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Chief Editor: Syed Farooq Shah

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#### 10 security personnel, 5 civilians martyred, 13 terrorists killed in terror attacks in Bannu, DIK

President vows to root out menace of terrorism; Entire nation stands with security forces in war against terrorism: PM Shahbaz

RAWALPINDI (APP): As July 15th, a group of ten many as eight soldiers of terrorists attacked Bannu joining infrastructure, remany as eight soldiers of Pakistan Army embraced martyrdom while gallantly fighting and successfully eliminating a group of ten terrorists who attacked Bannu Cantonment on July

According to the Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release on Tuesday, in early hours of

Cantonment, whereas the thwarted by the security forces personnel, which into perimeter wall of the cantonment.

The suicide blast led to Havildar Shahzad Ahmed collapse of portion of the (age: 28 years, resident of:

joining infrastructure, resulting in shahadat of eight attempt to enter the canton- brave sons of soil that inment was effectively cluded Naib Subedar Muhammad Shehzad (age: 44 years, resident of: Disforced the terrorists to ram an explosive laden vehicle Havildar Zil-e-Hussain (age: 39 years, resident of: District Khushab),

Sepoy Ashfaq Hussain Khan (age: 30 years, resident of: District Muzzafarabad, AJK), Sepoy Sobhan Majeed (age: 22 years, resident of: District Muzzafarabad, AJK), Sepoy Imtiaz Khan (age: 30 years, resident of: District Karak), Sepoy Arsalan

Aslam (age: 26 years, resi-

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Chief Min-

ister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has

stated that the sacrifices

rendered by Hazrat Imam

Hussain (RA), his family

and companions for sur-

vival and upholding of Is-

lam are the bright chapter

fices can never be forgotten

and are the torch bearers for

the whole Muslim ummah.

said that the best way to

pay homage to the martyrs

of Karbala is that we may

create spirit of sacrifice and

tolerance among ourselves

and prove to be best Mus-

lims while promoting the

spirit of brotherhood and

unity by our actions and

The Chief Minister

He said that their sacri-

The Chief Minister

of the religion.

District

Sacrifice of Hazrat Imam Hussain (RA) & companions bright chapter: Best way to pay homage to

martyrs of Karbala is to create

spirit of sacrifice, tolerance

among ourselves: CM

Bahawalpur) of Pakistan Army and Lance Naik Sabz Ali (age: 34 years, resident of: Lakki Marwat) of Frontier Constabulary. In the ensuing opera-

tion, the Army troops effectively engaged the terrorists as a result of which all ten terrorists were killed. "This timely and effec-

Continued on page 2

said that Hazrat Imam Hussain (RA) refused to

surrender despite they were

less in number and preferred

to sacrifice their lives for the

upheld following the sacri-

fices of Karbala martyrs

and thus evil forces were

He said that the sacri-fices of Hazrat Imam

Hussain (RA) are the role

model for the whole Mus-

time required from us to

promote unity among all

Muslims belonging to all

schools of thought and

maintain unity among our

ranks against all terrorists

stressed that our Ulemas

have to guide the society in

The Chief Minister

He said that the present

He said that Islam was

right cause instead.

defeated.

lim Ummah.

and miscreants.

right direction.



# PTI, says Ishaq Dar

**PML-N** to consult

with allies regarding

**PTI** ban issue: Asif

SIALKOT (INP):- Defense Minister Khawaja Asif has

announced that the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz

(PML-N) will consult its parliamentary allies regarding

the potential ban on Tehreek-e-Insaaf (PTI), emphasiz-

ing the importance of collaboration in legislative matters.

PTI's political motives, stating, "The only aim of PTI is

ber, asserting that their principle of politics revolves

around the idea that without Imran Khan, there is no

Pakistan. "For me, Pakistan is the most important thing,"

calling personal experiences with political inquiries and

asserting that accountability must be upheld, especially

in light of past actions surrounding the no-confidence

Fazal criticizes use of force

against political entities

Simultaneously, the

Pakistan Peoples Party

(PPP), a government ally.

has opposed the federal

government's decision to

ban Pakistan Tehreek-e-

vealed that senior leaders

have advised the party's

top leadership to publicly

reject the government's

move and have expressed

surprise over claims of con-

sensus. Senior PPP leader

Farhatullah Babar criticized

the notion of banning a po-

litical party or prosecuting

a leader for treason, calling

such measures "nonsense"

that would lead to a severe

political crisis. He warned

that while American democ-

racy could withstand its

current turmoil. Pakistani

democracy and the state

might not survive a self-

imposed crisis.

Sources within PPP re-

Insaaf (PTI).

PESHAWAR

unrest

Maulana Fazlur Rehman,

leader of Jamiat Ulema-e-

Islam F, has strongly con-

demned the use of force

against political entities,

warning that such actions

will only escalate political

Rehman urged authorities to

acknowledge the failure of

the current hybrid system.

portance of adhering to

constitutional boundaries

for all institutions, assert-

ing that the country can re-

cover only if the military

erful circles understand this

reality, the better it will be

for the country and them-

selves," he cautioned, add-

ing that continued interfer-

ence would only exacerbate

the situation

"The sooner the pow-

withdraws from politics.

In a recent statement,

He emphasized the im-

He referred to comments made by a female PTI mem-

Asif also addressed the implications of Article 6, re-

In a press conference held in Sialkot, Asif criticized

LAHORE (INP): Deputy previous government for Prime Minister Ishaq Dar said on Saturday that no decision has been made regarding the ban on the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party, stating that any decision will only be taken after consultation

with coalition partners. Speaking to media at Lahore's Data Darbar, Dar emphasised that the current emphasised that the current emphasised that the current endering power.

Further detailing the economic impact, Dar pointed out that during the pointed out that during the and his devoted companeconomic challenges were PTI's tenure, Pakistan's ions in Karbala. cumbent government but were a consequence of previous administrations. 'The economic downslide began with the ousting of Nawaz Sharif, not during our tenure," Dar asserted. He criticised the PTI's

exacerbating the country's financial instability, alleging that PTI left the economy on the brink of default within six to seven months of their rule and accused them of rigging the 2018 elections to place their leader in power.

"Had the PML-N not stepped in, Pakistan would have defaulted." he claimed. praising Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and his team for averting a financial cri-

# SLAMABAD (INP):

observed today (Wednesday) across the country with due solemnity to pay homage to the supreme sacrifice rendered

tragedy.

# **CJ** convenes

The purpose of this meeting is to determine the names of four judges who will be appointed as ad hoc judges in the Supreme

Sources said that the Chief Justice has nominated Justice (Retired) Mushir Alam and Justice (Retired) Magbool Bagar, while Justice (Retired) Mazhar Alam Khan, and Justice (Retired) Sardar Tariq Masood are also in the race.

pointment of ad hoc judges aims to reduce the burden of pending cases in the apex court.

A retired judge can be ppointed as an ad hoc udge for a period of three

the CJP sent a summery to all members of the comcases continue to accumucases pendency.

reviewed the security ar-

rity protocols. He also conducted an aerial inspection of the entire procession route, ensuring that all necessary mea-

maintaining a high level of

mourning period, instructing the security personnel to remain on duty until the

procession's conclusion. He also issued directives for the implementation of a special security plan across all four provinces, Gilgit-Baltistan and Azad Kashmir, ensuring

rocessions and gatherings has been banned nationwide. Mohsin Naqvi highlighted the collaborative efforts of police, administration and law enforcement agencies in ensuring peace and order including the deployment of snipers on rooftops along procession routes. He assured the public that the federal government was providing all necessary support to maintain peace in Islamabad, Azad Kash-

on occasion of the Ashurae-Muharram and directed to ensure implementation on the plan of security prepared in this regard at every cost. The Minister also directed the law enforcement

agencies to keep strict vigil on the miscreants while remaining fully active. The Minister Home

said that all out resources are being mobilized for maintaining law and order situation in the province. He said that more than 10,000 security personnels

sions of Ashura. In his statement, Mir iaullah Langove also paid

homage to the grandson of Holy prophet (SAW) and his companions saying that the Muslims are paying homage to them all over the world for the great sacrifices they rendered for up-

said Muharramul Haram teaches us the lesson of sacrifice due to which we can face

of Balochistan live with religious harmony as all the religious leaders promoted

#### Imam Hussain (RA)'s sacrifice teaches great sacrifices needed for great causes: Tarar



LAHORE (APP): Federal Minister of Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaullah Tarar here on Tuesday said that the incident of Karbala had taught the lesson that great sacrifices were needed for the great causes.

that no tyrant and oppressor should be allowed to play with the truth" he said during his visit to Imambargah Kashan Abbas to review the security arrangements here, The minister said that

the incident of Karbala was Continued on page 2

#### Four Pakistanis martyred, 30 hospitalized in Muscat Imambargah attack: FO

Four Pakistanis were martyred and thirty others were hospitalized with gunshot wounds after a terrorist attack targeted the Imambargah, Ali bin Abi Talib, in Muscat's Wadi Kabeer area, said Foreign Office spokesperson on Tuesday.

eign Office spokesperson

ties, stating that the Pakistan Embassy in Oman was coordinating with local au-

> A helpline has been set injured Pakistani nationals.



## today with solemnity

Youm-e-Ashur, the tenth of Muharram-ul-Haram, will

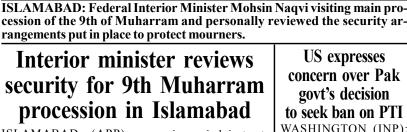
will be taken out in all cities and towns of the country. Ulema and Zakireen will highlight the bright and candid teachings of Hazrat Imam Hussain (R.A) and various aspects of Karbla

#### iudicial commission meeting to appoint ad hoc judges

ISLAMABAD: (Online) The Chief Justice of Pakistan, Oazi Faez Isa, has convened the Judicial Commission meeting on July 19.

They said that ap-

Media reported that mission stating that despite the best efforts, the late, as seen from the Registrar's note and the reviewed statistics on



ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi here on Monday visited the main procession of the 9th of Muharram and personally rangements put in place to protect mourners.

The interior minister inspected the procession route, met with organizers to inquire about arrangements and gave instructions to IG Islamabad Police Ali Nasir Rizvi and CDA Chairman Muhammad Ali Randhawa regarding secu-

sures were in place.

The minister emphasized the importance of

strict adherence to the plan. The use of drones in



QUETTA: Security personnel checking routes of Muharramul Haram pro-

## Imam Hussain (RA)'s sacrifices inspire resistance against oppression: PM

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Shehbaz Sharif stated that the supreme sacrifices of Hazrat Imam Hussain (RA) serve as a reminder, inspiring humanity to stand against falsehood and oppression, reaffirming the unwavering commitment to truth on this significant occasion of Youm-e-Ashur.

In his Youm-e-Ashur message, the prime minister highlighted its profound significance, noting that the grandson of the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) and his companions sacrificed their lives in a decisive battle between truth and falsehood at Karbala, illustrating the eternal strength of truth over falsehood through their martyrdom.

The prime minister emphasized that the tragic events of Youm-e-Ashur resonate deeply within believers, serving as an endur-

US expresses

concern over Pak

govt's decision

to seek ban on PTI

WASHINGTON (INP)

The United States has ex-

pressed concern over the

Pakistan government's de-

cision to seek a ban on the

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf

(PTI) for anti-State activi-

news briefing in Washing-

ton, US State Department

Spokesperson Matthew

Miller responded to ques-

tions regarding the "possible restrictions on PTI".

US has observed govern-

ment statements imposing

restrictions on political par-

ties, which raises concerns

that such actions could

mark the beginning of a po-

litical crackdown. He said

that the US will closel

monitor these internal devel

restrictions on political par

ties are worrisome because

they contradict human

rights, freedom of expres

sion, constitutional, and

democratic principles.

He emphasised that the

United States has always

supported actions promot-

ing justice, including adher-

ence to democratic practices

and broader principles and

laws. Miller further said that

the Pakistani government's de-

cision to ban the PTI was a

complex political process but added that it would be con-

cerned if a political party were banned. "Our under-

standing is this is the begin-

ning of what would be a com

plete complex political pro-

cess, but certainly banning

of a political party is some-

thing that would be a great

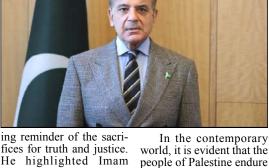
concern to us." he added.

Miller added that any

opments and decisions.

Miller stated that the

Speaking at his daily



He highlighted Imam Hussain's (RA) courageous stand against Yazid's oppressive rule in Karbala, ilustrating his unwavering perseverance. The Holy Qur'an states, "Do not think of

those who have been killed in the way of Allah as dead. They are alive with their Lord, receiving provision" Surah Al-Imran, 3:169). This verse captures the essence of sacrifice demonstrated by Imam Hussain (RA) and his companions.

substantial sacrifices for a iust cause. They continue to strive for their rights and freedom, especially to protect Jerusalem, the first Oibla. Likewise, the residents of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir suffer under oppressive The prime minister un-

derscored that Pakistan was currently facing sub-stantial economic chal-

great hardships and make

#### **Minister Home directs to ensure** strict implementation on security plan for Ashura-e-Muharram

#### **Independent Report** would remain deployed for QUETTA: The Provincial monitoring of the proces-Minister for Home, Mir Ziaullah Langove has stated that the strict security arrangements have been made

# holding the religion.

any big trial. He said that the people

the spirit of love and re-



"Lesson of the sacrifice

ISLAMABAD (APP): tion from Omani authori-

In a statement, the For-

quoted the latest informa-

thorities to identify and repatriate the remains of Pakistani martyrs. up to assist the Pakistani community in Oman and

Ambassador Imran Ali was visiting local hospitals to monitor the condition of



#### Ghusal ceremony of Data Ganj Bakhsh shrine held

LAHORE (APP): The 981st annual ghusal of the shrine of Al-Shaikh Al-Syed Ali Bin Usman Al-Hajveri popubiggest economy of the world. larly known as Hazrat Data Ganj Bakhsh was held here on Tuesday.

The ceremony started with recitation of the Holy Quran while renowned Naat Khawan Marghoob Ahmad Hamdani and others presented Naat Rasool-e-Maqbool

Later, ghusal of the shrine was performed with rosewater and wreaths were laid besides "Chadar

Special prayers were offered for peace, stability country.

Dar attended the ceremony as the chief guest while Provincial Ministers Khawaja Salman Rafique, Bilal Yaseen and others also attended the ceremony.

The deputy prime minister was briefed that work was ongoing on traffic control in surroundings of the shrine, extension of 'Ghulam Gardish' and projects related to extension of Data Ganj Bakhsh shrine.

Later, talking to the media, Ishaq Dar said that officials of communication and works been directed to complete extension related projects of Data Darbar at allies, adding that each and every step would be taken the earliest. He added that very soon detail discussion as per law. on the project would be held.

three years and under the dynamic leadership of the then

biggest economy of the world.

He said that at that time inflation rate was just 2 per

cent while general inflation was 3.6 per cent. Growth rate was 6 per cent and interest rate 5.25 per cent, he added. Ishaq Dar said the 2018 general election were stolen and added that the PML-N was not interested in the PDM government. He said the PML-N during the PDM government saved the country from default. Once PDM government saved the country from default. Once again, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and his team was making sincere efforts to ensure development in the

and prosperity of the country.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq

Ishaq Dar said with the grace of Allah, The Almighty, Pakistan diplomatic ties with other countries

mighty, Pakistan diplomatic ties with other countries were in a right direction. The country was an atomic power, he said and added that all-out efforts were beng made to make Pakistan an economic power under he able leadership of PM Shehbaz Sharif.

To a question, he said the Election Commission of Pakistan had proof that the PTI was a foreign funded

To a question regarding ban on the PTI, Ishaq Dar said things would be discussed with the leadership and

He said the country's integrity should be on top Ishaq Dar said from 2013 to 2016 in just a short span of priority, adding that nothing was acceptable over na-



 $\overline{ ext{MULTAN}}$ : Volunteers are distributing food and water among the mourners attending procession on 9th Muharram ul Harram at Mumtazabad. Muharram Ul Haram is known as the first month of the Islamic calendar and the mourning month in remembrance of the martyrdom (Shahadat) of Hazrat Imam Hussain (RA), the grandson of the Holy Prophet Mohammad (PBUH).

ABBOTTABAD: District Emergency Officer Arif Khattak presiding over the meeting of Rescue 1122 workers, regarding 10th Muharram.

#### Zahid Hussain emphasizes importance of meeting Chinese economic expectations regarding CPEC

ISLAMABAD (APP): A cent signing of 27 new potential of Phase-II. renowned columnist, and author Zahid Hussain, emphasized the importance of meeting Chinese economic expectations regarding China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) with an effective and consistent policy response during a discussion at the Institute of Regional Studies (IRS)

on 'CPEC: An Appraisal'. Emphasizing the imexisting synergy between the two nations, Hussain upgrading the skills of the Pakistani workforce to advance high-quality development in the second phase of the CPEC

He added that the re-

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Mohammad Haris has

been named Pakistan

Shaheens white-ball cap-

played from 4-18 August

projects related to the development of Special Industrial Zones (SIZs), agriculture, tourism, and other mutually beneficial initiatives was poised to significantly build on the commercial ties between China and Pakistan, leading to a new era of cooperation within the South Asian region.

Phase-I to fully leverage the lenging times.

Haris to lead Pakistan Shaheens' in Darwin

against Bangladesh 'A'

tain for the two 50-over from July 19 to 22 July the white-ball matches,

matches and nine-team and July 26 to 29 July. seven changes have been

Top End T20 series to be haheens' 50-over matches made from the red-ball

will be against Northern

last captained Pakistan Bangladesh 'A' on August Jahandad Khan, Mohammad

Shaheens in the ACC 4 and 6, respectively be- Haris, Mohammad Imran

Men's Emerging Teams fore the T20 series com-Asia Cup 2023 in Co-mences on August 9. replace Kamran Ghulam,

Melbourne Renegades,

Spain shatter English hopes

for Euro 2024 fairytale

BERLIN: Mikel Oyarzabal finished off a scintillating one-two with Marc Cucurella

and went to the corner flag, where he was soon buried in a sea of red. He scored the

wait for a first major title since their triumph at the 1966 World Cup will continue.

The 'Red Fury' is back. Spain are champions of Europe once again, while England's

Spain had arguably been the team of the tournament and it remains to be seen how

Its new generation — looking to emulate the team that dominated European and

world football at the turn of the last decade — was featuring in a final for the first time.

decisive goal of the Euro 2024 final just four minutes before full-time.

far Luis de la Fuente's team can go with the World Cup in two years' time.

in Darwin, Australia. Haris Territory (NT) and

lombo. In the final, Paki- Other participating

stan Shaheens defeated Interest in the T20 series

dia by 128 runs to suc- are ACT Comets,

cessfully defend the title, Bangladesh

Speaking on the occasion, Ambassador Jauhar Saleem, President IRS, underlined the critical importance of timely completion of CPEC projects, asserting that this would greatly enhance the strategic cooperative partnership between Pakistan and China He emphasized the

In elaborating on the development of Phase-I, multi-dimensional cooperation facilitated by CPEC for portance of nurturing the Mr Hussain acknowledged enhancing trade, and industhe slow pace but high- trial collaboration as well as lighted the instrumental role connectivity within the rehighlighted the need for of several infrastructure gion and stressed upon the projects initiated in the first need for a fresh approach phase in spurring economic to capitalize on China's growth of Pakistan. He also fast-growing economy. He underscored the need to also appreciated China's address shortcomings of supportive role during chal-

Strikers and Tasmania. For

side. Abdul Faseeh, Arafat

Minhas, Arif Yaqoob,

Mohammad Ali, Mubasir

Khan, Tayyab Tahir and

Mumtaz

Khurram

Mehran

Pakistan Shaheens are Melbourne Stars, Perth

already in Darwin for Scorchers, Northern Ter-

two four-day matches ritory Strike, Adelaide

#### on recent struggles in international cricket

Shadab Khan breaks silence

Imran Khan, Bushra Bibi

interrogated by NAB

in new Toshakhana case

RAWALPINDI (INP): Pa- the gifts and their sale rekistan Tehreek-e-Insaf lated to the Toshakhana.

Sources stated that

The investigation also

questions were raised about

the underpricing of a

covered allegations of abuse

of power and illegal sale of

government assets. The

team questioned the couple

on violations of the

Toshakhana Procedure

2018. Jail sources revealed

that the NAB team recorded

the arrest of Imran Khan

and Bushra Bibi in the

Toshakhana case on 13 July.

proved an eight-day physi-

cal remand on 14 July, di-

recting that the interroga-

tion be conducted in jail.

The court had ap-

Meanwhile, on July 13,

team investigating the

May 9 cases registered in

Lahore had also arrived at

Adiala Jail, indicating the

possibility of further ar-

rests of the PTI founder in

Bulgari set.

(PTI) founder and wife,

Bushra Bibi were interro-

gated for four hours at

Rawalpindi's Adiala jail by

the National Accountabil-

ity Bureau (NAB) in a re-

cently filed case related to

the sale of state gifts

team

Rawalpindi's accountabil-

ity watchdog, led by

Deputy Director Mohsin

Haroon, interrogated the

PTI founder and his wife,

the couple was recently ac-

quitted in the Iddat case by

short order stated to release

Imran and Bushra Bibi un-

less they were wanted in

other cases, the couple was

technically free until the

government charged them

According to jail sources, the NAB team

questioned the couple about those cases.

with a new NAB case.

Judge Afzal Majoka's

a sessions court.

(Toshakhana).

Sports Desk

portance of bowling variations in T20 cricket amidst his form recovery

Pakistan all-rounder Shadab Khan has recently shared his challenges in regaining form with both bat and ball on the international stage. Despite rewriting record books, Shadab revealed his recent difficulties in delivering consistent performances for the Pakistan

"I was struggling for three months. I hadn't taken a wicket in the last seven international games. I came here, started bowling and am now always taking wickets. That is the beauty of cricket. You have to enjoy these types of scenarios as well... sometimes you perform, sometimes you don't. But the process that you follow has to be consistent," Shadab said.

Shadab also reflected on his first outing in the league, noting the pitch's helpfulness for spinners. He emphasized that a successful T20 bowler must have variations to adapt to different conditions.

ing us as it was a bit slow LAHORE: Pakistan all-rounder highlights the im-T20 cricket is very hard nowadays, as 200 is easily changeable. As a spinner, you have to have your variations because on flat tracks, if you don't have variations, you can go for runs. But if you have variation, you can take wickets as well as contain runs. So that is very important, and it is also important that you

> The 25-vear-old expressed his aim to contribute comprehensively as an all-rounder for his franchise. the Colombo Strikers.

land it in a good area," he

"I am performing for my team, and that is a good sign. I am the main bowler. and if I am taking wickets, that is a positive sign for me and my team. I want to contribute in all three phases. So far. I am contributing in two as a bowler and fielder. Hopefully, I can contribute with the bat too," he concluded.

It is worth noting that Shadab is currently the leading wicket-taker in the tournament, with 16 wickets in seven games, an average of 8.81, and an

#### economy rate of 5.87. **Pakistan Women Cricket** squad flies to join Asia Cup

KARACHI (APP): Pakistan Women's Cricket Team fllew from Jinnah **International Airport to** Columbo via Dubai to participate in the Asia Cup here on Tuesday.

The Team will play their first match in the Asia Cup against archrivals India in Dambulla

Pakistan Women's **Cricket Team Squad:** Nida Dar (captain), Alia Riaz, Diana Baig,

Fatima Sana, Gul Feroza, Iram Javed, Muniba Ali, Najiha Alvi, Nashera Sindhu, Umima Sohail, Sadia Iqbal, Sudra Amin, Aroob Shah, Tasmia Rabab and Touba

#### Imam Hussain (RA)'s sacrifice...

Continued from page 1 the difference between

truth and falsehood until the Day of Resurrection. 'The courage, patience, independence and prudence

of all the companions of Imam Hussain are the beacon of light for us," he main-Tarar said that the battle

between the forces of truth and falsehood continued even in this era. He said that today, the need to promote the spirit of self-sacrifice was needed more than ever.

The information minister inspected the route of the procession while also reviewing the security arrangements during the Majalis. He also met the organizers, mourners present in the Imambargah. On this occasion, Syed Khurram Abbas Naqvi, ad-

ministrator of Imambargah Kashan Abbas, briefed the federal minister regarding the security arrangements. Ataullah Tarar appreciated the arrangements and expressed his satisfaction

over it. He said that the administration was in contact with all schools of thought for the maintenance of law and order in the holy month. Police and administration are on alert to maintain peace during Muharram, he said adding fool-proof measures have been taken for the safety of the participants of Majalis

and processions.

#### PCB seeks written proof from **BCCI** if Indian govt refuses to send team for CT

**Sports Desk** 

NEW DELHI: The Pakistan Cricket Board wants the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) to provide written proof government's denial of permission in case the team refuses to come here for the 2025 Champions Trophy, citing a travel ban on security grounds, a PCB source has said.

According to the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency, the PCB also wants the matter to be sorted as soon as possible, given that the eightnation tournament is scheduled for February-

March. While the ICC annual conference will be held in Colombo on July 19 doesn't have any discussion on the 'hybrid model', about India playing their games in the UAE on its agenda, the game's global governing body as usual has earcase it becomes a twocountry tournament.

"If the Indian government declines permission [to its team on travelling to Pakistan the Champions Trophy], it has to be in writing, and it is mandatory on the BCCI to provide that letter to the International Cricket Council (ICC) now," the PCB source working closely with the organising committee told

'It is a fact that we are insistent that the BCCI must inform the ICC about its travel plans to Pakistan at least 5-6 months before the tournament and in writing," the top PCB source added.

The BCCI has always steadfastly maintained that playing cricket in Pakistan is completely a government call and even the 2023 ODI Asia Cup, which was hosted by the PCB witnessed India playing all their games in Sri Lanka based on a 'hybrid model'.

The PCB has already submitted its draft schedule to the ICC where all of India's games including a possible semi-final and final has been scheduled in Lahore. The India vs

Pakistan marquee match

has been set for March 1. The event will start in Karachi on Feb 19 and conclude with the final in Lahore on March 9. The final will have a reserve day — March 10 — in case of inclement weather. A few matches will be held in Rawalpindi too.

If the BCCI sources are to be believed, at this point there is no chance of India's team travelling to Pakistan and knowing fully well, the ICC has allocated additional budget for any expediency

"The ICC management is recommending additional costs just in case it is necessary to play some matches outside Pakistan if such a situation arises later on," the



LAHORE: A view of road closed at Islam pura during a religious procession on the ninth day of the Islamic month of Muharram, in the Provincial Capital.

#### 10 security personnel, 5 civilians martyred....

Continued from page 1 tive response by the secu-

rity forces prevented major catastrophe, saving precious innocent lives. The gallant and selfless action of the security forces is a testament of unrelenting resolve in fight against terrorism," the ISPR said.

The heinous act of terrorism has been undertaken by Hafiz Gul Bahadur group, which operates from Afghanistan and has used Afghan soil to orchestrate acts of terrorism inside Pakistan in the past as well, it added.

Pakistan has consistently raised its concerns with Interim Afghan Government, asking them to deny persistent use of Afghan soil by the terrorists and take effective action against such elements.

"Pakistan Armed Forces will keep defending the motherland and its people against this menace of terrorism and will take all necessary measures as deemed appropriate against these threats emanating from Afghanistan," the ISPR said.

Meanwhiile terrorists carried out a cowardly attack on Rural Health Center (RHC), Kirri Shamozai in Dera İsmail Khan District and opened indiscriminate fire on RHC

Resultantly, five innocent civilians including two Lady Health Workers, two children and one Watchman embraced Shahadat.

Security Forces in vicinity were immediately mobilized for clearance operation in RHC and in ensuing fire exchange, own troops effectively engaged the terrorists as a result of which three terrorists were sent to hell.

However, during intense fire exchange, Naib Subedar Muhammad Farooq (age 44 years, resident of District Narowal) and Sepoy Muhammad Javed Iqbal (age 23 years, resident of District Khanewal) paid the ultimate sacrifice and embraced Shahadat.

Sanitization of area is being carried out to eliminate any other terrorist found in the area. The perpetrators of this heinous and cowardly act targeting innocent civilians, especially women and children, will be brought to justice.

Meanwhile President Asif Ali Zardari on Tuesday strongly denounced the terrorist incident in Bannu Cantonment and paid homage to the martyred soldiers for

thwarting the attacks. In a statement, the president highlighted that the nation's soldiers prevented a major loss through swift action.

The president expressed that the entire nation was proud of the brave soldiers' sacrifice and paid tribute to the security forces for their role in foiling the terrorist attack in Bannu Cantonment.

The President reiterated his commitment to eliminate those engaged in such despicable activities. He offered prayers for the martyrs seeking their elevation in paradise and requesting patience for their grieving families.

Prime Muhammad Shehbaz

Sharif on Tuesday expressed his admiration for the security forces for effectively thwarting a major attack on Bannu Can-

tonment. In his statement, the PM vehemently denounced the terrorists for the assault on Bannu Cantonment and reiterated the nation's steadfast backing of the security forces in their ongoing fight against terrorism.

The Prime Minister expressed heartfelt sympathy and sorrow for the families who lost loved ones, underscoring the unmatched sacrifices made by the Pakistan Army and security forces in combating terrorism.

The Prime Minister commended the security forces for their courage in confronting and decisively eliminating ten terrorists, emphasizing his unwavering resolve to eradicate terrorism from the country.

The prime minister prayed for the elevation of ranks in paradise for the martyred soldiers of the Pakistan Army, which included Naib Subedar Muhammad Shehzad, Hawaldar Zil-e-Hussain, Havaldar Shehzad Ahmed, Lance Naik Sabz Ali, Sepoy Ashfaq Hussain Khan, Sepoy Sobhan Majeed, Sepoy Imtiaz Khan, and Sepoy Arsalan

Meanwhile Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday strongly condemned a cowardly terrorist attack on a rural health center (RHC) in Kirri Shamozai, Dera

# Ovarzabal's goal ensured Spain's 2-1 victory over England on Sunday. This was also the record fourth continental title for the Spaniards. In a cagey first half, with chances at a premium, Spain dominated possession but

could make little out of it as England negated the threat of tricky wingers Lamine Yamal and Nico Williams. But Spain surged at the start of the second half, with Yamal and Williams combining to create a devastating effect.

Yamal, who was also named Young Player of the Tournament for his one goal and four assists, picked up a Dani Carvajal flick and raced towards goal before finding Williams at the far post, where the 21-year-old found the perfect first-touch finish with a low shot across Jordan Pickford.

As Spain were all over England, giving them little breathing room, coach Gareth Southgate responded by hooking captain Harry Kane past the hour mark for Ollie Watkins, the scorer of the winner against the Netherlands in the semi final.

#### **IIUI President ended nepotism,** promoted merit: Spokesperson

ISLAMABAD (APP): In- holding of selection boards, support provided by Saudi and serving in better conditernational Islamic University Islamabad (IIUI) spokesperson Nasir Farid praised the university's President, Dr. Hathal Homoud Alotaibi, for transforming the institution into a merit-based hub of excellence over the past four years, saying that Dr. Alotaibi eliminated nepotism and ensuring decisions were made solely on merit.

In a statement issued on Tuesday, Nasir Farid said that Dr. Alotaibi's principled decisions discouraged grouping and made it possible for deserving individuals to access their

He cited the frequent

where employees and teachers were promoted on

He said that President failed such elements whose agenda was personal inter-

He said that in the light of President IIUI's vision, the university achieved significant success in research, teaching quality and infrastructural development among other fields.

Mentioning the strateic plan introduced by Dr. Hathal Homoud Alotaibi, he said that President IIUI saved the university from a the university is very comserious financial crisis, the petitive compared to other most mentionable is the

amid tough financial circum-

Nasir Farid said that IIUI's principled policy as a result of the tireless efforts of the President of University, the salaries of the last two months were managed from the Saudi

The spokesperson

said that the universities across the country are currently suffering from severe financial crisis and the same situation has also affected the IIUI, but it is the result of Dr. Hathal's hard work and vision that even now

Speaking about a highlevel meeting on admissions on Monday, the University spokesperson said that in this meeting, the Vice Presidents, Deans, Directors General and other senior officials of the University praised the leadership and vision of Dr. Hathal Homoud Alotaibi and said that in result of his hard work and vision, the university has achieved a prominent position in the obal rankings.

They also praised saying that during his fouryear tenure, along with the increase in faculty blocks, labs and infrastructure

ISLAMABAD (APP): In a

bid to transform Pakistan

into a global IT hub, the

Ministry of Federal Educa-

tion and Professional Train-

ing is all set to launch a land-

mark project aimed at

equipping school children

with cutting-edge skills in emerging technologies.

According to the Ministry of Education and

Professional Training, the

project will establish

Emerging Technology

Centres" in 350 schools

across Islamabad, Azad

Jammu and Kashmir and

of the government's strate-

gic planning to strengthen

its initiative to make Paki-

stan a global IT destination.

as catalyst for introducing

children to emerging tech-

nologies such as virtual re-

ality, artificial intelligence,

and data analytics, prepar-

ing them for the increas-

ingly digital landscape they

will encounter in their fu-

at developing skills and ca-

The project is aimed

ture endeavors.

The initiative is part

The centres will serve

Gilgit Baltistan.

**Emerging Technologies** 

Centers' to be established

at 350 schools soon

pacity in the IT sector, pre-

paring students for a digital

future, enhancing Pakistan's

export and capability in the

IT sector, and making Pa-

kistan a global IT destina-

The Emerging Technology Centres will be di-

vided into two facilities -

Class A and Class B. Class

A facilities will provide

state-of-the-art spaces for

co-working and will also

function as co-working

spaces during off hours to

address the challenges faced

by freelancers and profes-

Class B facilities will provide STEM, entrepre-

neurship, and computer

science education to 40,000

students in 320 middle, and

revolutionize Pakistan's IT

landscape and pave the

way for a brighter future

executed by highly trained

175 Tech fellows hired and

trained by service provid-

ers hired through Open

competitive process

for the nation's youth.

The project is set to

This project will be

sionals locally.

high schools.



ISLAMABAD: A large number of mourners attending main procession on 9th of Muharramul Haram at G-6. Muharramul Harram known as the first month of the Islamic calendar and the mourning month in remembrance of the martyrdom (Shahadat) of Hazrat Imam Hussain (RA), the grandson of the Holy Prophet Mohammad (SAWW).

# universities in the country

ISLAMABAD: The Inspector General of Police (IGP) Islamabad, Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi, visiting main procession of 9th Muharram-ul-Haram to review

#### Visits 9th Muharram-ul-Haram processions IGP Islamabad directs foolproof security for Muharram processions

**Independent Report** ISLAMABAD: The Inspector General of Police (IGP) Islamabad, Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi, visited the main procession of 9th Muharram-ul-Haram to review the security arrangements. Over 3,400 police officers, including senior officers, have been deployed to ensure the safety of citizens and maintain law and order during the processions. IGP Islamabad Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi, accompanied by senior police officers, inspected the security measures in place for the procession. He directed the senior officers to implement foolproof security ducted within a five-kilolives and property of citizens, emphasizing the importance of maintaining peace and harmony during the observance of Muharram. Speaking about the security arrangements, IGP Islamabad Syed Ali

Nasir Rizvi stated that

Islamabad Police and the

district administration have

Kites have been released

into wild who have healed

up after rehabilitation un-

der expert care and treat-

ment at the Margalla Wild-

Islamabad Wildlife Man-

agement Board (IWMB)

after they were found de-

hydrated during the peak

heatwave season by volun-

teers and civil society.
The Margalla Wildlife

Rescue Centre revealed that

the animal rehab facility

had received around 3-4 de-

hydrated Common Kites

during heatwave season

that were being rehabili-

mostly reported birds of

prey including kites and

others groggy during ex-

treme hot season that were

found unconscious or un-

steady with sprawled

wings as they fell at differ-

ent places due to dehydra-

The general public

tated successfully.

life Rescue Centre of the capital.

IWMB releases 17

rehabilitated kites into wild

after successful treatment

ISLAMABAD (APP): As search and Planning, many as 17 Common Indian IWMB, Sakhawat Ali told

cessions. In this regard, foolproof security has been provided for all processions from 1st Muharram onward.

He further emphasized that security has not been compromised at any point during the 9th Muharram-ul-Haram procession. A total of 2,137 officers from Islamabad Police and other law enforcement agencies are deployed in the first security cordon, with an additional 3,400 security officers deployed for extra security measures.

IĞP Islamabad menmeter radius from the main procession routes. Bomb disposal squads and special branch officers are present, alongside police officers, civil administration, Pakistan Rangers and military personnel, all ensuring security. Emergency forces also remain on high alert.

IGP Islamabad added that procession organizers made foolproof security arrangements for the 9th ing closely with police for

APP while explaining a

crucial issue making rounds

over social media as the

mercury spiked up at ex-

treme levels in the federal

Common Indian Kites were

either affected from dehy-

dration or injured mainly

after getting broken or dam-

aged wings due to entangling

into kite string.
He said during dehy-

dration of animals or wild

birds was treated through

intake of ORS water which

was highly recommended

due to its easy availability

other than the re-hydration

fluid fed under the supervi-

sion of expert and trained

medical practitioners and

vets. He mentioned that the

general public was advised

to keep dehydrated birds in

shade and feed ORS water

as first aid prior to relocat-

ing the affected bird to re-

Sakhawat Ali said the

Muharram-ul-Haram pro- comprehensive security arrangements. Scout volunteers are stationed at key points and Islamabad Police have implemented foolproof measures for procession security. Mobile services have not been dis-

rupted anywhere. He further said that the central procession on the 9th of Muĥarram is very important for Islamabad and Rawalpindi. "We have a great responsibility which we are always ready to fulfill,' he added.'

Earlier, Islamabad Police ensured foolproof setioned that thorough curity arrangements for the searches have been con- main procession of 9th Muharram. Over 3,400 police officers and personne from other law enforcement agencies were deployed. The procession routes were secured with barbed wire and canal barriers.

Furthermore, drone cameras and Safe City surveillance monitored the procession, and participants were allowed entry only through designated routes, undergoing searches with metal detectors.

NA Speaker

flays Bannu

Cantt attack;

pays tribute

to martyrs

SLAMABAD (APP):

peaker National Assem-

bly Ayaz Sadiq on Tuesday

strongly condemned the

cowardly terrorist attack on

Bannu Cantt, commending

the security forces for their

swift action, and honored

the martyrs who sacrificed

their lives in defense of the

pressed grief over tragic loss

of eight brave men includ-

ing Naib Subidar Muhammad Shehzad and

Havaldar Shehzad Ahmed

who made the ultimate sac-

rifice thwarting the attack.

tyrs are the pride of the

nation, and their sacrifices

would be remembered for

ever. "I extend my heartfelt

condolences and sympathy

to the families of the mar-

tyrs," Speaker Ayaz Sadiq

remarked solemnly, empha-

sizing his solidarity with

them during this time of

He reiterated that mar-

The Speaker, ex-

nation.

#### **AJK Police devises** foolproof security plan during Muharram

integrated security plan has been devised by AJK police to ensure maintaining complete peace and security during the sanctified month of Muharram ul Haram across Azad Jammu and Kashmir, official sources said.

The plan involves the deployment of additional police forces in all major cities and towns, as well as at all seven entry and exit points of Azad Jammu and Kashmir facing neighboring Punjab and the KPK provinces, the sources told APP here on

Tuesday. "A SOP (standard operating procedure) for ensuring complete peace and order at the sensitive key installations across AJK has also been dethe sources dis-

'Ahead of the sanctified day of Ashura, the 10th

being solemnized on Wednesday, July 17, tomorrow, security has been beefed up across Azad Jammu and Kashmir to deal with any eventuality," according to the official sources.

The sources continued that well-alerted police personnel have been posted before almost all 90 Imam Bargahs across AJK to maintain peace and order during the scheduled Majalis (religious meetings) to mark the sanctified month, right from the 1st day to the 10th of Muharram ul Haram, the Youm-e-Ashur, falling on

Wednesday. Besides the additional contingents of police and civil defense volunteers, they have also been put on alert to assist the local police and civil administration in maintaining peace and



ISLAMABAD: A view of blocked a pedestrian bridge for motorcycles at Karnal Sher Khan Shaheed Road in the Federal Capital..

#### **Interior minister condemns** Bannu terrorist attack, pays tribute to martyred security forces

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi on Tuesday strongly condemned the cowardly terrorist attack on the Bannu Cantonment and paid tribute to the security forces for foiling the

In a statement, the interior minister expressed his heartfelt condolences to the families of the eight security personnel who were martyred in the attack.

He described the brave men as the pride of the nation and said their nation and the government he expressed.

1 killed, three

injured in truck,

car collision

near Balkasar

ISLAMABAD (APP)

One woman was died and

three others were critically

injured in an accident be-

tween car and a truck near

Balkasar Interchange on

According to the spokesperson of National Highways and Motorway

Police (NH&MP), the pas-

sengers in the car were trav-

eling from Lahore to

Islamabad. The motorway

police has reached the spot

and started the rescue op-

Tuesday

ways be remembered. "The enemy is making a heinous conspiracy to destabilize Pakistan but we

great sacrifices would al-

will end the scourge of terrorism with the strength of unity and agreement," the interior minister said. Naqvi praised the courage and resilience of the security forces, stating that

ists' nefarious intentions by sending 10 of them to hell.

they had foiled the terror-

He said the martyrs are the pride of the entire the conspiracy of terrorism,

stands with their families. The interior minister prayed for the speedy recovery of the injured security personnel and reiterated the government's commitment to combating terrorism and safeguarding the

country's territorial integ-

The sacrifices of the martyrs will always be remembered and the nation salutes to the bravery and professionalism of the security forces in thwarting

#### 5th death anniversary of poet, writer Himayat Ali being observed

ISLAMABAD (APP): The 5th death anniversary of famous Urdu poet, writer and actor Himayat Ali Shair is being observed on Tuesday.

Born in Aurangabad, India on July 14, 1926, he worked for All India Radio and migrated to Pakistan in 1951 to begin his remarkable career with Radio Pakistan at Karachi.

His first poetry book was published in 1956 "Aag Main Phool" which

His other collection of poetry includes Mitti Ka . Qarz, Tashnagi Ka Safar and Haroon Ki Awaz. In 2007, he published collection of all of his poetry as Kuliyat-e-Shaer.

Himayat Ali Shair received the Pride of Performance Award in 2002 for his services for the promotion of art and was also given the Nigar Award for his contribution to films.

He died on 16 July 2019 in Toronto, Canada.



ISLAMABAD: Children served milk among the people from a Sabeel alongside a road at sector G-7 during a procession on the 9th day of Ashura in the Islamic month of Muharram, in the Federal Capital.

#### 25 outlaws arrested; cache of drugs recovered

Independent Report

ISLAMABAD: Following the special directives of the Inspector General of Police (IGP) Islamabad, Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi, Islamabad Police has launched a special "Nasha Áb Nahi" movement to eradicate narcotics and keep the youngsters safe from the curse of drugs, a public relations officer said.

He said that, during the last 24 hours, the Islamabad Police apprehended 25 outlaws from different areas of the city and recovered heroin and ice from their posses-

Following these directions, the Golra police team arrested an accused namely Sarfraz involved in illegally selling petrol. The Industrial Area police team arrested an accused namely Salman and recovered one 30 bore pistol from his possession.

Likewise, the Shams Colony police team arrested an accused namely Allison and recovered 19 liters of liquor from his possession. The Khanna police team arrested an accused namely Muhammad Naveed and recovered 260 gram hashish from his possession. Similarly, the Koral police team arrested two accused namely Awais and Muhammad Iftikhar and recovered two 30 bore pistols from their possession. Humak police team arrested an accused namely Yasir Mehmood and recovered one 30 bore pistol from his possession.

#### How does cortisol affect the body? active form of cortisol back

ISLAMABAD (Online): Cortisol is commonly known as the body's stress hormone and has a range of effects on various functions vithin the body.

This glucocorticoid is steroid hormone that is created from cholesterol and is released from the adrenal cortex within the zona fasciculata layer. The hypothalamus-pituitary-adrenal (HPA) axis works to regulate the production and secretion of cortisol.

Most glucocorticoids circulate the body in their inactive form, bound to either corticosteroid-binding globulin (CBG) or albu-

The enzyme 11-betahydroxysteroid dehydrogenase 1 (11-beta-HSD1) converts these inactive glucocorticoids to their active form in most tissues, while 11-beta-HSD2 converts the

into its inactive form, cortisone, in the kidney and pancreas.1 Biological functions of

cortisol Cortisol has various functions within the body including mediating the stress response.1

With many internal and external stressors, the body processes these and responds appropriately depending on the level of stress.1

The autonomic nervous system can be categorized into the sympathetic nervous system (SNS) and the parasympathetic nervous system (PNS). The sympathetic nervous system triggers the 'fight or flight' response associated with stress, leading to a cascade of hormonal and physiological reactions.1

When the body is un-

der stress, the SNS is activated by the hypothalamus after receiving a stress signal from the amygdala, which is the part of the brain that processes fear, arousal, and emotional stimuli. The activation of the SNS leads to the release of catecholamines, such as epinephrine, from the adrenal glands. This subsequently increases

Additionally, with continued stress, the hypothalamus activates the HPA axis, leading to the release of cortisol from the adrenal cortex, and this enables the body to stay on high alert. 1

heart rate and respiratory

Interestingly, cortisol and metabolism are also connected, with the stress hormone helping to regulate glucose metabolism through increasing gluconeogenesis and insulin resistance, which ensures there is suf-

ficient energy supply during a stress response. Cortisol and the immune system also have an

interesting connection with the SNS and the HPA axis working together to release norepinephrine upregulating the transcription of proinflammatory immune response genes, such as IL-1, IL-6, and TNF. When chronic stress leads to glucocorticoid resistance, immune cells become less sensitive to glucocorticoids. This resistance alters the fight or

threats, leading to exaggerated inflammation and a proinflammatory state.2 Cortisol's effects on the body also impact the cardiovascular system through the regulation of blood pressure and vascular tone. The hormone

works by enhancing vaso-

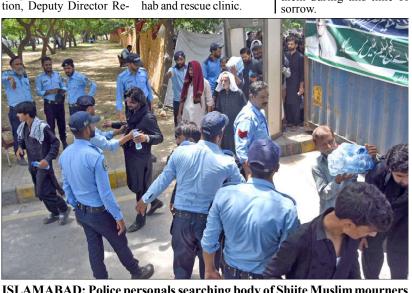
flight response to social

constriction and increasing cardiac output, which contributes to the fight or flight response when experiencing acute stress.

Effects of cortisol on different systems

Chronic stress can cause negative effects over time due to a mechanism of prolonged cortisol release, which causes desensitization of the HPA axis over time.2 An underlying mechanism that causes this has been hypothesized to be associated with the constant glucocorticoid release that depresses the HPA axis response over time, resultin HPA dysregulation and cortisol resistance.2

This dysregulation that occurs with chronic stress is associated with various diseases, such as Alzheimer's disease and



ISLAMABAD: Police personals searching body of Shiite Muslim mourners during 9th Muharram Ul Haram procession at Imam Bargah Asna Ashri, in the Federal Capital.

## Daily Soice of Masse Independent

Wednesday July 17, 2024

#### **Banning PTI**

It is dangerous for a government to appear so desperate. Like grains of sand, power slips quicker from the hand the tighter the fist is clenched. In indication of any change their obsession with countering the resurgent PTI, the ruling parties are, wittingly or unwittingly, pushing the country towards even more chaos and anarchy instead of accepting ground realities and working around them.

Though 11 judges of the Supreme Court, including the chief justice, only last week recognised the PTI's bona fides appear to be unprecedented limitations. In the as a political party, the coalition government is now seeking a complete ban on the party itself.

The shock proclamation came on Monday afternoon, along with announcements that the government had decided to seek a review of the It's a challenging proposi-Supreme Court's ruling in the reserved seats case as well as proceedings under Article 6 against former president Arif Alvi, former prime minister Imran Khan, and former deputy speaker of the National Assembly, Qasim Suri.

Was this the government's best response to losing its twothirds majority, which, in any case, had only been secured thanks to a series of unconstitutional and unlawful decisions taken by the Election Commission? Was the prospect of the largest party in parliament being restored to its rightful status so alarming that the ruling parties, in the tradition of military dictators, would seek to proclaimed that India had so a Tamil-baiting creed in Sri Lanka, and Muslim-

ban it on dubious charges?

If the government thought it was projecting power through Information Minister

Atto Torogo 20 Mars 1 | Mars 2 | Mars 2 | Mars 1 | Mars 2 Atta Tarar's Monday press conference, it was gravely mistaken. It only managed to appear desperate and intimidated, clutching at straws while the tide rises around it. One can only hope that it was merely testing the waters for what the reaction may be to brought the situation unsuch a move. Nevertheless, it was a shock that the stalwarts in its ranks had not shot down the proposal before a minister over 3,000 sand-filled, one-tonne sacks amid a went public with it.

It appears that the government and its backers within gineers and local fishermen worked round the the establishment have still clock to contain the cri-sis. A 9-by-18-metre or badly damaged. This not realised that they are in uncharted territory. Previous regimes that ruled through political coercion and fear tactics had strong economies backing heaved a sigh of relief as them. The conditions right now appear to be far from conducive for the type brinkmanship adventurism being displayed by the current regime. If the idea is to precipitate a collapse abuzz with all manner of of the democratic political order, then, by all means, the four senior officials who authorities should proceed.

However, if social and economic stability is what is sought, they would be well-advised to undertake a hard course correction.

At the same time, the PTI lack of regular inspection also needs to display some and maintenance. It underscores the need for an flexibility and greater maturity. It appears that it has gained gates to ensure structural safety before the accumulation of waste enough leverage to be able to achieve its political objectives without the country having to travel further down the path is not something to be shrugged off, as it could of political violence and social result in devastating instability. Victory in politics consequences if not addressed at an early stage. is rarely absolute. It must open itself to negotiations.

# **Courting verdicts**

#### Arifa Noor

The court verdict is in and it seems to have gone overwhelmingly in PTI's favour; most of the judges felt the party continues to exist as an entity and that it was entitled to its reserved seats in parliament.

It's a legal victory, and that comes with its own sense of a 'moral' victory. However, it is perhaps too soon to take all this as an in the larger political context, where the fri-ction between the party and establishment continues unabated. Nonetheless, the verdict points to a number of larger and smaller trends in politics.

Weakening authority: First, the verdict highlights the weakening authority of the establishment, where its ability to win over other sections of society during times of civil-military conflicts is now facing what context of the changing demographics and a worsening economy, the idea that only one institution can bring stability to the country is proving harder and

harder to 'sell'; as a result, fewer and fewer are willing to back many deci-

The pushback from the judiciary can be seen in this context. Which, of course, in itself gained strength from the public opinion which was expressed on Feb 8. However, this weak-

ening authority is running parallel to the weakening of political parties. The establishment is now in a position to impose the 'hybrid model' as it has come to be called, where mainstream political parties with public support are now willing to become part of a ruling arrangement in which the latter continues to dominate and call the shots. This is an arrangement which is now seen to preclude the need for direct intervention.

of the politicians is not proving enough, because a) there are always politicians outside the fold as well as pushback from others such as the judiciary; and b) governance has simply become even more complex and fragmented, and hence, rather ineffec-

However, the docility

ment is aware of the weakening authority here can be seen in the 'warnings' being issued; commentators who can comfortably claim to know what the inhabitants of the city next to Islamabad are thinking keep pointing out that if the robed ones continue to assert their free will, then the neighbours could be 'forced' to inhabit Consti-

tution Avenue. Now, of course, not enough people in Pakistan have a sense of humour. Because if they did, someone could have pointed out to these learned commentators that if everyone is supposed to behave as if Constitution Avenue is occupied, then why fear its actual occupation. If it walks like a duck and it quacks like a duck, how much scarier can the duck be when it finally shows

But the warnings keep being issued, because as a nation, we don't believe in acknowledging mistakes and changing tac-

Post Chaudhry judiciary: However, this court verdict also highlights a changing judiciary and the court.

frictions within. As the memory of the Iftikhar Chaudhry restoration grows distant, chief justices, especially of the Supreme Court, are finding it more and more difficult to assert unquestioned authority over the rest of their colleagues.

The friction reached a new height during the time of the Bandial court. However, even then, there were predictions that the matter would not settle down with the departure of the then chief justice. And so it turned out to be. Despite considerable

efforts to celebrate the golden period of hum saath saath hain, which began in October 2023, it wasn't long before we wandered on to the sets of a Clint Eastwood western. Even the departure of two senior judges did not quieten the dissent. And the letter writing and leaks which had become the mark of the Bandial court didn't stop. Given the culture of power in this land of the pure, consensual decision-making does not come easy to anyone in positions of power. And this has proved

That the discomfort was present, especially with regard to certain political cases, was evident. If earlier there was a

trickle, the PTI symbol case turned it into a deluge. And in the point in between was the letter of the Islamabad High Court six. And it wasn't entirely due to the treatment

meted out to the PTI; more

was at play.

The rather public pronouncements about a conwhich would tweak the judiciary was the unspoken reason for the discomfort within. Government ministers and others were about as loud as the acting in a Sanjay Leela Bhansali film in making their intentions public; and what they didn't officially acknowledge was made public through 'reporting' and 'leaks'. It included changing the chief justice's tenure; the selection process as well as giving the executive powers to move judges around, from, say, Lahore are encouraged to interto Quetta, or Islamabad to Karachi.

At the end of the day, many might see this as mono different for the Isa tivating the court to decide original sin lies elsewhere. as it did on Friday. The re-

served seats for the PTI have, for the moment, made the constitutional amendment rather difficult, if not impossible.

However, this might not be the end of the matter, because we face institutions and men in charge who are still not ready to heed the message, any message. The recent announcement by the government about banning the PTI is a case in point.

Postscript: There is stitutional amendment much talk, or rather, criticism of judicial activism, which is how some are describing the judgement. And the description and criticism are not entirely misplaced. The problem is that as long as an attempt is being made to manipulate the judiciary to achieve political objectives, so, too, will judicial activism be needed to 'set right' perceived wrongs. This is as true of Friday's decision as it is of the lifetime disqualifications and their undoing. And once individuals vene, they also tend to misuse it. But these judicial interventions will not end in a vacuum. The -- Courtesy Dawn

#### A wedding and many **funerals**

#### Jawed Naqvi

tion at the best of times to trust Narendra Modi by what he promises to do for anyone. A problem surfaced early in his career when, as prime ministerial hopeful, he promised to deposit a tidy sum in everyone's bank account from the money he said he would retrieve from stolen cash hoarded abroad.

Nothing of the kind is expected to happen, even though he won an absolute majority. His own home minister dismissed it as a 'jumla', a Gujarati coinage for banter. Modi could thus, in a similar vein, take the oath of office one day promising to treat every citizen as equal, and then go on to tell the voters (who don't always listen to him, luckily) that Indian Muslims were thieves and infiltra-

cow during a recent visit fold to convert his Dalit to meet President Putin. followers to Buddhism.

He likes to rhyme things even if it doesn't always work. "Hard work, not Harvard," he hissed to fawning TV anchors in a moment of miffed disapproval of Amartva Sen's views against Hindu chauvinism.

Modi's was a famil-

iar assertion to make about Indian aversion to war and violence. However, two of the popular religious legends in the Hindu belief system the Ramayana and the Mahabharata — valourise war. In fact, the Mughals fondly translated the Mahabharata into Persian and called it Razm-nama

India didn't

(chronicle of war).

course, just give Buddhism to the world in a platter. The creed was veritably banished, albeit in stages. from the country of its birth. It is another story that it continues to thrive in different forms abroad

these Buddhists congregate annually to mark the day of their conversion under Ambedkar's leadership, they repeat the chants he gave them.

Last year, a Buddhist minister in the Delhi government had to resign after one such meeting was slammed by bigots, and Delhi Police quizzed participants for allegedly fomenting bad blood.

It's not true that this wouldn't have happened to Ambedkar when he took the oath in which he swore never to believe in Hindu deities by name To underscore the lingering love-hate with Buddhism, perhaps, India's nuclear test in 1974 was codenamed Operation Smiling Buddha.

Let's parse the claim Modi made in Moscow about India's aversion to war and violence. Did he visit Putin to stop the war in Ukraine? If so, the tended by the entire po- hai group's summit last Putin. The Americans, on tragic conflict in Ukraine,

They are sometimes called neo-Buddhists. When and their ambassador in with unspeakable toll in lowed the people of In-New Delhi said the trip revealed that their ties couldn't be taken for

granted A likelier agenda for Modi was more businesslike, about supplies of arms and equipment, their spare parts, etc, and their circuitous payments in non-dollar arrangements to circumvent the sanctions. Discounted Russian oil supplies to India would certainly have come up for mention, possibly including the feigned criticism of the embargoed commerce by the West, which has been hypocritically taking advantage of the Indian link by procuring refined products from the overtly barred com-

modity. The windfall oil wealth thus generated was on display at the lavish, if gaudy wedding of a leading oil-refining tycoon's son; a bizarre event atoil nexus is widely seen as create the chances of

human lives. Returning to Modi's

claim of India's aversion to war and violence in the footsteps of Buddha, The Wire carried a troubling report recently about Indian ammunition being allegedly exported to Israel, inevitably sustaining the slaughter of Palestinians in Gaza. How does the claim of peaceful intent tally with Modi's dictum, which became popular with his right-wing admirers, a warning to real or imagined enemies 'ghar mein ghus ke maroonga' (I'll raid your house to get you) after the so-called air raid on Balakot in Pakistan to ostensibly avenge the murder of 40 paramilitary men in a terror attack curiously before the 2019 elections? Had Modi been sincere about his admiration for Buddhist tenets he would not

have dodged the Shang-

week. Rather, he would

Chinese president to

have met the prime min-

lowed the people of In-dia and Pakistan to meet; in particular, groups that have always worked for peace between the two countries.

The fact is that celebrating violence has been part of a muscular nationalism promoted by Modi's Hindutva forebears. And it pitted them directly Gandhiji's non-violent methods to fight colonialism. The RSS was not involved in Mahatma Gandhi's assassination but was guilty of "distributing sweets" after the incident, said Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, revered as an iron man by Hindu nationalists. The Sardar accused the RSS of spreading "communal poison" but also added that sections of Muslims were not "loyal" to India He wrote to Nehru less than a month after Gandhi's assassination: ... The RSS was not involved at all.

It was a fanatical ister of Pakistan and the wing of the Hindu Mahasabha directly under Savarkar that hatched the conspiracy..." Today, Leave alone the however, it's difficult to their part, issued a terse devastating homes and need for talks at his level, tell one from the other.

#### Lessons not learnt

#### Naseer Memon

The tumult generated by the collapse of Gate 47 of Sukkur Barrage in Sindh subsided after the der control by constructing a cofferdam. & NDC Joint Venture in This was made possible July 2018. The report reby dextrously dumping flow of over 100,000 cusecs. Department ensandbag platform was created to block the flow of water, thus enabling the fixing of a caisson in place of the collapsed gate. The authorities water supply to the ca-nals was restored partially.

Moreover, work to

replace Gate 47 has commenced before the scheduled date. Local media. growers' organisations and civil society forums are speculation and apprehension. Meanwhile, were posted at the barrage have been removed.

Lowering the pond level by draining water downstream revealed more gates with cracks. Gates 46, 48, 52, 53 and 54 showed structural fatigue, which points to a urgent inspection of all monsoons trigger massive river flows. A crack in a gate or the masonry structure of the barrage

authorities. On June 21, 2018, staff at the Sukkur Barrage noticed a crack on the outer flange of the upper girder of Gate 39 during a routine inspecirrigation department tion. An in-depth technical study was conducted by Atkins, ACE vealed that the web plate of the girder showed high corrosion in almost all parts. The epoxy coating of horizontal surfaces of the components of the structure had either been totally eroded was on account of a leaking water jet that was directly impacting these horizontal surfaces.

Most of the bolts connecting the different components were badly rusted. The two horizontal stiffeners welded at the skin plates showed deterioration due to algae. Only 17 bolts were fixed in the two cover plates of the back flange, against a total of 24 holes available in the two plates. Two bolts were fastened without washers; while 15 washers were of different sizes

Similar deterioration was noted in Gate 38, though the damage was less severe. The report also mentioned that Gates 15 to 23 had wooden plank extensions to raise the pond level. The tail channel gates were found to be leaking heavily, with water showers falling on the upper girder of most material was observed upstream in a few gates. Gate 39 especially had been exposed to a large accumulation of waste material extending to about 6m to 7m.

The original river sluice gates of the bar-An incident from rage were 5.6m in height June 2018 should have so that a pond level of served as a lesson for the around 60m could be

achieved. However, in 1966, the height of the gates was increased by approximately half a metre to achieve a higher pond level. New gates were installed during 1988-92 after the collapse of a gate in 1982. However, to further increase the pond level, these gates were increased in height by half a metre in 2008-10, with the use of wooden planks. Leakage from these planks caused rusting in different sections of the gates. An inspection of

the Sukkur Barrage gates

was assigned to NED University in January 2019 under the Sindh Barrages Impro-vement Project. A team of experts inspected 20 gates. The report revealed that while the upper sections of the gates were in stable condition, the lower sections of most of the gates had been severely corroded. Fourteen gates showed a reduction in thickness in the lower portion. The reduction was estimated to be less than 10 per cent in the vertical girder flanges, the web plates and main skin plates of these gates. On the other hand, seven gates showed a reduction in thickness of below 20pc. The report recommended either repairing the lower sections of the gates or replacing them along with girders. Subsequently six gates were replaced.

A technical investigation into the damage done to Gate 39 in 2018 and the rupture of a gate in 1982 provides sufficient evidence of structural fatigue. Increased surveillance and regular maintenance of the barrage gates is absolutely essential to avert a dangerous situation. The authorities must not delay matters on this count.

# Sindh Labour

Over the last four decades or so, at least three labour commissions were formed to consolidate and simplify labour laws. However, the suggestions they made and the draft legislation they proposed were not even considered for putting up before parliament

Parvez Rahim

There are some 190 labour enactments and rules made thereunder. with different definitions of 'worker', 'employer' and 'establishment'. Besides, the laws and rules have outdated provisions. For instance, there is the Payment of Wages Act, 1936, and three Rules of 1937, 1938 and 1960. Then there are the Minimum Wages Ordinance, 1961, the Rules of 1962 and the West Pakistan Minimum Wages for Unskilled Workers Ordi-

nance, 1969. Labour laws should be simple, especially for those ensuring compliance with statutory requirements. The Sindh government, in collaboration with the ILO, has prepared and circulated the Sindh Labour Code, 2024 among employers and workers' bodies. The SLC is purported to have consolidated 20 labour laws, inclusive of legislation such as the Industrial & Commercial Employment (Standing Orders) Ordinance; Factories Act; Industrial Relations Act; Shops & Establishments

Separate meetings organised by the Employers' Federation of Pakistan and the National Trade Union Federation were held on June 8, 2024, to discuss the draft legislation contained in the 318-page SLC. In the EFP meeting, participants were of the view that consolidation should have been based on existing laws, making their enforcement simple by re-

moving obsolete provisions and making them relevant to existing needs. Instead, the draft leg-

islation of the SLC is very complicated and confusing. For inst-ance, worker' is defined as an employee, but 'employee' been defined separa-tely. Besides, it is mentioned that "a person exercising the authority, duties or responsibilities of an employer" is a worker.

It is mentioned that a person is a worker irrespective of the nature of work, which includes "skilled, unskilled, intellectual, clerical, professional, managerial, administrative and any other kind of work"

The Industrial & Commercial Employ-ment (Standing Orders) Ordinance, 1968, defines 'workman' as any person employed to do any skilled or unskilled, manual or clerical work for hire or reward. Based on this definition, progressive organisations have divided their workforce into two categories: management and non-management. They have been managing employee relations successfully with this structure over more than five de-Now that this struc-

ture is being dismantled through the SLC and all the employees of an organisation are to be considered as 'workers' except for the 'occupier', it is difficult to comprehend how businesses will be operated and discipline maintained without the well-established layers of management hierarchy. Various provisions of the SLC are so complicated and confusing that even experienced practitioners of industrial relations are at a loss to understand them.

In the realm of disciplinary procedure, various acts of omission and com-

mission by a worker, including misconduct, have been unnecessarily labelled 'gross misco-n-duct'. The most frequently committed acts of willful insubordination. sub-v-e-rsive to discipline and habitually sho-wing up late for work, have been dele-ted from the list of misconducts. A worker accused of misconduct has been allowed two weeks to submit his explanation, instead of the decades-old

practice of three days. At present, the role of an inquiry officer conducting a domestic inquiry into the charge of misconduct is confined to recording statements of the accused, prosecution and defence witnesses, and their cross examination. Besides, he has to ensure that the accused is not put under any pressure by the management and that the inquiry proceedings are fair. Under the SLC, the officer will again communicate the charges to the accused employee and ask him to submit a written defence within seven days.

The system of hiring third-party workers has been there since the inception of industry in Pakistan. Its rationalisation by SLC has been opposed by labour federations, who say the Code should have been formalised through prior consultation with a ipartite commission.

Consolidation and simplification should be based on the contents and scope of existing labour laws. Nevertheless, provisions which have become redundant should be deleted and the maintenance of registers and other manual record keeping should be automated. The key labour laws have evolved since the British era. Their sudden replacement with differently intended and worded laws will not only jeopardise industrial functioning but also make implementation difficult. -- Courtesy Dawn

Under the proposed program, around 70,000

children will be provided

with free and quality food

daily. The program has been

estimated at Rs 50 crore

annually which will be borne by the provincial

that a Memorandum of Un-

derstanding will be signed

between the Social Welfare

Department and the said

private welfare organiza-

tion for the implementation

decided to form a commit-

tee consisting of the offi-

cials of the Department of

Education and Social Wel-

fare to make progress in the

implementation of the pro-

gram, which will finalize all

the details in this regard

vincial cabinet for final ap-

of the proposed program. In the meeting, it was

It was further decided

government.

KP CM approves free

meal program in public

sector primary schools PESHAWAR (INP): The meeting that initially, the

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa initiative will be started on

Government, as an imporpilot basis in Abbottabad

tant welfare initiative, has and Swat which will later

decided in principle to start be extended to other divi-

free meal program (Schools sional headquarters of the

Khana Program) in public province.

sector primary schools un-

der which free meals will be

provided to children in pri-

mary schools in urban ar-

eas of all divisional head-

taken in a meeting chaired

by Chief Minister Khyber

Pakhtunkhwa Sardar Ali

for Primary and Secondary

Education Faisal Khan

Tarakai, Advisor to the

Chief Minister on Finance

Muzamil Aslam, Additional

Chief Secretary Planning

and Development Syed

Imtiaz Hussain Shah and

other senior officials of the

concerned departments,

besides the Chief Executive

Officer of the private wel-

fare organization Allahwale

Trust, Shahid Lone and

Amin Khan Gandapur.

This decision was

Provincial Minister

quarters of the province.

## Peace vital for economic prosperity: Governor

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi on Tuesday said that establishment of law and order was imperative for peace and economic development of Pakistan.

He said that law and order was a major problem, and that the heights of economic progress and prosperity could be achieved by making Pakistan as per vision of father of the nation Quaid e Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah and national poet Dr Allama Muhammad Iqbal.

He said Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was passing through difficult time. The important problem is of the law and order and all other problems are linked to it. If the condition of law and order is better then economic situation would be improved and progress would be made.

The Governor said that people of Karachi and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pa- country. He said Quaid e kistan Army, police and Awam Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali

School Peshawar had rendered great sacrifices for Pakistan that was unprecedented in the world his-

Governor was addressing a function at Al Ghazali university in

Earlier, the Governor reached at Jamia Al Rashid where he met with Raes Al Rashid University and Chancellor Al Ghazali University Mufti Abdul Raheem, Chairman Pakistan Peoples Party Sohrabgot Lal Raheem and was accorded warm w

He went around different sections of Al Rashid University and received briefing about the organization. Later, he attended a fuction at Al Ghazali University and received brief-

The Governor expressed pleasure to see such great institution in the

JACOBABAD: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah visits Control

Room at Pir Bukhari point and get briefing on the 10th Moharram procession.

9th Muharram processions

peacefully end in KP amid

glowing tributes to martyrs

PESHAWAR (APP): The milk and drinks for the in case of any emergency.

Muharram was peacefully delivered special sermons concluded in all districts of on the importance of 9th drivered special sermons on the importance of 9th enforcers and volunteers.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa including Peshawar amid Moharram and supreme Walkthrough gates were installed for screen-

tight security arrangements sacrifice offered by Hazrat ing of participants, and by police and law enforce- Imam Hussain (AS) and surveillance of processions

other martyrs of Karbala

less sacrifices of martyres

of Karballa were a great

source of strength and in-

'zuhrain' prayer, the pro-

cession culminated back at

the Imambargah Hussainia

The 1122 Rescue Ser-

Hall at Peshawar Canton-

spiration for all Muslims.

After

Kalabari and vice had set up a medical

Fawwara Chowk where the camp to provide timely

They said the match-

offering

for supremacy of Islam.

'Alm and Zuljinnah' mourn- Azadars.

ing processions of the 9th

ment agencies on Tuesday.

'Alm and Zuljinah' proces-

sion appeared in the morn-

ing from Imambargah

Hussainia Hall on main

Saddar Road and later was

joined by many other pro-

cessions in parts of the pro-

vincial capital amid flagel-

routes comprising Saddar

The mourners passed

through the prescribed ment.

lation and chest beating.

In Peshawar, the main

ers of Muslims Ummah and laid foundation of Atomic power, saying no one can defeat us if we got united. The Governor stressed for keeping care of minorities rights that were protected under the constitution.

Kundi invited students of Al Ghazali to visit Peshawar saying the doors of Governor House Peshawar were now open for people and stressed on students that they would perform role like the country's Ambassador to highlight Pakistan soft im-

Raees Al Rashid University and Chancellor Ghazali University welcomed the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor and urged all stakeholders to shun differences and sit togather for progress and prosperity of Pakistan.

They said such organizations should be in all cities of Pakistan and vowed to extend its services



Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhawa Faisal Karim Kundi addressing a function

## CM Sindh reaches Sukkur, briefed about processions,

ments for the 9th Muharram and and Yaum-

chief minister was given a Sukkur here.

Ahmed Shaikh and Deputy Commissioner Sukkur Dr Raja MB Dharejo gave briefings to the CM.

Zia Lunjar, Syed Nasir Hussain Shah Spokesperson to Sindh Government Barrister Arslan Sheikh, MNA Noman Islamuddin

Chief Minister Sindh, Syed Peer Muhammad Shah, Divisional Commissioner Fayyaz Hussain Abbasi and others were also present on the occasion. In a briefing, the SSP

During a meeting, the ments had been finalized in the Sukkur district to obdetailed briefing about the serve 'Ashura' on Wednesday, amid tight security arrangements while over 2800 cops would be deployed. He said that the dis-

trict police had finalized all the security arrangements to provide a foolproof security cover to 145 mourning processions and 74

speakers and social media, the audio and video recordings of Majalis and processions were being compiled.

He said that the procession routes were Sukkur said that all arrangecleaned, patchwork and road repair work was carried out, and hanging electric wires were fixed.

Apart from this, he said coordination with scholars of all schools of thought had also been en-

The chief minister directed the authorities concerned to adopt zero-tolerance policy towards any violation of the code of conduct of Muharram, adding that the scheduled time and route of the procession should be followed strictly.

#### **KP Governor** condoles with families of eight martyred troops in Bannu attack

PESHAWAR (APP): Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor, Faisal Karim Kundi here on Tuesday condoled with the families of eight martyrs of security forces during a suicide attack at Bannu and prayed for the eternal peace of all the martyred

The Governor expressed sympathy with the families of the martyred troops and prayed for speedy recovery of the in-

Governor Faisal Karim Kundi paid rich tributes to the security forces for foiling the attack and lauded their gallantry and bravery in the fight against terrorism.

He said the entire nation stands with security forces in fight against ter-



other staff attended the and submit it to the pro-

PESHAWAR: A large number of mourners attending the 9th Muharram Zuljinah procession passes through Saadar Road.

#### **PPP** never supports ban on any political party; Arslan

SUKKUR (APP): The within the scope of the conment and Mayor Sukkur Barrister Arslan Islam arrangements related to Muharram, including lighting, cleaning, security had been completed, more than two thousand security personnel had been deployed

to maintain the security. conference at his residence here Tuesday, Arslan said that a coordination committee had been formed in this regard which was making arrangements from 1st of Muharram, while Ulama of all school of thoughts expressed their satisfaction the role of reconciliation, over elaborate security arrangements across the province adding that all sensitive places were being monitored by CCTV cameras.

He further said that the Chief Minister (CM) Sindh, Syed Murad Ali Shah was personally monitoring the arrangements for Muharram across the province and even today, he was visiting Sukkur, Khairpur and Rohri along with Home Minister Sindh Ziaul Hasan

The spokesman of Sindh Government said that Pakistan People's Party was a democratic party and PPP had never

spokesman Sindh Govern- stitution and law of Paki-

He said that his party Sheikh has said that all the had always opposed and condemned terrorism as the PPP will always oppose terrorist political parties. There was no consultation with the Pakistan People's Party regarding the ban on PTI, he said and added that Addressing a press the Central Executive Council (CEC) of PPF would consider this matter in a meeting presided over by Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, he said.

Arslan further said that President Asif Ali Zardari had always played sacrificed for the democracy and stayed in jails for a long time, even raised the slogan of "Pakistan Khape" in difficult situations.

The spokesperson further said the restoration work of Sukkur barrage was started in 2018 with the support of the World Bank, when barrage's gate no. 47 was affected, the restoration work of Sukkur Barrage was going on. The restoration work was delayed due to Covid and 2022 floods, he maintained.

He further said that the international market was closed for two years due to Covid, adding that unbiased supported banning any po-litical party including PTI gate issue underway. inquiry into Sukkur barrage

#### **Home Minister, Mayor visit** routes of mourning processions to review security

KARACHI (APP): Sindh also visited Nishtar Park, Home, Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Ziaul Hasan Lanjar along with Mayor Karachi Barrister Murtaza Wahab visited the mourning procession routes of 9 and 10 Muharram to review security arrangements.

Additional IG Karachi and DIG East briefed them about the security mea-

They informed that procession routes had been completely sealed and had been made foolproof. SSP East, SSP South,

SSP City, and other police on the occasion.

Ziaul Hasan Linjar and Barrister Murtaza Wahab

Centre and nian Iraniyan Tibet Hosseinian Kharadar. The Home Minister

said that security should be made foolproof on the routes of mourning processions. He directed that snipers be posted on the buildings along the procession routes. The security of

Majalis, mourning processions and other such gatherings should be made foolproof, he directed adding that there should be no negligence in security.

The Mayor Karachi officers were also present on the occasion said that sanitation arrangements had been ensured on the procession routes



RAWALPINDI: Vehicle driver taking rest under a container on Ganjmandi Road due to extreme heat in the city.

# Ashura arrangements SUKKUR (APP): The Shiekh, DIG Sukkur Range

Murad Ali Shah on Tuesday visited Sukkur to review the security arrange-

9th and 10th processions of Muharram at Mayor House SSP Sukkur Amjad

Home Minister Sindh

Imambargahs.

Divisional Commissioner Sukkur Fayyaz Hussain Abbasi in his brief-

ing, informed that apart

#### Punjab Governor message Martyrs of Karbala taught oppressed humanity not to bow down to falsehood

**Independent Report** Governor Haider Khan said in his message on the occasion of Ashura Day that courage, bravery and eternal sacrifice of Hazrat Imam Hussain (peace be upon him) and the martyrs of Karbla will always be remembered in history. He has said that the martyrs of Karbala taught the oppressed humanity not to bow down to falsehood and stand firm against

The Punjab Governor said that the incident of Karbala is a testament to the unparalleled determination and courage of Hazrat Imam Hussain (RA) and his companions. Governor Punjab said that Ashura reminds us of the great sacrifices of the martyrs of

to show patience and perseverance in hour of trial. that the nation stands with its security agencies in the

He said that we should awaken within ourselves the same spirit of sacrifice and solidarity which was demonstrated by Imam Hussain (RA) and his companions in the field of Karbala. Besides, Punjab Governor, Sardar Saleem Haider Khan strongly condemned the terrorist attack on Bannu Cantonment. He saluted the military personnel who thwarted the terrorist attack. Governor Punjab paid tribute to the martyred soldiers. He said that the entire nation is indebted to the sacrifices of the security forces. Governor Punjab said that the sacrifices of those who laid down their lives can never be forgotten. He said



MULTAN: Security Official standing high alert outside the Imambargah Mumtazabad to avoid any untoward incident during the procession on 9th Muharram. Muharram Ul Haram is known as the first month of the Islamic calendar and the mourning month in remembrance of the martyrdom (Shahadat) of Hazrat Imam Hussain (RA), the grandson of the Holy Prophet Mohammad (SAWW). PRCS distributes 210

#### Pb govt takes strict security measures for **Muharram: Minister** in Faisalabad

SARGODHA (APP): The for the security of the Punjab government has taken all the strict security measures for the 9th and 10th Muharram processions and gatherings in

Sargodha division. This was stated by Provincial Minister for Construction and Communications Malik Sohaib Ahmed Bharth while talking to media-men on Tuesday. He said a total of 567 majalis (mourning gatherings) was going to be held in the four districts of the division, including 24 Acategory majlis while 222 mourning processions would be taken out in Sargodha,Khushab,Mianwali and Bhakkar collectively and 26 of A-category processions originating from different locations.

Malik Sohaib Ahmed Bharth said a total of 7,683 police officers and personnel were performing duties the law and order situation.

majlis and processions.

3,500 volunteers were also on duty at various points and over 1,500 employees from Rescue 122, municipal corporations,FESCO PTCL, and Sui Gas, along with other departments were also performing their duties for processions and gatherings, he said.

Malik Sohaib Ahmed Bharth has directed all district police officers to ensure foolproof security arrangements for the Muharram processions and gatherings. He has also directed the district administration to provide all necessary facilities to the mourners. The provincial minister has appealed to the people to maintain peace harmony during Muharram and avoid any activities that could disrupt

#### organizers arranged water, treatment to the mourners mourning processions. 2 killed, 3 injured in bus, car collision

The participants were

search by the police, law

was carried out through video-recording and CCTV

cameras fixed for this pur-

of policemen and sniper

shooters, the personnel of

bomb disposal unit re-

mained in high alert posi-

tion and carried out secu-

rity check of the routes

virtually sealed and no ve-

hicle was allowed to enter

the area designated for

The entire city was

through equipment.

Besides deployment

The religious scholars allowed only after body

SLAMABAD (APP) Mother and son were died whereas 3 others including father and daughter were injured when a high-speed bus collided with a car coming in front of it while overtaking in Tehsil Samundr of Faisalabad.

According to the details, the accident happened near Chak No. 228 GB in Tehsil Samundri of Faisalabad, private news channel and rescue 1122 reported on Tuesday.

On receiving the information of the accident, the Rescue 1122 rescue team reached the spot and provided first aid to the injured and shifted them to the hospital.

According to rescue officials, 18-year-old Umar and his mother, 55-year-old Nasreen died while 3 people, father Shafiq, daughter Fatima and Amberin were injured.



RAWALPINDI: A deserted view of the busiest Murree Road due to the official holiday of 9th and 10th Muharram in the city.

PESHAWAR (APP): Pakistan Red Crescent Society tiatives.

loader rickshaws among

flood affected families

(PRCS), in collaboration with the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), here on Tuesday distributed 210 loader rickshaws among the communities affected by the monsoon floods of 2022.

This initiative is a significant component of PRCS's Livelihood Assistance Program under the Flood Recovery Phase.

The loader rickshaws have been distributed among the deserving families in five districts of Sindh, one district of Baluchistan, one district of Punjab and one district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, says a press release issued here on Tues-

PRCS Chairman Sardar Shahid Ahmed Laghari emphasized PRCS's firm commitment to restoring normalcy through multifaceted programs, including livelihood assistance, shelter construction, cash assistance,

and health and hygiene ini-'We remain dedicated

to our mission of serving humanity and stand ready to support communities in their journey towards recovery and resilience,' Chairman Laghari stated.
"Our efforts are ongo-

ing and with the support of our partners and the tireless work of our team, we are making significant strides in helping communities rebuild their lives." According to Piwi Ophoff, Head of Country

Delegation, IFRC Pakistan, "IFRC is supporting PRCS in the implementation of the Flood Recovery Programme, through which. as one of the livelihood activities, 210 loader cart rickshaws have been distributed, among the flood survivors in Sindh and Baluchistan and another 70 loader cart rickshaws will be distributed in Punjab and KP." He further said, "The distribution of loader carts among the flood-affected

communities

#### Security high alert in all five districts of Larkana

ARKANA Deputy Inspector General of Police (DIG) Larkana Nisar Aftab Pathan issued orders on Tuesday for security high alert in all five districts of Larkana Division, including Larkana, Qamber Shahdadkot, Larkana, Shikarpure, Jacobabad and Kashmore Kandhkot. on Ashura Day.

DIG Larkana Nasir Aftab said that the SSPs of the concerned districts have been issued instructions to continue checking the borders, highways and roads adjacent to the five districts of the Larkana range by tightening the se-

curity.

He said that on the occasion of Ashura Day, 1148 mourning processions and 1854 gatherings of Majalis from five districts of Larkana are being strictly managed by 15582 police officers, personnel and officials, while soldiers of Pak Army and Sindh Rangers are also on Iftikhar Malik says:

#### Pakistan can earn billions by tapping mineral wealth

Chamber of Commerce and Industry former President, Iftikhar Ali Malik has said Pakistan can comfortably fetch billions of dollars foreign exchange by fully exploiting its minerals wealth estimated at \$6 trillions

Talking to delegation of industrialists led by Taimoor Ali,here on Tuesday, he said this immense wealth, if effectively harnessed, has the potential to transform the country's economic landscape. Currently, Pakistan's mining sector is underdeveloped, contributing only a small fraction to the national GDP. To unlock this potential, several strategic measures need to be implemented.

geological surveys and exploration activities was crucial. Comprehensive mapping of mineral resources can attract both domestic and international investors. Pakistan can benefit from collaborations with countries that have advanced mining technologies and ex-

mate, the government can encourage multinational companies to invest in the exploration and extraction of minerals, he added.

He said developing infrastructure was vital for the mining sector's growth. Efficient transportation networks, including roads and railways, are necessary to transport minerals from remote mining sites to processing facilities and export hubs. Investing in power generation and distribution infrastructure was also crucial, as mining operations are energy-intensive. Public-private partnerships can play a significant role in developing this infrastructure.

Iftikhar Ali Malik said He said investment in building a skilled workforce was essential. Establishing training centers and vocational institutes focused on mining-related skills can equip the local population foreign labor. He said the cluded.

pertise, such as Australia and Canada. By creating a favorable investment cli-

Revenue generated from mining should be reinvested in local communiimproving

healthcare.education and overall living standards.By adopting these strategies, Pakistan can fully exploit its mineral wealth, driving economic growth and improving the livelihoods of its citizens. Leader of the delegation Taimoor Malik was of the view that regulatory reforms are essential. The existing legal and

regulatory framework governing the mining sector needs to be streamlined to ensure transparency and efficiency. Simplifying the process for obtaining mining licenses and ensuring clear property rights can significantly reduce bureaucratic hurdles. Additionally. implementing stringent environmental and labor standards will ensure sustainwith the necessary able and ethical mining pracexpertise. This not only cretices, making the sector ates job opportunities but more attractive to responalso reduces dependency on sible investors, he con-

**Overseas Pak** 

can import

vehicle after

two years

LAHORE (APP): Federal Tax Ombudsman (FTO) Dr Asif Mahmood Jah in his

verdict declared that over-

seas Pakistanis are entitled

to import vehicles under

personnel baggage scheme,

transfer of residence and giff

scheme who have not im-

ported, gifted or received a

vehicle during the last two

vears under Import Policy

Waqar Ch Arain disclosed

this to the business com-

munity while addressing an

awareness session here

FTO has instructed the Di-

rector, Directorate of Re-

forms & Automation

Karachi, to develop and

deploy e-CRF sent by the

Collectorate of Customs.

Appraisement (West)

Karachi, enabling the as-

sessing officer to ensure

that no goods declaration (GD) is filed on a new pass-

port by the same importer.

**300,000** farmers

registered for

**Kisan Card:** 

**Official** 

LAHORE (INP): Punjab Agriculture Secretary

Iftikhar Ali Sahoo said that

registration of Kisan Card

is being done on 'first come

first serve basis' and till

now around 300,000 farm-

garding issuance and regis-

tration of Punjab Chief

Minister's Punjab Kisan

Card, the secretary said that

that results related to regis-

tration of Punjab Chief

Minister Kisan Card are

very encouraging. Iftikhar

Ali said that complete

record regarding registration

of 121,000 farmers has been

provided to the Bank of

Punjab, adding that the manu-

facturing of 250,000 kisan

Chairing a meeting re-

ers have been registered.

The FTO Advisor Dr

He added that the

Order (IPO), 2022



HYDERABAD: An elderly woman busy preparing traditional basket at her

#### Pakistani universities join Intl alliance for agricultural technology development

vancing agricultural tech- a Post-doctoral Research nology through interna- Fellow at Northwest A&F tional collaboration, four University in China, a Pakistani universities in- founding institution of the cluding Quaid-i-Azam alliance shared insights University, Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University, Sindh Agriculture University, and Ayub Agricultural Research Institute have joined the Silk Road Agricultural Education and Research Innovation Alliance at the 9th Silk Road Agricultural Education and Research Cooperation Forum held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan from

This collaboration aims to foster cooperation between leading institutions in China and Pakistan, focusing on the exchange and joint development of new food crops, vegetable stan.

BEIJING (APP): In a sig-nificant move towards ad-crops. Abdul Ghaffar Shar, with China Economic Net.

He noted that last year, the alliance provided the Pakistani universities with wheat and vegetable varieties such as cabbage carrot, and tomatoes for further research at their demonstration parks.

Additionally, new varieties of linseed will be exchanged later this month during a mutual visit. To date, researchers involved in this agricultural cooperation program have selected 19 stress-resistant wheat strains and identified a new wheat variety suitable for broader cultivation in Paki-

#### **Local ruminant breeds** posses enormous potential to enhance milk: Secretary

MULTAN (APP): Punjab Secretary livestock Muhammad Masood Anwar has said that local breeds of big and small ruminant possessed enormous potential to take Pakistan's milk and meat

production to new highs. During a visit to the Livestock Complex in Multan, he said that the initiatives announced by Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz, as part of Punjab budget 2024-25, would speed up the Livestock development plan proceedings.

Masood Anwar specifically mentioned the Livestock card initiative for cattle rearers that makes their access to interest-free Rs 270,000 worth of quality muneral mixture and Wanda' easy to fatten their animals and free distribution of cattle heads among

Masood Anwar said that utilizing modern breed-

also stressed the necessity of implementing practical measures to enhance animal production through the use of quality semen, improved management practices, and better nutrition

poor women. Secretary Masood Anwar received a detailed briefing from Muhammad Ashraf, the director ERP livestock south Punjab during visit to different sections of livestock complex Multan.

ing technologies and techniques would help the country harness true potential of local breeds of small ruminants and large animals but stressed that it would need continuous attention to their breeding to make it Secretary Livestock



GILGIT: A view of apricots spread on sunlight for dry purpose as a stock for winter and selling in market.



HYDERABAD: A vendor arranging and displaying plums to attract the customers on hand cart.

#### Indonesian diplomat shows interest in Sindh grown fruits

HYDERABAD (APP): The Indonesian Consul General Dr June Kuncoro Hadiningrat, along with other diplomatic staff, progressive farmers, and agricultural experts, visited M.H. Panhwar Agricultural Farm near Khisano Mori, Tando Jam, here on Tues-

The spokesman of Sindh Agriculture University informed that the CG praised the farm's exemplary efforts in the cultivation of jackfruit, strawberries, lychee and mangoes. He also expressed

Indonesia's interest in new mango varieties and their export potential. During the visit, the

delegation visited the fields of various fruit varieties cultivated at the farm, including mangoes, lychee,

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Competition Commission

of Pakistan (CCP) has

hosted stakeholder engage-

ment session, advocates

significance of disclosing

material information on

The Competition Commission of Pakistan

(CCP), in furtherance of its

Policy Note for the Minis-

try of Science & Technology and PSQCA, has orga-

nized a maiden stakeholder

engagement session focus-

piry/Best Before' dates on

cement bags, said a press

release issued here on Fri-

ing on disclosure of 'Manu-

ring/Packaging and Fx.

Cement bags

jackfruit, bananas, lemons,

The farm's head Ghulam Sarwar Panhwar, co-chairman of MH Panhwer Farms and a progressive farmer, welcomed the delegation while the CG was presented with books authored by M.H. Panhwar on agriculture, irrigation and

In his conversation with the media and attendees, Dr Hadiningrat expressed his happiness at seeing the advanced agricultural practices in Sindh.

He noted that the modern practices at M.H. Panhwar Farms indicate significant agricultural development in the region, particularly in the cultivation of new mango variet-

**CCP** hosts stakeholder

engagement session for

**Cement manufactures** 

He highlighted the

The Session was pre-

While, the attendees

sided by Mr. Saeed Ahmed

included representatives

from Pakistan Standards

and Quality Control Authority (PSQCA), All Pa-

kistan Cement Manufactur-

ers Association (APCMA),

Construction Association

of Pakistan, Islamabad

Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI), Lucky

Cement, Cherat Cement,

Fecto Cement, Fauji Ce-

ment, Gharibwal Cement,

Cement, Attock Cement,

Bestway Cement, among

others legal fraternity, real

Nawaz, Member CCP.

#### facilitate exports and the exchange of modern technology. The SAU's faculty and representatives of non governmental organizations attended the event. **Traders**

farm's technical efforts on

various fruits, including

jackfruit, lychee, bananas

moringa, lemons, and strawberries, and their fo-

and other agricultural prod-

could establish research and

business links with Indone-

their ongoing collaborations

with agricultural and re-

search institutions in Sindh

and across the country to

Panhwar briefed about

ucts from Pakistan.

Dr Hadiningrat said

cus on export.

ISLAMĀBAD (INP): The Markazi Tanzeem-e-Tajiran (Central Organisation of Traders) on Tuesday denounced another hike in the prices of petroleum (POL) products. According to details, traders' leader Kashif Chaudhry said: "The country will witness the tsunami of inflation with the increase in the price of the POL products." "It has already become challenging to Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif-led government announced massive increase in

#### denounce hike in POL prices

prices for petrol and diesel



LAHORE: A vendor displaying the stationary items pencils to attract the customers outside the Data Gunj Buksh Road.

#### Dow ends at record as luxury share weakness hits European bourses

NEW YORK (AFP/APP): higher inflation."
The Dow finished at a The Dow record came failed assassination attempt on Donald Trump, while European bourses came under pressure from weakness in the luxury sector and disappointing Chinese eco-

nomic data. The blue-chip index piled on 0.5 percent to finish at 40,211.72, notching its first record since mid-

May.

Major US indices were in positive territory the entire session amid talk that the assassination attempt boosted Trump's prospects in the election. Trump was hit in the

ear but not seriously injured in a gun attack during a campaign event on Saturday in Pennsylvania ahead of the Republican National Convention in Wisconsin. The former president

Indonesia was interested in announced Monday that Ohio Senator J.D. Vance importing rice, mangoes will be his vice presidential nominee He suggested that institutions like the SAU "The connection for

the market is that former President Trump is seen by many to be a more marketfriendly candidate due in part to his push for deregulation and a lower corporate tax rate," O'Hare said. 'Still, others worry

tariffs could also lead to strangled growth.

record Monday as markets as Fed Chair Jerome Powell weighed the impact of the expressed confidence that inflation is in retreat, reiterating a stance that boosted markets last week.

Strong results from Goldman Sachs and BlackRock also boosted sentiment on Wall Street. Earlier the Paris bourse

fell 1.2 percent following a bruising day for luxury equities, with LVMH, Hermes and Kering all de-

Burberry tumbled more than 16 percent in London after it announced the immediate departure of chief executive Jonathan Akeroyd as it posted "disappointing" re-

Another heavy blow came as Swatch reported plunging profits owing to the luxury market crisis in China and warned that sales in the key market were likely to remain difficult this year, sending its shares down more than nine

percent.
Official statistics showed the Chinese economy grew by 4.7 percent in the second quarter of the year, the slowest rate of expansion since early 2023, when China was emerging from a crippling that his push to increase zero-Covid policy that



his handcart at roadside setup to attract customers

#### **Technology crucial for** Pakistan's sustainable growth: PFC CEO

LAHORE (APP): Pakistan urgent need for technology Furniture Council (PFC) in Pakistan spans various continue the business activities due to the current prices of power and gas,"
Chaudhry said. Earlier,
was an urgent need for Pakistan to address its multifaceted challenges and pave the way for sustainable growth. Talking to overseas Pakistanis investors delegation led by Sheheryar Khan Investment Consular to Milano Italy, here on Tuesday, he said Pakistan faces significant hurdles in education.healthcare.agriculture transparency, reduce corsectors and governance. Leveraging technology can transform sectors, enhancing efficiency, accessibility and quality of services.

> of renewable energy technologies can also address Pakistan's chronic energy shortages and reduce its reliance on fuels.Investment in solar, wind, and hydropower can ensure a sustainable and

He said the integration

environmentally friendly energy supply. He said the pest infestations.

technological advancements, Pakistan can drive economic growth, improve the quality of life for its citizens, and secure a sustainable future. He said governance and public service delivery can also be significantly improved through technology. E-governance initiatives can increase

Digital platforms for citizen engagement can foster a more inclusive and participatory governance model. Mian Kashif Ashfaq

ruption, and streamline ad-

ministrative processes.

said agriculture, a backbone of Pakistan's economy, can benefit immensely from technology. Precision farming techniques, IoT (internet of things) devices, and data analytics can enhance crop yields, optimize resource use, and predict

#### Handicraft industry - preserving centuries old asset

heart of South Asia lies Peshawar, a city with stories spanning over past 2,500 years and an inimitable destination of domestic and foreign artisans bringing in marvelous and

-catching crafts designs. Rich in different traditional and cultural values this city boast of a tapestry of different dynasties and civilizations, most vibrant among them the handicrafts introduced by local and foreign artisans of pre-Greek, Mughals and lonial era.

Aptly named as "Pesha War" or "the City of Artisans," Peshawar still carries the legacy of craftsmanship passed down generation after generation with city bazaars like Misgran, Ratti bazaar, Dabgari Gardens and the legendary Qissa Khawani Bazaar, still echoing past glory of arti-

"Walking through these markets is like stepping back in time. The air is filled with metal clinking, the scent of wood and steel shavings and curving and sight of meticulously crafted items," said a Senior Research Officer, Archeology and Museums Depart-Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Bakhtzada

"The shops brimming with wood and metal cutlery capture the attention technological advancements, these ancient bazaars maintain a steadfast appeal, especially among rural people of KP and Punjab provinces," he

Bakhtzada said the discovery of human remains in Soan Valley in Punjab was evidence of stone-made cutlery and bone tools used anciently. "It was found that people started making clay and stone pots, crockery and other related utensils during the Neolithic period commonly known as new Stone Age dating back some 8,000 years back.

The wooden cutlery shops in Peshawar bazaars, in particular, are a visual feast, displaying an array of handmade items—wooden spoons, blenders, kneading plates, curd mixers and bowls—showcasing artisans' dedication and hard work. These products, though presenting an oldfashioned look, also possess a timeless quality and unique designs.

'Wooden cutlery is still alive in Peshawar. We have valuable customers for whom we specially produce these items," said Qaiser Khan, a shopkeeper in main Dabgari Bazaar. "Majority of our customers belong to KPK and Punjab while our cutlery is also preferred in Afghanistan, Middle East

and Central Asians Republics due to its durability and

unique designs.' However, he complained of the lukewarm response of urban population who consider these products as obsolete and outdated and shifted to stainless steel cutlery and

porcelain crockery. Faraz Ali, another shopkeeper at Misgarn bazaar said use of wooden cutlery had declined in recent decades and the KPK government should take steps to preserve this asset. "Wooden utensils are mostly cheaper than stainless steel or aluminum. Moreover, many people think that meals cooked in clay pottery with the help of a wooden spoon are better in taste.

perspective, the wood cutlery and clay pots are not that harmful as those prepared by using certain chemical components.

'Wood products are not harmful for using domestically. However, mixing of some chemical ingredients in preparation of utensils from different metals can affect human health," said Dr Riaz Khan, Principal Medical Officer, Pabbi hospital.

Although, these ancient handicrafts are our valuable asset vet their existence is under threat due to societal transformation

and modernization.
A recent study by KP

educationists at Khyber Pakhtunkhwa universities has revealed a complex relationship between the likeness of modern industrial products and decline of traditional indigenous crafts. It states that factors

contributing to this decline include; lack of infrastructure and shifting to other careers, inadequate infrastructure, a shift towards other careers, lower production, and fading interest among younger generations. Some of the significant

challenges the workers associated to this profession face are limited marketing opportunities and lack of recognition for their handmade work.

These experts recom-If seen in the hygiene mended to establishing accessible exhibition centers, promotion marketing strategies for artisans and entrepreneurship among illiterate men and women interested in handicrafts for revitalizing and protect traditional handicrafts, preserve cultural heritage and enhance skills of artisans.

Emphasizing the importance of protecting traditional handicrafts from the impact of modern branding, these experts have also underlined the need for specific actions to aid in the revival of these traditional crafts.

Meanwhile, Omair

Investment, KP Tourism and Culture Authority has stated that the provincial government was making all out efforts to preserve this valuable heritage and promote it within KPK and beyond.

He mentioned to organizing a three days all Pakistan Art Festival at Islamabad by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Culture and Tourism Authority (KPCTA) where handicrafts model of local artisans were displayed while Pakistan Arts and Crafts Gallery, a provincial owned center for sale, marketing exhibition and promotion of handicrafts at Islamabad has also been revived.

He also assured to continue such interactions in future to promote skillfulness of local artisans and explore market for selling their products.

As modernization is gradually taking over our ancient culture and craftsmanship, many experts have underlined the need for giving this sector 'an industrial status' and financially support artisans and craftsmen to promote this dwin-

dling business. Such initiative would not only help preserve this heritage but also provide earning opportunities for local craftsmen but also export these items to earn valuable foreign exchange.

wearing white and blue uni-

forms giving treatment to the wounded. "We share

the grief of the families of

the victims," said Zabihullah Mujahid, a

spokesman for the Taliban

tions of the Islamic Emir-

ate have been directed to go

to the affected areas as soon

as possible," Mujahid wrote on X, adding they

would provide shelter, food

and medicine to displaced

ter flash floods killed hun-

dreds of people in Afghani-

stan in May and swamped

agricultural lands in the

country, where 80 per cent

of the population depends

Among the poorest

ountries in the world, Af-

ghanistan is particularly

exposed to the effects of

climate change. This year,

it saw an unusually wet

spring after an extremely

ing army. Zelenskyy has

proved talented at persuad-

ing friendly countries to

provide ever more support,

even if he doesn't always get

what he wants immediately.

A six-month delay in military assistance from the

U.S., the biggest single con-

tributor to Ukraine, meant

that Kyiv's forces "lost the

initiative" on the front line,

sumed in April, Ukraine has

been scrambling to block a

Russian offensive in east-

ern areas. Zelenskyy didn't

say how many Patriot sys-

tems Ukraine currently

possesses, though it is far

fewer than the 25 he says

his country needs as Rus-

sia has battered the national

power grid. The U.S. and other NATO allies prom-

ised last week to provide

Ukraine with dozens of air

defense systems in the

coming months, including at

least four of the sophisti-

cated and expensive Patriot

Since the U.S. aid re-

Zelenskyy said.

on farming to survive.

The tragedy comes af-

'The relevant institu-

vernment.

Heavy rains kill 35 in

eastern Afghanistan

**Monitoring Desk** KABUL: At least 35 people were killed and 230

injured on Monday after

heavy rain in eastern Af-

ghanistan, a local official

rain caused by thunder-

storms killed 35 people and

injured 230 others in

Jalalabad and certain dis-

tricts of Nangarhar" prov-

ince, Quraishi Badloon,

head of the department of

information and culture,

caused by heavy storms

and rains that collapsed

trees, walls and roofs of

tul-Zahra ĥospital.

Images shared by Badloon's department

showed medical personnel

**Monitoring Desk** 

KYIV: Ukraine needs 25

Patriot air defense systems

to fully defend its airspace

and protect the entire coun-

try from Russian missile at-

tacks, President Volodymyr

Zelenskyy said Monday,

adding that he also wants

Western partners to send

more F-16 warplanes than

his first news conference

since returning from a trip

to the United States,

Zelenskyy said he is ready

to work with Donald

Trump if he wins

November's election. "I am

not afraid" of that prospect,

Zelenskyy said, adding he

is convinced that most Re-

publicans support Ukraine

Sunday he was "appalled"

by the attempt to assassi-

nate Trump and wished him

crucial for Ukraine as it tries

to beat back Russia's bigger

Zelenskyy said on

Western support is

in its war with Russia.

a speedy recovery.

Ukraine needs 25 Patriot air

defense systems and more F-16

warplanes, President Zelenskyy says

The casualties were

said

"On Monday evening,

#### Israel hits Gaza from land, sea and air as Hamas pulls out of truce talks

**Monitoring Desk** 

GAZA: Israel struck the southern and central Gaza Strip on Monday and carried out raids that killed "a number of" militants, the Israeli military said, as hopes faded for a truce and hostage release deal being secured any time soon. Hamas announced on Sunday it was pulling out of truce talks after an Israeli strike targeting the head of the group's military wing, Mohammed Deif, killed scores of Palestinians.

Israel hammered the Gaza Strip from the air, sea and land Monday as the war in the Palestinian territory showed no sign of abating, with Hamas saying it was pulling out of truce talks.

Shells rained down on the neighbourhoods of Tal Al-Hawa, Sheikh Ajlin and Al-Sabra in Gaza City, AFP correspondents reported, while eyewit-

army had shelled the Al-Mughraqa area and the forces had been firing at northern outskirts of the targets in Gaza. Nuseirat refugee camp in central Gaza.

said they had retrieved the bodies of five people, including three children, af-Al-Maghazi camp, also in the central Gaza Strip.

Meanwhile, eyewitnesses reported Israeli ceasefire talks. gunship fire east of Khan Younis, in southern Gaza, and shelling and Apache helicopter attacks in western areas of the southernmost city of Rafah.

The Israeli military was continuing its activity throughout the coastal territory, and said it had conducted raids in Rafah and central Gaza that killed "a number of" militants, as well as air strikes throughout the strip over It also said its naval

The relentless bombardments came as pros-Paramedics from the pects dwindled for a truce Palestinian Red Crescent and hostage release deal being secured any time soon.

Hamas, the Iranbacked Islamist group that ter Israeli air strikes in the Israel has been fighting in Gaza for over nine months, said on Sunday it was withdrawing fron

The decision followed an Israeli strike targeting the head of Hamas's military wing, Mohammed Deif, which the health ministry in Hamas-run Gaza said

said in a statement that it was continuing its activ
beif's fate remains unknown, with Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu saying there was "no certainty" he was

dead while a senior Hamas official told AFP that Deif was "well and directly



Palestinians, who fled the eastern part of Khan Younis after they were ordered by Israeli army to evacuate their neighborhoods, ride on a vehicle loaded with belongings, amid Israel-Hamas conflict, in Khan Younis in the southern Gaza Strip.

#### Trump steps into Republican convention spotlight after surviving shooting

Monitoring Desk WASHINGTON: Donald Trump made a triumphant entrance to cap the first day of the Republican National Convention, receiving a raucous ovation from the party faithful days after surviving an assassination attempt that has reshaped the US presidential contest.

The former president walked into the Fisery Forum in downtown Milwaukee to an uproarious response, his ear heavily bandaged from having been grazed by a bullet, hours after he was officially nominated to be the party's 2024 standard-bearer. "Fight! Fight! Fight!"

the crowd chanted while pumping their fists, a reference to Trump's response in the moments after he was shot. Uncharacteristically subdued. Trump waved from a box where he sat alongside his newly anointed running mate, US Senator JD Vance. The attack at a Trump rally in Pennsylvania on Saturday, which killed a supporter, underscored the nation's deeply fractured political landscape ahead of the November 5 election between Trump and Democratic President Joe Biden.

#### President Joe Biden says it was a 'mistake' to say he wanted to put a 'bull's-eye' on Donald Trump

**Monitoring Desk** WASHINGTON: President Joe Biden told NBC News in an interview Monday that it was a "mistake" to say he wanted to put a "bull's-eye"

on Republican nominee Donald Trump, but argued that the rhetoric from his opponent was more incendiary while warning that Trump remained a threat to democratic institutions. The remark in question came during a private call with donors last week as Biden had been scrambling to shore up his imperiled candidacy with key party constituencies.

During that conversation, Biden declared he was "done" talking about his poor debate performance and said it was "time to put Trump in the bull's-eye," saying Trump has gotten far too little scrutiny on his stances, rhetoric and lack of campaigning. The NBC interview — during which, at times, Biden grew defensive under questions about his fitness for office — came as the president and his reelection team prepared to resume full-throttle campaigning after a brief pause following the weekend assas-

sination attempt on Trump.

## No surprises expected as

election since civil war Erdogan depending on the encounter's "content".

# drown on

Calzadas-Coatzacoalcos.

#### Syrians vote in parliamentary poll Monitoring Desk

#### **Seven students** those already pledged. In summer holidays

MEXICO CITY (INP) Seven students drowned in eastern Mexico after their vehicle was dragged into a fastflowing river as they tried to retrieve a boat from its waters, local government sources said Sunday. The victims, all between 21 and 23 years old, on Saturday were celebrating the end of the school year and summer holidays at a private residence on the banks of the river in the city of Coatzacoalcos. They were in a pickup truck that they were using to try to pull a boat from the

#### people's houses, Badloon said. "There is a possibility that casualties might rise," he went on, adding that the wounded as well as victims' bodies were brought to Nangarhar regional hospital and Fatima-

DAMASCUS: Syrians in government-held areas were voting Monday in their fourth parliamentary erupted in 2011, a poll expected to keep President Bashar al-Assad's ruling Baath party in power. The election came amid overtures from Ankara towards Damascus, after ties were severed following the start of Syria's war in 2011, with Assad saying he was open to meeting Turkish Presi-dent Recep Tayyip

# in Mexico



mally accept the prime minister's resignation on Tuesday while keeping him as the head of a caretaker government. Prime Minister Gabriel Attal offered his resignation last week after a chaotic election result left the government in limbo. Macron asked him to remain temporarily as the head of the government pending a further decision, with France about to be under an international spot-

French media said the prime minister's resignation is expected to be formally accepted by Macron by Tuesday evening.

light as it hosts the Paris

The move would allow Attal to take up his seat

allies. It would also prevent him from being exposed to a potential no-confidence vote in parliament.

The opening session of the National Assembly is scheduled on Thursday. The caretaker government led by Attal would focus only on handling day-

to-day affairs. There is no firm timeline for when Macron, who held a Cabinet meeting on Tuesday, must name a new prime minister.

France has been at the brink of a governing paralysis since elections for the National Assembly earlier this month resulted in a split among three major political groupings: the New Popular Front leftist coalition, Macron's centrist allies and

#### 100 injured as Bangladesh's student groups clash over quotas

onstrators opposing quotas for coveted government jobs battled counter-protesters loyal to the ruling party, police said.
Police and witnesses

said hundreds of anti-quota protesters and students backing the ruling Awami League party battled for hours on Dhaka University campus, hurling rocks, fighting with sticks and beating each other with iron rods. Some carried machetes

serves more than half of well-paid civil service posts totalling hundreds of thousands of government jobs for specific groups, roes" from the country's 1971 liberation war. "They clashed with sticks and local police station chief

Masud Mia, a police inspector, said "around 100

taken to hospital. "More people are coming", Mia

Students launched

protests earlier this month demanding a merit-based They have continued

despite Bangladesh's top court suspending the quota Anti-quota protesters

blamed the ruling party students for the violence. 'They attacked our peaceful procession with rods, sticks and rocks," Nahid Islam, the national coordinator of the anti-quota protests, said.

"They beat our female protesters. At least 150 students were injured including 30 women, and conditions of 20 students are se-

Critics say the system benefits children of progovernment groups who back Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, 76, won her

fourth consecutive general election in January, in a vote without genuine opposition parties that saw a major crackdown against her political opponents, who boycotted the poll.



People gather near the wreckages of vehicles destroyed at the scene of an explosion outside a restaurant where patrons were watching the final of the Euro 2024 football tournament on TV, in Bondhere district of Mogadishu, Somalia.

worked as a peon in my

house—he now owns 4,000,000,000 million

without a helicopter. How

money? I took action im-

mediately after knowing

this." It would take an av-

erage Bangladeshi more

than 13,000 years to earn

that amount. The average

GDP per capita in the na-

tion of around 170 million people is \$2,529, accord-

ing to the World Bank.

servant, but several news-

papers named him as Jahangir Alam, nicknamed

'We are dealing with a

serial killer, a psychopathic

serial killer who has no re-

spect for human life," the

head of the Directorate of

Criminal Investigations

(DCI) Mohamed Amin told reporters. "We are dealing

with a vampire, a psycho-

claimed the murders took

place between 2022 and

fessed to have lured, killed

and disposed of 42 female

bodies at the dumping site,'

this is very sad, the sus-

pect alleged that his first

victim was his wife... who

he strangled to death, be-

fore dismembering her

body and disposing it at

the same site.

July 11 this year.

he added.

Amin said Khalusha

"The suspect con-

"Unfortunately, and

Kenyan suspect

confesses to murdering

42 women

#### Hasina's former servant sparks graft probe 'peon", or low-level or-

**Monitoring Desk** DHAKA: Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina says she is "taking measures" after a slew of corruption scandals including one involving her former household servant who now travels by helicopter after amassing taka (\$34 million), a staggering \$34 million Hasina said.

Recent accusations dominating Bangladesh's has he earned so much normally pliant media have involved a former army chief, an ex-police chief, senior tax officers and state recruitment of-

"Corruption is a longstanding problem," Hasina told reporters late

"These messes must Hasina did not identify the be cleaned up... we have

been taking measures."
She said that included action against her household assistant—a his old job.

**Monitoring Desk** 

NAIROBI: Kenyan police

said they arrested on Mon-

day a suspected serial killer

who confessed to murder-

ing 42 women, including his

wife, and discarding their

dismembered bodies in a

butchered bodies trussed

up in plastic bags have been

hauled from the site of an

abandoned quarry in the

Mukuru slum, a gruesome

discovery that has horrified

Acting Inspector General of Police Douglas

Kanja said the 33-year-old

suspect, named as Collins

Jumaisi Khalusha, was ar-

rested at around 3:00am

(0000 GMT) near a Nairobi

bar where he had been

watching the Euro 2024

the nation.

football final.

Since Friday, nine

Nairobi rubbish dump.

#### Israel allows UN to bring in more equipment amid Gaza derly - who Bangladeshi lawlessness media reported had previously been a water-bearer. in case she needed a drink at events. "The man who

**Monitoring Desk** NITED NATIONS: The Jnited Nations said on Monday (Jul 15) that it will start bringing in more armoured vehicles and personal protection equipment for its humanitarian aid operations in he Gaza Strin affer receiving approval from Israeli authorities. The approval was in response to a UN letter sent to Israel last month on safety and security in Gaza, said Scott Anderson, deputy humanitarian coordinator for the Occupied Palestinian Territory, as the war between Israel and Palestinian militants Hamas enters its tenth month and law and order has broken down.

# **Delhi lawyers**

**Monitoring Desk** IEW DELHI: Thousands of lawyers in India's capital protested on Monday against an overhaul in criminal legislation by staying away from work and boycotting court hearings, as opposition mounted to the changes. Many have been angered by new laws that came in on July 1 expanding police powers to keep people in pre-trial detention and requiring judges to

45 days of the end of a trial. Prime Minister Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government has defended the changes - which also include the death sentence for gang rape of women under 18 — saying they are "victim-centric", modernise the system and "end the endless wait for justice". But lawyers' bodies, opposition parties and activists have called for a pause, saying the

#### go on strike over criminal law overhaul

issue written rulings within

changes will give excessive powers to the police.



Volunteers carry a body of an unknown person retrieved, with seven others, from a dumpsite in Mukuru slums, in Nairobi, Kenya.

#### Somalia cafe attack kills nine during **Euro final**

MOGADISHU: The

death toll from a car bombing at a cafe in Somalia's capital Mogadishu that was packed with football fans watching the Euro 2024 final has risen to nine, security sources said on Monday.

Witnesses described scenes of panic and chaos after the powerful blast late on Sunday, with people scrambling for safety and the main entrance to the cafe destroyed by the blaze. Mohamed Yusuf, an official from the national security agency, said nine civilians were killed and 20 others wounded in the explosion, raising the official toll of five given by police.

Anti-Quota protesters clash with students backing the ruling Awami League

The popular Top Coffee restaurant, which is located near the presidential palace in the centre of the city, was thronged with young men watching the final that Spain won 2-1 against England.

#### Misinformation around **Trump shooting lays** bare political fissures

**Monitoring Desk** ARIS: Barely minutes af-

ter the shots had rung out, the assassination attempt on former US president Donald Trump unleashed a firehose of contradictory conspiracy theories that highlight a highly polarised political landscape ahead of elections in November.

The 78-year-old was rushed off stage with blood streaked across his face after the shooting at a political rally in Butler, Pennsylvania, on Saturday that also killed a spectator and critically injured two others. Security forces shot the shooter dead.

Unsubstantiated claims that the shooting was "staged" and the

blood was "fake", as well as a doctored photo of his security detail smiling just moments after the incident are just some of the unfounded theories that flooded social media.

The stunning attack has supercharged political tensions — and disinformation — in an altensions ready divided nation ahead of the presidential election, analysts warn, with rampant speculation and conspiracy theories coming from both sides of the political aisle.

"An event like this, in a moment like this. would fuel conspiracy theories", Julien Giry, from the University of Tours in France, said.

#### Georgian president files lawsuit against foreign agent law **Monitoring Desk**

TBILISI: Georgian President Salome Zourabichvili said on Monday she had filed a law-suit in the Constitutional Court against a law requiring groups that receive funding from abroad to register as foreign agents, which sparked mass protests. Zourabichvili reposted comments on Facebook by her representative in parliament saying the law violated a clause in the Georgian constitution requiring the government to make all possible efforts to join the European Union and NATO.

#### **Spanish rescuers** find remains thought to be of missing Briton **Jay Slater**

Monitoring Desk MADRID: A Spanish mountain rescue team in Tenerife found human remains in the area where British teenager Jay Slater went missing nearly a month ago, local police said on Monday, adding evidence strongly suggested the remains were his. The Guardia Civil police said in a statement that he may have died due to a fall in the difficult-to-access mountainous area, but that an autopsy would confirm whether it was an accident. A police spokesperson told Reuters by phone that the body was found on Monday morning by a Civil Guard mountain rescue group.

# as a lawmaker in the National Assembly, France's of Marine Le Pen.

**Monitoring Desk** DHAKA: Rival students in Bangladesh clashed on Monday leaving at least 100 people injured, as dem-

while others threw petrol bombs, witnesses said.

The quota system reincluding children of "hethrew rocks at each other," Mostajirur Rahman said.

students including women" were injured, and had been

#### IMF programme to boost Pakistan external financing: Moody's

Moody's – one of the top international rating agencies - has said the new deal reached with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) will improve the chances of obtaining finances for Pakistan while providing reliable sources for the purpose both friendly nations and international financial institu-

In a latest report on Pakistan's economy, Moody's at the same time has feared that persistent Pakistan inflation may lead to social unrest and tensions. Higher taxes and fu-

ture energy tariff adjust-ments could hamper eco-nounced on Monday after cured a staff-level agree-ment for a \$7 billion deal nomic reforms in the country, it added.

Moody's is also of the view that lack of electoral mandate is also a threat to effective and sustained implementation of economic reforms – a clear reference to the coalition government led by PML-N's Shehbaz Sharif.

Weak governance and social tensions could impact the government's abilnomic reforms, Moody's

Moody's report coin-

the government went for covering a 37-month period, electricity basic tariff hike On the other hand, to please the IMF by meeting one of the basic conditions for approving a bail-

out package.
Earlier, the government presented a budget which saw a massive hike income tax for salaried classes and imposition of GST on items like milk. thus propelling the food prices further in country where an overwhelming ity to go ahead with eco- majority is dealing with an unprecedented cost of liv-

The latest comments cides with the latest in- came after Islamabad se-

which is subjected to a final approval by the IMF Executive Board.

About foreign reserves, it says the current \$9.4bn level isn't enough to meet the needs, as Pakistan requires around \$21bn in 2024-25 and \$23bn in 2025-26 through external financ-

Hence, Moody's says Pakistan is an alarming position with reference to external debt and the next three to five years would be very tough for policy making and execu-



Chief guest Governor Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi and Deputy Speaker Balochistan Assembly Ghazala Gola in a group photo during national conference of Aurat Foundation.

Whole nation standing with forces to eliminate terrorism:

CM condemns terrorists' attack

in Bannu cant,; praises security

forces on foiling major bid

rity forces on their martyr-

terrorists' attack in Bannu

prayed for the departed

souls of jawans of Pak

Army martyred in the ter-

rorists' attack including

Naib Sobaidar Muhammad

Shahzad, Havildar Shahzad

Ahmed, sepoy Ishfaq Hussain Khan, sepoy

Subhan Majeed, sepoy

Imtiaz Khan, sepoy

Arsalan Aslam and Lance

Naik of Frontier Constabu-

**Monitoring Desk** 

LONDON:

The Chief Minister

cantonment

dom while foiling the major proud of the great sacrifices

Shabana Mahmood makes

history as UK's first Muslim

woman Lord Chancellor

Mahmood, a British-Paki- giance to the Holy Quran

of our forces.

He said that the whole

nation is standing shoulder

to shoulder with its secu-

rity forces for elimination

of the menace of terror-

ism. Mir Sarfraz Ahmed

Bugti also expressed empa-

thy with the bereaved fami-

lies of those martyred dur-

ing the attack. He prayed that may Allah Almighty

grant enough strength and

patience to the bereaved

families to bear the losses

woman to hold the position.

Shabana She took her oath of alle-

of their dear ones.

SOHBATPUR: Provincial Minister for Communication & Works Mir Saleem Ahmed Khosa listening problems of people

#### Ayaz calls for unity on Ashura Day, condemns aggressions in Kashmir and Palestine

the solemn occasion of Ashura Day, Speaker of the National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq emphasized the significance of Muharrame-Haram's message, urging scholars and religious leaders to promote peace, selfsacrifice, tolerance, and

He highlighted that the Muslim Ummah can overcome its current challenges by embracing the spirit of self-sacrifice exemplified by the martyrs of Karbala. In his message, Sadiq

described the incident of Karbala as an enduring testament to faith, bravery, and martyrdom, values upheld in the Holy Quran. He called on the Mus-

lim Ummah to foster unity, Pakistan's steadfast sup-

QUETTA (APP): Commis-

sioner Quetta Hamza

Shafqaat said that foolproof

security arrangements had been made for the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of Muharram.

Tuesday, he said five thou-

sand police, FC and Levies

personnel have been de-

Ashura procession.

ployed for the security at

be monitored from the air

and the Pakistan Army

will be on standby, he

about THQ Hospital

**Independent Report** 

QUETTA: Tough security

measures have been

adopted for the Ashura-e-

Muĥarram procession be-

ing taken out in the provin-

cial metropolis today

that over 5,000 personnels

of law enforcement agencies

mainly police have been de-

ployed to ensure security

of the procession in the me-

tropolis. Besides, the Fron-

tier Corps (FC) and Levies

force would also remain

deployed in different parts

mainly on the route of pro-

cession and its surrounding

procession has already been

sealed on Tuesday evening

with the passages leading to

and business concerns lo-

cated on route of the pro-

cession have also been

The route of Ashura

Similarly, the shops

As per the schedule,

The officials informed

(Wednesday).

The procession will

Talking to media here

Foolproof security

arrangements made for

**Muharram**; Commissioner

stressing that only through solidarity and brotherhood can the community address its pressing issues.
Referring to the ongo-

ing aggressions in Kashmir and Palestine, Sadiq condemned the severe state terrorism inflicted upon innocent civilians. He noted that over the past nine months, more than 40,000 Palestinians, including children, women, and the elderly, have been martyred due to Israeli actions. Similarly, he

highlighted the dire situation in Kashmir, where residents face relentless oppression. He urged Muslim countries to unite and voice strong opposition against tions. Sadiq reaffirmed

There are security

threats during Muharram

he said adding that stringent

security measures have

been taken to foil any such

bid. He noted that check-

points had been set up at

the city's entry and exit

said thirty suspects have

been arrested, who are be-

ing investigated. Cleanliness

arrangements are being

made on the routes of the

Ashura procession, he

maintained.

MUSLIMBAGH: Deputy Commissioner Saeed

Ahmed Dummar briefed MPA Maulvi Noorullah

Tough security arrangements made

for Ashura-e-Muharram procession

in provincial metropolis today

The Commissioner

of independent states of Palestine and Kashmir in accordance with United Nations resolutions.

He pledged that Pakistan will continue to provide political, diplomatic, and moral support until these goals are achieved.

Deputy Speaker Syed Mir Ghulam Mustafa Shah echoed Sadiq's sentiments. reminding the nation of the unparalleled sacrifices of the martyrs of Karbala.

He praised Hazrat Imam Hussain (RA) and his companions for their unwavering stance against falsehood and emphasized that their legacy teaches the imthese human rights viola- portance of fighting against oppression and upholding

#### PTI signals potential alliance with PPP for no-confidence motion against

**PML-N** ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) has expressed readiness to engage in discussions with the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) to initiate a noconfidence motion against the ruling Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N)

government. In a recent local TV show, PTI leader Latif Khosa stated that they are prepared to reach out to the PPP regarding the no-confidence initiative.

He also raised conerns about complaints related to Form 47, primarily from PML-N and MQM.

Khosa emphasized the legitimacy of PTI's position, citing that 11 judges of the Supreme Court have affirmed PTI's status as a political party.

He indicated that the revision petition for specific seats will be presented before the same judges, noting that the likelihood of acceptance is very low.

#### **DPM Dar expresses** condolences over shahadat of Pakistanis in Muscat

Alamar road. ISLAMABAD (APP) The procession would pass through Alamdar road, Bacha Khan chowk, Liaquat oreign Bazara, Junction chowk. Prince Road, Safeer chowk McCongy road, Saeed Ahmed road before its termination back at the Alamdar road.

The special passes have been issued to the personnels of law enforcement agencies deployed on Muharram security.

the Ashura procession would start at around 08:30

AM today from the Rehmatullah chowk,

chowk,

The entry to the pro cession route would be made through specific points. Except these points, entry of the people would not be allowed to the route. In addition to this, the surveillance of Ashura procession would be carried out through CCTV cameras installed on the route and other areas of the metropo-

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar on Tuesday expressed his con-dolences on the shahadat of Pakistanis in a terrorist attack on Imam Bargah Ali bin Abu Talib in Wadi Kabir in Muscat, Oman.

The DPM and FM also strongly condemned the terrorist attack in the holy month of Muharram ul Haram and the murder of Muslims, a press release said. The foreign minister spoke to Ambassador of Pakistan in Oman Imran Ali on phone who briefed him about the last night terrorist attack on Imam Bargah.

Ishaq Dar directed the ambassador to keep close contacts with the authorities in Oman and the Pakistani community

#### Ahsan Iqbal says: Third Plenary Session to contribute more Chinese experience to world

BEIJING (APP): On the the basic mode of developoccasion of the Third Plenary Session of the 20th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China. Federal Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives, Ahsan Igbal said that China's success is an unprecedented innovation in human history. The Third Plenary Session of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China is being held, and he believes that it will provide a new road map for China's basic socialist modernization in 2035. Ahsan Iqbal in an in-

terview with China Daily said that the world is in the stage of the fourth industrial revolution, and new technologies are changing mittee.

ment. China's economy is changing from labor-intensive to technology-driven and making remarkable progress. The minister believes that this is not only a good thing for the Chinese people, but also for Chinese friends. He looks forward to the Third Plenary Session to contribute more Chinese experience to the world. The 20th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) started its third plenary session in the Chinese capital yesterday. Xi Jinping, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, delivered a work report on behalf of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Com-

#### Langove strongly flays cowardly attack of terrorists in Bannu cantt

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The Provincial Minister for Home and Tribal Affairs, Mir Ziaullah Langove has strongly recommended the cowardly attack of terrorists in Bannu cantonment.

In a condemnation statement issued here on Tuesday, the Provincial Minister paid tributes to the jawans of Pak Army on foiling the terrorism bid

to the jawans of Army who early recovery of the inembraced martyrdom while jured jawans.

foiling the terrorists attack. He expressed sympathy and condolence with the bereaved families of the He said that brave sol-

diers of the nation foiled major conspiracy of terrorism successfully He said that we present salute to the cour-

age of the security forces. The Provincial Minister prayed for the departed souls of the mar-He also paid homage tyrs besides praying for

price hike MULTAN (INP): - Jamaate-Islami has rejected the recent increase in petroleum product prices, terming i unjust to the public.

In a statement, JI spokesman, Qaiser Sharif said his party would not tolerate the burden on the public and would stage a sitin in Islamabad on July 16.

**Independent Report** 

QUETTA: The Chief Min-

ister Balochistan, Mir

Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has

strongly condemned the

terrorists' attack in the can-

tonment of Bannu and

praised the security forces

ment issued here on Tues-

day, the Chief Minister said

that the security forces

killed 10 terrorists while

fighting against them

He also paid rich trib-utes to the jawans of secu-

JI raises flag

of protest

against fuel

In an official state-

for foining major bid.

He announced the launch of a movement titled 'Haq do awam ko (Give people their rights)" to protest against anti-people policies. JI head Hafiz . Naeem-ur-Rehman will lead the sit-in.

He said the JI would approach courts and take to the streets to demand public rights.

The protest will continue until their demands are met, he added.

stani of Kashmiri origin and a Member of Parliament (MP) from Birmingham has lor to speak Urdu.' been officially sworn in as The ceremony was at-

the United Kingdom's new Lord Chancellor. place at the Royal Courts

of Justice in London on Monday. Justice Secretary Mahmood, as reported by the media, pledged her

commitment to "defending the international rule of law and upholding human

The 43-year-old Labour Party member shared her appointment on social media platform X, expressing her honour at taking on the role. She emphasized her commitment to protecting the judiciary from external pressures, stating, "I will be a champion of the Rule of Law. 900 years into this ancient role, it is more vital than ever

Hailing from Small th, Birmingham, Heath, Mahmood has made history as the first Muslim

and proudly noted that she is "the first Lord Chancel-

tended by prominent judicial figures, including Lady preme Court President Robert Reed, and Chancellor of the High Court Julian

In her inaugural speech, Mahmood reiterated the new Labour government's dedication to "defending the international rule of law and upholding human rights" in accordance with the European Convention on Human Rights, established post-World War

She highlighted the need for enhanced access to justice for women and girls who suffer from violence and abuse

Lady Chief Justice Sue Carr, addressing Mahmood, acknowledged the inevitable challenges ahead, stating, "There will no doubt be challenges and choices to be made today and tomorrow



QUETTA: A view of 9th Muharram-ul-Haram procession at Imambargah

#### Ashura teaches great sacrifices for big causes: Aleem Khan

Federal Minister for Privatisation, Abdul Aleem Khan has said that the martyrdom of Shahuda-e-Imam Hussain (RA) is a great and universal lesson for the Muslim Ummah. In his message on Ashura, he said Hazrat Imam Hussain (R.A) stops us to bow before falsehood and gives

courage to speak the truth.
Abdul Aleem Khan said that the grandson of the Prophet (PBUH) created the history of courage and bravery in Karbala which humanity will always be proud of because he is a torchbearer for everyone. He said Ashura teaches us that great sacrifices have to be made

ISLAMABAD (APP): have to pledge mutual unity, interfaith, harmony and brotherhood on this day. Theminister prayed

that Allah Almighty may give us the opportunity to follow the teachings of Imam Hussain (R.A) in real sense and this day of 10<sup>th</sup> Muharram has great significance in this regard. Meanwhile, President

Istehkam-e-Pakistan Party Punjab Rana Nazir Ahmed, MPA and General Secretary Shoaib Siddiqui and Central Additional General Secretary Mian Khalid Mehmood have also offered their gratitude to the "Ehle-Bayt" who conveyed us the message that we should be guided by the sacrifices



ISLAMABAD: Security personals using a Mechanical Robot Unit during 9th Muharram Ul Haram procession at Imam Bargah Asna Ashri, in the Federal Capital.

#### **ECP calls** meeting to ponder over **SC** verdict in reserved seats case

ISLAMABAD (INP) Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Sikandar Sultan Raja has convened a meeting of the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) officials at 11:00am tomorrow Thursday to discuss the mode of implementing the Supreme Court's (SC) recent judgment in which it ordered the allotment of reserved seats to

the PTI. ECP secretary and Legal Wings heads would brief the meeting about the apex court's decision.

While giving the decision on the petition filed by the Sunni Ittehad Counci (SIC), seeking reserved seats, the SC had last Friday declared that it was the PTI, and not the SIC, which was entitled to the seats reserved for women and minorities in the assemblies, thus dealing a major blow to the PML-led coalition government at

The verdict was announced by a 13-member bench, headed by Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa, and was livestreamed on the court's YouTube channel

QUETTA: Officials of bomb disposal squad searching routes of 10th Muharram-ul-Haram procession

#### Bilawal emphasized timeless message of Imam Hussain (RA) against tyranny & injustice

ISLAMABAD (APP): spire us to continue our fight for justice, equality, and the protection of human rights. sized the timeless message of Hazrat Imam Hussain (RA), who stood against tyranny and injustice with unparalleled courage and

unwavering faith. 'This day serves as a reminder for all of us to uphold the principles of instead, embracing the true truth, justice, and righteousness, even in the face of adversity," he said in a message on the Youm-e-Ashura.

He said that the sacrifices made by Hazrat Imam Hussain (RA) and his companions are a beacon of light for all of humanity, adding that their struggle against oppression and their commitment to uphold the values of Islam in- upheld and cherished.

Bilawal Bhutto called

for unity among the Muslim Ummah and urged all communities to promote peace and harmony. He stressed the importance of rejecting vio-

lence and extremism, and spirit of Islam which teaches love, tolerance and brotherhood Bilawal Bhutto

rayed for the peace, stability and prosperity of

He expressed hope that the lessons of Karbala will guide us in creating a just and equitable society, where the principles of Imam Hussain (RA) are