aenenaent

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Govt, allied parties urge world to

address genocide of Palestinians

Nation to observe day of mourning today to show solidarity with Palestinians; Funeral prayers in absentia after Friday prayer; special resolution in parliament to express solidarity with Palestine

ISLAMABAD (APP): The government allied parties on Thursday decided that the nation would observe a day of Iution in the Parliament to express full solidarity with the

people of Palestine.

ian brothers and sisters.

destroyed the world peace.

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ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairing a consultative meeting of Allied Parties regarding deteriorating situation in Palestine.

Fateha offered for LEAs personnel killed in Gwadar and Pishin:

BA voices concern about protest sit-in in Makran; say people facing hardships

Point of order on non-availability of water in canals of Naseerabad Division; call attention notice by MPA Malik Naeem Bazai on electricity load shedding in Kuchlak

dharna. While on the other

hand, the onions crop is

due to dharna in Makran.

ported in Hangu, Haripur,

Mansehra, Lower Dir,

Charsadda, Mohmand,

The report added that land-

slides were also reported in

four citizens, including a girl,

lost their lives and 7 others

were wounded in separate

and roof collapse after

Lahore was hit by heavy

monsoon rainfalls that

broke a 44-year record on

Meanwhile at least

Abbottabad.

blockage of roads.

pointed out.

28 die as rains batter

several parts of KP, Punjab

24 dead in rain-related incidents across Khyber

Pakhtunkhwa; At least four killed, seven

wounded as rain breaks 44-year record in Lahore

PESHAWAR (INP): At collapses were also re-

cidents in Khyber Bajaur, and Abbottabad.

partially damaged due to incidents of electrocution

Flash floods and house Thursday.

Balochistan Assembly has voiced concern about the protest sit-in being staged in different parts of Makran Division and said that the people are suffering due to the protest.

The members of pro-

vincial assembly including the leader of Opposition, Muhammad Younas Zehri, Rehmat Saleh Baloch and others raised point of order during the session held with Deputy Speaker, Ms. Ghazala Gola in the chair

The Leader of Opposition said that steps should ing water is not available now due to the situation.

least 24 people have been

killed and 17 others injured

in different rain-related in-

Pakhtunkhwa during the

According to the vincial Disaster Manage-

houses were completely damaged while 71 were

rains in Kohat, Peshawar, DI Khan,

Hazara and Malakand divi-

ment Authority,

According to the Pro-

last three days.

be taken for resolving issue of dharna in Makran. He He asked the government to show seriousness towards said that people can't visit the issue their areas due to the

He also pleaded to consider the demands of participants of dharna.

also destroying due to the Speaking on the point of order, the Provincial While the province is Minister for Agriculture, burning, but no one has Ali Madad Jatak said that been taking cognizance of talks are continued with the the situation, the leader of participants of dharna. Opposition regretfully

He said that the MPA elected from Gwadar, The MPA Rehmat Hidayatur Maulana Baloch pointed out that Rehman Baloch has also people are facing hardships gone to Gwadar. He expressed the hope He said that even the drink-

that the issue would be resolved on Wednesday.

Haniyeh's martyrdom in Tehran a flagrant violation of International laws: PM ISLAMABAD (APP):

Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday strongly denounced the attack that led to martyrdom of Ismail Haniyeh, chief of Hamas Political Bureau, in Tehran, terming it a barbaric act that was a flagrant violation of international laws and rules. The extraterritorial assassination, he said, had sparked widespread condemnation across the world including Pakistan, Turkiye, Russia, Iran, China and

strongest words. Ismail Haniyeh's children and grandchildren had also been ruthlessly martyred, he added.

Malaysia which had de-

nounced the attack in the

The prime minister was chairing a meeting on the situation of Palestine which was attended by the parliamentarians representing the government's allied political

Shehbaz Sharif said that the bloodshed in Palestine continued for last nine months claiming lives of many innocent Palestinians everyday. Over 40,000 Palestinians including thousands of children had been martyred till date.

The world is silent over this barbarism," he said. "Such terrorism and extremism is highly condemnable.

The prime minister said Netanyaĥu was out to destroy Palestine. Despite clear verdicts of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) and resolutions of the United Nations, Israel could not be stopped from its barbaric acts.

He expressed gratitude to the countries from the West such as Ireland and Spain who had openly supported the Palestinian cause and its two-state resolution.

prayers. The meeting, which was presided over by Prime PTI vows to form 'grand opposition alliance' against PML-N govt

mourning across the country on August 2 (Friday) in

solidarity with the Palestinian brothers and sisters and to

condemn the Israeli state-sponsored terrorism in Pales-

the deteriorating situation in Palestine, in a joint

declaration, also announced that the funeral prayer

in absentia for Ismail Haniyeh, chief of Hamas Po-

litical Bureau, who was assassinated in Tehran on Wednesday, would be offered by the nation after Friday

A consultative meeting of the allied parties on

Monitoring Desk

ISLAMABAD: As the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) is all set to hold a power show next week, the party's senior leader Asad Qaiser said Thursday that incarcerated party founder Imran Khan gave the nod for forming a "grand oppo-sition alliance" by expanding the existing platform— Tehreek Tahafuz-e-Ayin-e-Pakistan (TTAP).



The participants of the meeting strongly condemned the ongoing Israeli brutalities in Palestine for last nine

They also expressed deep sorrow and grief over the

They were of the view that the Hamas leader's assas-

months, and expressed full solidarity with the Palestin-

sination incident was a conspiracy to sabotage the efforts

to get stopped the ongoing Israeli atrocities on the Pales-

tinians and establish peace in the region. Such incidents

martyrdom of Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh.

GWADAR: Deputy Commissioner Hamood-ur-Rehman leading team of high ups of Police, elites of All Parties to negotiation with leaders of Baloch Yekjehti Committee during their Raji Machi protest

Jaffar Mandokhail chairs 10th meeting of Senate of UoB:

Governor for paying wholehearted attention on financial management and educational discipline to develop public universities

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Goverstressed we have to pay wholehearted atfinancial management and educasector universities on path of sustainable development.

The financial management and education discipline provide the base on which the foundation of sustainable success is laid.

He said that the educational institutions can achieve the targets and obsuccess and quality education by allocating the resources in effective manner and following the rules

present in the meettention on the best ing were included all between ate of the University tional discipline for including Judge of new means of in-Abdullah Baloch, Vice Chancellor of BUITEMS, Professor Dr. Khalid Hafeez, Secretary Education, Hafeez Tahir, senior bureaucrat Abdul Saboor Kakar, Principal Secretary to Gov-Ghilzai, Dr Hafeez Jamali, Finance Department's

> (Retd) Kailash Nath Kohli. The meeting dis-

Justice

Jamote,

solution to the finan-He Governor was cial hardships being nor Balochistan, presiding over the faced by the Univer-Sheikh Jaffar Khan 10th Senate's meet-sity as well as in-Mandokhail has ing here on Thursday. creasing the educa-Those who were tional standard and creating partnership the members of Sen- academia and industry and finding putting the public Balochistan High come. The Governor Court, Mr Justice on the occasion appreciated the services of acting Vice Chancellor Balochistan University, Professor Dr Zahoor Ahmed Bazai and his whole team

> He said that the ernor, Hashim Khan UoB team is doing well, but still we have to move forward.

for the university.

Certain important jectives of long term Habibur Rehman decisions were made in the meeting following the suggestions and recommendations of the participants.



QUETTA: Balochistan Governor Jaffar Khan Mandokhail presides over the 10th Senate session of University of Balochistan.

tional Heritage and Culture

Attaullah Tarar said, as part

of the present government's

reform agenda, the process

of privatization of DISCOs

has been started after an

UAE envoy calls on Defence **Minister**

ISLAMABAD (APP): Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Hamad Obaid Ibrahim Salem Al Zaabi called on Minister for Defence and Defence Production and Aviation Khawaja Muhammad Asif on

Thursday. The Minister lauded the vision and efforts of President and Supreme Commander of UAE Armed Forces, Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al-Nahyan for development and transformation of

UAE, a news release said. Khawaja Muhammad Asif said : "Pakistani Nationals are playing a productive role in various fields for the progress of UAE. Pakistan will continue to extend its support for UAE in civil and defence sectors.'

He expressed that there was a lot potential of cooperation between Armed Forces for enhancement of existing coopera-

Matters pertaining to commercial/civil aviation sector of Pakistan and UAE were also discussed for enhancing scope in aviation sector between

DISCOs has begun: Tarar ISLAMABAD (APP): sector to run the DISCOs Federal Minister for Inforfree from any political inmation, Broadcasting, Na-

terference He said a delegation of MQM Pakistan compris-ing Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui and Mustafa Kamal met Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and matters related to electricity bills and IPP issue were dis-

constructive approach towards resolving national issues and played a positive role in the reforms agenda. He said that he was grateful to the Muttahida Oaumi Movement for raising its voice on this issue.



ISLAMABAD: Provincial Minister for Education Rahila Hameed Khan Durrani in a group photo with Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadio. Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong and others participants on the eve of inaugural ceremony of "she power" project at Chinese Embassy.

Ghazala Gola elected as **Chairperson of BWPC**

UETTA: Inspector General Police Balochistan

Abdul Khaliq Sheikh presenting commemorative

shield to recently transferred IG FC (North)

Independent Report

Chaudhary Ameer Ajmal.

QUETTA: The Deputy Speaker Balochistan Assembly, Ms. Ghazala Gola and Member Provincial Assembly, Ms. Farah Azeem Shah were elected as the Chairperson and General Secretary of Balochistan Women Parliamentary Caucus (BWPC) respectively here on Thurs-

The election of office bearers of BWPC was held in its first sitting in the

committee room of provincial assembly.

According to an official communique shared by the provincial assembly's secretariat, all the office bearers were elected unop-While Ms. Shahid Rauf

was elected as the Vice Chairperson of the Caucus Ms. Salma Kakar and Ms. Hadia Nawaz were elected as the Treasure and Secretary Information respec-

amendment in the State Owned Enterprises Act. Addressing a press concussed. ference along with The minister appreciated the MQM for always Muttahida Qaumi Movement leader Mustafa Kamal showing responsibility and

here Thursday, the information minister said that he pointed out that inefficiency and corruption of DISCOs span over several decades. Therefore, he said it was decided to bring competent and professional

As part of reform agenda,

privatization process of

people from the private Pakistan urges Afghanistan to ensure their land isn't used for terrorist activities

ISLAMABAD (Online): Foreign Office says the latest UN Security Council report endorses Pakistan's view that Afghanistan has hideouts and sanctuaries for terrorist groups including "Fitna al-Khawarij", the banned TTP.

At her weekly news briefing in Islamabad today, Foreign Office Spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch said the report contains the view that the TTP could transform into an extra regional threat as well as umbrella organization of other terror groups

Mumtaz Zahra Baloch urged Afghanistan to take immediate, effective and robust action against the terrorist groups including Fitna al-Khawarij. She said the Afghan side should ensure that their land is not used for terrorist activities inside Pakistan. Referring to the killing of Chief of the Political Bureau of Hamas Ismail Haniyeh in

Tehran, she said targeting individuals inside sovereign states is a violation of interna

tional law and global norms. Such acts carry the seeds of further escalation. both countries.

QUETTA: Provincial Ministers Mir Ali Madad Jattak, Mir Asim Kurd Gailu, Parliamentary Secretaries Mir Liaqat Lehri, Haji Wali Muhammad Noorzai, Sanjay Kumar, Meena Majeed Baloch, Hadia Nawaz Baloch, and MPA Zarak Mandokhail, Farah Azeem Shah, Mir Yunas Aziz Zehri, Mir Rehmat Saleh Baloch, Malik Naeem Khan Bazai, Shehnaz Umrani, Mir Ghulam Dastagir Badini, Mir Zabid Ali Reki, Zafar Agha, Khair Jan Baloch, Dr. Nawaz Kibzai and Kalsoom Niaz Baloch addressing the joint condemning resolution during Balochistan Assembly session.

CS directs secretaries to pay special attention for prompt redressal of complaints OUETTA (APP): Chief

Secretary Balochistan Shakeel Qadir Khan on Thursday directed the secretaries of various departments to pay special attention for prompt redressal of complaints filed by the public on the Pakistan Citizen Portal and on file tracking system in order to resolve the pending or overdue cases without any further delay. A meeting of Secretar-

ies Committee held under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary Balochistan Shakeel Qadir Khan has reviewed important matters including file tracking system IPMS Pakistan Citizen Portal, time restriction in offices and other important issues

Secretaries of all departments including Additional Chief Secretary Development Hafiz Abdul Basit, Senior MBR Qamber Dashti participated in the

Addressing the meeting, Chief Secretary said that Chief Minister Balochistan is all set to introduce attendance system through facial recognition to ensure attendance of employees in provincial departments.

He added that high quality cameras would be installed to capture clear images of employees' faces for

marking attendance. Shakeel Qadir Khan said that the attendance of officers and employees in the provincial offices has been improved but it needs

Daily Soice of Masse Independent

Haniyeh's murder

The shocking assassination of Hamas chief Ismail Haniyeh early on Wednesday in Tehran has plunged the entire Middle East into the unknown, with the threat of a regional conflagration increas-

The Palestinian leader was in Tehran to attend the inauguration of Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian. While Israel has not accepted responsibility for this grievous provocation, there can be little doubt who is responsible. Only a few hours before Haniyeh's killing, the Israelis had bombed a Hezbollah stronghold in Beirut, apparently to target a top commander.

Following Haniyeh's murder, an Israeli minister 'celebrated' this grim achievement on the social media platform X. The Israelis are playing with fire, and their brinkmanship can push the entire region into a catastrophic maelstrom.

With the assassination, Tel Aviv has thrown the gauntlet at Tehran, and it will be very difficult for Iran not to respond to this grave provocation on its soil. Israel has struck one of Iran's closest allies in the heart of the 'axis of resistance'. Tehran needs to conduct a thorough internal investigation to determine just how such a high-profile individual was targeted. This would not be the first time Israel is believed to have struck inside Iran. Top Iranian nuclear scientists and generals have been targeted in similar fashion.

However, whatever the investigation reveals, security was ostensibly lax, and the Iranians should have strengthened their defences considering the string of previous assassinations. Yet retribution is almost certain. The Iranian supreme leader — who has the final say on all major policy decisions — has asserted, with reference to the Haniyeh killing, that it is "our duty to avenge his

Condemnation of the killing has been pouring in from various quarters. Iran's brothers in arms in the 'axis of resistance' — Hezbollah, the Houthis – have slammed the crime, while Russia has dubbed it an "unacceptable political murder". China, on the other hand, has said it is "deeply concerned" while Pakistan has criticised "Israeli adventurism".

The fact that they have been unable to crush Hamas in Gaza over the last nearly 10 months has led Benjamin Netanyahu and his cabal to destabilise the wider Middle East, violating the sovereignty of Syria, Lebanon and Iran. The only way out of this crisis — and the window for peaceful resolution appears to be closing fast — is for an immediate halt to the massacre in Gaza.

Of course, with the Haniyeh assassination, the prospects of a ceasefire appear to have been buried for the foreseeable future. The US can still prevail upon Israel to wind down its murderous campaign. But in an election year, this will be highly unlikely as both contenders compete for the blessings of the Zionist lobby in Washington. The Middle East will surely be on tenterhooks for the next few days.

Raining athletes

ton who still believes

that the Olympic motto

- Together') carries any

Coliseum, albeit with an

increasing number of

been held in white coun-

tries — in Western Eu-

rope, the US, Canada,

and Australia. Four Sum-

mer Games have been

hosted in yellow coun-

tries (all in East Asia),

three have been hosted

in Eastern Europe, and

two in Latin America.

Black Africa has yet to

Olympian George Poage

won two bronze medals

in the St Louis Olympics,

120 years ago. In Berlin

1936, Jesse Owens won

four gold medals. Hitler

chose not to meet

Owens. In 1960, an

Ethiopian Abebe Bikila

(the son of a shepherd)

startled the world by

winning the marathon

longer a badge of nation-

ality, nor gender a divi-

sor of sex. (Some liberal

Parisians were shocked

at the tableau of drag

queens performing a

parody of Leonardo da

Vinci's Last Supper.) One

needed the stamina of an

Olympian to watch the

opening ceremony (it

spanned four hours) un-

til its shimmering finale at

the Eiffel Tower, where

the Canadian chanteuse

Celine Dion sang Edith

Piaf's signature L'Hymne

about 10,500 rain-sodden

Today, colour is no

Tokyo 1964.

The first black

host any Olympics.

The majority of the

pic Team.

F.S. Aijazuddin

The opening ceremony of the 2024 Olympics in Paris was like baking a soufflé in the rain. Even French expertise could not make it rise.

The French, defying convention, decided not to hold the inaugural ceremony in a stadium. They used the ('Faster, Higher, Stronger Seine, its ornate bridges and the iconic Eiffel meaning. The Olympics Tower instead. The remain a white man's French should have consulted the British. In 2012, they ignored the black gladiators. Thames. Rain has ruined many a royal regatta.

A century has passed since Parisians last hosted the Olympics. In 1924, 3,089 athletes took part, of them 2,954 men and 135 women. In 2024, there are 11,040 competitors, half of whom are female.

Athletes compete as countries and also as members of National Olympic Committees. This year, there are 206 such NOCs — an insidious ruse by which the IOC will decide which country to admit and which to punish.

The Olympics imitate the power politics of the UN. In 1964, South Africa was exclu-ded for its apartheid against blacks. In 1972, Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) was excluded for its racist policies. In 2000, Afghanistan was excluded from Sydney for its misogynist policies.

In both 2016 and 2020, the IOC banned Russian athletes from competing under their national flag because of 'doping violations'. In 2024, Russia and Belarus have been banned over the war in Ukraine. How-ever, their athletes can still compete as 'ind-i-vidual neutral athletes', under a neutral

Meanwhile, Nato and its allied countries à l'Amour. In between, suffer no such strictures. Ukraine — their battle-ground — has sent 140 athletes with their sup-porting team officials tesy Dawn

competitors. Israel mired waved national flags in a in Gaza is fielding 88 nautical armada that cruised slowly down the competitors, the State of Palestine eight. Even the Seine. From its banks, stateless have been adviewers were entertained mitted. The IOC has alby Lady Gaga performing lowed 37 athletes to com-Mon Truc en Plumes in a pete as a Refugee Olymflurry of pink ostrich feathers, reminiscent of It would be a simplethe legendary chanteuse

Mistinguett. Other distractions were a frenetic group of Can Can dancers ending with splits, and a team of spirited dancers splashing mindlessly (like the cast of Friends) in a foun-

Frankly, some of the Summer Olympics have images were horrific multiple ones of a de--ca-pitated Queen Marie Antoinette framed in the windows of a public building, or famous po-rtraits half-submerged in the Seine. The surrealist artist Salvador Dali would have loved these.

To be fair, there is only so much you can do with a river of flowing water, just as a Son et Lumière using the flatfaced pyramids at Giza offers limited options.

Pakistan's lean participation in the Olympics is a triumph of private endeavour over public neglect. In 1960, 1968, and 1984, we won the gold in hockey. For the past three Olympics, we failed even to qualify. As in our poli-(running barefoot). He tics, we no longer play repeated his success in team sports.

This year we have sent seven self-motivated athletes to Paris. The talented javelin thrower Arshad Nadeem (27); the sprinter Faiqa Riaz (24); sharpshooters G.M. Bashir (37), Gulfam Joseph (24), and Kishmala Ta--lat (22); and two minnow swimmers Jeha-nara Nabi (20) and Ahmed Durrani (18). They are old enough to compete, and young enough to succeed in future Olympics.

They owe nothing to the state. Over 245 million Pakistanis owe everything to them — for loving our country, despite what it is. -- Cour-

Parallel tracks

Syed Sheheryar Raza Zaidi

A highly polarised nation is in the throes of one of its most divisive election campaigns. One candidate is on the wrong side of 70 and the other is backed by the incumbent in power. The candidate mentioned first has not only recently survived an assassination attempt, he has also been convicted on charges of a personal nature that he denies. Yet, most signs point to a victory for this candidate, who has already had one crack at power. At the same time, he is the one who many observers believe caused irreparable damage to his country's international relations when he

The irony is that this description of the maverick American presidential candidate Donald Trump can very easily apply to Pakistan's former prime minister Imran Khan. The two men, despite being geographically apart, seem to be on

similar trajectories.

was in power.

When Imran Khan was in power, he and then president Trump had a public spat on the online platform Twitter. Back then, it appeared that Pakistan would be headed in the direction of fractured relations with the US as long as these two men were at the helm of affairs. Yet, we soon saw Trump and Khan give a display of public bonhomie, with the latter visiting the US at the invitation of the former and coming back to loud fanfare, reminiscent of the time when he had lifted cricket's holy grail.

Those were the good old days as far as the two were concerned. Since then, one of them lost a hotly contested first lost a no-confi- worthy opponent are - Courtesy Dawn

dence vote, leading to his ouster, and then lost' a disputed elecspread public adulation for him. What stuck on both Trump and Khan, however, was the 'antiestablishment' tag largely because both individuals have had a hard time accepting their fate and continue to challenge established calling into question national elections.

almost meteoric rise. Running on the back of his notorious television appeal and the fanfare following of individuals ready to back him despite all odds, forgive him for the gravest of gaffes and overlook all his faults. All because Trump has carefully cultivated an image of himself as the only saviour who can make his nation great again. Compare this with the high regard that the supporters of Imran Khan hold the PTI leader in. An icon for his supporters, Khan may have enjoyed excellent relations with those at the helm of affairs once, but now stands for all things anti-

establishment. As fate would have both found themselves facing various dates in courts, having to defend themselves against charges of misuse of authority, mishandling of state documents/ secrets among others. While legal challenges for opposition leaders is not a new phenomenon in Pakistan, as far as the US is concerned, the barrage of legal challenges faced by Trump is unprecedented. Whether power remains to be such charges have any election to President Joe basis in reality or are an are here to stay is not Biden, while the other attempt to undermine a for argument anymore.

questions best left to the courts to answer.

Yet, what sets tion, despite the wide- Trump, the presidential candidate apart from Pakistan's incarcerated former prime minister notwithstanding the recent favourable court decisions in the latter's case — is his ability to still have his skin in the game. For all of the alleged lobbies in norms, even if it means America working overtime against Donald Trump, the former presi-Donald Trump at dent enj-oys the backthe time of his ascent to ing of a lopsided supower had witnessed an preme court, which has re-cently ruled in favour of a partial immunity for former US presidents in matters associated with it, he related to the exercise built an almost cult-like of their professional duties while in office. who even today are As such, despite being convicted on charges by a court in New York state, Trump is still legally empowered to run for presi-

A lot can be said about the justice system in the US and Pakistan and how Pakistan often finds itself having to face a lot of bad press for the supposedly ineffective way its courts operate. Nothing quite amplifies this like the fate of the two leaders in Pakistan and

One despite being convicted finds himself free to conduct his electioneering, appear on television, take part in debates and ride high on the back of the inflation-hit incumbency of the Democrat presi-

The other finds himself incarcerated for convictions and allegations, kept so far away from the public's eye that he now captures their imagination.

Whether the two men can come back to seen, but that their ideas

Commerce News

Pakistan's huge potential to join G-20 countries: Dar

and Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar said on Wednesday that Pakistan has huge potential to join G-20 countries through structural reforms in the country's economy.

The government is structural reforms in the country's economy by capital market and corporate sector regulation for sustainable economic

this while addressing the Breaking Ground Ceremony of the Head

(SECP), along with Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb the corporate sector.

Commission of Pakistan development, he said. journey for evolving
Foreign Minister capital market and
Mohammad Ishaq Dar said corporate sector reforms in corporate sector reforms in achievement. the economy from 2013 to 2017 in the country.

He said that SECP 's

ISLAMABAD (APP): Office Building of the Deputy Prime Minister Securities and Exchange team in 2013 fully and Foreign Minister Commission of Pakistan supported the government. vision and executed the government reform vision for SECP and regulation of

here. Deputy Prime Ishaq Dar said that in Minister said today is a very special day on the of PML-N, "We have had Ishaq Dar said that in fully committed to occasion of laying the a huge challenge and foundation stone of resistance faced for Security and Exchange establishing an integrated Pakistan Stock Exchange (SECP) "I still remember (PSX) in the country and that, "We have a huge the government was successful and established the PSX which was a huge

He said that after the new integrated stock exchange

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar delivering remarks at the Ground Breaking Ceremony of the Head Office Building of the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan.

were also present.

being

private sector is being fully

supported and facilitated.

discussion was held on data

localisation, and the

participants also gave

taken

K-Electric RE Projects garner local, Int'l interest

ISLAMABAD (APP): K-Electric (KE) completed another significant milestone earlier this year following in its ambitions to enhance its share of renewable approval from NEPRA. energy in its generation mix, envisaged under the company's Power Acquisition Program (PAP). The company announced the receipt of a total of 15 bids for the first of its ambitious renewable energy initiatives of 150 MW solar projects at Winder and Bela, Balochistan, said a press

Aimed at harnessing 30% renewable energy solutions in its fleet by 2030, KE initiated a solar energy project is a huge competitive bidding milestone for KE.

release issued on Thursday.

process for multiple renewable energy projects a successful nod of

This transparent approach is a testament to KE's commitment towards sustainable energy solutions. Over the next 5 years, KE aims to add a total of 1300 MW of renewable energy projects, furthering its commitment to sustainable energy solutions. Syed Moonis Alvi, CEO of KE, expressed his enthusiasm about this development, stating, "Garnering 15 bids

for the first cohort of the

Pak total liquid foreign reserves \$14.39b

KARACHI (APP): The total liquid foreign reserves of Pakistan increased to US\$ 14,391.7 million as of July 26, 2024 while the reserves held by the central bank were recorded as \$ 9,102.2 million.

The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP), in a statement issued here on Thursday, informed that its liquid foreign reserves increased by \$ 75 million to reach \$ 9,102.2 million during the week ended on July 26, 2024.

Meanwhile, foreign reserves held by commercial banks were recorded as \$ 5,289.5 million during the week

of IT on Thursday. Managing Director recommendations regarding Asia Internet Coalition data hosting and data (AIC) Jeff Paine, Google sensitivity. PQEPC briefs Aurangzeb on company's working,

Data regulation,

cybersecurity topmost

priorities: Shaza Fatima

ISLAMABAD (Online):

Minister of State for IT and

Telecommunication Shaza

Fatima Khawaja said that

data regulation and

cybersecurity are the

topmost priorities of the

is committed for the

growth of IT sector, as

taking IT exports up to \$25

Roundtable on Open Data

Flows & Pakistan's Digital

Economy held at Ministry

She was addressing

present government.

billion is our target.

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb, and Minister for Power Sardar Awais Ahmad Khan Leghari on Thursday held a meeting with the delegation of Port Qasim Electric Power Company (PQEPC) which was led by CEO Liang. The delegation briefed the minister about the operations of the power company and

certain issues it faced due

to overdue receivables, a

news release said

confronted issues It said that Power-China was a major stateowned Chinese enterprise and key investor in Pakistan's energy market. The company would continue to work with the Government of Pakistan and play its role in the improvement of power sector. The finance minister welcomed the suggestions made by the delegation and stated that Pakistan acknowledged and appreciated the investment made by POEPC China.

Gold rates up by Rs.1,400 per tola to Rs.254,900 ISLAMABAD (APP):

and Meta representatives The price of per tola of 24 attended the Roundtable karat gold increased by session.Convener Digital Rs.1,400 and was sold at Pakistan Committee Tania Rs. 254,900 on Thursday Aidirus and Secretary IT against its sale at Rs. 253,500 on last trading day. Aisha Humera Chaudhry The price of 10 grams of 24 Shaza Fatima said that karat gold also increased by She said that on the directives of the Ministry of IT & Telecom Prime Minister of Pakistan, on the directives of the Rs. 1,201 to Rs. 218,536 from Rs. 217,335 whereas that of 10 gram 22 karat gold went up to Rs. 200324 from Rs. 199,224, the All Sindh She said that steps are Jewellers Sarafa transforming Pakistan into Association reported. Digital Economy.Detailed

The price of per tola and ten gram silver remained stagnant at Rs2,900 and Rs.2,486.28 respectively.

SCCI president visits BFC

SIALKOT (APP): Sialko Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) President Abdul Ghafoor Malik with a three-member delegation visited the Business Facilitation Centre (BFC) and reviewed facilities on

Thursday. On this occasion, Ghafoor Malik expressed satisfaction over the issuance of NOCs to the business community from the BFC. He said the business community was getting benefits from the BFC, adding that the objective of the BFC was to provide services under one roof to businessmen.

Ambassador of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to Pakistan, Jemal Beker Abdula on Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb.

to strengthen bilateral

relations and explore new

collaborations in trade,

finance, education and

acknowledging the mutual

benefits that could be

derived from such initiatives.

According to press release

issued by finance ministry,

reforms,

economic

extended a warm welcome to Ambassador Abdula and provided an overview of

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan. These reforms are part of a broader homegrown agenda aimed at achieving economic stability. The Minister highlighted recent positive developments, including improvements in foreign exchange reserves, stateowned enterprise (SOE) reforms, and advancements in the power sector.

International Rating agencies have started acknowledging economic stability as a result of government's economic decisions, he said adding country's economic The Finance Minister outlook has improved as confirmed by recent Fitch reports and now government aims at the economic reforms achieving economic currently underway in sustainability.



Pak, Ethiopia agree

to foster deeper ties

HYDERABAD: Motorcyclists queue up at PSO, ready to fill their tanks and hit the road with newfound savings after the fuel price drop by

CPI inflation decelerates further to 11.1% in July ISLAMABAD (APP):

during the month of July 2024 as compared to 12.6 percent recorded during June 2024, Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) reported Thursday.

According to PBS data, the CPI based inflation during the same month of last year (July 2023) was recorded at 28.3%

basis, it increased to 2.1% in July 2024 as compared to an increase of 0.5% in the previous month and an increase of 3.5% in July

According to data, The Consumer Price Index CPI inflation Urban, (CPI)-based inflation increased to 13.2% on decelerated to 11.1 percent year-on-year basis in July 2024 as compared to an increase of 14.9% in the previous month and 26.3% in July 2023. On monthon-month basis, it increased to 2.0% in July 2024 as compared to an increase of 0.6% in the previous month and an increase of 3.6% in July

CPI inflation Rural, On month-on-month increased to 8.1% on yearon-year basis in July 2024 as compared to an increase of 9.3% in the previous month and 31.3% in July 2023. On month-on-month basi, it increased to 2.2%.



Committee on Monitoring Sugar Export was presided over by Federal Minister for Industries and Production, Rana Tanveer Hussain.

Syed Najmi Alam says Livestock deptt should take all possible steps to timely vaccinate animals of cattle owners of Sindh

Independent Report KARACHI: Advisor to Mastoi, Director Marine Chief Minister of Sindh on Livestock and Fisheries Syed Najmi Alam has said that the raiding team conducts raids twice a month through its campaign to catch illegal nets from all the coastal areas of Sindh. However, the Livestock Department should take all possible steps to timely vaccinate the animals of

office on Thursday. In meeting Secretary Livestock and Fisheries Dr. Kazim Hussain Jatoi, Direc-

cattle owners of Sindh. He

expressed this while pre-

siding over two separate

high-level meetings of the

Marine Fisheries and Live-

stock Department in his

Dr. Asim Karim, Director Red Farm Khaliq Ahmad Soomro, Director Coastal Fisheries Ijaz Ahmed Memon, Managing Director Karachi Fish Harbor Safdar Hussain Rizvi, Director General Livestock Sindh Dr. Hizbullah Bhutto, Director General of Sindh Institute of Animal Health Dr. Nazir Hussain Kalhoro, Director General Poultry Production Dr. Manoor Hussain Rana. Director Livestock Animal Breeding Dr. Naubat Khan Khoso, Director Central Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (CVDL) Tando Jam Dr. Madan Lal, Director Poultry Dr. Kabir Ahmed



FAISALABAD: People are carrying coffin of stage actor late Sardar Kamal after offering funeral prayers in the city.

22 brands of mineral water declared harmful for human consumption

Independent Report KARACHI: As many as 22 brands of mineral water have been declared harmful for human consumption. Among the mineral waters which have been declared harmful for human consumption are Fiji, BRO -H 20, Koh Noor, Rayaal Silver, Smart, Aqua Qismat, Asha Premium, Drinking Water, Buxton, Cliff Water, Health Drinking Water, Crystal Pure Life, Dream Pure, Neo Health Drinking Water, Oriel, Faraz Water,

Water, Splash Water, Still. Starlite Water, Vivo Water Plus Premium Drinking and Masafi. Director General Sindh Food Authority Muzamil Halepoto has directed the management of the said mineral water to withdraw their products from the market within seven days. He said that action would be taken under the Sindh Food Authority Act against those who didn't follow the orders of Sindh Food Authority. He said that no one would be allowed to play with the health Premium Safa, Pure Refined Water, Smart Indus Pure of the people.



PESHAWAR: Opposition members and MPAs KPAssembly are participating in the dinner hosted by

Governor KP expresses concern over worsen law and order situation, developmental schemes in province

alert during rains: Bharth

LAHORE (APP): The various parts of the city

Punjab government has put and inspected the water

members

Pakhtunkhwa, Karim Kundi has expressed concern over the worsening law and order situation and neglected developmental schemes in the province.

Friday August 02, 2024

The Governor hosted dinner in honor of the opposition members of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly at the Governor's House on Vednesday night. The dinner was

3 people die,

seven injured

in rain-related

incidents

LAHORE (APP): Heavy

rain in several parts of the

provincial capital on

Thursday resulted in loss

of three lives and injuries

Rescue-1122 spokesman,

the roof of a house in a

suburban village near Baba

Bulleh Shah Interchange at

collapsed, which resulted

in one death and injuries to

collapsed at Shaukat

Khanum Chowk, in which

two people suffered

According to a

to seven people.

Gajjumata

five people.

Another

Leader of the Opposition in the Khyber in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly, Parliamentary leader of PPP Ahmed Karim Kundi, Arbab Usman of ANP, Malik Tariq Awan of PML-N, Rehana Ismail of JUI-F and others. During the event, the

including Dr. Ibadullah,

opposition

discussions focused on the current political, economic, and law and order situation C&W staff put on high

all the field formation of

Communication and Works

(C&W) Department on

high alert during the rains

with an aim to avert any

difficult situation by storm

water. The engineering and

field staff under the

supervision of executive

engineers remained in the

field while visiting the

important roads, public

buildings, particularly

hospitals in Lahore and

Communication and Works

The Minister for

across the province.

The Opposition members expressed grave concerns over the deteriorating security situation in the province, highlighting the recent incidents of terrorism, extortion, kidnapping for ransom, and general unrest

in Bannu, Dera Ismail Khan and the merged district of Kurram Parachinar. They voiced their disappointment that

disposal operations. He

issued instructions to the

officers of C & W to visit

province specifically of

Lahore and check their

rooftop, emergencies and

wards to estimate the

affected portions of the

buildings. Moreover, the

minister directed the staff

to ensure the timely repair

of affected portions of

officers to submit their

detailed reports in regard

He also directed

hospitals of the

current administration for failing to include any projects for the province in the Public Sector Development Programme (PSDP). They pledged that in the future, all political parties in the province would collaborate to prepare and present projects for the PSDP ensuring their approval by the provincial government the federal government.

Kundi expresses condolence over demise of people due to rains

They criticized the

PESHAWAR Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Faisal Karim Kundi on Thursday expressed deep sorrow over the loss of lives and property caused by recent rains in the province.

Governor The conveyed profound grief over the loss of 24 precious lives due to the rains and floods. He extended heartfelt condolences and sympathy to the families of the deceased. Governor Kundi prayed for the departed souls, patience and strength for the

Minister welcomes WHO collaboration on health initiatives

AHORE (APP): Puniab Health Minister Khawaja Salman Rafique has the prevalence of hepatitis expressed gratitude for the in Punjab. "Teamwork is ongoing collaboration with the World Health outcomes from our policies, various health projects.

these remarks during a meeting with a WHO delegation at the Pakistan Kidney and Liver Institute province. (PKLI) on Thursday.

Highlighting provincial government's commitment to enhancing healthcare services, the minister stated, "Under the leadership of Punjab Chief Sharif, we are striving to provide better health facilities to the people." He emphasized that raising Health Department.

public awareness is crucial for significantly reducing Organisation (WHO) on and improving the health system is our top priority, The minister made he added. He also se remarks during a mentioned that the scope of hepatitis screening has been expanded throughout the

He noted the growing challenge of controlling Pakistan's population and stressed the importance of intensifying screenings for Hepatitis B and C. Dr. Meg Darthy, HIV Global Minister Maryam Nawaz Director from WHO, reaffirmed organization's commitment

to supporting the Punjab



PESHAWAR: UNICEF Chief Field Officer Mr. Radolslaw Rzehak giving shield to a participant during the Launching ceremony of Global Breastfeeding Month at a local hotel in Provincial

CS inspects drainage work during heavy rain

LAHORE (APP): During the heavy rainfall, Chief Secretary Punjab Zahid Akhtar Zaman visited different areas of the city including Services Hospital, Lakshmi Chowk, Qartaba Chowk and reviewed arrangements for draining rainwater.

At Services Hospital, chief secretary inspected the emergency and other wards and issued necessary instructions for immediate drainage of rainwater. He directed the Managing Director of

of water from the hospital. He also inspected the situation caused by the downpour on Lakshmi Chowk, Qartaba Chowk, Railway Road, Circular Road and other major points. He directed that special measures should be taken for smooth flow of traffic during the rains. He asked the administrative officers to remain in the

field and check the underpasses and disposal stations. He said that the relevant departments should be on alert to deal WASA to install more with any situation due to pumps for early disposal rain. Commissioner Lahore.

International News

Sohaib Ahmad Bharth, with effects of rain to the

after Thursday rain, visited public buildings.

Calls for revenge at Iran funeral | for Hamas chief Haniyeh

Monitoring Desk TEHRAN: Iran held funeral processions on Thursday amidst calls for revenge after the killing of Hamas political chief Ismail

Haniyeh in a strike in

Tehran blamed on Israel. Islamic Republic's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei led prayers for Haniyeh ahead of his burial in Qatar, having earlier threatened a 'harsh punishment" for his killing. În Tehran's city centre, thousands of mourning crowds carrying posters of Haniyeh and Palestinian flags gathered for the ceremony at Tehran University before a procession, according to an AFP corre-

spondent. announced the day before by Iran's Revolutionary Guards, who said he and his bodyguard were killed in a strike on their accommodation in the Iranian capital at 2am on Wednesday. It came just hours af-

Fuad Shukr in a retaliatory strike on the Lebanese capital Beirut, sending fears of estine" a wider regional conflict soaring in the fallout from the Israel-Hamas conflict in Gaza. Israel has declined to

Iran's state TV Haniyeh and his bodyguards covered in Palestinian flags during the ceremony attended by senior Iranian officials. President Masoud Pezeshkian and Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps chief, General Hossein Salami, were

Haniyeh had been vis-Tehran for Haniyeh's death was Pezeshkian's inauguration crowds. ceremony on Tuesday.

Senior Hamas figure Khalil al-Hayya, the movement's foreign relations chief, vowed during the funeral ceremony that "Ismail Haniyeh's slogan, 'We will not recognise Ister Israel targeted and killed rael', will remain an immor-

top Hezbollah commander tal slogan" and "we will pursue Israel until it is uprooted from the land of Pal-

Iran's conservative parliamentary speaker Mohammad Ghalibaf said Iran "will cercomment on the Tehran tainly carry out the supreme leader's order [to avenge Haniyeh]". "It is our showed the coffins of duty to respond at the right time and in the right place, he said in a speech with crowds chanting "Death to Israel, Death to America!"

The caskets, with a black-and-white pattern resembling a Palestinian keffiyeh scarf, were borne on a flower-bedecked truck through leafy streets where cooling water mists sprayed the flag-waving

Khamenei, who has the final say in Iran's political affairs, said after Haniyeh's death that it was "our duty to seek revenge for his blood as he was martyred in the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran"

Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei performs prayer at the funeral of assassinated Hamas chief, Ismail Haniveh, in Tehran, Iran.

South Korea offers humanitarian aid to flood-hit North Korea

Monitoring Desk SEOUL: South Korea on Thursday offered to send aid supplies to North Korea to help the country recover from heavy rains and floods that submerged thousands of homes and huge

swaths of farmland. It's unclear whether North Korea would accept South Korea's proposal for help. Animosity between the war-divided rivals is at its highest in years over the North's growing nuclear ambitions and the South's

United States and Japan to counter the North's threats. South Korea's Unification Ministry, which handles inter-Korean affairs, said the South was

willing to swiftly provide supplies to address the "humanitarian difficulties" facing North Korean residents following the recent storms. The ministry in a statement urged North Korea's Red Cross to promptly respond to its calls for discussions to determine the types and amounts of South expansion of combined military exercises with the Korean supplies and how to deliver them.

Khaled Meshaal, who survived Israeli assassination attempt, tipped to succeed Haniyeh

Monitoring Desk CAIRO: Khaled Meshaal, tipped to be the new

Hamas leader, became known around the world in 1997 after Israeli agents injected him with poison in a botched assassination attempt on a street outside his office in Amman, the Jordanian capital. The hit against a senior figure of the Palestinian group, ordered by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, so enraged then-King Jordan's Hussein that he spoke of

hanging the would-be killers and scrapping Jordan's peace treaty with Israel unless the antidote was handed over. Israel did so, and also agreed to free Hamas leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, only to assassinate him seven years later in Gaza. Meshaal, 68, became Hamas's political leader in exile the year before Israel tried to eliminate him, a position that enabled him to represent the Palestinian group at meetings with governments around the world.

Israeli strike kills two Al Jazeera journalists **Monitoring Desk**

DOHA: Two Al Jazeera journalists were killed on Wednesday in an Israeli strike in Gaza, the Qatarbased channel reported as the crisis rages in the Palestinian territory.

'Al Jazeera Arabic journalist Ismail Al Ghoul and his cameraman Rami Al Refee have been killed in an Israeli attack on the Gaza Strip," the network reported adding the strike "targeted a car near the Aidia area, west of Gaza City"

UN gravely concerned over Israeli attack on Beirut

Monitoring Desk NEW YORK: The UN expressed "grave concern" on Tuesday over an Israeli strike on a densely populated suburb of the Lebanese capital Beirut that killed at least three people and injured 74 others. "As we await further clarity on the circumstances, we again urge the parties to exercise maximum restraint and call on all concerned to avoid any further escalation,' Stephane Dujarric, the spokesman for the UN Secretary-General, said in a statement. "All parties must comply with their obligations under international law.

Trump attacks Harris' racial identity, says she opted to 'turn Black'

Monitoring Desk Trump suggested on Wednesday that Vice President Kamala Harris had decided to "turn Black" for political gain, as he attacked his Democratic White

House rival during a combative interaction with African American journalists in Chicago. The Republican former president's inflammatory comments marked an escalation of the 78-

year-old's vitriol against Harris, whom he falsely accused of having identified as Indian but then, "all of a sudden, she made a turn, and she became a Black person"

Harris, 59, has long identified as Black and graduated from a historically Black university. 'So I don't know, is

she Indian or is she Black?"

Journalists conference. Harris later denounced the attacks as "the same old

show" of "the divisiveness and the disrespect" from The combative re-

marks by Trump, who has been eager to improve his performance with Black voters, are likely to send shockwaves through the 2024 White House contest.

They come as the former president, convicted two months ago of felony fraud related to hush money payments to a porn star, struggles to formulate a new strategy less than 100 days before the election.

Later on Wednesday, he held a campaign rally in Pennsylvania, a battleground state where he narrowly survived an assassination attempt earlier this asked Trump during a month, and continued the heated interview at the Na-

Palestinians detained by Israel subjected to 'torture', says UN

GENEVA: Palestinians detained by Israel during the Gaza conflict have largely been held in secret and in some cases subjected to

Monitoring Desk

treatment that may amount to torture, the United Nations said on Wednesday. Since the October 7 Hamas attacks, thousands of Palestinians — including medics, patients, residents and captured fighters —

have been taken from Gaza to Israel, "usually shackled and blindfolded", the OHCHR UN human rights office said in a report. Thousands more have been detained in the West Bank and Israel, it added.

'They have generally been held in secret, without being given a reason for their detention, access to a lawyer or effective judicial review," OHCHR said.

The report was released the day after Israel's military police questioned

soldiers arrested on suspicion of sexually abusing a Palestinian detainee. At least 53 detainees from Gaza and the West Bank have died in Israeli detention since the Gaza conflict began, the report found.

Testimonies for the report suggested that Israel had subjected prisoners to "a range of appalling acts, such as waterboarding and the release of dogs on detainees", UN rights chief Volker Turk said. The report covers Oc-

tober 7 to June 30. It relies primarily on information gathered through interviews with released Palestinian detainees and other victims and witnesses of violations, OHCHR said. The report said there were "reasonable grounds to believe" that since October 7, Israel and Palestinian armed groups had "committed gross violations and

Protesters in Nigeria demonstrate over high cost of living

Monitoring Desk ABUJA: Police fired tear gas to disperse crowds of protesters in Nigeria's capital city Abuja on Thursday, as thousands rallied against escalating cost of living and governance issues in Africa's most populous nation, according to eyewitness accounts.

Protesters demonstrated in Abuja, the commercial capital Lagos and several other cities to show discontent with economic reforms that have led to rampant inflation and inflicted increasing hardship on ordinary Nigerians. President Bola Tinubu has vowed to pursue the changes that he says are needed to keep the country afloat.

Authorities deployed armed security personnel in an effort to preempt potential violence

In Lagos, armed police watched as protesters marched towards the government house and then proceeded to two locations that were authorised for the protest

Some shopping malls in the city were shut and guarded by a heavy police presence.

Inspired by protests in Kenya in June that led to the government there scrapping some planned tax increases, Nigerians are mobilizing online to demand the reinstatement of subsidies for petrol and electricity, free primary and secondary education and measures to combat insecurity, among other demands

In Abuja, the military mounted roadblocks along the highway leading into town, while some protesters gathered at a stadium.

Ukraine receives first F-16 fighter jets to bolster defenses against Russia, officials tell AP **Monitoring Desk**

NEW YORK: Ukraine has received the first F-16 fighter jets that it has sought for months to fight back against an onslaught of Russian missile strikes, a U.S. official confirmed to The Associated Press.

A Ukrainian lawmaker also confirmed Ukraine had received a small number of F-16 fighter jets. The two officials spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not permitted to speak on the subject publicly. Ukraine has been pushing its Western allies for F-16s for Ukraine for months, saying they were critically needed to fight back against the onslaught of missiles Russia has fired against it. The F-16 is specialized in suppressing enemv air defenses

SOS Village sets great example regarding saving bright future of orphan children: Governor

Independent Report QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan. Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail has stated that the SOS Village has set great example regarding saving bright future of the orphan children.

In this regard, it would be an injustice not to mention the former Senator Khursheed Roshan Bharucha and her whom

He said that selection of a student from the SOS Village is an honour for all

The Governor was speaking to the former Senator and renowned social worker Mrs Roshan Khursheed Bharucha who

Governor House on Thurs-

social services of Mrs Khursheed Bharucha and said that it is a matter of pride that SOS ample for saving the bright future of the children who are deprived of the motherhood of mothers and kindness of the fathers.

He urged the philanthropists to take wholehearted part in the support of deserving children.

Meanwhile, he highly Sakina who has been selected for the American



QUETTA: Chairperson SOS Village and Former Senator Roshan Khursheed Barucha meeting with Balochistan Governor Jaffar Khan Mandokhail at Governor House. Sakina Khan, a student from SOS Village, selected for USAID scholarship for the first time are also present.

Pakistan condemns Israel's adventurism; calls for holding Haniyeh's killers to account

kistan on Thursday condemned continuing adventurism in the region and its aggression against Lebanon with its strikes of July 30, calling for holding to account the killers of Ismail Haniyeh, the Chief of the Political Bureau of Hamas in Tehran.

'Targeting individuals inside sovereign states is a violation of international law and global norms. Such acts carry the seeds of further escalation. It is yet another demonstration of indiscriminate and disproportionate Israeli aggression that has continued unabated to the detriment of regional and global peace and secuspokesperson Mumtaz peace.

weekly press briefing. Calling Israel's military aggression in Beirut a grievous infringement" on Lebanon's sovereignty and the blatant violation of international law and the United Nations Charter,

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pa- in solidarity with the people of Lebanon and reaffirmed its support for their right to live in peace and security and to enjoy their sovereignty.

"Israel must be held accountable for its transgressions and actions. Ísrael's extraterritorial acts have endangered regional security. The backers of Israel should prevail on Israel to end its unlawful military operations in violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of countries in the region," she said.

The spokesperson said the assassination of Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran on Wednesday was an act of dangerous escalation in an already volatile region and Foreign Office undermined efforts for

> dolences to his family and the Palestinian people. His killers must be held to ac-

count," she added.

She said that since October 2023, Israel had unleashed a campaign of terror against the Palestin-



QUETTA: Container has been placed since 4 days in redzone area while commuters are facing inconvenience due to blocked of road in Quetta.

Govt negotiators have no answer to our questions: Hafiz

ISLAMABAD (INP): Jamaat-e-Islami Ameer Hafiz Naeem has said that the government negotiators have no answer to our questions. Talking to media Hafiz Naeem ur Rehman said the government should receive the price of the electricity not additional taxes. 'The people are paying price of the contracts made by the government". "We have asked them to show us the agreements with the

IPPs", he said. "We will not

lift the burden of the incom-

petence of the government,"
JI leader said. "The rulers

ries, free petrol and free elec-tricity," JI chief demanded. "If anyone want to

drive car, run his own private car. The nation will not pay for carrying your children to school and shopping of your wife," he said. Hafiz Naeem said.

they have hiked their administrative expenses by 25 percent while the salaried class being overburdened which has already paid billions in taxes

"Taxes not being imposed over the feudal. They don't pay sugarcane price to farmer and mint money should surrender their luxu- by creating sugar crisis.



A high level delegation of Chinese experts calls on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif in

PM Sharif vows to revamp Pakistan's economy by emulating Chinese model

Minister Muhammad Sharif on Thursday pledged to revamp Pakistan's economy by emulating China's model, with the objective of achieving similar economic success on a smaller scale. Speaking to a 12-member Chinese delegation led by Wang Fukang, the prime minister said that during his recent visit to China, he requested President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Li Qiang to send experts to Pakistan. "The goal is to model Pakistan's economy after China's. Today, these experts are here. and we're confident that progress will follow soon.'

Welcoming the delegation by emphasizing that China and Pakistan were eternal friends, with a friendship that knew no bounds, he emphasized that industrial cooperation was crucial at this time and expressed hope that it could be shifted to Pakistan. He believes that joint ventures and cooperation would cre-

industrial ventures

PR announces fare reduction for passenger trains

LAHORE (APP): Pakistan Railways on Thursday notified to reduce fares for all classes of passenger trains across the country with effect from August 3, Satur-

According to the noti fication, Rs 100 to 150 have been reduced for AC class ticket while Rs 50 cut for economy class.

DC Lasbela visits rain-affect areas, directs safety measures

HUB (APP): Deputy Commissioner Lasbela, Humira Baloch along with the Irrigation SDO, Malik Ashraf here on Thursday visited various areas in the district that have been affected by the recent rains.

According to DC Office, the Deputy Commissioner inspected areas near the Mithi River including the water levels near the Main RCD Abu Hotel

She also observed laces where water leakage had occurred due to the rainfall or the opening of

dam spillways. The DC instructed the Highway and Motorway Police to install cones and signboards at such locations to guide the travelers.

Former Info Secretary **Ismail Patel** passes away

KĀRACHI (APP): Ismail Patel, a former Information Secretary who served in senior government positions, passed away in Karachi on Thursday after prolonged illness. He was 74. Patel was buried in a graveyard of the Defence Housing Society.
He leaves behind his

wife, Anjum and a brother, Ibrahim, to mourn.

Patel, who was from the first CSS batch of the Information Service.

UAE to take action against Pakistanis spreading propaganda against politicians, institutions

United Arab Emirates has warned that Pakistanis in the Gulf state that if they are found to be involved in spreading propaganda against their country, institutions, or politicians, they

would net get visas for the eral. oil-rich countries. Bakheet Ateeq al-Remeithi, the consul general of the UAE in Karachi, has asked the Pakistanis to refrain from spreading propaganda, saying that those

living or visiting the Gulf

nation were noticed on so-

were arrested and sentenced

More than five Pakistanis were sentenced to life imprisonment while most of them were deported, said the consul gen-

"They should avoid sharing or forwarding any such matter on the social media," he said, adding: "Strict action will be taken against them as per law if they do so."

Bakheet said citizens of some 200 countries hav-

KARACHI (INP): The cial media for which many ing different religions and nationalities live in peace in the UAE. The number of Pakistanis in the UAE has exceeded 1.8 million, he

> The envoy appealed to Pakistanis not to bring their political differences to Dubai. He said citizens involved in such propaganda in Pakistan are being questioned for obtaining Emir-

> In response to a question, Bakheet said there was no restriction regarding the UAE visas.

said the delegation's visit Shehbaz was highly reassuring, and expressed hope that it would be both useful and productive for Pakistan.

He anticipated that it would enhance bilateral arrangements in areas such as industry, agriculture, economic zones, and help increase Pakistan's capacity to produce agricultural items in high demand in China. He noted that Pakistan could meet Chinese requirements by exporting high-quality goods and exploring opportunities in mining and minerals, IT, and export zones. He also suggested relocating certain industries to Pakistan due to China's shift towards more advanced and sophisticated

He stated that the federal cabinet has decided to offer free visas to Chinese citizens starting August 14, demonstrating Pakistan's commitment. He emphasized that Sino-Pak relations were higher than the Himalayas and deeper than

Khan Buledi.

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Advisor to

Chief Minister Balochistan

on Women Development,

Dr. Rubaba khan Buledi,

met a delegation from Al

members of delegation pro-

vided a comprehensive

briefing on the initiatives

and educational programs offered by Al Hijra.

They extended an invitation to Dr. Rubaba

Buledi to visit their residen-

Buledi expressed her ap-

Speaker National Assem-

bly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq on

Thursday called on Federal

Minister for Kashmir Af-

fairs & Gilgit-Baltistan and

SAFRON Engineer Amir

Muqam and discussed mat-

ters of mutual interest in-

cluding Kashmir Day on

August 5. During the meet-

ing, the minister apprised

the Speaker Ayaz Sadiq

about the solidarity walk

from Radio Pakistan to D-

Chowk and other initiatives

regarding Kashmir Exploi-

tation Day on August 5,

meeting, to bring a reso-

lution in the House on

the occasion of Kashmir

Exploitation Day on Au-

They decided, in the

Ayaz Sadiq said that

said a press release.

Dr. Rubaba Khan

preciation for the efforts Balochistan.

Special status of IIOJK;

5 August to be marked

at the parliament

ISLAMABAD (APP): on August 5, 2019, a hei-

tial school in Ziarat.

During the meeting,

Hijra Education system.

The delegation, comprising representatives from 10 different Chinese ministries, was visiting Pakistan to enhance cooperation across various sectors. They will provide input on Chinese investment, the second phase of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), and boosting Pakistani exports. Addition-

ally, they will review and

offer recommendations on

IT, agriculture, industry,

investment, energy, miner-

als, special economic zones, and communication. He stated that Pakistan has implemented robust measures to ensure the safety of Chinese citizens, with Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi and Minis-

ter for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal overseeing these efforts. The government was committed to maintaining stringent security and preventing any breaches. Those responsible for any harmful acts

will be held accountable

made by Al Hijra in the field

of education, particularly in

providing quality residential schooling. She empha-

sized the importance of

such initiatives in promot-

ing education in the region.

"Education is the corner-

stone of development, and

institutions like Al Hijra

play a pivotal role in shap-

ing the future of our youth,"

said Dr. Buledi. Dr. Rubaba

Buledi expressed her sup-

port for the Al Hijra Edu-

cation System's endeavors

and her commitment to ad-

vancing educational oppor-

tunities for the youth of

nous conspiracy was

hatched by India to end the

special status of India Ille-

gally Occupied Jammu and

had always highlighted the

Kashmir issue in every re-

gional and international fo-

rum, adding that peace in

the South Asia region was

not possible without re-

solving the Kashmir dis-

pute. The speaker said the

resolution of Kashmir issue

according to the aspirations

of the Kashmiri people and

UN resolutions is inevi-

table. He concluded that Pa-

kistan would continue its

parliamentary, diplomatic,

moral and political support

to the Kashmiri brothers

and sisters to achieve their

He said that Pakistan

Kashmir (ÎIOJK).

QUETTA: A delegation from Al Hijra Educational

System meeting with Advisor to Chief Minister

Balochistan on Women Development Dr. Rubaba

Al-Hijra Education System delegation meets:

Education is cornerstone of

development, says Rubaba

Additionally, he con veyed deep sorrow on behalf of his government and people for the loss of Chinese citizens in Bisham a few months ago. The Prime Minister stated that those responsible for the killings of Chinese citizens have been arrested and will get

exemplary punishment. He mentioned that he has held several meeting with law enforcement agen cies, the Interior Secretary and NECTA. Speaking or the occasion, delegation head, Wang Fukang stated that technical cooperation would further strengthen Pak-China strategic relations and expressed gratitude to Pakistan for its hos-

The meeting was attended by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar, Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control Mohsin Nagyi, Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal, Minister for Finance

Reforms must to make EFF last IMF program

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb here on Thursday reiterated the need for structural reforms to ensure the Extended Fund Facility (EFF) with International Monetary Fund (IMF) is the country's last programme, highlighting the importance of privatization, export-led growth, and foreign direct investment to sustainable macroeconomic stability.

Addressing the Ground Breaking Ceremony of the Head Office Building of the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP), the minister said, the Staff Level Agreement (SLA) has been signed with IMF and it would go to fund's board for final approval.

"So under the fund umbrella, it is not only getting the fund but making sure that this time we do the structural reforms," he remarked. "If we have to make it last programme of the fund then whether it is on taxation side, energy side, or SOE reforms and the privatization side, we have to move forward because we do not have the space and room any more to

dither on this agenda." the minister remarked. He said upgrade in akistan's rating by Fitch,

an international credit rating agency, and the policy rate reduction by State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) were direct manifestations of macroeconomic stability that the government has been following under the leadership of Shehbaz Sharif. He said, the economic team would continue to move forward with this agenda. However, he added there was need to bring permanence into it. "Stabilization would lead to growth, so we have to bring permanence," he said.

Talking about the role of private sector, the minister said, it has been decided in the cabinet committee on State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs) that all insurance companies under the public sector will be handed over the private sector.

He said, there was no reason whatsoever the government holds on to those entities or their functions. Even the strategic functions would be done by private sector he said adding the government would be there to provide policy framework and policy continuity.



RAWALPINDI: Ameer Jamaat-e-Islami, Hafiz Naeem-ur-Rehman addressing a press conference in Liaquat Bagh sit-in in the city.

Resolution against attack at Pak consulate in Germany adopted: BA pays homage to Ismail Haniyeh; approves condemnation resolution against killing of Hamas's chief

Independent Report DUETTA:

Balochistan Assembly unanimously paid homage to the central leader of Hamas, Ismail Haniyeh and adopted a joint resolution against his killing on Thurs-

The House adopted joint resolution condemning the brutal killing of Hamas's tributes, who was killed in an Israeli missile attack in Iran on Wednesday last.

The Deputy Speaker, Ms. Ghazala Gola was in

Ceasefire agreement reached b/w warring tribes of Kurram

PESHAWAR (APP):A ceasefire agreement has been reached between the tribes in Kurram and the traffic routes in the district have been opened. In the six-day clashes, 50 people have been died and 226 in-

According to the

Deputy Commissioner District Kurram Javedullah Mehsud, the six-day clashes between the rival tribes in the district Kurram have been stopped and the main Parachinar-Peshawar highway has also been opened for traffic after the peace agreement. Vehicular traffic has been resumed on the road formally while bazaars have also been opened. The clashes that started over a property dispute in the Boshera locality turned into a riot and fifty people from both sides were killed and 226 injured in the clashes remained continue for six days. MPA Ali Hadi Irfani has said that a minor property dispute played havoc with peace and widows and orphans have increased in 50 families. Former Federal Minister Sajid Turi said that there are frequent bloody clashes between the tribes.

the chair. Earlier, the Member Provincial Assembly, Ms.

Shahida Rauf tabled the resolution against his killing and for paying tributes to Ismail Haniyeh. The Provincial Minister for Revenue, Mir Asim Kurd proposed to declare the resolution about Ismail

On this, the chair gave ruling to declare the resolution as joint one from the

House Meanwhile, the con-

demnation resolution against attack at the Pakistani consulate in Germany and desecration of the national flag there.

The joint resolution was tabled by the MPA, Ms. Farah Azeem Shah.

Earlier, fateha was for offered the personnel of law enforcement agencies in Haniveh as joint one from Gwadar and Pishin. The question hour regar questions of the Livestock department were deferred due to absence of the concerned Provincia Minister.



QUETTA: MPA Farah Azeem Shah presenting Joint condemning resolution during Balochistan

Ahsan Iqbal says:

PTI should shun politics of vandalism, apologize to nation if wants to join mainstream

Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal said on Thursday that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) must abandon its politics of instability and apologize to the nation for the vandalism of state institutions and sensitive installations of the armed forces if it wanted to integrate into the national mainstream. In an interview with he said no democracy in the and constitutional actions.

ISLAMABAD (APP): world could support a party that engaged in destructive politics and undermined national interests for political gain. When asked about the possibility of banning PTI, the minister mentioned that recent information suggested PTI's social media had connections with anti-state elements abroad. The 'surfaced information,' he said, was currently being thoroughly examined by the relevant departments to de-Voice of America (VOA), termine the appropriate legal

Ban on protests in D Chowk **IHC** issues notices to DC Islamabad, **Interior Ministry**

ISLAMABAD (Online): Chief Justice
Islamabad High Court
Islamabad High Court Justice
Islamabad High Cour DC Islamabad and the Ministry of Interior on the request to ban the protest in D Chowk and Red Zone and called for a comprehensive plan.

Chief Justice Amir Farooq remarked that every citizen has the right to protest, but entry into the red zone is limited, everyone protests outside the Supreme Court and Parlia-

Lahore's red zone is Mall Road, there are also these remarks on Thursday.

(IHC) issued a notice to the tice Aamir Farooq heard the case on the writ petition of Federal Welfare Associa-

Federal Welfare Association's lawyer Chaudhry Waseem Chaudhry Bahadur appeared in the court. The petitioner's lawyer said that whenever there is a dharna or protest in D Chowk, businesses are closed.

It is requested that the protest be banned. Advocate General Islamabad said that not all businesses are daily protests. He made closed, some places are

ation-State, Islam, and Democracy

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Nahdlatul Ulama Ulil Abshar Abdalla from Indonesia addressing during a seminar title "Nation-State Islam and Democracy Perspective from Pakistan and Indonesia, at National Library.