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dailyindkhi@gmail.com

Chief Editor: Syed Farooq Shah

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CM Murad calls for mutual respect, peaceful coexistence, even amid religious differences

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah has said that the birth of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) is a divine blessing for all of humanity and his life serves as a model of obedience to Allah, justice, compassion, and love.

"The Holy prophet (PBUH) exemplified these virtues and also demonstrated the importance of mutual respect and peaceful coexistence, even amid religious differences."

This he said while speaking at the 'Seerat Conference: The Importance of Interfaith Respect

and Cooperation' organised by the Religious Affairs Department at Liaquat Memorial Library on Sunday evening.

Minister Auqaf & Religious Affairs Syed Riaz Shah Shirazi, the host of the conference, Zulfiqar Shah, provincial ministers, religious scholars Hafiz Abdul Rehman Salfi, Maula Baqar Hussain, Alhaj Ghulam Mohammad Soho, Secretary Auqaf & Religious Affairs Mureed Rahimo, provincial secretaries and others attended the conference in a large number.

Murad Shah said that the life of the Holy Prophet

Muhammad (PBUH) offers profound lessons on mutual respect and unity.

"The birth of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) is a divine blessing for all of humanity, he said and added that he was sent as a mercy to the worlds, and his life exemplifies obedience to Allah, justice, compassion, and love." He added that the teachings of the Prophet (PBUH) remain a guiding light for resolving modern-day challenges, providing a framework for peace, harmony, and societal unity.

The CM quoting Surah Al-An'am, said that

Allah stresses the injunction to respect the beliefs of others: "And do not insult those they invoke other than Allah, lest they insult Allah in enmity without knowledge."

He said this verse highlights the importance of tolerance and respect for differing beliefs as a foundation for peaceful coexistence.

He said that Islam guarantees the protection of minority rights within an Islamic state, underscoring the shared basic beliefs of all revealed religions, particularly the oneness of Allah.



KARACHI: The Sindh Chief Minister organized an Eid Milad-un-Nabi programme at CM House in Karachi. Renowned Naat Khawans recited naats, and religious scholars delivered speeches on the life and teachings of Holy Prophet (PBUH).



XIAN: Federal Minister for Petroleum Dr Musadik witnessed the MOU signing ceremony between OGDCL and Chinese company CCDC in Xian, China.

CJP Isa seeks answers to nine questions from registrar

ISLAMABAD (INP): Chief Justice Qazi Faez Isa has sought "explanation" from the registrar of the Supreme Court asking nine questions on the decision on reserved seats pronounced on July 12.

According to sources, the CJP wrote a letter to the registrar Jazeela Aslam in which he put nine questions regarding apex court's September 14 majority decision on reserved seats.

The CJP questioned registrar Ms Jazeela when did the Election Commission (ECP) and Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) file civil miscellaneous request for clarification?

Why the applications were not sent to the Practice and Procedure Committee? How were the miscellaneous petitions fixed for hearing without issuing a cause list?

Why has the cause list not been issued for hearing the applications?

Did the Registrar's Office issue a notice to the parties concerned and the Attorney General? In which courtroom or chamber were

the applications heard? The Chief Justice asked why the order was not fixed in a court room for pronouncing.

How was the order uploaded [on website] without the original file and the order being deposited in the Supreme Court Registrar Office?

Who gave the order to upload the order on the Supreme Court websites?

It may be recalled that the Supreme Court had issued a written order on the ECP's plea for clearing ambiguity on the majority decision on reserved seats.

The apex court, in its judgement, declared that the ECP had recognised that PTI was a registered political party. It is mala fide on part of the ECP not to acknowledge the certificates of the PTI members. For its act [of defiance] the ECP may face constitutional and legal consequences.

The apex court's decision categorically declared that all those who submitted certificates would be considered members of the PTI.

PM Shehbaz reaches UK, set to address UNGA on Sept 27

LONDON (INP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif reached London on Saturday night where he will stay for two days before leaving for New York to attend the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA). The premier arrived at the Luton airport where he was welcomed by Pakistan High Commissioner to the UK Dr Muhammad Faisal and officials of the UK government. Shehbaz Sharif will take part in high-level segment for 79th Session of United Nations General Assembly from tomorrow till Friday in New York.

In his address at the UN General Assembly on Friday, the Prime Minister will reaffirm Pakistan's steadfast commitment to multilateralism and support for the role of the United Nations in fostering global peace, security, and prosperity. He will emphasize the importance of addressing long-standing issues on the agenda of the UN Security Council, including the question of Palestine and the Jammu & Kashmir dispute. The Prime Minister will underline the importance of addressing the inequities in international economic relations and reforming the international financial architecture.

Teachings of our beloved Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), centered on compassion, justice, and unity, serve as a beacon for us

Says Pakistan-Iran relations are deep and enduring, founded on a shared heritage, mutual respect, and cooperation; Culturally, both Iran and Pakistan are rich sources of common traditions, literature, and art

Independent Report

KARACHI: A ceremony was held at the Iranian Consulate in Karachi to commemorate the month of Rabi-ul-Awwal, hosted by Iranian Consul General Hassan Nourian. Sindh Senior Minister Sharjeel Inam Memon, along with Provincial Ministers Syed Nasir Hussain Shah, Saeed Ghani, Syed Zulfiqar Shah, and others, participated in the event.



Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), centered on compassion, justice, and unity, serve as a beacon for us.

He stated that Pakistan-Iran relations are deep and enduring, founded on a shared heritage, mutual respect, and cooperation. Culturally, both Iran and Pakistan are rich sources of common traditions, literature, and art.

Senior Minister Sharjeel Inam Memon said that the shared experiences of our people through art, music, and literature promote mutual understanding and provide valuable opportunities for connection. He said that through the promotion of artistic

expression and educational initiatives, we can strengthen mutual understanding and foster respect.

Senior Minister Sharjeel Inam Memon said that we are facing global challenges in the fields of food security and sustainable development.

Pak-Iran cooperation is not only crucial for promoting regional stability but also for advancing agricultural expertise, resource exchange, and modern knowledge. The challenges of malnutrition can be addressed through collective action.

He said that through dialogue and cooperation, we can enhance economic partnerships, promote cultural exchange, and foster mutual collaboration. Today, we must renew our commitment to strengthening Pak-Iran relations.

The Jerusalem Post declares Imran Khan an advocate of Pak-Israel relations

TEL AVIV (INP): Israel's newspaper, The Jerusalem Post, has claimed that despite the fact the former prime minister and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan has denounced Israel in public, the truth is that he is in favour of the normalization of relations with the Jewish state.

The newspaper has backed claims made by the Times of Israel stating that Imran Khan despite his public anti-Israel stance has internally expressed a desire to normalize relations between Pakistan and Israel.

According to the article, Imran Khan would play a crucial role in building ties with Israel as he could change public opinion and military policy on this matter.

The paper is of the view that Imran's and Israel's viewpoints are identical. The Jerusalem Post has proved the claims of the Times of Israel right.

The report labeled Imran Khan as a "like-minded politician" for Israel and suggested that his political success in recent elections offers an opportunity to re-evaluate Pakistan-Israel relations.

President Zardari expresses resolve to eliminate terrorism

ISLAMABAD (INP): President Asif Ali Zardari has condemned the blast near a police van in Swat.

In a statement today, he paid tribute to the martyred police officer and expressed condolences to the bereaved families.

The President said terrorist elements are enemies not only of the country and the nation but also of humanity. He expressed the resolve to continue efforts for complete elimination of terrorism from the country.

The President also prayed for the speedy recovery of those injured in the explosion.

Provision of basic amenities to citizens should be top priority of govt: Ombudsman

KARACHI (APP): A case was presented before the provincial ombudsman Dr. Muhammad Sohail Rajput.

The Ombudsman, acting on Usman Khan's complaint, decided that the Karachi Water and Sewerage Corporation should immediately resolve the citizen's complaint and ensure uninterrupted water supply in the area.

The Provincial Ombudsman directed in his decision that the provision of basic amenities to the citizens should be the top priority of the government and related institutions and neglect of necessities like water will not be tolerated under any circumstances, a communicate said.

Usman Khan, a citizen of Gulbarg Town Karachi, filed an application against the Karachi Water and Sewerage Corporation to the provincial ombudsman on the issue of non-supply of water. Usman Khan's complaint was that the water supply in his area was constantly being affected, causing him and other residents of the area to face severe hardships.

The application was investigated by Regional Director Karachi Central District Nazir Ahmad Qidwai, who thoroughly investigated the issue.

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KARACHI: A large number of students are gathered outside the Dow Ojha Campus to attend the Entry Test of Medical and Dental College Admission Test (MDCAT) in Karachi.

Over 38,000 students attempted test in Sindh

KARACHI (INP): The Medical and Dental College Admission Test (MDCAT) for the 2024-25 academic year, conducted by Dow University of Health Sciences, has concluded in Sindh.

Over 38,000 students including male and female participated in the test, which was held at several locations, including NED University and the Cricket Ground of Dow University Ojha Campus in Karachi. Examination centers were also set up in Jamshoro, Nawabshah, Larkana, and Sukkur. Dow university Ojha campus host a total of 6,846 students for MDCAT test, while 6,000 students attempt the test in NED University, Karachi.

On the other hand, more than 12,659 candidates in Jamshoro, 4,800 in

Larkana, around 2,800 students in Nawabshah and 5,500 in Sukkur participated in MDCAT.

The parents expressing frustration over mismanagement in the test centers with complaints surfaced regarding strict regulations, such as a last-minute directive to remove jewelry, which caused distress, particularly for female students. There has been significant controversy surrounding the MDCAT 2024 exam, with parents voicing their frustrations over alleged malpractice and mismanagement by Dow University, which was responsible for conducting the test for the third time. Parents expressed anger over the difficult process of entering the centers and reported that students, especially girls, were treated unfairly.

Naem calls for accessible education, better healthcare, and youth empowerment

KARACHI: Jamaat-e-Islami Pakistan emir Hafiz Naem-ur-Rehman Sunday strongly criticized the government's policies, accusing it of failing to provide basic facilities like healthcare and education to the public.

Speaking as the chief guest at the Pakistan Islamic Medical Association (PIMA) convention held at the Expo Center Karachi, Hafiz Naem stressed the need to inspire hope and awareness among the younger generation.

He urged Pakistani youth to remain steadfast and optimistic, taking lessons from the Palestinian

people's determination to fight for their rights with patience and faith. "Despite facing severe challenges, they stand firm, content with Allah's will. Our youth should draw inspiration from their perseverance and not succumb to despair," he added.

Hafiz Naem highlighted the ongoing atrocities committed by Israel, calling for the continued boycott of Israeli products. He stated that Al-Aqsa Mosque remains under Zionist control, but expressed hope for the future, praising the resilience of the youth in Gaza as a beacon of resistance and hope.

Hafiz Naem-ur-

Rehman also criticized Pakistan's educational system, condemning how it has transformed into a profit-driven business. He said around 29 million children are out of school in the country due to poor policies. He expressed concern that higher education is becoming inaccessible to the middle class, making it increasingly difficult for them to pursue quality education.

He called on the government to ensure that education is available to all citizens and free from commercialization.

Highlighting the underdevelopment of Balochistan, he expressed his concern over the lack

of healthcare facilities in the province. He also criticized the exorbitant fees of medical colleges, which he argued are depriving middle-class families of educational opportunities.

"Heavy tuition fees are preventing aspiring doctors from pursuing their dreams, further widening the gap between the rich and the poor," he stated.

Addressing broader societal issues, Hafiz Naem emphasized the collective responsibility of society to steer the younger generation away from drug abuse and other social problems.



KARACHI: Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) Pakistan Ameer Engr Hafiz Naemur Rehman addressing at the two-day biannual countrywide central convention organized by the Pakistan Islamic Medical Association (PIMA) at the Karachi Expo Center.

MD-CAT exam paper leaked, sold for Rs1.2mn per student

KARACHI (INP): The MD-CAT entry test paper for Medical and Dental College in Larkana was leaked ahead of time, with mafia figures reportedly selling answer keys to students for hefty amounts ranging from Rs 1 million to Rs1.2 million each.

This scandal surfaced hours before the scheduled exam. The leaked answer keys were obtained before the test, revealing large-scale malpractice.

The entry test, scheduled for this morning, includes 4,812 candidates, with the participation of 2,591 male students and 2,211 female students.

Under the supervision of the University of Health Sciences, the Medical and Dental Colleges Admission Test (MD-CAT) is being held today in 30 cities and 2 international centres, with 12 cities in Punjab hosting the test in 26 different centres. A total of 82,500 candidates are participating in the exam.

To ensure the integrity of the examination process, mobile and internet services will be suspended in the vicinity of all 26 exam centres, covering a 500-meter radius, from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm. This move aims to prevent cheating and ensure a fair examination environment.

In Karachi, two main exam centres have been set up at NED University and Dow University Ojha Campus. A total of 12,846 candidates are expected to take the exam, with 6,000 appearing at NED University and 6,846 at Dow University.

The Sindh Home Department has taken active measures to prevent cheating, imposing Section 144 around exam centres and banning mobile phones, wallets, and any electronic items. Mobile signals will be jammed to further prevent any malpractice.

The exam will run from 10 am to 1:30 pm, with entry allowed only between 7 am and 9 am.

Daily Voice of Masses Independent

TTP's reach

Though the banned TTP is principally a threat to Pakistan's security, the terrorist group's wider ambitions should not be ignored by the world. In this regard, Pakistan's ambassador to the UN, Munir Akram, recently told the Security Council that the TTP is an "umbrella organisation" for militant actors, with the potential to destabilise the region. Moreover, indicating the state's dissatisfaction with the Afghan Taliban regime, he added that the TTP operates with "full support... of the Afghan interim government".

There are, of course, justified reasons for the state's frustration with the Afghan Taliban's inability to crack down on cross-border terrorism. In attacks on Thursday and Friday, several security men were martyred, mostly in areas close to the Afghan border. In one incident, terrorists were prevented from crossing into Pakistan, while in another, Pakistani forces traded fire with Afghan security men.

Expanding on the TTP's potential to cause havoc beyond Pakistan, Mr Akram cited the terrorist group's ties with Al Qaeda, saying that the TTP — by joining forces with the multinational terror franchise — could become a "spearhead" for regional and global terrorist goals. The TTP is already on the UN's radar, as the multilateral body has affirmed that the outfit is currently the largest terror group in Afghanistan, enjoying close bonds with the Afghan rulers. While there are strong ideological and doctrinal links between the Afghan Taliban and the TTP, the former are satisfied with implementing their rigid system internally, while the latter group has a wider 'vision', working as it does with transnational terror concerns. Therefore, as this paper has mentioned before, there is a need to pursue the anti-TTP campaign on two fronts: the domestic and the foreign.

Domestically, the state must ensure that TTP fighters and allied groups are not able to hold any territory or freely cross the Afghan frontier. Our demands for international action will lack conviction if we are not able to keep our own soil free of terrorist groups. Secondly, as the ambassador pointed out, the TTP — particularly its activities inside Afghanistan — should be a matter of global concern, specifically for regional states.

The TTP is not the only violent outfit operating within Afghanistan; Al Qaeda, IS-K, Central Asian fighters, as well as Uighur militants are also believed to have a presence in that country. Some have cordial relations with the Afghan Taliban, while others, for example IS-K, have adversarial ties with Kabul's rulers. Therefore, Pakistan, along with Iran, the Central Asian states, Russia and China, should evolve a joint strategy to address the militancy problem in Afghanistan.

Pakistan's warning about the threat the TTP poses should be heeded by the international community, as Afghanistan has remained a hotbed of extremist groups in the past. The same mistake should not be repeated.

China-Pakistan Economic Corridor Benefits People of Balochistan



By Zhang Hao

In June of this year, the China-Pakistan Friendship Hospital (CPFH) in Gwadar, Balochistan, was officially handed over to the Pakistani side. As a significant livelihood project under the framework of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), this modern comprehensive hospital, with 150 beds, features an intensive care unit, a neonatal intensive care unit (NICU), and four fully equipped operating rooms. It serves over 900 patients daily and employs nearly 300 local people.

Fahad Muhammad, the Pakistani project director of the hospital, stated that there is no second hospital in the entire province of Balochistan that meets international standards like this one, which will benefit the people of Balochistan as a whole.

"To get rich, we must first build roads", China's over 40 years of reform and opening up have revealed that for a country or region to achieve sustained development and improve people's lives, upgrading infrastructure is essential. The China-Pakistan Friendship Hospital in Gwadar is a clear example of how the construction of CPEC has

boosted the improvement of infrastructure in Balochistan and benefited local people. Since its launch in 2013, the CPEC has brought water and electricity, roads and airports, schools and hospitals to the people of Balochistan, leading to more employment opportunities, improved living conditions, and a promising future. Take Gwadar Port as an example, driven by the construction of CPEC, the port has developed into a multi-purpose terminal with three multi-purpose berths, capable of docking two 50,000-ton cargo ships at the same time. A regular container shipping service has also been launched. The China-assisted Gwadar East Bay Expressway was officially opened in June 2022, creating a transportation link between Gwadar Port and the southern key city of Karachi, enhancing connectivity between Gwadar Port and the economic heartland of Pakistan. The new Gwadar International Airport completed its test flights in June of this year, and when completed, it will form a modern three-dimensional transport network by sea, land and air together with the maritime route of Gwadar Port and the East Bay Expressway. The construction of these new port, road, and airport has transformed the Gwadar region from a remote fishing village into an important regional logistics hub and industrial base. The number of local shops, com-

munication base stations, cold storage facilities, and restaurants has doubled in recent years, and the number of tourists has also doubled, leading to a significant increase in local people's economic income as the saying goes that "a rising tide lifts all boats". This demonstrates that the traction effect of infrastructure development on improving people's livelihoods will be substantial and continuous to be released.

In promoting the construction of the CPEC, China focuses on large-scale infrastructure projects that support the long-term development of Balochistan while also carrying out numerous "small yet smart" livelihood assistance projects: We are committed to providing timely assistance. During the pandemic, the Chinese government provided essential supplies such as rice, flour, and cooking oil to fishermen in Gwadar, effectively alleviating their difficulties. After the floods in 2022, the Chinese Embassy in Pakistan promptly distributed relief supplies to 3,000 affected households in the Bugti tribal area, helping them to get through the difficult times. When Balochistan was hit by floods again this year, the Chinese government quickly provided \$100,000 in emergency cash assistance and 10,000 solar-powered lighting equipment, endeavouring to alleviate difficulties.

We care about the development of women and children. The Chinese government's project to donate 20,000 women's health kits to Balochistan was launched in July, aiming to improve the quality of life and health awareness of local women. The Chinese-aided Gwadar Faqeer School was expanded from a primary school to a primary and middle school with modern teaching facilities, including multipurpose classrooms, and the original enrolment of 150 students has increased to more than 1,000, which is known as "the school that grows up" by the local people. The Pak-China Technical and Vocational Institute at Gwadar focuses on short-term professional training for local workers, with 366 trainees already completed and 145 currently enrolled. Students from Gwadar can attend for free and have the opportunity to study in China in the future. We provide assistance tailored to local conditions. The Chinese government organized enterprises to donate high-yield hybrid rice seeds to farmers affected by disasters in Balochistan, allowing them to enjoy the joy of a bountiful harvest with "Chinese seeds". The Central South University of Forestry and Technology in China has cultivated plants such as date palms, figs, and Sesbania in Balochistan, not only increasing local vegetation coverage but also providing food

sources or animal feed, effectively boosting local people's economic income. The Chinese Consulate General in Karachi implemented the "Lighting up Gwadar" project, installing 73 solar street lights to illuminate roads used by Gwadar fishermen at night.

The construction of the CPEC is inseparable from the efforts of numerous Chinese enterprises. While promoting industrial development and providing a large number of employment opportunities in Balochistan, they have also taken on the role of fulfilling their Corporate Social Responsibility with heart and soul, and have sincerely solved practical difficulties for the people of Balochistan through various means such as building roads, bridges, wells, hospitals, schools, and donating materials. The Hub Coal Power Project, not only created nearly 10,000 jobs in Balochistan during its construction but also continued to carry out desert tree planting and coastal cleaning activities for many years, and helped build a fishing pier and a public welfare school.

The Saindak Copper Gold Project built the only high school in the area, Saindak High School, providing free education to more than 600 students, and its project hospital serves over 4,000 villagers. Since its operation, the Duddar Lead-zinc Mine Project has newly built and renovated six surrounding primary and secondary school buildings and regularly assisted about 300 students in surrounding community schools with study and living supplies. The project has also funded the continuous maintenance of roads and bridges within 100 kilometers from Duddar to Winder and constructed a causeway, completely solving the problem of poor transportation during the rainy season in the Kanraj area, effectively ensuring the transportation lifeline in surrounding communities smooth.

"Of all the things that matter, people's livelihood comes first". In the new era of socialism with Chinese characteristics, the most important value orientation of the Chinese government's governance is to further safeguard, improve, and develop people's livelihood, striving to realize the people's aspirations for a better life. The second phase of the CPEC will continue to uphold this development concept, making greater contributions to the economic development and livelihood improvement of Balochistan, benefitting more local people, and fully demonstrating the universally beneficial and inclusive nature of China-Pakistan friendly cooperation.

About the author, Mr. Zhang Hao is the acting CG of People's Republic of China in Karachi.

Commerce News

UK Trade Commissioner Oliver Christian begins key visit to Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (APP): Trust at the Novacare Hospital in Islamabad, said a press release. These initiatives are set to deepen the UK's investment in Pakistan's education and healthcare sectors. The University of Essex partnership aims to provide Pakistani students with access to world-class education, while the Novacare project will set a new standard in healthcare facilities and services in the region. British Deputy High Commissioner, Karachi Sarah Mooney said: "As Pakistan's third-largest trade partner, the UK is committed to driving

economic development and addressing challenges that hold back growth. This visit reinforces our commitment to working together to unlock opportunities to benefit both countries."

His Majesty's Trade Commissioner for the Middle East and Pakistan, Oliver Christian said: "British firms are not just operating in Pakistan, they are market leaders in their respective fields, trusted by millions of consumers as household names and making a significant contribution to the economy.



QUETTA: A vendor displaying stuffed toys to attract the customers at roadside near Sunday Bazaar at Joint road.

Pak Railways introduces affordable AC travel, cuts fares across board: Amir

ISLAMABAD (APP): He said Pakistan Railways has announced a 10% reduction in fares for all passenger trains, including air-conditioned and economy classes. The fare cut will be effective from 23 September and applies to both express and mail trains, he mentioned. Pakistan Railways is undergoing significant changes to streamline operations, boost efficiency, and optimize resource management, he said, adding that this transformation is part of a larger strategy to modernize the railway system, making it more reliable and comfortable for passengers.

82pc BISP beneficiaries get quarterly tranche

LODHRAN (APP): About 82 percent beneficiaries of Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) got quarterly tranche of Rs 10,500 each in the district. Talking to APP here on Sunday, BISP Lodhran District Director Irfan Malik, informed that ten camp sites were set up across the district in collaboration with the district administration for the disbursement of quarterly financial assistance. Four camp sites have been set up in Tehsil Kahrpur Pacca, three in Dunyapur and three in three in Tehsil Lodhran.

Irfan Malik stated that Rs 10,500 each were disbursed among 131,000 beneficiaries through 120 retailers registered with the BISP across the district. He added that strict monitoring of disbursement of quarterly tranche was being ensured to provide full payment to the deserving beneficiaries in a transparent manner.



ISLAMABAD: Commerce Minister Jam Kamal Khan chairs the 85th EDF Board meeting, approving Rs. 8.5 billion for initiatives aimed at boosting Pakistan's textile, agriculture and global branding efforts.

EDF Board approves 20 proposals of worth Rs 8.5 bn for textile, Agri, global branding

ISLAMABAD (APP): In a significant move to bolster Pakistan's export sector, the Export Development Fund (EDF) has approved 20 proposals of worth Rs 8.5 billion for initiatives targeting textiles, agriculture, gems and jewelry, defense, and global branding.

This was approved during the 85th meeting of the Export Development

Fund (EDF) Board under the chairmanship of Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan, said a news release here on Sunday. The Board approved 20 out of the 29 financial proposals by participating in Expo 2025 in Osaka Japan.

The minister highlighted the potential available in the reformed EDF for boosting the Pakistan exports by

Shocking revelations about IPPs came to light

RAWALPINDI (Online): It has been revealed that some of the IPPs (Independent Power Producers), private power companies in Pakistan have received billions of rupees from the government of Pakistan without generating electricity due to wrong contracts. Sources revealed that these IPPs are reluctant to undergo a forensic audit despite the immense insistence of the Government of Pakistan.

These IPPs have received billions of rupees from the government of Pakistan for the maintenance of the plants, government is also bearing their insurance, but despite the payment of billions, the government can never become the owner of these plants. Experts were of the

view that these IPPs have earned hundreds of times their profit, so the contracts should be reviewed. According to the sources, IPPs installed wind plants of the same capacity in Pakistan four times more expensive than in Bangladesh and Vietnam, and committed an over invoicing. Despite coal reserves in Pakistan, IPPs are dependent on imported fuels such as high-speed diesel and imported coal for power generation.

Costly electricity is being generated due to these initiatives of IPPs. According to sources, IPPs did not generate as much electricity as they imported fuel and also received billions of rupees subsidy from the government.

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MULTAN: Labourer is busy spreading raw rice for drying in the field.

Research on new seeds imperative to enhance agriculture productivity

FAISALABAD (APP): In a rapidly changing world and mounting population pressure, countries like Pakistan shall have to embark on strategies aiming at generating new seed varieties for enhanced productivity and compatibility to climate change effects. Although research and development of seeds is a continuous ongoing and tough process, yet it is imperative to enhance agriculture produce to cater to food requirements of burgeoning population and achieve the goals of food security and national progress and prosperity.

Immediately after independence, per acre yield of wheat in the country was only 15 maunds which pressured the government as well as scientists' to research and develop high-yielding and disease-resistant varieties to ensure adequate supply of wheat and make the country self-reliant in this basic staple food. Maxipak was the first seed to revolutionize wheat production and Nuclear Institute for Agriculture & Biology (NIAB) developed cotton variety NIAB-78 that ruled around two decades giving maximum yield of 14 billion bales. Thereafter, a number of research institutes were established with dedicated task of seed research and development and our scientists developed a large

number of seed varieties for different climatic zones. Very recently, the Cotton Research Institute Sakrand has developed three new cotton varieties including one non-BT (CRIS 644) and two BT varieties (CRIS 674 and CRIS 682). Similarly, University of Agriculture Faisalabad (UAF) recently developed soybean seed that is suitable for local farming and would help Pakistan to curtail import of soybean and locally meet soybean needs. "Only the UAF soybean variety can help country save \$1.5 billion spent on import of edible oil," said Prof Dr Iqbal Ahmad Khan, Vice

Chancellor (VC) UAF. "We have produced 50 new high-yielding varieties of different crops, fruits and vegetables during last three years." Recently, he informed that UAF developed two high-yielding sugarcane varieties including Insect-resistant transgenic sugarcane (CABB-IRS) and Herbicide-tolerant transgenic sugarcane (CABB-HTS). "These varieties carry superior traits and would help Pakistan to curtail import of soybean and locally meet soybean needs. "Only the UAF soybean variety can help country save \$1.5 billion spent on import of edible oil," said Prof Dr Iqbal Ahmad Khan, Vice

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Public rejects politics of chaos, endorses government's sound economic policies: PM

LONDON (APP): Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday said that the public had rejected the politics of chaos and instead prioritized the need for sound economic policies that directly address inflation and improve the living standard of the people. "The people want a reduction in inflation, solutions to their problems, and economic betterment," the prime minister said in a statement issued by the PM Office. The prime minister, stressing the urgency of addressing the public's economic concerns, called for a shift in political priorities, arguing that instead of focusing on rallies and political gatherings, the immediate need was to improve the economic condition of the masses. "We will hold rallies in 2028; but right now, it is time to work hard to fulfill the pledges made to the people."

He linked the success of the country's economic recovery directly to political stability, warning that political chaos would disrupt efforts to provide relief to the public. "Economic recovery is tied to political stability; political chaos means affecting the process of providing relief to the people," he said. He praised the people for their role in supporting economic growth by promoting political stability and emphasized that national unity was crucial for sustaining this progress.

"National unity for political stability will prove to be the guarantee of Pakistan's bright economic future and relief from inflation," he remarked. To address the country's ongoing economic and security challenges, the prime minister called for collaboration between political parties, institutions, and provinces. "To tackle economic challenges and terrorism, the nation, political parties, institutions, and provinces must work together," he urged. Recalling the past political instability, PM Shehbaz Sharif lamented that a lot of time had been wasted in political chaos therefore wasting more time was not in the interest of the country and the nation. On the economic front, the prime minister was optimistic about the country's progress, noting that inflation had returned to single digits and that Pakistan's overall economic situation was improving. "Thank God, inflation has returned to single digits, and the economic situation is improving," he said, highlighting key indicators such as rising exports, the stability of the rupee, increasing remittances, and declining interest rates.



KARACHI: Activists of Pasban Democratic Party (PDP) are holding protest demonstration for release of Pakistani Neuroscientist, Dr. Aafia Siddiqui, at Karachi press club.

UN adopts Pact for Future aimed at addressing global challenges; Pakistan says text 'not perfect'

UNITED NATIONS (APP): World leaders on Sunday adopted a Pact for the Future aimed at strengthening global governance to address challenges ranging from conflict to climate change and human rights, despite last-minute objections from a group of countries led by Russia. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, who organized the "Summit of the Future," had billed it as a "once-in-a-generation opportunity" to reshape human history by rekindling international cooperation. The pact aims to strengthen global governance and tackle key challenges facing humanity, including sustainable development, international peace, and technological innovation, youth and future generations and transforming global governance. It also proposes detailed action plans to address these challenges. The adoption of the text faced a brief delay when Russia's deputy minister of foreign affairs, Sergey Vershinin, introduced an amendment emphasizing the "principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of states" and urging the U.N. to avoid duplicating efforts. Russia's objections were backed by allies Belarus, North Korea, Iran, Nicaragua and Syria, but its amendment did not pass in a motion to take no action. Pakistan and China abstained.

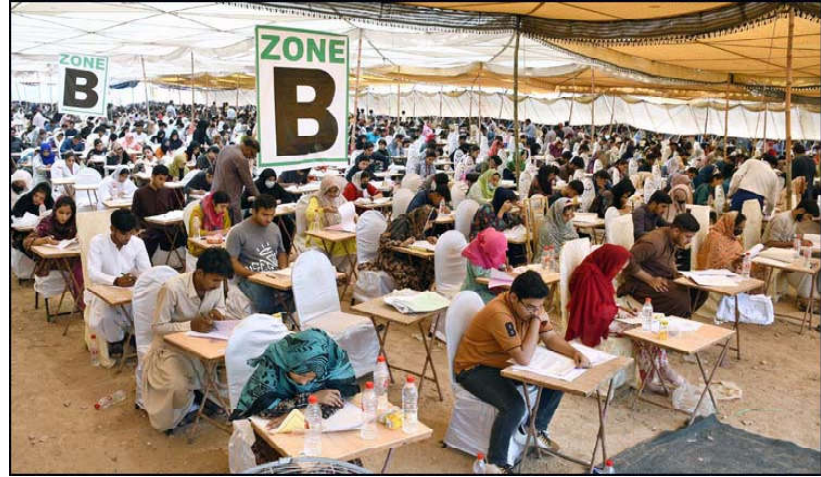
PM expresses deep grief over fatal mine explosion in Tabas, Iran

LONDON (APP): Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday expressed deep grief and sorrow over the loss of precious lives in the mine explosion in Tabas, Iran. He offered his heartfelt condolence to Iran's President Masoud Pezeshkian and the Iranian people on the loss of precious lives and injuries in the coal mine explosion. "Our thoughts and prayers are with the victims and their families. Pakistan stands with its Iranian brethren during this time," the prime minister wrote on his official X timeline.

OGDCL, Chinese CCDC sign MoU for shale, tight gas exploration

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistan's Oil and Gas Development Company has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Chinese company CCDC for exploration of shale and tight gas potential in Pakistan. Mumtaz Ali Soomro, Executive Director (Production) of OGDCL, and Mr. Zhang Zhidong, Vice President of CNPC Chuandong Drilling Engineering Company Ltd., signed the MoU on behalf of their respective organizations. Pakistan's Ambassador to China, Khalil Hashmi also attended the event. Dr. Musadik Malik expressed hope that cooperation in the energy sector between both nations will continue to strengthen in the future, benefiting both countries mutually. He highlighted the collaboration between Oil & Gas Development Company Limited (OGDCL) and CCDC on shale and tight gas, stating that this partnership will open a new chapter in the exploration of Pakistan's untapped energy resources. The MOU underscores commitment of both the brotherly countries for the development of Shale and tight gas potential of Pakistan with an aim to alleviate energy needs of the country through indigenous resources.

Federal Minister for Petroleum, Dr. Musadik Malik, in Xi'an, Shaanxi Province, China, witnessed the MoU signing ceremony during the ongoing 8th Silk Road International Expo for Investment and Trade, according to a news release received here. The MoU highlights the commitment



JAMSHORO: Students are solving their question papers during Pre entry test for admission at the Liaquat University of Medical & Health Sciences (LUMHS).

One Police officer martyred, 3 injured in blast targets police vehicle in Swat

ISLAMABAD (APP): One police officer was martyred and three others injured on Sunday due to an explosion on a high-speed car accident in Tank district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Inspector Sar Zameen, Constable Amanullah, and Constable Habib Gul were among the injured. The area surrounding the explosion has been secured, with police initiating a search operation to locate potential suspects. Emergency services swiftly arrived at the scene, where rescue operations were launched to assist the injured and secure the area. President Asif Ali Zardari on Sunday strongly condemned the bomb blast near a police van in Swat.

Karachi police arrest female gang looting people after hypnotizing them

KARACHI (INP): Karachi police have arrested a six-member gang of women involved in hypnotizing and robbing people across Sindh province on Sunday. According to police, the Malir Investigation and Operation Police conducted a joint operation to arrest the inter-provincial gang, led by a woman named Sahiba aka Hina.

According to SP Aziz Memon, two affected families identified the gang leader, and valuable goods worth millions of rupees were recovered from the arrested women. The SP added that the group was involved in robbing women by hypnotizing them inside their homes. Cases against the group have also been registered in Lahore, Khairpur, and Sukkur. The gang used various tactics, such as offering tuition or other excuses, to enter homes.

The Karachi police are continuing their search for the remaining fugitive members of the gang. On August 3, the police managed to bust another honey trap gang in Lahore.



XIAN: Minister of Petroleum Dr Musadik Malik held meeting with Shaanxi Coal and Chemical Industry Group to expand partnership in coal.

Hundreds of global artists to perform in "World Culture Festival Karachi"

KARACHI (APP): A 5-day "World Culture Festival Karachi" (WCFFK) will be held at the Arts Council of Pakistan from September 26 to 30 in which over 250 global artists to perform. According to the Arts Council of Pakistan's social media post, the festival hosted by Arts Council of Pakistan will commence on Thursday (September 26) in which 250 artists from 35 countries across all continents would showcase the best talent in music, theatre, dance and the fine arts.

ACP president Syed Ahmed Shah said WCFFK is a grand celebration of the Arts Council of Pakistan, Karachi's efforts of cultural diplomacy. This festival is the grandest global artistic gathering ever hosted in Pakistan. The event is set to bring together over 250 artists from over 35 countries to showcase the best talent in music, theatre, dance and fine arts in a manner never seen before, ACP post stated. Meanwhile, Rafaele Giovanola, a Swiss born American choreographer said in a social media post that Germany will be represented by Cocon Dance at the Festival on September 27. She appealed the art lovers to attend the World Culture Festival and enjoy the cultural performances presented by the Cocon Dance Company as well as other artists.

Three ATF cops martyred in terror attack at Zhob

Governor, PM express sorrow on martyrdom, injuries of police in Zhob firing incident

ZHOB (NNI): A tragic terrorist attack on the Zhob-DI Khan National Highway has claimed the lives of three Anti-Terrorist Force (ATF) personnel deployed to protect the polio workers. The incident occurred when terrorists opened fire on polio vaccination security teams. According to police officials, Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) Gohar Khan was martyred on the spot due to the gunfire. Two other police personnel, Amir Muhammad and Muhammad Shafiq, were critically injured and immediately shifted to the Combined Military Hospital (CMH). Sadly, both succumbed to their injuries during treatment.

All three officers—ASI Gohar Khan, Amir Muhammad, and Muhammad Shafiq—were part of the Anti-Terrorist Force tasked with protecting polio teams in the area. The number of ATF personnel martyred in the Zhob attack has now risen to three. Authorities are continuing their investigation into the incident, and security forces have launched a search operation in the area to apprehend the attackers. Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi has strongly condemned the recent attack on an Anti-Terrorist Force (ATF) vehicle on the Zhob National Highway, which resulted in the martyrdom of three police officers. Naqvi paid tribute to the fallen officers, honoring their bravery and sacrifice while on duty. The minister extended his deepest sympathies and condolences to the families of the martyred personnel, emphasizing that their eternal sacrifices are a source of national pride. Naqvi also prayed for the swift recovery of the injured officer involved in the incident. "The officers who achieved the highest rank of martyrdom in the line of duty are our true heroes," Naqvi said, adding that he stands in solidarity with the grieving families during this difficult time. The Interior Minister reiterated his unwavering support for the families of the martyrs, assuring them that the nation shares their sorrow and will not forget the sacrifices made by these brave officers.

6 killed in traffic accident in Tank

ISLAMABAD (APP): Six people were killed, while one child has sustained severe injuries on Sunday in a high-speed car accident in Tank district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. According to a private news channel, Rescue officials said that the incident occurred near the Khargai check post on the Waziratan highway, reportedly due to excessive speed. The crash claimed the lives of six people, including women and children, who were traveling in the vehicle. The deceased have been identified as residents of Tooda Chainah in South Waziristan. Rescue teams have successfully transported the bodies of the deceased and the injured child to a nearby hospital for medical attention. Further investigation to the accident was underway.

Islamabad Red Zone sealed again after TLP protest call

ISLAMABAD (NNI): The federal police once again sealed the Red Zone Islamabad and put security on high alert after the protest call by Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP). According to the report, four out of five red zone roads have been completely sealed by installing containers at Serena Chowk, Nadra Chowk, Express Chowk and Marriott Chowk. Police also sealed Fazal Haq Road and China Chowk by installing barbed wire on Jinnah Avenue and heavy personnel deployed in the area. Police said that the decision was being taken that a protest call was given by TLP as the campaign for the release of Dr Aafia Siddiqui. The decision of the capital police to seal the area by installing containers is to prevent the protestors from entering the red zone by installing containers, police said.

Pakistan Railways employees caught stealing diesel from depot

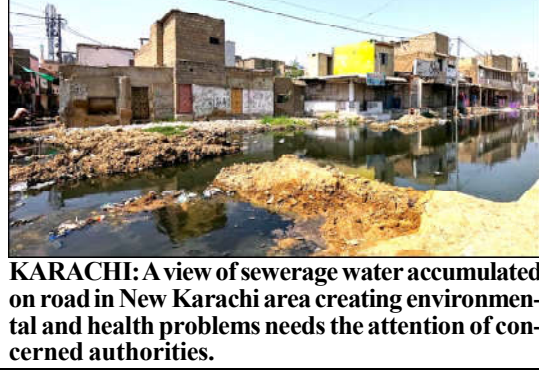
KARACHI (INP): A video showing Pakistan Railways employees stealing diesel from Karachi Railway depot has surfaced online. In a video, three employees of Pakistan Railways including an engine driver can be seen stealing the diesel from Karachi Cantt Railway Station depot. Sources stated that the suspects had been involved in diesel theft for the past three months. The accused have been arrested, and a case has been registered at the Cantt police station.



KARACHI: A large number of people gather to buy and sell birds at a weekly birds market located on Liaquatabad area in Karachi.

NDF holds training on personalized emergency preparedness plans for persons with disabilities

NAWABSHAH (APP): The National Disability and Development Forum (NDF) Pakistan, in collaboration with the Korea SHE Foundation, successfully conducted a one-day training on Personalized Emergency Preparedness Plans in Nawabshah. The event was attended by 30 persons with disabilities, along with key stakeholders, to strengthen emergency preparedness and ensure the safety and well-being of people with disabilities in times of crisis. The training, led by Tariq Hussain Channar, Program Manager at NDF, focused on building capacity among participants to develop tailored emergency plans suited to their unique needs. The initiative aimed to equip individuals with the knowledge and tools necessary to effectively respond to natural disasters, health emergencies, and other critical situations. During the interactive sessions, participants engaged in discussions and practical exercises on how to assess risks, communicate effectively during emergencies, and ensure accessible evacuation procedures. The collaboration with the Korea SHE Foundation brought an international perspective, further enriching the content of the training. Mr. Tariq Hussain Channar emphasized the importance of empowering persons with disabilities to take proactive steps in emergency preparedness, stating, "This training is a vital step towards creating inclusive and resilient communities where everyone, regardless of ability, is prepared and protected in times of crisis." The event marks a significant milestone in NDF Pakistan's ongoing efforts to promote the rights, safety, and inclusion of persons with disabilities across the country. The participants, which included individuals with disabilities and representatives from local organizations, expressed their appreciation for the practical knowledge gained and committed to applying it within their communities.



KARACHI: A view of sewerage water accumulated on road in New Karachi area creating environmental and health problems needs the attention of concerned authorities.



KARACHI: People selecting and purchasing old books at Reagal Chowk.

VC felicitates students their supervisors on securing first position in the film festival

HYDERABAD (APP): The Department of Media and Communication Studies University of Sindh has secured the first position at the prestigious National Climate Justice Youth Film Festival (NCJYFF), organized by the Grow Green Network in Karachi. According to the Chairman Department of Media & Communication Studies Dr Muhammad Qasim Nizamani, competing against universities from across the country, the SU students' film on climate justice impressed the judges and was declared the top entry. On the occasion, the Sindh University team was awarded a cash prize of Rs 45,000 in recognition of their outstanding work.

It may be noted that this achievement is not only a significant milestone for the department but also a great honor for the University of Sindh, showcasing the talents and dedication of its students in addressing critical environmental issues through creative media. On the other hand, the SU Vice-Chancellor Professor (Meritorious) Dr Muhammad Siddique Kalhoru has congratulated the winning team and its supervisors on their triumph in the festival held by Grow Green Network in Karachi. He said he was elated to know that the students of the Department of Media & Communication Studies were doing professional work in their field.

Advertisement for APNS (Arabic Press News Service) featuring the text "Yes, of course it hurts" and a call to action "#StopFakeNews #PromoteAuthenticity". It includes a logo for National Newspaper Readership Day and a QR code.