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Member APNS & CPNE

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Bill prohibiting independent

candidates from joining

parties tabled in NA

Independents will not be considered political party members at a later stage if they didn't

already submit declaration showing affiliation; The proposed amendment aims to alter Sections 66 and 104 of the Elections Act 2017

> candidates from joining political parties after a consti-tutionally and legally de-

> fined period.
>
> The bill suggests that

independent candidates should not be allowed to

join any political party

within the stipulated timeframe. It also states that

parties failing to submit a

list of reserved seats within

the specified period will not be eligible for those

Continued on page 2

QUETTA: A delegation led by Chairman Al-Hijra Trust Abdul Karim Saqib

sued these directives to the

Director General QDA

while chairing meeting on

the matters about Quetta

Development Package and

irrigation issues, here at the

CM's secretariat on Tues-

Minister, Dr. Rubaba Buledi, Chief Secretary,

Shakeel Qadir Khan and

other concerned high ups

were present in the meet-

re-organize the QDA. In

The meeting decided to

Continued on page 2

The Advisor to Chief

meeting with Governor Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail

Directs to reorganize QDA and prepare feasibility report:

CM directs to establish new

cities instead of housing

schemes in interior Quetta

## Imran Khan ready to hold talks with military

*Army should nominate representative for negotiations: ex-PM;* Says he would never hold talks with interior minister.

**Monitoring Desk** RAWALPINDI: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's (PTI) imprisoned founder Imran Khan said Tuesday that his party was ready to hold

talks with the military.
The PTI founder, who appeared in a court established in Adiala jail for a hearing, said: "We are ready to hold talks with the military. The army should nominate their representative [for negotiations].

Khan, who has been imprisoned for nearly a

year, said that his party had never levelled allegations he seeking talks when he against the army, but had only criticised the armed

He further said that if any PTI worker was found guilty in the May 9, 2023, riots then the authorities should penalise the indi-

Khan reiterated that the incumbent government wanted to destroy his party by creating a wedge between PTI party and the armed

was criticising the army and why wasn't he seeking talks with political parties, he said: "What is the SIFC? Who is Mohsin Naqvi? There is an undeclared martial law." Khan said that Interior Minister Naqvi was 'their" representative and

place due to them". He then alleged that he would never hold talks with Naqvi as he along with the Punjab Inspector General

that he had reached "this

When asked why was (IG) "oppressed" his party In his statement, the PTI founder also termed Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz "fascist" while pointing towards back-toback arrests of the party leadership across the province. The deposed prime minister, referring to his arrest last year, alleged that he was "abducted from judicial complex" and "it was declared legal by the Islamabad High Court

(IHC) Chief Justice Aamer

ISLAMABAD (Agencies):

The National Assembly has

introduced the Second

Amendment Bill to the

Elections Act 2024, prohib-

iting independent candi-

dates from joining another

political party after a speci-

Speaker Ayaz Sadiq, saw

PML-N member Bilal

Kayani present the bill. The

proposed amendment aims

to alter Sections 66 and 104

of the Elections Act 2017,

restricting independent

The session, chaired by

fied period.



participating in a meeting through video link chaired by Federal Minister for Planning Ahsan Iqbal about Kachhi canal



ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari meeting a delegation of Commonwealth, led by the Secretary-General of Commonwealth, Ms Patricia Scotland, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

Attaullah Tarar says

#### PTI founder's call for talks with institution, another conspiracy against state

ISLAMABAD (APP): wants them to be involved Minister for Information, Broadcasting, Culture and National Heritage Attaullah Tarar Tuesday said the call made by the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder for negotiation with the institution was nothing but another conspiracy against the country.

This is another attempt of the PTI founder to drag the state institutions in his "dirty politics", said the minister in a media talk outside the Parliament

He wondered how the PTI founder quickly changed his own stance on the concept of the neutrality of the institutions. "It is not acceptable for him that the state institutions are neutral and now for his

in the politics which is regrettable," he added.

The minister believed was made as the PTI founder preempted stern action against himself and his party after a raid on their social media cell which was operating in connivance with the enemies of the

He said further investigation into the operation of the social media cell would expose their alleged relations and connection with the state's enemies who were involved in formulating anti-state policies.

The minister said economic progress of the country under the leadership of

Continued on page 2



**QUETTA: Member Balochistan National Commis**sion Shaina Khan and Member Sindh National Commission Bholal Sitani meeting with Deputy Commissioner Balochistan Assembly Ghazala Gola

#### **GM PIA Balochistan meets Governor: Quetta-Saudi Arabia direct** Umra flights to start from August 6

Governor Balochistan says PIA's flight operation to be ensured from Quetta on daily basis; facilities of ATM, first medical aid and foreign currency exchange to be provided at airport

#### **Independent Report**

QUETTA: All is set to operate the direct Umrah flights from Ouetta to Saudi Arabia from August 6. 2024. The Governor Balochistan, Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail is scheduled to inaugurate the Quetta-Saudi Arabia direct flights

In this regard, the General Manager PIA Balochistan, Abdul Ghaffar Miankhail met the Governor, Sheikh Jaffar Mandokhail along with the PIA team here at the Governor House on Tuesday.

During the course of meeting, details of the direct flights from Quetta to Saudi Arabia were shared by the GM PIA with the Governor Balochistan. Speaking on the occa-airport.

sion, Governor said that provision of facility of travelling to Saudi Arabia from Quetta is welcoming

thanked the Prime Minister Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif for ensuring air travelling facilities to the people of Balochistan.

He said that the flight operation of PIA would be ensured from Quetta on the daily basis. Besides the facilities of ATM. first medical aid and foreign currency exchange would also be ensured for the passengers at Quetta

The Governor stressed the need to provide necessary facilities to the patient and injured passengers travelling from the Quetta

#### **President for** stronger cooperation with CW

President Asif Ali Zardari has emphasised the need for stronger cooperation with the Commonwealth in areas of climate that the call for negotiation | change, education, parl liamentary exchanges and disaster prepared-

interactions hanced among parliamentary bodies, particularly young parliamentarians and students, to further strengthen and promote the bonds of friendship with Commonwealth member states.

pressed these views while talking to a delegation led by the Secretary-General of the Commonwealth, Patricia Scotland, at Aiwan-e-Sadr, on Tueday.

## Four killed.

The levies forces

The source said the dead persons included a woman and three children. The bodies were handed over to families after completing legal formalities.

#### 4.2 magnitude earthquake tremors felt in Zhob

QUETTA (APP): Earthquake tremors were felt on Tuesday in the Zhob area of Balochistan.

According to the seismological center, the earthquake had a magnitude of .2 and a depth of 15 kilometers, reported a private news channel.

The epicenter was located 50 km north-east of Zhob. No loss of life or property was reported as a result of the earthquake.

ISLAMABAD (APP):

He called for en-

The president ex-

## seven inured in road accident

CHAGHI (APP): Four persons on Tuesday were killed while seven others sustained injuries as a car overturned near checkpost.

shifted the bodies and injured to Basic Health Unit (BHU), Padak, the official source said. Serious injured were referred to DHQ. Nushki, he added.

#### **Government condemns incident** Two Levies force personnel martyred in attack on Pishin Check Post sonnel. The security forces

**Independent Report** 

**Independent Report** 

QUETTA: The Chief Min-

ister Balochistan, Mir

Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti ha di-

rected to establish new cit-

ies instead of developing

housing schemes in the interior Quetta city.

directives to retrieve the

land of Quetta Develop-

ment Authority (QDA)

from the illegal occupants.

In this regard, operation

should be initiated without

any delay against the mafia

involved in the occupation

The Chief Minister is-

of government land.

He also issued standing

OUETTA: In a tragic incident, two personnel of the Levies Force were martyred when unidentified militants opened fire on a security check post in Pishin. The attack has been widely condemned by the government and civil society organizations.

According to sources, the militants attacked the

have launched an investigation into the incident and are working to apprehend the perpetrators.

The government has condemned the attack and expressed its resolve to bring the masterminds and perpetrators to justice. The incident has raised concerns about the security situation in the region and the need for increased vigilance and cooperation bethe public.

#### Bugti participates in PC's meeting about Kachhi canal project: Rehabilitation of Kachhi canal necessary before formulation of strategy to cope with flood situation in future: Chief Minister

Federal Minister Planning assures water supply would be restored in Kachhi canal immediately before long term project of rehabilitation

#### **Independent Report**

QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has noted with concern that the agriculturalists are facing hardships due to non availability of water in Kachhi canal as such there is a need to restore water supply in the canal after desalting.

The Chief Minister insisted that there is a need to rehabilitate the Kachhi canal before formulation of

BISP to impart

technical

training to

women, youth

in Balochistan

ISLAMABAD (APP)

Benazir Income Support

Programme (BISP) will im-

part technical training to

youth and vulnerable

women in Balochistan

province for empowering

during a meeting between

Chairperson Benazir In-

come Support Programme

(BISP), Rubina Khalid and

Minister for Education and

Balochistan, Raheela

to discuss this collaborative

initiative aimed at empow-

ering youth and vulnerable

women through technical

uplifting the lives of BISP

beneficiaries through equip-

ping them with the latest

on leveraging the exper-

tise of both departments

and economic opportuni-

The program aims at

The meeting focused

The meeting was held

Hameed Khan Durrani.

Training,

Technical

skills

This was discussed

the strategy to cope with mission about the Kachhi the flood situation in fucanal project in which he participated through video

planning for prevention of flood is a long process, as long as it is done, the supply of water should be started

The Chief Minister also stressed that the long term planning is necessary but immediate restoration of water is unavoidable.

He was speaking at the meeting of Planning Com-

nk on Tuesday. The Federal Minister for Planning and Development, Ahsan Iqbal presided over meeting of the Planning Commission.

Besides the Chief Minister, the Provincial Ministers and other high ups also participated in the meeting through video link.

Continued on page 2

#### Ex Lt-Col Akbar Hussain court martialled for incitement to revolt

ISPR says Hussain's rank of officer has been forfeited and he has been awarded 14 years of "rigorous imprisonment".

Col (retd) Akbar Hussain was court martialled on Tuesday for inciting military personnel to revolt and handed down 14 years in prison. According to the ISPR, the public relations department of Pakistan Army, Lt-Col Akbar was sentenced under the Field General Court Martial.

The Inter-Services Public Relations statement added that the former lieutenant colonel was tried by a court of competent jurisdiction. His rank has also been confiscated.

Earlier, Major ® Adil Farooq Raja and Captain ® Haider Raza Mehdi were also convicted and sentenced through Field General Court

RAWALPINDI (INP): Lt- Martial (FGCM) under Pakistan Army Act, 1952 for the charges of inciting sedition among army personnel from discharge of duties and violation of the provisions of Official Secrets Act, 1923 related to espionage and acts prejudicial to the safety and terest of the State. The court of competent

jurisdiction had convicted and adjudged both Adil Farooq Raja and Haider Raza Mehdi on the date of 7th and 9th October 2023, through due judicial process, with the punishments awarded as 14 and 12 years of rigorous imprisonment respectively and forfeiture of rank of both individuals with effect from 21 Novem-



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Petroleum Senator Musadik Malik addressing a press con-

#### **Economic policies show** results, inflation drops sharply: Musadik Malik

to provide market-ISLAMABAD (APP): driven skills training, en-Federal Minister for Petrohancing employability leum Dr. Musadik Malik on Tuesday announced that ties for marginalized the government's economic policies were yielding positive results under the lead-The partnership seeks ership of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif. He highlighted a significant reduction in food inflation from 48% to 2%, with ongoing efforts to further control price hikes and provide relief to the public.

During a press conference, Dr. Malik reported that overall inflation in the country has decreased from 38% to 12% due to the government's interventions. The inflation, he said, was gradually falling and that economic indicators

suggest the country was moving towards stability. Addressing key priorities, the minister noted that the government was focused on alleviating poverty, reducing inflation, and creating job opportunities for the youth. Despite facing eco-

nomic challenges, the gov-

ernment has allocated Rs 600 billion in the current federal budget to uplift the poor. This budget includes funds for the construction of dams, roads, and motorways, which were expected to generate job opportunities. Additionally, development projects were being prioritized in underdeveloped areas to benefit local communities.

#### to bridge the skills gap, foster inclusivity, and procheck post late last night. tween security forces and resulting in the martyrdom mote socio-economic of two Levies Force pergrowth in Balochistan.

QUETTA: Chief Secretary Balochistan Shakeel Qadir Khan presiding over meeting Executive Committee of Balochistan Civil Service Academy

GDP) during Jul-May

FY2024, in contrast to a

deficit of Rs. 112.0 billion

(-0.1% of GDP) last year.

This was achieved by in-

creasing revenue and keep-

ing non-interest spending

FY2024, net federal rev-

enues reached Rs. 6,202.6

billion, a 49.0 percent in-

crease from the previous

year, driven by tax and non-

tax collections. non-tax rev-

enues saw a 90.0 percent

account deficit shrank to

\$0.7 billion compared to

\$3.3 billion last year. Goods

exports increased by 11.5

percent, reaching \$31.1 bil-

lion, while imports remained at \$53.2 billion,

compared to \$52.3 billion

In FY2024, the current

in check.

During

The Executive Engineer Public Health Engineering Division Surab invited the sealed percentage tender based on composite Schedule of Rates 2023 GOB along with tender Fee and item rates from interested Contractors/Firms for the work mentioned below:-Earnest

Money 2%, Time limit 30-06-2025 and Tender Fee Rs. 650 for each

work except S.No.10 for the work Solar system is Rs.1000/-



QUETTA: Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti presiding over a meeting regarding

## Economy moves towards stability in FY2024: Economic Outlook

The country's economy moved towards stability in fiscal year 2023-24, with decreasing inflation, a surplus in the primary fiscal account, a negligible current account deficit and a stable exchange rate, the Finance Ministry reported here Tuesday.

According to the monthly Economic Update and Outlook for July 2024, in the real sector, agriculture outperformed, whereas large-scale manufacturing is set to take off.

The report says that in June 2024, CPI inflation reached the cusp of the single-digit range while the external account position improved due to contained imports resulting from prudent fiscal and monetary management, while exports and remittances increased significantly.

this regard, it was di-

rected to prepare feasibil-

ity report. The Chief Min-

ister exhorted all the au-

thorities to increase their

own resources instead of

depending on the govern-

over that the world is head-

ing towards the private

economics zone while we

are not able to make the

He on the occasion di-

rected to DG QDA to start

immediate operation

public zone functional.

He expressed concern

To further strengthen stability, the government has recently reached a stafflevel agreement with IMF on a 37-month Extended Fund Facility Arrangement (EFF) for \$7 billion, it says.

According to the report, in FY2024, tractor production reached 45,529, marking a 43.5 percent increase from FY2023. Tractor sales also rose by 47.0 percent to reach 45,494. Agricultural credit disbursement reached Rs 1,972.8 billion during Jul-May FY2024, 26.0 percent up from previous year. However, due to the cobweb phenomenon, the sowing area of cotton decreased in Punjab and Sindh

provinces. The large scale manufacturing (LSM) expanded 1.0 percent during Jul-May FY2024, compared to last year's contraction of 9.6

cupants without wasting

Chief Minister directed to

complete all the supple-

mentary projects of Quetta

Development Package

timely and maintaining high

the Chief Minister directed

to ensure judicious distri-

bution of water from Par

pare comprehensive feasi-

bility report for restructur-

ing of the Pat Feeder canal.

He also directed to pre-

Feeder and other canals.

Regarding irrigation.

In addition to this, the

time in the summaries.

percent. In May 2024, LSM registered growth of 7.3 percent year-on-year (YoY) and 7.5 percent month-on-month (MoM), driven by strong performance in food, apparel, leather, coke & petroleum products, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, and machinery

and equipment The CPI inflation was recorded at 12.6 percent on year on year (YoY) basis in June 2024, compared to 11.8 percent in the previous month and 29.4 percent in June 2023. The average annual inflation fell to 23.4 percent in FY2024 from 29.2 percent last year.

The government managed to reduce the fiscal eficit to 4.9 percent of GDP in Jul-May FY2024, from 5.5 percent last year. The primary balance showed a surplus of Rs. 1,620.5 billion (1.5% of

#### **National Party Quetta** demands release of detained individuals **Independent Report**

QUETTA: A delegation of National Party Quetta, led by President Haji Atta Muhammad Bungalzai and comprising Central Committee member Neaz Baloch, Advocate Jalil Langove, Ali Ahmed Langove, and others, met with the Deputy Commis-

sioner to demand the re-

tained from various areas of Quetta, including Kili Ismail, Kili Shabo, Kili Alamo, Hada Sariab, Subzal Kili, Shahuzai Kili, Qambrani Kili, Lor Karez, and Ibrahim Zai Kili.

The party leaders requested the Deputy Commissioner to compile a list of all detained individuals and ensure lease of individuals de- their release.

#### **Commissioner Nasirabad** division chairs meeting to review development projects

**Daily Independent** 

NASIRABAD: A meeting was held under the chairmanship of Commissioner Nasirabad Division, Muinur-Rehman Khan, to review the progress of various development projects in the region. The meeting was attended by officers from different departments, including Superintending Engineer Irrigation Abdul Hamid Mengal, Executive Engineer Muhammad Yar

Magasi, and others. During the meeting, officers from various departments, including Irrigation, Communications, Urban Planning, and Public Health, briefed on the ondevelopment projects. Commissioner Muin-ur-Rehman Khan emphasized the need for quality and timely completion of projects, saying that sustainable development projects are in the best in-

rected the officers to ensure that any issues in the projects are resolved promptly and that engineers should supervise the projects closely. He also stressed that payments to contractors should only be made after ensuring the quality of work.

The Commissioner also directed the officers to focus on educational institutions and complete the construction work on a priority basis, as the Chief Minister of Balochistan is also taking steps to improve educational institutions. He also instructed the Irrigation Department to closely monitor the ongoing projects and complete them according to PC-1. Additionally, he directed the Public Health Engineering department to complete their schemes as soon as possible, which would help resolve water supply issues for the pub-

## FY2023 (0.9% growth) This has led to a goods trade deficit of \$22.1 billion, terest of the public. He di-

QUETTA: A delegation led by Daud Khan Kharal meeting with Governor Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail

#### Besides, he ordered to take land without any delay. He action against those inalso directed to expedite volved in the theft of agri-

CM directs to establish...

Continued from page 1 action against the illegal oc-

Continued from page 1 Expressing the views about Kachhi canal, the Chief Minister noted that the project of Kachhi canal has been lying pending, which otherwise had

started in 2002. He said that the project was restarted in 2013.

The irrigation of around one lakh acres of land had been started under Phase-1 of the project, he recalled adding that the 2022 flood caused damages to the Kachhi canal and then water supply was suspended

This also resulted in suspension of the cultivation in the command area due to closure of canal, he main- months.

Rehabilitation of Kachhi canal... tained. He said that the people don't have the water for drinking and forcing the dwellers to migrate from

> the area While the Chief Minister strongly advocated the need to restore water supply in Kachhi canal in view of the hardships of the growers, the Federal Minister was agreed with the proposal of Chief Minister Bugti and assured that the water supply would be restored in Kachhi canal immediately before the long term project of its rehabilitation. He directed to the concerned high ups to start supply of water in Kachhi

> canal within five to six

KARACHI: A Group Photo with Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue

Muhammad Aurangzeb after meeting with Pakistan Banks Associations

**TENDER NOTICE** 

TSE-242507508333 Only electronic bid will be submitted, No physical bid is required. Note: In All

Procurements of GOB Whether Through Electronic or Manual Bid Submission, It is Mandatory For

All Bidders to Get Registered At Electronic Public Procurement System of BPPRA GOB. The Chief

Minister Development Package for Dera Bugti invites bids from Eligible Bidders for execution of following

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

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules - 2014. Eliqibility of

Bidders: Presence in Active Tax Payer List The bidding firm must not be blacklisted by any procuring

agency of Pakistan Balochistan Revenue Authority Registration is required The bidder must have

completed 1 Assignment of similar nature of work Turnover of at least 320,000,000 PKR Amount in 3

subsequent previous years showing financial capacity of the firm Registration with Pakistan Engineering

council (PEC) C-2 and above (Upto 1000 million) In Relevant Category and Specialized Code is CE10(i)

(General Civil Engineering Works), CE01-(i) (Road and Pavements Drainage & Retaining Structure)

Tender processing fee of amount Rs. 1000 in account No. C02716 having head, PD, CMDPDB. Bid

Security of 2% of estimated cost Procedure of Procurement: Single Stage Two Envelope Bidding

Procedure Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Bank Guarantee, Deposit

at Call of 2 % specified above in the name of the under-signed from a scheduled bank. Tender

Documents: The NIT & Bidding Document can be obtained electronically from www.bppra.gob.pk

Issuance of tender Documents: Complete Bidding Document can be viewed at www.bppra.gob.pk Last

Date of bid submission: Bid can only be submitted electronically latest by 20 August, 2024 till 11:00 AM

through supplier dashboard. Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day at 12:00 PM on

EPPS System Address: House No. 81-A Chaman Housing Scheme Airport Road Quetta Phone no:

03337868226 - 0310-8259192 - 0333-7977122 Fax no: 0812864466 Email: dpquettacity@gmail.com

Chief Minister Development Package for Dera Bugti

works for the Year 2024 based on Composite schedule rates 2018 on Percentage Rates

1 Construction of Cricket Ground, Volleyball Court and Road Works

**Executive Committee at Islamic Chamber of Commerce.** 

#### Bill prohibiting... Continued from page 1

The bill further states that candidates who do not submit an affidavit of party affiliation to the returning officer will be considered independent. Candidates declaring party affiliation post-election will not be recognised as candidates of that party, and the second amendment to the Elections Act 2017 will be enorced retroactively

The law minister recommended the bill be referred to the standing committee, which Speaker Sadiq subsequently did, instructing the committee chairman to convene a

meeting the following day. Additionally, the Pakistan National Excellence Institute Bill 2024 was passed during the session. Amjad Ali Khan of the Sunni Ittehad Council presented a bill to criminalise enforced disappearances, which was also referred to the

standing committee. Further, the West Pakistan Maintenance of Public Order Amendment Bill was presented by Sahibzada Sibghatullah and referred to the relevant committee by the speaker. Agha Rafiullah introduced the Federal Employees Benevolent Fund and Group Insurance Amendment Bill 2024, which was sent to the standing com-

502,403,900

mittee.

#### PTI founder's call for talks...

Continued from page 1 filing memorials of mar-Prime Minister

Shehbaz Sharif also perturbed the PTI founder who had completely molded his harsh stance

and tone. "The PTI founder takes another U-turn today by suddenly requesting the institution to appoint a representative for talks," the minister said wondering how quickly he transitioned from his earlier stance of "I won't let

go" to "Please talk to me." Calling out him for his hypocrisy, Tarar said the PTI founder had resorted to the requests for talks after he realized that his shallow threats to the institutions would not work in any way.

He made it clear that there would be no compromise on the national security calling the PTI founder "security risk" for the country due to his alleged involvement in the antistate activities such as a malicious campaign against the state institutions on social media, attack on the army installations and defiling of the memorials of martyrs on May 9.

According to the minister, the PTI founder had a long list of crimes which included attempts to sabotage a deal of the Government of Pakistan with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to default the country, and a "cipher conspiracy" aimed to harm the country's diplomatic relations with a friendly coun-

He said the PTI

founder developed a false narrative on cipher, citing a leaked in which he allegedly talked about playing with cipher for political point scoring. Tarar said evidence of the involvement of the PTI's founder family members in May 9 attacks were on the record as the Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) footages showed that three of his sisters and one of his nephews were present outside the Corps Commander House Lahore. The minister asserted that some of the PTI leaders such Shafgat Mahmood and Samsam Bukhari convened a meeting to oppose the idea of attacking the military installations and de-

### leadership which was hell bent on vandalizing the sensitive buildings.

He said the PTI founder had confessed his crimes of May 9, but refused to undergo the polygraph test which would further expose his role in masterminding and orchestrating the tragedy. Tarar said the PTI founder would spare no opportunity to create chaos and anarchy in the country recalling his party's attack on the Paki-

and police officers during 2014 sit-in. The minister regretted that the PTI leader resettled the terrorists in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa which gave a rise to terrorism in the country. His party has been rul-

stan Television, Parliament

ing Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for the last 11 years, he said asking what steps were taken to establish peace and counter terror-He lashed out the PTI

founder for misleading the nation especially overseas Pakistan to incite a violence against the state.

In 2018, the PML-N inherited the PTI, a countrv which was progressing, but ironically they made every attempt to default the country, he said lauding PM Shehbaz Sharif who steered the country out of crises and brought economic stability.

Today, he said the international financial institutions had improved the country's ratings and all economic indicators were on upward trajectory with an increase in foreign direct investment, exports and

foreign exchange reserves. According to him, the PTI founder was the only "destabilizing factor" as his imprisonment had increased activity in the stock market, boosted foreign direct investment and exports, led to decrease in policy rate and improved the country's rating at international level. He said "the PTI is a terrorist party" regretting a change in the political landscape with their arrival in the politics which got tensed due to their aggressive mindset against their political opponents.

#### **Commissioner** Loralai visits teaching hospital

**Independent Report** LORALAI: Commissioner Loralai Division, Saadat Hassan, visited the Teaching Hospital Loralai along with Deputy Commissioner Miran Khan Baloch. During the visit, the Commissioner inspected various wards, including the City Scan, OT-1, OT-2, Surgical Ward, and Emergency Department. He also met with the attendants of patients and inquired about the facilities available for

treatment. On the occasion, MS Dr. Sar Hussain Shah, MSDeputy Muhammad Fahim Atman Khel, and other doctors were also present. The Commissioner was informed that 25 new doctors and lady doctors had been appointed to the hospital recently, but only four had reported for duty so far. Despite the large number of patients, especially in the emergency ward, there is a shortage of surgeons and anesthetists.

#### Gichki emphasizes importance of reading

**Independent Report** KHUZDAR: Principal Jhalawan Medical College, Professor Dr. Abdul Samad Gichki, has donated hundreds of new and modern books to the college library for the benefit of students. While handing over the books to the heads of departments, Dr. Gichki highlighted the benefits of reading and its far-reaching consequences, saying that reading is a highly beneficial activity that increases knowledge and helps alleviate

He emphasized that books are the best friends and companions of humans, and that reading is essential for the development of the mind. Dr. Gichki expressed concern that the proliferation of technology and mobile phone usage has hin-dered reading habits, and encouraged students to utilize the library's resources during their free time.

He stressed that books rule the world, except for savage nations, and that reading illuminates the

#### Const: of Solar system WSS Killi Sasoli, Killi Meerwani, Killi Kharma Lakoreyan District Surab (PSDP No 5891) 242507508443 242507508453 S/O Solar syste 2.250 M 242507508463 2.665 M 242507508503 S/O Solar syste 2.250 M 242507508513 2.665 M 242507508523 S/O Solar systen 2.250 M Const: of Solar system WSS Killi Shori, Killi Keyazai, Killi Mandawa District Surab (PSDP No 5705) 242507508533 D/D of Bore 2.665 M 242507508553 2.665 M D/D of Bore 242507508563 2.250 M 242507508583 2.665 M D/D of Bore 242507508603 2.250 M Solar system Const: of Solar system for water supply scheme Killi Chad Sher Ali Killi Shahozai, Killi Dasht-e-Goran (PSDP No 5897) 242507509403 242507509423 242507509443 242507509463 2.250 M Solar systen Const: of Solar based water supply scheme Killi Khal Gali, Killi Sham, Killi Sultanabad (PSDP No. 5926) 242507509483 D/D of Bore 2.665 M 242507509513 242507509523 D/D of Bore 2.665 M 24250750955 Solar syster 242507509593 D/D of Bore 242507509613 Solar systen Const: of Solar based WSS Killi Neghar, Killi Rees Baig Mohd 242507509633 D/D of Bore Solar syster Killi Rais Baig Mohd Neghar 242507510513 2.665 M D/D of Bore 242507510523 242507510533 D/D of Bore 2.665 M 242507510543 Const: of Solar system WSS Killi Kiazai, Killi Siyaijo, Killi Sahin Saeed Jeewa District Surab (PSDP No 5825) 242507510553 242507510563 Solar systen 2.250 M 242507510573 242507510583 2.250 M Const: of Solar system WSS Killi Rodani Noorabad, Killi Dumb, Killi Azizabad Surkh District Surab (PSDP No 5995) 242507510593 D/D of Bore 2.665 M 242507510613 2.665 M D/D of Bore Solar system 2.250 M 242507510633 D/D of Bore 2.665 M 242507510653 2.250 M Solar system Const: of Solar system WSS Killi Zarina Rodani, Killi Raees Shaka Khan Surkh, Rehmanzai Surkh, Killi Khairabad District Surab (PSDF 242507510663 D/D of Bore 2.665 M 242507510673 Solar systen 2.250 M Killi Raees Shahar Khan Surkh 242507510683 D/D of Bore Solar syster 242507510703 242507510723 2.665 M Solar based WSS Killi Molvi Ahmed No 5981) 24250751223 4.160 M D/D of Bore 24250751243 S/O of P/E pipe 5500 Rft 2.691 M 24250751263 Civil work 0.952 M 24250751293 7.160 M Solar system Const: of Solar ma Dehwar, Killi Jori Bullozai Distric Surab (PSDP No 5930) Killi Juma Dehwar 242507511073 242507511053 4.362 M Const: of solar based WSS Killi Zehri Khan, Killi Muha nmad Umer. Killi Abdul Latif Dasht-e-Goran District Surab (PSDP No 5894) 3.090 M 242507511093 D/D of Bore 242507511153 3.519 M Killi Abdul Latif 242507511113 D/D of Bore 3.090 M 242507511153 3.519 M Solar system 242507511123 D/D of Bore 3.090 M 242507511143 3.519 M Solar systen Const: of Solar based WSS Killi Jalambani, Killi Jattak Lakoreyar District Surab (PSDP No 5692) 242507511163 D/D of Bore 3.070 M 242507511133 Killi Jattal 242507511193 3.070 M D/D of Bore 242507511203 Solar system The procurement shall be carried out according to with Balochistar Public Procurement Regulatory Authority rules, 2014. Basic Eligibility:-The Firm must have valid registration with Pakistar Engineering Council renewed up to date in relevant Category i.e. **EE**

11 (Solar) and registration with tax authorities i.e.( NTN, GST &BRA (Original) Department. Where applicable Minimum three year works experience Turnover (Bank Statement). The call deposit and Quoted amount should match each other. The firm authorized representative will be allowed having original CNIC and authorization letter/Deed must be provided on Judicial Stamp paper attested by the Notary public Or first Class Magistrate. IEC 61215 & IEC 61730 Certificates. The firm provided Goods Declaration Slip, shipment letter. Joint Venture is not allowed. The contractor/Firm shall Provide a Port clearance certificate. Shipment Documents verification. Letter of credit (LC)/IQRA charges/Bill of landing. All documents should be provided in the original to the undersigned The Contractor/Firm should download tender Documents by self 10% Security Deposit Should be submitted by the firm in case of rate offered below 10% of the total cost, In case of failure, Bid may be rejected at any STAGE, of Rupees 100. The tender fee should be deposited in the head of account C - 02726-02 -PHE Tender Fee through Green challan in National Bank of Pakistan Surab only. For the D/D of Bore, Supply of Solar systems, only the Firms & Authorized dealers are eligible. Terms & condition.(A)under following condition bid will be rejected.(i)Conditional & telephonic bid tenders.(ii) bid not accompanied by a bid security of required amount of bid (iii)bid Submitted after specified date & time. (iv) Blacklisted firms /contractors. (iv) Original Contractor or authority letter mention against each work and original CNIC, Stamp with letter Head. (B)bid validity period 90 days, Firm of Solar must be reputable Dealer/Distributor, Having three last year work orders with PHE Department, which hold (Eight Hundred Million), Good declaration step, shipment letter, the company must have (C.4) category. METHOD OF PROCUREMENT: Single Stage, One envelope procedure. BID SECURITY:2% of total bid Value in the shape of CDR must be submitted in Favor of EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PHE Surab From Scheduled Bank. BIDDING TENDER DOCUMENTS ISSUANCE: The Firm should download NIT and Bidding Document by self From. WWW.BPPRA.ORG.PK SUBMISSION: The last date for submission is 15-08-2024 at 11:00 AM. OPENING: The tender will be opened on 15-08-2024 at 12:00 PM. Place of issuance, submission inquiries, and opening will be: ADDRESS: Office of the Executive Engineer PHE Division Surab. Email: - <a href="mailto:qayyumXEN50@gmail.com">qayyumXEN50@gmail.com</a> Other terms and conditions are attached to tender documents. NOTE: It may be noted that no paid order will be accepted/entertained and the firm's complete title/name should be written on the call deposit. All the terms &conditions/sites of the work can be seen in-office hours of the undersign .under sign have reserve rights to reject all any bid with any condition. The Tender form/Documents will be download BPPRA

Executive Engineer
Public Health Engineering PRQ No.408/30-07-2024 Division Surab 🕏 www.dpr.gob.pk. 🔻 @dpr\_gob 🌀 dpr.gob 👍 @dgpr.baloc

#### AB No.120/30-07-2024

Name of Work/s

## Edu ministry starts new initiatives in FDE schools, colleges to enhance learning

Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training has announced a range of new innovative programs and upgrades in Federal Directorate of Education (FDE) Schools and Colleges for the upcoming session aimed at enhancing the learning experience and overall well-being of the

The education ministry, while welcoming the Infirmary in 125 schools to students back to school after vacations, stated that new academic programs in upcoming sessions will include Coding and AI classes for primary students to develop essential skills for the future, entrepreneurship and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) programs for high school students to foster innovation and cre-

are Character Building Cur-

in the Federal Capital.

The Federal Investigation

Agency (FIA) on Tuesday

arrested accused, including

Court (IHC) terminated

their interim bail petitions

in a multimillion-rupee cor-

Deputy Director) and Saad

Mudassar (ex-Chief Com-

puter Engineer) were also

among those apprehended

by the FIA's anti-corrup-

tion wing. IHC Justice Tariq

Mahmood Jahangiri heard

the pre-arrest bail petitions

APPC's Counsel, Sardar

Yaqoob Mastoi Advocate,

appeared before the bench

and argued that the lower

court had already canceled

the bails of the accused, but

they managed to escape

that the accused caused a

loss of millions of rupees

to the state-run news orga-

nization through corrupt

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pa-

kistan and Sri Lanka on

Tuesday pledged to boost

cooperation through in-

creased dialogue, improved

mechanisms, and new op-

portunities in agriculture,

health, connectivity, and

culture, while recognizing

shared views on global is-

round of bilateral political

consultations between Pa-

kistan and Sri Lanka, held

in Islamabad on Tuesday,

the Sri Lankan delegation

was led by Foreign Secre-

tary Aruni Wijewardane,

while the Pakistani side was

headed by Foreign Secre-

tary Muhammad Syrus

Sajjad Qazi. The discus-

sions took place in a

friendly and productive at-

pressed satisfaction over

the positive trajectory of

bilateral relations and reaf-

The two sides ex-

During the seventh

He informed the bench

from the courtroom.

filed by the accused.

Musawir Imran (ex-

ruption scandal.

Islamabad High

FIA arrests key figures

in APPC corruption case

after IHC terminates bail

the former project director miss the pre-arrest bail pe-

of the Associated Press of titions so that the accused

Pakistan Corporation could be arrested for further

(APPC), Ghawas Khan, investigation into the scam.

ment and financial literacy to be part of the curricu-

ministry added.
Similarly, the infrastructure upgrades include massive expansion of smart classrooms in urban and rural schools to facilitate interactive learning, and ensure students' health and

improved hygiene and renovated & revitalized 75 schools with colorful environments. It also established 100 new early childhood education centers in FDE schools. The education minis-

The other programs

Student Welfare Initiatives

Student Welfare Initiatives examinations will be taken in Grade 5.

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training,

Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui, signs an MoU as Federal Interior Minister and

Narcotics Control. Chairman PCB Syed Mohsin Raza Naqvi witnesses the

MoU signing ceremony between the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) and the

Inter Board Coordination Commission (IBCC) at the Chairman CDA Office

practices and violations of

PPRA rules in the purchase

of equipment. The lawyer

requested the court to dis-

He emphasized that

each petitioner has been ac-

cused of a specific role and

that the custody of the ac-

cused is essential to inves-

tigate the irregularities men-

yers of the accused re-

quested the bench to grant

interim bail to the petition-

ers. After hearing the argu-

ments, the court terminated

the interim bails of the ac-

cused, after which the FIA

arrested Ghawas Khan,

Saad Mudassar, and

the FIA had registered a cor-

ruption case against the ac-

cused, including the afore-

mentioned three individuals

and Bilal Zafar (ex-Deputy

Director of the Cyber Wing,

Ministry of Information).

Arshad Majeed Chaudhry

beneficial cooperation. I

was agreed to enhance bi-

lateral dialogue and ex-

changes and to strengthen

to explore new opportuni-

ties for cooperation in the

fields of agriculture, health,

connectivity and culture.

They also noted with ap-

preciation that Pakistan and

Sri Lanka had unanimity of

views on several global is-

sessed the full spectrum of

their bilateral relations, with

discussions emphasizing

trade, economic coopera-

tion, defense and security

education, parliamentary

exchanges, culture, media.

sports, and collaboration at

multilateral forums, as well

as consular issues. Addi-

tionally, they discussed the

political and security dy-

namics in South Asia and

The two sides as-

The two sides decided

the dialogue mechanisms.

(ex-Manager Accounts.

Pak, Sri Lanka pledge

to boost cooperation

across key sectors

It is noteworthy that

Musawir Imran.

Conversely, the law-

tioned in the FIR.

ISLAMABAD (APP): riculum to focus on values reduce malnutrition for priand personality develop- mary students, while free sports uniforms have also been provided for primary lum, empowering students with essential life skills, the students to encourage participation in sports. The ministry has allocated 20 Pink Buses for female students and teachers to travel from rural to urban areas.

> However, in the initiatives regarding Science and Technology enhancements, the ministry announced to provide High-Tech Telescopes in 100 schools to spark curiosity in as-Furthermore, the ministry has established 400 it has also introduced six tronomy and science, while wash stations in schools for months of foreign language courses for 1500 students of federal schools.

It was informed that AI-based formative assessments have been started to provide personalized feedback and improve student outcomes, while the minis-

Int'l conference

on girls' edu.

in Muslim

communities

to be held on

Sept 10

ISLAMABAD (APP)

The proposed two-day in-

ternational conference on

"Girls' Education in Mus-

lim Communities: Chal-

enges and Opportunities

will be held in Islamabad on

ing jointly organized by

Rabita al-Alam al-Islami

(Muslim World League) and

the Ministry of Federal

Education and Professional

cial sources, the conference

will offer a global platform

to international as well as

national scholars, intellec-

tuals, academicians, practi-

tioners and policymakers to

engage in deliberations and

suggest a way forward re-

garding female education in

the Muslim world. It invites

them to meet, share ideas,

Eighth Space

Summer School

to be held at IST

from Aug 05-09
ISLAMABAD (APP):
The Space Education Re-

search Lab (SERL) of Na-

tional Center of GIS and

Space Applications (NCGSA) will hold the

eighth Space Summer School from August 05-09,

featuring a number of space

related exciting activities for

the Space Summer School

will be held at Institute of

Space Technology (IST)

and students from Grade 6-

12 can participate in the

School will give an oppor-

tunity to the students to

explore the wonders of

space through interactive

lectures, hands-on activi-

ties, exciting competitions,

will also provide an oppor-

tunity to visit state-of-the-

art labs and participate in a

mesmerizing Astronomy

The space summer school 2024 will contain

interactive lectures, hands-

on activities.

The summer school

and innovative projects.

The Space Summer

According to the IST,

the learners.

event.

exchange knowledge.

According to the offi-

Training.

The conference is be-

September 10-11, 2024.

He emphasized that FIA always remains vigilant in curbing these gangs and apprehended several sus-

Parliament House.

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Inte-rior Mohsin Naqvi in his

special termed the poverty,

unemployment and un-

equal distribution of re-

sources as major factors

behind the rising figures of human trafficking. He stated on "World Day Against Human Traf-

ficking" that underdevel-

oped countries were badly

affected by human traffick-

ing, and organized gangs

were also active in Paki-

pects. He underscored the need for multi-faceted joint actions from the international community to prevent human trafficking.

Interior Minister said that human traffickers played with the lives of thousands of people, families have been separated from their loved ones. He stressed that people must stand together against the heinous crime. He reiterated that let us work together to raise awareness against human trafficking, address its causes, and strive for a society where no one is exploited due to human traf-ficking.

## **CDA** to recruit medical staff in Capital Hospital

**Interior Ministry says:** 

Poverty, unemployment

leads to human trafficking

Capital Development Authority (CDA) on Tuesday approved recruitment of doctors and paramedical staff against vacant positions in the Capital Hospi-

It was decided in the 9th meeting of CDA Board that met here with Chairman Muhammad Ali Randhawa in the chair.

The meeting also focused on revitalizing the CDA hospital, with plans to enhance operational efficiency and make it a financially sustainable insti-

Chairman Muhammad Ali Randhawa, emphasized the need for a strong and self-sufficient hospital, capable of delivering quality healthcare ser-

that proposals for the establishment of a medical college in the CDA hospital should be presented in the next meeting of the

The board meeting decided to carry out study of financial rules of other institutions in the country regarding the decentralization of financial powers and implement the best financial rules in the institution after a proper study.

It also reviewed the income and revenue genera-tion targets for the current fiscal year.

The meeting accorded approval to adopt paternity and maternity Rules for the welfare of employees. It was decided that the

CDA Board meeting would be held on a weekly basis.



ISLAMABAD: A view of rally organized by Para Chinar Youth Rawalpindi Islamabad, hold protest outside NPC.

## Islamabad to get world-class Safari Park, boosting tourism, recreation

ISLAMABAD (APP): visitors, The Capital Development Authority (CDA) has initiated plans to establish an international-standard safari park in Islamabad, elevating the city's recreational and tourism infrastructure. Chairman CDA, Muhammad Ali Randhawa, chaired a meeting on Tuesday with CDA Board members, FCDO representatives, and other officials to

discuss the project. The safari park, envisioned to be a world-class facility, will offer a unique

Islamabad as a premier tourist destination.

monwealth and Development Office (FCDO) will provide technical assistance, ensuring the project meets global standards. The meeting also decided to study interna-

The Foreign Com-

tional-standard safari parks as models for this initiative. Additionally, Chairman CDA shared plans to enhance facilities in F-9

Park, providing residents

with exciting new opportu-

#### experience for residents and nities for outdoor activities. IFA conducted 22,221 inspections, issued 8,089 notices: Tahira

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Islamabad Food Authority (IFA) has conducted a total of 22,221 inspections, issued 8,089 improvement notices to food establishments, fined 660 businesses, and sealed 300 for serious violations during March 2023 to June 2024. Talking to APP, Deputy Director Operations (DDO) of IFA, Dr Tahira Saddique said that the IFA also held 24 aware-

ness seminars to educate the

public and food vendors

about food safety standards

in this period.

In this regard, she said that the Director IFA, Irfan Nawaz Memon has chaired a critical review meeting of the Islamabad Food Authority. The meeting focused on evaluating the authority's recent performance and planning future actions to enhance food safety in the city. Director Memon emphasized the need to speed up the licensing process for food businesses. He highlighted the importance of equipping the Food Authority staff with modern tools to con-

duct thorough inspections

#### riots: IHC told ISLAMABAD (APP) The Islamabad High Court (IHC) was told on Tuesday that 11 cases in connection with May 9 riots had been

ISLAMABAD: Speaker of National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq chairing the meeting of Business Advisory Committee at

**Bushra Bibi** 

named in 11

cases of May 9

registered against Bushra However, four case are registered with the National Accountability Bu-

reau (NAB) against her. The court also sought report from Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) and Balochistan Police regarding cases details against the petitioner.

Chief Justice IHC neard the petition filed by PTI founder;s wife seeking provision of cases details against her.

On court directives NAB prosecutor submitted the report and said that three cases are registered in Rawalpindi while one in Lahore against Bushra Bibi.

CPÖ Rawalpindi in its report said that Bushra Bibi had been named in 11 cases related to attacks on sensitive buildings on May

The court instructed the FIA and Balochistan police to submit their report till August 5 and adourned the case.

#### **AIOU VC** calls on Sindh Minister to expand educational outreach

ISLAMABAD (APP) Vice Chancellor (VC) Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU), Prof. Dr. Nasir Mahmood, Tues day called on Sindh's Minister of Education and Minerals, Syed Sardar Ali Shah in the latter's office and dis cussed matters relating to the expansion of educational facilities in remote areas of Sindh.

During the meeting Syed Sardar Ali Shah stated that the university will be provided with all possible support to promote educa

The provincial minister praised AIOU for illuminating remote areas across the country with the light of knowledge and acknowledged the mission to spread education in Sindh as a commendable initiative.

#### Man kills cousin, steals 8.1 million in Sialkot

ISLAMABAD (APP): A man killed his cousin and stole 8.1 million rupees in Sialkot, a private news channel, and the police reported on Tuesday.

According to the police, Artza Haider, a bank manager, had withdrawn 8.1 million rupees from the Benazir Income Support Programme when his cousin, Wasi Shah, who was riding on the motorcycle with him, snatched the

Upon the resistance, Wasi opened fire and killed Artza on the spot.

Police arrested the accused within 5 hours of the

## **Delegation of CUST** students visits Safe City Islamabad

**Independent Report** ISLAMABAD: According to the details, following the special directives of the Director General (DG) Safe City Malik Jamil Zafar, the Deputy Director Technical welcomed the delegation of Islamabad Police Internship program members Capital University of Science and Technology (CUST) at Safe City Islamabad, a public rela-

tions officer said. He said that the delegation visits the command and control center, the data hub unit, modern technology-equipped cameras, online women police station and the police operations center hall.

They were fully briefed about the proce-

nificant role in various departments through modern techniques, including the Police Operations Center, Emergency Control Center, Data Hub Unit, Dispatch Control Center, E-Challan System, online women police station and the "Pucarhelpline.

The delegation was also apprised of the functionality and benefits of the Safe City cameras in the city. The modern cameras of Safe City are playing a crucial role in ensuring the safety of the city, preventing crimes and safeguarding the lives and property of citizens. 42% of crimes are resolved through the Safe City Command and Control

Face recognition cam-



dures and advantages of this project.

dent delegation was informed that Safe City

the entry and exit points of the city which are playing an important role in identifying suspicious elements,

## **SIMOSA** partners with Oladoc to bring quality healthcare content to users

ISLAMABAD (APP): which aims to provide mul-SIMOSA, Pakistan's largest homegrown SIM-care tomers and digital lifestyle app healthcare. Our goal is to from the country's leading make SIMOSA a One-Stop digital operator, Jazz, has partnered with oladoc, a premier digital healthcare platform, to provide healthcare content to SIMOSA users and enhance their digital experi-

According to news release this collaboration brings together SIMOSA's extensive reach and userfriendly interface with oladoc's expertise in digital healthcare, providing users with easy access to a wealth of informative and reliable healthcare content.

While commenting on the strategic partnership, Aamer Ejaz, President Digital Platforms at Jazz, said, "We are excited to partner with oladoc to bring highquality healthcare content to our SIMOSA users. This collaboration aligns with our commitment to delivering comprehensive lifestyle solutions to Pakistanis, and supports our new ServiceCo model,

tiple services to our cus-App for everyday life, offering true value to our entire user base all across Pa-

Abid Zuberi, CEO of oladoc at oladoc said, "Our partnership with SIMOSA s a strategic step toward fulfilling oladoc's mission of making healthcare accessible, transparent, and affordable for everyone in Pakistan. By integrating with SIMOSA's vast and engaged user base, we have the opportunity to reach millions of individuals with high-quality, verified medical insights. This collaboration will not only enhance the reliability of the health information available but also empower people to make more informed and confident decisions about their health and well-be-

SIMOSA is a compre hensive SIM-care and digital lifestyle app that caters to the needs of digital us-



burned stall at Tuesday weekly bazaar sector H-9

## MOU signed for provision of better health facilities to cops

**Independent Report** SLAMABAD: According

to the details, following the special directions of Inspector General of Police (ÎGP) Islamabad, Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi, efforts are ongoing to provide the best facilities and discounted medical services to Islamabad Police officers and their families.

In this regard, an Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed between Islamabad Police and the private organization Saeed International Hospital.

behalf On Islamabad Police the agreement was signed by AIG General Abdul Haq İmrani and Saeed International

Officer Dr. Muhammad Noman Saeed. Under the agreement,

the families of Islamabad Police Shuhada will receive a 50% to 100% discount on medical checkups, lab and radiology tests. Similarly, Islamabad Police Ghazis will receive a 40% to 50% discount on these services, while Islamabad Police officers and their families will receive a 30% to 40% dis-

Moreover, under the agreement, the families of Islamabad Police Shuhada, Ghazis, officers and their families will receive a 10% discount on the purchase of all medicines

On this occasion, AIG

Hospital Chief Executive General said that the best medical facilities are being provided to the serving officers of Islamabad Police, as well as the families of martyrs and officers who passed away during service

Such measures are boosting the morale of police officers and helping to provide their families with the best medical facilities. Further steps are being taken for the welfare of police officers.

He added that police officers often suffer from various illnesses due to law and order duties and other tough responsibilities, and they faced difficulties in getting the best medical treatment.



ISLAMABAD: Senator Zeeshan Khanzada chairman senate standing committee on overseas Pakistanis and human resource development presiding over a meeting of the committee at Parliament House

## Daily soice of Masse Independent

Wednesday July 31, 2024

## **Summer of protests**

Pakistan is seeing some seismic disruptions in its social order. Recent developments in Balochistan, KP and Islamabad depict a society in flux, one which is facing severe, intense internal pressures due to tensions between the state and its people. All three areas have prised that the call was met with resistance. recently witnessed significant met with resistance; those headed to Gwadar turmoil, and, in each case, those making decisions at the top have appeared out of their depth when dealing with the troubles. As a result, the country's challenges, instead of being contained, now seem cameras are missing, the story is told to those who to be expanding.

Consider the ongoing unrest in Balochistan. When Mahrang Baloch had marched to Islamabad last winter to peacefully demand the whereabouts of missing persons, she was met with scorn and treated The Baloch people, from all mographer had rudely but walks of life, have now rallied around her, and the state is finding it difficult to cope with the outpouring of sympathy for her cause. Out of desperation, it is responding with even more violence, thereby stoking anger in the province to precarious levels.

Then consider Bannu, which recently saw an uprising due to the federal government's failure to separate national security from politics. The locals and the armed forces, who both want the land rid of militancy, found themselves facing off instead aue to the erosion of trust between them. Violence and unhigher economic profile fares tardily in the realm south. The child from necessary bloodshed followed, which have added to the preand the centre. Much damage in these states may not be likely to receive better nuexisting tensions between KP had already been done by the a coincidence. The southern states of Andhra school and stay in school and school and stay in school and school an time it was clarified that the people of Bannu need not fear any large-scale military operation. One wonders if matters would have unfolded differently The current approach in if the federal government had the country of incarcerating individuals for minor heeded multiple calls to take the provincial political leader-

ship into confidence. Then there is Islamabad, where the state has taken several contradictory positions in system. In each province, the number of under-trial recent days. Days before the prisoners exceeds the JI protest, an important artery in the federal capital was recently seized by the TLP, and its sudden decision to protest the war in Palestine was entertained till matters were settled with talks. Apparently Project Pakistan. not satisfied with the nuisance it had caused, the party then issued a death warrant for the chief justice. Though condemnations have been issued and a case registered, it is evident that the state's 'soft touch' in dealing with the TLP has ducing crime does not lie in building more prisons emboldened it enough that it to imprison more people, feels it can cross unthinkable but rather in reforming of-fenders so that they can

On the other hand, the campaign to suppress the PTI continues apace, even though the party has repeatedly asserted that it only wants to protest peacefully. This endorsement of double standards for 'favoured' and 'disfavoured' social groups is antagonistic and may provoke more people to take extreme positions. From Gwadar to Islamabad, there is a need to urgently rethink the strain law-enforcement repolicies that have been chosen. Instead of solving problems, they are catalysing societal breakdown.

## No country for women

#### Arifa Noor

Of late, it seems as if the state of Pakistan is caught up in a constant battle with its citizens, from Balochistan to Karachi to the more central areas of Pakistan. And the longer these skirmishes go on and the wider they spread, it is the women who seem to be at the receiving end.

phone screens horrorstruck as Mahrang Baloch called for a protest in Gwadar. No one was surwere stopped by road blockages, intimidation, and eventually the use of violence. And once again, as the mainstream media was busy elsewhere, social media filled the

When the television cameras are missing, the hold phones in their hands. But this time, the stories the phones capture is one in which women are at the forefront. In the past two litically active.

days, these have been dynamic young, educated women leading a movement. Mahrang Baloch and Sammi Deen have become household names since they came to Islamabad a few months

In those wintry days, we had watched women bearing the brunt of the state's bullying tactics as they were taken into custody and efforts In the past couple of days, we watched our them out of the capital. Those images and what we saw on Sunday symbolise a disregard for the general public, especially for women who are now pushing societal boundaries to express themselves politically.

This is true of many parts of Pakistan, even though there is no doubt that the Baloch have been meted out particularly vicious treatment. One simply has to hear the stories of how Mahrang, Sammi and others have been compelled to take to the streets to understand this. But despite this, there is a larger pattern of oppression vis-à-vis women who became poleged parts of the country, where once political persecution was limited to the top tier — Benazir Bhutto, Maryam Nawaz — it has now spread to not just other women leaders but also ordinary workers and protesters. Indeed, the incarceration of PTI women has taken the persecution of women to new lows. Yasmin

Rashid continues to be in jail regardless of age and health, as does Alia Hamza. Sanam Javed and Khadija Shah have become household names, simply because they decided to take part in a protest. And before someone begins to say 'May 9', there is no harm in remembering that so far no evidence has been brought forward proving the involvement of any of these women in criminal behaviour. Now a young woman

cial media team. After all, why stop at young men when women too can handle phone screens and typing as well as their male counterparts?

has been picked up for

being part of the PTI's so-

Earlier, when the

scene, during the PTI tenure, women activists such as Sanaa Ejaz and Gulalai Ismail were targeted.

Most of these cases involve educated women, who have their own professional identities and have opted for activism or politics in their own right. When they are targeted, it must send a chilling message to other women who may harbour dreams of stepping outside their homes or working, as well as to their reluctant parents. It is not as if this message is lost on those who are doing this. After all, this is a

state and society which has never been comfortable with women who want to take their fate into their own hands. Or speak their mind. And something has to be done, if more and more of them want to engage politically. Consider the harassment of women online. It's a constant barrage and it is not a matter of the social media wing of one party. The rest are catching up just as quickly. This is because misogyny is so widespread.

PTM first emerged on the well-known host, who this way or that and tesy Dawn

views on culture, held forth on the reason why all women get a job on news channels, there was another man, a 'journalist' who in his vlog accused a politician's wife of doing magic. The reaction from those in power is always expedient. Relevant cases are pursued while inconvenient ones

are ignored, even though

the welfare of women was

said to be the reason for

Peca and the new defama-

Women are afforded

tion law in Punjab.

was once known for his

no greater protection now after the passage of these laws than they were earlier — but then, their safety has never been a priority. After all, the fate of those who speak, be they Mahrang or Sammi, Alia Hamza or Imaan Mazari, is similar. Some are more privileged than others, thanks to their ethnicity or class or city; some will be more widely celebrated or admired. But the message is not very different. Women who dare to speak out are not wel-

PS: Arshad Sharif's case was finally heard by the highest court of the land on a grey morning in Islamabad. As the lawyers gathered in front of the bench, their voices were drowned out by the monsoon clouds, which appeared to have

broken on Constitution

made an example of.

Avenue itself. It has nearly been two years since his death and one year since the last hearing. And yet, seconds into the hearing the court was busy with the number of judges who should be on the bench and the government claimed it was still sorting out the legalities to get information from Kenya.

As if there is no information that it needs to gather in Pakistan itself about why he left. No one expects the state and its various parts to ever reach any conclusion about his death; but I wonder if they realise the conclusion that people have already reached and what it says comed here and some of about their relationship If in the past week a them will be punished in with the country. -- Cour-

## India, in sickness and in health

#### Jawed Naqvi

not inaccurately described four north Indian states as sick by giving them the acronym 'BIMARU', assembled with the first letters of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. 'Bimar' means sick or ailing, and the four states were singled out for the description for their critical social indicators, which were commensurate with their economic backwardness. When the UN officially launched the concept of 'Human Development Index' (HDI) in 1990, computing three parameters of long and healthy life, knowledge or schooling, and a decent standard of living, the BIMARU acronym was unwittingly reinforced though not con-

fined to the four states. Gujarat with its of HDI. Haryana presents another example of the likely to die in the first anomaly. The consolidation of the socially regres-

Karnataka, Pradesh. Kerala and Tamil Nadu present the healthier aspect of India. The gap between the north and south is yawning.

The constitution describes India as a union of states, but the nuptial vows face a strained future should the parliamentary representation of states be changed by the twice postponed delimitation of parliamentary constituencies due in 2026. Indira Gandhi first froze the delimitation in 1975 for 25 years. It was further postponed for 25 years in 2001. What happens if the freeze expires in 2026? scientist Data Nilakantan RS surveys the

pros and cons of the unequal development of India in a recent statisticsladen book South vs North: India's Great Divide. "Compare two children — one born in north year of her life. She is less likely to lose her mother

The corollary, according to the author, is that compared to her counterparts in the north, the girl from the south is less likely to be involved in agriculture, and the odds of her securing employment that pays her more are greater. "This child will also go on to have fewer children, who in turn will be healthier and more educated than her."

Should the success in population control be rewarded by a loss of political representation? How did the divide emerge? At independence, the southern states were not at any greater advantage against the north and were mostly indistinguishable from the rest of In-

"Today, the difference in development between some of the northern states and southern nationalism. There's no states is as stark as that between sub-Saharan Africa and the Organisation or Economic Co-opera- and was decided as an aftion and Development (OECD) countries," says Nilakantan. He bats for sub-nationalism

longer; she will more their relatively better de-likely attend college." their relatively better de-velopment. In the author's view, the sense of belonging in a localised geography was the glue which created the knock-on effects that accelerated growth in various spheres. A common purpose flows from the idea of sub-nationalism.

> clusters like Tamils, Malavalees. Maharashtrians, Goans and Bengalis running their cultural clubs. I asked an insightful Indian journalist to explain the absence of a cultural platform for people from Uttar Pradesh. "UP thinks it is people Hindustan," he replied without demur. Nilakantan would agree. He says: "Uttar Pradesh is often propped up as a counter-example to states with high levels of subsub-nationalism in that bane of the south. The

terthought. It retains the

colonial, short-version

'UP' for United Provinces

other sub-group identities, in Uttar Pradesh, loyalties to Hindi and Urdu served as proxies for religion." A major source of

tension is the centralising

urge of the Indian Union

since its inception. In the 21st century, that reality of India's democratic struc-Let me digress with an illustration. In Dubai, one can see different In-stranglehold over the countural and political stranglehold over the country, rues Nilakantan. For example, resource allocation by the Indian Union — whether of finances or other kinds of resources that the Union collects from and shares back with the states — favours the north against the south. 'The south is taxed more. both in absolute terms and on a per capita basis, but receives far less allocation

The north-centric state. Even the name, mismatch is stark. For exthe National Education Policy of 2020, is to reach and Kerala, where linguis- southern India have al- put up with.

in return, simply because

its population growth is

lower.

tic identities transcended ready exceeded that goal. Designing a policy whose 15-year goal has already been achieved is another way of condemning the south to the status quo while waiting for the north to catch up.

The northern malaise gives India a bad name, not least in its health record. Its life expectancy at birth, the most basic measure of health of a population, is 69. That ranks it 125th in the world, behind war-torn countries like Iraq and Syria, and alongside Rwanda. "Even in South Asia, a generally poor region of the world. India ranks behind its neighbours Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal in this respect. Only Pakistan has a lower life expectancy at birth.'

India's infant mortality rate, a more robust and critical indicator, according to Nilakantan, is also worse electoral politics is the than most of its South Asian neighbours. Life expectancy at birth in India is low chiefly because too cation sector, according to many babies die soon after birth, he says. It's only Pakistan which does even 50 per cent enrolment in worse than India in IMR and gives it a Hindustani tertiary education by twist. Unlike Tamil Nadu 2035. "Some states in insult for south India to

## Cycle of recidivism

#### Rida Tahir

offen-ces leads to a cascade of negative effects. This includes overcrowded prisons and the cycle of recidivism, where individuals bec-o--me trapped in the criminal justice number of convicted inmates. Prisons across Pakistan have an overcrowding rate of 152.2 per cent, with some jails operating over 200pc of their capacity. As of 2023, Pakistan holds 100,366 prisoners in its 127 jails, according to data released by Justice

This highlights the shortcomings Pakistan's probation and parole systems, excessive dependence on imprisonment, and the urgent need to reform laws and policies regarding incarcera-

The solution to reducing crime does not lie reintegrate as productive members of society.
Exposure to the jail

environment increases the likelihood of future criminal behaviour (recidivism). It disproportionately affects first-time offenders, as it leads to loss of income, which disrupts families and communities.

At the societal level, it imposes costs on taxpayers for housing and caring for individuals who may not pose a significant threat to public safety. It also contributes towards an overburdened criminal justice system. This can sources and congest court dockets, which diverts attention from more serious

Probation and parole serve the purpose of com-

munity rehabilitation and reintegration of offenders. Therefore, as an alternative to imprisonment, the probation and parole system can play a vital role in community rehabilitation of offenders, ending the cycle of recidivism and reducing the prison popu-

The primary distinctions between these two non-custodial sanctions lie in their administration: probation is judicially granted, whereas parole is authorised by the executive. Additionally, probation involves the suspension of a sentence along with community service (such as roadside cleanup), whereas parole is usually granted towards the end of a prisoner's mandatory imprisonment period, based on the good conduct of the prisoner.

The UN Standard Minimum Rules for Noncustodial Measures (Tokyo Rules) were formulated to provide a set of basic principles to promote the use of non-custodial measures. Rule 1.5 of the Tokyo Rules encourage states to "develop non-custodial measures ... taking into account the observance of human rights, the requirements of social justice and the rehabilitation needs of the offender".

After Pakistan's independence in 1947, probation and parole are governed by the Probation of Offender Ordinance, 1960, the Good Conduct Prisoners Probational Relea--se Act, 1926, and Good Conduct Priso-n-ers' Probational Rules, 1927. Unfortunately, these laws are based on colonial-era practice and a retributive model, lacking adequate rehabilitative mechanisms.

Punjab and KP reformed the laws related to probation and parole through the Punjab Probation and Parole Services Act, 2019, and the KP Probation and Parole Act,

2021, respectively. These laws shift towards rehabilitative and restorative justice. In Sindh, the Good Conduct Prisoners Probational Release Act, 1926, still applicable. How-ever, the Home Department has proposed re-

forms in the shape of the Sindh Good Conduct Prisoners Probational Rules, 2024. Under Rule 6, a 'Parole Committee' has been proposed which includes the Sindh Human Rights Commission, an independent sub-national human rights ins-titution with the mandate to monitor human rights violations. This is a step in the right direction.

Further, the Juvenile Justice System Act, 2018, provides the legal framework related to probation and parole of children in conflict with the law. However, only KP has formulated the rules under JJSA. The rest of the provinces and Islamabad Capital Territory must formulate the rules to protect the best interests of children in conflict with

The Supreme Court in the Raja Azmat case stated that: "It is a right of every eligible prisoner to be considered for the purposes of enjoying liberty on the basis of probation." The court directed the federal and provincial governments to ensure that laws relating to the release of a prisoner based on probation are implemented and made

functional. Therefore, the state must strengthen the Directorate of Reclamation & Probation by appointing capable probation and parole officers. Further, technology such as electronic monitoring and GPS tracking can be utilised to improve supervision, efficiency and effectiveness. Pakistan must adopt an efficient probation and parole system to end the cycle of recidivism.

## Misplaced urgency

**Mohsin Fareed** 

The next time you are travelling, sitting in your office, walking in a park, roaming in a shopping mall or just hanging out with friends or family, look around you. You will notice folks anxiously scrolling down their mobile phone screens, to catch up with the latest messages, calls,

feeds or status updates. Living in an increasingly fast-paced, interconnected world, which demands urgency at every step, the compulsion to constantly accomplish and advance can be overwhelming. From workrelated issues to social media notifications, there is a general perception of urgency in our lives. This urgent way of life obfuscates the line between the actually important and seemingly important

At work, this involves dealing with lastminute queries, odd deadlines, insane workloads, and the idea that one must be accessible even after office hours. In personal life, this phenomenon translates into overstrained relationships, frequently checking social media updates, and immediately responding to calls and texts. This 'always on'

culture requires multitasking. However, our brain lacks the neurocognitive build-up to perform multiple tasks simultaneously. So, it slows down, reducing productivity by about 40 per cent every time we try to multitask. Besides, the attraction for distraction that drives most multitasking can be hard to shut down, thus making it difficult to focus even if we are not doing so. Meanwhile, our dopamine system is desensitised by continuous

are, the less joy we feel. Our brain is exhausted by the repeated desire to process information and make quick decisions. Engaging in an assignment that calls for thought requires a distraction-free environ-

A false state of urgency dupes the body into adopting a 'fight or flight' response. Our breathing becomes faster, our heart rate and blood pressure go up, and we lose the ability to regulate our emotions. This erratic response might lead to hypertension, hormonal imbalance, sleep deprivation and immune disorders. Thus, the culture of urgency can be deleterious to our physical well-being in the long run. Digital content cap-

tures not just our gaze, but also our attention. Since its inception, technology has been a guileful friend, well-versed in pilfering our mindfulness. This 'original sin' of technology reflects the evolution of our interaction with the tools we create and use every day. Today, we have an abundance of online friends, and strive to make even more by liking or sharing content, but we are unaware of what is going on among our close family and friends' circles, even if they're living in the house same

neighbourhood. Social comparison theory explains the urgency phenomenon that describes the urge to constantly feel pressured to accomplish tasks quickly. In our false perception of others achieving more or outpacing us, we feel compelled to keep up with them, culminating in an endless cycle of haste and stress. The lines between our work and leisure are overstimulation. The blurred by our depen-

more overstimulated we dency on social media, making it challenging to disconnect and engage meaningfully with others. Ironically, this constant connectivity can erode our sense of belonging and contribute to feelings of loneliness and

alienation. Our transition from press to radio to television has taken another step and reached the digital era, where the focus of attention is human attention itself. Over time, each iteration of technology, social media, tablets or smartphones is becoming more and more efficient at capturing our focus. But it is not just our attention which is at stake anymore. With the advent of artificial intelligence, the concept of attention itself has been bi-furcated. On the one hand, human attention is frail and finite. On the other hand, the attention of AI has become vast and refines itself progressively.

The realm of attention has gone beyond the human spirit into the battlefield of cerebral computing. AI is a double-edged

sword, both emancipator and conspirator. It can liberate us from overburden, but can also embroil us further. AI has created a delicate rhythm between the creator and the created. It is important to establish clear boundaries including digital ones to avoid the sense of false urgency that is resulting from excessive assumptions multitasking. We can become more pragmatic about what is possible to achieve over a day, a week, a year or even a lifespan by acknowledging the limits of our time, strength and attention. The key component is spending time on what is important rather than on what is urgent. -- Cour-

## CM Punjab chairs 12th cabinet meeting to discuss key agendas

Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif presided over the 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of the provincial cabinet on Tuesday to discuss and make decisions on key agenda items and

price control and law & order are the main focus of the government, adding that failure to control rates directed all departments to the Punjab government to in a district will be start paid internship pay all charges except considered failure of the Deputy Commissioner concerned. She highlighted

grown locally as per demand of every city, so that transportation costs Program, under which 03 demand of every city, so

mother, it has to take care significant projects.

The CM said that the department concerned of everyone. She directed Seevice Certificates on to draft guidelines for them get admission in good establishing a housing scheme for artists. She also program to better engage fresh graduates.

Punjab Climate Leadership can be reduced. months internship to 2000
The CM said the government is like a month will be given, along with issuing them Social

> completion in order to help foreign universities. The Cabinet directed insurance cost in the e-bike scheme. Now the Punjab

LAHORE (APP): Punjab that vegetables should be approved 'Chief Minister charges for documentation, registration and number plate etc. Approval was also given to add 10,000 more electric bikes in the

The Cabinet also approved Chief Minister District Sustainable Development Program, under which about 3000 projects including roads parks, drainage, clean water street lights, tube wells and others will be completed in the districts at a cost of Rs



PESHAWAR: A representative minority delegation led by Kishor Kumar calls on Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi at Governor House.

#### **Punjab Governor says:** Christian community is playing a positive role in development of country

delegation led by Bishop of Lahore Nadeem Kamran called on Punjab Governor, Sardar Saleem Haider Khan here today at Governor

Talking on this occasion, Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider said that the Christian community is playing a positive role in the development of the country. He said that religious harmony and tolerance is very important for peace in society. Punjab Governor

said that People's Party has always given respect to the minorities. He said that the doors of the Governor's House are open to the people including minorities, students and party workers. The delegation informed the Governor Punjab about the various problems faced by them. Governor Punjab assured the delegation to play a role in solving the problems.

PESHAWAR:

TVET Sector Support Programme would equip

2000 women with digital

technological skills in the

fourth-phase of a phase-

wise training programme.

consultative workshop of

all stakeholders was held

at the Institute of

Management Sciences (IM-

Sciences) with Special

Assistant to KP CM on

Industries, Commerce and

Technical Education.

Abdul Karim Tordher as

chief guest here on

Sciences, Usman Ghani

and teaching staff of the

institute Director General

(DG) NAVTCC, the

universities, GIZ, British

representatives

Besides, Director IM-

Tuesday

In this connection, a

LAHORE (Online): A The delegation comprised: Amanat Barkat, Cyrus Bhatti, Reverend Qaiser, Reverend Zaman Sultan

> Meanwhile, Students who secured excellent marks in Matriculation Lahore Board of Government Girls High School and Government Boys High School Governor House called on Punjab Governor, Sardar Saleem Haider Khan. Governor Punjab gave a prize of Rs.1 lakh each to the students to appreciate and encourage them.

> On this occasion, Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan congratulated the students and asked them to continue to work hard and bring laurels to the country. Punjab Governor further stated that children are the future of the nation. He said that the youth should play a positive role in the society and contribute to the development of the

KP to equip 2000

women with digital

technological skills

Independent Report Council, Academia, experts

provincial government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa were also included in the

with the assistance of participants. Addressing

The from private sector and

the participants of the

workshop, the experts

stressed on the elimination

of unemployment in the

modern era and equipping

the young generation with

modern technology and

digital training and in this

regard termed linkage

between the industry and

academia important. The

experts stressed the need

for provision of the

technology based expertise

to meet the challenges of

the current era, adding that

efforts should be made to

prepare skilled talents

equipped with technology

as demand of the industry.

In the workshop, IT Board

officials said that they are

heading towards making

the province a hub of

digital skills.

#### Faisal Kundi highlights role of minorities in Pak independence PESHAWAR (APP): with great enthusiasm

Note: Corrected with across Pakistan to convey instead of Deputy Khyber Governor Pakhtunkhwa (KP), Faisal Karim Kundi on Tuesday emphasized the significant role of minority communities in Pakistan's independence and pledged to work diligently for their

rights. He made these remarks during a meeting with a delegation from the minority community, led by Kishwar Kumar, a former MPA, and General Secretary of the Minority Wing KP.

During the meeting, discussions also focused on August 11, Minority Day.

Screening

stressed to

ward off

cervical cancer

LAHORE (APP): The

Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry

(LCCI) Tuesday organized

an awareness session

focusing on the importance

of cervical screening for women's health at its

organized under the leadership of LCCI President Kashif Anwar,

was attended by Professor

Dr. Zuna Saeed, Dr. Roohi

Saeed, Professor Dr.

Muhammad Saeed, LCCI

EC member Fareeha

Younas, the healthcare

professionals, industry

leaders and community

address, President Kashif

Anwar highlighted the

critical role of cervical

screening in preventing

cervical cancer, a major

health concern for women

said that the prime duty of

the chamber is to talk on

the issues of taxation,

trade, industry and

economy but it is also

active in social sector. He

initiatives undertaken by

the LCCI to support and

several

highlighted

empower women

The LCCI President

In his opening

The event, which was

premises.

members.

globally.

The governor said that the day is celebrated

Divisional Suprentendent the message to the world that minorities face no issues and are living happily in the country. Governor Faisal Kundi assured that no effort would be spared in

> by minority women also. He reiterated the Pakistan Peoples Party's long-standing stance of providing services to people at their doorsteps.

addressing the issues faced

Governor Faisal Kundi mentioned that he is visiting churches and other places of worship in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to understand and address the issues faced by minority communities.

Ahmed Jan, Divisional

Railways for the Peshawar Division also met with Governor Faisal Karim Kundi at the Governor House. The discussion centered on improving the railway system and the overall state of the departments.

Divisional Superintendent Jan said that the railway affairs are progressing towards betterment and that positive changes are expected in the near future.

Governor Kundi highlighted that Pakistan Railways is a crucial transportation institution that facilitates people and goods across the country. He stressed the need for Meanwhile, Maqsood modernization upgrading of Pakistan.



KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister, Syed Murad Ali Shah exchanges views with Commander Serken DOGAN, Commanding Officer Turkish Navy Ship TCG KINALIADA, during meeting held at CM

## KP govt, ICRC join hands to promote application of humanitarian law

**Independent Report** PESHĀWAR: Directorate General of Law and Human Rights, in collaboration with the International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC), conducted a two-day training workshop for District Attorneys and

human professionals. The workshop was inaugurated by Law Minister Aftab Alam Afridi, which emphasized the importance of human rights education for a just

The workshop was aimed at enhance the Edithe Joseph stressed the

understanding

legal professionals and to foster collaboration between governmental and non-governmental organizations. The minister emphasized the importance of human rights education in developing a just and equitable society. The

representative highlighted the need for continued education and training in humanitarian law. Ghulam Ali, Director

General Law & Human Rights, highlighted the role of humanitarian law in protecting human dignity, while ICRC representative need for continued of education in humanitarian humanitarian law among principles.

## **Azma Bokhari likens** PTI founder to Hitler

LAHORE Information Minister Punjab Azma Bokhari said that Imran Khan is Hitler-2 and he should be ashamed of accusing Maryam Nawaz of being a fascist.

In a statement, she said, "Imran had Maryam Nawaz arrested in front of her father. The fascist leader who demanded Article 6 cases against political opponents and installed cameras in jails to inflict torture was Fitna Khan." Azma Bokhari said that Maryam Nawaz did not have Bushra Bibi or any of his four sisters arrested. "You were the one who fled in fear from a wheelchair. Maryam stand. You were the fascist

and personally vindictive ruler who, as Prime Minister, had more than a hundred League leaders arrested in political cases. Despite daily arrests, not a single leader abandoned Mian Nawaz Sharif and the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz," she added. provincial The

information minister said that the "revolutionaries" of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) held press conferences in lines after spending just one night in jail. "Don't blame Maryam Nawaz for your crimes of a failed coup and anti-Pakistan conspiracies. Why don't you feel ashamed of a call for Nawaz did not make you negotiations with the army? First.



MULTAN: Deputy Chief of Mission U.S. Embassy in Islamabad, Mr. Andrew James Schofer, talking to media persons during his visit to the Shrine of Hazrat Musa Pak Shaheed. U.S. Consul General in Lahore Ms. Kristin K. Hawkins also with her.



LAHORE: Punjab Governor, Sardar Saleem Haider Khan in a group photo with delegation led by Bishop of Lahore Nadeem Kamran at Governor House.

## Pakistan can bring \$12 bln per month if one mln youth gets IT education: Governor

KARACHI (APP): Sindh House, are earning \$ 600 Governor Muhammad to \$ 800 per month. "If we Kamran Tessori has said Pakistan can earn \$12 billion monthly as foreign exchange if one million youth be equipped with Information Technology

He said that Governor House is providing opportunities for IT Advanced Courses to 50,000 youths while 450000 male, as well as determined to do female students, are being given online training.

In an interview with

the APP, Governor Kamran Khan Tessori said as many as 80000 youths appeared for IT course tests in Hyderabad and around

that the youth are said he would extend such undergoing Advanced IT training facilities to other

### provide IT education to at least one million youth of the country, we would be able to bring billions dollars in Pakistan, as a result of

economy could be stabilized", he underlined. Elaborating his vision, Governor Tessori said as soon as he assumed office the governor, he was something for the country and the province and for this purpose, he chose the

IT sector to be worked for.

which the country's

He said the Governor House was selected as the place from where youth have to be trained so that 50000 youngsters would they could achieve their be selected for IT advanced skill to be used for the rses. country's economic
The governor said stability. Kamran Tessori said he would extend such



KARACHI: Consul General of China, Yang Yundong addresses to media persons during Meet the Press Programme, held at Karachi press club.

## Cabinet committee reviews law and order in Punjab

meeting of Cabinet Committee on law and order was held in the Home Department under the chairmanship of Provincial Health Minister and Khawaja Salman Rafique.

Chaudhry Shafay Hussain participated in the meeting via video link. The meeting reviewed law and order in the province and officers that concerned also gave a briefing on this matter.

During the meeting, approval was given to form Joint Investigation Teams (JITs) for 14 different cases under Section 19 of the Anti-Terrorism Act. The appointment of six price control magistrates in different districts was also approved. Additionally, the meeting approved the Branch, Rangers, and deployment of Rangers for

LAHORE (APP): The 10th the security of interprovincial check posts. Khawaja Salman Rafique stated that no

effort would be spared to ensure peace and order in the province. He said that Chairman of the committee the state would not tolerate violence under any Provincial Minister circumstances, adding that peace could not be established in society punishing without terrorists. He further said departments concerned had been directed to ensure regular follow-ups of cases in courts. All institutions worked tirelessly during Muharram, he added.

Special Secretary Interior Fazal ur Rehman Additional Secretary Internal Security Usman Khalid, DIG Operations Punjab, DIG Special officers from related



LAHORE: Chairperson of the Punjab Women Protection Authority (PWPA), Hina Pervaiz Butt sign MoU with Syed Farhad Ali Shah, Prosecutor General of Punjab on Women Harassment held in

#### **KP CM grieves** over death of 11 family members due to flood

ESHAWAR (APP): Chief Minister Pakhtunkhwa, Ali Amin Gandapur, has expressed his sorrow over the death of 11 members of a family due to a flash flood that entered the basement of their house in Dara Adam

He also announced financial assistance for the affected family and directed the relevant authorities to take necessary measures in this

Expressing heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family, he prayed for the departed souls and for patience for the survivors. He stated that he was deeply saddened upon hearing about the tragic

ncident. The Chief Minister instructed the district administration to provide immediate relief to the affected family and assured them that the provincial government stands with them in this difficult time, offering every possible assistance.

#### Labourer killed by firing of unidentified assailants

MULTAN (APP): labourer was killed by firing of unidentified assailants at basti malook area on Tuesday.

According to police, some three people riding on motorbike opened straight fire at the labourer named Mohammed Farooq, 37, son of Ismael, resulting his death on the spot.

He was employed in the locally operational Allah Wasaya mills.

Police suspected the murder was the result of the old enmity. The deceased man was moving on his bicycle when chain of the cycle broke off all of sudden. He was repairing the chain when the attackers came up and opened fire to commit murder. They left along with mobile phone of the deceased person. Police of basti malook station reached out the spot and started investigation.

#### Rs2.2bn development projects approved

SIALKOT (APP): The District Development Committee approved development projects costing Rs2.2311 billion across the district under the Chief Minister Punjab District SDGs program, while 16 projects have also been approved for the minority community, which will

cost Rs65 million. The meeting of the committee was held under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Muhammad Zulgarnain in which Deputy Director Development Muhammad Asif gave a briefing.

## Ignite signs agreement with LMKR led consortium to operate NIC Peshawar

Committee Khawaja Salman Rafique at Home Department.

PESHAWAR Ignite National Technology a company incorporated under the Ministry of IT & Telecom here Tuesday signed an agreement with a consortium led by LMKR to operate the National Incubation Center (NIC) in Peshawar.

This consortium includes prominent like Orbit partners Startups, an international investment accelerator and the most active VC in Pakistan. According to a press release, the other key partners include LMKT, Accelerate Prosperity, Sybrid (a Lakson Group Company) and Institute of Management Sciences, Peshawar.

The new chapter of

strategically supported by

Peshawar is

(APP): partners, significantly enhancing opportunities resources available to NIC Peshawar startups. NIC Peshawar aims

LAHORE: A view of 10th meeting of Cabinet Committee on law and order held

under the chairmanship of Provincial Health Minister and Chairman of the

expand horizons, embrace cutting-edge technologies and foster a global perspective. This vision will guide efforts to nurture startups

that not only excel locally

but also compete on the

international stage. Adeel Aijaz Shaikh, CEO Ignite said, "we are proud to support the National Incubation Center Peshawar as it embarks on this new phase of growth

and innovation. "Our commitment to fostering a thriving startup ecosystem in Pakistan is reflected in our ongoing support for the national Incubation programs across over 80 ecosystem the country.

## 6 operations

RAWALPINDI (APP) Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) while conducting 6 operations managed to recover 8 kg drugs and arrested 7 accused, said an Headquarters spokesman here

ice and 99 heroin-filled capsules were recovered from the possession of two passengers going to Jeddah and Sharjah at Peshawar Airport.3.2 kg ice was recovered from a Jeddahbound passenger at Lahore

547 grams ice was recovered from another Jeddah-bound passenger at

3.6 kg hashish was recovered from the possession of an accused netted in Muzaffargarh.

## **ANF** recovers 8 kg drugs in

Tuesday.

He informed that 84 Airport.

Karachi Airport.

1.4 kg ice was recovered from two suspects rounded up near Chungi No 26, Islamabad.

## Digital push in Pakistan's agriculture sector takes off

United Nations Food and Agriculture (FAO), here on Tuesday marked the official launch of the Digital Agriculture Consortium (DAC), a pivotal step in transforming Pakistan's agriculture through digital

The event, part of the PDAC project "Technical Support for the Establishment of Pakistan Technology Information Technology Agriculture Consortium," was backed the Food and Agriculture Organization and the Ministry of

National Food Security and Research (MNFSR). various digital agriculture and thought leaders discussing topics like

It brought together a wide range of participants, including digital agriculture advancements, companies, mechanization service providers, digital service providers, financial representatives, policymakers, and

such as the Ministry of management, Information Technology & demonstrating how these Telecommunication and technologies can improve Land Information & agricultural productivity Management System also and efficiency. attended.

KARACHI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

giving attendees a hands-on at the latest precision agriculture tools

technologies.

The event covered key areas like digital track and traceability systems Government bodies and land information

Panel discussions The event showcased featured industry experts

ISLAMABAD (APP):

National Electric Power

Regulatory Authority (NEPRA) is going to

launch a mobile application called 'NEPRA Asaan

Approach' designed for

electricity consumers in

users to register complaints

related to electricity issues

such as power outages & fluctuations, electrical fires,

line faults, and billing

discrepancies etc in the

minimum possible time.

said a press release issued

key element in NEPRA's

strategy to provide multi-

channel service delivery to

electricity consumers

friendly interface, the

NEPRÁ Asaan Approach

app simplifies the process

of submitting complaints

and allows users to track

the real-time progress of

their issues, enhancing the

efficiency and ease of

**Rupee sheds** 

15 paisa

against dollar

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Pakistani rupee on Tuesday depreciated by 15

paisa against the US dollar

in the interbank trading and

closed at Rs 278.65 against

the previous day's closing

of Rs 278.50.

However, according

to the Forex Association of Pakistan (FAP), the buying

and selling rates of the

dollar in the open market stood at Rs 278.5 and Rs

The price of Euro came down by 35 paisa to close at Rs 301.57 against

the last day's closing of Rs

301.92, according to the State Bank of Pakistan

lost 02 paisa and closed at Rs1.79, whereas an

increase of Rs1.22 was

witnessed in the exchange

rate of the British Pound

which traded at Rs358.17

as compared to the last

day's closing of Rs356.95

The exchange rate of the Emirates Dirham and

The Japanese yen

280.06 respectively.

complaint filing.

across Pakistan.

It will also serve as a

Through its user-

This app will enable

Pakistan, on Wednesday.

bridging gaps in ag-tech solutions and post-harvest

The DAC also began enrolling stakeholders into the consortium, aiming to integrate key players from government, private sector, academic institutions, and agri-tech companies into a unified platform. This coalition committed to advancing digital agriculture across Pakistan. The primary goal of the DAC launch was to highlight the consortium.



QUETTA: Chief Manager State Bank of Pakistan, Quetta Sarfraz Ahmed Nadeem meeting with Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti.

## Rana Tanveer calls for technology adoption to boost agri productivity

SLAMABAD (APP): a significant role in Minister for Industries, Production and National Food Security Rana Tanveer Hussain on Tuesday emphasized the need for modernization and technology adoption in the agriculture sector to boost productivity, reduce costs, and increase exports. Speaking at a seminar

'Change Agriculture of Pakistan', the minister said that the traditional practices

unsustainable inefficient.He said that technologies like ICT, IoT, mobile applications, GPS/stakeholders is GIS, and UAVs are playing agricultural sector.

transforming traditional farming practices. "Traditional farming

practices are unsustainable and inefficient, which increase costs and reduce profits", Rana Tanveer said. The minister said that the agricultural sector grew by 6.25 per cent last year, surpassing other sectors and boosting the overall economic growth rate by 2.38 percent.

He highlighted that environmental impact can be reduced by using new technology.Rana Tanveer said collaboration with stakeholders in



LARKANA: Farmers pour dates into a large pot for boiling after harvesting, right in their field on outskirts area in the city.

## **SECP simplifies illustration** format for life insurance & family takaful products

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Securities and Exchange Commission of requirements aim to Pakistan (SECP) on Tuesday issued a revised illustration format to improve the readability, standardize insurers illustrative values, and safeguard prospective policyholders from any deception. In this regard, S.R.O. 1088 (I)/2024 has been issued and is applicable on life insurance and family takaful products with savings

components. The operators of life insurance and family takaful use product illustrations to highlight the benefits of long-term financial protection and savings vehicles, typically lasting over 5 to 20 years. Hence, the product illustrations are an integral

enhance transparency in illustrations product through improved disclosures and making them simple for the understanding of potential policyholders by explicit

takaful policies.

disclosure of allocation charges, clearing mentioning key disclosures with simplified format and enhanced font size. Moreover, Companies have requested to reduce illustration scenarios from 3 to 2 and remove inflationadjusted values, displaying only actual amounts allocated to policyholder accounts. The SECP has notified the illustration directive after extensive consultation with life insurance and family takaful companies, the



ISLAMABAD: A vendor sits under an umbrella and waiting customer, rain pattering down, as customer traffic swindles amidst the downpour at the Islamabad Fruit and Vegetable Market.

## Textile Asia Intl Exhibition and Conferences 2024 to start from Aug 3

Pakistan China Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry collaborated with E-commerce Gateway Pakistan (Pvt.) Limited as a strategic partner for organizing a three-day joint exhibition "Textile Asia International Exhibition" here at the Lahore Expo Centre from August 3 to 5,

Addressing a review meeting held at PCJCCI on Tuesday, Dr. Khursheed Nizam, President and Vice President, M. Uzair Nizam, E-Commerce Gateway Pakistan, said that the exhibition will bring

LAHORE (APP): The together industry leaders, innovators, and enthusiasts from over 11 countries, with over 550 companies with both local and foreign participations. It would also lead the way in delivering the most exquisite opportunities for all participants in different sectors like; buying selling potential of textile & machinery, garment Clothing Textiles Accessories, Textile Raw Material Supplies, Textile Chemicals, Embroidery Machines, Power & Air Compressors for Textile Industry and Textile Allied Services.

## Sindh, Fed govts agree to establish Special Economic zone on remaining steel mills land Industries Saif Anjum and up a new Steel Mill, any

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Chief Minister (CM) Syed Murad Ali Shah and Federal Minister for on Tuesday. The CM said Industries & Production Rana Tanveer, in their meeting at CM House, discussed the revival of the Pakistan Steel Mill plan and the establishment of a Special Economic Zone on the remaining land.

The meeting was attended by Provincial Minister Industries Jam Ikarm Dharejo, Chief Secretary Asif Hyder Shah, PSCM Agha Wasif, Secretary Industries Yasin Shar, and the Federal Minister was assisted by Federal Secretary for

ships namely Lotus A,

Terminal respectively on

ships, Sweet Lady-III,

Kouros Queen, Canopus

and Elim Grace also arrived

Qasim during the last 24

hours. Eight ships were engaged at PQA berths

during the last 24 hours,

out of them four ships,

Milaha Qater, Ocean

Poineer, Xia Hai Tong and

Meanwhile four more

Containers,

Monday.

that the proposed Special Economic Zone project was discussed in the cabinet on May 30, 2024. He added that his cabinet proposed the federal government establish the Special Economic Zone (SEZ) on the extra land of Pakistan Steel Mill.

CM Murad Shah said that his cabinet was of the land earmarked for the said that the federal

additional requirement of land for the purpose should be worked out mutually.

At this, Federal Minister Rana Tanveer proposed that the Federal Government was ready to allow the Provincial Government to revive the old steel mill plant or install a new one on its 700 acres. The CM said that the 4,840 acres of land may be utilized to set up SEZ for the federal and provincial view that the 700 acres of government. Rana Tanveer Pakistan Steel Mills plant government from its should be kept intact for the revitalisation of the Steel Mills Plant or setting given to Chinese investors.

#### **SMBR** reviews audit **Shipping** activity at report, BoR reforms **Port Qasim** KARACHI (APP): Four

LAHORE (APP): Senior exams soon for vacant Member Board of Revenue Sweet Judi, Clipper Erisand Sea Luck-II (SMBR) Nabil Javed on Tuesday chaired an scheduled to load/offload important meeting in the committee room in which Condensate and Chemicals establishment of revenue berthed at Qasim International Container academy, audit report, powers of DCs and Terminal, Multi-Purpose ADCRs, vacancies of Terminals, FOTCO Oil revenue officers, KPIs, Terminal and Engro Vopak Board of Revenue (BoR) reforms were reviewed.

Member Secretary Shafqatullah Mushtaq, appointment of new Director Operations PLRA principal of Revenue Anjum Żahra, PLRA officials participated while commissioner Sahiwal and academy would DG PLRA were also present. Secretary BoR Shafqatullah Mushtaq briefed the SMBR about new recruitments of revenue officers. He briefed that PPSC would conduct

posts. In the meeting, promotion of Naib Tehsildar Godawars and Patwaris was also reviewed while details were also sought from all divisions to complete the promotion cases as soon as possible. The SMBR reviewed the establishment of BoR Academy and training of revenue officers in detail. He issued instructions for immediate

Academy. Nabil Javed said that the performance of the improved for the training of the revenue officials and to harmonise with the modern requirements, adding restructuring of academy as per modern requirements



KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister, Syed Murad Ali Shah and Federal Minister for Industries and Commerce, Rana Tanveer presiding over a Special Economic Zone at the additional land of Pakistan Steel Mills, at CM House in Karachi.

#### **PSX turns** bearish, loses 198 points

ISLAMABAD (APP): The 100-index of the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) witnessed bearish trend on Tuesday, losing 198.94 points, a negative change of 0.25 percent, closing at 78,628.81 points against 78,827.74 points on the last working day.

A total of 313,085,457 shares were traded during the day as compared to 371,087,020 shares the previous day, whereas the price of shares stood at Rs 17.615 billion against Rs 19.156 billion on the last trading day.

As many as 447 companies transacted their shares in the stock market, 152 of them recorded gains and 239 sustained losses. whereas the share price of 56 companies remained unchanged. The three top trading companies were The Organic Meat with 24,830,333 shares at Rs 40.47 per share, The Searle Company with 24,067,099 shares at Rs 60.31 per share and Fauji Cement with 15,819,905 shares at Rs 21.63 per share.

Rafhan Company Products Company Limited witnessed a maximum increase of Rs 77.44 per share price, closing at Rs 7,590.00.

## **Agriculture minister chairs** meeting to review progress of ongoing development schemes

Minister for Agriculture & Livestock, Punjab Syed Ashiq Hussain Kirmani Tuesday chaired a high level meeting at Agriculture House, Lahore in which the progress of ongoing schemes related to agricultural development was reviewed.

In the meeting, the timelines of the Transforming Punjab Agriculture Programme' were also reviewed.

The minister said that a new era of agricultural development would begin in the province with the implementation initiatives of the chief minister, Punjab. It was told during the briefing that so far 3 lakh 56 thousand farmers had submitted online applications for CM Kissan Card, after scrutiny of which more than 1 lakh 50 thousand applications had been sent to Bank of Punjab for approval. Apart from this, modern machinery (Pak Seeder) to be provided to the farmers under the CM Smog Control Programme was under preparation. During

the briefing, he was further informed that so far, 920 orders had been booked for the superseders. Apart from this 168 superseeders were nearing completion manufacturing, NESPAK was responsible for checking the quality of these superseders. Till now, 1,860 applications had been received under the Agricultural Graduates Internship Programme and committees had been notified in the districts to scrutinise the applications. Provincial Agriculture Minister Syed Ashiq Hussain Kirmani clarified that no compromise would be made on the quality during the production of super-seeders. Farmers who had not registered mobile their registration of Kissan card need to follow up. Social media and other means of communication should also be used for the awareness of the farmers, he said and added physical verification for Kissan card registration of non-computerised areas

should be arranged on

emergency basis.



## investments in key sectors

said the Yangtze River Delta, a thriving economic industrial innovation and engine and manufacturing powerhouse in China, is emerging as a hub for approximately 358,000 potential collaboration square kilometers, the between Pakistan and China in areas such as electric vehicles, new energy materials, and

semiconductors. investment

cooperation.
During his ongoing visit to Shanghai, China, Ambassador Hashmi engaged in a series of meetings with political leaders, business elites, academics and the media, highlighting the city's pivotal role as a gateway to the Yangtze River Delta

BEIJING (APP): Pakistan and the provinces of Ambassador to China Jiangsu, Zhejiang, and Khalil Hashmi on Tuesday Anhui, has emerged as a leading force in China's economic development.

With an area of region contributes nearly a quarter of China's GDP and over one-third of the country's total foreign trade, demonstrating its The ambassador's strategic importance in the Pakistan's efforts to foster according to the CEN deeper economic ties and report."The Yangtze River here Tuesday. explore avenues for Delta presents immense opportunities for joint ventures and collaborations between Pakistan and China," Ambassador Ambassador Hashmi emphasized "We see great adding, potential in sectors like electric vehicles, where China is a global leader, and new energy materials, which are critical for sustainable development.

Furthermore,

## The Yangtze River semiconductors, Delta, a vibrant economic region spanning Shanghai technology. FCCI welcomes decrease in SBP

policy rate

FAISALABAD (APP): Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FCCI) on Tuesday hailing the decrease of 100-Basic Points in policy rate by State Bank of Pakistan (SBP), demanded further decrease in it.

In a press statement, FCCI acting president Dr Sajjad Arshad said the policy rate had started declining from historically high policy rate of 22 per cent which indicated that the economy was on the right track. He said that a single digit policy rate was imperative to spur economic growth but a decrease of only 100-basic points after every two months was just a peanut and it would take two years to trim the policy rate to 9 per cent. He demanded that at least 200-basic points in policy rate may be reduced after every two months so that the Small

(SME) sector could get cheap loans and thus play its catalyzing role in enhancing industrial production and exports.

Dr Sajjad Arsĥad also expressed satisfaction over the decrease in inflation and said that according to the SBP Governor it had come down to 12.6 per cent from 38 percent."However, the governor has predicted between 11.5 to 13.5%' he said and added that would certainly give a sigh of relief to the people skyrocketing prices of consumable items. He said the government must pass

on maximum relief to the people instead of adding additional burden of taxes. He also voiced

contentment over the CCC+ credit rating for Pakistan by Fitch Rating Company.



GUJRANWALA: Farmer is busy in his work at a rice field near Oila Didar Singh district Guiranwala.

China Sea and the Indo-Pa-

cific region "are continu-

ously examined and reexam-

ined so we are agile in terms

scored the need for a U.S.

military presence for Asian

Philippine counterparts

later, Blinken and Austin

announced the \$500 million

military funding to help

modernize the Philippine

military and coast guard and

boost security collabora-

tion amid shared concerns

over China's assertive ac-

tions. "Both of us share

concerns and many other

countries in the region

share concerns, as well,

about some of the actions

that the People's Republic

of China has taken, escala-

tory actions in the South

China Sea, the East China

Sea and elsewhere," includ-

ing "coercive methods,

conference.

Blinken said in a joint news

Marcos has under-

After meeting their

of our responses.

stability and peace.

with \$500 million funding and

pact amid concern over China

Monitoring Desk

U.S. Secretary of State

Chinese forces flared since

last year in the disputed

open" communication lines

between Washington and

Manila, adding that the two

countries' treaty alliance and

key issues in the South

General Staff said in a statement Kyiv's security ser-

vices were responsible for

a drone strike in Russia's

southern Kursk region that

morning on an oil depot

used to meet the needs of

the Russian military, and

contains 11 tanks with a

total volume of 7,000 cubic

meters (about 247,202 cu-

bic feet), adding the attack

prompted "powerful ex-

plosions and a fire ... prob-

ably involving containers

continue to take all mea-

sures to undermine the mili-

tary and economic poten-

The defense forces

with oil products."

Marcos hailed "very

South China Sea.

## 93 killed after landslides strike India tea estates

**Monitoring Desk** WAYANAD: Landslides in India triggered by pounding monsoon rains struck tea plantations and killed at least 93 people on Tuesday, with at least 250 others rescued from mud and debris,

The southern coastal state of Kerala has been battered by torrential downpours, with blocked roads into the disaster area in Wayanad district complicating relief efforts.

93 dead bodies have been found so far," Kerala chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan told reporters. "This is one of the worst natural calamities that our state has seen.

Another 128 people had been hospitalised for treatment after their rescue,

"My thoughts are with all those who have lost their loved ones and prayers with those injured," Prime Minister

for the tea estates that criss- families of victims would cross its hilly countryside and which rely on a large pool of casual labourers for planting and harvest.

payment of \$2,400.

agency said.

"heartbreaking"

ral calamities.

water supplies.

"Our country has wit-

nessed an alarming rise in

landslides in recent years,

he said. "The need of the

hour is a comprehensive

growing frequency of natu-

the region from June to

September offer respite

from the summer heat and

are crucial to replenishing

riculture and therefore the

Monsoon rains across

They are vital for ag-

Several estates in the district were hit by two successive landslides before dawn when most of their inhabitants were asleep.
Images published by

the National Disaster Response Force showed rescue crews trudging through mud to search for survivors and carry bodies on stretchers out of the area.

Homes were caked with brown sludge as the force of the landslide scattered cars, corrugated iron action plan to address the and other debris around the disaster site. India's army said it had

deployed more than 200 soldiers to the area to assist state security forces and fire crews in search-and-rescue efforts. Kerala state excise minister MB Rajesh said more than 250 people had been rescued so far,



Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida greets US Secretary of State Antony Blinken in Tokyo. Also seen are Indian Foreign Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar (left) and Japanese Foreign Minister Yoko Kamikawa.

#### Netanyahu vows retaliation against Hezbollah after weekend strike as US warns against escalation

**Monitoring Desk** MAJDAL SHAMS: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Monday vowed heavy retaliation against Hezbollah amid furious diplomatic efforts to prevent a spiral into regional war following a weekend rocket strike that killed

12 children in the Israelicontrolled Golan Heights. Israel has blamed Hezbollah for Saturday evening's rocket from Lebanon that slammed into a soccer field where the children were playing in the

usual move, Hezbollah denied any role in the strike. U.S. Secretary of State

Antony Blinken spoke with Israeli President Isaac Herzog on Monday, emphasizing the "importance of preventing escalation" and discussing efforts to reach a diplomatic solution to months of conflict. Israel and the Iranian-backed Lebanese Hezbollah have exchanged fire almost daily over the border since the war in Gaza erupted in October. Each side has seemed intent on avoiding an escalation that would bring their full mainly Druze town of that would bring their full Majdal Shams. In an unfirepower against each other.

## Lebanon on alert as Israel warns of 'severe' response to strike in Golan Heights

**Monitoring Desk** MAJDAL SHAMS: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Monday vowed a "severe" response to a strike that killed youths in the annexed Golan Heights, as diplomats raced to contain escalation between Israel and Hezbollah.

On a visit to the site of the rocket strike which killed 12 children in the town of Majdal Shams, Netanyahu said: "The state of Israel will not, and cannot, let this pass. Our response will come and it will be severe.'

protests during his visit, which came after mourners gathered in the Druze Arab town for the burial of the last victim, 11-year-old Guevara Ibrahim. Israel and the United States have blamed the strike on Hezbollah, which has traded near-daily fire with Israeli forces since the start of the Gaza conflict in early October. Lebanese Foreign Minister Abdallah Bou Habib said a flurry of diplomatic activity has sought to contain the anticipated

Israeli response

#### **Zelensky visits** Ukraine front as **Moscow claims** fresh gains

KYIV: Russia said on Monday its forces had captured the village of Vovche in eastern Ukraine, the latest in a string of frontline advances Moscow has claimed in recent weeks.

came as Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky visited special forces in the border region of Kharkiv, where Moscow's forces to make any breakthrough.

#### Venezuela of electoral manipulation, repression

of "any credibility." Biden administration officials, briefing reporters about the vote did not announce any new punitive measures but left sanctions, saying it would assess its sanctions policy in

Maduro's government.

**55,000 Sikhs** 

vote for

Khalistan

against Indian

opposition

**Monitoring Desk** 

CALGARY: Over 55,000

Sikhs exercised their right

to vote in the Khalistan

Referendum held in Calgary,

Canada under the auspices

At the conclusion of

referendum,

of Sikhs for Justice (SFJ).

Gurpatwant Singh Pannun,

the leader of SFJ

organisation in a video-link

address to Sikh community

land by the "power of

tioned the killing of

that if justice was not given

by the courts, the Sikhs

would resort to "Khalsai

Indian Prime Minister

Narendra Modi and his gov-

ernment were responsible

for the massacre of Sikhs in

Insaf" (Khalsai Justice).

He, however, warned

He pointed out that

Hardeep Singh.

vote'

#### Antony Blinken and Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin met with President Ferdinand Marcos Jr., who has fortified Manila's decades-old treaty alliance with Washington as hostilities between Philippine and

Monitoring Desk

The announcement launched a surprise ground offensive in May but failed

## **US** accuses

Monitoring Desk dent Joe Biden's administration on Monday accused Venezuela of electoral manipulation and repression and said Caracas' announcement that President Nicolas Maduro had won a third term in office had been stripped on condition of anonymity, open the door to additional light of actions taken by

## Ukraine says it struck an oil depot in Russia, as Moscow claims new gains in Donetsk region

Federation to stop its armed **Monitoring Desk** aggression against Ukraine, KYIV: Ukraine on Sunday said it struck an oil depot the statement said. in southern Russia that Russia's Defense Ministry supplies the Kremlin's said seven Ukrainian drones troops as Russian strikes in were shot down overnight Ukraine's eastern Donetsk region, where Moscow over Russian territory, while claimed further gains, left a regional official said a drone five civilians dead and 15 others wounded. Ukraine's

strike set fire to the oil depot in the Kursk province. Firefighters were battling the blaze on Sunday morning after three fuel tanks went up in flames, according to acting regional Gov. Alexey Smirnov. Smirnov said nobody was hurt. The Kursk region lies on the border with Ukraine's Sumy province where Ukraine has in recent months repeatedly targeted various sites, including oil depots and other military infrastructure, inside Russian territory, with drones and other weapons. Ukrainian officials have been pressuring Western allies to be

able to use their modern and

more sophisticated weapons

tial of the Russian occupito strike more valuable tarers and force the Russian gets inside Russian territory. Russian navy starts major drills involving

defence ministry said on

by most military analysts to have the world's third most powerful navy after those of the United States and China, and Russia has a significant ballistic-missile

which include 20,000 personnel and 300 ships, will pabilities of the navy at all

The drills will include over 300 combat exercises including practicing the use of anti-aircraft missiles, ar-

'Units and formations of the Russian Navy have begun conducting planned

cific and Baltic Fleets, as well as in the area of responsibility of the Caspian Flotilla," the ministry said. "The main purpose of the exercises is to check the actions of the military authorities of the navy at all

levels as well as the readiness of the crews of ships, units of naval aviation and coastal troops of the Russian navy to perform About 300 surface ships and boats, subma-

rines and support vessels, some 50 aircraft and more than 200 units of military and special equipment will be involved in the

## **UN cybercrime text** faces scrutiny from tech firms, rights groups

member states met on Monday seeking to finalise an international treaty on fight against cybercrime, a text strongly opposed by an unlikely alliance of human rights groups and big technology

Convention Against Cybercrime" originated in 2017 when Russian diplomats sent the world body's secretary-general a letter

Two years later, and despite US and European opposition, the General Assembly created an intergovernmental committee tasked with drawing up

such a treaty. Now, the draft text will finally come up for a vote by member states at the end of a two-week session.

If the revised draft includes "some welcome improvements," according to the office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, concerns remain

"about significant shortcomings, with many provisions failing to meet international human rights standards." "These shortcomings are particularly problematic against the backdrop of an already expansive use of existing cybercrime laws in some jurisdictions to unduly restrict freedom of expression, target dissenting voices and arbitrarily interfere with the privacy and anonymity of communications," it said in an analysis. The treaty, according to the draft language, would aim to "prevent and combat cybercrime more efficiently and effectively" and to strengthen international cooperation, notably re-

But its detractors say the text claims sway over far too expansive a field, as reflected in its subtitle: "crimes committed through the use of an information and communications technology system." The text could thus require governments "to facilitate investigations into things like same-sex conduct.

garding child pornography

and money laundering.

livelihoods of millions of Narendra Modi said in a The Hindu newspaper refarmers and food security post on social media platfor South Asia's nearly Modi's office said two billion people. form X. Wayanad is famed

Palestinians make their way as they return to the eastern side of Khan Younis after Israeli forces pulled out from the area following a raid, in Khan Younis, in the southern Gaza Strip.

## Taliban cut ties with Afghan embassies loyal to former government

**Monitoring Desk** KABUL: The Afghan Taliban government has severed consular ties with swathes of its embassies in Western countries, Kabul

The 2021 Taliban Belgium, Switzerland, takeover left diplomats Austria, France, Italy, staffing Afghanistan's foreign missions in limbo, having pledged to serve a government which collapsed in chaos after the withdrawal of US troops.

No country has yet formally recognised the Taliban government but in the past three years, the Kabul authorities have installed Taliban ambassadors in some neighbouring em-

**Monitoring Desk** 

TOKYO: The foreign min-

isters of the United States,

Japan, Australia and India

on Monday expressed "se-

rious concern" over the situ-

ation in the South China Sea

in a veiled rebuke to Beijing.

Antony Blinken and his

counterparts in the so-

called Quad grouping issued

a joint statement calling for

after talks in Tokyo. The

statement did not name

China directly but refer-

enced a series of recent con-

frontations between Chi-

nese and Philippine vessels

in the disputed South China

cerned about the situation

in the East and South China

Seas and reiterate our strong

opposition to any unilateral

actions that seek to change

"We are seriously con-

"free and open" Pacific

US Secretary of State

But Afghanistan's for-

sponsibility" for credentials including passports and vi-sas issued by missions out of step with Kabul's new

rulers.

The embassies insaid on Tuesday, cutting off clude those in the cities diplomats loyal to the former US-backed regime. of London and Berlin as well as the countries of Greece, Poland, Sweden, Norway, Canada, and Australia.

'The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has repeatedly urged the Afghan political and consular missions in European countries to engage with Kabul," a statement said

"Unfortunately, the actions of most of the missions are carried out arbitrarily, without coordination, and in explicit violaeign ministry said on Tues- tion of the existing accepted day it now "bears no re- principles."

the status quo by force or coercion," the communique

press our serious concern

about the militarisation of

disputed features, and co-

ercive and intimidating ma-

neuvers in the South China

The group also con-demned North Korea's

'destabilising" missile

prompted ire from Beijing,

which accused the four na-

tions of "creating tension,

inciting confrontation, and

containing the development

Asia-Pacific countries

aimed at reinforcing regional

cooperation in the face of

Beijing's growing assertiveness and its deep-

ening ties with Russia

Blinken is on a tour of

of other countries"

Sea," it added.

Their

"We continue to ex-

**Quad 'seriously** 

concerned' about situation

in South China Sea

### DHAKA: Bangladeshi students held scattered street protests on Monday after

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's government ignored an ultimatum to release their leaders and apologise for those killed in deadly unrest. Student ralquotas this month sparked days of violence that killed at least 205 people including several police officers, according to a count of police and hospital data. The clashes were some of the worst of Hasina's 15-year tenure but her government has since largely restored order by deploying troops,

Bangladesh

protests resume

after govt ignores

ultimatum

**Monitoring Desk** 

#### Maduro on top in 'disputed' Ven-ezuela polls Monitoring Desk

imposing a curfew and shut-

ting down the internet na-

CARACAS: Streets were largely empty in towns and cities across Ven-ezuela and opposition supporters we-re subdued on Monday after Pres-ident Nicolas Maduro and opposition rival Edmundo Gonzalez both clai-m-ed victory in a

Few businesses were open and public transport was scarce, as governments in Washington and elsewhere cast doubt on official results that kept the incumbent Maduro in power and called for a full

authority said just after midnight that Maduro had won a third term with 51 per cent of the vote — a result that would extend a quarter-century of socialist rule. But independent exit polls pointed to a big opposition win following enthusiastic shows of support for Gonzalez and opposition leader Maria

Corina Machado.

## NDRF personnel at the disaster site as they rescue victims of the landslide in **US Senate set to adopt**

major online child protection reforms tense weekend election. **Monitoring Desk** WASHINGTON: The US Senate is expected to pass major online child safety reforms in a vote on Tuesday, although the legislation, which has drawn mixed re-

actions from the tech industry, faces an uncertain fate tabulation of votes. The national electoral

in the House of Representrol that chamber by a margin of 51-49 seats, while tatives. Two bills - the Children and Teens' Online Pri-Republicans hold the House by 220-212. vacy Protection Act and the COPPA 2.0 would Kids Online Safety Act, nicknamed COPPA 2.0 and KOSA - would need to pass in the Republican-con-

## Four killed in rains, floods as remnants of weakened Gaemi lash south China

**Monitoring Desk** 

The province has been particularly hard-hit by several days of heavy rain which has breached major dikes and dams, and flooded large swathes of crop land, according to

In Zixing county, almost 90,000 people have been affected by the extreme weather which has damaged some 1,400 Meteorological ex-

perts said the combination of a weather system from the typhoon, which has been downgraded, and a southwest monsoon has created conditions for heavy rain and high-humidity, according to Beijing News.

In the past two days, rainfall led to the Juanshui river levels to rise, breaching three dikes, the Xinhua news agency reported.

One of the dikes was successfully sealed on

## ban targeted advertising to minors and data collection without their consent.

BEIJING: Torrential rain and flooding in China's southern Hunan province has killed four people and prompted the evacuation of thousands of residents, Chinese state media said on Tuesday, as remnants of the now weakened Typhoon Gaemi continue to lash the country.

state media.

homes and led to the collapse of about 1,300 roads, the People's Daily website reported. Several villages have also lost

trolled House, currently on

recess until September, to

proved by the Senate in a

pipartisan procedural vote

last week, with 86 senators

supporting and just one

opposing. Democrats con-

The bills were ap-

become law.

"But for Sikhs, the Khalistan Referendum is the right weapon," he said. Gurpatwant Singh

Punjab.

vor of Khalistan.

Pannun also raised slogans of "Delhi Baney Ga Khalistan" (Delhi will become Khalistan). The voters and participants of the event cheered slogans in fa-Long queues formed

up outside the polling center even before voting started at 9 am as people waited for hours for their turn.

A protester throws back a tear gas canister as Venezuelan opposition supporters protest following the announcement by the National Electoral Council that Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro won the presidential election, in Caracas, Venezuela.

#### most of its fleet **Monitoring Desk** terference, it added. MOSCOW: Russia's navy began planned exercises involving most of its fleet in exercises in the operational the Arctic and Pacific oceans as well and the Balzones of the Northern, Patic and Caspian seas, the

Russia is considered

nuclear submarine fleet. The Russian drills, test the readiness and ca-

levels, the ministry said.

## tillery, anti-submarine combat training, the minweapons and "passive in- istry said

**Monitoring Desk** UNITED NATIONS: UN vowed to take their home-He said India believed in targeting Sikhs and mencompanies.

The "United Nations outlining the initiative.

But after seven negotiating sessions to date, criticism has only grown.

## Adopting artificial intelligence essential for development, prosperity: Ayaz Sadiq

bly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq has said that this is an era of Artificial Intelligence and adopting innovations in all walks of life is essential for development and prosperity. "Extending parliamentary cooperation among 56 member states of the Commonwealth is essential for regional prosperity and development," he expressed these views during his meeting with Commonwealth Secretary-General Patricia Scotland along with representatives of parliaments of the Commonwealth who are on a 5-day official visit

He also said that using innovative technologies and Artificial Intelligence is pivotal for ensuring qualitative and public-responsive legislation.

The speaker also highlighted the significance of proactive parliamentary Friendship groups for en-

liament contacts among and parliament closer. member states of the Commonwealth. He also stressed the need to digitalize parliament for effective and public-responsive education. While mentioning the formulation of the Legislative Drafting Council.

He said that Artificial Intelligence is the technological innovation that can help produce synergy among parliaments of commonwealth member states. While mentioning the

Green Parliament Initiative, he said that the Pakistan parliament is the first of its kind which has been solarized completely for its electricity needs. Further, he also said that the Pakistan Parliament established the Secretariat of Sustainable stakeholders.

Sardar Ayaz Sadiq said

He also said that the parliament of Pakistan has also established the Women Parliamentary Caucus ( WPC) to ensure basic rights for women. He also added, "Parliamentary Caucus on Child Rights has also been playing a pivotal role in protecting children."

Commonwealth Secretary-General Patricia Scotland expressed gratitude to the Speaker National Assembly for the warm welcome. She also commended the resilience of the Pakistani nation and its people to grapple with the devastating impacts of the 2022 floods.

She also appreciated the initiatives undertaken by the present parliament Development Goals for of Pakistan for the vibrant synergizing among various of parliamentary diplomacy. She also said that Pakistan has been a proacthat the Pakistan parliament tive member of the Com-



QUETTA: Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti presiding over a meeting regarding Quetta Development Package and activation of QDA

### CM Bugti orders to curb water theft, equitable distribution of canal water

Balochistan Chief Minister (CM) Mir Sarfraz Bugti on Tuesday issued orders to take effective measures to curb water theft and ensure equitable distribution of agricultural water by the canal system in Balochistan including Pat Feeder Canal.

He instructed that a comprehensive feasibility report should be prepared for the reorganization of the to prevent water theft and canal system in the prov-

Mir Sarfraz Bugti, in a meeting held here on Tuesday regarding water shortage and improvement projects in the pit feeder canal and canal system, has directed to take concrete measures regarding the improvement of the water situation in the agricultural areas of the province under

the canal system.

The chief minister said that for the improvement of the canal system, along with long-term projects, urgent measures should be implemented without delay to reduce the difficulties of the people associated with the agricul-

The CM said that strict action should be taken tural water and steps should be taken to resolve the issues.

Balochistan Minister for Irrigation Muhammad Sadiq Ummrani, Adviser to the CM for Women Development Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi, Irrigation Secretary Hafiz Abdul Majid and other relevant officials par-

## **Aurangzeb stresses on** corporate farming for enhanced eco. growth

KARACHI (APP): Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Muhammad Aurangzeb on Tuesday stressed on the corporate farming in collaboration with the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) so that economic growth could be accelerated.

Addressing the Executive Committee of the Pakistan Banks Association (PBA) here at Islamic Chamber of Commerce building, the finance minister also highlighted key ini- with the current situation.

tiatives and discussed the macroeconomic situation in the country

Muhammad Aurangzeb said it was encouraging to see the private sector taking proactive steps in advancing financial and technological infrastruc-

The minister stated that extensive talk has been conducted on the Macro aspect, but moving on the external financing front, the government is comfortable



MUZAFFARABAD: Water flow in the rivers Neelum and Jhelum rising due to recent rains.

## **QCCI** assure for promoting Pak-Indonesia bilateral economic, trade ties

QUETTA (APP): Quetta with President QCCI. Chamber of Commerce and Industry (QCCI), Business Community on Tuesday assured to play their full role for the promotion of bilateral economic and trade relations between Indonesia and Pa-

Charge d'Affaires of the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia to Pakistan, Rahmat Hindiarta Kusuma visited the Quetta Chamber of Commerce and Industry

and addressed the local

Abdullah Achakzai in Quetta Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Charge d'Affaires of

the embassy of the Republic of Indonesia to Pakistan, Rahmat Hindiarta Kusuma invited the business community of Quetta to participate in the 'Indonesian Industrial Exhibition' to be held in Indonesia in the coming October and called their cooperation important for the development of mutual

## Four killed in

mysterious blast

in Sopore, IIOJK MIRPUR-AJK (APP) Four Kashmiris lost their lives in a mysterious blast in Sopore town of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK), on Monday late. According to a report received from across the Line of Control, the blast took place in the Shair Colony area of Sopore, leaving four individuals with severe injuries. They were immediately rushed to a nearby hospital where three of them were defair distribution of agricul- clared dead on arrival. The deceased have been identified as Nazir Ahmad Nadroo, Azam Ashraf Mir both resi-

#### Adil Rashid Bhat. Bilawal pays tributes to Madar-e-Millat

dents of Shair Colony and

KARACHI (APP): Chairman of Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has paid rich tribute to Madar-e-Millat Fatima Jinnah on her

birth anniversary. He praised Madar-e-Millat for her unwavering commitment to democracy and tireless struggle for Pakistan. He lauded her as a beacon of hope and a role model for all Pakistanis.

"Fatima Jinnah's dedication to the principles of freedom, equality, and justice remains an inspiration to us all. Her contributions to our nation, especially her steadfast support for her brother, Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah during the formative years of Pakistan, and battles against dictatorial forces are invaluable," said Bilawal Bhutto Zardari.

#### Nagyi meets Governor KP

SLAMABAD (APP) Minister for Interior Mohsin Naqvi met with Governor Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Faisal Karim Kundi at the Ministry of Interior. During the meeting, matters of mutual interest and the overall law and order situation were discussed. Mohsin Naqvi said that all possible cooperation will be continued for peace and tranquillity in KP. He emphasized that the Frontier Constabulary, Counter-Terrorism Department, and Police in KP are being equipped with modern technology and weapons. He highlighted that KP is on the frontline in the war against terrorism and the brave personnel of KP Police, FC

ISLAMABAD: Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi in a meeting with Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi. NDMA conducts 3rd

#### session of Disaster **Response Committee** ISLAMABAD (APP): chaired by Federal Minis-The National Disaster

Management Authority (NDMA), on instructions of the prime minister, hosted the third meeting of National Disaster Response Committee (DRC) at its headquarters here on Tues-

The meeting focused on reviewing the progress of directives issued during the first DRC meeting and assessing the preparedness of provinces and departments for Monsoon

ter for Planning & Special Initiatives, Prof. Ahsan Iqbal and co-chaired by Chairman NDMA Lt General Inam Haider Malik, PM's Coordinator for Climate Change, Romina Khursheed also participated in the session, a news release said.

The officials from National Emergencies Operations Center (NEOC) provided an overview of the anticipated impacts of the upcoming monsoon season, 4. along with NDMA's pre-The meeting was paredness and plans.

## Ceasefire in Kurram after clashes claim 43 lives

PARACHINAR (APP): Deputy Commissioner Kurram, Javeedullah Khan Mehsud here Tuesday said that ceasefire between the warning tribes were held since Monday night after successful negotiations and the week long deadly clashes has been halted in all restive areas of the dis-

Talking to media here, the Deputy Commissioner said that warning tribes have started vacating trenches and bunkers where security forces including FC were deployed that helped bring clam in the restive areas. 'Since Monday night, no gunfire was reported and overall calm is being prevailed after the week long fighting between support-

ers of Malikhel and Mangal Madaki Kali tribes of Boshehra village broke out on a farmland on July 24 Police said during the

skirmishes a total 43 people were killed and 182 other injured in Kurram which was cut off KP since Wednesday last due to closer Peshawar-Parachinar



QUETTA: Secretary Communication & Works Lal Jan Jaffar presiding over a meeting regarding progress on development projects



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal presided 3rd Meeting of Disaster Response Committee at

### Pakistan hopes next US admin will focus on South Asia peace, resolve Kashmir issue: Masood

NEW YORK (APP): Paki- candidate, former president largely refrained from opin-United States in the November election would pay attention to peace and stability in South Asia, and help resolve the decadesold Kashmir dispute between India and Pakistan, Ambassador Masood Khan has said.

'We have to work with whichever administration is chosen by the people of the United States," Masood Khan, who relinquished his post as ambassador to the US on June 30, was quoted as saying in a Newsweek article on the expectation India and Pakistan have from the presidential rivals—the prenee Vice President Kamala mands."

"While Harris has sumptive Democratic nomi-PM Shehbaz forms high-level

ISLAMABAD (INP):

Prime Minister Shehbaz

Sharif has established a cabi-

net committee dedicated to

resolving the challenges

faced by overseas Paki-

stanis. The committee will

be led by Prime Minister

retary of the Ministry of

Foreign Affairs, the com-

mittee will include Federal

Ministers from several key

departments, including

According to the Sec-

Pakistanis, Education,

Foreign Affairs, Interior, seas Pakistanis.

Shehbaz Sharif himself.

stan hopes that whoever is elected as President of the paigning hard for America's

top job.
Writing under the headline 'India and Pakistan Prepare for Battle Between Harris and Trump', Newsweek Correspondent Tom O'Connor pointed out that in 2020, Ms. Harris, as a US Senator, had weighed in on the fate of Kashmir, after India revoked its special status in 2019. She was then campaigning for Democratic presidential nomination.

'We have to remind Kashmiris that they are not alone in the world," Ms. Harris said at the time. "We are keeping track of the situation. There is a need to in-

Health, Industry and Pro-

tional Coordinator of the

Special Investment Facili-

tation Council (SIFC), the

Governor of the State Bank,

the Executive Director of

Neotech, and the Chairman

of the Higher Education

Commission (HEC) will

also be part of this high-

level committee. This move

aims to streamline efforts

and create effective solu-

tions to improve the wel-

fare and support for over-

Additionally, the Na-

duction, and Trade.

cabinet committee to address

issues of overseas Pakistanis

#### Pakistan has campaigned extensively against New Delhi's 2019 decision, viewing it as a unilateral violation of international law and a provocation in a dispute that has fueled past wars and still occasional border skirmishes between the two nations. 'We were reassured by some of the statements that were made about Kashmir in 2019, and I include

ing on the Kashmir issue

since assuming the vice

presidency, her past re-

marks are widely remem-

bered in Pakistan," the article said. It highlighted that

those of Vice President Ka mala Harris at that time. Masood Khan said. "There was a groundswell of support for the rights of Kashmiris.'

#### 11 die as rains water enter in house's basement at Dara Adamkhel

PESHAWAR (APP): At least 11 people died after rains water has entered in the basement of a house at Dara Adamkhel in Kohat district on Tuesday night.

Police and Rescue 122 spokesman said that the tragic incident occured at the house of Amjad Khan at Barikhel village, trapping 11 people including three women and six children.

All of them died in the heavy rains water. The bodies were retrieved and laid to rest at their ancestral graveyard. The

Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi and Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur have expressed deep condolences with members of the bereaved

#### Pakistan envov emphasises stronger Pak, **UAE** political, economic ties

ABU DHABI (APP): A delegation of the students of Zayed University Abu Dhabi on Tuesday called on Ambassador of Pakistan to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Faisal Niaz Tirmizi at the embassy.

In the meeting, the ambassador praised the vision of the UAE leadership including late Sheikh Zaved Bin Sultan Al Nahyan in transforming the country into an economic and tourism hub, he wrote on his X timeline.

He also recalled Sheikh Zayed's affection with Pakistan and also emphasized the strong political and economic relations between Pakistan and the UAE, reflected through cooperation in multifaceted

#### **Turkish Navy** Ship arrives Karachi for good will visit

KARACHI (INP): Turkish Navy Ship TCG KINALIADA (F-514) on Tuesday arrived Karachi for a good will visit. Paki-stan Navy Ship received the Turkish Ship at sea and later welcomed at Karachi port by senior Pakistan Navy officials along with diplomatic staff of Turkish Consulate. During stay at the port, the Commanding Officer of Turkish Ship will call on Pakistan Navy Field Commanders and other dignitaries to discuss matters

## **Govt moves to block PTI** assembly oath-taking on reserved seats

government is gearing up to prevent Pakistan Tehreeke-Insaf (PTI) assembly members from taking their oaths on reserved seats. with significant legal and legislative moves anticipated. According to media reports, the government plans to introduce a legal draft in the National Assembly aimed at obstructing PTI's assembly oathtaking, even though the first day of the session is typically reserved for private matters. This move could prevent PTI members from taking their oaths despite the Election Commission's notifications.

Assembly members have been instructed to attend today's session, which will see Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq play a crucial role. Sources suggest that this proposed legislation is being labeled as the "first legal bombshell," with more tion Act 2024.

ISLAMABAD (INP): The potential legal and constitutional developments expected. In preparation, the government has implemented stringent security measures for the session, with specific instructions issued to Sergeant at Arms Captain Ashfaq Ashraf to ensure order within and around the Parliament The National Assem-

bly session, scheduled for

5 PM today (Tuesday), will

feature a resolution to han PTI and a new bill to amend the Election Act. As today is designated for private action, government mem-bers will present the resolution against PTI as a private agenda item. Additionally, Member of Assembly Bilal Azhar Kayani will present a private member's bill to amend the Election Act, while Zeib Jafar will introduce the second amendment bill of the Elec-



ISLAMABAD: Secretary General Commonwealth Rt. Hon. Patricia Scotland KC called on Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq at Parlia-

### **Chairman ITNE meets:** We value all endeavours of **ITNE Tribunal made for** protection of rights of media persons: Governor

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail has stated that we realize that majority of the media persons including reporters and cameramen belong to the poor families and several journalists are martyred or injured. In this situation,

hardships. The Governor was speaking to the Chairman Implementation Tribunal Tribunal for Newspapers Employees (ITNE), Shahid ernor about the demands Mehmood Knokhar and senior journalist, Shahzada ing media persons with the Zulfigar, who called him on government institutions.

their whole families suffer

from numerous economic

of the ITNE Tribunal for the protection of rights and life and property of the media persons besides their economic welfare.

He said that we are proud that the media persons associated with the public and private institutions are playing their role of bridge between government and masses besides keeping us aware of the ever changing world and creating sense of responsibilities and rights. The Chairman of the

Tribunal apprised the Gov-On this, the Governor

The Governor said assured to resolve the issues that we value all endeavours remaining within the law.

## Govt. moves forward with 'focused target' for national development, prosperity: Jam

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan on Tuesday said the government was moving forward with a 'focused target' sector-wise to achieve the goals of economic stability, leading to national development and prosperity.

'National economy is gaining stability with each passing day, contrary to the past situation when the business community's LCs

[Letters of Credit] was not being opened," he said while speaking to the me-dia outside the Parliament

He said that, although the common man and the business community were facing difficulties due to certain reasons, including economic instability and the global economic recession, things had started moving in the right direction despite



#### Zarak Khan says: **CM Bugti utilizing** resources to solve problems of publice

Muslim League-Nawaz(PML-N) member of Balochistan Assembly Zarak Khan Mandukhail on Tuesday said that the provincial government under the leadership of Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti was utilizing all available resources to address the

problems of the people.

In his statement issued here, he said that any kind of negligence in this regard would not be tolerated. He said that after the construction of the road connecting Stewart Road and Qawary Road from Officer Club under the Quetta package, accidents were taking place due to lack

of sealing on the drains. The administration immediately placed slabs on

the large pits and drains at the Qawary Road Corner, he said. He said that after the construction of the road connecting Stewart Road and Siraki Road from Officer Club, a big pothole has been left at the corner of Qawary Road due to which accidents were happening every day, while after the construction of the drain, slabs have not been placed on it. The district administration should immediately cover the large pothole at the Oawary Road corner and seal the drains to avoid any untoward incident he said