



ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani addresses as chief guest at 25th conference of the Islamic World Academy of Sciences (IAS) in Federal Capital.

Gilani for PUIC's proactive role in advancing sustainable development

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman Senate Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani on Monday called upon the Parliamentary Union of OIC Member Countries (PUIC) to play a proactive role in advancing sustainable development agendas through legislative measures and science diplomacy.

He was addressing the 25th IAS Scientific Conference, titled "Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystem Nexus for the Security of OIC Countries," as chief guest here at the Pakistan Academy of Sciences (PAS).

The conference, organized jointly by the Islamic World Academy of Sciences (IAS) and the PAS, gathered distinguished scientists and researchers to discuss critical issues facing OIC countries.

Speaking on the occasion, he also emphasized the importance of scientific innovation and collaboration in addressing the interconnected challenges being faced by OIC countries vis-à-vis water, energy, food, and ecosystems security.

The Chairman Senate acknowledged the vital role of IAS and PAS in foster-

ing scientific excellence as a pivot to address and resolve socio-economic issues.

He also highlighted the high-profile patronage of IAS by leaders, including His Royal Highness Prince El-Hassan bin Talal of Jordan and President Asif Ali Zardari and called it indicative of the significant political support for scientific progress.

Chairman Senate Gilani underlined that national security now encompasses a broader range of issues beyond traditional military threats. He pointed out that these challenges are

particularly acute in OIC countries due to rapid population growth and environmental degradation.

He drew attention of the participants towards Pakistan's own efforts to tackle these issues, including the national tree plantation campaign and comprehensive climate change policies introduced during his tenure as prime minister.

He urged continued commitment to scientific research and innovation to drive sustainable development and address shared challenges effectively.

Romina Khurshid says: Tackling plastic pollution vital for environmental sustainability, public health

ISLAMABAD (APP): Coordinator to the Prime Minister on Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Romina Khurshid Alam Monday said that plastic pollution has emerged as a serious concern for Pakistan, which has aggravated further the environmental degradation problem being faced by the country with significant economic and health crisis.

"Plastic waste, if not managed properly, degrades our ecosystems, affects public health, and hampers our sustainable developmental goals," the PM's aide warned while

addressing as a chief guest at a high-level roundtable discussion on plastic waste management in the country, organized by the Ministry of Climate Change & Environmental Coordination, showing successful interventions, and exploring opportunities for collaboration.

The discussion was attended by various stakeholders including top government officials, representatives of national and international non-governmental organization, academia, researchers, students and media.

Highlighting the present government's plastic waste management policy measures, Romina Khurshid Alam informed the participants, "We have established a robust regulatory and policy framework to control the transboundary movement of plastic waste in line with the Basel Convention."

The Basel Convention establishes standards for the transboundary movement of hazardous waste, solid waste, and municipal incinerator ash, including notice to and written confirmation from the receiving country prior to export, she explained.

IHC disposes off plea regarding recovery of PTI's activist

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Monday disposed off a petition regarding the recovery of PTI media coordinator Ahmed Janjua after he was produced before anti-terrorism court.

Justice Arbab Muhammad Tahir heard a petition moved by Farhana Barlas, the wife of Ahmed Janjua, seeking recovery of her husband.

The petitioner has adopted the stance that some persons have forcibly lifted her husband from their house on July 20. The court attorney general of Pakistan and police officials

to answer on the matter.

After a recession, Additional Attorney General Munawar Dogal appeared before the court. Prosecutor General Islamabad informed the court that an FIR under Anti-Terrorism Act (ATA) was registered against Ahmed Janjua and the concern court had granted his seven-day physical remand.

The bench remarked that the police had disclosed the arrest of Ahmed Janjua and now the petitioner could move to the relevant forum for relief. The court allowed the wife of Mr. Janjua to meet him and disposed off the petition.



ISLAMABAD: Coordinator to the Prime Minister on Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Romina Khurshid Alam addressing at a high-level roundtable discussion on plastic waste management in Pakistan.

Compliance with traffic rules stressed

ISLAMABAD (APP): Superintendent National Highways and Motorway Police Headquarters Mubashera Javed has said that adherence to traffic rules was essential to avoid accidents and ensure road safety. Addressing a road safety seminar organized by the Road Safety Awareness Unit (RSAU) of the National Highways and Motorways Police Headquarters Zone at a local hotel on Monday, she said that road safety was a collective issue which required serious efforts by all segments of the society.

Police starts physical tests of candidates for recruitment

ISLAMABAD: According to the details, following the special directions of Inspector General of Police (IGP) Islamabad Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi, the Islamabad Police started the physical

Sarfraz Virk, and other senior police officers at these centers.

IGP Islamabad also visited the physical test center established at F-9 Park and Police Lines Headquarters in Islamabad. He



tests for executive staff recruitment, a public relations officer said.

The physical tests were conducted for candidates at recruitment centers in the federal capital Islamabad, Multan, and Quetta.

The physical testing phase was completed under the supervision of DG Safe City Malik Jameel Zafar, AIG Establishment Abdul Haq Umrani, SSP Security Zeeshan Haider, SSP Traffic Mohammad

reviewed the arrangements and facilities provided for the aspirants at the recruitment centers.

He emphasized that the recruitment process must uphold transparency and merit to safeguard the rights of all candidates, ensuring a 100% merit-based completion of recruitment.

He directed the police officers to treat all aspiring candidates with respect, provide necessary facilities, and ensure transparency and merit.



ISLAMABAD: Chief Minister Sindh Syed Murad Ali Shah called on the President Asif Ali Zardari at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

ISSI, BNU to host Intl conference on "Strengthening Pakistan-U.S. Relations"

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI), in collaboration with Beaconhouse National University (BNU), is organizing an International Conference on "Strengthening Pakistan-U.S. Relations." The Conference will be held on July 24, 2024, at the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad, a news release said.

The conference aims to foster a deeper understanding of Pakistan-U.S. ties, address contemporary challenges in the bilateral, regional and global context, and identify opportunities for mutually beneficial collaboration in various domains. The key subjects to be covered will include bi-

lateral relations, economic partnership, security cooperation, and regional dynamics.

The conference will feature a distinguished lineup of diplomats, practitioners, and subject specialists including from the academia. The event will feature panel discussions and interactive sessions, providing a platform for participants to engage in meaningful conversations and explore opportunities for fruitful collaboration.

The event will be attended by a cross-section—including from the diplomatic community; academia; members of think tanks, civil society, and the media; and students of international relations.

Tourism squad effectively working in facilitating tourists

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Punjab Tourism Squad (PTS) Murree was effectively working to provide all kinds of facilities and guidance to tourists thronging to the recreational spots of the area.

Tourism squad also issued warning to the hotels and restaurants management to ensure cleanliness and provide tourists with a comfortable environment and quality food to enjoy their trip, said a press release issued here on Monday. Speaking on the occasion, Assistant Director Operations Syed Khurram Hasan said that the Punjab Tourism Squad will take all possible measures in collaboration with the local government for facilitating the tourists.

IHC instructs CS, PTI to hold meeting for procession permission

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Monday instructed the chief commissioner and Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI) to resolve the matter with consultation regarding the permission for holding a political procession in the Capital. Chief Justice Aamer Farooq heard the case, filed by PTI through Shoaib Shaheen Advocate.

During course of proceedings, the chief justice

remarked that the political party just wanted to hold a procession, what was wrong it. Advocate general Islamabad said that the PTI could organize its procession after 25th August 'chehlum' procession. The chief justice said that holding a procession was the right of the petitioner. The court asked if the ceremonies of 14th August were also cancelled. Justice Aamer Farooq said that there was law and order situation in the country.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Secretary Ministry of Education Mohiuddin Wani addressing a consultation meeting on assessment framework.

Education Ministry executes recruitment drive in fair manner

ISLAMABAD (APP): To address the teacher shortage in federal government schools and colleges, the Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training has launched a transparent recruitment drive.

An official source told on Monday that the Ministry advertised 237 positions for Elementary School Teachers (EST), which included 102 male

and 135 female roles during the month of March.

The Federal Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education (FBISE) conducted the screening test through an AI based assessment system developed in partnership with National University of Science and Technology (NUST) for 21,564 candidates.

Following this, ap-

ATC grants 7-day physical remand of Janjua

ISLAMABAD (APP): An Anti-Terrorism Court (ATC) of Islamabad on Tuesday approved a seven-day physical remand of the arrested Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Coordinator Ahmed Waqas Janjua. Judge Tahir Abbas Sipra heard the case. During the hearing, Ahmed Waqas Janjua was presented before the court who was arrested in a case registered in police station CTD. The court was informed that explosive materials were found with Janjua at the time of his arrest.

23 brands of bottle water declared unsafe for human consumption

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources (PCRWR) has declared 23 brands of bottle water unsafe for human consumption due to microbiological or chemical contamination.

For the 2nd quarter of year 2024 (April to June), 209 samples of mineral/bottled water brands were collected from 21 cities and out of which 23 brands were found unsafe for human consumption, said a press release issued here Monday.

Four brands (Aqua Qismat, Vivo Water, Ruyal Silver, Smart) were found to be unsafe due to presence of higher levels of sodium, three brands (Still,

Starlite Water, Premium Safa Purified Water) were found unsafe due to presence of high level of Arsenic than the permissible limit, while, one brand (Smart Pure Life) was found to be unsafe due to presence of higher levels of Potassium.

Fifteen brands (Fiji, Asha Premium Drinking Water, Water Plus Premium Drinking Water, Neo Health Drinking Water, Cliff Water Healthy drinking water, Dream Pure, Samar Indus drinking water, Splash water, Crystal Pure Life, Buxton, Kohinoor, BRO H2O, Oriel, Parvaz Water, Masafi) were found contaminated with bacteria and thus were unsafe for drinking purpose.



ISLAMABAD: Motorcyclists stands under the shade of Zero Point Bridge during heavy rain late night in the Federal Capital.

Wani emphasizes collaborative efforts to improve edu. standards

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Secretary of Education and Professional Training, Mohiuddin Wani, has called for coordinated efforts between federal and provincial governments to address challenges in the education sector.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of a two-day consultative workshop organized by the Pakistan Institute of Education (PIE) on Monday, Wani highlighted the need to simplify assessment reports, including the National Achievement Test by PIE, for teachers, students, and stakeholders. He emphasized that making these reports more accessible will enhance their utility and understanding.

Wani also advocated for the use of advanced technologies, including Artificial Intelligence (AI), in

assessments.

He believed that incorporating such technologies will not only improve the quality of assessments but also enable effective cross-validation.

The Federal Secretary stressed the importance of making all assessment reports from the Pakistan Institute of Education easily understandable, which will contribute to improvements in teaching methods, curricula, and teacher training.

In his address, Wani underscored that training programs like this are essential for elevating educational standards to international levels and advancing educational objectives.

He stated that such efforts are crucial for enhancing the quality of education for children.

Indian troops kill Kashmiri youth in Rajouri

ISLAMABAD (APP): Indian troops in their fresh act of state terrorism martyred one Kashmiri youth in Rajouri district of Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK).

According to Kashmir Media Service, the youth was killed by the troops during a cordon and search operation in Gundha area of the district. Earlier an attack was carried out on an Indian army's Rashtriya Rifles camp in the area in which one Indian army man was injured.

ICT admin cracks down on price hikes, ensure fair practices

ISLAMABAD (APP): On the directions of Deputy Commissioner Islamabad, Irfan Nawaz Memon, the Assistant Commissioners of Islamabad have intensified their efforts to control price hike in the Federal Capital in a bid to tackle rising prices.

According to the Spokesman of ICT's Administration, Assistant Commissioner Nilore led by district administration teams inspected markets at Khanna Pul area, where offenders were nabbed for overpricing and failing to display price lists.

On the occasion, he also visited shopping malls where he also checked licences of security guards.

Additionally, an anti-encroachment operation cleared 15carts blocking pathways.

In another action, Assistant Commissioner Industrial Area targeted price violations in I-9 area. During inspection, the AC arrested 10 persons and imposed fines to several individuals for not displaying price lists and using polythene bags.

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2 wanted members of snatcher gang held: valuables and weapons recovered

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad Police Noon police station arrested two wanted members of a criminal gang involved in looting citizens and snatching activities and recovered motorbikes, mobile phones, cash and weapons from their possession. Case was registered against the nabbed accused and further investigation is underway.

DIG Islamabad Syed Ali Raza said that Islamabad Police is taking all possible measures to protect the lives and property of citizens, ensuring no criminal element disturbs the peace. Citizens are urged to cooperate with police and report any suspicious activity or information through the emergency helpline "Pucar-15" or the "ICT-15" app.

who were involved in several incidents of looting citizens at gunpoint.

The accused were identified as Muhammad Amir and Zulfikar. The police team also recovered motorbikes, cash, mobile phones and weapons from their possession. Case was registered against the nabbed accused and further investigation is underway.

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ISLAMABAD: Senator Dr. Zarqa Suhrawardy Taimur, Chairperson Senate Functional Committee on Devolution presiding over a meeting of the committee at Parliament House.

Inflation not acceptable in any case: CM Maryam

CM calls for technology to enhance public service departments' monitoring

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif, chairing a special meeting on increase in the price of chicken, said the price of chicken should not be beyond the reach of common man, rather it should be kept in check.

The CM said that inflation was not acceptable in any case, all relevant institutions should monitor in the field. She expressed great concern over artificial increase in the price of chicken, and got furious over continuous increase in the prices of chicken and poultry products in the province. She directed to set up a regulatory mechanism to determine the price of chicken.

CM Maryam Nawaz questioned that chicken was among the most consumed food items,

where were the responsible institutions. She said chicken was widely used by people throughout the province, it was not acceptable to increase its rate. She added do poultry business and earn legitimate profit, but do not over burden people with price hike. The CM said: "Our people are aware, they cannot allow mafias to increase prices.

We don't want anyone to suffer, but should we leave people at the mercy of mafias?" Senior Provincial Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb, Information & Culture Minister Azma Zahid Bukhari, Provincial Ministers Bilal Yasin, Ashiq Hussain and MPA Salma Butt attended the meeting.

Principal Secretary to CM Sajid Zafar Dal,

Secretary & DG Industries and other officers concerned were also present. Meanwhile, Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif underscored the importance of enhancing reliance on technology to strengthen the monitoring of government public service departments.

In a meeting with Brig (Retd) Babar Alauddin, Chairman Chief Minister Directorate of Evaluation, Feedback, Inspection and Monitoring to discuss suggestions and recommendations for good governance and transparency at management level, here on Monday, she also discussed the process of incorporating public opinion into government decisions and policy making.



LAHORE: Punjab Minister for Local Government Zeeshan Rafique chairs meeting to review projects under Marri Development Plan.

Punjab govt facilitating religious minorities: Arora

LAHORE (APP): Provincial Minister for Minority Affairs, Sardar Ramesh Singh Arora, visited Multan and attended a reception held at the local Poyam Church in Razaabad.

The provincial minister highlighted practical steps taken by the Punjab government to realize Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz's vision of a "Minority-Friendly Punjab." He stated that for the first time, the Punjab government has increased minority funds by 200% in the recent budget, which will provide more resources for the welfare of minorities.

He mentioned that the government had allocated a 5% job quota and a 2% quota in universities for minorities to provide employment and educational opportunities to the minority community.

Sardar Ramesh Singh Arora said that a significant amount has been allocated in the development fund for minorities in South Punjab, and the Punjab government is issuing special grants on occasions like Christmas, Easter, Holi, and Diwali.

He emphasized that to ensure the protection of minority rights, it is essential to promote tolerance and love. The government prioritizes providing a peaceful environment for all religions, including Hindu, Sikh, and Christian communities, to practice their worship and celebrate their festivals, he added.

Pastor Ansab John, Pastor Shaukat Ashiq, Pastor Samar Shakeel, and Mubashir Khawar Gul were also present. They appreciated the initiatives of the minister and his commitment to the welfare of minorities.



MULTAN: Provincial Minister for Minorities Affairs Ramesh Singh Arora addressing the Christian community during his visit to the Poisma Church.

Tarakai directs EMA to focus on facilities provision in schools

Independent Report
PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Minister for Elementary and Secondary Education, Faisal Khan Tarakai has directed the authorities of the Education Monitoring Authority (EMA) to focus on the provision of facilities, including the attendance of teachers, students and ongoing academic activities in schools.

He issued these directives while presiding over a review meeting on the Education Monitoring Authority here on Monday.

Besides, Special Secretary Elementary and Secondary Education Asfandyar Khattak, Additional Secretary Jahangir Azam and officials of the Education Monitoring Authority also attended the meeting.

He said that according to the data of the authority, policy level decisions are made for schools and students and the achievement of all

important goals has been ensured due to the excellent performance of the monitoring authority.

The minister said that the monitoring of double shift schools programmes and complete details of the girls' community schools and monthly visits to schools have also been entrusted to the authority.

He said that all the employees of the authority have worked very diligently in provision of furniture free textbooks to schools, details of enrolment campaign and vacancies, which is appreciable. However, keeping in view the requirements of future, measures will be taken to develop the authority on modern lines including equipping the employees of the authority with modern training and IT equipment. The monitoring authority officials briefed the minister that the authority monitors a total of 34633 schools, including schools in the merged districts, 192141 teachers.

CM meets PA Speaker, discusses assembly affairs

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif met Speaker Punjab Assembly Malik Muhammad Ahmed Khan to discuss affairs of Punjab Assembly and overall political situation in the country.

She also had a detailed discussion on various development projects of the government in the province. The CM said the Punjab government was focused on providing maximum relief to the poor people. She added, "We want to bottle up inflation and bury it forever."

Speaker Punjab Assembly Malik Muhammad Ahmed Khan appreciated the steps taken by the Punjab government to rid people of artificial inflation. He congratulated the chief minister on the successful test flight of country's first air ambulance.

Heatwave hits Jacobabad, dozens hospitalized

JACOBABAD (APP): Dozens of people were admitted to the hospital after fainting and humidity due to extreme heat and humidity in Jacobabad on Monday. According to rescue sources, many people became unconscious and had to be admitted to the hospital due to the severe heat and humidity. A young man named Ali Gohar Kunderani died from heat exhaustion and suffocation in the Jungle area. Citizens reported that the extreme heat and humidity made it very difficult to breathe.

The situation was worsened by frequent power outages, leaving hundreds of people without access to relief from the heat.

Police seize 3,000 liters of smuggled fuel

RAJANPUR (APP): Rajanpur Police claimed to have successfully foiled an attempt to smuggle fuel and seized 3,000 liters of oil here Monday. Following the instructions from District Police Officer (DPO) Dost Muhammad, a crackdown against smuggling is in progress across the district. SHO Sadar Police Station Asad Abbas, along with his team, conducted the operation which resulted in the seizure of a tanker filled with smuggled diesel. One suspect involved in the smuggling was arrested along with the vehicle. DPO Captain (Retd.) Dost Muhammad has issued directives to all SHOs in the district to continue effective action against the smuggling of all types.



ABBOTABAD: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi addressing media persons during his visit to Abbottabad Press Club.

Governor KP stresses on upholding law, ethics for national progress

ABBOTABAD (APP): Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi here on Monday emphasized the critical role of law and ethics in national advancement and asserted that it was the collective responsibility to bolster faith in the justice system.

Addressing the convocation ceremony as the chief guest at a private college, the Governor highlighted the escalating challenges posed by the disregard for legal and ethical standards, attributing them to increasing immorality. He lamented the consequences

of eroding confidence in the judiciary, asserting that it is the collective responsibility to bolster faith in the justice system.

The Governor underscored the significance of the day for students and the institution alike. Faisal Karim Kundi urged the graduating students to embrace heightened responsibilities, stressing that safeguarding the supremacy of law and constitution is paramount for national progress and prosperity. He emphasized that democracy hinges on the enforcement of law,

cautioning that nations forsaking legal integrity risk losing their identity. He called upon Pakistanis to champion the cause of legal supremacy, urging a spirit of sacrifice for the nation's welfare. Acknowledging the post-pandemic surge in online activities, he highlighted the growing importance of the digital sector. The convocation was attended by Vice-Chancellor Hazara University Professor Dr. Mohsin Nawaz and Vice-Chancellor Abbottabad University of Science and Technology Professor Dr. Majid.

All stakeholders should work together to promote inter-faith harmony in the country

LAHORE (Online): Deputy Speaker Sindh Assembly, Anthony Naveed and Deputy Speaker Punjab Assembly Malik Zaheer Iqbal called on Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan at Governor House Lahore today.

Pastor Daniyal Saleem also accompanied Deputy Speaker Sindh Assembly Anthony Naveed. Both the Deputy Speakers congratulated Sardar Saleem Haider Khan

on assuming the office of Governor of Punjab and expressed best wishes to him. In the meeting, ways to promote inter-provincial relations was discussed.

Speaking on the occasion, Punjab Governor, Sardar Saleem Haider Khan said that all stakeholders should work together to promote inter-faith harmony in the country. He said that everyone has to play a positive role in the development of country.

PU awards ten PhD degrees

LAHORE (APP): Punjab University has awarded ten PhD degrees to the scholars in which Saber Hussain S/o Muhammad Hussain in the subject of Botany, Tehreem Nasir D/o Muhammad Nasir in the subject of Communication Studies, Isbah Ashfaq D/o Ashfaq Ahmad in the subject of Zoology, Khadija Naz D/o Abdul Karim Bakhol in the subject of Philosophy, Salma D/o Muhammad Ilyas in the subject of Persian, Ghanwa Ahmad D/o Faiz Ahmed in the subject of Zoology, Muhammad Khalid Azeem.



KARACHI: Sindh Minister for Information, Transport and Mass Transit, Sharjeel Inam Memon talks with media persons during press conference on the occasion of inauguration ceremony of the new routes of the Red Line Peoples Bus Service Project, held in Karachi

Karachi admin to launch tree plantation campaign in August

KARACHI (APP): In a bid to improve the environment of the metropolis, the Karachi administration will launch a tree plantation campaign in collaboration with Sindh Forest Department, municipal corporations and non-government organizations.

It was decided in a meeting, held here on Monday with Commissioner Karachi Syed Hassan Naqvi in chair, that 140,000 saplings will be planted across the city during the campaign set to start in the next two weeks, said a statement issued here.

During the campaign deputy commissioners of all the districts of Karachi division will make arrangements to plant 10,000 trees in their respective districts with the help of local government institutions, private sector and industrial organizations.

The commissioner speaking to the meeting urged all relevant institutions to extend cooperation in the regard and make the campaign a success that will help improving the city's environment and aid in government's efforts aimed at addressing

environmental issues. The meeting was attended by representatives of various organizations, including the district administration, forest department, Karachi Metropolitan Corporation, cantonment boards, DHA, LDA, KDA, Port Qasim Authority, Town Administrations, ABAD, SITE Limited and Chamber of Commerce and Industries.

The Commissioner office has started identifying locations and spaces for tree plantation in consultation with relevant deputy commissioners.



KARACHI: Teachers from Sindhi try to enter Red zone area during protest in favour of their demands.

Ceremony held to honor martyrs of 2018 attack

KARACHI (APP): A ceremony was held at the Central Police Office here Monday to honor the martyrs of the November 23, 2018, attack on the Chinese Consulate.

The event was attended by Sindh Home Minister Zia ul Hassan Lanjar as the chief guest, along with the families of the martyred police officers, ASI Ashraf Dawood and Constable Ameer. Other attendees included Chinese Consul General Yang Yungdong, IGP Sindh Ghulam Nabi Memon, Additional IGP Karachi Javed Akhtar Odho and other senior police officers.

In his address, Home Minister Zia Ul Hassan Lanjar praised the bravery and valor of the police officers and Jawans who sacrificed their lives to protect the people. He expressed gratitude to the Chinese government for acknowledging these

sacrifices and emphasized the essential role of public support in the fight against crime.

IGP Sindh Ghulam Nabi Memon highlighted the importance of the sacrifices made by the martyred officers, calling them an asset and a guiding light for the department. He assured continued commitment to the welfare of the families of the martyrs.

Chinese Consul General Yang Yungdong commended the security measures of the Sindh Police and expressed the Chinese government's gratitude for their support and cooperation.

The ceremony concluded with the exchange of a commemorative shield between the Sindh Police and the Chinese Consulate. A memorial medal was presented to AIGP Finance Suhai Aziz on behalf of the Chinese government.



LAHORE: Deputy Speaker Sindh Assembly, Anthony Naveed called on Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan at Governor House.

Three cases of May 9 dismissed related to PTI founder's interim bail

LAHORE (Online): Lahore High Court (LHC) dismissed all three applications related to interim bails in 3 cases of former Prime Minister Imran Khan on the basis of withdrawal.

During the hearing, Justice Tariq Saleem Sheikh inquired that while we are hearing this case, Is Imran Khan in custody?

The PTI lawyer told yes, he is currently in custody. The lawyer further said that on July 9 our bails were rejected by the Anti-Terrorism Court, we filed an application in the Lahore High Court on July 13.

On this, Justice

Anwar-ul-Haq remarked that we have to see from the official record when the applications were filed, Justice Tariq Saleem Sheikh said that it is not proved from the record that application was filed on July 13. On this PTI Lawyer said that we want to withdraw these applications.

Later, the Lahore High Court dismissed the petitions on the basis of withdrawal. It should be remembered that Imran Khan had challenged the Anti-Terrorism Court's decision to reject the bails in the Jinnah House, Shadman Police Station and Askari Tower attack cases.

Minister lauds EMA's performance

PESHAWAR (APP): Provincial Minister for Education Faisal Khan Tarakai has directed the Education Monitoring Authority (EMA) to further enhance its monitoring with main focus on provision of facilities in schools, ensuring the attendance of teachers and students and enhancing educational activities.

He expressed these views while presiding over a review meeting of the

EMA which was attended by Special Secretary Education Asfandyar Khattak, Additional Secretary Jehangir Azam and other officials of the Authority.

The minister said that policy-level decisions for schools and students are made on the basis of the authority's data, and significant goals had been achieved due to the authority's excellent performance.



LAHORE: Members of Victims Contract Water Management Employees Punjab are holding protest demonstration for demanding restoration of their employment, at Lahore press club.

Minister reviews progress in 27 schemes for Murree

LAHORE (APP): Progress in 27 schemes under the Murree Development Plan was reviewed in a meeting held at the Civil Secretariat, which was presided over by Punjab Local Government Minister Zeeshan Rafiq on Monday.

Secretary Local Government Shakeel Ahmed Mian, Special Secretary Asia Gul, Additional Secretary Maria Tariq and others participated. The Deputy Commissioner Murree briefed the meeting on the development plan through video link. The minister said that on the direction of Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif, it has been

decided to start projects including upgrading of the water network in Murree. "Drainage and streetlight services will also be upgraded in the main tourist hub of Punjab", he said. He elaborated that the water schemes for Murree would be completed in three phases and short-term scheme would be started first. Zeeshan Rafiq said that the short-term scheme will be completed by the Murree Municipal Committee, while medium and long-term schemes have been entrusted to PHED. He said that the initial cost of the water schemes was estimated at Rs635 million.

Pak, Kuwait agree for further promoting bilateral trade

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan and Kuwait on Monday agreed for further promoting friendly and bilateral trade relations between the two countries by moving forward in a more integrated manner, besides enhancing business to business and government cooperation.

The consensus to this regard was evolved in a meeting between Minister for Board of Investment, Privatization and Communications, Abdul Aleem Khan and Ambassador of Kuwait to Pakistan, Abdul Rehman Jay. Al-Mutiari, said a press release.

The meeting discussed various proposals regarding the promotion of trade activities from Kuwait and expressed his willingness to cooperate for various projects on the basis of "Business to Business" and "Government to Government".

Abdul Aleem Khan said that he wanted progress for investment from Kuwait to Pakistan for which substantial results could be obtained, especially from the private sector.

Ambassador of Kuwait to Pakistan, Abdul Rehman Jay. Al-Mutiari assured the minister that his government would provide all possible support in the strengthening of Pakistan's economy and projects of mutual cooperation.

He further said that the Kuwait was keen to further strengthen the

brotherly relations with Pakistan and the contracts signed in the recent past by Kuwaiti institutions would be finalized within the given time frame.

The Ambassador of Kuwait, while appreciating Abdul Aleem Khan's recent visit to Kuwait, said that his presence in Kuwait helped more development of bilateral relations between Kuwait and Pakistan and promotion of mutual trade which would continue in the coming days as well.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance & Revenue, Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb in a virtual meeting with the Representatives from Fitch Ratings.



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Kuwait to Pakistan, Abdul Rehman Jay. Al-Mutiari called on Federal Minister for Board of Investment, Privatization and Communications Abdul Aleem Khan.

PSX transitions to the efficient & convenient one-share marketable lot

Independent Report
KARACHI: Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) has successfully transitioned to a One-Share Lot system for investor transactions on the regular market, aligning with international best practices for stock market investments. Previously, the minimum marketable lot sizes for listed companies varied from 20, 50, 100, and 500 shares based on their prices. To enhance investor convenience and streamline stock market transactions, this change has been enacted. PSX as a frontline regulator is committed to add value to its customer experience and facilitate investors and stakeholders. The transition to the One-Share Lot began on April 19, 2024, and was executed in multiple phases on a weekly basis, to ensure a smooth and efficient transition. The conversion was based on a comprehensive evaluation conducted by the Exchange.

increased retail participation, as the smaller standard lot size makes high-priced stocks more affordable for retail investors, resulting in higher liquidity and improved trading volumes. Additionally, this change allows investors to build more balanced portfolios, as those with limited capital can now afford a wider range of stocks. The new lot size also eliminates the need for investors to trade in odd lot markets at a discount, promoting accessibility. Furthermore, it simplifies operations for investors and securities brokers by removing the need to track multiple lot sizes, thus reducing administrative and operational burdens.

Mr. Farrukh H. Khan, MD & CEO of PSX, expressed his satisfaction with the transition, stating, "This is a significant step forward for Pakistan Stock Exchange, particularly benefiting small investors. The shift to a One-Share Lot aligns with international best practices and moves PSX closer to global standards where trading units consist of one share per lot, enhancing market compatibility, competitiveness.

The new lot size is expected to offer numerous benefits to investors, facilitating seamless, systematic, and efficient transactions in the capital market. Key advantages of the One-Share Lot include

JazzCash leads way in Digital supply chain finance

ISLAMABAD (APP): In Pakistan's developing economy, it is crucial to empower the micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSME) sector through financial solutions designed to digitize the supply chain and propel the economy forward.

The country is home to approximately 3 million SMEs, and JazzCash aims to digitize its transactions said a new release.

"Digital financial services for MSMEs in rural and semi-urban populations are crucial for widespread financial inclusion," said Aamir Aftab, Chief Product Officer at JazzCash.

He added, "By digitizing MSME payments and supply chain financing in unbanked and underbanked areas, we have a significant opportunity to improve people's livelihoods by building a truly cashless ecosystem."

Speaking at a panel titled 'Strategies for Thriving in Pakistan's Digital Supply Chains: Inflation, Credit Dynamics, and Digital Imperatives' at the DigiBap Summit 2024, Aamir illustrated how fintech players like JazzCash are enabling grassroots digitisation in rural and semi-urban areas to enable end-to-end Digital Supply Chain Finance (DSCF) Solutions for MSMEs. In his keynote address, Saleem Ullah, the Deputy Governor of the State Bank of Pakistan, emphasised the importance of leveraging technology to digitise supply chain finance.

Digital financial solutions can enable the MSME sector to improve operational efficiency with improved financial liquidity and better credit ratings, promoting the long-term and stable development of stronger supply chain relationships.



SARGODHA: Farmers cultivate rice crops by hands in the fields on the outskirts area Moza Boori.

Contracts with IPPs, should be revise and made public: Atif Ikram

Independent Report
ISLAMABAD: President Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry Atif Ikram Sheikh has said that it is necessary to review the agreements with IPPs. The government should bring the agreements with IPPs to the public. Expensive contracts are the cause of electricity crisis today, people and business circles have suffered severe problems due to expensive electricity bills, he expressed these views while talking to a delegation of the business community.

Federation President Atif Ikram said that the

reason for the high electricity bills is the agreements made with the IPPs. The power plants of the PPPs are running at less than 10% capacity and the government is paying the full amount. On one hand, the circulating debt is increasing, on other hand, the public is being burdened. Atif Ikram said that the price per unit of electricity in Pakistan was already higher than other countries in the region, now the living and business conditions of the common people in Pakistan have become disturbed. The delegation of the business community included Chairman Capital Office.



FAISALABAD: President Faisalabad Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FWCCI) Ms. Rubina Amjad addressing a press conference at RCBI Complex.

POL import bill decreases by 0.61 percent in FY2024

ISLAMABAD (APP): The imports of the overall petroleum group decreased by 0.61 percent during the fiscal year 2023-24 as compared to the corresponding period of the last year, the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) reported.

The total imports of the petroleum group during July-June (2023-24) stood at \$ 16,910.249 million as against the imports of \$ 17,014.558 million during the same period of last year, according to PBS data. Among petroleum commodities, the import of petroleum products declined by 12.91 percent, from \$ 7,628.442 million last year to \$ 6,643.912 million during the time period under review.

However, the imports

of petroleum crude increased by 11.80 percent, from \$ 4,947.216 million to \$ 5,531.129; natural gas liquefied by 4.84 percent, from \$ 5,531.129 to \$ 3,945.703 whereas the imports of petroleum gas liquefied went up by 16.93 percent and reached to \$ 675.029 million as compared to \$ 789.287 last year.

The imports of all other petroleum group products decreased by 35.86 percent and went down to \$ 0.339 million from \$ 0.218 million.

Meanwhile, on a year-on-year basis, the petroleum group imports witnessed a decrease of 3.73 percent during the month of June 2024 as compared to the same month of last year.



FAISALABAD: Labourers busy in plucking dates at University of Agriculture Faisalabad Farm.

Govt to encourage private seed companies: Minister

PESHAWAR (APP): The Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and private seed company Akora Seed Company here on Monday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to ensure supply of quality seeds.

Chief Executive Officer of Akora Seed Company Muhammad Siddiq and Javed Marwat, Secretary Agriculture, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Government signed the MoU on behalf of their respective organizations. Provincial Minister Major Retired Sajjad Barkwal participated in the ceremony as the chief guest.

On this occasion, Special Assistant to the

Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for Industries Abdul Karim Tordhir and senior officials of the Agriculture Department were also present.

Talking to the representatives, the provincial minister assured them that the government would provide all the facilities to the seed companies in the supply of quality seeds. He further said that private seed companies had very important role in providing quality seed. Quality seed supply is not possible without the positive role of seed companies. Private seed companies should play a role with the government to supply.

NA Committee on Privatization expresses concerns over delay in PIACL privatization process

ISLAMABAD (APP): National Assembly Standing Committee on Privatization on Monday expressed concern over the delay in the process of privatization of Pakistan International Airlines Company Limited (PIACL) and directed to provide a detailed working paper on the entities privatized during the last 10 years.

The committee, which met here under the chairmanship of Farooq

Sattar noted that the delay in the privatization process of PIACL resulted in an increase in its losses, and liabilities from Rs 200 billion in 2015 to Rs 800 billion in 2024 and recommended expediting the process.

The committee also urged to protect the rights of the employees during the process which was assured by the Minister for Privatization, said a press release.

The Secretary Ministry of Privatization gave a briefing on the overall working and performance of the Ministry. The committee directed the secretary to provide a detailed working paper on the entities privatized during the last 10 years. The committee considered the Privatization Commission (Amendment) Bill, 2023 and unanimously recommended approving the said Bill.

Internship program revolutionize agriculture sector: DG

FAISALABAD (APP): Director General (DG) Agriculture (Extension), Chaudhary Abdul Hameed has said that the one-year internship program announced by the CM Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif will revolutionize the agriculture sector in Punjab province. According to a spokesperson, DG agriculture said that the last date to receive the applications is August 5, 2024 (Monday). Under the agriculture transformation plan, 1000 agriculture graduates would be provided internships for the development of the agriculture sector in the province.

Commerce minister holds preparatory meeting for FoodAg Expo

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Commerce, Jam Kamal Khan on Monday conducted a zoom meeting to review preparations for the second International Food and Agriculture Exhibition (FoodAg 2024) to be held in Karachi from August 9 to 11.

The minister emphasized the importance of top-notch arrangements and foolproof security for the international delegates expected to attend, said a press release issued here.

During the meeting, Jam Kamal directed that significant efforts be made towards the branding and promotion of the event to ensure its success.

The exhibition will

feature several key components including a Trade and Investment Conference, an Exhibition Display, a Cuisine Show and an Inauguration Dinner at Mohatta Palace.

Additionally, various sideline activities such as B2B seminars, chef table talks, and city tours organized by the Provincial Tourism Department and PTDC are planned to engage participants.

Over 1,000 buyers have been recommended to attend, with 484 confirmed by missions from 74 countries.

A total of 288 local exhibitors, representing Pakistan's leading brands, exporters.



HYDERABAD: Residents of Latifabad are holding protest demonstration against prolong electricity load shedding in their area, at HPC.

Gold rates up by Rs.1,000 per tola

ISLAMABAD (APP): The price of per tola of 24 karat gold increased by Rs.1,000 and was sold at Rs. 251,000 on Monday against its sale at Rs. 250,000 on last trading day.

The price of 10 grams of 24 karat gold also increased by Rs. 857 to Rs. 215,192 from Rs. 214,335 whereas that of 10 gram 22 karat gold went up to Rs.197,260 from Rs. 196,473, the All Sindh Sarafa Jewellers Association reported.

The price of per tola and ten gram silver remained unchanged at Rs.2,920 and Rs.2,503.42 respectively.

The price of gold in the international market increased by \$2 to \$2,402 from \$2,400, the Association reported.

Electric vehicles need of hour: Jam Dharejo

KARACHI (APP): The Sindh Minister for Industries and Commerce Jam Ikrumullah Dharejo has said that the Electric Vehicles (EVs) were need of the hour to cope with environmental degradation.

He stated this in a meeting held at the Sindh Secretariat under the chairmanship of the Provincial Minister for Industries and Commerce Jam Ikrumullah Dharejo. Secretary Industries and Commerce Muhammad Yasin Shar Baloch, MD Site Ghazanfar Ali Qadri,

Dewan Group representatives Hasan Zafar, Saad Murad Khan, Captain (retd) Kashif/Riaz and Saleha Hassan were also present.

Speaking on this occasion, Provincial Minister for Industries and Commerce Jam Ikrumullah Dharejo said that electric vehicles were the need of the hour to cope with environmental pollution.

"Pakistan is polluted country and the use of these vehicles will help in dealing with environmental pollution, he said.

Railways move ahead to adopt digital work place solutions

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan Railways is taking steps to become an E-office soon to digitalize its service and improve internal efficiencies through electronic administration.

The e-office platform aims to cater for the need for effectiveness and transparency in Governmental processes and service delivery mechanisms as well as help government departments to go paperless.

The idea is being implemented with the help of the National Information Technology Board (NITB) which will be responsible

for providing the relevant training to the staff of Pakistan Railways.

E-Office is a digital workplace solution that replaces the existing method of manual handling of files and documents with an efficient electronic system. According to an official source, Pakistan Railways will be on e-office soon which will not only facilitate the users but also make the entire system of the department transparent.

Listing other steps taken by the department, the source revealed that Pakistan Railways.

