly to Farooq Nazeer said this their ongoing efforts to rehabilitate inmates and communication channels of individuals linked to drugreduce the incidence of drug-related offenses. By related crimes within the isolating those accused of narcotics crimes from potential avenues of prisons. By restricting influence, the prisons prevent the spread of illicit department aims to foster a more secure and orderly activities and maintain prison environment conducive to effective better control in jails, he It was clearly rehabilitation mentioned that the enforcement. decision reflects the He was rehabilitation and law

He warned that government's commitment Superintendent Jail will be proceeded under amended to tackling the pervasive issue of drug abuse and PEDA Act if found guilty that in strict compliance of ban



Chairman PPP Bilawal Bhutto Zardari in a meeting with Governoer Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi during his visit to Governoer House Peshawar.

PDWP approves **Rs 24.440b** development schemes

LAHORE (APP): Punjab 3801 million Development Working Party Punjab (PDWP) in its 3rd meeting of Financial Year 2024-25 here Monday approved seven development schemes worth more than Rs 24.440

Planning

Road connecting Ring road to Ferozpur Road in District Lahore at the cost of Rs 530 million 5) Rehabilitation/ Improvement from Syedwala to Jaranwala,

Improvement of Ghazi

4) Rehabilitation/

Length 12.00 Km District Nankana Sahib at the cost

6) Rehabilitation/ Improvement of Faisalabad

Two killed, Two injured in road accident CHICHAWATNI (APP): Two women were killed while two others injured in

a car crash on the bypass road in Chichawatni, on Monday. According to Police, the tragic incident occurred

when a car lost control and crashed into a tree while trying to avoid hitting a motorcycle near the NADRÁ office. The two women,

attached departments. identified as Kausar and her daughter Nisha lost their lives in the accident while Judge Abdul Ghani Mengal from the National Relations Industrial Commission (NIRC) and driver Muhammad improve the Standing Mustafa sustained injuries Committee on Home while and were taken to Tehsil Hospital for treatment. measures of Sindh Police The deceased women

Javed Jagirani, Coordinator EOC Irshad Sodhar, DG Health Dr Waqar, and others. The ChiefMinister was briefed about two polio cases detected in May and June 2024

an eye on all the issues and give more suggestions for improving the home all affairs and policing department, she said.

Faryal Talpur said would also gradually that during the previous improve. MQM and regime, her focus was on Jamaat-e-Islami have also improving law and order, supported Faryal Talpur, discouraging drugs and he added.

Minister says: KP govt accords top priority to resolving masses' problems

House, Mingora

He said the KP

government was focusing

on improving the living

standard of the common

man and in this regard all

possible measures would

be taken. He said people

and

PESHAWAR (APP): Minister of Forests and Environment Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Fazal Hakim Khan Yousafzai has vowed to continue the struggle for extending relief to people by resolving their problems at the earliest.

had voted the party to He expressed these power and the government was determined to achieve views while talking to various delegations who development called on him at Insaf prosperity for the country.



MUZAFFRABAD: Members of Refugees Jammu Kashmir shouting slogans during protest against Indian army on the eve of death anniversary of Burhan Muzaffar Wani, in the city.

Ulema call for peace in Muharram

LAHORE (APP): Religious leaders from various school of thoughts have called for strict adherence to the Paighame-Pakistan Code of Conduct to promote peace and religious harmony during Muharram-ul-Haram, aiming to combat release issued here, key extremism, terrorism, and intolerance in the country.

In a joint press conference held in Gujranwala on Monday, prominent figures such as Hafiz Muhammad Tahir Mahmood Ashrafi, Chairman of the Pakistan Ulema Council and refute extre President of the and empha International Interfaith coexistence.

Council, Deputy Commissioner Gujranwala Tariq Mehmood Qureshi, SSP Rizwan Tariq, ADCG Shabbir Hussein Butt along with various leading Ulema, emphasized their commitment to this cause. According to a press

resolutions of code of conduct are: Eradicate sectarian violence: Sectarian antagonism, violence, and forced imposition of ideologies are against Islamic Shariah and national law.

Religious scholars refute extremist mindsets and emphasize peaceful

residents of Sahiwal, were returning from visiting family in Quetta. **Peshawar police**

prepare security plan for **Muharram** PESHAWAR (APP): The Capital City Police of

According to the police spokesperson, 14,000 police officers and personnel would be

during Muharram. As part of security measures, all procession routes, Majalis, and Imambargahs will be checked by the Bomb Disposal Unit and sniffer dogs to ensure security.

Command and Control Center will monitor Imambargahs and sensitive routes through CCTV cameras.

sharpshooters will be stationed on buildings near the procession routes to immediately neutralize any potential threats.He said a decision to suspend mobile network service on the 9th and 10th of Muharram,

would be made later. **ANF** seizes 97 kg drugs in six operations RAWALPINDI (APP): Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) while conducting

six operations across the country managed to recover 97 kg drugs and arrested six accused, said an ANF Headquarters spokesman here on Monday. He informed that 60 kg hashish was recovered from a vehicle intercepted on Srinagar highway Islamabad and 2

suspects were arrested. 25 kg hashish was recovered from a vehicle near Sahuwala Sialkot and arrested an accused.

5 kg hashish was recovered from the possession of an accused arrested in Pathan Colony, Hyderabad.

Social Security Nadia human resources to ensure Saqib, DG Labour the registration of workers Khalsum Hai, Executive and pledged to amend laws Officer Workers Welfare for their welfare if Board Tauqeer Elyas necessary. The minister Cheema and other relevant officers were present. Minister Faisal Ayub Khokhar directed to

establish daycare centres within factories for the

Peshawar have devised a comprehensive security plan for ensuring peace in . Muharram.

deputed to perform duty

KARACHI: Funeral prayer of martyred Ali Raza, Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) CTD Investigation, who was assassinated in Karimabad on Sunday night, is being offering at Central Police Office (CPO) in Karachi. People advised to shift to safer

places after fears excess rain may turn hill torrents violent Furthermore,

RAJANPUR (APP): Monday that expected Heavy machinery is operational strengthening the flood

advised to shift to safer places after forecast of excess monsoon rains put the administration on alert with plan for deployment of men and material ready to protect life and Deputy property.

warning that people living near the hill torrents path must shift to safer places. He said that Border Military Police and other

departments concerned were keeping the hill torrents under strict monitoring while on the other side where river Indus flows, the irrigation Commissioner Rajanpur department and others Dr. Mansoor Ahmad were keeping an eye on the Baloch told APP on flood protection Bunds.



KARACHI: View of site after fire broke out incident at Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) building as fire brigade officials are busy in extinguishing fire and rescue operation.

Commissioner Punjab stressed on enhancing along with the stolen household goods, Khalid Bughio, the suspect involved in the fraud case, and Amir Gopang, wanted affirmed that workers' in the drug case, were money would be spent charged. solely for their welfare and

The police wanted in more than 6 cases, the habitual drug dealer Riyaz of labour would not be Jatoi, along with 1 kg of 200 grams of hashish Allahabad police foiled the attempt to supply hashish to the drug dealer Mubarak Chana, a resident of Kotdiji of Khairpur district, with kg of 100 grams of hashish Including, Sehar police thwarted the attempt to supply narcotics to the drug dealer Muhammad Jafar Bhutti, a resident of Wasayo Bhutto village in Rutodero taluka, along with 3 kg of hashish.

Smillarly, Dhamrah police arrested 2 drug dealers Irfan Junejo and Hamir Panhor along with 400 grams of hashish.

Nanbai association increases Roti price by Rs. 5 in Abbottabad

ABBOTTABAD (APP) Once again Nanbais of Abbottabad on Monday increased the Roti price from 15 rupees to 20 and 30 without approval of district administration and price control committee.

According to the details, during the last twoweek wheat flour prices increased in the Hazara division up to 200 rupees per 20 KG bag resulting in the Nanbais of the region increasing the price of the Roti by 5 rupees. Citizens

of Abbottabad have demanded from district administration and Commissioner Hazara division to immediately take notice of the situation and control the price of the Roti which was earlier decided at 15 rupees.

Interestingly, neither the price control committee of district Abbottabad. price magistrates, food department nor the district administration has taken any notice of Roti price increase despite highlighting the issue in the Affairs media

Malana, the suspect involved in the theft case, of agriculture, public Satiana Tandlianwala Mari of agriculture, public building and roads. Pattan Okara Road, Length 61.07 Km (Section from

Board

approved The schemes are as follows: Chamrall Jhall to 1) Chief Minister's Maripattan, Length 33.39) Program for Solarization of at the cost of Rs 3451 Agricultural Tube-wells in million 7) Rehabilitation of Punjab at the cost of Rs Sahiwal Arifwala road upto 9,000 million District Boundary, Length 27 Km in Sahiwal at the

2) Protection against Erosive action for River Chenab along left side in District Hafizabad (Kot Kameer & Behak Ahmad Yar) at the cost of Rs 848.966 million 3) Rehabilitation/ Improvement of Faisalabad

Wala

Secretary Agriculture Iftikhar Ali Sahoo, Secretary C&W Sohail Ashraf, Chief Economist Nasir Iqbal Jaranwala road At Makuana By-Pass to Syed Wala Okara road via Syed Motorway M-3 length = 45 Km at the cost of Rs meeting.



cost of Rs 5490 million.

Secretary Dr Asif Tufail,

Board

Malik

P&D



LAHORE: Lady police constable searching bag of a woman during Majlis at Bibi Pak Daman, in the Provincial Capital.

Pakistani nation stands united with their Kashmiri brothers: Mayor Karachi

KARACHI (APP): Mayor Waqasi.

Karachi Barrister Murtaza Wahab said that the Pakistani nation stands united with their Kashmiri brothers and fully support their demand for the right to self-determination. He expressed these

views while meeting with a delegation of All Parties Hurriyat Conference, led by Convener Ghulam Muhammad Safi and included APHC General Secretary Pervez Ahmed Shah, Kashmiri leader Sardar Nazakat, senior Hurriyat leader Syed Ejaz Rahmani, Raja Khadim Hussain, Imtiaz Iqbal Wani, and others. Also present were Deputy Mayor Karachi Salman Abdullah Murad and Mayor Karachi Spokesperson for Political

The Mayor said that the Pakistan Peoples Party has always advocated for the rights of oppressed nations, including the freedom movement in Kashmir, on various international platforms. Kashmir is the jugular vein of Pakistan, and sacrifices like those of Burhan Wani and other martyrs will

never be forgotten, he said. Barrister Murtaza Wahab emphasized that we all pay tribute to Shaheed Burhan Wani, whose martyrdom occurred on this day, and urged for the documentation and publication of all documents and movements related to Kashmir in written form so that future generations can be informed about this Karamullah great movement.



Daily Aoice of Masse

Independent Tuesday July 09, 2024 Quetta



ISLAMABAD: Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi chairing a meeting regarding over-billing of protected consumers

Finance minister assures KE of resolving delayed payment issue

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for the KE team to focus on Finance and Revenue, Muhammad Senator Aurangzeb on Monday assured K-Electric of addressing its matters related to delayed payments.

nents. Earlier, the KE According to press representatives stated that release issued by the the agreement signed finance ministry, the between the government minister was talking to and KE earlier this year had delegation of K-Electric addressed a number of that called on him here. The issues and KE was now delegation members vigorously working on included Chief Executive implementing the new Officer (CEO) K-Electric generation projects to Syed Moonis Abdullah Alvi, CFO KE mix. Muhammad Aamir Ghaziani and Chief the issue of delayed Regulatory Affairs payments Imran consumer bills collected Muhammad

Oureshi

Philippine ambassador visits Dhodial Mansehra to foster trade relations

MANSEHRA (APP): Ambassador of the extended their visit to Philippines, Maria Agnes include the Al-Mustafa M Cervantes on Monday visited Dhudial Mansehra with her embassy staff to discuss and promote trade relations between the Philippines and Pakistan.

The ambassador provided a detailed briefing visited at the invitation of on the medical facilities and former Vice President of modern the Federation of Pakistan available at the hospital. Chambers of Commerce and Industry Hanif Gohar.

The minister asked SLAMABAD (APP): trained in high-tech and improving service delivery Chairman of Prime in Karachi and to expedite Minister Youth Programme its plan for adding cheaper (PMYP) Rana Mashhood generation capacity so that Ahmed Khan on Monday the cost of electricity expressed the resolve to could be brought down.

of KE's

delegation

through the post office.

the Dadar Sanatorium Hospital. At Al-Mustafa

The

The

visitors

increase the Information Technology(IT) industry share up to 25 billion dollars from the current 2.5 billion dollars in the next ive years.

Addressing the International Conference on Sustainability in Workforce" at a local hotel, he said that as many as improve its electricity 200,000 youths would be The delegation raised

PSX witnesses bullish trend,

gains 353 points ISLAMABAD (APP): The 100-index of the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) witnessed bullish trend on Monday, gaining 353.41 points, a positive change of 0.44 percent, closing at 80,566.21 points against 80,212.79 points on

the last working day. A total of 261,649,614 shares were Trust Gohar Campus Hospital in Dhodial and traded during the day as compared to 448,981,017 shares the previous day, Trust Hospital, the hospital administration whereas the price of shares stood at Rs 13.024 billion against Rs 18.995 billion on the last trading day. 427 Around

machinery companies transacted their Furthermore, the shares in the stock market, bassador visited the SOS 216 of them recorded gains

IT industry share to be increased up to 25 bln dollars; Chairman PMYP

modern workplace.

jobs of tomorrow.'

"By

Information technology programmes with the skills needed to thrive in the targeted programs.

equipping students with the latest tools and technologies, and fostering collaboration with industry leaders, we can prepare them for the Mashhood said that the economic policies of

the government was the government during the intensifying efforts under last three months and the signing of multi-billionthe visionary leadership of Prime Minister dollar investment projects Muhammad Shehbaz with China, Qatar, UAE.

Customs Appraisement **Chief Collector to resolve** genuine issues & expedite digitalization: Saquib

we want our due and rightful facilitation during customs appraisement. Mr. Asif Sakhi, VP

FPCCI, maintained that Custom House and its staff in Karachi should be made more hospitable, amicable and facilitative as it will promote liaison and compliance from the traders. WeBOC was customs during clearance at meant to be a 24 / 7 facility; customs appraisement. but, it is not being operated The only way forward to as such and shortage of cut human interaction is to staff is the primary reason



CommerceNews

ISLAMABAD (APP): In a recent development, Saudi Group Asyad Holding through UAEbased Wafi Energy Holding Limited has acquired 77.42% shareholdings and control of Shell Pakistan

Limited. The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has approved the acquisition under Section 11 of the Competition Act, 2010, thus solidifying the said transaction to boost the retail oil sector in Pakistan, according to a press release issued here on flex

investment purposes in Pakistan.

Monday. M/s Shell Pakistan The CCP's Phase I Limited, listed on the competition assessment identified 'Retail Fuel, Pakistan Stock Exchange, maintains a substantial Vehicle Lubricants, and business footprint in the retail supply of motor fuels and lubricants across Industrial Lubricants' as the relevant product 2010. Pakistan. Whereas, M/s markets. It was also Wafi Energy LLC is a wholly-owned affiliate of revealed that Shell Pakistan has distinct shares in all Asyad Holding Group three relevant markets but which specializes in the that will remain unchanged management and operation post-transaction. The analysis further of fuel stations in Saudi

Arabia. The Group has confirmed that Wafi established M/s Wafi Energy Holding Limited Energy Holding Limited to will not gain a dominant its wings for position in the relevant

markets even after attaining direct control of Shell Pakistan. Therefore, the CCP has swiftly authorized the said acquisition under Section 31 of the Competition Act,

Page

06

Chairman CCP, Dr. Kabir Ahmed Sidhu, while signing the Order expressed that this development is expected to boost competition by elevating service standards in the retail fuel supply chain and contribute thus, immensely to flourishing Pakistani markets

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance & Revenue Senator Muhammad

Aurangzeb in a meeting with the CEO of K-Electric Syed Moonis Abdullah Alvi and other executives.

Jazz appoints Farrukh Khan as **CFO and CEO** of MFH

ISLAMABAD (APP) Jazz appointed Farrukh Khan, ĈEO & Managing Director of the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX), as its new Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and CEO of Micro-Finance Holdings (MFH), effective September 15, 2024.

Farrukh will also join the board of Mobilink Microfinance Bank.

Gábor Kocsis, the outgoing CFO, will remain with Jazz until the end of the year, focusing on strategic projects to facilitate a smooth transition and maintain momentum in ongoing initiatives said a news release Farrukh Khan brings

over 30 years of leadership pilot application. experience in major

Pak-China Joint Lab for AI to intelligentize Pakistan's agriculture

BEIJING (APP): In May, achieve the Pakistan China Joint Lab for Artificial Intelligence and Smart Agriculture (AI&SA) has been established at the University of Agriculture Faisalabad (UAF). Punjab Province, as Pakistan's main agricultural

production area, its annual grain output accounts for about 76% of the country's total annual grain output.

Both parties agreed that it has unique advantages to carry out pilot applications of highthroughput crop monitoring projects here. In this province, about 600

monitoring, cultivation management, pest and disease analysis, and agricultural production, including growth determination, crop health monitoring, water requirement analysis, water fertilization, as well as pesticide application," Dr Wu Jun, the Chinese Director of the lab, introduced. Mohammad Malik, a local farmer who has been

management of crop

intelligent

growing wheat, sugarcane and other crops in Punjab for more than 30 years, is one of the participants in the pilot project. At first, farmers have joined the he had many doubts about "This the project.

Dr. Iqrar Ahmad technology is too Khan, Vice Chancellor complicated for farmers

Independent Report CARACHI: Mr. Saquib Fayyaz Magoon, Acting

President FPCCI, has apprised that Chief Collector of Customs

Appraisement (South), Mr. Mohsin Rafiq, has agreed with principled stand of FPCCI to improve ease of doing business benchmarks vis-à-vis

Sharif towards enhancing

skill development through strategic partnerships and He added that the

country's economy was moving towards the right direction under the leadership of PM Shehbaz Sharif and will succeed in overwhelming the financial problems. Rana said due to

During her visit to Gohar House, the and her team interacted ambassador and her delegation met with key there. They were informed figures from the business community. They engaged in discussions about enhancing trade between the two nations and explored the economic through landscape of Pakistan. Former Federal Minister Azam Khan Swati was also present to participate in the discussions.

and 158 sustained losses, whereas the share price with the children residing of 53 about the residential and educational facilities

provided to the children. children showcased their skills 11.36 impressive performances of judo, 50.92 per share and Bank of Punjab with 17,587,329 shares at karate, and taekwondo. which were highly appreciated by the Rs5.79 per share.

companies remained unchanged. The three top trading companies were Hum Network with 20,667,563 shares at Rs 11.36 per share, National BankXD with 19,555,510 shares at Rs

Shipping

activity at

Port Qasim

(APP)

KARACHI



ISLAMABAD: Minister of State for IT and Telecommunication, Ms. Shaza Fatima Khawaja chairing first meeting of Functional Committee on Information Technology and Telecommunication.

Telenor launches Startup Mentors' Network to empower entrepreneurial ecosystem

track

The

ISLAMABAD (APP): expertise spanning critical Telenor Pakistan, a domains such as frontrunner in providing communications, telecommunication services and digital solutions across the country, unveiled its latest initiative, the selected for their proven 'Startup Network' Mentors'

As a natural extension of Telenor Pakistan's corporate successful accelerator program, and Telenor Velocity, which has natio empowered startups to scale through access to expertise in product management, growth hacking, and digital assets, the Startup Mentors' Network aims to deliver an even more supportive entrepreneurial landscape across the nation, said a news release issued here

Monday. The Startup Mentors Network Telenor features a distinguished panel of 31 seasoned professionals from Telenor Pakistan, each recognized for their profound trajectory

Shipping activity was report at the port where two ships, APL Antwerp and Atlantic Spirit carryingContainer and Palm Kernel, berthed at Container Terminal and Multi-Purpose Terminal respectively on Sunday. Meanwhile three and

dedication to innovation, will collaborate closely with startups embedded within various incubators accelerators nationwide.

at outer-anchorage of the Port Qasim on during last 24 hours. A total of six ships were engaged at PQA berths during the last 24 hours, out of them three support to emerging ventures, enabling them to ships, APL Antwerp, refine business concepts, Wawasan Topaz and Umm Bab left the port on today devise robust strategies, optimize pricing models. morning while another containers ship 'Nave and enhance their market positioning. By leveraging Andromeda' is expected to the extensive industry sail on today.Cargo volume 83,332 tonnes, knowledge and network of of comprising 69,953 tonnes Pakistan's mentors, startups will gain imports cargo and 13,379 invaluable insights and tonnes export cargo carried actionable advice to in 1,833 Containers (1,046 accelerate their growth TEUs Imports and 787 TEUs export).

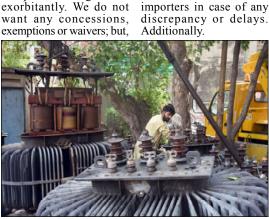


expedite digitalization of for issues, he added. the custom appraisement Mr. Aman Paracha, VP FPCCI, highlighted system on a priority, he that business community can provide thousands of

Mr. Asif Sakhi, VP FPCCI, stressed that the real-time and realistic correct, fair and timely prices to the customs imposition of GST and without charging a penny; income tax is very critical therefore, appraisement should take for the business, industry and trade community - as them onboard. We, at it directly affects the FPCCI, are willing to play production and industrial the role of a bridge between processes for availability the stakeholders of the and cost of raw materials. system from either sides, Mr. Asif Sakhi, VP he added.

added

FPCCI, reiterated FPCCI's stance that any delays at customs stage increases the demurrages and detention charges for the business community - and, terminal operators and shipping companies charge them exorbitantly. We do not want any concessions,



LAHORE: A WAPDA engineer is busy in repairing Transformers at G.R.O in the Federal Capital.

Shaza chairs first meeting of functional committee on IT, Telecom

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister of State for IT and Telecommunication Shaza Fatima Khawaja chaired first meeting of Functional Committee on Information Technology and Telecommunication.Secretary IT Captain (Retd) Muhammad Mahmood was also present in the meeting, said a news release issued here on Monday.Member IT Syed

authorities from Finance Division, Ministry of Commerce, State Bank of Pakistan, Pakistan Houses Software Association (P@SHA) and P a k i s t a n Telecommunication Authority (PTA) also attended the meeting.

Secretary General P@SHA Nadeem Malik briefed the minister about cash reward scheme for IT industry. The meeting Junaid Imam, Member Telecom Muhammad Jahanzeb Rahim, and deliberated upon bringing a scheme alternative to cash

financial institutions. including roles as CEO of Acumen Fund, co-founder and CEO of BMA Capital Management, and CFO at American Express. His expertise in mergers and public offerings will enhance Jazz's financial strategy and innovation.

Aamir Ibrahim, CEO of Jazz & Chairman MMBL, commented, "We welcomed Farrukh Khan to our leadership team. His rich expertise and leadership in capital markets are crucial as we evolve into a ServiceCo." customs

> Gold rates dip by **Rs.1,300** per tola to **Rs.245,100**

ISLAMABAD (APP) Mr. Shabbir Mansha, The price of per tola of 24VP FPCCI, pointed out that updated rules of karat gold increased by section 203 pertaining to Rs.1,300 and was sold at wharfage or storage fee Rs.245,100 on Monday have not yet been drafted; against its sale at causing tremendous financial losses to the Rs.246,400 on last trading day.

The price of 10 grams to Information Act, 2017. of 24 karat gold also decreased by Rs.1,113 to Rs.210,134 from Rs. In response, the SBP requested an exemption from disclosing the information under Section 211,247 whereas that of 10 7(d) of the Act, which gram 22 karat gold went up to Rs.192,622 from Rs. relates to the records of banking companies and financial institutions 193,644, the All Sindh Sarafa Jewellers concerning their customers' Association reported.

The price of per tola accounts. and ten gram silver thoroughly examined the remained constant at Rs.2,900 and Rs.2,486.28 information request, the respectively.

SBP, and the relevant law. The price of gold in The Commission's order the international market decreased by \$12 to \$2,376 from \$2,388.

UAF, noted lately that in like me, and I doubt its the 25,000 villages across effectiveness Punjab, if drone spraying technology could be adopted on a large scale, it members promptly will help increase explained it, "We could productivity, reduce costs produce a text guide and adopted on a large scale, it and greatly promote the development of intelligent agriculture. "We use drones written in the local dialect equipped with visual and send them to your

practicality.

The project team audio-visual materials of the vegetation health map fly around the fields to application."

PIC directs SBP to make public list of 1000 loan defaulters

ISLAMABAD (APP): Information Act, 2017 The Pakistan Information which exempts certain Commission has issued a records from disclosure, directive to the Governor of the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) to disclose the list of the top 1000 loan defaulters.

Azmat Khan, a resident of Karachi, had sought the list from SBP

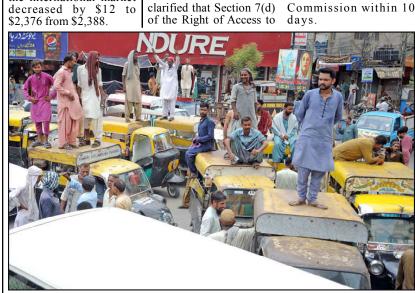
under the Right of Access

does not apply to the requested list of loan defaulters.

The order said: "It is an admitted fact that 1000 individuals obtained loans from the concerned banks and failed to repay them, causing significant financial damage to both the country and the banks involved. Such individuals cannot be protected from disclosure.

The Commission observed that the exemption cited by the SBP did not pertain to this case. Consequently, the plea of the public body has

been rejected. The SBP Governor The commission has been directed to disclose the required written reply from the information and submit it to the Commission within 10 days



HYDERABAD: LPG dealers, users and Taxi drivers hold a protest demonstration to block the center point of city Hyder Chowk, demanding the ban on LPG should be lifted and dealers should be allowed to do business, which was ban after 24 deaths in cylinder blast in a shop.



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Tuesday July 09, 2024

International News

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Israel deepens its operation in Gaza City in pursuit of militants. Thousands flee again

sheltering at her relatives'

home in the Daraj neighbor-

hood. "This is my fifth dis-

tillery and tank fire, as well

city of Deir al-Balah.

Residents reported ar-

placement.

Monitoring Desk DEIR AL-BALAH: Israeli forces deepened an operation in the Gaza Strip's largest city in what the military said was meant to mother of three who was weed out militants, sending thousands of Palestinians fleeing on Monday from an area already ravaged in the early weeks of the ninemonth-long war. The incursion into eastern Gaza City expands Israel's engagement in the beleaguered territory's north, an area Israel said it had seized control of months ago. Pockets of militant resurgence have scaled back Israeli military gains and drawn forces back into such operations. Israel had ordered evacuations in the area before the raid, the military said.

Heavy fighting in the war's first weeks all but emptied Gaza City and its environs, and the Israeli military has prevented most people from returning to their homes. But several hundred thousands of Palestinians remain, living

in the shells of their homes would pause the war in exor shelters. The fresh fighting meant new displacement. "We fled in the darktage by Hamas. ness amid heavy strikes, said Sayeda Abdel-Baki, a

mained, even after Hamas agreed days ago to relent on its key demand that Israel commit to ending the war as part of any agreement. A key part of that shift, officials told The Associated Press, is the level of destruction caused by Israel's

as airstrikes. Gaza's Health Ministry, which has limited intense bombing campaign. access to the north, did not Hamas does want meimmediately report casualdiators to "guarantee" that ties. The Hamas-run Civil negotiations conclude with Defense said the area was a permanent cease-fire deal, inaccessible because of the according to two officials with knowledge of the talks. fierce clashes. In a sign that The current draft says the the operation could be expanding, Israel issued addimediators — the United States, Qatar and Egypt tional evacuation orders will do their best" to en-Monday for areas in other neighborhoods of central sure that negotiations lead Gaza City, calling on resito an agreement to wind dents to head south to the down the war. Israel has rejected any deal that would force it to end the war with

The fighting comes as Hamas still intact - a con-Israel and Hamas appear to dition Israeli Prime Minisbe the closest they have been in months to agreeing ter Benjamin Netanyahu reto a cease-fire deal that iterated Sunday.

change for the release of dozens of Israelis held hos-But obstacles re-

> A Palestinian boy checks the damage in a house hit by Israeli bombardment in Zawayda in the central Gaza Strip. Philippines says pact with Japan takes defence ties to unprecedented high tween Manila and Tokyo.

Monitoring Desk MANILA: The Philippines hailed an "unprecedented" high in defence ties with Japan after the signing on Monday of a landmark military pact allowing deployment of forces on each other's soil in the face of China's increasingly assertive stance in the region.

The Reciprocal Access Agreement (RAA), the first of its kind Japan has signed in Asia, will ease the entry of equipment and troops for combat training and disaster response, smoothing military co-operation be-

Thomas Shoal, which led to injury of a Philippine sailor last month. Vote projections show **French left on course**

to victory

PARIS: A loose alliance of thrown together for snap on Sunday to become the biggest parliamentary bloc and beat the far right, according to shock proiected results.

the hard-left into one

candidate Marine Le Pen's National Rally (RN) led the race after the June 30 first round, with opinion polls predicting that she would lead the biggest party in Parliament after

Sunday's run-off. But projections based on vote samples by four major polling agencies and seen by AFP. showed no group on course for an absolute majority, and the left-wing NFP ahead of both Macron's centrist Ensemble and Le Pen's eurosceptic, anti-immigration **R**N

pital in a desperate search for survivors after the rare day-time bombardment. First responders ran Moroccans for cover when sirens and a march in problast sounded hours after the initial strikes that hit as Palestinian rally Ukraine struggles to protect

Monitoring Desk TANGIERS: Thousands of

Moroccans demonstrated Sunday in the northern city 'The RAA brings our of Tangier in support of the defence partnership to an Palestinian people and unprecedented height," Philagainst Morocco's ties with ippine Foreign Minister Israel, an AFP journalist Ênrique Manalo told a joint saw. "Gaza is not alone, briefing after a "2-plus-2" chanted the protesters durmeeting of both nations' foring the event which saw the eign and defence ministers. grouping of leftist parties The deal coincides with a and Islamist movements.

spurt in maritime run-ins The protesters took between Manila and Beijing to the streets of the coastal over the former's missions city after reports last month to resupply troops staof an Israeli ship's docking tioned on a beached vessel in Tangier port. on the contested Second

Coming from the United States, the ship made a pit stop in Tangier on June 19.

Democratic US Representative Schiff says VP Harris may win 'overwhelmingly' Monitoring Desk

WASHINGTON: Democratic US Representative Adam Schiff told NBC News he felt Vice President Kamala Harris could win 'overwhelmingly" if she ran against former President Donald Trump, but that President Joe Biden needed to make a decision about his own candidacy. "I think she (Harris) very well could win overwhelmingly, but before we get into a decision about who else it said should be, the president needs to make a decision about whether it's him."

Russian missiles kill 24 in Ukraine, gut Kyiv children's hospital

Monitoring Desk KYIV: Russia fired dozens of missiles at cities across Jkraine on Monday in a massive barrage that killed at least 24 people and smashed into a children's hospital in Kyiv, trapping victims under the rubble,

itself from Russian aerial

Zelensky said Russian

forces fired more than 40

missiles at least five major

civilian hubs mainly in the

south and east of the coun-

try, as well as Kyiv.

President Volodymyr

attacks.

officials said.

Zelensky visited Warsaw before heading to the Nato summit in Washington, where he was expected to appeal for more military support from the country's allies.

AFP reporters at the scene of the attacks heard air raid sirens and explo-Dozens of volunteers, sions ring out as the missiles crashed into the capidoctors and rescue workers tal and debris from downed projectiles rained down were digging through the debris of a part of Okhmatdyt paediatric hos-

over the city. Natalia Svidler, 40, was in the hospital at the time of the strike with her two-year-old son, who was due to have surgery this week, when the air raid sirens sounded

'The nurses told us to go down to the basement. After a while, we heard a loud rumble and then the ceiling in the basement collapsed a little," she said at the scene.

"Everyone got very scared, of course. Everyone started screaming and run-The attack came as ning," she told AFP.

Landslides kill 12 on Indonesia's Sulawesi island, 18 missing

Monitoring Desk JAKARTA: At least 12 people died and 18 are missing after a torrential rain caused a landslide in an illegal gold mine over the weekend in Indonesia's Sulawesi island, officials said on Monday.

The landslide on Sunday morning in Suwawa district, Gorontalo province, killed miners and residents living near the illegal mine, said Heriyanto, head of the local rescue agency

(Basarnas). Five survivors had been evacuated, he said, adding that a rescue team was searching for 18 missing people on Monday.

We have deployed 164 personnel, consisting of the national rescue team, police and military personnel, to search for the missing people," Heriyanto

However, rescuers must walk about 20 kms tensity rains.

(12.43 miles) to reach the landslide site and were being hampered by thick mud over the road and continuing rain in the area. Heriyanto said. 'We will try to use an

excavator once it's possible," he said. Photos of the af-

fected village shared by the agency showed some houses were flattened by the landslide. Indonesia's disaster

agency (BNPB) said the landslide has damaged several houses and one bridge.

BNPB also warned residents that rain is still expected in some areas in Gorontalo province on Monday and Tuesday and urge people to be alert in case there's a further disaster

A landslide in South Sulawesi killed at least 18 people in South Sulawesi in April, caused by high-in-

and Beijing stepping up

controls, after a series of

scandals, including the

sale of baby formula con-

taining lethal amounts of

the industrial chemical

post on Saturday, said it had

ordered an investigation into

whether transportation car-

riers leaving and entering its

warehouses were compliant with food safety regula-

and carrier vehicles found

immediately and any major

Transportation units

Sinograin, in a Weibo

melamine in 2008.

tions

China state media slams Sinograin over alleged use of fuel tankers to transport cooking oil

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi waves as he disembarks his plane

India's Modi lands in **Russia for first visit** since Ukraine offensive

Monitoring Desk MOSCOW: Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrived in Russia on Monday, as the Indian leader trod a fine line between maintaining a longstanding relationship with Moscow and courting closer Western se-

oil and weapons to India, but the Kremlin's isolation from the West and blooming friendship with Beijing have impacted its timehonoured partnership with New Delhi western powers nave

in recent years also culti-

vated ties with India as a

bulwark against China and

its growing influence in the

Asia-Pacific, while pressur-

ing it to distance itself from

Russia. Modi last visited

Russia in 2019 and hosted

Putin in New Delhi two

years later, weeks before

Russia began its offensive

against Ukraine. "Indian

Prime Minister Modi ar-

Hezbollah launches drone attack on Mount Hermon in Israeli-occupied Syrian Golan Heights region." Moscow remains a **Monitoring Desk** key supplier of cut-price

AMMAN: The Iranianbacked Hezbollah militant group said on Sunday it launched a drone attack on Mount Hermon in the Israeli-occupied Syrian Golan Heights where Israel has a ev surveillance centre

Monitoring Desk French left-wing parties elections was on course

The New Popular Front (NFP) was formed last month after President Emmanuel Macron called snap elections, bringing together socialists, greens, communists and

camp. Veteran presidential

curity ties.

The visit is Modi's first since Russia launched its campaign in Ukraine and since he was returned to power last month as leader of the world's most populous country.

"I look forward to reviewing all aspects of bilateral cooperation with my friend President Vladimir Putin and sharing perspectives on various regional and global issues," said Modi in a statement. "We rived in Russia on an official visit," state media agenseek to play a supportive cies confirmed on Monday role for a peaceful and stable afternoon

Uganda provided support to M23 rebels in **Congo**, UN report says

Monitoring Desk PARIS: The Ugandan army has provided support to the M23 rebel group operating in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, a United Nations report seen by Reuters on Monday said, as escalating clashes there fuel fears of a new allout conflict. Uganda denied involvement, saying it is cooperating closely with the Congolese government forces. The UN has long accused Rwanda of backing the M23, which has repeatedly seized large parts of mineral-rich eastern Congo, allegations Rwanda denied.

Congo has been riven by conflict for decades. Úganda and Rwanda invaded in 1996 and 1998 for what they said was defence against local militia groups. Uganda is still conducting joint operations with Con-

golese troops against a rebel Ugandan group. The Tutsi-led M23 rebels have been waging a fresh insurgency in Congo's militia-plagued east since 2022.

Ugandan troops were part of a regional force deployed in November 2022 to monitor a ceasefire with the M23. Congolese authorities called for the force to withdraw last year, saying it was ineffective. Since the resurgence of the M23 crisis, Uganda has not prevented the presence of M23 and Rwanda Defence Forces (RDF) troops on its territory or passage through it," the UN Secu-

rity Council's Group of Experts said in the report, which was sent to the UN Security Council Sanctions Committee at the end of April and then to members of the Security Council.

invasion.

sands of archaeological relics missing since the invasion, which was followed by widespread looting in the country that some historians regard as the cradle of civilisation. Foreign Minister

Fuad Hussein handed the recently recovered relics over to Culture, Tourism and Antiquities Minister Ahmed al-Badrani at a ceremony in Baghdad.

Most of the artefacts on display at the foreign ministry headquarters were returned by the US after a visit by Prime Minister Mohammed Shia al-Sudani to Washington in April.



PARIS: People waving Palestinian flags and carrying 'anti-fascist' slogans attend a gathering at Republique Square, following the second round of elections in France on Sunday. Projections show a broad left-wing coalition leading the tight race, ahead of right-wing and centrist parties.

It said this was its first such bombing since it began trading fire with Israel

on Oct. 8, a day after its Palestinian ally Hamas attacked southern Israel, sparking the Gaza war. Hezbollah says it would halt operations only when the war ends. Although it had hit other areas in the occupied Syrian Golan Heights repeatedly. Iraq exhibits ancient artefacts

returned by US and other countries **Monitoring Desk**

BAGHDAD: Iraq on Monday exhibited several ancient artefacts that it said had been returned by the United States and other countries, long after they were looted and smuggled out following the 2003 US Iraqi authorities have PHILADELPHIA: An been trying to retrieve thou-

embattled US President Joe Biden faced escalating pressure on Sunday from fellow Democrats worried about his candidacy, which he aimed to ease with a pair of campaign stops in the battleground state of Pennsylvania Biden, 81, has faced

Monitoring Desk

growing calls to end his re-election campaign after

publican Donald Trump, 78, raised questions about his ability to do the job for another four years. He has vowed to stay in the race, dismissing calls for him to drop out as "nonsense" in a fundraising email on Saturday. Democrats also sug-gested that Vice President

People help emergency and rescue personnel clear the rubble of the de-

stroyed building of Ohmatdyt Children's Hospital following a Russian mis-

sile attack in the Ukrainian capital of Kyiv.

Biden tries to ease

Democrats' worries

about his candidacy

Kamala Harris, seen as the likeliest candidate to replace Biden in the Nov a halting performance in 5 election were he to bow a June 27 debate with Re- out, could perform well.

tracking

Monsoon rains bring floods, disrupting transport, in India's Mumbai

Monitoring Desk MUMBAI: Heavy rains flooded roads and railways on Monday in India's financial capital of Mumbai, disrupting flights and forc-ing the closure of some schools and colleges, while overflowing rivers elsewhere affected more than 2 million people.

Just before the morning rush hour, more than 300 mm (11.8 inches) of rain lashed the city of 12 million over the six hours until 7:00 am (0130 GMT), municipal officials said, with more heavy showers forecast later in the day.

Commuters waded through knee-deep water that partially submerged vehicles in many areas, as an airport roof.

traffic piled up on the city's Eastern and Western Express highways. Water on the tracks forced railway authorities

to cancel some long-disjunta states tance trains, they said, while Monitoring Desk television images showed some suburban passenger ABUJA: The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) said trains, a critical means of daily transport for millions, halted on inundated lines. it was disappointed with a More than 250 flights lack of progress in reconciling with breakaway, juntawere delayed and at least 30 cancelled at the city's led Burkina Faso, Mali and

airport, the website of Niger and will make "more vigorous" reconciliation efservice Flightradar24 showed. forts. ECOWAS commis-The heavy downpour came days after recordsion president Oumar Touray said at the start of a

breaking showers in the summit in the Nigerian capicapital, New Delhi, which caused the fatal collapse of tal Abuja on Sunday the region risks disintegeration

Monitoring Desk BEIJING: Chinese state media on Monday criticized the state grains stockpiler Sinograin after local media reported that its fuel tankers were allegedly also used to transport cooking oil, sparking food safety concerns.

The Beijing News last week reported it was an "open secret" in the transportation industry that Sinograin was using tankers to transport both fuel and food products like

cooking oil, soybean oil and in violation of the regulasyrup, without cleaning the tions would be terminated tankers in between. The report sparked an problems found would be reported to the relevant uproar on social media over worries of food contaminaregulatory authorities,

Sinograin said. tion. On Monday, state broadcaster CCTV called Chinese consumers have been increasingly sensitive over food the operation a cost-saving safety, with consumers measure that was "tantaturning to foreign brands mount to poisoning".

Hurricane Beryl expected to weaken quickly as it churns across Texas

Monitoring Desk TEXAS: Hurricane Beryl lashed Texas with strong winds and heavy rain on Monday as it churned inland, forcing the closure of oil ports, the cancellation of hundreds of flights and leaving thousands of homes and businesses in the state without power.

Beryl, the season's earliest Category 5 hurri-cane on record, made landfall near the coastal town of Matagorda in Texas early in the day, pounding the coast with dangerous storm surges, the US National Hurricane Center (NHC)

said The storm, which was expected to rapidly weaken as it moved inland, swept a destructive path through Jamaica, Grenada, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines last week, killing at least 11 people and toppling buildings and power lines.

In Texas, the biggest US oil and natural gas producing-state, the energy industry braced for Beryl's impact on Monday as disruption caused by the powerful storm slowed refining activity and prompted the

evacuation of some production sites.

"Life-threatening storm surge and heavy rainfall is ongoing across portions of Texas. Damaging winds ongoing along the coast, with strong winds moving inland," the NHC said, adding that Beryl was now expected to lose power.

Following warnings that it could be a deadly storm for communities in its path, residents had rushed to board up windows and stock up on fuel and other essential supplies

Before daybreak, strong gusts and torrential rain lashed down on towns such as Lake Jackson and Freeport, television footage showed. The storm had strengthened into a Category 1 hurricane as it crossed the warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico before making landfall, but the NHC said it was now expected to weaken rapidly. "Beryl is expected to weaken to a tropical storm later today and to a tropical depression on Tuesday," the NHC said.

Hungary's **Orbán makes** surprise visit to China after and Ukraine

trips to Russia **Monitoring Desk** BEIJING: Hungary's Prime

Minister Viktor Orbán is making a surprise visit to China on Monday after similar trips to Russia and Ukraine to discuss pros-

pects for a peaceful settlement in Ukraine. "Peace mission 3.0" is how Orbán captioned a picture posted early Monday on the X social media platform depicting him after having stepped off his plane in Beijing. He was being greeted by Chinese Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Hua Chunying and

other officials.

West Africa's

ECOWAS

decries lack of

progress with

Daily **Independent**, Quetta

CM Mir Sarfraz Bugti says: People associated with agriculture sector to get relief with solarization of over 27,000 tube wells; subsidy of billions to be saved

Bugti emphasizes on inclusion of Balochistan in priority list in decision making and formulation of policy at federal

level; hopes to include two vital projects of province dropped from this year's federal PSDP in next financial year's budget

Independent Report QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has stated that the people associated with the agriculture sector would get relief and billions of rupees of the subsidy would be saved with the project of solarization of agricultural tube wells in province.

The resources to be saved from the solarization could also be spent on other projects of public welfare.

The Chief Minister was speaking on occasion of the ceremony of agreement of solarization between provincial and federal governments here in Quetta on Monday.

The Prime Minister Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif, Governor Sheikh Jaffar Mandokhail, federal and provincial ministers and other government functionaries were also present. The Chief Minister

thanked the Prime Minister and federal government for their cooperation in project of conversion of the agricultural tube wells on solar energy in the prov-He said that the

zamindars of province suffering from the issues of agriculture sector. electricity would get abrupt relief thanks to the project. He pointed out that

two important development projects of Balochistan have been dropped from the federal Public Sector Development Programme (PSDP).

He expressed the hope that these projects of public interest would be made part of new financial year's budget.

He said that climate said that the solarization is serious issue. The steps are ince in decision and policy subsidy.

making at the federal level. The Chief Minister particularly thanked the Prime Minister on extending assistance to the provincial government in solarization project and described it an important milestone for development of

He also appreciated the project of establishment of Danish Schools in the province and urged the federal government to expand the circle of these schools The Prime Minister

on the occasion appreciated the endeavours of Chief Minister and remarked that the leadership like of Mir Sarfraz Bugti is leading the provincial government. He

change in Balochistan is a very important through which the issues of farmers being taken to tackle the and zamindars would be issue, however, there is a resolved saving billions of need to include the prov- rupees on account of the



stan Initiative at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

NDMA convenes DRC meeting to strengthen coordination for Monsoon Season 2024

ISLAMABAD (APP): emergencies. Discussions The first meeting of the encompassed a range of topics, including the current Disaster Response Committee (DRC), constituted state of preparedness, reby the Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, was held source allocation, early warning systems, and comhere on Monday at National munity engagement strate-Disaster Management Augies, a news release said.

thority (NDMA) Head-The committee memquarters. The committee bers also reviewed continwas established to ensure gency plans including intereffective coordination beagency communication, tween the Federal and Proconducting joint training vincial Governments in the exercises and deploying recontext of national disaster sources to vulnerable reresponse efforts, especially gions to ensure a swift and during the monsoon season coordinated response. Chairman NDMA.

and its associated hazards Lieutenant General Inam The meeting was aimed to discuss and Haider Malik briefed attendees about the projection streamline strategies for by NDMA's NEOC about proactive response plans to monsoon season and said that the establishment of mitigate the impacts of potential monsoon-related the Disaster Response

Committee was a pivotal step towards strengthening our national disaster management framework.

"As we approach the monsoon season, it is imperative that we are well prepared to address any potential emergency, he said and underlined the significance of reviewing stocl positions for monsoon contingencies which was essential to undertake tangible actions before disas-ters strike. Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives, Ehsan Iqbal Chaudhry, (convener of the commit tee) presided the meeting and emphasized the critical importance of a cohesive and integrated approach to

disaster management.

Tube wells' solarization in Balochistan to revamp agriculture: Governor

viate the challenges faced

by farmers and facilitate the expansion of cultivable

lighted the challenges faced

by the province due to fi-

nancial constraints and

Mandokhel high-

Speaking on economic

He also acknowl-

Regarding security and stability, Governor

Mandokhel noted signifi-

cant improvements in the

law and order situation,

highlighting its critical role

ISLAMABAD (APP): him were expected to alle-Governor Balochistan, Jaffar Khan Mandokhel on Monday hailed the prime minster for announcing historic Rs 55 billion project for solarization of 28,000 tube wells, stating that it will revamp agriculture sec-

Tuesday July 09, 2024

tor at the province. poor governance policies, "A total of 28,000 agpushing it towards underricultural tube wells across development. Balochistan will be converted to solar power issues, the governor underwithin three months," the scored the need to revive the governor told PTV News. National Finance Commis-

Mandokhel noted that sion (NFC) Award to enthe project, costing Rs 55 sure equitable resource disbillion, will see the federal tribution among provinces, government contributing essential for Balochistan's 70% of the funds, with the development. remaining 30% provided by the provincial government. edged the limitations of hydel power infrastruc-He emphasized that uninterrupted power supture in the province, attributing low power genera-tion to the height of existply throughout the day would enhance farming efing dams.

ficiency and cultivate previously untapped agricultural potential. The governor highlighted recent agreements signed between the federal and provincial governments, which according to in fostering prosperity.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal presiding 1st meeting of Disaster Response at NEOC, NDMA Headquarters.

President approves Election (Amendment) Bill, 2024

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Asif Ali Zardari on Monday approved the Election (Amendment) Bill 2024

Through the Election Amendment Bill, the amendments were made in the section 140 of the Election Act 2017.

After the amendment, the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court will be consulted in case of ap- June 28 and by the Senate pointment of a serving on July 4.

judge in the Election Tribunal, a press release issued by the President House said. The president extended the approval of the bill under Article 75 of the Constitution.

After the president's approval, the Election Bill has become an Act. The Election Amend-

ment Bill was passed by the National Assembly on

OUETTA: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif meets members of the provincial cabinet of Balochistan. **Delegation of**

Pakistan to stay in **IMF cycle if taxes** not hiked: Aurangzeb

ISLAMABAD (INP): Federal Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb warned that Pakistan will stay in the IMF cycle if taxes are not increased.

In an interview with Financial Times, he said that the "upcoming IMF program will not be our last

taxes due to these issues. Aurangzeb empha sized that the government must demonstrate positive performance in the next 2terest 3 months to address the country's financial chal-

cal situation of the provlenges. Earlier, the International Monetary Fund appreciated Pakistan's tough economic decisions and ef-

Prime Minister's visit to Quetta Independent Report QUETTA: The Provincial Sharif.

Minister for Finance, Mir Shoaib Nausherwani has hailed the visit of Prime Minister Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif to Quetta.

In an official statement issued here on Monday, the Provincial Minister Finance welcomed **National Party** the Prime Minister to Quetta and said that the calls on PM PML-N's government has done lot of works in the QUETTA (APP): A delegaprovince.

and risks

tion of National Party He referred to the so-Monday called on Prime larization of agricultural Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and distube wells in the province and said that the agreement cussed matters of mutual inwas signed between the In the meeting, they discussed the overall politifederal and provincial governments in this regard because of the interest taken

Member Provincial

Rehmat Saleh Baloch and

former Senator Mir Kabir

Muhammad Sahi were part of the delegation, a press

release issued by the PM Office said.

Mir Shoaib hails

Muhammad Shahbaz

He said that it had been the long-standing demand of the zamindars to solarize the agricultural tube wells in the province. With this, there would

be positive changes in lives of the zamindars of prov-In addition to this, the

federal government is taking concrete measures for improvement in law and order as well as in health and education sectors in collaboration with the provincial government.

He said that our provincial government has been endeavouring to put the province on path of the development removing back-Prime Minister wardness



BAP delegation calls on PM QUETTA (APP): A delega tion of Balochistan Awami

Party (BAP) led by Khalid Magsi Monday called on Minister Prime Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

The delegation commended Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif for his government's successful efforts to stabilize the economy and presented a people-friendly budget.

The delegation also expressed gratitude to the prime minister for taking keen interest in development of Balochistan and announcing the public welfare projects in the province.

The overall political situation of the country and province also came under discussion during the meet-

FC Balochistan

foils major

sugar smuggling

attempt to

Afghanistan

ISLAMABAD (INP)

Frontier Corps (FC)

Balochistan (South) has successfully foiled an at-

tempt to smuggle sugar from Pakistan to Afghani-

stan. The operation took place in Killi Gharibabad,

Nok Kundi, where a large

cache of illegally stored

sugar was discovered in a

warehouse. During the raid

authorities seized 1,368

bags of sugar, weighing ap-proximately 70 tons. The

confiscated sugar is esti-

mated to be worth 10 mil-

lion rupees at current mar-

ket rates. Following the op-

eration, the warehouse was

sealed, and an FIR was reg-

istered against the smug-

glers. The seized sugar and

those involved in the smug-

gling attempt have been handed over to customs.

fund programme if we don't bring our tax revenues up," Aurangzeb maintained

that he is hoping Pakistan will reach a staff-level agreement with the IMF this month, estimating the agreement to be worth \$6-8 billion. He acknowledged that the government's reliance on imports has led to a cycle of debt and borrowing, stressing the need to enhance the country's ability to repay loans. The minister also mentioned the lack of trust in the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) due to corruption and harassment, stating that of the Extended Fund Fapeople are hesitant to pay cility (EFF) program.



QUETTA: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif meets Governor Balochistan Jafar Khan Mandokhel during his one day visit to Quetta.

Dr. Rubaba designated as Chairperson Women **Empowerment Committee** cilitate free issuance of

see land record and data

women's inheritance rights,

matters related to women's

Buledi, known for her un-

wavering commitment to

social justice and gender

dedication to ensuring the

committee's efforts result

Independent Report NOCs for women's func-QUETTA: In a significant tions in public parks, overstep towards advancing women's rights and em-powerment in Balochistan, corrections concerning Advisor to CM Balochistan, Dr. Rubaba and address other pertinent Khan Buledi, has been aprights. Dr. Rubaba Khan pointed as the Chairperson of the newly constituted Women Empowerment Committee. The committee equality, expressed her aims to address various critical issues affecting women across the prov-

in tangible improvements The Women Empowfor women in Balochistan. "I am honored to lead this erment Committee will undertake a comprehensive committee and look forward to collaborating with review of several key areas our esteemed members to including the recruitment of enact meaningful change,' women under the said Dr. Buledi. The comgovernment's quota in demittee comprises esteemed partments, ensuring fair members including Compractices in fairs, licenses, missioner of Quetta Divifestivals, and shops catersion. Ms. Pari Gul Tareen. ing to women, enhancing the inclusion of female Barocha, Mr. Allaudin members in law and order Khilji, and other distin-guished individuals known committees, and the effective implementation of antifor their advocacy and exharassment laws. Additionally, the committee will fa- pertise in gender issues.

forts regarding hike in gas prices. It is pertinent to mention here that the fund's delegation, led by Mission Chief Nathan Porter, visited Pakistan and held extensive negotiations from May 13 to May 23 to discuss the country's economic improvements.

The International Monetary Fund mission assured of its commitment to working together for sustainable economic growth. The statement noted that Pakistan's economy would stabilize with the support

UN HC for **Refugees calls** on Deputy PM ISLAMABAD (APP) United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi Mondav

called on Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Min-ister Mohammad Ishaq Dar. In a meeting, they discussed wide range of issues pertaining to the global refugee situation with a particu-

lar focus on Afghan refugees. Views were also exchanged on the longstanding cooperation between Pakistan and the UNHCR. High Commissioner Grandi appreciated Pakistan's efforts and con-tributions in hosting millions of Afghan refugees for decades and termed it as a remarkable example of the

country's hospitality. He briefed the Deputy Prime Minster and Foreign Minister on UNHCR's ongoing projects and emphasized on the importance of sustained engagement and cooperation between Paki-stan and the UNHCR.

Deputy Prime Minis-ter Dar also shared

the case Pakistan's perspective and Suleman Safdar, Usman Gul and Khalid priorities with regard to Afghan refugees. He under-Yousuf Chaudhry counsels scored that the new hu-

for Bushra Bibi appeared in manitarian situations the court. emerging around the world They must not divert the global Suleman Safdar gave argu-

think of violating it.

ment of hearing.

attention away from the needs of millions of Afhans.

Gilani pays tributes to late Abdul Sattar Edhi

SLAMABAD (APP) Chairman Senate Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani paid glowing tributes to the great humanitarian and phianthropist Abdul Sattar Edhi on the occasion of his 8th death anniversary.

Gilani eulogized Edhi's services for human-Ms. Roshan Khursheed ity, highlighting his dedication to the destitute and underprivileged, said a news release issued on Monday.

OUETTA: A delegation of Balochistan Awami Party (BAP) calls on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

Nikah during iddat case: Orders of IHC important, I cannot even think of violating it: Judge Afzal

ISLAMABAD (Online): ments that Suleman Akram During the hearing of Nikah Raja has given arguments on during iddat case of former the duration of iddat. Prime Minister (PM) Imran I adopt the arguments of Suleman Akram Raja on Khan and Bushra Bibi, Judge Afzal Majoka of Disduration of iddat. trict and Sessions Court

The assistant lawyer Islamabad has remarked orto Zahid Asif counsel for der of Islamabad High Khawar Manika appeared Court (IHC) holds imporbefore the court and retance and " I cannot even quested on behalf of the senior counsel for adjourn-The district court rement of hearing.

sorted to IHC for directives He said the hearing be in connection with adjournadjourned in view of Muharram ul Haram. Additional Sessions Suleman Safdar said judge Afzal Majoka heard what cases are fixed in court, the application for adjourn-

ing the hearing of such cases cannot be given. The judge "Give your arguments. I talk to high court. I get direction from

said that high court with reference to adjourning the hearing



prosperity in Khyber Muzaffar Wani, in the city.

Party parliamentarians to focus on public welfare, Balochistan's development

PM directs

stressed the elected representatives of the party from Balochistan to play their role in development of the province to ensure well being and prosperity of the

people. "PML-N believes in the the public service, the elected representatives of the party should focus tatives to take steps to comtheir attention on the welfare of the people," the prime minister said while

QUETTA (APP): Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Monday called on him here.

During his visit to Quetta, PM Shehbaz said the provincial coalition government in Balochistan should identify the problems of the province and prepare a comprehensive plan to resolve them. He directed the elected represenplete the development projects in their respective constituencies



QUETTA: People are filling their water cans from public tap as they facing shortage of drinking water in their area, during the hot weather of summer season, in Quetta.

JI Emir asks rulers not to plunge the country into another blind conflict,

BAJAUR/LAYYAH (PR): Pakhtunkhwa (KP), espe-Jamaat-e-Islami Emir Hafiz Naeem ur Rehman has asked the rulers not to plunge the country into another blind conflict, citing

the repercussions of Pervez Musharraf's decision to join the US-led so-called war on terrorism.

Addressing a by-elec-tion rally in PK-22 Bajaur on Monday, he emphasized the need for Islamabad and Kabul to engage in dialogue to ensure peace in the region

Rehman stated that military operations create divisions between the army and the people, with historical examples underscoring this point. He stressed that Pakistan can no longer afford to conduct operations dictated by foreign powers, highlighting the pressing need for peace and cially for its youth who seek employment.

Rehman called for an examination of the root causes of terrorism and demanded the implementation of the National Action Plan in its true spirit.

He criticized the ruling authorities for depriving the masses of basic health and employment facilities, and for imposing additional taxes on the poor while increasing petroleum and gas tariffs in recent budget.

The ruling elite, he said, are unwilling to compromise their luxuries, which come at the state's expense

He asserted that the Jamaat-e-Islami would not remain silent in the face of injustices and the plundering of national resources by the ruling elite.

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