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Chief Editor: Syed Farooq Shah

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President, PM extend heartfelt felicitations to China on 75th anniversary

Pakistan to work with China

for shared prosperity, global peace: President Zardari

#### **Supreme Court ruling on reserved** seats cannot be implemented under new law: NA speaker

NA Speaker pens letter to ECP, says the Amended Election Act, 2017, was passed on August 7 while the SC issued verdict in July.

ISLAMABAD (Agencies): Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq has said the independent returned candidates who have already given a joining to a political party cannot be allowed now to switch parties in terms of the Amended Election Act, which has paramount and overriding effect.

In a letter written to the Election Commission of Pakistan, he said no allocation can now be made by the Election Commission without applying the Amended Election Act to the fullest. As the Judgment of the Supreme Court was rendered, based on the law prior to the enactment of the amendment, the said judgment is now incapable of implementation.

The Speaker said it is the Amended Election Act that shall prevail and supersede the prior ruling.

It is pertinent to mention that the above is not only my view, but in fact is the consistent jurisprudence of the Supreme Court as well. The Amended Election Act is in the field, therefore, it is the statutory obligation of the ECP to honor the laws made by Parliament and uphold the principles of democracy and parliamentary supremacy. Sardar Ayaz Sadiq said after the Judgment of the

apex court, the Parliament has been pleased to pass the Elections (Second Amendment) Act, 2024 which received the assent of the President on 7th August 2024 and was published in the Gazette of Pakistan on 9th August 2024. He referred two particular provisions of the Amended

Election Act, which states "provided that if a candidate, before seeking allotment of a prescribed symbol, has not *Continued on page 2* 



Ambassador of People's Republic of China to Pakistan Mr. Jiang Zaidong cutting a cake to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Founding of People's Republic of China, in Islamabad.

#### PTI, govt speed up contacts with JI for strategic alliances

PESHAWAR (INP): The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) and the government have separately accelerated their contacts with the Jamaat-e-Islami, as former president Dr Arif Alvi is scheduled to meet with the Jamaat leadership today in

Reportedly, a government delegation is also scheduled to meet with JI leaders in the next 48

The PTI has established contacts with the JI leadership once again as part of its ongoing efforts to strengthen alliances against the government.



ISLAMABAD: Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti addressing the launching ceremony of Ammar Masood's book "Mir Hazar Khan Marri: Muzahimat se Mufahimat Tak"

#### Pakistan keen to expand trade, security cooperation with Russia: PM Shehbaz

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday said that Pakistan was keen to expand trade, economic, energy, connectivity and security cooperation with

The prime minister, talking to Russia's Deputy Prime Minister Alexei Overchuk, who called on him here, conveyed that Pakistan considered strengthening relations with Russia as an imporforeign policy, according to a PM Office press release.

welcoming his Russian counterpart Mikhail ally beneficial. Mishustin to Islamabad The two sign next month. Recalling his "very

President Vladimir Putin in the high-level delegation to tries eral cooperation.

Overchuk tant priority of Pakistan's thanked the PM for the especially trade, investwarm welcome and reiterated Russia's resolve to Welcoming the delega- deepen relations with Pa- and education.

ISLAMABAD (APP): tion, the prime minister said kistan. He characterized that he looked forward to Pakistan-Russia relations as constructive and mutu-

> The two sides agreed to maintain regular contacts. The prime minister fruitful" discussion with also witnessed signing of an MoU between Russia and July earlier this year and Pakistan, which signifies conveyed his thanks to the shared understanding President Putin for sending and desire of the two coundiscuss expansion of bilat-strengthen mutually ad-

vantageous cooperation in all areas of shared interest, ment, energy, IT, agriculture, science & technology PM Shehbaz to

attend UNGA

session from

Sep 23-27

ISLAMABAD (APP):

Shehbaz Sharif is sched-

uled to participate in the

high-level segment of

the 79th session of the

United Nations General

Assembly in New York

from September 23-27,

nied by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign

Minister Senator Ishaq

Dar and senior govern-

ment officials, Foreign

Office spokesperson

Mumtaz Zahra Baloch

said at her weekly press

briefing here Thursday.

ceremony held here.

areas of the province.

He will be accompa-

Minister

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Asif Ali Zardari on Thursday reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to working together with

China for shared prosperity, and promoting peace and stability in the world. Highlighting the impor-

tance of the China-Pakistan Corridor (CPEC), the President said that high quality develop-ment of CPEC would "help unlock greater benefits for our people, besides enhancing connectivity and prosperity of the region"

He emphasized the importance of advancing the high-quality development of CPEC to unlock greater benefits for the people of

President Zardari was speaking at the "China's National Day Reception", hosted by the Chinese Em-

The event marking the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China, was attended by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, federal ministers, dignitaries, diplomats, and senior civil and military officers.

President Zardari, extending the warmest felicitations to Chinese brothers and sisters on the auspicious occasion, stated that the first October marked



ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister of Russian Federation, Alexei Overchuk calls on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

#### Bakht Kakar assigned Health Department: CM withdraws portfolios of Livestock & Health from Kakar & Jamali respectively

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Bugti has withdrawn the portfolios / departments of Livestock & Dairy Development and Health from the Provincial Ministers Muhammad Kakar and Sardarzada Faisal Khan

Jamali respectively. According to a notification issued here by the Services and General Administration Department

Govt. of Balochistan & Indus Hospital

Health Network ink MoU for Universal

Health Coverage in Dera Bugti

**Independent Report** 

QUETTA: The Health Department, Government of Balochistan, Indus Hospital and

Health Network signed Memoranudm of Understanding (MoU) for Universal Health

Hospital Health Network signed MoU on behalf of their respective institutions at the

Amin Khan Mandokhail, Additional Secretary Health, Arif Khan Achakzai, Additional

Secretary Health, Taufiqa Daniyal and Provincial Manager of Indus Hospital, Dr.

Jahandad Kasi. It may be mentioned here that the MoU is in the backdrop of the Chief

Minister's Initiative of Health on Wheels for provision of healthcare facilities in remote

The Secretary Health, Saleh Muhammad Baloch and Executive Director of Indus

Those who were present on the occasion were the Director General Health, Dr.

Coverage through Health on Wheels in Dera Bugti on Thursday.

(S&GAD) on Thursday, the portfolios have been withdrawn from the concerned Provincial Ministers by the Chief Minister with imme-

diate effect. According to the notification, the Chief Minister assigned the portfolio / department of Health to the Provincial Minister, Bakht Muhammad Kakar with immediate effect. However, no portfolio / department has been assigned to Sardarzada

#### Book launch on "Mir Hazar Khan Marri: Muzahimat se Mufahimat Tak": Unfortunately false narrative built about Balochistan's accession to Pakistan: CM

Says coming generations should be aware about historic facts

mutual willingness and joy.

said that Mir Hazar Khan

Marri played an important

role in promotion peace and

stability in the province.
The Chief Minister

was addressing the launch-

ing ceremony of Ammar

Masood's book " Mir Hazar Khan Marri: Muzahimat se Mufahimat

Tak", here he said

The Chief Minister

**Independent Report** 

ISLAMABAD: The Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfraz Bugti has categori-cally stated that our coming generations should surely be well aware about the historic facts and maintained that Balochistan's accession with Pakistan was not done forcibly, rather it was done with all

willingness and pleasure.

He said that unfortunately a false narrative had been built about Balochistan's accession to Pakistan.

He said that the gifts

exchanged between Quaide-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah and Khan of Kalat

Balochistan province had a beautiful story to tell but unfortunately nobody wrote its tale.

He said that this book would provide guidance to the new generation about the history of Balochistan

at that time manifested that and the role of tribal elders. He said that unfortu-

nately a false narrative had been built about Balochistan's accession to Pakistan. The CM announced that funds had been allocated for construction of road to Thadri, native area of the late Baloch leader in Kohlu district which will be named "Mir Hazar Khan Marri Road".

The Chief Minister appreciated the writer of book, Ammar Masood, researcher Khalid Fareed and other associates and said that the book would be made available in the uni-

Continued on page 2

#### Bilawal stresses need for constitutional court to ensure fair judicial system

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari has reiterated his party's long-standing demand for judicial reforms, emphasising the need for a constitutional court to ensure a fair judicial system.

Speaking to representatives of lawyers across the country on Thursday, Bilawal praised the legal community for their resistance against dictatorships, particularly in defeating General Musharraf's re-

"Lawyers have always stood firm against dictators, and their struggle led to the downfall of Musharraf's

dictatorship," he said. Bilawal highlighted the views of his late mother, Benazir Bhutto, who believed that judges should avoid political activism. "She used to say that if judges want to lead rallies, they should form a political party. She knew that political involvement by the judiciary would harm the public," he remarked. He also recalled the PPP's commitment to the

#### Charter of Democracy. SC dismisses plea regarding **PB-14**

election results ISLAMABAD (APP) The Supreme Court on Thursday dismissed the petition of PPP's candidate against election results in PB-14 Balochistan and upheld the victory of PML-N's candidate

A three-member bench headed by Chief Justice of Pakistan Qazi Faez Isa heard the case filed by PPP's leader Ghulam Rasool

During the course of proceeding, the Chief Justice remarked that how did the applicant know that a wrong result has been prepared. He said that after the box is opened, form 45 or 75 has no importance.

The CJP said that the most important evidence in elections is the vote, Form 45 is filled by the presiding officer. He asked the petitioner to prove the partiality of the presiding officer. No objection was raised on the recount, he said, adding that the court takes verdict on basis of facts and record.

#### Ahsan sees Balochistan as country's most prosperous province in 15-20 years SLAMABAD (APP): Ammar Masood with re-

Minister for Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Igbal on Thursday expressed confidence that Balochistan would emerge as the most prosperous province in the country within next 15-20 years due to its potential and extensive development activities being

carried out there. "This year, the Federal Government allocated Rs 130 billion in its development budget for Balochistan, which is almost double that of Punjab and higher than all other provinces," he said while addressing a ceremony held to launch a book titled "Mir Hazar Khan Marri · Mazahmat Say Mufahamat Tak" [From Resistance to

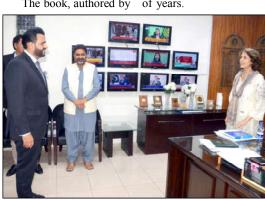
Reconciliation]. The book, authored by

search work by Khalid Farid, details the struggle of

Mir Hazar Khan Marri, who unveiled conspiracies that had been hatched against Pakistan. The minister paid tribute to Mir Hazar Khan Marri, the brave son of Balochistan, for his efforts

to educate the people, especially the youth of the province, about the inimical designs of adversaries against the motherland, thereby giving them political maturity and guiding them towards reconciliation, brotherhood and harmony. He highlighted Pakistan's

eo-strategic importance in the region, which was surrounded by the countries like China, Iran and India, with a history of thousands of years.



ISLAMABAD: Barrister Daniyal Chaudhry, MNA took the charge for the post of Parliamentary Secretary of Information and Broadcasting. On arrival at the Ministry he was welcomed by Secretary Information and Broadcasting Ambreen Jan and senior officers of the Ministry. He was briefed on the functions of the Ministry.

Lebanon attacks:

#### Use of electronic means for terrorism in foreign countries reprehensible: FO spox

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan on Thursday strongly condemned the attacks in Lebanon through the detonation of electronic equipment and said that the use of cyber and electronic means to commit terrorism in foreign countries was reprehensible

'Pakistan strongly condemns this week's attacks in Lebanon carried out through detonation of electronic equipment. The use of cyber and electronic means to commit terrorism in foreign countries is reprehensible," Foreign Office

spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch said at her weekly press briefing. She said the terror at

tacks were the manifestation of Israel's alarming adventurism in the region, endangering peace and se-

curity.

"Pakistan reaffirms its support for Lebanon's sovereignty and territorial integrity and calls upon the international community to take urgent steps to hold Israel accountable for its acts of international terrorism and violation of inter-

Continued on page 2

#### **Fully determined to run BA** according to traditions, rules & regulations: Speaker BA

**Independent Report** QUETTA: The Speaker Balochistan Assembly, Captain (Retd) Abdul Khaliq Khan Achakzai has stated that he is fully determined to run the assembly according to the traditions, rules and regulations.

The Speaker was speaking to the media persons on Thursday.

The Speaker said that the international forces are involved in spoiling situation in the province. He said that whenever Balochistan starts it's journey towards

development, the anti state elements bent upon creating hurdles in it.

To a query, he said that the people are affected in Chaman due to the enforcement of condition of passport at the border.

However, it is binding on us to implement the decisions of state.

The Speaker said that he has spoken to the President Asif Ali Zardari, Prime Minister Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif and other higher authorities on the issues of Chaman.



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Egypt, Dr. Ihab Abdelhamid Hassan calls on Federal Minister for Defence, Defence Production and Aviation, Khawaja Muhammad Asif.

#### Cases of polio continue to mount in Balochistan as tally reaches 13 in 2024

PM's Focal Person for Polio Eradication expresses deep concern over rise in cases from Balochistan; stresses importance of reaching every child with multiple doses of protective vaccines

**Independent Report** 

QUETTA: The cases of polio continued to mount in Balochistan province as their tally reached 13 during year 2024 with another case reported from Quetta district.

The Emergency Operation Center (EOC) for Polio Eradication Balochistan

confirmed

confirmed the detection of WPV1 in a 2-yearold child from Union Council Qadriabad of District Ouetta.

It may be mentioned here that this is the second case from Quetta this year the 13th from Balochistan province, the

Continued on page 2

Speaking on the occasion, Secretary Health said that it is very important to provide health care facilities to the people who are leading life below the poverty line. He said that the expertise and skills of the Indus Hospital would be utilised for roviding health services to the people in the areas of Dera Bugti.

He said that the decision of Universal Health Coverage would have far reaching esults for bringing improvement in the health sector

**PTCL Group Head HR Shoaib** 

Baig sacked ISLAMABAD (Online): Pakistan Telecommunica-

tion Company Limited (PTCL) has dismissed

Shoaib Baig, Group Head

of Human Resources with

ment issued by the Presi-

dent of PTCL, this deci-

sion has been taken after

much deliberation. How-

ever, the company has not

disclosed the reasons for

comes at a critical time for

PTCL, which is working to

streamline its operations

mitted to maintaining the

highest standards of pro-

fessionalism and integrity,"

a PTCL spokesperson

and improve services.

Baig's departure

"The company is com-

According to a state-

immediate effect.

Beg's dismissal.

#### **Speaker's letter to CEC** denotes supremacy of Parliament: Atta Tarar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaullah Tarar on Thursday said that National Assembly Speaker Ayaz Sadiq had eventually upheld the supremacy of the Parliament by writing a letter to the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) on the issue of reserved seats.

He paid tributes to the Speaker on the initiative and said that it must not be misconstrued.

'There are specific questions over the Supreme Court's verdict about the reserved seats, which need to be duly considered and redressed," the minister said while talking

Terming the Speaker's Constitution. letter a 'milestone in the parliamentary history', he said it was articulated unequivocally in the Constitution that "the Parliament is supreme and has the sole jurisdiction to enact and

It were the people who elected their representatives to the Parliament with an exclusive right to legislate or amend the Constitution, he added. The minister said there

should not be a trespass in terms of institutional domains in order to invigorate the parliamentary system in the country.

Parliament had the excluamending or rewriting the House.

The minister endorsed the Speaker's stance that there was already a law in the amended Election Act 2017 that clearly indicated that independent candidates would have to join a political party within 48 hours of the election.

How the clock could be turned back allowing those independent Members of the National Assembly who had already joined the Sunni Ittehad Council (SIC), to join another political party, he questioned.

Tarar highlighted the flaw in the verdict that He reiterated that the the independent members had joined a politisive mandate to carry out cal party (PTI) which did the legislative business, by not any presence in the

# Urican Colorion for

KARACHI: Federal Minister for States, Frontier Regions and Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit Baltistan, Engineer Ameer Magam, addressing to elders of Afghan Refugees during visit of Urban Cohesion Hub Karachi.

#### Pakistan aims to strengthen cooperation with Russia in various fields: Senator Bilal

**Independent Report** 

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan aims to strengthen cooperation with Russia in various fields. including trade, economy, energy, transportation, and security. Senator Sheikh Bilal Ahmed Khan Mandokhail, a leader of the Pakistan People's Party, expressed these sentiments during a meeting with Dmitry Alekseev, head of the Russian Railways



Directorate for International Projects and International Cooperation.

The meeting, which also included special representative of the Russian government in Pakistan, Jan Alam, and Eser International Company Director Atisham Malik, focused on improving Balochistan's railway system and revitalizing the Pakistan Steel Mills in Sindh to create job opportunities. Both parties reaffirmed their commitment to launching international projects in Pakistan in collaboration with the Russian government and Eser International, along with enhancing healthcare, education, and transportation infrastructure for the people of Balochistan.

#### Cases of polio continue to....

Continued from page 1

the entire country. Killa Abdullah district and

one each from Dera Bugti. Chaman, Jhal Magsi, Zhob, Killa Saifullah and Kharan. Meanwhile, the Prime Minister's Focal Person for Polio Eradication, Ms. Avesha Raza Farooq, expressed deep concern over the rise in cases from Balochistan and stressed the importance of reaching

every child with multiple

doses of the protective polio vaccines. "It is devastating to see increase population immu-

spread of virus." She added: What we are seeing is the outcome of missed vaccination opportunities in parts and survive over time." he PM's Focal Person

for Polio Eradication added: "We are doubling down on our efforts to strengthen surveillance and the overall quality the Senvaccination outreach in all tember polio campaign.

another child affected by a disease that can be completely prevented through we have seen persistent Prior to this, five polio cases were reported from Quetta highlights the roughly prevented through we have seen persistent cases. She added, "The high number of cases on both or the prevented through we have seen persistent cases." risk and the need to rapidly sides of the border, underscores the risk to children across the country and the importance of vaccination during upcoming polio ticularly the Chief Minister. Chief Secretary and Commissioner of Quetta

#### nity to further curtail the

campaigns." She acknowledged the high-level engageof Balochistan which have ment of the senior leadership allowed the virus to thrive of Balochistan province, par-These efforts have led to improvements in access and

#### Unfortunately false narrative built about...

Continued from page 1

versities and educational institutions of Balochistan for reading of the students. He said that more research would also be encouraged on the topic.

He said that we need to present correct concept of establishment of Pakistan so that people may know the facts.

He said that he would give his final opinion on book after going through it. However, he is hopeful that it would consist of the correct facts and practical concept about Balochistan and

Pakistan. Governor Balochistan Jafar Khan Mandokhail in his speech said that Mir Hazar Khan Marri believed that reconciliation was the best option. He said that Mir Hazar Khan showed the nation the path of reconciliation. The Governor said that he also personally believed that reconciliation

and prosperity of the province and the country. He said that presence of Nawab Changez Khan proof that he and other nothe process of reconcilia-

The book written on Mir Hazar Khan Marri was launched at the Pak-China Center in Islamabad.

"Mir Hazar Khan Marri: Muzahimat se Mufahimat Tak" (From resistance to reconciliation) is written by renowned columnist Ammar Masood. Khalid Farid has done the research work.

The book launching ceremony was also attended Federal minister Ahsan

Iqbal was also present. It may be mentioned here that book is a biography which has been written keeping in view the po-

was only path to progress litical situation

Balochistan

Mir Hazar Khan remained anti-state for two decades and didn't accept Marri in the event was the the constitution of Pakistan. The people of Marri tables of the area supported tribe continued the activities against Pakistan for over twenty years.

A general amnesty was the life of Baloch tribal chief also offered to those people during the tenure of Benazir

Later, Mir Hazar Khan started the journey of reconciliation with state and held meetings with Baloch politicians.

The book is a story from hatred to love and now the grandson of Mir Hazar Khan is an officer in the Pak

"The youth Balochistan is confused today and there is a need to study the story of Mir Hazar Khan," said Ammar Masood, the writer of the



GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN COLLECTORATE OF CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT, KHUZDAR



فرکورہ بالا آسامیوں کیلئے مجموع طور پر (3178) امیدواران نے درخواستین بیشنل جاب پورٹل یہ جمع کرائیں۔جن میں سے (1604) امیدواران آسامی کیلئے دیئے گئے اشتہار میں مقرر کردہ معیاریہ پورا اترے ۔شارٹ لسٹ کئے گئے ان تمام امیدواران کومطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ ان کے امتحان درج ذیل اوقات اور مقامات پر لینے جاکیں گے شارٹ لسٹ کئے گئے اميدواران كوكال ليفرز بذريعه بوست آفس ارسال كردئ ك عي ساميدواران اين اصل كال ليفر، شاختى كارد، لوكل ڈ ومبیائل سرٹیفیکیٹ تغلیمی اسناد، دوعد د تصاویر اور نیشنل جاب پورٹل درخواست اینے ہمراہ لائیں۔اگر کسی امیدوار کو کال لیشر موصول نهيين هوا تؤ كلكشريث آف تسم انفور سمنت خضدار كمب آفس ايث تسمم باؤس گذاني بياستم آفس خضدار كينوش بور ڈپر ٹیسٹ تاریخ بمعدرول نمبرآ ویزاں کردی گئی ہیں۔وہاں سے رول نمبری نشاندہی کر کے ٹیسٹ والے دن اینے اصل شناختی کارڈ اوردیگر کاغذات کے ساتھ تشریف لائیں۔ کامیاب امیدواروں کو انٹرو یو کیلئے بعد میں مطلع کیا جائے گا۔ مزید معلومات کیلئے كلكريث آف كسم انفورسمن خضداركمي آفس ايث كسم ماؤس كذاني ياكسم آفس خضدار سرابط كياجاسكتا ہے۔

Recruitment of UDC (BS-13) in Collectorate of Customs, Enforcement Khuzdar					
S.No	Name of Post	Location	Roll Number	Date	Reporting Time
<b>D1</b>	UDC (BS-13)	Expo Hall Lasbella University Of Agriculrue Water & Marine Sciences (LUAWMS) Uthal, Lasbella	02 to 3177	02-10-2024	08:00 AM

آ فس آف دی اسٹنٹ کلکٹر کلکٹریٹ آف کشم انفور منٹ خضد ارکبمپ آفس ایٹ کشم باؤس گڈانی PID(Q)105/24

#### Ahsan highlights importance of developing 'exemplary' governance model for ICT

Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal on Thursday underscored the importance of developing an 'exemplary' governance model for Islamabad Capital Territory

"Islamabad's size is neither too large nor too small, making it a suitable area for implementing innovative governance practices that can serve as a model for other provinces," he said while chairing the PM Committee on ICT Governance Model, a news release said.

Among others, the meeting was attended by key officials, including Dr Malik Mukhtar Ahmad Bharath, Coordinator to the Prime Minister on Health, Awais Manzur Sumra, Secretary, Ministry of Planning, Secretary of Educa-tion, Additional Secretaries from various line ministries, Deputy Commissioner Islamabad, and the Director of the Capital Development Authority (CDA).

During the meeting, Chief Governance Javed Sikandar presented governance models adopted by

University in Quetta.

Continued from page 1

called for full implementa-

tion of ICJ Advisory Opin-

ion delivered on July 19

this year and welcomed

the United Nations Gen-

eral Assembly resolution

to turn the Advisory

Opinion of the ICJ into

the Israeli air strikes on a

school and refugees shel-

ter in Gaza and said such

attacks on targets, includ-

ing refugee camps, also

violated the spirit of ICJ

provisional measures that

called for the provision of

essential services and hu-

manitarian assistance to

address the challenges

faced by the Gaza people.

told the media that Prime

Minister Shehbaz Sharif

would participate in the

high-level segment of the

79th session of the UN

General Assembly in New

York from September 23-

27 where he would reaf-

firm Pakistan's steadfast

multilateralism and ex-

press support for the role

of the United Nations in

forging global peace, secu-

size the importance of ad-

dressing long-standing is-

sues on the agenda of the

UN Security Council, in-

cluding the question of

Palestine and Jammu and

UN Secretary-General and

UNGA President, and

members of the Pakistani

diaspora, the prime min-

ister will also attend sev-

eral high-level meetings on

Besides meeting with

Kashmir.

He will also empha-

rity, and prosperity.

commitment

Spokesperson Baloch

She also condemned

She said Pakistan

national laws."

countries such as the USA, Brazil, Australia, Mexico, Nigeria, Malaysia, and In-

The minister noted that Islamabad's manageable size offered an ideal environment to pilot governance reforms that could later be replicated in other regions.

He highlighted the unique governance challenges faced by ICT due to the absence of a provincial assembly and administrative autonomy.

He called upon the committee to explore whether Islamabad required a provincial-like government structure or whether a more robust local government model would be a better alternative.

Furthermore, the minister expressed concern over the duplication of responsibilities among various entities, such as the Capital Development Authority (CDA), the Ministry of Interior, and line ministries, which led to inefficiencies in governance. He stressed the need to

consolidate administrative authority and ensure professional management in sectors like health and edu-

QUETTA: Employees of Balochistan University are holding protest demon-

stration for acceptance of their demands, at a protest camp outside Balochistan

the sidelines of the

UNGA session, including

the high-level meeting on

**Existential Threats Posed** 

by Sea-level Rise and the

UN Security Council's

open debate on leadership

ter and Foreign Minister,

who will also accompany

the prime minister, would

represent Pakistan at the

Summit of the Future,

convened by the UN Sec-

retary General, on Sep-

tember 22-23. He will also

take part in several minis-

terial meetings, including:

OIC FM's Annual Coor-

dination Meeting; OIC

Contact Group on Jammu

and Kashmir; Ministerial

Meeting of G77 and

China; and Non-Aligned

Movements Ministerial

tion, the spokesperson

said Pakistan had rejected

the explanation given by

the Afghan side on the dis-

respect of Pakistan's na-

tional anthem by Afghan

officials in a ceremony, as

it was against the diplo-

conveyed strong displea-

sure to the Afghan authori-

ties, stressing that any in-

dividual enjoying diplo-

matic status should re-

spect the national anthem

and flag of the host coun-

try. Pakistan reserves

the right to take action

in accordance with the dip-

lomatic norms and prac-

tices, she added. To a ques-

tion, she clarified that as

per data, Acting Con-

Mohibullah Shakir in Pa-

kistan had a valid visa and

enjoyed diplomatic status.

General. Hafiz

She said Pakistan had

matic norms.

Responding to a ques-

meeting.

Deputy Prime Minis-

for peace.

Use of electronic means for...

#### Kashmir to address human rights abuses

According to press re-lease issued on Thursday, During a meeting with High Commissioner Volter Turk in Geneva, held on the sidelines of the 57th session of the UN Human Rights Council, Wani expressed his concerns about the lack of attention to the Kashmir situation in OHCHR updates. He emphasized the need for observer access to better understand and respond to the ongoing human rights issues.

stricted access to the region, faces significant hurdles.

Pakistan to work...

Continued from page

the rebirth of a strong,

united China, achieved

through the heroic struggle

of the Chinese people un-

der the visionary leadership

valuable contributions

made by the successive gen-

erations in transforming the

Pakistan-China friendship

into an All-Weather Strate-

gic Cooperative Partner-

said, had served as a model

of inter-state relations and

thus become a source of in-

spiration and strength for

brother of Pakistan and the

entire nation was proud of

the enduring friendship as

both countries stood by

each other during testing

that China was poised to

achieve significant mile-

stones in the coming de-

cades, which would not

only bolster its develop-

ment but also reshape the

global landscape in politics,

economics and culture in

Prime Minister said it's a

great day and a great event

today that we are jointly

celebrating the 75th anni-

versary of our great friend

China's independence. He

said we are all very happy

to celebrate this momentous

event. The Prime Minister

recalled his visit to China

in June this year, saying

that he was deeply touched

by the warmth and very

friendly welcome from our

Chinese friends. He said the

people of Pakistan and

China are in an unbreakable

and unshakable relation

In his address, the

The president hoped

China was an iron-clad

both countries.

times, he added.

positive ways.

This partnership, he

He reflected on the in-

of the Communist Party.

# KIIR leader calls for UN access to

MIRPUR-AJK (APP) Altaf Hussain Wani, a prominent rights activist and chairman of the Kashmir Institute of International Relations (KIIR) has urged the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to facilitate unrestricted access to Kash-

This access is essential for accurately reporting on human rights violations in the region.

The High Commissioner acknowledged the challenges posed by renoting that the OHCHR is monitoring the situation but

#### Kundi condemns Gandapur's derogatory language, seeks rally ban ISLAMABAD (APP): claims to support those Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa who advocate for women

Governor Faisal Karim Kundi Thursday criticized KP Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur's derogatory language against other parties where he linked PTI to recent unrest and called for Punjab's Chief Minister to ban the party's Lahore

Talking to a private news channel, Faisal Karim Kundi expressed grave concern over Gandapur's derogatory remarks, stating that such language can incite hatred and violence and appealed to the Punjab Chief Minister to prioritize public safety and ban the rally to prevent any unto-

ward incidents like May 9. He said that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) has been accused of involvement in incidents that created anarchic situations in the country.

empowerment, youth jobs and economic growth in the province, he highlighted.

Faisal Karim Kundi, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor, emphasized that Pakistan's respect comes first, criticizing Ali Amin Gandapur for violating diplomatic norms. Kundi stressed that na-

tional dignity and sovereignty must be upheld at all costs. He urged Gandapur to reflect on his actions and ensure such incidents are avoided in the future.

Responding to a query, he lashed out that the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party has been accused of promoting an anti-state agenda, adding that PTI's actions have been under scrutiny particularly after the May 9 riots, which resulted in widespread damcountry. age and clashes across the country.

#### Doesn't see this system working, says PPP's Ramesh Kumar

People's Party leader Dr PPP leader said. Ramesh Kumar has said. 'The government goes down or not, he doesn't see

this system working". the hammer," "Wait for 10 to 15 days Kumar observed. the things will get clear, anything could happen," talking to a private TV Channel. He said, "things seem in control but it is not in actual". "Shehbaz Sharif has been active but I am not seeing Pakistan's fate being

ISLAMABAD (INP): changed with his hands,"

"This is the year of judiciary and legislation related with it is also under the hammer," Ramesh

"Due to disputes things not being seen to remain in control in future, People's Party leader said

"Foreign investment won't come to the country in absence of internal stability," he remarked.

#### **Supreme Court ruling on reserved..**

Continued from page 1 filed a declaration before the

Returning Officer about his affiliation with a particular political party by submitting party certificate from the political party confirming that he is that party's candidate, he shall be deemed to be considered as an independent candidate and not a candidate of any political party.' "Notwithstanding

anything contained in this Act or rules or any other law, for the time being in force, or a judgment, decree or order of any court including the Supreme Court and a High Court, the declaration, consent or affidavit, by whatever name called, of an independent returned candidate

once given for joining a political party shall be irrevocable and cannot be substituted or withdrawn.'

The letter further stated that Section 1(2) of the Amended Election Act categorically states that the said amendments will have retrospective effect from 2017 when the Election Act 2017

The Speaker said upholding the principles of parliamentary sovereignty are essential in maintaining the integrity and independence of our parliamentary system. He said any actions perceived as undermining the sovereignty of the Parliament can erode public trust and confidence in our

60,358,593

# TENDER NOTICE

TSE-242509552573 Only electronic bid will be submitted, No physical bid is required. Note: In All Procurements of GOB Whether Through Electronic or Manual Bid Submission, It is Mandatory For All Bidders to Get Registered At Electronic Public Procurement System of BPPRA GOB. The EXECUTIVE ENGINEERII PROVINCIAL (Buildings) B&R KILLA ABDULLAH invites bids from Eligible Bidders for execution of following works for the Year 2024 based on Composite schedule rates 2018 on Percentage Rates Tender Fee Rs.1000/- and Bid Security 2% S.No Name of Works

Construction of office building & Residential Accomodation for Prosecutor at Killa Abdullah. (Phase-I) PSDP #4486 Z 2024.1796.

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules - 2014. Eligibility of Bidders: Presence in Active Tax Payer List The bidding firm must not be blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan Balochistan Revenue Authority Registration is required The bidder must have completed 3 Assignment of similar nature of work Turn over of at least 42,251,015 PKR Amount in2 subsequent previous years showing financial capacity of the firm Procedure Of Procurement: Single Stage One Envelope Bidding Procedure Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Deposit at Call of 2 % specified above in the name of the under-signed from a scheduled bank. Tender Documents: The NIT & Bidding Document can be obtained electronically from www.bppra.gob.pk Issuance of tender Documents: Complete Bidding Document can be viewed at www.bppra.gob.pk Last Date of bid submission: Bid can only be submitted electronically latest by 07 October, 2024till 11:00 AM through supplier dashboard. Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day at 12:00 PM on EPPS System Address: Jangal piralizai Road killa abdullah Phone no: 0826920040

PRQ No.1108/19-9-2024

Email: barkatbajoi111@gmail.com

CW,PP&H DEPARTMENT DISTRICT KILLA ABDULLAH www.dpr.gob.pk. 📦 @dpr\_gob 👩 dpr.gob 👍 @dgpr.baloch

#### Int'l Rahmatul lil Aalameen moot starts today as Ministry makes comprehensive arrangements

The Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training (MOFEPT) have finalized comprehensive arrangements for the 'International Rahmatul lil Aalameen WA Khatamun Nabiyyin Festival', which is scheduled to commence

This international festival, aimed at promoting Seerat-un-Nabi and its teachings, will be hosted by the National Rehmatul-lil-Aalameen Authority (NRKNA) at Skills University, Islamabad from Sep-

A wide array of programmes will be conducted during the three-day event, including the 'International Seerat Conference' and a 'Seerat Ketab Mela' (Book Fair), which will showcase a vast collection of Islamic literature, with a special focus on Seerat-un-

Mohyuddin Wani, along with National Rahmatul-lil- world, discussing and re-Alameen Wa Khatamun Nabiyyin Authority (NRKNA) Chairman Khursheed Nadeem briefed the media about the arrangements and salient features of the conference and other activities on Wednes-

Inter Boards Coordination Commission (IBCC) Executive Director Dr Ghulam Ali Mallah, National Book Foundation Managing Director Murad Khan Mohmand, FBISE Chairman and FDE Director General Junaid Akhlaq were also present at the press conference.

The speakers at the lighted the importance of such initiatives to further planned. spread the message of peace, tolerance, and the true essence of Islam. It was told that the

flecting on the life and teachings of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be Jpon Him).

Mohyuddin Wani underscored the significance of the festival in promoting religious harmony and edu-

He noted that the event was an opportunity for the youth to engage with the rich legacy of Islamic thought and to cultivate an understanding of the Prophet's (PBUH) message of mercy and compas-

The event will be open to the public, with attendees encouraged to ress conference high- participate in the diverse array of programmes

With Seerat Book Fair, exhibitions, panel discussions, and academic sessions, the event promises



ISLAMABAD (APP): In a cial burden, said a citizen. welcome move, the government's decision to slash petroleum prices and introduce discounted fares of transports brought smiles to the faces of citizens nationwide on Thursday where mostly citizens called for the continuation of these measures to alleviate the financial burden on the general public.

The government's decision to reduce petrol prices has been widely welcomed by transporters and consumers across the country, a report aired by PTV news channel said.

Transporters have assured prompt implementation of reduced fares, while consumers are thrilled

financially challenged stu-

dents enrolled at the univer-

sity. The MoU was signed

in a ceremony attended the

officials of NUST and PEF

initiative. Speaking on the occasion, Rector NUST,

Engr Javed Mehmood

Bukhari commended the

collaborative efforts and

emphasized, "The support

Industry experts predict that the decision will stimulate economic growth, increase consumer spending and will benefit the transportation sector.

'This is a great decision by the government. We will immediately implement reduced fares to benefit commuters." Rahim Khan, President, Karachi Transport Association

"We appreciate the government's move to reduce petrol prices. This will help increase our profit margins." M. Iqbal, Transporter, Lahore added.

"The price slash will enable us to provide affordable transportation to citi-

#### Pakistan, Russia agree on enhancing educational ties commitment to promoting

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan and Russia on Thursday agreed on enhancing collaboration to strengthen educational ties, building on the positive momentum of their relationship over the past two decades.

The initiative was taken during the visit of a high level delegation of Russian Federation led by Andrey Korneev, State Secretary - Deputy Minister of Education of Russian Federation, and Konstantin Mogilevsky, Deputy Minister of Science and Higher Education of Russian Federation, to the Ministry of Federal Education and Professional (MoFEPT).

**AIOU hosts** int'l conference on endangered languages

ISLAMABAD (APP): Allama Iqbal Open University(AIOU) is organizing the 28th International Conference on Federation of Endangered Languages from September 25

According to the AIOU, experts from 22 countries, including 15 for eign delegates, will participate in the conference. A total of 42 national and international scholars will present their research pa-

The Department of English, AIOU is organizing this 28th International Conference on Federation of Endangered Languages (FEL) in collaboration with the Forum for Language Initiatives (FLI).

Senator Irfan Siddiqui will be the chief guest at the

The delegation included the Consultant of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of Russia, Associate Professor of Ural State Pedagogical University, and officials of the Russian Embassy in Paki-

Secretary FEPT Mohyuddin Ahmad Wani briefed the delegation about the achievements and challenges faced by Pakistan in the field of edu-

viewed the full spectrum of bilateral educational cooperation and explored ways

During the discussions, the two sides re-

They affirmed their tutes.

cultural and educational ex-

The Pakistani side expressed a strong desire to increase collaboration between Pakistani and Russian universities, particularly in the fields of emerging technologies.

The Russian deputy minister emphasized initiatives to promote the Russian language in Pakistan and enhance educational

An agreement was reached to open a Russian Facilitation Center in Islamabad to assist students seeking admissions to Russian educational insti-



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Zimbabwe, Titus Mehliswa Jonathan Abu Basutu calls on Federal Minister for Defence, Defence Production and Aviation, Khawaja Muhammad Asif.

#### PTA launches four-day training of trainers prog.

ISLAMABAD (APP): and teachers, promoting digital literacy and online nication Authority (PTA) safety. launched a four-day 'Training of Trainers' (ToT) pro-critical topics such as online gram for officers from PTA, safety, Dark Web threats, UNICEF, Telenor Paki- and responsible internet stan, the National Commis- usage. Experts from TikTok sion on the Rights of Child and Tencent shared insights (NCRC), and the NCERT.

According to the news release, the initiative is part of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed with UNICEF Pakistan and reflects PTA's commitment to Child Online Protection.

The program aims to raise awareness about the online risks children face and equip officers with the tools to help parents effectively manage their safe children's digital activities. This training was con-

ducted as part of an ongoing 10-day training program for 15 master trainers, who

safety.

The training covered into safety tools and practices on their platforms.

Addressing the training session, Dr Khawar Siddique Khokhar, Member Compliance & Enforcement PTA, emphasized the importance of collective efforts to protect children in the digital space.

He reaffirmed the PTA's commitment to providing parents and educators with the necessary tools to ensure children's online safety and promote responsible internet use.

Member C&E PTA,

UNICEF and Telenor representative also awarded will train 210 facilitators to the certificates to the pareducate students, parents, ticipants.



ISLAMABAD: School children gather around street vendors to take their favorite junk food in the Federal Capital.

#### DIG directs officer to combat crime efficiently

**Independent Report** SLAMABAD: Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) police Deputy Inspector General (DIG), Syed Ali Raza, on Thursday held an important meeting with rural

According to police spokesperson, the meeting was attended by SP Rural zone, SDPOs, SHOs, and crime control police

DIG Islamabad reviewed the performance of all police officials in detail and issued a show cause notice on poor performance.

while issuing directions to the officers, Syed Ali Raza said that in the upcoming meeting, the performance of all the officers will be reviewed and there will be no compromise on the addition of crimes, he

During the meeting,

rections to police officials, crime control teams to prevent incidents of robbery, dacoity, and theft, the

spokesperson added. He said under the supervision of the SHOs, these teams will work to arrest absconders, proclaimed offenders, target offenders, and other crimi-

The teams will also take effective action to prevent incidents of robbery, dacoity, and theft, he added.

He said that the progress of the crime control teams will be reviewed

expected to be more effective in combating criminal elements, he added.
The DIG further men-

tioned that police officers who perform effectively well will be commended, while those showing negligence or poor performance

tion, he said



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for States and Frontier Regions, Engr. Amir Muqam visiting different classrooms for Afghan Refugees at Urban Cohe-

#### ISSI hosted int'l conference on Pak Ancient Archaeological, **Civilisational Heritage**

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISŠI) hosted a one-day international conference titled "Celebrating Pakistan's Ancient Archaeological and Civilisational Heritage" on September 30, 2024.

historical legacy and foster themes of the discussions. discussions on its preservation and promotion.

archaeologists, This civilization, which ex-

**Independent Report** 

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad

Police has initiated the re-

cruitment process of chil-

dren of martyrs and officials

who died during the service

in the capital police depart-

ment under the Prime

Minister's assistance pack-

was made following a spe-

cial meeting of the recruit-

ment board, held on the di-

rectives of Inspector General of Police (IGP) Syed

Ali Nasir Rizvi, led by

DIG Headquarters Syed

Mustafa Tanveer, a public

relations officer said while

talking to APP on Thurs-

The recruitment board

The announcement

policymakers, and experts from Pakistan and abroad. They gathered to explore Pakistan's ancient heritage, including the Indus Valley Civilization and the Buddhist Gandhara Civilization. These civilizations, urban planning, advanced The event aimed to which spanned millennia, highlight Pakistan's rich were among the central tensive trade networks

The Indus Valley conference cities of Mohenjo-Daro and its distinct iconography, brought together scholars, Harappa, was a focal point.

**Islamabad Police recruits** 

next of kin of martyrs,

officers

convened to discuss and

approve the inclusion of the

children of martyrs and of-

ficials who died while in

service while protecting the

lives and property of citi-

respect and admiration for

the fallen heroes, IGP Nasii

Rizvi said that, "The mar-

tyrs and officials who sac-

rificed their lives in the line

of duty are invaluable as-

sets of the police depart-

their dedication and self-

lessness serve as an inspi-

ration to us all. Islamabad

Police will forever cherish

the memory of our heroes

and ensure their families are

cared for at every level."

He further said that

isted alongside ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia, left behind a significant araspects of chaeological record. The participants examined the history, culture, and contributions of this civilization to the world. The cities water management, and ex-

were discussed in detail. Buaanisi Civilization, with its iconic Gandhara Civilization, with was another key topic.

challenged students ISLAMABAD (APP): dent is forced to leave their National University of Scieducation due to financial ence and Technology constraints. (NUST) and the Profes-

NUST, PEF sign MoU

to support financially

Chairman of PEF, sional Éducation Founda-Hafiz Ul Haq announced an tion (PEF) have signed a expansion of support, in-Memorandum of Undercluding an increase in the standing (MoU) to support number of scholarships, streamlined processes, and broader eligibility criteria to benefit a larger number of students. The agreement was to collaborate for this joint

formally signed by Chairman PEF, Hafiz Ul Haq and Pro-Rector for Research, Innovation, and Commercialization, Dr Rizwan Riaz. Director of Advancement and Head of Global Engage-

# of philanthropists is crucial ments, Arooba Gillani and for NUST's mission to become a need-blind institution, ensuring that no stu- present at the ceremony. inaugural session. Senator Jan Muhammad presiding over a meeting of the Senate Standing Committee on poverty allevia-

Affairs and Gilgit Baltistan

informed the committee

about the role of the minis-

try in the affairs of AJ& K

all administrative matters

of AJ&K and GB have ei-

ther been done or coordi-

nated by the ministry and

the territories of AJ&K and

GB are designated as spe-

cial areas and they can't be

defined as provinces in

terms of article 1(2) of the

The ministry in-

Constitution of Pakistan.

formed that both the terri-

tories have their own con-

stitutional and legislative

frameworks with particular

reference to the legislative

functions. It was also in-

formed that budget for the

year 2022-23 was Rs.

678.635 million and for the

year 2023-24, Rs 832.426

million have been allocated.

It was informed that

and GB.

tion & social safety at the Headquarter of Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), Islamabad.

#### zens. Expressing his deep SP pays surprise visit to PS Industrial Area

**Independent Report** 

SLAMABAD: Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) police Superintendent of Police (SP) Industrial Area zone on Thursday pays a surprise visit to Industrial

Area police station. According to a police public relations officer, under the special directions of Inspector General of Police (IGP) Islamabad, Syed Ali Nasir Ali Rizvi the SP Industrial Area Zone Ali Raza paid a surprise visit to Industrial Area Police station.

#### Arrest of PTI MNA; Secretary NA others put on notice

ISLAMABAD (Online): Islamabad High Court (IHC) has issued notice to secretary National Assembly (NA) and others and sought reply within 10 days in connection with case pertaining to arrest of PTI MNA Zain Qureshi from Parliament House.

Chief Justice (CJ) IHC Aamer Farooq heard the case against detention of Zain Qureshi Thursday.

The CJ IHC inquired this incident happened when. Counsel Taimore Malik said the members of parliament were arrested on September 9. The court remarked we obtain report from NA The court while issuing notice to interior ministry, chief commissioner Islamabad.

#### **Senate Functional Committee held**

The Senate Functional Committee on Devolution Thursday discussed matters related to ministries of Kashmir Affairs, Narcotics control and National heritage. The Committee which met here under the chairmanship of Senator Dr. Zarqa Suharwardy, was given a detailed briefing by ministries of Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit Baltistan, Narcotics control and Na-

Respective ministries gave a detailed progress and output of last two financial years along with budget details, attached departments

ciency and enhanced service

Ministry of Kashmir

The committee was also briefed in detail about the J&K state properties. The ministry informed that 2091 units managed as per rules in Lahore, Rawalpindi, Jehlum, Sialkot and Gujranwala, besides some agricultural properties also situated in Narowal District.



**Delegation of members of the Provincial Assembly** of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa visiting senate museum at Parliament House Islamabad

#### **KPAssembly** delegation visits Parl.

House ISLAMABAD (APP): A 30-member delegation from the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Provincial Assembly visited the Parliament House on Thursday, they were warmly welcomed by senior officials of the Upper

During the visit, the delegation toured the Senate Museum and viewed a documentary showcasing the history of the Senate.

House.

The members praised the museum's collection, which featured statues of prominent political figures and historical photographs, describing it as an outstanding display of the nation's political heritage, said a news release.

#### Hearing of bail plea of Imran in 6 cases, Bushra in one case adjourned

ISLAMABAD (Online) Hearing of bail plea of PŤI founder Imran Khan has been adjourned in 6 cases and Bushra Bibi in one case till October 3. The bail plea of Imran Khan in 6 cases and Bushra Bibi in one case came up for hearing Thursday. Additional Sessions Judge Afzal Majoka heard the case. Khalid Yousuf Chaudhry counsel for PTI appeared in the court. Judge Afzal Majoka said arrangements for signing the roll by PTI founder through video link are complete.

# zone police officers.

During the meeting,

On this occasion,

DIG Islamabad issued di-

All police officers are

will face departmental ac-

ing Thursday. Faisal Chaudhry counsel for Imran Khan and Fawad Chaudhry appeared

against PTI founder Imran Khan and former federal minister Fawad Chaudhry till October 9. A 4-member bench of

ISLAMABAD: Students and teachers pose for a

group photo at annual Mehfil-e-Milad ceremony at

EC adjourns hearing of

contempt of EC case

against Imran, Fawad

EC presided over by member Sindh Nisar Durrani took up the case for hear-

Election Commission (EĆ)

has adjourned hearing of

contempt of EC case

During the hearing of the case counsel Faisal Chaudhry told the commission you had ordered for

video link in case against

ISLAMABAD (Online): Imran Khan. Member commission remarked upon it that we had ordered attendance through video link from jail. Has it made any effect or otherwise and why Jail authorities have not given

reply. Ask from them. Member commission further said if they cannot provide facility of video link then we call the answer-

able from jail. Fawad Chaudhry said every thing will become OK if you threaten to call Imran Khan from jail.

Member commission remarked if nothing is done then we move to jail for

ISLAMABAD (APP):

tional heritage & culture.

and number of employees. At the outset of the committee meeting, the chairperson of the committee observed that all the ministries carry high importance and the committee would like to have a detailed overview of the overall working and performance to achieve national goals and chalk out a comprehensive plan with specific targets to improve institutional effi-

# Daily Joice of Masse Independent

Friday September 20, 2024

#### Lingering concerns

Days later, the possible repercussions of what could have been had the government's planned amendments to the Constitution been bulldozed through parliament are still being discussed.

One thing seems clear: the government must have anticipated how strong the blowback would be if the details of its legislative coup were to leak beforehand. Senior political leaders have spoken about the lengths to which it went to cover its tracks, to the extent that it told different stakeholders different things about its plans. It appears that it had good reason to be nervous.

Ever since the reported draft amendments have emerged, lawyers, politicians, academics and analysts from across the political divide have united in expressing their disappointment and disgust. Many are still trying to come to terms with the audacity with which the proposals were put to paper. The intent behind log of unpaid dividends is them seems so naked in its rates are on a downward ambition that no amount of window-dressing could have ever made them palatable.

Meanwhile, after their humbling at the hands of Maulana Fazlur Rehman, the government, its allies and their shills are no longer as gloating and aggressive as they seemed over the weekend. Having attempted and failed to make drastic changes to the Constitution to favour a handful of individuals, they are now lecturing all and sundry that their comes shaky. 'constitutional package' was, in Nawaz Sharif found himself facing disqualifi- interest rates start coming down — with IMF fact, solely for the public's ben-

After refusing to show anyone—even their own allies and projects his government had commissioned were had commissioned were it usually means the ment be so strong by one ministers — a draft of the amendments they were planning, they are now waxing lyrical about the need for parliamentary debate and scrutiny of all important legislation. However, the damage may have already been done. The legal community, for instance, now suddenly seems to be highly agitated. The strong words in Honeyed Poison — translated by a Pakistani diplowhich many of its most respected members have condemned the government's move should be taken with the seriousness they deserve.

It is unclear for now whether the government will make another attempt to tweak the Constitution. Embarrassed after failing to muster the numbers during the high-stakes drama that played out all weekend, it will need time to regroup. It has also shown its hand and lost the element of 1885. surprise. This alone may force it to abandon the strategy altogether, especially after the ernment College, Montstrong pushback it has received from the legal community. Whatever the case may be, it would be well advised not to make another attempt in the Lal's equally enduring manner it did last time.

There is a reason why the published in 1884 (a year Constitution is a protected document that requires twothirds of parliament's strength to acquiesce to any changes. Attempting to override this protocol by hiding legislative proposals and coercing other lawmakers to vote for them not only hurts our democracy but also signals that those making the changes may not be acting proof of research from the in good faith.

# Taming the judiciary

ment and the security es-

tablishment was the July 12

majority ruling by the apex

court awarding the PTI its

due share of seats reserved

for women and minorities

in the national and provin-

cial assemblies. The deci-

sion changed party posi-

tions in the National As-

sembly, ending the ruling

coalition's two-thirds ma-

jority required for consti-

the impending retirement of

the current chief justice next

month. With his exit, the

government feared it would

lose someone it perceives

as a sympathetic member

of the judiciary, thus lead-

ing, in its view, to a shift in

the balance in the top court.

That, perhaps, was the rea-

son behind the government

and establishment's move

to push for the amendment

that reportedly included an

extension in the retirement

age of Supreme Court

judges to 68 years thus in-

creasing the tenure of the

top judge for three more

One other factor was

tutional amendments.

**Zahid Hussain** What happened inside and outside parliament last weekend was nothing less than a tragicomedy. Rarely has Pakistani politics stooped so low. Some 400 members of both Houses remained virtually captive for days

while the top leadership of the ruling coalition desperately tried to secure the three pillars of state. numbers required for the passage of controversial constitutional amendments, which sought to change the entire structure of the country's top court. It seemed that the

government and its allies were in a great hurry to wrap up the vote by the weekend. And they were confident of getting it done. But the crafty Maulana Fazlur Rehman was not ready to play ball, denying the government the vote of eight key JUI-F members in the National Assembly. Defeat in the numbers game may have forced the government to step back for now, but the game is far from Indeed, it has been a

setback for the government and the security establishment that had put its full

weight behind the move. The taming of the judiciary is part of a wider plan to remove any challenge to the military-backed dispensation. The amendments that were apparently proposed would not only have made the judiciary completely subservient to the executive but also demolished the very basis of the Constitution that enshrines the separation of powers among the

What is being described as a 'judicial reform' package has been on the anvil since the installation of the PML-N-led coalition government. Yet, no clear framework of the plan was made public.

What seems to have given it impetus was the increasing assertiveness of the apex and high courts in political cases, including the letter written by six judges of the Islamabad High Court, complaining against alleged interference by the intelligence agencies in judicial matters and their harassment of judges. In the past too, individual judges have made such allegations against intelligence agencies, but the collective protest was unprecedented

What also seemed to

Intriguingly, the full draft of the proposed constitutional amendments was not even shared with the members of the cabinet nior-most judge. It's appar-

tarians, who were asked to ments are politically motistay put, did not have a clue of what was coming till the end. Several members of the treasury benches told me that they would regularly receive phone calls from 'unlisted' numbers asking them to ensure their attendance in the session. The plot thickened when the law minister said on Sunday that he had received the draft only a few days ago.

The source of this whole exercise leaves nothing to the imagination. Nevertheless, the ruling coalition, with its questionable legitimacy, is a willing partner in this game of thrones. The events of the past week have completely exposed the claims of the mainstream political parties, which are part of the ruling coalition, with regard to their democratic credentials. The most damaging reported provisions of the

proposed constitutional amendments are the establishment of a federal constitutional court, the transfer of high court judges and the appointment of the chief justice from a panel of judges instead of the automatic elevation of the sevated and have nothing to do with claims of judicial reform.

According to the draft proposal now being circulated, all the political cases would be transferred to a proposed seven-member constitutional court, whose chief justice would be appointed by the prime minister. That would render the Supreme Court totally powerless. The two apex courts could create a dichotomy in the system, which could completely demolish the independence of the judiciary. And that seems to have been the main objective of the militarybacked dispensation. Ironically, the leaders of both the PML-N and PPP, the two major parties forming the ruling coalition, justify the formation of a constitutional court as being part of the Charter of Democracy endorsed by all mainstream political parties some two decades ago. This is a most incredible rationale for an undemocratic move eroding the very foundation of our constitutional democracy.

Indeed, the Charter did suggest the creation of a constitutional court but it

emphasised the need to establish a balance of power between the judiciary and executive. It was not meant to curb the power of the top judiciary with the objective of strengthening non-democratic forces. Similarly, the provision of transferring high court judges is aimed at punishing outspoken and upright judges. It is yet another move to tame the judiciary. The move to change the basic structure of the Constitution through controversial amendments has brought the dispensation into confrontation with the bar and the bench. Despite its failed attempt to bulldoze the amendments through, the government and establishment have not abandoned their plan. According to media reports, there will be another attempt to get the amendments passed before the chief justice retires. It will also be a test for Chief Justice Qazi Faez Isa regarding the legacy he would like to leave behind. One hopes he will doff his robes next month, and thus not get drawn into any establishment-backed agenda to undermine judicial independence. -- Courtesy Dawn

was in a different context.

In fact, the document

## Shaky stability

#### Khurram Husain

Rarely have I seen a situation like this one. The economy is finding an uneasy and shaky stability; as inflation peaks, the exchange rate looks like it might well stick, the backbeing cleared, interest trajectory from here on, the current account has returned to surplus, reserves are stable and so on. The list can get as long as one wants.

But the problems are growing. Rarely have we seen a situation where the economy stabilises while the government gets shaky. Usually, po-litical and economic stability go together in our history. And mind you, 'm talking about economic stability, not growth. Paradoxically, periods of booming economic growth are also stabilised runaway fiscal periods when politics be-

getting ready for start of worst is over. commercial operations. Likewise, Imran Khan found himself facing a vote of no-confidence precisely when the economy was hitting its peak growth rate of seven per cent

But I cannot recall a government going wobbly when the stabilisation phase of the economy is peaking. That is where we are today. The economy has not fixed itself, nor is growth about to return. All that has happened is the worst effects of the bitter medicine one has to take to stabilise an out-of-control economy are now beginning to wear off. That's

Usually this is the sweet spot. This is usually the time when the government of the day can start crowing about its achievement in having deficits and falling foreign exchange reserves. Once cation right when his economic growth rates were approval, as evidenced by the fact that an Execuhitting their peak and the tive Board meeting has first of the large mega been scheduled in the

But this is the first time we are seeing a government struggle politically while having largely survived the worst of the economic pain. And as its political moorings start loosening, its capacity to stay on the path of stabilisation as required will weaken.

We are drowning in ironies today, but one to marvel at is how one of the strongest governments we have had in a long time in terms of its numbers in parliament is proving unequal to the task before it.

Despite its numbers parliament and the strong backing of the establishment, this government is struggling to get things done that those with fewer numbers and less powerful backers in the past managed to do. This only means one thing: despite all its apparent strength in terms weakest government we have had in at least a quarter of a century.

How does that hap-

standard, and vet so weak by another? This can only happen if the system of rule upon which

the government stands itself is losing traction. Systems are not build with force alone. They require buy-in from the population over whose affairs they preside. The current system of rule has taken a mortal hit on its ability to com-

its mand own population's loyalties after more than two and a half years of the most ferocious inflationary fire the country has ever seen.

Nothing kills people's faith in their system, their own lives and their future, like inflation And the kind of inflation we have seen since May 2021 is literally unprecedented. The fire still burns, even if it has stopped spreading. It will be many years before people's incomes potentially catch up with the Pakistan. They use bail- the 'just consent of the of its parliamentary arith- loss their purchasing outs and loans to fuel the governed' is strong here.

> To compensate for the people's loss of faith. the rulers of our time have resorted to gimmicks to deprive them of a voice

representatives.

When people protest this denial of fundamental rights, the rulers reply with repression, arrests, abuse. When attention is drawn to the violation of people's rights, they respond with measures to silence the media, throttle the internet, police social media, and more repression. When the judiciary refuses to play ball with this escalating cycle of repression, along comes a constitutional amendment to bifurcate the apex court and make its crucial functions — constitutional interpretation subordinate to the gov-

ernment of the day. cious cycle that eats away at the system's legitimacy and weakens its foundations. Riding the whole wave is a group of for three or four decades leaders using the oldest of the old playbooks that for the ruler to earn his or has always been used in her right to rule through metic and powerful back-ing, this is probably the these years.

metic and powerful back-these years.

country's economy and repression to stifle the months into its tenure, people's will. Historically and one of the (arithmetithis has worked, but only cally) strongest governpartially. Military rulers ments we have had in dein the past managed to get cades is already old and large, concessional inflows infirm. Time to read the

economy while engineering the local political landscape to their liking.

But this time it's not working, and that is why the situation looks unique. The repression is not silencing the people's will, and no foreign partner is stepping in with a bailout. A people burdened with inflation and repression at the same time will not be enthused about being part of the system that rules them. And the longer this state of affairs continues. the more the government will lose traction even as it succeeds in stabilising the macroeconomic indicators

There is a lesson here Thus kicks off a vi- for those who have not forgotten how to learn Pakistan is not like one of those countries where a single dictator has ruled at a stretch. The demand

in choosing their elected with which to fuel the writing on the wall.

#### The other love

#### F.S. Aijazuddin

Bureaucrats wed twice to a natural spouse, and also to an extracurricular distrac-

One was reminded of this intellectual infidelity when reading a volume of modern (ie, post-revolution) Persian poetry mat, Malik M. Danish. A graduate from Lums, Punjab University and Georgetown University, Danish is the latest in a line of officials who will be remembered for their literary contributions

One could begin with names like the Mu--ghal emperor Akbar's wazir Abul Fazl. He spent his spare hours chronicling his master's court and its functions. Closer in time and to home, though, is the 19thcentury engineer Kanhaiya Lal. He worked in the Public Works Department for 30 years before retiring as

His legacies to the architectural visage of Lahore have survived time — Govgomery and Lawrence Halls, the then Mayo School of Arts, to name a few. 'Si monumentum requiris, circumspice'. (If you seek [his] monument, look around you.) Kanhaiya achievement is his book Tareekh-i-Lahore, first before his retirement), and republished many times.

Since then, there have been Syed Muha-mmad Latif's magisterial histories of the Punjab (1891) and of Lahore (1892). Latif's official responsibilities, though, were as an extra-judicial assistant commissioner.

Lepel Griffin (once chief secretary Punjab, 1880) assembled the genealogies of the Punjab chiefs in 1890). In it, he sifted the fiction of family legends. (His modern counterpart —

the former high commissioner to Pakistan Sir Nicholas Barrington sorbed himself in Islamabad, pruning the family trees of Pakistan's prominent families.)

Sir Charles Aitchison, even while lieute-nant governor of the Punjab, found the time to compile his 11volume Collection of Trea-ti--es, Engagements, and Sanads relating to India and neighbouring Countries (1862-1892). Subsequent research into Punjab's history continued with the History of the Panjab Hill States by another official, J. Hutchison, and his colleague, J Ph. Vogel (1933).

More recently, Dr M.S. Randhawa (an ICS officer), Parsi lawyer Karl Khand-al-a-vala and Dr B.N. Goswamy (who left the ICS for academia), through their seminal resear-ch--es brought painting done in the Punjab hills into the plains of the art world's consciousness. Some like G. Mueenuddin (once of the ICS, later our chief negotiator in the Indus Waters Treaty) had much to tell, if only his pen

had not been so shy. Every retired bureaucrat in Pakistan feels impelled to publish their version of a history they could not prevent. They believe that their book — whether a biography or an autobiography — will ensure them the bronze of recognition, if not the gold of immortality. Not all can disguise (to paraphrase American poet and essayist Mark Strand) that 'their expressive part [was] rather tedious — never curious or responsive, but blind and

self-serving' Strand foresaw perhaps the recent publication of memoirs by a former bureaucrat, responsible in the 1990s for the ingenious yellow cab and yellow tractor schemes, and later the

squalid birth of the IPPs. There was a time when bureaucrats saw themselves as modern

Medicis — patrons of the arts. B.A. Kureishi and Mukhtar Masood spring to mind. Which one of their successors today would expend their energies on restoring the Lahore mu-

Kureishi sponsored Sadequain there as an artist in residence. Squirrelled in the museum's basement, Sadequain produced many inimitable masterpieces. His tour de force — its painted ceiling — has become Laho-re's distant echo of the Sistine chapel.

Who today would commission two Pakistan's greats Sadequain and Sha-kir Ali - to paint a mural, each in his unique style? They hang in the Punjab Public Library, a contest us--ing brushes, a visual bait bazi between Akbar's singer Tansen, and his rival Baiju

Malik Danish found his Persian muse in a language teacher at Jhelum and then in Dr Athar Masood, a fellow bureaucrat with a passion for Persian poetry. Danish is a br--ave scholar to venture into Persian poe-try when the very word 'Iran' releases thunderbolts of sanctions from

Washington, D.C. If one had to isolate a few stanzas from among Danish's 20 poets — the 'frightened flowers' in a traumatised Iran — they would be from Mehdi Akhavan-e-Sales' Lament. He speaks for every Iranian and Pakistani: "My house has caught fire, a deadly fire/ which is burning the engravings/ I etched with my heart's blood."

Aminpour's moving advice on behalf of fellow authors to readers everywhere: "My hairs are turning white/ as pages of my book are turning black." He concludes: "Read my works/ Dot by dot/ Word by word/ Line by line/ and count the verses in my Divan/ Hair by Hair." -- Courtesy

# **Debatable debate**

#### Shahzad Sharjeel

Is leadership about oratory, rabble-rousing, long marches, or dharna in our context? Although political campaigns worldwide rely on debating ability, so do debating societies; these are forums for expanding discourse. While political activists and leaders must be engaging, recourse to incitement and invective only re-

flects a lack of substance. Immediately after the first US presidential debate this election season, commentators and pundits felt Kamala Harris succeeded in goading Donald Trump into areas his camp would have him steer clear of. Her strategy was to make Trump implicate himself, and he did just that.

Traditionally, deep thinking with a proper mix of action set leaders apart from philosophers. In the subcontinent's context, Abul Kalam Azad and Bahadur Yar Jang were the best orators, but the leaders were Gandhi, Nehru, and Jinnah.

Among the recent world leaders, Barack Obama was that rare combination of being bookish yet communicating lucidly. However, even his ability to 'connect with the people' was questioned as, according to his critics, he could sometimes be 'too cerebral'. The dumbing down of discourse, ostensibly in the public interest, affects the quality of debate worldwide, the Democratic and Republican candidates' debates being no exception.

The battle of wits, at times dimwits, has come down to name-calling, slurs, and digging up past peccadillos and hush money trails. Regardless of the public laundering of candidates' alleged misdeeds — war crime, tax evasion, sexual offences, murder, rape, etc — they

continue to be voted in worldwide. The more they expose themselves, the more their ilk identifies with them, promoting a slimy culture.

Interestingly, earlier check-up from the neck in her vice presidency, Ms Harris was not considered the sharpest tool in the drawer by commentators; however, compared to the failing mental alertness of her boss, Joe Biden, and now her competitor, Trump, she appears even-keeled.

Imagine a US-style debate between leading contenders for power in Pakistan. The debate would contain everything but a solution to myriad problems. There would be hardly anything in the debate for their audience other than the realisation that they are equally adept at pointing out challenges and their adversaries' contributions to it but unable to propose a tangible way out of the mo-

loath to speak and debate and cannot organise a rave in a brewery, let alone a political party. The charming orators can indulge in much rabblerousing but cannot think to save their lives. Usually, after fulminating and bluffing their way to power, they gather a team of thinkers, also called strategists and technocrats, to run the actual business of governance. Lately, even the proverbial one-eyed leader has been missing, and it is a case of the blind leading

Take revenue collecleadership across the civilmilitary spectrum refuses to cough up its fair share of taxes. It is constantly hamstrung by one vested interest or another, usually surrogates, in broadening the tax base. Thus, the leadership makes

run the FBR. It turns out that the external experts entrusted with the shakeup got so shaken so fast by the interest groups that they required a

In a two-way or even a three-way debate, what would PML-N, PTI and PPP candidates say about the tax-to-GDP ratio, SOEs draining the exchequer, the energy sector, governance, relia-nce on the Fund pro--gramme, the investment climate, civilmilitary disequilibrium, etc? One good thing that might come out of such a debate is a public realisation of the sheer impossibility of the country's situation. It will also expose the jostling for office as nothing but a power grab.

While discussing

public discourse, ignoring the recent PTI gathering near Islamabad is difficult. What the KP chief Deep thinkers are minister said to a cheering crowd of thousands is too repulsive to repeat. His leader Imran Khan's endorsement from behind bars is unsurprising. He may not be the pioneer of abuse in public discourse, but to borrow from the subcontinent's musicology, he definitely merits the status of the 'Barey Khan Sahib' of the 'Gaali gharana'. The party chairperson, Barrister Gohar, apologised on the floor of the House for the misogyny-laden language used at the rally, and as expected, Imran Khan quickly dubbed all ion, for instance. The such apologists 'cowards'. Whether in one-onone debates, televised speeches, or public rallies, what is said and how it is said reveals the workings of the state or the lack thereof. It also reflects on the audience; their leadership choice half-hearted attempts to measures their self-esbring external experts to teem. -- Courtesy Dawn

#### Murad, Mark Maloney discuss polio eradication drive in high risk UCs

KARACHI (APP): Sindh is providing support in Chief Minister Syed high-risk union councils frontline workers during Murad Ali Shah' in his (UCs) within Sindh. Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah' in his meeting with Rotary Foundation Chairman Maloney emphasized the provincial government's unwavering commitment to eradicating

efforts Sindh continues to detect polio cases due to frequent cross-border travel from neighbouring "We are confident that our initiatives will yield positive results," the CM said and added that his

the Rotary Foundation for their support in Pakistan against polio. At this, Maloney said that the Rotary has established 23 permanent immunisation centres across Pakistan and

Chief Minister Shah said that a recent special campaign in 85 high-risk commissioners

Shah also lauded the

The CM reaffirmed

government's commitment to making both Sindh and Pakistan Secretary, divisional commissioners, and more than 3,000 members from the revenue department dedicated field work also actively participated in making the polio campaign said that with coordinated efforts, the health department successfully vaccinated children of over 5,000 previously resistant families, ensuring that no child was left behind in our



LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif presides over the reviewing meeting in Planning and Development Board.

#### Governor lauds establishment of technical training lab at Gomal University

Khybér Governor Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi on Thursday lauded the establishment of a Technical Training Lab at Gomal University with the collaboration of China. Initial work has begun

on the establishment of a Technical Training Lab, with the special interest of Governor Faisal Karim Kundi and directives from the Chairperson of the National Vocational and Training Technical Commission (NAVTTC) Gulmina Bilal. A meeting on the directives of Governor Faisal Karim Kundi who is Chancellor of the University was convened at Gomal University to discuss the project, attended by key figures including Vice Chancellor Professor Dr. Shakeebullah, Registrar Zahir Shah Marwat, and these regions.

representatives from the Chinese organization UNI International Zargham Abbas, and Ghufran Malook, PRO to Governor and Incharge PID Regional Office Dera Muhammad Fazlur Rehman and others. meeting The

highlighted the Governor's priority to provide economic opportunities for the youth of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Under the Youth Engagement and Women Empowerment Agenda, the Chairperson of NAVTTC, Gulmina Bilal. has directed UNI International to provide local students with modern facilities for online marketing and trading. Registrar Zahir Shah

Marwat said that Gomal University holds a unique position at the confluence of three provinces, benefiting students from

#### Marriyam discusses health, education, climate change with US Consul General

LAHORE (APP): Senior the directives of the chief Minister Provincial Marriyum Aurangzeb Thursday met U.S. Consul General Kristin K Hawkins to discuss various issues including health, education, economic growth, climate change, solid waste management, agricultural programs, law & order, price control management and protection of minorities. She highlighted that CM Maryam Nawaz Sharif was the first chief minister who personally monitors governance of the province. She begins each

minister, all provincial ministers are actively as engaged in the field to assumed office, she monitor the prices of activated the entire essential commodities. Significant progress is being made in several areas hospitals-on-wheels, demand and supply management, scholarships, road up-gradation and women's economic development programmes, she added. The senior minister further said that the people of Punjab are severely affected by the approximately 9,500 ecoday by overseeing public welfare matters. Following

smog in the region. As soon Maryam Nawaz government machinery in March to combat smog. Initiatives such as the esuch as field hospitals, mass transit system, establishment of solarised networks, and digital monitoring of crop residues, industries, and brick kilns are underway, minister added. Aurangzeb mentioned that 1,000 super seeders and dangerous impacts of friendly tractors have been change, provided to the farmers



LAHORE: U.S. Consul General in Lahore Kristin K. Hawkins meeting with Senior Minister Punjab Marrivum Aurangzaib.

#### French envoy meets Nasir, investment opportunities in Sindh discussed

KARACHI (APP): French high quality by foreign Ambassador to Pakistan Nicolas Galey along with members of diplomatic team called on Sindh Minister for Energy Syed Nasir Shah here at Energy

discussed matters of mutual interests opportunities in Sindh

Secretary Energy Mossadegh Ahmed Khan and senior officers were also present on the

Syed Nasir Hussain Shah and Secretary briefed the delegation about various alternative energy projects on this occasion.

Nasir Shah said province is rich in natural sources of alternative energy and there were immense opportunities for domestic as well as foreign investors. There are largest coal reserves in Thar desert area which were declared as Pakistan.

experts which would be utilized for gasification, Shah added. The French envoy

was briefed about Sindh Transmission department office on Dispatch Company and Sindh Solar Energy Nasir Shah said Sindh

was generating electricity including investment from renewable sources such as coal, solar and wind and there were immense opportunities investment in these

Shah informed the French Ambassador about havoc made by 2022 floods in which 2.1 millions houses were destroyed and left 8 million people homeless. He informed that projects were underway to rehabilitate flood affected people.

Nasir Shah expressed gratitude to the French government for its generous assistance to the flood affected people



KARACHI: Sarah Mooney, Deputy High Commissioner of the British High Commission, receives a memento during the World Maritime Day seminar organized by DEMP and MTI at a

# inaugurated in Mardan

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa collaboration

and court) were part of such

PESHAWAR (APP): The the region. Program Manager Child Protection and Peshawar Wisam Hazem Welfare Commission thanked the KP government (KPCPWC), in for taking the initiative to in for taking the initiative to inaugurate the Child Protection Unit in Mardan district and congratulated Child Protection Unit in and KP Child Protection said it would contribute to strengthening the child protection system in the district. Hazem reaffirmed commitment to supporting these efforts. Sohail specialist from the ÚNICEF Peshawar

#### Kurram police foil bid to smuggle narcotics, nab eight peddlers PESHAWAR (APP): The

district Kurram police on Thursday foiled an attempt to smuggle drugs worth millions of rupees and arrested eight smugglers According to the spokesperson of Kurram Police, SP Operation Lower Karam Jahanzeb Khan SHO Ahmadi police station Shamyar Muhammad Bamaa police acting on a tip of installed a blockade near Kamar Mela Pahar and arrested drug smugglers Zainullah resident of Qamber Khel, Rizwanullah, Abdul Samad, Hazrat Umar, Nisar Ahmed, Noor Wahid, Jan Muhammad and

#### IRSA Act not to be amended after Sindh PA resolution: Nisar Khuhro tail of the River Indus.

Pakistan People's Party Sindh President Nisar Khuhro on Thursday claimed that after passage of the resolution by Sindh Assembly, there was no chance of amendments in Indus River System Authority Act.
Speaking to the media

persons, Nisar Khuhro said as per universal laws, tail end areas have the first

He said by passage of the resolution in Sindh Assembly, people of the province had clearly given decision regarding reported amendments in the Act.

Commenting on the GDA's protest, Nisar Khuhro said after Sindh Assembly's resolution, such protest was beyond comprehension. Responding to a question



LAHORE: Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan in a group photo with delegation comprising bishops and pastors of churches under the leadership of Vice President Pakistan People's Party Punjab Minority Wing, **Advisor Health briefed on** 

the Sehat Card Program

(APP):

Ĥealth

PESHAWAR

Riaz Tanoli.

Secretary

Program.

Advisor to Chief Minister

K h y b e r Pakhtunkhwa(KP) on

Health, Advocate Ihtisham

Ali was briefed on the

Sehat Card Program by

Chief Executive Officer Dr

attended by Special

Habibullah, CEO Sehat

Card Dr Riaz Tanoli, and

the Health Advisor was

informed about the

treatment packages offered

under the Sehat Card

Package provides Rs

40,000 per person and Rs

200,000 per family, while

other relevant officials.

The briefing was

During the briefing,

The Secondary Care

#### strict actions against violation of dengue SOP. **Importance** of clean environment highlighted

SUKKUR (APP): Deputy Mayor Sukkur Dr Arshad Mughal on Thursday conducted comprehensive review of sanitation in the Sukkur

The Deputy Mayor visited different markets, Minara Road, Clock Tower and issued directives to enhance cleanliness arrangements.

He instructed the immediate removal of waste in the market and emphasized improving sanitation measures for better consumer convenience. He also stressed the need to eliminate encroachments

#### on roads leading to the vegetable and fruit market. **ANF** foils attempt to smuggle drugs, weapons

RAWALPINDI (APP) Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) while conducting a raid in Karachi foiled an attempt to smuggle drugs and weapons and recovered 1200 grams charras, seven pistols and ammunition, said an ANF Headquarters spokesman here on Thursday.

He informed that ANF conducted a raid at a courier office near Nursery Stop in Karachi and recovered 1200 grams hashish and weapons. concealed in electronic goods sent from Peshawar.

The recovered weapons included five 9 mm pistols, two 30 bore pistols and 17 magazines with 55 rounds.

offers free treatment up to Rs 400,000. The Advisor was also (APP): briefed that Rs10.5 million Commissioner families in KP were receiving free treatment at 753 public and private hospitals under the Sehat Card Program.

So far, Rs. 88 billion had been spent on the free treatment of 3,529,487 individuals. It was

highlighted that the provincial government was bearing monthly expenses of Rs. 2.5 billion and annual costs of Rs 30 billion for free treatment under the program. Currently, Rs 19 billion was outstanding in dues for the program.

There were 118 empaneled hospitals under the Sehat Card in KP.



KARACHI: Grand Democratic Alliance (GDA) Spokesman, Sardar Abdul Rahim along with others addresses to protesters during GDA and allied parties protest demonstration against building new canals to draw additional water from the Indus River, anti-people policies decisions and amending the Irsa Act, held at Karachi press club.

#### DC Dera vows to provide prompt relief to citizens

DERA ISMAIL KHAN Deputy Sarah Rehman has said that it is a top priority of district administration to work for the development and welfare of the citizens.

"Providing prompt relief to the public is our top priority, and we will not tolerate any negligence in this regard," the DC expressed these views during a revenue darbar held the village of Kotjai, Tehsil Pharpur under the public agenda of the Chief Minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to resolve revenue department-related issues of people at

their doorstep.
Besides officials of the revenue department, Assistant Commissioner Pharpur Sohni Saleem and Assistant Commissioner Revenue Dera Sher Bahadur were also present on the occasion, where a large number of residents raised several issues pertaining to the revenue department including land transfers, Fard, registry and others. Speaking on the occasion, she said that the district administration was committed to extending relief to citizens by dispensing justice at their doorstep and resolving their problems at the earliest. She added that holding such darbar(open-

efforts

#### local hotel. **Child protection unit**

UNICEF, achieved a significant milestone with the inauguration of the the district administration Mardan. The inauguration and Welfare Commission key stakeholders, senior government officials, representatives from civil society, academia, adolescents, and children from District Mardan to mark this momentous occasion on Thursday. District Officer Social

Welfare, Special Education Women Empowerment Mardan Jamal Shah highlighted the safe, significance of the Child Protection Unit and its role in safeguarding the rights collective action by the and welfare of children in community, government.

ceremony brought together for their leadership in establishing the unit. He UNICEF's continued Ahmad, Child Protection emphasized that creating a environment for children requires sustained and

# countries.

government had initiated malnourished children to strengthen their immunity. Murad Shah thanked

Foundation is facilitating social mobilization and fostering confidencebuilding among families who have previously refused vaccinations in "Despite our hectic high-risk areas," said Maloney.

> union councils of Karachi has been initiated where a fractional injectable polio vaccine (IPV) was successfully administered with the full mobilisation of government officials. He participation of deputy assistant commissioners in converting refusal cases and supporting polio teams in

personnel who ensured a

polio-free. "The Chief administration, and elected representatives for their successful.Murad Shah

fight against polio. The meeting was attended by (from Rotary) Trustee Aziz Memon, Director Faiz Kidwai, Eric

role of over 5,000 police Schmeling, Rizwan Aadhia,

57 new cases

of Dengue

recorded in

Rawalpindi

RAWALPINDI (APP)

The 57 new cases were recorded in Rawalpindi during past 24 hours, increasing the number of patients under treatment in

allied hospitals to 100.

latest report released by the District Health

Authority, this year's tota

positive cases reached 501

Pothohar Town remains

the top contributing and

Pothohar Town were

reported alone during the

last 24 hours. Rawalpindi

Cantonment Board areas

also reported 9 dengue

patients in one day. The

district administration

along with allied departments had directed

27 patients from

the most affected area.

According to the

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister, Syed Murad Ali Shah exchanges views with Chairman of the Rotary Foundation, Mark Daniel Maloney during meeting held at CM House in Karachi. Sindh Health Minister, Dr. Azra Fazal Pechuho, Rotary Trustee Aziz Memon and other dignitaries seen

#### **Punjab Governor says: Role of Christian community** in development and stability of country is commendable

**Independent Report** 

LAHORE: Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan has said that the role of the Christian community in the development and stability belongs to all of us, everyone has to play a role for its improvement and lead towards improvement. He expressed these views here today at Governor House Lahore during a meeting with a delegation comprising bishops and pastors of churches under the leadership of Vice President Pakistan People's Party Punjab Minority Wing, Edwin Sahutra. In the delegation Pastor Irfan Shahzad, Pastor Ubaid Iqbal, Pastor Younis Javed, Bishop Wilson John, Bishop Dr. Junaid Javed, Bishop Afzal Masih, Bishop Akbar

Muswar Manoor, Pastor Parvez Nadeem and Pasar Irfan John were present.

Punjab Governor. Sardar Saleem Haider said that Islam teaches love, tolerance peace and brotherhood. He said that commendable. Pakistan minorities are living peacefully in Pakistan. Governor Punjab said that the Christian community is a patriotic Pakistani and has been playing a positive role in the development of the country since the establishment of Pakistan. He said that the doors of the Governor's House are open for everyone including the minorities. On this occasion, the delegation informed the Governor of Punjab about the various problems faced by them. Governor Punjab assured the solution of various problems related to the provision of funds for the churches of Sindh and



KARACHI: Sindh Minister for Information, Transport and Mass Transit, Excise Taxation and Narcotics Control, Sharjeel Inam Memon addresses to media persons during press conference, held at Sindh Assembly building.

#### Minister assures prompt solution to problems of hospital's House Officers

KOHAT (APP): Khyber Forum Dr. Haris Waheed Pakhtunkhwa Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs Aftab Alam Afridi Advocate on Thursday assured the House Officers of District Headquarters Hospital Kohat that their problems will be solved on priority basis.

gave this assurance while talking to Kohat Dr. Tahir Ali Shah representative delegation of House Officers of District Headquarters Hospital Kohat led by the Chairman Insaf Doctors Forum House Officers in detail. Kohat Dr. Nizam Ali at his

Other members of the included President Insaf Doctors Forum Kohat Dr. Hamza Shehzad and Secretary General Insaf Doctors possible.

Members of the delegation had a detailed discussion with the provincial minister about the problems of House Officers. The law minister took personal interest in solving the problems of House Officers and called in the MS DHQ Hospital and on the spot held a special meeting with him in this regard in presence of the delegation and discussed the issues of

On this occasion, Aftab Alam also contacted the high-ups of the Finance Department to solve the problems of the House Officers of the DHQ Hospital as soon as

06

#### Rana Ihsan says: National economy inching towards 'growth' from stability

ISLAMABAD (APP): Coordinator to the Prime Minister on Commerce and Industry Rana Ihsan Afzal Khan Thursday said the national economy had begun to show steady progress due to the prudent policies introduced by the incumbent government, marking a shift from IMF will be achieved

stability to 'growth.'
"All econ indicators are moving in the right direction," he said continue on its growth while addressing a news conference after the Pakistan Stock Exchange

The (PSX) 100 Index gained over 1,500 points, surging to 81,900, which he called a 'superb performance' and

a 'big achievement.' challenges was also being He noted that the acknowledged by the reflecting the confidence of stock exchange's positive trajectory reflected marketbased sentiments and the confidence of investors and entrepreneurs government policies.

the agreement with the successfully, hopefully by economic September 25, and the trajectory," he expressed

The coordinator added that Pakistan's shift from 'stability' to country's remittances 'positive' regarding its debt increased by 44 percent, liability and external

world's top credit agencies like Fitch and Moody's.

Sharing some official statistics, Ihsan Afzal said during the first two months of the current fiscal year, "This indicates that the country's export sector witnessed a remarkable increase, with textile and clothing exports rising by 13 percent year on year basis, IT services by 27 percent, and overall exports by 7.2 percent during July and August.

During the same period, he said the reaching \$5.9 billion, which

overseas Pakistanis in government policies. Similarly, he mentioned that the current account deficit declined remarkably, standing at \$0.2 billion while the exchange rate against the dollar remained stable and fluctuated according to market trends. Additionally, 14 sectors in

Manufacturing (LSM) area showed positive growth, surging by almost 2.38 percent year on year, he added. The coordinator also highlighted the reduced inflation rate of 9.6

Large

the



ISLAMABAD: Russian Deputy Minister of energy and Deputy Minister Economic development held a meeting with Pakistani delegation led by Dr. Musadik Malik.

**Envoy says: Enhancing Pak-Swiss** trade ties top priority

Swiss Ambassador to Pakistan George Steiner on Thursday stressed that strengthening bilateral trade relations and economic cooperation was his top priority.

Efforts to the effect would ultimately benefit the people of both nations, he said addressing the the launching ceremony of homeopathic medicines in Pakistan, according to a press

Ambassador Steiner highlighted the vast opportunities collaboration in sectors such as tourism, medicine,

and agriculture. He praised the destination for global successful partnership investors.

ISLAMABAD (APP): between Pakistani and Swiss companies, and expressed the hope for increased collaboration and investment from Swiss companies, leveraging Pakistan's 25 million population and diverse industries.

said Switzerland was the third largest direct investor in Pakistan, and had close trade ties and encouraged further expansion of bilateral trade and investment.

Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry President Bakhtawari welcomed Swiss investment, calling Pakistan an attractive

#### Jam, US trade representative discuss bilateral trade expansion ISLAMABAD (APP): noted the potential for

Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan on Thursday held a virtual meeting with United

Representative Katherine Tai to strengthen bilateral trade relations between both countries. minister The

highlighted that the US is Pakistan's leading trade destination and expressed desire to further expand this partnership, said a news release.

He underscored the country's agricultural strengths particularly in mangoes and dates, and

Gold rates up

by Rs.800

per tola to

Rs.268,500

ISLAMABAD (APP)

The price of 10 grams

growth in value-added agro-services. Katherine

acknowledged Pakistan's

contributions, particularly its agricultural exports, and praised the quality of Pakistani mangoes. She also mentioned the potential for US beef

exports to Pakistan, given the large demand in the market. Both sides discussed issues of mutual interest, agreeing to further strengthen their trade

relations. During the meeting, it explore was confirmed that the opportunities.

next Trade and Investment Framework Agreement (TIFA) meeting would be scheduled soon, along with discussions on agriculture, textiles, women's empowerment, IT and Ecommerce.

Minister Jam Kamal invited Katherine Tai to attend Pakistan's TEXPO in October.

She was grateful for inviting her to attend TEXPO and expressed her interest in visiting the country. In return, she invited Jam Kamal to visit Washington to further



ISLAMABAD: Traders casting their votes during ICCI Elections for the year 2024-26 in the Federal

#### PBS capacity building, data digitization vital for service delivery

PESHAWAR (APP): Advisor to the Chief Minister on Finance, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Dr. Muzammil Aslam has underscored the need for enhancing the capacity of the provincial bureau of statistics and leveraging data and digitalization to improve service delivery citizens

businesses. The CM's Advisor emphasized the urgent need evidence-based solutions to drive policymaking and implementation in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Highlighting the province's goals of increasing tax and non-tax revenues, Dr. Aslam reiterated the commitment of the economic team to bolster provincial resources, particularly towards education and health

sectors.

He expressed these remarks during the inaugural meeting of the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) led National Network of Economic Thinktanks (NNETT) Committee for the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chapter.

Dr. commended NNETT for their efforts in promoting evidence-backed policy making. He stressed the importance of this inclusive network as a government watchdog and accountability

mechanism at the local level. Addressing the power sector challenges faced by the private sector, Dr. Aslam highlighted the government's focus on public-private partnership-based solutions to support the



SINGAPORE: High Commissioner Rabia Shafiq met with Tony Kettinger, COO, Golden Agri-Resources, a global seed to shelf agribusiness, headquartered in Singapore and discussed trade & investment prospects in Pakistan especially in food & corporate farm.

## SCCI demands resumption of Peshawar-Karachi

Fuad Ishaq, president of the SCCI, in a statement service was availed by

PESHAWAR (APP): He, however, said Sarhad Chamber of PIA has halted Peshawar

said the PIA move to halt flight operations from Peshawar to Karachi has created great unrest among the business community

government and higher management of PIA to immediately resume.



AJMAN: Hussain Muhammed, Consul General met Salem Al Suwaidi, Director General of the Ajman Chamber at the Chamber's headquarters. Ali Rashid Al Kaitoob, Executive Director of the Studies and Investment Development Sector at the Aiman Chamber and Ali Zeeb Khan, Trade and Investment Counsellor Pakistan Consulate were also present during the meeting.

#### KP govt making efforts for all possible facilitation of industrialists: CM aide

PESHAWAR (APP): Special Assistant to KP CM on Industries, Commerce and Technical Education, Abdul Karim Khan Tordher on Thursday said that the provincial government was making all out efforts for the provision of all possible

facilities to industrialists. He was talking to a delegation consisted of the presidents of Small Industrial Estates here in his office at Civil promotion called on the Special province. Assistant were included Haji Iftikhar Ahmad (Abbottabad), Waheed Arif (Peshawar), Sajjad Khan Mardan), Abdul Malik Khan (Mansehra), Younas reason for their efforts to Khattak (Kohat) and provide cheap electricity representatives of others to industries.

industrial estates. The members of the delegation presented their demands before the Special Assistant and requested him to play his due role in the resolution of their

problems. The CM aide said, beside granting relief to industrialists provincial government is also making efforts for provision of conducive and better environment for

He said that he is fully aware of the energy related problems and other challenges faced by the industrialists, that is the

#### Huawei, NIBFP sign MoU for capability enhancement

ISLAMABAD (APP): Huawei Technologies Pakistan and the National Finance Pakistan (NIBFP) signed

Memorandum Understanding (MoU) to digitally empower the Resources employed. As per the are thrilled to embark on MoU this alliance is set to this mark a significant step in the digitalization of the banking sector of Pakistan as well as improve the overall capability and will be a stepping stone organizations for many towards a better connected and intelligent banking vararali Chunara.

infrastructure said a news release. Riaz Nazaral Chunara, CEO, of NIBAF Pakistan, and Ahmed Bilal Masud, Deputy CEO of Huawei Technologies Pakistan, signed the agreement in the presence of delegation from NIBAF Pakistan and Huawei. "We

meaningful collaboration, and hope that the signing of this MoU is a testament to the strategic partnership

#### **Pakistan Post launches UMS Plus service in** South Punjab

Pakistan Post introduced an urgent mail service plus (UMS Plus) with a commitment to public service in south Punjab on

The inauguration ceremony took place at Multan GPO and Postmaster General Central Punjab Circle Lahore Malik Anwar Ahmed presided the event. The ÛMS Plus service guarantees next-day delivery of articles. It is department was being available in Multan, modernized.

Muzaffargarh, Dera Ghazi Khan, Sahiwal, Rahim Yar Khan, Bahawalnagar, Vehari Khanewal, Rajanpur Lodhran, and Pakpattan along with other post offices at the tehsil level.

Postmaster General South Punjab Circle Zaheer Ullah Khattak and Malik Anwar Ahmed addressed the gathering. They maintained that the postal



KARACHI: All Pakistan Organization of Small Trades and Industry official Rizwan Irfan addressing a press conference at the Press Club.

#### **PSX continues** with bullish trend, gains 997 more points

ISLAMABAD (APP): The 100-Index of the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) continued with bullish trend on Thursday, gaining 997.95 more points, a positive change of 1.24 percent, closing at 81,459.29 points against 80,461.34 points on the

last working day. A total of 459,037,985 shares were traded during the day as compared to 400,195,963 shares the previous day, of whereas the price of shares Secretariat. Those who industrialization in the stood at Rs 18.610 billion

on the last trading day. As many as 469 companies transacted their shares in the stock market. 145 of them recorded gains and 239 sustained losses whereas the share price of 85 companies remained unchanged.

The three top trading companies were Kohinoor Spinning with 35,184,576 shares at Rs 8.01 per share, K-Electric Limited with 23,819,654 shares at Rs 3.99 per share and WorldCall Telecom with 22,930,170 shares at Rs 1.33 per share.

Unilever Pakistan Foods Limited witnessed a maximum increase of Rs 141.10 per share price, closing at Rs 17,508.33, whereas the runner-up was Luck Cement Industries Limited with Rs 60.73 rise in its per share price to Rs 1,075.91.

#### **Shipping Activity** at Port Qasim

KARACHI (APP): Five ships, Maersk Pittsburgh, Maersk Cairo, Lotus-A, CD Fortune and FSM scheduled to load/offload Container, Sand and LPG, berthed at Qasim International Container Terminal and Sui Southern Gas Terminal respectively during last 24 hours, Meanwhile two more ships, Tirua and MSC Adelaide are arrived at outer anchorage port on Thursday.

Eleven ships were engaged at PQA berths during the last 24 hours, out of them a chemicals carrier 'Chemroad Jupiter' left the port on today morning, while five more ships, Maersk Cairo, Lotus-A, PS Star, Belfort and BAM BAM are expected to sail on Thursday. Cargo volume of 171,312 tonnes, comprising 123,603 tonnes imports cargo and 47,709 tonnes export cargo carried in 4,337 Containers (2,057 TEUs Imports & 2,277 TEUs Export) was handled

Ten ships at Outer Anchorage of Port Qasim, out of them three ships, Advantage Angle, Peace One and Tirua & two more ships, One Reliability and Zhong Gu Bo Hai are scheduled to load/offload Condensate

at the port during last 24

# **PFC CEO**

Russian Deputy PM's

visit to boost trade:

LAHORE (APP): Pakistan Furniture Council (PFC) Chief Executive Officer Mian Kashif Ashfaq Thursday said that Russian Deputy Prime Minister Alexey Overchuk's visit will further promote trade ties between the two countries with a special focus on energy sector and infrastructure, paving the way for closer economic collaboration in the future. Commenting here on

visit, he said Overchuk's visit comes at a crucial time when both countries were looking to deepen economic cooperation in key areas, including

and strategically, he added.

logistics. He said Russia, as one of the world's largest energy producers, was keen to expand its energy exports, while Pakistan was looking to secure reliable energy sources for its growing industrial needs. This collaboration could lead to the signing of new energy agreements and projects that could benefit both nations economically

connectivity, particularly in terms of transportation infrastructure and digital links, were vital area for enhanced connectivity to boost trade flows

#### trading day. of 24 karat gold also increased by Rs.685 to Rs 230,195 from Rs. 229,510 whereas the price of 10 He said improving

#### gram 22 karat gold went up to Rs.211,012 from Rs. 210,384, the All Sindh Association reported. The price of per tola and ten gram silver remained unchanged at Rs.2,950 and Rs.2,529.14, respectively. The price of gold in the international market increased by \$8 to \$2,57 from \$2,569,

Association reported.



ISLAMABAD: Member (SSRM & Focal Person on Data Fest, Mohammad Sarwar Gondal (Satara Imtiaz), briefing the media at the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics office in the federal capital.

#### **Food imports decline** by 18.15% in first two months FY 2024-25

ISLAMABAD (APP): imported as compared to Food group imports into the imports of \$552.404 the country experienced a significant decline of 18.15% during the first two months of the current financial year as compared to the imports of the corresponding period of the last year.

From July to August 2024, Pakistan imported various food commodities valued at \$1.066 billion, down from \$1.303 billion during the same of last year, according to data released by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics. During the period

under review, the commodities observed a negative trend in their respective including tea by 11.07 per cent as it was recorded at \$97.956 million as compared to the imports of \$110.155 million in the same period of the last year. Meanwhile, the imports of edible oil like soyabean and palm into the country decreased by 52.20 per cent and 10.23 per cent respectively as soyabean oil valued at \$22.241 million and palm oil

million and \$46.820 million.

In the first two months, the sugar imports into the country also decreased by 10.01 per cent and it was recorded at \$0.710 million against the imports of \$0.789 million in the same period of last

However, the imports of commodities including dry fruits and nuts grew by 88.24 per cent as dry fruits and nuts costing \$13.378 million were imported in the last two months as compared to the imports of 7.1017 million of the same period of the last year.

The import of spices also increased by 59.05 per cent as spices worth \$39.384 million were imported as compared to the imports of \$24.762 million in the same period of last year. It is worth mentioning here that food group exports from the country during the first two months of the current financial year grew by 42.39 per cent as compared to the exports of the 495.874 million were corresponding period.

#### **Intl Agro Tourism Devel. Summit** on Sep 27

FAISALABAD (APP): Non-Resident Pakistanis (NRP) in collaboration with National Center for Health Workers, Farmers Holdings and Women's Funds would organize International Summit on "Agro Tourism Development" University of Agriculture Faisalabad (UAF) here on September 27, 2024 (Friday).

According to Chairman Coordination NRP Muhammad Saleem Bolandia, the summit would commence at 09.00 a.m. in Expo Center UAF where international resource persons were invited to deliver keynote lectures. He said that UAF Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Igrar Ahmad Khan will chair the event, whereas Dr Jalal Arif has been nominated as focal person for this summit.

He said that NRP National Coordinator for Tourism Development in Pakistan Madam Quratul Ain will welcome the participants while Chairman NRP Shahab Qarni will introduce NRP in his brief note.

# PIA flight operation

Commerce and Industry (SCCI) has expressed concern over closure of PIA flight operation from Peshawar to Karachi and demanded for immediate resumption.

issued here on Thursday, said PIA was operating only one flight from Peshawar to Karachi within a week and this business community and Khyber people of Pakhtunkhwa.

to Karachi operation for the last several months, due to which the business community has not only faced difficulties but also inflicted huge revenue loss to the national carrier PIA.
The SCCI president

and people of the province. He demanded the

## Putin says Russia is ramping up drone production tenfold

MOSCOW: President Vladimir Putin said on Thursday that Russia was ramping up drone production by around ten times to nearly 1.4 million this year in a bid to ensure the Russian armed forces win in

Since Russia sent tens of thousands of soldiers into Ukraine in February 2022, the war has largely been a story of grinding artillery and drone strikes along a heavily fortified 1,000-km (620-mile) front involving hundreds of thousands of soldiers.

The conflict has been a crucible for drone development - and an illustration of the importance of drones to modern warfare, from terrorising infantry and collecting intelligence to sabotaging infrastructure and attacking arsenals.

"In total,

upcoming presidential elections in Colombo.

Biden to discuss Gaza, Sudan,

AI with UAE president on

Monday, spokesperson says

ogy to bolster its military.

administration imposed

sweeping new curbs on AI

chip exports in a bid to cut

But Microsoft's \$1.5

billion investment, an-

countries

person John Kirby said the nounced in April, in UAE-

**Monitoring Desk** 

President Joe Biden will

welcome United Arab Emir-

ates President Sheikh

Mohammed bin Zayed Al

sponsible artificial intelli-

visit would be the first-ever

by a president of the Gulf

Arab country to Washing-

ton, adding that Vice Presi-

dent Kamala Harris would

meet separately with the

been increasingly concerned

about the UAE and other

Middle Eastern countries

becoming a conduit for ad-

vanced US AI technology

reaching China, which it

The United States has

White House spokes-

gence development.

WASHINGTON:

140,000 unmanned aerial laden with explosives. vehicles of various types were delivered to the armed forces in 2023," Putin said. 'This year, the production of drones is planned to increase significantly. Well, to be more precise, almost 10

"Whoever reacts faster to these demands on the battlefield wins," Putin said at a meeting in St Petersburg about drone production.

Both Russia and Ukraine have bought drones abroad and ramped up their own production while drone videos have illustrated the horror of the battlefield, showing deadly strikes on infantry, artillery and tanks.

Inexpensive first-person view (FPV) drones originally developed for civilian racers - are controlled by pilots on the ground and about often crash into targets.

For just a few hundred dollars, soldiers on both sides can inflict vast damage on the other side. A large-scale Ukrainian drone attack on Russia triggered an earthquake-sized blast at

a major arsenal in the Tver

region on Wednesday.

Putin said that Russia was making almost weekly advances in drone technology and needed to also develop its drone defences, essentially technology which senses, confuses and then shoots down the attacking drones.

'The key task is to produce a wide range of aerial unmanned vehicles, to establish serial production as quickly as possible," Putin said.

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#### Lebanon's Hezbollah reeling after 37 killed in two days of device blasts

**Monitoring Desk** BEIRUT: Israel said on Thursday it bombed Hezbollah sites in Lebanon, piling pressure on the armed group already reeling after a series of deadly explosions targeting its communications systems that it blamed on Israel.

Those coordinated blasts killed 37 people across two days, including two children, and wounded more than 2,900 others, according to Lebanon's health minis-

ter, heightening fears of another full-blown war in The latest batch of

device explosions killed 25 people and wounded more than 450 others on Wednesday, officials said. The blasts came a day

after the simultaneous detonation of pagers used by Hezbollah killed 12 people, including two children, and wounded up to 2,800 others across Lebanon, in an unprecedented

#### Turkey accuses Israel of expanding Gaza war to Lebanon

**Monitoring Desk** 

STANBUL: Turkey on Thursday accused Israel of seeking to expand the war in Gaza to Lebanon with the 'alarming" wave of deadly explosions that swept through Hezbollah strongholds. "The escalation in the region is alarming," Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan said on state-run TRT television. We see Israel mounting its attacks towards Lebanon

step by step."
The blasts have killed 32 people in two days, including two children. wounding more than 3,000 others, according to Lebanese health ministry figures.

mented on the unprecedented operation in which Hezbollah operatives' walkie-talkies and pagers exploded in supermarkets, at funerals and on streets.

But its defence minister Yoav Gallant, referring to Israel's border with Lebanon, said Wednesday: "The centre of gravity is moving northward." Turkey blamed Israel for the blasts. "We have come to a point where these operations carried out by Israel have become increasingly provocative, and in return, Iran, Hezbollah and elements close to them have no choice

but respond," Fidan said.

#### Japan firm savs no longer makes radio reportedly used in **Lebanon blasts**

**Monitoring Desk** ΓΟΚΥΟ: Japanese firm Icom said on Thursday that it had stopped pro-ducing the model of radios reportedly used in recent blasts in Lebanon around 10 years ago. "The IC-V82 is a handheld radio that was produced and exported, including to the Middle East, from 2004 to October 2014. It was discontinued about 10 years ago, and since then, it has not been shipped from our company."

#### US not involved in device explosions in Lebanon: White House **Monitoring Desk**

WASHINGTON: White House national security spokesperson John Kirby on Wednesday denied any involvement of the United States in the device explo sions in Lebanon.

During media briefing here, he said the US did not want the conflict escalate in the Middle East.

'I want to tell you that we are not involved in the incidents yesterday and today in any way. We want to see war end and everything we have been doing since the beginning has been designed is to prevent the conflict from escalating.

#### "new phase" of war **Monitoring Desk** In recent days, Israe IERUSALEM: has moved a powerful Israel's defense minister anfighting force up to the nouncing a "new phase" of the war and an apparent Isnorthern border, officials have escalated their rhetoraeli attack setting off explosions in electronic devices in ric, and the country's security Cabinet has designated the return of tens of thou-Lebanon, the specter of all-

Israel's defense

minister announces a

than ever before. Hopes for a diplomatic solution to the conflict appear to be fading quickly as Israel signals a desire to change the status quo in the country's north, where it has exchanged cross-border fire with Hezbollah since the Lebanese militant group began attacking on Oct. 8, a day after the war's opening salvo by Hamas.

out combat between Israel

and Hezbollah seems closer

sands of displaced residents to their homes in northern Israel an official war goal. Here's a look at how Israel is preparing for a war with Lebanon: While the daily fighting between Israel and Hezbollah has escalated on several occasions, the bitter enemies have been careful to avoid an allout war. That appears to be changing — especially after pagers, walkie-talkies

and other devices exploded

#### **Ammunition from** India enters Ukraine, raising Russian ire

**Monitoring Desk** NEW DELHI: Artillery shells sold by Indian arms makers have been diverted by European customers to Ukraine and New Delhi has not intervened to stop the trade despite protests from Moscow, according to eleven Indian and European government and defence industry officials, as well as a Reuters analysis of commercially

available customs data. The transfer of munitions to support Ukraine's defence against Russia has occurred for more than a year, according to the sources and the customs data. Indian arms export regulations limit the use of weaponry to the declared purchaser, who risks future sales being terminated if unauthorised transfers occur.

The Kremlin has raised the issue on at least two occasions, including during a July meeting be-

tween Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov and his Indian counterpart, three Indian officials said.

Details of the ammunition transfers are reported by Reuters for the first time

The foreign and defence ministries of Russia and India did not respond to questions. In January, Indian foreign ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal told a news conference that India had not sent or sold artillery shells to Ukraine.

Two Indian government and two defence industry sources told Reuters that Delhi produced only a very small amount of the ammunition being used by Ukraine, with one official estimating that it was under 1% of the total arms imported by Kyiv since

#### Spain denies 'complicity' in Venezuela's Gonzalez signing letter accepting Maduro victory

Monitoring Desk MADRID: Spain has de-Edmundo Gonzalez and resident Maduro's government for

his flight to Spain, before which he signed a letter saying he accepted Maduro's victory in the country's July election. The letter included an

undertaking to limit political activity once in Spain and was signed at the residence of the Spanish ambassador to Caracas, where Gonzalez had taken refuge before his departure. In a news conference

on Wednesday, the head of Venezuela's National Assembly, Jorge Rodriguez, held up printed photographs of what he said was the moment the document was signed in his presence as well as that of his sister, Vice President Delcy Rodriguez, and Spain's ambassador to Venezuela, Ramon Santos.

However, Spanish Foreign Minister Jose Manuel Albares told re-

porters in Brussels on Thursday that his governnied involvement in nego- ment did not invite anyone tiations between Venezu- to visit Gonzalez at the elan opposition leader ambassador's residence.

"The Spanish government, and of course the ambassador, did not take part in any negotiation of any document of any type," Jose Manuel Albares told reporters in Brussels.

Gonzalez, who was granted political asylum in Spain earlier this month, said in a video message released on Wednesday the letter was signed under "coercion, blackmail and pres-

On Thursday, a senior figure in Spain's opposition People's Party (PP) said Madrid had been complicit in removing Gonzalez from Venezuela, thereby ensuring Maduro would stay in

Beyond watching someone being blackmailed live, it's clear that Spain is involved in perpetuating Maduro as a dictator," PP Vice Secretary Esteban Gonzalez Pons said in a radio interview.

#### Trudeau set to survive confidence vote next week with opposition support

OTTAWA: Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau looks set to survive a confidence vote left party, could well insist next week after a rival party said on Wednesday it would not back an ating Trudeau in power. tempt to defeat his minority Liberal government.

Monitoring Desk

The official opposition Conservatives, who have a commanding lead in the polls, said they would try to topple Trudeau next Wednesday on the grounds that Canadians cannot afford the promised increase in an existing federal carbon

Trudeau will need support from other legislators to survive a confidence vote in the House of Commons and quickly found it from Yves-Francois Blanchet, leader of the separatist Bloc Quebecois, which seeks independence for the province of Quebec.

"The Bloc Quebecois serves the people of Ouebec. It does not serve Conservatives," Blanchet told reporters, saying replacing Trudeau with Conservative leader

suit Quebec's interests. The Bloc, which like the Liberals are a centeron pro-Quebec concessions in return for keep-

Pierre Poilievre would not

Trudeau, who first took office in November 2015, faces increasing unhappiness from voters over rising prices and a nationwide housing crisis. The confidence vote

will be his first real test since the smaller New Democratic Party this month tore up a 2022 deal to keep the Liberals in office until an election that must be held by end-October 2025.

Trudeau will have to survive a series of other confidence votes to make it that far.

While working formally with separatists is generally seen as politically toxic in Canada, federal parties have in the past struck one-off deals to

gain Bloc support.

In 2009, the Bloc backed the then minority Conservative government on a confidence

#### A supporter of National People's Power (NPP) presidential candidate Anura Kumara Dissanayaka, holds the party symbol during a rally ahead of the Taliban in control of 39 Afghan

Last year, the Biden off more avenues for China Nahyan to the White to obtain them, slapping a House on Monday for talks licensing requirement on on issues ranging from the their shipment to the UAE war in Gaza, Sudan and re- and other Middle Eastern

based artificial intelligence firm G42 has fueled contheir capitals. cerns among China hardliners in Congress as to whether those controls go far enough. Republican lawmakers asked the Biden administration for an intelligence assessment of the deal over concerns the US company planned to export the otherwise severely restricted AI semiconductor chips to train models as well fears could use the technol- as ÂI model weights.

#### Italy's Emilia-Romagna region hit by new floods as storm moves west

**Monitoring Desk** that has wreaked havoc across central Europe brought devastating floods to the northern Italian region of Emilia-Romagna on Thursday for the second year in a row, forcing people to leave their homes

and schools to close. A low-pressure system named "Boris" caused the worst flooding in more than two decades from Romania to Poland over the past week, killing at least 24 people before moving west. "I have to say that it rained non-stop for more than 48 hours, non-stop. Boris has clearly decided to pick on our region," the acting president of Emilia-Romagna Irene Priolo told RAI public radio.

She said about 1,000 people had been evacuated overnight from their homes,

Wroclaw, Poland.

but noted this was far lower than the 45,000 who had been forced to leave by the previous floods, which affected a larger area. In May 2023, two rounds of torrential rain and mudslides killed 17 people and caused 8.5 billion euros (\$9.5 billion) worth of damage in Emilia-Romagna, according to regional authorities.

On Thursday, schools were closed and rail services suspended in several provinces. In the town of Lugo, near Ravenna, authorities ordered the evacuation of all ground floor residences, after the local Senio river broke its banks. "We are in a full emergency ... the event is very similar to what we had last May," the Mayor of Ravenna, Michele De Pascale, told Radio 24 broadcaster, adding however that this year's floods were more

concentrated geographically.

People stand near sandbags protecting the Wroclaw Zoo against flooding, in

#### embassies globally Monitoring Desk KABUL: The Taliban ad-

ministration is in control of 39 Afghan embassies and consulates globally three vears after it took over Afghanistan and the previous Western-backed govern-ment collapsed, the acting foreign ministry said on Thursday. No international government has formally recognised the Taliban administration, though China and the United Arab Emirates have officially accepted its ambassadors in

Many governments, especially Western nations including the United States. have said the path to any formal recognition of the Taliban will be stuck until they change course on women's rights and re-open high schools and universities to girls and women and allow their full freedom of movement. The Taliban say they respect rights in accordance with their interpretation of Islamic law and that restrictions on its banking sector and a lack of recognition are hindering its economy.

#### **New French** PM nearing deal on cabinet, **BFM TV says**

**Monitoring Desk** PARIS: French Prime Minister Michel Barnier, who met with several party leaders on Thursday, could be nearing a deal on a cabinet, French media said, two weeks after President Emmanuel Macron named

him to the post. Barnier, the European Union's former Brexit negotiator, has struggled to name a new government. underlining the complicated topography of France's political landscape after Macron's ill-fated decision to call a snap legislative election this summer.

The vote delivered an unruly hung parliament that has left political unity hard

#### Sri Lanka to vote on Saturday in first poll since economic collapse **Monitoring Desk** COLOMBO:

strapped Sri Lanka will vote for its next president on Saturday in an effective referendum on an unpopular International Monetary Fund (IMF) austerity plan enacted after the island nation's unprecedented financial

President Ranil Wickremesinghe urged voters to give him a fresh mandate to continue with austerity measures he says stabilised the economy and ended medicine shortages. "We must continue

Flood victims stand beside their belongings offloaded from the canoe that

with reforms to end bankruptcy," Wickremesinghe. 75, said at his final rally in Colombo on Wednesday night. "We must build a new economy." He has restored calm to the streets after civil unrest spurred by the downturn in 2022 saw thousands storm the compound of his predecessor, who promptly fled the country. "Decide if you want to go back to the period of terror, or progress" he added.

#### Americans can now renew passports online and bypass cumbersome paper applications

WASHINGTON: Americans can now renew their passports online, bypassing a cumbersome mail-in paper application process

"By offering this online alternative to the traditional paper application process, the Department is embracing digital transformation to offer the most efficient and convenient passport renewal experience possible," Secretary of State Antony Blinken said in a statement. The department said it estimated that about 5 million Americans would be able to use this

service a year. In 2023, it processed 24 million passports, about 40% of which were renewals. After staffing shortages caused mainly by the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in lengthy passport processing delays.

#### helped them to move to safety in Maiduguri, Nigeria. Vietnam's top leader Lam to visit US, Cuba next week

**Monitoring Desk** HANOI: Vietnam's president and ruling Communist Party chief To Lam will pay a working visit to the United States next week and participate in the 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, the government said on Thursday. After that, Lam will

pay an official visit to Cuba, Vietnam's long-term communist partner. Lam's visit will take

place from Sept 21 to Sept 27, a spokesperson for the foreign ministry said, without giving a specific timeframe for Lam's visits to each country.

#### 10-year-old Japanese schoolboy in China dies after stabbing

SHENZHEN: A child en rolled in a Japanese school in the Chinese city of Shenzhen has died after being stabbed on Wednesday, officials confirmed on Thursday, the second such attack near Japanese educational centres in China in recent months.

**Monitoring Desk** 

Monitoring Desk

Chinese authorities said the 10-year-old boy was a Japanese national born to a Japanese father and a Chinese mother, and he had been stabbed on his way to school at about 8

that often caused delays. The State Department announced Wednesday that its online renewal system is now fully operational, after testing in pilot programs, and available to adult passport holders whose passport has expired within the past five years or will expire in the coming year. It is not available for the renewal of children's passports, for firsttime passport applicants for renewal applicants who live outside the United States or for expedited applications.



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and Deputy Prime Minister of Russian Federation witness signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between Pakistan and Russia to increase cooperation in different fields.

guard our environment and

promote sustainable devel-

opment. The National For-

est Policy of 2015, for in-

stance, aims to increase our

#### Pakistan's blue economy could generate over \$100bn in revenue: British Deputy HC

British Deputy High Commission in Karachi Sarah Mooney said that incorporating blue economy in the national economy is of utmost importance for a coun-

She stated this while addressing as a chief guest at a World Maritime Day 2024 seminar organized by the Directorate of Electronic Media and Publication (DEMP) in collaboration with Maritime Training Institute at a local hotel on Thursday. Sarah Mooney said that Pakistan has a coastline of 1001 km, which is home to many different species of marine animals, plants and mineral

economy industry had not been used up to its full po-

Engineering (PHE), Sardar

Abdul Rehman Khetran has

stated that all resources are

being mobilized for provi-

sion of facilities to the

in his priorities to work for

development of his district.

of healthcare facilities is also

priority of the government

so that the people may not

go in big cities for treat-

He said it is included

He said that provision

Sardar Abdul Rehman

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Planning

Ahsan Iqbal with writer Ammar Masood and Re-

searcher Khalid Fareed on the occasion of launch-

ing of book "Mir Hazar Khan Marri: Muzahimat

se Mufahimat Tak" by Sang-e-meel Publications.

Bakht Kakar says:

Health facilities in

Balochistan's remote

areas to be ensured

Bakht

Balochistan's new Health

Muhammad Kakar on

Thursday said that provi-

sion of health care facilities

in remote areas would be

ensured under the vision of

Balochistan Chief Minister.

he said that we would work

together with all stakehold-

ers for the improvement of

health sector by addressing

problems of people related

health department including

Provincial Minister Bakht

Mohammad Kakar had

given the portfolio of Live-

stock and Water Develop-

ment Department and

handed over the portfolio

of Health Department to

him after changing the port-

folio of Livestock and Wa-

ter Development Depart-

Bakht Muhammad

It should be noted that

medical staff.

Talking to APP here,

Minister

stan People's Party Chair-

man Bilawal Bhutto-

Zardari, central leadership

and especially Balochistan

Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz

Bagti for trusting as gave me the portfolio of the

the health department is

facing various challenges,

new cases of polio are be-

ing reported in the prov-

Balochistan is 44 percent of

Pakistan in terms of area

and providing better health

facilities across the province

is no less than a big chal-

he would try to improve

the health sector with the

help of international aid or-

ganizations and could take

steps with good intentions

to solve the problems of

medical and non-medical

personnel related to the

The Minister said that

said

He said that currently

Ministry of Health.

He

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari in a

meeting with the visiting Deputy Prime Minister

Thursday.

their welfare.

The Minister heard

He said that public

He urged the people to

problems of the people ap-

exchequer is being spent on

take responsibility of the

development projects and

identify any negligence and

carelessness in these

projects. He said that the

government is taking steps

for increasing it's revenue.

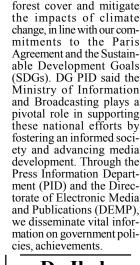
proached him there.

of Russia, Alexei Overchuk, at Aiwan-e-Sadr

of more than \$100bn. Director General

Press Information Department PID Erum Tanveer said that Pakistan's unique geographic position-bridging the East and West, with warm, deep-water ports and a 1,000 km-long coastline-places us at the center of global maritime affairs. It also makes us acutely aware of the challenges we face in today's rapidly changing climate.

She said Climate change is a global challenge with profound implications for our oceans, coastlines, and communities. As a responsible member of the international community, Pakistan has introduced several national policies like Blue economy initiatives including sustainable fisheries, marine renewable en-



#### Dr. Ihab Abdelhamid, **Ambassador** of Egypt, called on Minister for Defence

SLAMABAD (Online): r. Ihab Abdelhamid Hassan, Ambassador of Egypt, called on Minister for Defence, Defence Production and Aviation Khawaja Muhammad Asif in Islamabad Thursday.

In addition to this, Defense Minister also expressed that Egypt is an important country in the region and its stability and progress is vital for peace and prosperity in the

#### 324 police officials, civilians martyred in 2024: CTD

PESHAWAR (APP): A report from the Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) on Thursday reported that 234 people including police officials, officers and civilians have been martyred in terror incidents in restive Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) since the start of this

Moreover, it said 616 others including civilians have been injured due to attacks by anti-state ele-

In Peshawar alone, 103 police officials have been martyred, with 154 others injured in terrorismrelated incidents. The report also noted that 103 civilians have died, and 159 have sustained injuries.

Dera Ismail Khan has reported the deaths of 63 security personnel, including 49 from the Frontier Corps, and 124 injuries. Furthermore, 8 law enforcement officials were martyred, with 4 others wounded.

ISLAMABAD (APP) Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation Alexei Overchuk on Thursday departed from here after the culmination of his

Additional Foreign Secretary (Europe) Shafqat Federation Muhammad Khalid Jamali saw off the

During the visit, Overchuk, who was accompanied by a high-level delegation, held talks with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator

#### Ameer Magam says **Proposed constitutional** amendments to be tabled after achieving consensus

KARACHI (APP): Federal Minister for States, Frontier Regions, Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit Baltistan, Engineer Ameer Maqam, Thursday, said that proconstitutional amendments will be tabled in the house after due consultations and achieving consensus of all the political parties and other stake-

While addressing to elders of Afghan Refugees and later talking to media during visit of Urban Cohesion Hub Karachi here, he said that negotiations were under way with the politi- nation.

process was continue in connection with the proposed amendments aimed at introducing reforms in judicial system and ensuring swift justice to the people of the country.

The government has initiated the process of constitutional amendment in the best interest of the people of Pakistan and there were no personal motives involved in it, he said and urged all the political leadership to join the hands of government for betterment of the country and the

#### Pak Ambassador presents credentials to US **President Joe Biden**

WASHINGTON (APP): Ambassador Rizwan Saeed Sheikh Wednesday presented his Letter of Credence to President Joseph Biden as the 30th envoy of Pakistan to the United

At a ceremony, held at the Blair House, the President welcomed Ambassador Sheikh, saving the United States will continue to stand with Pakistan in dealing with key global and regional challenges.

The ceremony was

In his remarks, Ambassador Sheikh conveyed greetings from the President, Prime Minister and the people of Pakistan to the leadership and people of the United States, saying the two countries have a rich legacy of cooperative relations and have laid enduring foundations to strengthen bilateral ties.

Recalling U.S. assistance to Pakistan, especially during its nascent phase of statehood, the Ambassador observed that the two countries continue to invest in their relationship and are stepping up cooperation in climate change, energy, health,

#### Pakistan, Russia for enhanced trade, economic cooperation, regional connectivity

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pa-kistan and Russia on Thurs-connectivity to strengthen economic relations between day reiterated their commitment to expanding trade and economic ties, besides enhancing regional connectivity to strengthen bilateral relations. In a meeting between President Asif Ali Zardari and visiting Russian Deputy Prime Minister Alexei Overchuk, who along with members of his delegation called on the president, at Aiwan-e-Sadr, both sides underscored the importance of fostering mutually beneficial cooperation in key sectors such as agriculture, food security, business, education, railways, science and technology, besides promoting stronger people-to-people connections, according to a President House press re-

Welcoming the Russian deputy prime minister, the president stressed the importance of exploring possibilities for barter trade. in addition to improving

the two nations

He called for easing visa regulations and increasing connectivity through railways and direct flights to facilitate and enhance people-to-people and business-to-business contacts. During the meeting, it

was highlighted that there was great scope to increase bilateral cooperation in the agriculture sector. It was emphasised

that there was enormous potential to undertake joint ventures in the agricultural sector for the mutual benefit of the two countries. It was also informed that a 75member business delegation from Pakistan would visit Russia in October to explore avenues for business and economic cooperation. Alexei Overchuk said

that Russia was looking forward to improving cooperation with Pakistan in food security, science and technology, education, connec-

He stated that the upcoming visit of the Russian Prime Minister to Pakistan, in October, would provide another opportunity to further strengthen bilateral relations. He further said that Russia had tremendous respect for all religions and

Muslim culture, and had

condemned the desecration

of the Holy Quran. Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Ishaq Dar, Pakistan People's Party CHairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, Minister of Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal Chaudhary, Minister of Energy (Power and Petroleum Divisions) Sardar Awais Ahmad Khan Leghari, Minister of Communications Abdul Aleem Khan, Minister of Commerce Jam Kamal Khan, Senator Sherry Rehman and senior government of-

ficials were also present

during the meeting.



LAHORE: Ameer Jamaat-e-Islami Hafiz Naeem-ur-Rehman and former President and PTI Senior Leader Dr. Arif Alvi talking to media persons.

#### TTP emerging as umbrella body for other terrorist groups posing worldwide threat: Pakistan

(APP): A top Pakistani diplomat Wednesday told the U.N. Security Council that the Tehrik-e-Taliban (TTP ), which has Afghan rulers' protection, was emerging as an umbrella organization for other terrorist groups, whose objectives, he said, were the destabilization of Afghanistan's neighbours.

"While some of our friends may believe that they are only threatened by Daesh, they should also be concerned by the threat they could confront from a

NATIONS strengthened TTP in the and the world," the Pakinot too distant future," Ambassador Munir Akram warned the 15-member Council during its debate in the situation in Afghanistan. Pakistan, he said, will take national action, cooperating with regional and international organizations to eliminate TTP's threat.

The TTP (which we in Pakistan call Fitna Al Khawarij) is an organization of special concern to Pakistan and should be of

ing details of its deadly cross-border attacks that resulted in the deaths of hundreds of civilians and soldiers.. Even three years after the Taliban assumed the reins of power in Afghanistan, the situation continues to be dire and deeply concerning, Ambassador Akram said. There will be no normalization "until the fundamental issues that trouble Afghanistan are ad-

#### concern to the entire region dressed — terrorism. DC directs to deduct salary of 63 teachers on absence of duties in Kohlu

QUETTA (APP: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kohlu Ageel Ahmed Baloch on Thursday directed to deduct the salary of 63 teachers on absence of their duties in the light of the reports of the officers of the Education Department while 6 teachers were dismissed for long absence. He expressed these views while addressing the meeting of District Education Group. The meeting was attended by concerned

officials and others. In the meeting, the

partment gave a detailed briefing to the Deputy Commissioner regarding their visits this month in which the absent teachers were identified Addressing at the meeting, the DC said that the challenges of the modern era could be met only with better and quality education. He said that the district administration has taken coordinated steps with the officers of the education department to provide facilities and attendance of teaching staff



**OUETTA: Provincial Minister for PHE Sardar** Abdul Reman Khetran shaking hands with resident of the area during arrival at his native village.

#### Stakeholders highlight strategic path forward for MHM in Balochistan

QUETTA (APP): A highlevel stakeholders' deliberation on "Provincial Inroads to Improve MHM & Way Forward" was organized in Quetta on Thursday by the Menstrual Health and Hygiene Management Working Group (MHMWG) Secretariat Balochistan in collaboration with Water Aid Pakistan. The event brought together key policymakers, experts, advocates, and stakeholders to discuss the progress of MHM initiatives in the province and to develop an actionable plan for 2025. Director General

Health Dr Amin Mandokhail delivered an insightful keynote address, praising Balochistan for its leadership in tackling menstrual health issues.
She stressed the im-

portance of collective efforts in promoting MHM and creating a supportive environment where menstrual hygiene products are

accessible to all women and girls. She also encouraged the media to continue playing a pivotal role in raising awareness and reducing stigma. Earlier, the conference opened with a welcome speech by Dr. Tahira Kamal Baloch, Chairperson of MHMWG, Balochistan, who highlighted the significance of addressing MHM challenges in the province and called for sustained collaboration among stakeholders to achieve meaningful progress.

strategic discussions at this event would help shape a more inclusive and sustainable future for MHM in Balochistan.

She noted that the

The Chairperson of Balochistan Commission on the Status of Women (BCSW) assured the participant that BCSW would lend its every possible support to stakeholders to promote MHM in the prov-

Sardar Khetran says: was attended by members Defense Minister ex-All resources being of the diplomatic commuclaimed that Pakistan and nity and senior officials of Egypt enjoy cordial historimobilized to provide the U.S. administration, accal ties. There exists a cording to a press release greater confidence and mutrade, and investment. of he Pakistan embassy... tual trust in their bilateral facilities to people Independent Report Khetran was speaking on QUETTA: The Provincial occasion of the open katchehry at his residence in Haji Kot, Barkhan on Minister for Public Health

Middle Eastern region.

#### **Russian Dy** PM departs after two-day Pakistan visit

official visit to Pakistan.

Ali Khan and Pakistan's Ambassador to the Russian Russian deputy prime minister at the Islamabad air-

#### Quetta administration continues crackdown against profiteering **Independent Report** bazaar and other areas of tation on the official rate list. Similarly, 16 shopthe city. During the crackdown, keepers were charged fine and 19 others were issued

QUETTA: Chairman Public Accounts Committee Asghar Ai Tareen and

former Chairman Senate & MPA Sadiq Sanjrani and former Home Minister

Balochistan Mir Ziaullah Lango during a meeting.

QUETTA: The Quetta district administration continued crackdown against the profiteering and encroachments in different parts of the metropolis and its adjoining

According to the official sources, crackdown was conducted on Toghi road, Kasi road, Baleli, Nawan Killi, Mano Jan

**Independent Report** 

QUETTA: In line with the initiative of the Chief Min-

ister Balochistan, Mir

Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti, the

Chaman Educated Youth

Database has been set up

thanks to the district ad-

here that the Chaman Edu-

cated Youth Database has

been established in the his-

tory of Balochistan for the

first time because of the

It may be mentioned

ministration of Chaman.

more than 140 shops were visited by the administrative teams including the

Assistant Commissioners, Magistrates and other law enforcers and inspected the rates there. In the meantime, 11

shopkeepers were arrested while six shops were sealed by the raiding teams on the road, Almo chowk, Kuchlak charges of non-implemen-

the encroachments established in different areas were also removed.

#### **Goodly initiative of Chaman administration: IHC** nullifies **Chaman Educated Youth** EC decision for Database set up as per changing Justice Tariq as judge of vision of Chief Minister ET Islamabad Balochistan Assembly,

stern warning.

It was warned to the

During the crackdown,

shopkeepers to strictly fol-

low the official price list,

otherwise stern action would be taken against

ISLAMABAD (Online): Captain (Retd) Abdul Islamabad High Court Khaliq Achakzai. Accord-(IHC) has nullified Election ing to the Deputy Commis-Commission (EC) decision sioner Chaman, Athar on changing Justice Tariq Mehmood Jahangiri from Abbas Raja, the detailed particulars of all the edu-Election Tribunal (ET) Islamabad. The Chief Justice (CJ) IHC Aamer cated youth of Chaman would be made available in the database. The Deputy Farooq while announcing Commissioner told that the reserved judgment in the data bank would prove to case against change of ET be helpful for the human reand election act amendment source to be required by the ordinance annulled the EC government institutions order on changing Justice and non-governmental orga-



QUETTA: DG Health Balochistan Amin Khan Mandokhel addressing on seminar on Woman Health.

health sector. Kakar also thanked Paki-Chief Editor: Syed Farooq Shah printed at Independent Printers Quarry Road Quetta and Published from Al-Syed Building M.A. Jinnah Road Quetta Ph. 2842938 Fax: 2842941, Cell No. 0331-8383955 E-mail:newsdailyind@gmail.com,dailyindish@gmail.com