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QUETTA: Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti presiding over meeting of Provincial

Authorities are dependent on government, need to increase own resources:

Seeds of hatred sowed in minds of youth to keep them away from state through social media under pre-planned conspiracy: CM

CM and Balochistan cabinet honour Israrullah Khan Kakar on his election as President of Oxford University Students Union; says hard working and talented youngsters like Israrullah are asset of country

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has stated that the seeds of hatred were sowed in minds of youth to keep them away from the state through social media under the pre-planned conspiracy.

He said that the state

the Balochistan Youth Policy 2024 in real terms so as to guide the youngsters in right direction and they get opportunities of progress and move ahead.

of deprivations by embrac-

ing them. He stressed that

there is need to implement

The Chief Minister stated so was while chair-

Calls him nation's pride

Governor, CM

greet Arshad on

winning gold

medal in Olympics

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Governor,

Sheikh Jaffar Khan

Mandokhail and Chief

Minister, Mir Sarfraz

Ahmed Bugti has congratu-

lated the Pakistani athlete

gold medal in the Paris

Olympics

of Islamic Republic of Pakistan

ad Shehbaz Sharif

istinguished delegates from

would remove their sense Balochistan cabinet held here on Friday.

During the course of meeting, certain important decisions were made on the agenda points of different departments.

While addressing the meeting, Chief Minister issued orders for return of the loans of the private banks ing the 5th meeting of department at the earliest.

He said that we can't pay the exchequer of poor public on account of the interest.

He regretfully pointed out that Rs. 2 million are being paid as interest daily while Rs. 60 million are paid monthly on this account. This is sheer cruelty and as such this pracpayable against the food tice must be stopped, he

Pak-China relations transforming into enhanced investment, economic ties: PM Shehbaz

KARACHI (APP): The economic and trade rela-Prime Minister, Shehbaz tions particularly in the Sharif, emphasizing the fields of agriculture, infortransformation of friendly mation technology, mines, ful technology and educarelations between China and Pakistan into enhanced investment, economic and trade ties, said that the next phase of CPEC will mainly involve business to business arrangements particularly in industrial sector.

He expressed the views while addressing the representatives of international companies doing business in Pakistan including China here on Friday. Governor and Chief Minister of Sindh, Federal Ministers, prominent businessmen and senior officers were also present on this occasion.

The PM said "Pakistan and China are two iron brothers and now we have to convert these relations of brotherhood and friendship into enhanced investment

Independent Report

OUETTA: The Chief Min-

ister Balochistan, Mir

Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti met

with Governor Balochistan

Jafar Khan Mandokhail at

the Governor House here

During the course of

meeting, issues of mutual

interest including ongoing

on Friday.

minerals and infrastruc-

rural population Pakistan need to further strengthen and augment its agricultural produce, he said and informed that Pakistani agricultural exports increased by \$ 3 billion in the last financial year while we have fixed a target of additional 7 b for the current fiscal year.

Terming it as a quantum leap that required vigorous efforts along with adoption of modern technology and techniques and best practices, PM Shehbaz said that to-business arrangements China could be our best and joint ventures in indusget of boosting agricultural exports and value addition then export of these prod-

Referring to his recent visit of China the PM said that fascinated by wondertional culture in Chinese educational institutions he Being an agrarian decided to send 1000 Pakieconomy with over 60 % stani boys and girls for advance training in China in Agriculture. That program was almost finalized and now these students would go to China for refresher

courses, he added.

Encouraging the Chinese businessmen to enter into business cooperation agreement with Pakistani counterparts the PM said that next phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) will mainly consist of businesspartner in achieving this tar- try particularly in textile. agriculture production and ucts to different countries.

PM felicitates **Prof Yunus** on swearing in as Bangladesh's interim govt head ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz

Sharif on Friday felici-

Muhammad Yunus as he

took the oath of office of

Chief Advisor of Bangladesh's interim government. Heartiest

felicitations to Professor

Muhammad Yunus on his

swearing-in as Chief Ad-

viser of the Government

of the People's Republic

of Bangladesh," the

prime minister wrote on

He wished Professor

Yunus great success in

vards a harmonious and

. Prime Minister Shehbaz said that he

ooked forward to work-

ing with him to deepen

cooperation between Pa-

kistan and Bangladesh in

FO spokesperson

rubbishes Israeli

media's baseless

reports targeting

Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (APP)

Foreign Office spokesper-

son Mumtaz Zahra Baloch

on Friday rubbished as

lished in the Israeli media.

alleging any commitment by Pakistan to send nukes

briefing, the spokesperson

responding to a query, re-

jected a Jerusalem Post's

report of August 6 which alleged that "if the conflict

between Iran and Israel es-

calates, Pakistan plans to

supply Iran with Shaheen-

III medium-range ballistic

tently false. Before paying

any attention to such re-

ports, it is important to re-

flect on the source behind

such baseless reports and

the malicious agenda behind

them," the spokesperson

She said, "This is a

critical time in the Middle

East. We, therefore, urge all

parties, including the media,

not to indulge in peddling

'Such reports are pa-

At her weekly press

to support Iran.

missiles.

remarked.

of fake news.

baseless" the reports pub-

guiding Bangladesh to-

is X timeline.

prosperous future.

the days ahead.

Professor

tated

ssues were discussed The changes taking place in the region, ensuring good governance in the province and benefiting the people from development projects were also dis-

political and administrative

Both leaders were agreed to consult each other and stay in constant condevelopment projects in tact for the best interest of



CM calls on Governor; agree

to stay in constant contact

for interest of province

OUETTA: Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti meeting with Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail

Pak Armed Forces, CJCSC felicitate Arshad Nadeem

RAWALPINDI (INP): Inter-Service Public Relations (ISPR) Department of Pakistan Army congratulated the nation including Arshad Nadeem for winning the first gold medal for Pakistan after 40 years in the Paris Olym-

According to ISPR, Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCSC) and Chiefs of Pakistan Army including Chief of Army Staff General Asim Munir, Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Sidhu, and Naval Chief Admiral Naveed Ashraf congratulated the



nation on the victory of Arshad Nadeem for winning the first gold medal for Pakistan in Olympics after 40 years.

The ISPR stated that Arshad Nadeem made history by becoming the first Pakistani athlete to win an individual gold medal. Pakistan's spectacular success in the Olympics is the result of Arshad's unwavering dedica-

In its statement, the ISPR added that the success in the Olympics is proof of Arshad Nadeem's tireless work, perseverance, and exemplary work.

In the men's javelin throw event final at the Paris Olympics, the eyes of the whole nation were on Arshad Nadeem, who was Pakistan's only hope of getting a medal in the Olympics after 32 years.

Meets COAS

Pakistan holds significant place in Muslim world: **İmam Masjid-i-Nabawi**

COAS welcomed the dignitary and highlighted that visit by Imam Masjid Al-Nabawi to Pakistan is a matter of honour for the people of Pakistan.

RAWALPINDI (Online): Imam Masjid Al-Nabawi, Dr. Salah bin Mohammad Al-Budair called on Chief of Army Staff General Syed Asim Munir in Rawalpindi

According to ISPR, during the meeting, matters of mutual interest were dis-

The COAS welcomed the dignitary and highlighted that visit by Imam Masiid Al-Nabawi to Pakistan is a matter of honour for the people of Pakistan. Imam Masjid Al-Nabawi said Pakistan has a significant place in the Muslim world and it is playing its vital role for peace and stability in the

Both sides expressed satisfaction over Pak-Saudi relations.

At the end Imam Masjid Al-Nabawi prayed for the peace, stability and unity of Muslim Ummah.



RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Syed Asim Munir exchanging views with Dr. Salah bin Mohammad Al-Budair, Imam Masjid-i-Nabvi (PBUH) during meeting held at General Headquarters (GHQ) in Rawalpindi.

Governor directs NADRA to improve present methodology by benefitting from modern scientific inventions & new IT

Independent Report QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail has directed to the high ups of NADRA to create easiness and improve the present methodology by benefiting from the modern scientific inventions and new infor-

mation technology. He also directed to start double shifts in the NADRA offices in big cities and run mobile vans for the remote areas of the

tive is to serve the people better at their doorstep for we are making efforts and formulating public friendly policies.

The Governor was speaking during the briefing on performance and fu-ture plan of the NADRA in Governor's House on Fri-

Also present in the briefing were Director General NADRA, Kashif Iqbal and Principal Secretary to the Governor, Hashim province. Our actual objec- Khan Ghilzai.

NA unanimously adopts resolution to pay tribute to Olympic gold medalist Arshad

ISLAMABAD (APP): The National Assembly on Friday unanimously adopted the resolution to pay tribute to world record holder javelin throw athlete Arshad Nadeem for winning a gold medal at the Paris Olympics 2024 with highest ever 92.97 meters long

Minister for Law and Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Senator Azam Nazeer Tarar tabled the resolution with his welcoming remarks for Imam

Masjid e Nabawi (PBUH).

Sheikh Dr Salah Bin Muhammad Al-Budair and said that it was a blessed Athlete said that Arshad Nadeem had set an Olympic world record by throwing the highest ever javelin throw. "All parliamentary leaders have demanded that

day for the nation with the eminent presence of the Imam. Tarar while paying tribute to the gold medalist the House should pass a





QUETTA: DGNADRAMuhammad Kashif Iqbal briefed Governor Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail about NADRA

delegates from the People's Republic of China. Govt accepts JI demands to give relief in electricity prices. Attaullah Tarar

JI's sit-in achieved its targets,

Arshad Naeem on winning day night reiterated the by reducing electricity

KARACHI: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif addresses business

In their separate felicitation messages issued here on late Thursday night, the Governor and Chief Minister said that the courageous and talented youngster Arshad Naeem is pride

mands of JI of Pakistani nation. Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti said that the longest Javelin throw in the Olympics final is a commendable honour. With this, he set an excellent Olympics record, the Chief Minister added. He said that there's no

dearth of talented youth in Addressing the pro-

the country.
The Chief Minister also expressed best wishes for more successes in fu-

Pakistan being pushed into constitutional crises: Bilawal

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Friday criticised Supreme Court's verdict on reserved seats.

Addressing on the floor of the National Assembly Bilawal Bhutto Zardari claimed Pakistan is being pushed into constitutional

Referring to a recent ruling of the SC in SIC reserved seats case, Bilawal said "a verdict of the court, mobilized the 'dead

He also asked the op-position leader, did he or the premier snatch PTI's bat symbol? It was revoked by the court citing 'rigging' in the interparty

election.
The PPP leader lamented that 'hate politics' in on the rise in Pakistan, which is unprecedented in the history of the coun

claims Hafiz Naeem

RAWALPINDI (APP): the JI, the minister enmation and Broadcasting nounced by the JI leader-Attaullah Tarar on Thurs- ship. overnment's firm resolve to provide relief to people

He said that the final round of talks with the Jamat-e-Islami remained fruitful with the government accepting certain de-

He said that the Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif had already directed the government's negotiating team to accede to the JI's demands which were aimed at providing relief to the

testors at the conclusion of

dorsed the agreement an-

He highlighted that subsidy of Rs 50 billion in electricity prices, and the three months relief to the consumers using up to 200

He said the government would fully act upon the agreements and the committees formed in that regard would regularly meet to monitor its implemen-

The minister also condemned in the strongest terms the brutalities being committed by the Israeli forces in Gaza.

"The UN must bring Israel to justice for war the 5th and final round of crimes in Gaza", he



RAWALPINDI: Chief (emir) of the Jamaat-e-Islami Pakistan (JI) Hafiz Naeem Ur Rehman, Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi, and Liaqat Baloch exchanging view on stage in sit-protest, after final round of negotiations between the government and Jamaate-Islami (JI) concluded successfully.

Gwadar & Balochistan are inseparable part of Pakistan, no one can separate them from us, asserts Zia Langove

Provincial Minister Home says developed Gwadar can put Balochistan and Pakistan on track of development and prosperity; hate & disturbance would push province in more darknesses

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Provincial Minister for Home and Tribal Affairs, Mir Ziaullah Langove has categorically stated that Gwadar and Balochistan are inseparable part of Pakistan which

can't be separated from us. He said that the developed Gwadar can put Balochistan and Pakistan on track of development and prosperity. While hate and disturbances would push rovince

larknesses In an official statement ssued here on Friday, the Provincial Minister for Home urged the people of Balochistan to reject terror-

their mission as it (education) is the ornament through through which the darknesses of ignorance can be evaded. He stressed that people of Balochistan should play

ism by making education

their role for serving the province and country utilizing their capabilities. He also stressed that

every segment of the society including doctors, lawvers, teachers and others have to contribute in development of the province while presenting best ser-

He urged the parents to play their wholehearted role for decorating their children with ornament of education

Daily Aoice of Masse, Independent

Political paradox

What happens when an unstoppable force meets an immovable object? It is a question political observers in Pakistan have grappled with over the past two-odd years.

On the one hand, there's the PTI; seemingly unstoppable, despite all efforts to impede its march. On the other, there is the establishment; unmoved despite the many challenges it has encountered. The stalemate created by these two actors' inability to reach a settlement has upended the country and destablised the economy.

It cannot hold forever, which is why recent remarks by PTI founder Imran Khan have aroused feverish speculation. Will they, won't they? The concern is palpable, even though both sides still seem unwilling to compromise. The needle is stuck on May 9, with one side demanding an unconditional apology, and the other unwilling to give one without ifs and buts. Who will make the first move? Much is on the line.

Mr Khan has recently suggested that he is ready to offer an apology if the state can prove its position on May 9. This 'softening' of his stance is being seen as a major development. He insists, however, that the allegations against his party be investigated by an independent commission first. Perhaps the accusation that the events of that day were a 'premeditated con-spiracy' do indeed need to be probed, but Mr Khan surely agrees that it was his party that was out in the streets on May 9; participating in, if not precipitating, the violence that occurred that day? If he believes that what happened was wrong, he should at least apologise for the protests turning violent and the damage to public properties that was caused. All else may be left to a commission to resolve. At the same time, the security establishment, too, must relent, mainly because its insistence on treating the protests as 'terrorism' and a 'conspiracy against the state' is unlikely to yield positive outcomes or help the nation move forward.

Protests can turn violent, especially if those participating feel they have a right to be angry. The way Mr Khan was manhandled by dozens of Rangers personnel on that same day and the circumstances of his arrest from the Islamabad High Court cannot be ignored. They provide necessary context for understanding why the protests

What happened next was unqualifiedly wrong, but the state, too, should reflect on its mistakes. It must turn over all evidence to prosecutors and let those accused of May 9-related crimes be tried in ordinary courts. It would be within its rights to demand punishments in proportion to their crimes.

The attention of Pakistan's leadership needs to be focused on policies, not events. The future of millions is at stake. For their sake, the nation must move on now.

Deep-sea mining

Jamil Ahmad

Mining in the deep sea has turned into a hot topic in the discourse on controlling planet-warm- dent on terrestrial mining gases in the atmosphere.

els, low-carbon technologies will require uninterrupted supplies of large quantities of critical minerals, or 'battery minerals' — cobalt, nickel, copper, and manganese. Scientific evidence suggests that small rocks, or 'nodules', on the seabed, usually at a depth of four to six kilometres, contain large minerals would have reamounts of critical min-

Expansion in the photovoltaic industry electric vehicles has interrestrial mining is largely meeting the current market demand, future demand, price volaconcerns have put options for deep-sea mining in the spotlight.

The International Energy Agency's Critical Minerals Market Review 2023 notes that the energy sector requirement was the main factor be- mental challenges and hind the "tripling in overall demand for lithium, a 70pc jump in demand for cobalt, and a 40pc rise in demand for nickel". The IEA reported a 60pc increase in the sale of electric cars in 2022, exceeding 10 million units. In 2023, the number neared 14m and is expected to minerals and causing a rush to the bottom of the

After a steep price rise in 2021 and 2022, the prices of lithium, nickel, clined in 2023, according to IEA's Global Critical Minerals Outlook 2024. Meanwhile, some countries, appear to be pre-

Several others want to mining will be highly gathered on its impact on marine ecosystems and on economies depen-

For areas beyond To steadily transi- national jurisdictions, tion away from fossil fu- the absence of rules and regulations makes it riskier for marine biodiversity and ecosystems. The International Seabed Authority is working on preparing ground rules for deep seabed exploitation.

Environmental groups have voiced concerns that rushing to dive deep for extracting percussions for the marine environment and marine life as it would degrade one of the remainand the recent growth in ing ecosystems that has so far stayed largely secreased demand. While cure from human intervention.

We face the disastrous consequences of extreme weather events, tility and supply chain biodiversity loss and pollution, linked to health problems, economic losses and increase in poverty and inequality. Can the world afford to open a new front against nature? Enfeebled by human-induced environclimate change, the planet is already in a fragile state. It cannot withstand another anthropogenic onslaught, this time on its seabed.

Available scientific data and information is insufficient to conclude that scraping the bottom of the sea for minerals rise further, pushing up will not harm ecosysthe demand for battery tems. Or that it will be economically beneficial compared to options for terrestrial mining.
A UNEP briefing pa-

data to support a detailed cobalt and graphite de- understanding of ecological relationships and impacts associated with paring for deep-sea min- "current scientific con- terrestrial mining. ing in their jurisdictions. sensus" that "deep-sea Courtesy Dawn

wait till more evidence is gathered on its impact on systems" as, at present, no robust, precautionary approach exists to safeguard the ocean against its potential ecological impacts. The fishing industry and large coastal communities in developing countries dependent on fishing could be negatively affected too.

Planet Tra-ck--er, a UK think tank, has questioned the economic viability of industrial seabed mining. According to its report, How to lose half a trill-i--on, the value loss of activity for the ocean floor and terrestrial mining could be bet-ween \$30 bil-lion to \$132bn glob-ally. This scientific uncer-

tainty has led governments, scientists, environmentalists, and the private sector to call for a moratorium on deep-sea mining until the ecological consequences are better understood. In an Issues Note, UNEP has pointed out that the "environmental, social, and economic impacts of exploiting the deep seabed are uncertain and potentially grave'. It has called for "a comprehensive analysis" to address the potential impact of deepsea mining on marine and terrestrial ecosystems. The UN Convention on Migratory Species has urged governments not to support deep-seabed mining until robust scientific data is obtained that such activities won't harm "migratory species, their prey and their ecosystems'

The implications of digging the seabed need to be analysed and understood, given the potential for grave per notes the "paucity of risks. Sustainable consumption and production and circularity of critical minerals is one option to manage the deep-sea mining". The demand, protect jobs paper, Harmful marine ex- and reduce the envitractives, points out the ronmental footprint of

Story of a hari

Zubeida Mustafa

try, by Anatole Lieven, was published in 2011. Thirteen years later, Pakistan is a 'harder' helm. Treating the hari country still. But not with contempt, the landthat the hardships, like their wealth. For inour wealth, are not spread evenly. We tend to analyse our economic problems in financial terms. But hardship also has a human face and confronts psychosocial challenges, which the better off fail to notice.

Look at the agricultural sector. It is one of such as seed, fertilisers the most lucrative, conto Pakistan's GDP. It thresher charges, seed provides livelihood to the highest number of mated that if the haris force (Pakistan Eco- double. Rough calculanomic Survey 2023-24). Every man who tills the come for an acre of land soil is helped by his family. But the women are not counted and are reduced to being invis-

The hardship begins from day one, rest for cash. Needless when a deal is struck between the landowner and hari (farmer). It is a brazenly unequal deal. The landowners in Pakistan are probably one of the most privileged classes, who have special benefits and advan-We are told that

the landowners were Partition that their holdtouched. Hence, no templated in the first decade, unlike India. It was in 1959 and then in 1972 that reforms were announced, but in practical terms they made circumvented wealthy families who Now, the concept of heaped on them. land reforms has received an honourable

Pakistan: A Hard Coun- ally, the landowners about three years ago is also enjoy immense political powers, irrespective of who is at the everyone here is aware lords have safeguarded cated to a hari called stance, in northern Sindh, most deals are done on a crop-sharing basis. It means the hari has to till the land and share the crops harvested equally with the landowner. The caveat lies in the conditions

imposed. The hari has to pay for all the inputs, of two types, pestitributing 22.9 per cent cides, tractor and ers who had used it to people, accounting for were spared this bur-37.4pc of the labour den, their income would Hence, Abid mobilised tions put a hari's inthat he tills at Rs50,000 per annum. The haris receive half the crop harvested. They store some for their own con- acquire a tractor to loan sumption and sell the it to the haris at a low to say, they are exploited mercilessly by the middle men. The haris get no

relief from the government, which is dominated by the landowning class. Children in the rural areas are denied the benefits of good education and healthcare. Census assured at the time of 2023 tells us that 61pc of the country's popuings would not be lation lives in the rural areas, but anecdotal land reforms were con- evidence suggests that rate social responsibilschools are not located ity, as the business secin the same ratio. More tor has done? It would schools function in the mean a turnaround in towns and cities, where fewer people live. This the people who generis certain that the chilno impact as they were dren of the haris do not sess. But of most imporget the education that tance is the fact that the empowers them to reretained their land. sist the oppression

In this ocean of misery, there are some burial, with the Federal islands of compassion Shariat Court having tempered with dignity

landscape, including

increased foreign exchange

inflation, and enhanced tax

Embassy of People's

Republic of China, Shi

minister outlined significant

reforms in the energy sector,

state-owned enterprises

privatization efforts.

During a meeting with

reserves,

collection.

pronounced it un-Is- and self-esteem. One of lamic in 1989. Addition- these that emerged the Tractor Project set up by the Ali Hasan Mangi Memorial Trust in Kheiro Dero (District Larkana). It is dedi-Abid Husain, who suffered from chronic liver disease. In spite of his health disadvantage, Abid's was a smiling face of dignity and courage. He was always at the forefront when collective action was the need of the hour. At one time, a small

> bridge over a nullah collapsed, causing a lot of har-dship to the farmtransport goods and crops. Despite repeated reminders, the authorithe haris to provide free lab-our. The Trust paid for the material, and the bridge was repaired. It was Abid who came up with the suggestion that the Trust should rate. Thus, their cost of inputs would be considerably reduced. Now the Trust has two tractors and the farmers are benefiting. Those who are allowed to avail this facility by their landlords manage to save a

> substantial amount. It is time our landowners, who are hardly taxed, opened their eyes to the poverty around them. Is it too much to ask them to create a fund in line with corpotheir attitudes towards ate the wealth they posface of poverty should be fringed with dignity and self-respect. What the tillers of the land are looking for are their rights and not charity. - Courtesy Dawn

Commerce News

PM Sharif vows to extend utmost support to exporters

KARACHI (APP): Prime
Minister Shehbaz Sharif
on Friday said that the

But this is not Shehbaz Sharif said
enough, because Pakistan that Pakistan will send
got huge potential and this
1,000 agricultural graduate determined to extend together with our full education and training in utmost support to capacity, he added. exporters and producers to facilitate them in serving the country with full

addressing as chief guest at the inauguration ceremony technologies and more Shehbaz Sharif also of the Food and Agriculture research Expo-2024 (FoodAg24) here at the Expo Centre.

Prime Minister Shehbaz and performed the digital inauguration of the event.

last years export of rice and deserve appreciation.

The Prime Minister called for the need to value Shehbaz The Premier was to take appropriate steps

Prime Minister coming into power, the country and we all should Shehbaz Sharif said that the present government, many celebrate. steps have been taken for other Agri items was growth of agriculture Minister Shehbaz Sharif commendable and the sector and referred the along with other dignitaries ministers, administrative project to solarise 28,000 secretaries and all those tube wells in Balochistan who contributed in it to provide the farmers with cheap electricity.

was is high time to serve to China to get higher agriculture and food sector.

Prime Minister expressed addition to our produce confidence that "nothing is and said for that we have impossible, if we all put our best efforts"

Minister and congratulated the Pakistani development. He also Athlete Arshad Nadeem for called for the need of winning Gold medal and On the occasion, the comprehensive planning setting new Olympic ne Minister Shehbaz and effective record in javelin throw in Sharif along with others implementation of the the Paris Olympic-2024 policies to achieve targets. and said that this is the He said that ever since victory for the whole

> Earlier presented awards to top three exporters including rice, fruit and vegetable and meat sectors.

AGRICULTURE KARACHI: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif presents a souvenir

to the Minister of Trade of Turkiye Omar Bolat, at the 2nd International Food & Agriculture Exhibition, in the Provincial Capital. **IRSA** releases

processes. From pioneering

digital account management

to launching advanced

applications, JS Bank is

committed to providing

seamless, secure, and user-

friendly financial services.

Its investments in digital

technology have set new

benchmarks in the industry,

making banking more

accessible and efficient for

infrastructure

banking

mobile

JS Bank wins leading Digital Bank Award

ISLAMABAD (APP): JS Bank, one of the fastest growing banks in Pakistan, has been awarded the Leading Digital Bank accolade at the CxO Elevate 2024 Awards. In addition, JS Global,

a subsidiary of JS Bank, has been recognized with the Digital Investment Transformation Award. These prestigious recognitions highlight JS Bank's and JS Global's significant roles in transforming the financial

sector through innovative digital solutions, said a news release.

JS Bank has been at millions of customers.

502,200 cusecs water ISLAMABAD (APP): the forefront of digital Indus River System banking innovation, Authority (IRSA) on implementing state-of-the-Friday released 502,200 art technologies to enhance cusecs water from various customer experience and rim stations with inflow of streamline banking

549,700 cusecs. According to the data released by IRSA, water level in River Indus at Tarbela Dam was 1540.00 feet and was 142.00 feet higher than its dead level of 1,398 feet. Water inflow and outflow in the dam was recorded as 322,100 cusecs and 294,400 cusecs respectively.

The water level in River Jhelum at Mangla Dam was 1208.35 feet, which was 160.35 feet higher than its dead level of 1,050 feet.

Gold rates up by Rs.1,000 per tola

ISLAMABAD (APP) The per tola price of 24 karat gold increased by Rs.1,000 and was traded at Rs.256,500 in the local market on Friday against its sale at Rs.255,500 the

previous day. Likewise, the price of 10 grams of 24 karat also increased by Rs.857 to Rs.219,907 from Rs.219,050 whereas that of 10 gram 22 karat gold went up to Rs.20,582 from Rs.219,050, All Sindh Sarafa Jewellers Association reported.

Minister for Power economic cooperation Sardar Awais Ahmad Khan between the two countries. Eyes on \$5bln bilateral trade Turkiye's CG invites multi sectoral

delegation: Saquib

Yuanqiang and other officials of the Embassy, the visit to China, Aurangzeb

(SOEs), and ongoing other officials on

FM highlights positive

economic developments

ISLAMABAD (APP): Leghari Special Assistant

Finance & Revenue Power, Muhammad Ali Muhammad Aurangzeb and Minister of State for here on Friday highlighted Finance and Revenue, Ali

developments in economic attended the meeting.

decreased

Charge d'affaires of the investment

positive Pervaiz Malik also

While emphasizing a

focus on export-led growth, the minister expressed Pakistan's

commitment to attracting

increased foreign direct

according to a press release

issued by finance ministry.

said he had extremely

useful discussions with the

Minister for Finance and

proposals for enhancing

Independent Report KARACHI: Mr. Saquib Fayyaz Magoon, Acting President FPCCI, has business, industry and

Magoon, Acting President FPCCI, reiterated that both sides have agreed that we apprised the entire should take tangible steps to realize the trade trade community of potential – whereas, Pakistan that H. E. Mr. Pakistan stands to gain



General of Turkiye in earnings through exports of Karachi, has invited a multi-sectoral business delegation from the apex platform of FPCCI to explore the avenues for surgical equipment. trade and economic cooperation. The two countries have an evident bilateral trade potential of \$5 billion; but, at present, we are only at \$1 billion per year, he added.

value-added textiles; leather goods; processed foods; IT & IT-enabled services; sports goods and

Mr. Asif Sakhi, VP FPCCI, reiterated that Turkiye has world-class expertise in manufacturing and engineering products; specifically, vehicles (EVs).

PSX holds gong ceremony to mark listing of big bird foods Ltd

Independent Report KARACHI: Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) held a gong ceremony to mark

Mahmood Ali Shah Bukhari, CEO KTrade Securities Limited; Mr. Omar Salah Ahmed, MD the listing of Big Bird Foods Limited (BBFL). Corporate Finance. KTrade Securities Limited Big Bird Foods was and Mr. Danish Elahi, CEO established in September Elahi Group of Companies 2011 as a poultry and Shareholder of Big Bird



processing unit to provide Foods Limited. KTrade quality chicken products in national and international

Present at the gong ceremony were Dr. Mohammad Mustafa Kamal, CEO, Big Bird Khan and Foods Limited; Mr. management of

Securities were the exclusive financial advisory and arranger for this listing. The guests were welcomed by the MD & CEO PSX, Mr. Farrukh H. senior management of PSX

SBP injects Rs3.174 trillion into market KARACHI (APP): The

State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) injected Rs3,174.35 billion in the market on Friday through reverse repo purchase and Shariah Compliant Mudarabah based Open Market Operation (OMO). According to OMO results issued here, the SBP conducted an Open Market Operation, Reverse Repo Purchase (Injection) on August 09, 2024, for 7-day and 28-day tenors and accepted 30 bids cumulatively amounting to Rs3,084.35 billion.

The central bank received 13 bids for 7-day tenor cumulatively offering an amount of Rs732.2 billion at the rate of return ranging between 19.57 to 19.60 percent while 19 bids were received for the 28-day tenor offering an amount of Rs2,542.25 billion at the rate of return ranging between 19.55 to 19.61%. The SBP accepted all 13 quotes for a 7-day tenor amounting to Rs550 billion at 19.57 % rate of return while 17 quotes for

28-day tenor amounting to

Rs2,534.35 billion.

Short-term inflation up by 0.30 percent

ISLAMABAD (APP): The weekly inflation, measured by the Sensitive Price Indicator (SPI), witnessed an increase of 0.30 percent for the combined consumption groups during the week ended on August 08, the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) reported on Friday.

According to the PBS data, the SPI for the week under review in the abovementioned group was recorded at 322.54 points as compared to 321.56 points during the past

corresponding week of last year, the SPI for the combined consumption group in the week under review witnessed an increase of 17.96 per cent. The weekly SPI with

the base year 2015-16 =100 covers 17 urban centres and 51 essential items for all expenditure

The SPI for the lowest consumption group of up to Rs 17,732, increased by 0.46 per cent and went down to 310.83 points from last week's

Kundi terms justice crucial for development of society

Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Faisal Karim Kundi, on Friday emphasized that social justice was crucial for the development of any society. He said that if justice was not delivered promptly, public trust in the justice system erodes.

He urged the lawyers to play a significant role in ensuring swift and affordable justice. The Governor also highlighted his party's consistent support for lawyers and noted that many prominent positions in the country had been filled by lawyers.

these remarks during a meeting with a delegation uphold from the Association of independence, rule of law, International Lawyers, and human rights. The

KARACHI: Relatives of Atif Khan are holding

protest demonstration against high handedness of

police and demanding justice for him, at Karachi

Pervaiz Ashraf greets

Arshad Nadeem on historic

Olympic gold medal win

LAHORE (APP): Former medal for Pakistan. He

Speaker of the National Assembly and Pakistan

Peoples Party (PPP) Central

Punjab President Raja

Pervaiz Ashraf has extended

his heartfelt congratulations

to national hero Arshad

Nadeem for securing the gold

medal in the javelin throw at

on Friday, Raja Pervaiz

Ashraf lauded Arshad

achievement, noting that this victory marks the first

In a statement issued

historic

individual Olympic gold sports history.

the Olympics.

Nadeem's

(APP): Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Association Chapter at the Governor International Lawyers is House Peshawar.

> Association President resolving their issues. Waqar Khan Advocate, included Vice President Fiza Nizami, General Secretary Shahid Aziz, Advocate Sadozai, Advocate Javed districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

The delegation on assuming his office and presented him a bouquet.

They informed the The Governor said Governor about their and organization's mission to judicial

also working globally for The delegation, led by the welfare of lawyers and

The delegation shared that the Association had established Human Rights Committees in various Hashmat districts, leading to legal assistance for families and Iqbal Marwat and other the resolution of several officials and cabinet cases. They are also members from various working on child protection and other human rights issues, they told.

The female lawyers in congratulated the Governor the delegation suggested to the Governor that there should be governmentsponsored scholarships professional development training programs for female lawyers both domestically and internationally.

7 die, 1344 injured in 1234 road accidents in Punjab

LAHORE (APP): At least seven persons were killed and 1344 injured in 1234 road accident in all 37 districts of Punjab during the last 24 hours. Out of these, 582 people with serious injuries were shifted to hospitals, while 762 victims with minor injuries were treated at the site by rescue medical teams, thus reducing the burden on hospitals. Furthermore, the analysis showed those 700 drivers, 63 underage drivers, 161 pedestrians, and 490 passengers were among the

ANF seizes 81 kg drugs in four operations

and an accused was arrested.

Provincial Minister for Minority Affairs Ramesh RAWALPINDI (APP): The Singh Arora has said that for Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) the first time, the Punjab while conducting four government will celebrate operations managed to Minorities Day with full recover 81 kg drugs and grandeur on August 11(arrested six accused, said an Sunday) to acknowledge Headquarters their contribution towards spokesman here on Friday. the development of the He said, 12 kg opium and country.He was addressing 21.6 kg hashish were a gathering of Christian recovered from a vehicle community during his visit intercepted near Kala Shah to the residence of Pastor Kaku Toll Plaza Sheikhupura Shaukat Ashiq in the minorities would be Chuhang area of Lahore. A effectively addressed.

to improve the living Jammu and Kashmir standards of the common people and accelerate the pace of ongoing plan aimed at the holistic development projects in the liberated area.

The Government of Azad

on

formulated an integrated

development of the socio-

economic and tourism

sources, the primary focus

of the plan is to promote

adventure tourism in AJK,

with the aim of

transforming the region

into a major tourism hub in

South Asia. To this end, the

government plans to

organize a nationwide

tourism conference in

Mirpur in the near future,

inviting renowned global

The sources further

Ramesh Arora says:

Minorities Day to be

observed with grandeur

tourism organizations.

LAHORE

According to official

sectors in the region.

PESHAWAR: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal KArm Kundi is called

AJK Govt unveils ambitious

socio-economic, Tourism plan

on by International Lawyers KP Chapter delegation at Governor House.

Towards this end, the government has directed the relevant authorities to identify the problems faced by the common people and devise prompt solutions.

To boost technical education in AJK, the government has also decided to establish a Higher Technical Education Board in the near future. Additionally, the plan includes setting up Artisan Schools in Mirpur and Muzaffarabad to produce skilled manpower revealed that the for the cottage industry.

large number of people from

Christian community

warmly welcomed him

upon arrival and flower

petals were showered from

representatives of Christian

community expressed their

gratitude to the minister for

presenting a historic budget

expressed hope that during

his tenure, the sense of

deprivation

On this occasion, the

minorities and

also taking steps to establish district-level Chambers of Commerce and Industry across AJK to promote trade and commerce activities. Moreover, the plan

involves expediting the development of projects such as the Export Processing Zone and Industrial Estates in Mirpur, the region's major industrial and business hub. Recognizing the importance of engaging the overseas Kashmiri community, the AJK government has decided to invite them to participate in various developmental and educational activities as well as the business and industrial sectors.

Pregnant woman strangulated to death in Shikarpur

Independent Report SHIKARPUR: Tragedy struck in Shikarpur city when a pregnant woman was reportedly killed by strangulation over a minor dispute. The incident occurred on Friday in the jurisdiction of Lakhi-Gate police station. According to initial reports, Surahiya Abro, wife of Kashif Abro, was found dead in her house located in the Plaza

UN warns IS

Afghanistan

branch growing

in strength

Monitoring Desk

UN counter-terrorism offi-

cial warned on Thursday

that the Afghanistan branch

of the militant Islamic State

group (IS) poses the great-

est external terrorist threat

to Europe as it boosts its

its financial and logistical

capabilities in the past six

months, including by tap-

ping into Afghan and Cen-

tral Asian diasporas for sup-

port," Vladimir Voronkov,

undersecretary-general for

counter-terrorism, said.

"ISIL-K has improved

organisational strength.

NITED NATIONS: A

Climate change cell to be established in health department

Independent Report monsoon floods have led to Shah had announced the establishment of a Climate Change Cell in the Health Department to address health-related issues in the context of climate change.

Climate change has severe impacts on health, with natural disasters like floods affecting health first, said Syed Qasim Ali Shah in a statement.

Diseases like malaria, dengue, and leishmaniasis have emerged in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa due to climate change.

He said that recent public health.

a significant increase in Health Syed Qasim Ali malaria cases in southern contaminate drinking water sources, leading to waterborne diseases.

waterborne diseases, and vector-borne diseases are all consequences of climate

The minister said that extreme heat and cold waves are affecting children, the elderly, and women. Climate change is affecting healthcare centers, staff, and the public, making it the biggest challenge to



LAHORE: Punjab Governor Sardar Saleem Haider Khan talking to media persons on the eve of inaugural ceremony of 100th Pakistan Lifestyle Furniture Expo.

Minister says: **Punjab to purchase** 3,000 new buses in transport overhaul

ATTOCK (APP): Punjab to enforce axle-load Transport Minister, Bilal regulations, prohibit LPG Akbar Khan on Friday cylinders in public to the province's transport measures to reduce road system, vowing the purchase of 3,000 new buses to improve public

transportation. Khan emphasized the government's commitment to providing consumption below 200 for passengers.

He directed officials farmers.

Akbar Khan on Friday cylinders in public announced a major upgrade transport and implement accidents.

Highlighting the government's broader efforts to improve public During a visit to the Services, Minister Khan Attock General Bus mentioned initiatives like Stand, Minister Bilal providing free solar systems to households with quality travel experiences units and offering subsidized tractors to

International News

Russia declares an emergency in Kursk, under attack by Ukraine. 12 killed in Russian strike on mall

emphasized that Nadeem's

triumph has not only made

history but has also brought

immense pride to the entire

nation on the global stage.

Highlighting the significance

of the accomplishment.

Ashraf mentioned that

Arshad Nadeem shattered a

114-year-old record in the

Olympic javelin throw

event. He remarked that

Nadeem's name will be

forever etched in golden

letters in the annals of both

Olympic and Pakistani

Monitoring Desk KYIV: Russia declared a "federal-level" emergency in the Kursk region following a large-scale incursion from Ukraine and sent reinforcements there on Friday, four days after hundreds of Ukrainian troops poured across the border in what appeared to be Kyiv's

soil since the war began. Meanwhile, a Russian plane-launched missile slammed into a Ukrainian shopping mall in the middle of the day, killing at least 12 people and wounding 44 others, authorities said.

biggest attack on Russian

The mall Kostiantynivka, in the eastern Donetsk region, is located in the town's residential area. Thick black smoke rose above it after the strike.

"This is another targeted attack on a crowded place, another act of terror by the Russians," Donetsk regional head Vadym Filashkin said in a Telegram

ior strike on the town in almost a year. Last September, a Russian missile hit an outdoor market there, kill-

Russia's Defense Ministry said that reinforcements were on their way to the Kursk region to counter Ukraine's daring raid. Russia is deploying multiple rocket launchers. towed artillery guns, tanks transported on trailers and heavy tracked vehicles, the RIA-Novosti new agency said, citing the Defense

Ministry.
Little reliable information about the surprise Ukrainian operation has emerged, and its strategic aims are unclear. Ukrainian officials have refused to comment specifically about the incursion, which is taking place about 500 kilometers (320 miles) southwest of Moscow. But a top adviser to Ukraine President

post. It was the second ma- Thursday that border region attacks will cause Russia to "start to realize that the war is slowly creeping inside of Russian territory.' Myhailo Podolyak also suggested that the operation would improve Kyiv's hand in the event of nego-

tiations with Moscow Mathieu Boulegue, a defense analyst at the Chatham House think tank in London, said the Ukrainians appear to have a clear goal in mind, even if they're not saying what it is.

"Such a coordinated ground force movement responds to a clear military objective, yet unknown, that requires extreme operational security," Boulegue told The Associated Press in a telephone interview.

At the same time, the raid spooks the Russian public and delivers a slap in the face to Russian President Vladimir Putin, offering Ukraine "a great PR coup," he said.

A view shows a supermarket heavily damaged in a Russian military strike, amid Russia's attack on Ukraine, in Kostiantynivka, Donetsk region, Ukraine. ABC News says Harris, Trump have agreed to presidential debate on Sept 10

publican presidential nominee Donald Trump and his Democratic counterpart. Kamala Harris, have agreed to meet in a debate on Sept.

ing a lawsuit he has filed. His decision sets up a highly anticipated moment in an election where the first debate led to a massive change in the race — with Democratic President Joe Biden ending his reelection bid and endorsing Harris.

portant to have debates,' Trump said Thursday. "I look forward to the debates because I think we have to set the record straight." On the social media

site X later on Thursday, Harris wrote that "I hear that Donald Trump has fully committed to debat-

Israel revokes diplomatic status of Norway's envoys to Palestinian Authority

Monitoring Desk JERUSALEM/WASHING-TON: Israel said on Thursday it was revoking the diplomatic status of Norway's envoys to the Palestinian Authority accusing Oslo of "anti-Israel behaviour" during the Gaza crisis and drawing a formal protest. Norway — a key facilitator in the Israeli-Palestinian peace process, particularly in the secret negotiations that led to the Oslo Accords of the 1990s — swiftly summoned the Israeli ambassador to lodge a formal protest.

refugees found after boat sinking off Bangladesh **Monitoring Desk**

Bodies of 34 Rohingya

bodies of 34 Rohingya refugees, who fled Myanmar only to drown when their overcrowded boat sank while crossing a river to Bangladesh, have been recovered, a top local government official said on Thursday.

Other refugees fleeing the bitter conflict described grim scenes of "bloodshed" as thousands tried to escape. The boat sank on Tuesday, when the bodies of 10 people — including young children — were initially recovered. But more have since washed ashore, taking the total killed to 34.

Police said the group had fled their villages in Myanmar's Rakhine state and their small craft sank in the Naf River, near Bangladesh's Shahpari Island. Adnan Chowdhury, the government administrator of Bangladesh's Teknaf

was carrying Rohingya from Myanmar. Local councillor Abdus Salam said the bodies were being buried. Rohingya 'The

people were fleeing with their lives from Myanmar,' he said. At least 1,000 Rohingya have fled the war in Myanmar's Rakhine state to Bangladesh in the few past Chowdhury said.
Clashes have rocked

Rakhine since the Arakan Army (AA) attacked junta forces in November, ending a ceasefire that had largely held since a military coup

Abdul Kalam, 35, a Rohingya refugee, arrived on a different boat on Wednesday after fleeing the Rakhine town of Maungdaw and said thousands were trying to escape. "Arakan Army were killing us... they want to kick us out of Rakhine," he said.

UK, Egypt issue alerts for Iran, Lebanon airspace as risks of military conflict rise

Monitoring Desk LONDON: Britain and

Egypt asked their airlines on Wednesday to avoid Iranian and Lebanese airspace amid growing fears of a possible broader conflict in the region after the killing of senior members of militant groups Hamas and Hezbollah. Britain's advisory to

its airlines to avoid Lebanon's airspace came hours after Egypt instructed all of its airlines to avoid Iran's airspace for three hours in the early morning on Thursdav.

Many airlines globally are revising their schedules to avoid Iranian and Lebanese airspace while also calling off flights to Israel and Lebanon.

Flights through conflict zones became a prominent industry safety issue a decade ago after Malaysia Airlines flight MH17 was shot

down over Ukraine, killing all 298 people on board.

US-based United Airlines said on Wednesday its flights to Tel Aviv, which were paused on July 31 due to security concerns, remained suspended. "We continue to closely monitor the situation and will focus on the safety of our customers and crews as we decide when to resume service," the airline said.

Its rival Delta Air Lines has paused its flights between New York and Tel Aviv through Aug. 31. British carriers are not flying to Lebanon currently, according to flight tracking website Flightradar24 Singapore Airlines stopped flying through Iranian airspace last Friday and is using alternative routes, saying safety is its top priority. Similarly, Egyptian airlines have already been avoiding Iran's airspace.

Volodymyr Zelenskyy said **Afghan Taliban chief** asks public workers to attend mosque

KABUL: Afghan government employees must attend mosque five times a day or face punishment. Taliban supreme leader Hibatullah Akhundzada said on Thursday in his latest edict.

Since the 2021 Taliban takeover, Akhundzada has overseen sweeping restrictions on society — shutting women and girls out of modern education, ordering male chaperones for females and effectively banning

"The officials of the ministries and institutions of the (Taliban government) are obliged by Sharia to pray in congregation at their fixed times," said the order signed by Akhundzada.

It added that employees who miss a prayer "without a reasonable excuse" should receive a

warning, and if they repeat the transgression "the relevant official is obliged to appropriately punish

A Taliban government spokesman did not respond to a query asking what the punishment would entail. It was not immediately clear how the order for employees to attend prayer during non-work hours would be

Akhundzada directs the government from his hideout in southern Kandahar, the spiritual heartland of the Taliban movement which first ruled Afghanistan from 1996 to

He rarely appears in ublic and when he does, bodyguards prohibit spectators from taking photographs or video of the man who has led the Taliban

Somalia's cabinet approves bill for universal suffrage **Monitoring Desk**

MOGADISHU: Somalia's

cabinet approved a bill on Thursday that, if confirmed by parliament, will revert the country's election system to universal suffrage for the first time in decades, ending a process of indirect voting, the government's spokesperson said.

Amid widespread insecurity caused by an Islamist insurgency and weak state structures, in recent years lawmakers voted for the president, while clan heads and elders elected lawmakers in both the federal government and regional

The country had initially been scheduled to move to direct voting in 2020, but protracted squabbles among politicians and persisting insecurity across the country forced the government to retain the indirect ballot

Monitoring Desk WASHINGTON: ABC News says that both Re-"I think it's very im-The network's an-

nouncement on Thursday came shortly after Trump told a news conference that he had agreed to three debates with Harris in September on separate net-

Trump is rejoining the ABC debate days after posting on his social media network that he would not appear on the network, cit-

Israel vows to eliminate new Hamas leader as war enters 11th month **Monitoring Desk**

JERUSALEM: Israel vowed to eliminate new Hamas chief Yahya Sinwar, the alleged mastermind of the Oct 7 attack, whose appointment further inflamed regional tensions as the Gaza war entered its 11th

month on Wednesday. The naming of Sinwar to lead the Palestinian group came as Israel braced for potential Iranian retaliation over the killing of his

predecessor Ismail Haniveh last week in Tehran.

Speaking at a military base on Wednesday, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Israel was "determined" to defend itself. "We are prepared both defensively and offensively," he told new recruits. Army chief Lieutenant General Herzi Halevi vowed to "find him (Sinwar), attack him" and force Hamas to find another leader.

Imam Masjid Al-Nabawi graces Parliament with significant visit, receives warm welcome

Opp Leader, members welcome Imam Masjid-e-Nabawi with great homage; Pakistan, Saudi Arabia can play global role on Kashmir and Palestine: Fazl

ISLAMABAD (APP): Imam Masjid Al-Nabawi, Salah bin Mohammad Al-Budair on Friday made a significant visit to the Parliament House along with his delegation. The delegation was warmly received by National Assembly (NA) Speaker, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq who expressed his deep honor at their presence.

Deputy Speaker Sved Ghulam Mustafa Shah, was also in attendance during the occasion. The NA session began with a recitation from the Holy Quran by Imam Al-Budair, setting a spiritually uplifting tone for the proceedings. He, along with his delegation, observed the assembly's proceedings.

In his welcome address, Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq extended heartfelt greetings to Imam Al-Budair and his delegation, emphasizing the pride and spiritual satisfaction that their presence brought to

the assembly. "The presence of the Imam Masjid Al-Nabawi in our midst is a great honor and a source of spiritual solace for us,' remarked Speaker Ayaz Sadiq. He further added that all members of the assembly felt a deep sense of iov and happiness to have Imam Al-Budair among them. Meanwhile Leader of the Opposition, Omar Ayub Khan on Friday along with members of the National Assembly accorded a warm welcome to Imam Masjid-e-Nabawi (PBUH) Sheikh Dr Salah Bin Muhammad Al-Budair by

Taking floor at open-ing of fifth meeting of eighth session of the National Assembly at the Parliament House, the Opposition Leader said the chief guest, Imam Masjid-e-Nabawi (PBUH) had the unique honour of being the Imam as he led the prayers.

paying great tributes and

homage to the dignitary.



ISLAMABAD: Deputy Chairman Senate Saydal Khan Nassar meeting with Chairman NADRA.

Labourers representatives to be taken on board in decision making of public welfare: CM

Independent Report QUETTA: The Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has stated that the provincial government is taking steps for welfare of labourers in Balochistan

He said that some 400 children of the labourers would be imparted education in the higher educational institutions of the

Besides, the representatives of labourers would be involved in the decision

tion of representatives of labourers who called on him here at the CM Secretariat on Friday

The members of delegation led by Muhammad Ramzan Achakzai apprised the Chief Minister about the issues being faced by the labourers.

Also present in the meeting was the Advisor to Chief Minister for Labour and Manpower, Sardan Ghulam Rasool Umrani.

The Chief Minister gave patient hearing to the sured that steps would be The Chief Minister taken to resolve their is-

was speaking to the delega- sues. **Digital Gender inclusion strategy** PTA, MoITT formally commenced implementation

ISLAMABAD (APP): Khawaja and convened by With the inaugural meeting of the Steering Committee on Digital Gender Inclusion, the Ministry of Information Technology and Telecommunication (MoITT) in collaboration with Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) has formally commenced the implementation of the Digital Gender inclusion strategy to significantly reduce digital gender divide within next three years.

The meeting was chaired by Minister of State for IT & Telecommunication (MoITT) Shaza Fatima

Chairman Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) Major General ® Hafeez Ur Rehman, said a news release issued here on Friday. During the meeting, Shaza Fatima Khawaja emphasized the government's commitment to advancing Pakistan's Digital Gender Inclusion Strategy and highlighted the need for collective action to bridge the digital gender gap. Chairman of PTA Maj. Gen ® Hafeez Ur Rehman underscored PTA's role in coordinating efforts and ensuring effective implementation

through collaboration.



QUETTA: Governor Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail inaugurating Monsoon Tree Plantation Campaign 2024

Magsi terms completion of Naulong Dam a significant milestone

QUETTA (APP): Former ter Resource Development Saifullah Magsi on Friday said that the completion of the Naulong Dam, with the support of the federal government, will be a significant milestone for the development of the green belt of the

Naulong dam will promote the growth of agriculture and livestock in Jhal Magsi, bringing 47,000 acres of land under cultivation and generating electricity for the

views while speaking at the the Naulong Integrated WaProject organized by the Balochistan Rural Support Program (BRSP). Dr. Shah Nawaz from

BRSP, Project Director Yusuf Magsi, irrigation expert Mr. Allen Clark, and others were also present on the occasion. He praised the federal

government's efforts for initiating such public-friendly

During the briefing on the project, the former senator was informed that the Naulong Dam spans 3,716 acres with a command area of 47,000 acres He expressed these and will generate 4.4 megawatts of electricity under inauguration ceremony of hydroelectric power gen-



ISLAMABAD: Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, along with other Parliamentarians present gift to Imam Masjid Al-Nabyi (S.A.W) Sheikh Dr Salah Mohammad M Al-Bdeer at Parliament House, in the Federal Capital.

WB study urges Balochistan to harness renewable energy potential for electricity

for reverse power flow

through the soon-to-be-available CASA1000 high-

World Bank study on Balochistan's Renewable Energy Development has highlighted the province's vast potential to harness variable renewable energy (VRE) sources and create a surplus of electricity.

This surplus electricity could be exported to other provinces within Pakistan or to international markets, reducing Balochistan's reliance on power imports.

The study has suggested that the existing import connection lines can be used to stabilize the grid, allowing for the exchange of electricity with other countries at competitive prices and optimizing the annual

SC seeks reply

from govt on

shifting MHNP

to interior

ministry

ISLAMABAD (Online): Supreme Court (SC) has

sought reply from govern-

ment on shifting Margalla Hills National Park

(MHNP) to interior min-

istry besides summoning

details of housing project

established on Margalla

Attorney General (AG) assured the court for

sacking Rana Saeed and

bringing the matter of shift-

ing of National Park to the

notice of Prime Minister

GW-scale opportunity presented by Balochistan's VRE surplus could be of In the short term (by 2028), the study has noted that while a consistent surinterest to the countries in plus of VRE supply may Central Asia to help meet not be available for contheir seasonal electricity tinuous export, there could demand deficit. Balochistan has an be seasonal opportunities

immense, largely untapped

potential for cost-effective

solar and wind power gen-

voltage direct current (HVDC) transmission line eration. The province's Photovoltaic (PV) power potential ranges from 2,000 to 2,500 kWh/m2, placing Central (Uzbekistan, Kyrgyz Republic, and potentially Kazakhstan). it among the world's most resource-rich regions for The Central Asia Resolar energy. Remarkably, gional Electricity Market PV power in Balochistan (CAREM) in this region has can achieve up to 35% grid experienced an electricity deficit during the winter,

utilization, and its energy supply profile aligns well with the local demand prowith growing demand. The study indicates that the file. President, PM extend greetings as javelin thrower Arshad

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday congratulated javelin thrower Arshad Nadeem as he secured a gold medal for Pakistan at the 2024 Paris Olympics, ending the

country's 32-year wait for

an Olympic medal. Arshad Nadeem won the gold medal in the men's javelin beating defending champion Neeraj Chopra of India to clinch Pakistan's first Olympic Athletic medal in Paris Olympics 2024, besides breaking the

wins gold medal in Olympics previous Olympic record with a 92.97-metre massive

> "You are a pride of the whole nation," both the president and prime minister said in their separately issued statements.

> "Arshad Nadeem's victory is the victory of the whole nation. Setting a fabulous Olympic world record is a great achievement. You have made us proud by winning the gold medal in a great contest of the Olympics and bringing fame to Pakistan," President Zardari stated.



QUETTA: Parliamentary Secretary Asfandyar Kakar and MPA Syed Zafar Ali Agha meeting with Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti

DC warns tandoor owners to adhere to official price list

Tandoor owners have appealed to the government to review the official price list

Independent Report QUETTA: Deputy Commissioner Quetta, Lieuten-

any violation of the price situation closely, and any list," he said. "Tandoor owners must display the official price list at their

nar was held at a local re-

sort in Quetta, organized by

the Centre for Develop-ment and Stability (CDS),

where tribal elders, local

youth representatives, and

notable figures of

Balochistan shared their

valuable insights on the

China-Pakistan Economic

Corridor (CPEC). The

seminar focused on "As-

sessing the Transformation

of Vision into Reality with

a Focus on Regional Con-

nectivity, Innovation, and

interactive session was held

During the seminar, an

Security in Balochistan."

shops, and anyone found overcharging will be arrested and jailed." The ant (R) Saad bin Asad, has Deputy Commissioner also warned tandoor owners to directed the Assistant adhere to the official price Commissioners and Magislist, otherwise, strict action trates to conduct daily raids will be taken against them. "We will not tolerate on tandoors and submit reports. "We will monitor the

negligence will be unaccept-

agreed that CPEC is a guar-

antor of development and

prosperity in Balochistan.

They expressed their will-

ingness to protect Chinese

initiatives in the region, in-

cluding the construction of

an international airport in

Gwadar and clean drinking

water projects. A detailed

discussion was held on the

significance of projects

planned for the second

phase of CPEC in Gwadar,

such as renewable energy

initiatives, which were

deemed pivotal for the

prosperity of Balochistan

able," he added

QUETTA (APP): A semi- where all participants

owners have appealed to the government to review the official price list, saying it is unrealistic and will lead to losses for them.

'We understand the need to control prices, but the current price list is too low," said a tandoor owner. "We request the government to reconsider the prices and find a mutually Meanwhile tandoor acceptable solution. **CPEC** to open ways of prosperity for

All participants ap-

preciated CPEC and agreed

that those who oppose its

smooth completion and

plot conspiracies to sabo-

tage it are traitors and en-

emies of Pakistan. They

emphasized that these in-

dividuals are spreading

misinformation and pollut-

ing the minds of people of all ages to hinder

Balochistan's progress and

stability. Director General

of CDS, Dr. Irfan Ashraf,

and Patron-in-Chief of

CDS Brig ® Asif Haroon

Raja discussed and high-

lighted the benefits of

CPEC for Balochistan, stat-

the entire region; experts conclude

PM reiterates determination for complete eradication of polio from Pakistan

Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Friday reiterated the determination for the complete eradication of polio from the country with the joint efforts of the federal, provincial governments and Gilgit-Baltistan and the Azad Jammu and Kashmir gov-

The prime minister said this while presiding over an important review meeting on anti-polio during his visit to Karachi. Gates Foundation Chairman Bill Gates and Global Development President Dr. Chris Elias participated in the meeting through the video link.

Under the leadership
Prime Minister
hammad Shehbaz Muhammad Sharif, four provincial governments, Gilgit-Baltistan and the Azad Jammu and Kashmir governments committed to complete eradication of polio from the country. All federal units also agreed to joint efforts for polio eradication

While talking to the participants of the meeting, the prime minister reiterated the determination for the complete eradication of polio. He thanked the Bill Gates Foundation for its extraordinary support and assistance to the health care system in Pakistan, especially polio prevention.

The prime minister also thanked the other partners of the government regarding anti-polio. He said that a whole-

of-government approach has been adopted to eradicate polio. He further said, 'we are doing our best to eradicate this deadly virus

The prime minister directed that all the resources of the state should be utilized for the complete elimination of polio from the country. He directed that multiple doses of vaccine should be given to every child in Pakistan. He emphasized that

provision of the polio vacevery child in areas where strategy

there are security chal-

The prime minister said that with the dedication of frontline workers the determination of the Government of Pakistan and the support of partners. Pakistan has made significant progress against polio; The emergence of new polio cases is worrisome, but with the support of provincial governments and partners, polio will be defeated

Chairman of the Gates Foundation, Bill Gates while appreciating the government's anti-polio initiatives, expressed satisfaction over the increase in the rate of children receiving anti-polio vaccine drops in the southern districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. He said that it is gratifying that the gov-ernment of Pakistan has planned to give inactivated poliovirus vaccine (IPV) to 4 million children.

The meeting was cine should be ensured to briefed on the anti-polio



KARACHI: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairing a review meeting regarding Pakistan polio eradication program.

Bugti inaugurates monsoon tree plantation drive: Measures for tackling issue of climate change included in

priorities of Govt, says CM **Independent Report**

QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has stated that measures are being taken to cope with the challenges of climate change as these are included in the provincial government's

tariat on Friday

Muhammad Sadiq Umrani and other high ups were also present. The Chief Minister stressed the need to make the monsoon tree plantation campaign successful. In this regard, he urged the members of pro-The Chief Minister vincial assembly to play

was speaking on occasion their wholehearted role for ister and Provincial Minisof the inauguration of mon- promotion of tree planta- ters inaugurated the mon-

when Balochistan is facing of Quetta pine.

climate change, therefore, tree plantation is necessary for remaining safe from the effects of climate change. This is why, we are

taking steps for tackling the challenge of climate change in the province. Earlier, the Chief Min-

soon tree plantation campaign at the CM's secretion in their respective arpaign by plantation campaign by planting saplings

BTTN Chief congratulates Arshad

QUETTA Balochistan Think Tank Network (BTTN)'s Chief Retired Brigadier Agha Ahmed Gul on Friday congratulated Arshad Nadeem on wining gold medal in Paris Olympics. In his statement is-sued here, he said Arshad

Nadeem has proved that there was no shortage of talent in the Pakistani nation. He said that national hero Arshad Nadeem has won Pakistan's first individual gold medal in Olympic Games Paris 2024 by breaking the record in javelin throw. His victory, which has set a new Olvmpic record, it should be celebrated as a national victory and we all would embrace him as a national hero, every nation needs heroes like Arshad. He paid tributes to Arshad for making the nation proud and said that throwing more than 90 meters twice in the final competition has also be-

ways of prosperity for the region. They noted that the

development of Gwadar

Port, with an investment

amounting to billions of ru-

pees, along with the estab-

lishment of a major inter-

national airport and clean

drinking water projects in

the region, signifies a piv-

otal transformation in

Balochistan's infrastruc-

ture. Dr. Ashraf also men-

tioned that Chinese compa-

nies have committed sub-

stantial resources, worth

millions of dollars, towards

Corporate Social Respon-

sibility (CSR) initiatives.

Govt brings Kisan Card to benefit farmers in **Balochistan: Secretary**

cial Secretary Agriculture Jafar, Dr. Habibullah Shah, Muhammad Dawood Bazai on Friday said that the Balochistan government was bringing Kisan Card which would benefit farmers across the province.

He said this while discussing the performance of the department on the occasion of his visit to Musakhail.

Director General Agriculture Balochistan

QUETTA (APP): Provin- Balochistan Abdul Karim Zamindaran Union District Musakhail President Nooruddin Khan, Maulvi Sirajuddin, Malik Abdullah, Sardar Asad and others were also present on this occasion. President of Zamindars Musakhail Nooruddin Khan briefed the Secretary about the problems being faced by

He said that the soil Muhammad Nadeem of Musakhail district was Irshad, Director Informa- suitable for all kinds of Agriculture crops and trees.



QUETTA: MPA Engr. Zamrak Khan Achakzai talking with Provincial Minister Mir Sadiq Umrani

Rubaba terms BYP major milestone for youth development and welfare **Independent Report**

cabinet of Balochistan has proudly approved the Balochistan Youth Policy 2024, marking a significant milestone in the development and welfare of the

This policy includes comprehensive recommendations aimed at providing growth opportunities across various sectors for young people, with a special focus on the welfare of young women and transgender individuals, stated the Advisor to CM Balochistan for Women Development Department, Dr, Rubaba Khan Buledi.

In an official statement issued here on Friday, Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi

stated that this policy will QUETTA: The provincial prove to be instrumental in offering opportunities for youth in every field of life in Balochistan. She emphasized the government's commitment to ensuring that the youth of Balochistan are fully prepared to face future challenges. Through this policy, the government aims to assist young people in realiz-

> ing their dreams. She further mentioned that the provincial government developed this policy after extensive consultation, incorporating the views of all relevant stakeholders. The policy ensures the inclusion and development of youth in educational, social, economic, and other sectors

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OUETTA: Chief Secretary Balochistan Shakeel Qadir Khan presiding over 13th meeting of Board of