

Independent

Member APNS & CPNE

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www.dailyindependent.com.pk

Quetta

Ph: 2841470/2841473 REG: No. BC-116 B/ID-445 V& XXVI No. 30, Rabi-ul-Awwal 16, 1446 AH Saturday September 21, 2024 Pages 08, Price Rs.15

President Zardari signs off

Federal cabinet approves SC amendment practice and procedure ordinance

Ordinance on Practice and Procedures Act to further improve transparency in judicial proceedings: Tarar

ISLAMABAD (Online): Prime Minister and federal cabinet have approved Supreme Court Amendment Practice and Procedure Ordinance.

According to sources federal cabinet accorded approval to draft bill through summary circulation.

Practice and Procedure Amendment Ordinance 2024 is likely to be approved by president soon. Following the imple-

mentation of amendment ordinance 2024 whatever proceedings of the judiciary is, its draft will be prepared and proceedings of the judiciary will be available for the people.

Supreme Court Practice and Procedure Amendment Ordinance is aimed at bringing more transparency in court's process.

A committee was constituted under Practice and Procedure Act-2023. Improvement is being brought

in the committee to ensure hearing of the cases on merit and their disposal.

Under new amendment ordinance, Chief Justice can nominate any learned judge member of committee in case of non availability of some member.

Meanwhile Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaullah Tarar said on Friday that the promulgation of Ordinance on Practice

and Procedures Act will further improve transparency in the judicial process.

Talking to the media here, he said an ordinance for amendment in the Practice and Procedures Act has been promulgated by the President after approval from the federal cabinet.

He said that from now on, the case that comes first would be taken up first by the court and the cases

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ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif witnesses signing of an MoU between Board of Investment and RUYI Shangdong.



QUETTA: Speaker Balochistan Assembly Captain (ret'd) Abdul Khaliq Achakzai presiding over a meeting with Task Force of District Administration Chaman for solution of problems

Speaker BA directs concerned high ups to resolve issues of Chaman district on priority basis

Abdul Khaliq Khan Achakzai asks to terminate absentee teachers, reopen non-functional schools, resolve issues of medicines and doctors in Chaman

Independent Report
QUETTA: The Speaker Balochistan Assembly, Captain (Retd) Abdul Khaliq Khan Achakzai has stated we have firm resolve to resolve the problems being faced by Chaman and it's people.

The Speaker emphasized that Chaman needs special attention because of it's status of newly formed district.

He directed the concerned high ups to terminate the absentee teachers and appoint their substitutes immediately.

The Speaker also directed to reopen all the non-functional schools and meet shortage of the lecturers in higher education.

Moreover, adding he asked the concerned authorities to provide necessary medicines in the district headquarter hospital and ensure attendance of the doctors in the district.

The Speaker was presiding over the meeting held to resolve the issues of

Chaman here at the Provincial Assembly on Friday.

The meeting discussed different issues being faced in different sectors in Chaman.

Being the representative of his election constituency, the Speaker stressed the need to take immediate action for resolving issues of the border town.

He also asked the concerned quarters to eliminate corruption from the passport office and post new employees in place of the existing ones.

Similarly steps should also be taken to stop deductions from the funds allocated for the deserving persons.

He stressed that the fruit and vegetable markets as well as truck terminals and other infrastructure should be made operational.

In addition to this, the Speaker also stressed on abolishing the system of sugar permits.



Spokesman of President Asif Ali Zardari for Balochistan and Provincial Advisor for Trade & Industry Mir Ali Hassan Zehri addressing a Press conference

Three ECP officers suspended for incompetence, misconduct

ISLAMABAD (INP): Chief Election Commissioner Sikandar Sultan Raja suspended three Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) officers for 120 days for incompetence and misconduct.

According to the notification issued by the ECP, Provincial Election Commissioner Sindh Sharifullah, Director Admin Election Commission Sindh Azhar Hussain Tanwari were suspended for incompetence and misconduct.

According to the notification, Election Officer Karachi Khuda Bakhsh has also been suspended and directed that the three officers will remain in Karachi until the inquiry is com-

pleted and further orders.

While Joint Provincial Election Commissioner Ali Asghar Sial has been appointed Acting Election Commissioner Sindh.

The Election Commission stated that on the night of September 17, many bags of different polling stations were damaged by forcibly breaking the locks of the strong room in Papri Karachi, for which a committee has been established to investigate. The notification of Election Commission further stated that Joint Provincial Election Commissioner Sindh Nazar Abbas, Director Waseem Ahmed and REC Larkana Abdul Waheed are included in the inquiry committee.

12 Khwarij killed, six soldiers martyred in North & South Waziristan

RAWALPINDI (APP): The security forces on Friday killed 12 Khwarij terrorists and six army troops were martyred in two different fierce encounters in North and South Waziristan districts on September 19 and 20.

According to the ISPR, on September 19, the movement of a group of seven terrorists, trying to infiltrate Pakistan-Afghanistan border, was detected by security forces in general area Spinwam, North Waziristan District.

The infiltrators were surrounded, effectively engaged and after an intense

fire exchange, all the seven Khwarij were sent to hell. A large quantity of weapons, ammunition and explosives was also recovered from them, the ISPR said.

In the second incident in general area Latha, South Waziristan District, a group of Khwarij attacked a security forces' post. The army troops fought bravely, foiling the attempts of intrusion and killed five Khwarij. However, during intense exchange of fire, six sons of soil, having fought gallantly, paid the ultimate sacrifice and embraced Shahadah.

CJP picks Justice Aminuddin as third member of key committee under new ordinance

ISLAMABAD: Chief Justice of Pakistan Qazi Faez Isa has nominated Justice Aminuddin Khan as the third member of the committee tasked with forming benches and fixing cases under Article 184(3) of the Constitution.

This move follows the promulgation of an ordinance on the Supreme Court Practice and Procedure Act, which aims to enhance transparency in Pakistan's judicial process.

The committee, established under the newly amended Practice and Procedure Act, will be led by the chief justice, with the senior puisne judge (Justice Mansoor Ali Shah) and a third senior judge as members. The ordinance grants the Chief Justice the discretion to nominate a Supreme Court judge as the third member of this committee as needed.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb chairs the meeting of the Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) at the Finance Division.

National Assembly Secretariat deprives PTI of seats, declares its members as that of SIC

Latest party position in National Assembly: PML-N leads with 110 seats; All 80 of PTI's members now recognized as part of Sunni Ittehad Council

ISLAMABAD (INP): The National Assembly Secretariat on Friday annihilated the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) when it issued party position on the basis of Election Amendment Act.

According to a National Assembly Secretariat notification, "All 80 members of the PTI are members of the Sunni Ittehad Council (SIC)." Earlier, on the orders of the Supreme Court, 39 parliamentarians have been declared as members of the PTI and 41 of the SIC.

It may be noted that a day ago, the National Assembly speaker wrote a letter to the Election Commission (ECP) giving reference to the Election Amendment Act. The assembly secretariat acted in a haste without waiting for the ECP reply and issued a new party position.

According to the notification, the PML-N has 110 seats, the PPP 69 seats, the MQM 22 seats, the Q-League five and the IPP four. The Muslim League-Zia, the BAP and the National Party have one member each in the National Assembly.

The assembly secretariat mentioned that 80 members belonged to the SIC, eight to the JUI-F while the number of independent members is also 8. The PK-MAP, the BNP-Mengal and MWM have one seat each while an independent member has joined the PML-N.

Chinese firm to set up textile parks in Pakistan aiming \$5b exports, 0.5m jobs; MoU signed

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Board of Investment and Chinese textile firm RUYI Shangdong on Friday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) under which the latter would establish textile parks of international standards in Pakistan to boost country's exports to \$5 billion and create around 0.5 million jobs.

The document was signed as a nine-member delegation of RUYI group led by Chairman QiuYafu called on Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif here as a significant development regarding Chinese investment in Pakistan following the prime minister's recent

China visit.

According to the MoU signed at a ceremony witnessed by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, the Chinese company would establish textile parks in Sindh and Punjab provinces where around 100 Chinese textile firms would be invited to invest.

The prime minister lauded the time-tested Pakistan-China friendship and observed that the bilateral economic ties were strengthening with each passing day.

He welcomed the Chinese RUYI group to Pakistan and lauded its investment in Pakistan's textile sector, recalling that the firm

had been the first investor of Sahiwal Coal Power Plant established under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor.

Briefing the prime minister, the company head said that the textile parks aimed at boosting textile exports and making the country a hub of textiles and garments.

To be powered by solar energy, the textile parks would be developed as zero-carbon and automated facility to enhance the exports to \$2 billion in its first phase and \$5 billion in the second one besides creating from 0.3 million to 0.5 million jobs.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister Communications, Privatization & Board of Investment Abdul Aleem Khan presides over high level meeting of NHA.

Aleem Khan chairs meeting of NHA

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Communications, Board of Investment and Privatization Abdul Aleem Khan Friday chaired a high-level meeting of the National Highway Authority (NHA).

He was briefed by Chairman NHA that by implementing his instructions, number of M Tag users has been increased to more than 92% while the revenue of the NHA has also been significantly improved during last six months.

The minister while expressing satisfaction over the betterment asked the NHA to adopt a Hi-Tech System and bring the entire working of National Highway Authority Online in the shortest possible time.

President, PM laud security forces for anti-terror operations in Waziristan

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif have paid tribute to the security forces for carrying out successful anti-terrorist operations in North and South Waziristan.

President Asif Ali Zardari paid tribute to the security forces for carrying out anti-terror operations in North and South Waziristan and eliminating Khawarij (terrorists).

The president reiterated the nation's resolve to purge the country of terrorists and paid tribute to the soldiers who sacrificed their lives during the operations.

"The sacrifices of soldiers for their homeland will never be squandered. The security forces will keep up fighting till the elimination

of terrorism in toto. The whole nation stands by its security forces to curb this scourge," the president remarked.

He also expressed sympathies for the bereaved families and prayed to Allah Almighty for the elevation of martyrs' ranks in paradise.

Meanwhile Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday paid tribute to the security forces for carrying out successful anti-terrorist operations in North and South Waziristan.

The prime minister lauded the gallantry of the soldiers in eliminating several terrorists in the operations and reiterated the nation's resolve and priority to eliminate terrorism from the country, according to a PM Office press release.

Shakeel chairs Divisional & Deputy Commissioners on certain issues: CS exhorts all officers to speed up measures for improving service delivery in respective institutions

Independent Report
QUETTA: The Chief Secretary Balochistan, Shakeel Qadir Khan has exhorted all officers to speed up measures for bringing improvement in the service delivery in their respective departments so that people may get all basic facilities at their doorstep.

The Chief Secretary was presiding over the Divisional and Deputy Commissioners here on Friday. The meeting discussed

about the overdue cases on IPMS, prevention of smuggling, provision of quality education and healthcare facilities, price control, recruitment of the teachers and solarization of agricultural tube wells in the province.

Those who were also present in the meeting were included: Additional Chief Secretary Home, Shahab Ali Shah, Secretary Forests and Wildlife, Dostain Khan Jamaldini, Secretary Social

Welfare, Abdul Rehman Buzdar, Secretary Industries, Durra Baloch, Secretary Transport, Muhammad Hayat Kakar. The Divisional Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners participated in the meeting through video link.

Addressing the meeting, the Chief Secretary said that the provincial cabinet has approved recruitments

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QUETTA: Chief Secretary Balochistan Shakeel Qadir Khan addressing Divisional Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners Conference

World challenges can be solved in light of Holy Prophet (PBUH)'s teachings: Khalid Maqbool

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister of Education and Professional Training Dr Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui has said that all the current challenges being faced by the world can be solved in light of the character and teachings of Holy Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him).

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the National Seerat Festival organized by National Rahmatul-Lil-Alameen Wa Khatam-ul-Nabiyeen Authority here on Friday at the National Skills University, the Federal Minister said that we should talk more about the subject of Seerat-ul-Nabi (PBUH) so

that the people can learn about the education of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

He said that Allah sent the first verses of Quran regarding Iqra (reading) which showed the importance of knowledge and education in Islam. He said that love of the Prophet (PBUH) is a promise to follow his teachings.

Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui said that organizing such events is a matter of great happiness. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui said that now the religion (Islam) has been completed, and we should only thank to the beloved Messenger of Allah.

He said that there is no need for us to look the other way in the presence of the teachings of Holy Prophet Muhammad PBUH.

Federal Minister of Education Dr Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui said that the finality of the Holy Prophet-hood is a principle that cannot be questioned. No Muslim can ever compromise on the finality of Prophet-hood.

He urged the Muslim Ummah that we should prepare for the future so that we are not left behind in the modern era.

Chairman of Rahmatul-Lil-Alameen Authority, Khurshid

Ahmad Nadeem said in his opening address that the aim of the conference is to achieve world peace in the light of the Seerah of Holy Prophet PBUH.

If the world wants peace, it must come to the life of Prophet Muhammad PBUH, he mentioned. Instead of wandering here and there for world peace, come towards the Seerah of Holy Prophet PBUH. He said that important topics such as the clash of civilizations have also been kept in this festival. For the solution of social problems, guidance should be taken from the life of Holy Prophet PBUH.



MULTAN: The South Africa Women's cricket team celebrates with the trophy after winning the series 2-1 against Pakistan Women at Multan Cricket Stadium.



QUETTA: Metropolitan Corporation Deputy Director Health, Dr. Nosheen Khan along with others inspecting the food items during their visit to different restaurants and hotels located on Airport road in Quetta.

PML-N led Govt came into power through backdoor channels: Shibli

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader and Senator Shibli Faraz stated that the current government, which came into power through backdoor channels, is struggling to function.

Addressing a press conference, alongside PTI leaders Rauf Hassan and Abu Zar Salman Niazi, the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate, Shibli Faraz, expressed his concerns over the prevailing lawlessness in the country. "The rule of law has been replaced by the law of the jungle. Those who try to do good for the country are made examples of," he remarked.

Faraz criticized Bilawal Bhutto, saying, "Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto gave this nation political awareness and the 1973 Constitution. Today, his grandson is tearing apart the same constitution with his actions."

Referring to PTI's founder, Faraz highlighted his contributions to Pakistan. "The man who made the country invincible in defense, brought global respect, gave us the 1992 World Cup, and founded Al-Qadir University is being mistreated. Everyone is witnessing how he is being treated now."

Faraz condemned the government for the treatment of PTI's founder, stating that he is being kept in a

death cell, facing hurdles in meeting visitors, and is not even allowed to speak with his children. "Despite advocating for the rule of law, the founder of PTI is being persecuted," he added.

He further criticized the government's disregard for court rulings, saying, "Judicial decisions are being ignored, and the state is failing in its duty to protect the life and dignity of its citizens. Even in wars, there are laws protecting the vulnerable, but here, people's rights are being trampled."

Speaking on the baseless cases against the PTI leader and his wife, Faraz defended Bushra Bibi as an entirely non-political figure who is being unjustly targeted. "This government cannot compete with PTI politically, so they are using every means to suppress us," he said.

Faraz also emphasized that without acknowledging the public's mandate, no real change can occur. "The largest stakeholders in this country are its people. They gave their mandate to PTI in the elections, yet this government wants to rule on charity in the form of reserved seats."

He concluded by saying, "This is not a political party, but a group of opportunists propped up by external forces."

PCB HEC intervarsity tournament to commence in October

LAHORE (INP): The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) in collaboration with the Higher Education Commission (HEC) is all set to host the inaugural edition of the PCB HEC Intersarsity Tournaments from 10 October across the country.

The event will feature both men's and women's tournaments, with 40-over women's tournament to begin from 10 October. 25 universities are set to feature in the tournament which will be divided into five zones. The schedule will be announced in due course.

The men's tournament, to be played in 50-over format, will commence from 15 October. A total of 127 universities will compete in the tournament, where 212 matches will be played across 43 venues of the country. The teams will be divided into 14 zones. The details are attached and available here.

In the second phase of the men's tournament, a winner each from 14 zones and four semi-finalists from the last edition of HEC intersarsity tournament will feature in another tournament to further enhance the skills of the players. The details of the second phase will be announced in due course.

PM greets Rind on winning Karate Combat Championship

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday congratulated Shahzaib Rind, the Pakistani mixed martial arts player from Balochistan, who won the Karate Combat Championship (KC-49) held in Singapore.

"You have brought fame to Pakistan through your sport and expertise. The whole nation feels proud of you," the prime minister said, according to a PM Office press release.

In the final contest held in Singapore, Shahzaib defeated Brazil's Bruno Roberto De Assis.

Commenting on his win, Rind wrote on his X timeline, "Alhamdulillah, history has been made! This is the first time Pakistan has become a world champion in MMA. This was a very tough fight at the start, but I had this hope, as well as all your prayers."

PSB takes notice of athletics team visit to India without NOC

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Pakistan Sports Board (PSB) has taken notice of the Pakistan Junior Athletics Team's participation in the South Asian Junior Athletics Championship in India without obtaining the necessary No Objection Certificate (NOC) and has sought an explanation from the Athletics Federation of Pakistan (AFP).

According to details, a team of 12 athletes and five officials from Pakistan participated in the international event, but failed to secure a single medal out of the 90 medals awarded during the championship.

The AFP, already facing criticism for poor team selection leading to disappointing results, is now under further scrutiny as the PSB has questioned why the team was sent to India without prior approval from the relevant authorities.

The PSB, in a letter addressed to AFP Secretary Shahjahan Mir, stated that the federation did not seek an NOC for the team's departure to India, which is a violation of Article 7(1) of the PSB Constitution.

It is important to note that, for any sporting event held in India, the rules are particularly strict. Federations are required to obtain clearances not only from the PSB but also from intelligence agencies and various ministries before planning such tours.

The AFP's failure to secure the necessary documents raises questions about their administrative oversight in this matter.

Federal cabinet approves SC...

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coming after would be fixed on their number.

He said that in a case under section 184(3), it will have to be written why it was a matter of public importance.

A formal order will be issued that if a case under Section 184(3) was taken up, whether it was a case of public importance, or human rights issue.

He said under the ordinance, on 184 (3) any order passed by the Supreme Court, the right of appeal had been granted.

According to this ordinance, a transcript will be prepared of the proceedings including judges' remarks and observations during the case and this text will also be available to the public.

This step had been taken to make the judicial process more transparent, he opined.

He said that in the proposed constitutional package, there is mention of providing convenience to the people.

He said a committee had been set up under the Practice and Procedure Act headed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the puisne judge and the third Senior Judge were its members.

He said under the ordinance, now the Chief Justice will head the committee whereas the puisne judge will be a member and a third judge of the Supreme Court will be its member.

The Chief Justice will nominate one of the judges of the Supreme Court as a member of this committee from time to time, the minister added.

He said cases were delayed due to the non-availability of the third member of the committee in Islamabad.

Tarar said that a petition regarding the review of 63-A was pending till date. He remarked that some decision should have come

Aleem Khan announces plans to introduce cutting-edge technology on Motorways, GT roads

ISLAMABAD (APP): In a landmark move, Federal Minister for Communications Abdul Aleem Khan has initiated a step to upgrade Pakistan's motorway and GT road monitoring systems where introducing cutting-edge technology to significantly enhance passenger safety and streamline traffic flow.

Talking to a private news channel, minister in a bid to fortify Pakistan's motorways and GT roads has instructed the National High Authority to deploy state-of-the-art monitoring systems, adding, this strategic move will prioritize passenger safety, aiming to minimize risks and ensure seamless travel experiences.

Federal Minister has announced that a remarkable 92% of motorway users have adopted the M-Tag system, a significant milestone in the country's efforts to modernize its transportation infrastructure.

This achievement underscores the success of the government's initiative to promote cashless transactions and reduce congestion

at toll plazas, he added.

The M-Tag system, introduced by the National Highways and Motorway Police (NHMP) will utilize radio frequency identification (RFID) technology to facilitate seamless travel on motorways, he mentioned.

With the M-Tag sticker on their vehicles users can pass through toll booths without stopping, as the toll amount is automatically deducted from their prepaid account, he mentioned.

Minister also revealed that a state-of-the-art tracking system is now operational on all major roads in the province, enhancing safety and efficiency.

This advanced system enables real-time monitoring, swift incident response and data-driven decision-making to optimize traffic flow, he added.

To further encourage adoption, he urged transporters to take advantage of the M-Tag facility without delay.

By doing so, they will not only contribute to a smoother, more efficient transportation network but

also benefit from reduced waiting times and increased convenience, he stressed.

The National Highway Authority (NHA) is teaming up with the Motorway Police to ensure the smooth functioning of traffic on Pakistan's motorways, he highlighted.

The federal minister's also directive to adopt the latest cameras and technology is a significant step towards enhancing the National Highway Authority's (NHA) efficiency and revenue collection.

The minister's appreciation for NHA's efforts to boost revenue is well-served, as this will enable the institution to become more financially stable and self-sufficient.

By imposing fines on cash users, authorities hope to encourage more drivers to switch to E-tags, leading to a smoother and more efficient toll collection process, he said.

This shift is expected to reduce revenue losses due to malpractices in manual cash collection and decrease queue lengths at toll plazas, he added.



QUETTA: Balochistan Private Schools Association Alliance Leader, Jaffar Khan Kakar along with others addressing a press conference, at Quetta press club.

28 committee meetings on average held in five years with 11% activity decline in Senate: PILDAT

ISLAMABAD (APP): 2007, requiring Standing Committees to be constituted within 30 days of the ascertainment of the Leader of the House. Ahmed Bilal Mehboob's presentation concluded with the following recommendations for improving the effectiveness of Standing Committees underlining that the committee appointments should be done on time and keeping members' expertise

in mind, Committee meetings must be scheduled more regularly, NA Committees should be given an effective role in the Budget Process, the public part of Committee Meeting Proceedings should be televised, public hearings to invite public input should be held, and Committees should have dedicated research staff and meeting rooms.

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CS exhorts all officers to speed up....

Continued from page 1

of the teachers on contract in the Education Department. He directed to all Deputy Commissioners to make all closed schools non-functional on the contract basis within four months and ensure imparting quality education to the students.

He said that it is responsibility of the government to provide best healthcare facilities in the hospitals and to ensure provision of the medicines at the earliest by completing process of procurement of the medicines.

Besides, the Chief Secretary directed to Deputy Commissioners keep strict

vigil on prices of the edibles in their respective districts so that no one may violate the official price list.

He also directed to ensure attendance of the teachers and doctors in the hospitals.

He warned that absence of the teachers and doctors wouldn't be tolerated in the schools and hospitals.

He said that legal action would be taken against the absentee teachers and doctors. All the Divisional Commissioners briefed the meeting about their respective divisions.

It was told in the meeting that the administration of all the divisions have conducted visits of the hospi-

tals, schools, BHUs, RHCs and bazzars in their respective different areas.

It was informed that in all 811 non-functional schools have been made functional in the province.

Show cause notices have been issued to the absentee teachers.

In all 36 Levies personnel have been dismissed from the service.

Similarly, 181 acres of land have been vacated from the illegal occupants.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Secretary directed to all Deputy Commissioners to conduct meetings of District Education Group and District Health Committees on regular basis.



KARACHI: Members of Pakistan Fisher Folk Forum are holding protest demonstration for awareness of Climate Change, at Karachi press club.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Executive Engineer (Building) CW PP&H Department Hamai invites sealed bids from eligible bidders who can prove their eligibility and qualification as mention in the bidding documents for the work mentioned below. The work estimated cost and other information of works as under tender based on Composite Schedule of Rates 2023. Government of Balochistan amended up-to-date as required from interested contractors / firms for the work listed below under BPPRA Rules. Tender Fee Rs.1000/- and Earnest Money 2%

S.No.	Name of Work	E/Cost
1	CONSTRUCTION OF OFFICE BUILDING / RESIDENTIAL BUILDING ACCOMMODATION FOR PROSECUTORS IN 15 DISTRICT IN BALOCHISTAN PHASE-I TSE-242509553233	60,358,000

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan public Procurement Rules- 2014. **BASIC ELIGIBILITY:** Eligibility Criteria & Evaluation Criteria for bidders may be seen in the Bidding Documents. **METHOD OF PROCUREMENT:** Single stage - Two Envelop Bidding Procedure. **BIDDING / TENDER DOCUMENTS:** The Bidding document can be downloaded for www.bppra.pk and the same can also be obtained from the office of the under signed upon payment of prescribed tender fee deposited in the head of account C-02716 NBP Bank green challan is verified by treasury. **DEAD LINE OF SUBMISSION:** only E- Bid submit in the web site before 07, Oct, 2024 at 11:00 Hrs. Opening: "Technical Bids" will be opened on the same day i.e. 07, Oct, 2024, at 12:00 Hrs before procurement committee in the presence of bidders. Address: Office of the Executive Engineer (Building) CWPP&H Department District Hamai

Executive Engineer (Building) CWPP&H Department District Hamai

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Ahsan stresses greater unity among Muslim Ummah to tackle confronted challenges

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal on Friday stressed the urgent need for greater unity among the Ummah to effectively address the challenges faced, particularly the killings of innocent Muslims in Palestine, Gaza and other regions.

"The unity of the Ummah is the need of the hour, as two billion Muslims in the world seem helpless in front of a country of 10 million that is shedding the blood of innocent people in Gaza, Palestine and Lebanon," he said.

The minister was addressing the opening session of a three-day International Seerat Conference at the National Skills University.

He emphasized the significance of following the teachings of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him) to succeed in this world and the Hereafter, urging a way out of the existing crisis of 'knowledge and practice.'

Unfortunately, he said: "We (Muslims) are limited to only lip-service and are far behind in the practical world. Today's Muslims are suffering from a crisis of both knowledge and practice."

Ahsan Iqbal noted that Muslims were once ahead in multiple fields in Spain but now lagged behind, with no Muslim scientist close to winning a Nobel Prize.

He warned that some elements just wanted to fan hatred in society by misleading the public, especially the youth, in the name of religion and Namoos-e-Risalat (SAW) to achieve their nefarious designs.



ISLAMABAD: Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme, Senator Rubina Khalid, calls on the Governor of the State Bank of Pakistan, Jameel Ahmed. Secretary Benazir Income Support Programme, Amer Ali Ahmad, are also present.

NA body directs for steps to revive PTV's past glory & grandeur

ISLAMABAD (APP): The National Assembly's Standing Committee on Information and Broadcasting Friday directed for taking extensive steps to revive the past glory and grandeur of Pakistan Television (PTV).

The committee, which was presided over by Wajid Pullain Baloch, suggested for optimum utilization of the PTV's present infrastructure and human resource for making it a profitable entity.

It was of the view that the revival of PTV's glory was need of the hour without losing its status of a family channel and conforming it with the present trends.

Rise in Rare Indus Dolphin number propitious, signifies thriving ecosystem: Sherry

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairperson, Senate Standing Committee on Climate Change, Senator Sherry Rehman on Friday hailed the increase in the number of Rare Indus Dolphin as a propitious development signifying thriving ecosystem in the Indus Delta. The Senate Standing Committee Chair welcomed the increase in the number of Indus Dolphin (Bhulan), the world's rarest mammal in a press statement received here.

Senator Sherry Rehman said the concerned government agencies and private organizations had an important role in the conservation and breeding of the Indus dolphin.

"In 2001, the number of Indus dolphins was only 965, which has increased to 2,100 according to the 2021 survey. The increase in the number of Indus dolphins is a sign of the improvement of the Indus River's ecosystem. According to the 1879 survey, the number of Indus dolphins in the Indus River was 10,000," she said.

Unfortunately, she said due to the construction of barrages, human activities, river pollution and other reasons, their numbers had drastically decreased.

IG Islamabad holds briefing for officials Beat officers deployed alongside dolphin squad to ensure effective patrolling



ISLAMABAD: The Inspector General of Police (IGP) Islamabad Syed Ali Nasir Raza, conducted a briefing for officers of all police stations, Dolphin Squad, Ababeel Squad, City Watchers, and Night Patrol Unit. On the occasion, DIG Islamabad Syed Ali Raza, senior police officials, and a large number of police officers were also present, a public relations officer said.

During the briefing, the IG Islamabad emphasized the importance of meeting with the officers, stating, "It is my duty, given to me by Allah, to work with you all

The minister mentioned that he was the son of a mother who first got the Namoos-e-Risalat (SAW) law approved in Parliament but was targeted by such elements.

He said Islam was a religion of peace, harmony and brotherhood that never allowed taking the lives of innocent people based on their faith, quoting examples from Islamic history.

He asserted that no one had the right to doubt any Muslim's faith or belief, as this would be determined by Allah Almighty on the Day of Judgment.

He stressed the importance of non-violent dialogue, particularly in the face of social media's challenges, adding that today's biggest challenge was social media, where truth could easily be turned into lies and lies into truth.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister of Energy Awaiz Ahmad Khan Leghari, Ambassador of Nepal to Pakistan Tapas Adhikari, and others cutting the cake during National Day ceremony of Nepal at a local hotel.

Memorial reference to pay tribute to late M.A. Rauf organized at QAU

ISLAMABAD (APP): A memorial reference was organized to pay tribute and offer prayers for the late M.A. Rauf, former Controller of Examinations Quaid-i-Azam University (QAU) Islamabad and Patron of the University of Lahore, here on Friday.

The event was attended by faculty, alumni, officers, and employees of Quaid-e-Azam University (QAU).

DIG emphasizes zero tolerance for corruption & bribery

ISLAMABAD (APP): Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of Police Syed Ali Raza on Friday emphasized upon zero-tolerance policy towards corruption and bribery, stressing that the protection of life, property, and citizens' dignity was of a paramount importance.

According to police spokesperson, under the special directives of the Inspector General (IG) Police Syed Ali Nasir Ali Rizvi, the DIG Syed Ali Raza said that the Islamabad Police is committed to resolve public issues on priority.

DIG said this while listening to the complaints and issues of the public as well as police officials during the Khuli Kachehri held at his office, he said.

Senior police officers were also present on this occasion, he added.

Excise deptt introduces new SOPs to tackle agent mafia, improve registration process

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Islamabad Excise and Taxation Department has issued new Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for vehicle registration and transfer for improving public service and cracking down on the influence of agent mafias. These measures were part of an effort to reduce the influence of middlemen or agents and to provide easier access to services for the public, said the spokesman of ICT administration here.

According to the new guidelines, if the vehicle owner is unable to visit the Excise Department for registration or transfer, they must issue an authority letter or provide biometric authentication. This can be done by registering the name and ID card number of the person handling the process on their behalf.

Additionally, if the owner does not come to collect the vehicle registration card in person, biometric verification of the person receiving the card is now mandatory.

Under the new Door Step Policy, the Islamabad Excise Office has also introduced a home or office service for the registration and transfer of vehicles. Citizens can now avail these services without needing to visit the office, making the process more convenient.

The Excise Department's mobile van service is available in various markets, parks, and on major highways across Islamabad. This initiative is aimed at bringing the department's services closer to the people.

For those who prefer to handle matters online, the Excise Department has made it possible to register vehicles through its online portal, further simplifying the process. Furthermore, the Excise Department has urged citizens to ensure they receive proper documentation when registering or transferring a vehicle.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister of Energy Awaiz Ahmad Khan Leghari, Ambassador of Nepal to Pakistan Tapas Adhikari, and others cutting the cake during National Day ceremony of Nepal at a local hotel.

CCAR, IRC partner to strengthen humanitarian support in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Chief Commissioner Afghan Refugees (CCAR) and the International Rescue Committee (IRC) Pakistan have formally signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to solidify their collaboration to strengthen humanitarian support in Pakistan.

This strategic partnership addresses the pressing needs of vulnerable populations, particularly Afghan refugees, through a holistic approach that entails institutional strengthening, humanitarian programming and coordinated actions, a news release said.

Under this collaboration, CCAR and IRC intend to pursue actions aimed at developing and backstopping multi-sectoral humanitarian support through a consultative process, with an emphasis on capacity building and technical support. Both organizations are committed to sustaining and replicating the Urban Support Units supported by IRC.

Moreover, the partnership aims to engage and bring together donors and organizations for livelihood & skill development initiatives along with Community-Based Disaster Risk Management/Reduction models tailored for vulnerable Afghan refugees and host communities.

Shabnam Baloch, Country Director, International Rescue Committee in Pakistan, stated, "This partnership marks a significant milestone in our collective ongoing efforts to support Afghan refugees and other vulnerable populations in Pakistan. The collaboration with CCAR will enable us to develop and implement more effective and sustainable programs that address both the immediate needs and long-term resilience of these communities. We are excited to combine our expertise and resources to create a meaningful impact."

Mushaal urges global action against human rights abuses in Kashmir valley

ISLAMABAD (APP): Mushaal Hussein Mullick, wife of Jailed Kashmiri Leader Muhammad Yasin Malik Friday has issued a defiant call to action, pledging to uncover and condemn India's alleged human rights abuses and illicit strategies aimed at perpetuating its control over Kashmir.

Talking to a Private news channel, Mushaal Hussein Mullick urged the global community to take urgent action and highlighted that the excessive use of force by Indian security forces, resulting in unlawful killings and injuries of civilians, including the use of pellet-firing shotguns that had partially or completely blinded many victims. Mushaal has also emphasized the need for accountability and an end to impunity for human rights violations.

"The human rights situation in Kashmir has been a concern for decades with reports of mass killings, enforced disappearances, torture and harassment," she highlighted.

"The Indian government has been accused of committing severe human rights abuses against Kashmiri civilians with militant groups also responsible for similar crimes," she mentioned.



ISLAMABAD: A large number of youth participating in a cycle rally "Cycle for life" to promote environmental preservation, raise awareness about the dangers of drug use among youth and engage youth in healthy activities organized by the Prime Minister's Youth Program at Constitution Avenue D-chowk.

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Gul Asghar prioritizes implementation of axle load for safeguarding lives and highways

ISLAMABAD (APP): Parliamentary Secretary for Communications Gul Asghar Khan Baghgor on Friday emphasized that the implementation of axle load will be his top priority to protect national highways and safeguard precious human lives.

He expressed these views while talking to NH&MP officials during his visit to the National Highways and Motorway Police (NH&MP) headquarters.

Inspector General (IG) NH&MP Salman Chaudhry warmly welcomed the Secretary on arrival at NH&MP headquarters.

On this occasion, the Parliamentary Secretary was briefed in detail about the strategy, axle load control regime and other challenges of Motorway Police.

The Parliamentary Secretary assured that the implementation of Axle Load will be his top priority to save national highways and precious human lives.

Gul Asghar Khan Baghgor said the development of any country requires a lot of work in the field of communications, telecommunications and energy. Because these are the means by which nations develop, he added.

Gul Asghar Khan said there is an urgent need to solve the shortage of manpower in the Motorway Police on an urgent basis.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Planning Ahsan Iqbal planting a tree at the Ministry of Planning, reinforcing Pakistan's commitment to a greener, sustainable future under the UGPP initiative.

Habeas corpus case of 3 persons: IHC directs IG police to probe into matter file report on September 24

ISLAMABAD (Online): Islamabad High Court (IHC) has directed IG police to probe into the incident and file report on September 24 in the case against keeping 3 citizens in habeas corpus by police.

Chief Justice (CJ) IHC Aamer Farooq while addressing IG Police remarked the misuse of powers is at peak in your department. This case is classic example. According to counsel for petitioner these three persons were lifted from SP office on September 17. Police say they were arrested after registering case on 19. On the same day remand was taken. It is perchance that case was registered and remand was given after application for recovery was filed. Police have completed paper work to save themselves.

He gave these remarks during hearing of petition filed by Hasnain Ali Friday. IG Islamabad Ali Nasir Rizvi appeared on being summoned by court.

Al-Qadir trust case PTI calls for stopping jail trial of PTI founder forthwith

ISLAMABAD (Online): PTI leaders while expressing grave concerns over jail trial of PTI founder in Al-Qadir trust case have demanded of Judge Nasir Javed of Accountability Court (AC) to stop the trial forthwith.

PTI leaders including Shibli Faraz, information secretary Rauf Hassan and Suleman Niazi said this while addressing a press conference here Friday.

Opposition leader in Senate Shibli Faraz said Zulfikar Ali Bhutto gave a consensus constitution to Pakistan in 1973 and what his grandson is doing with this constitution today is before all of us. What is happening with the leader who gave awareness of real freedom to this country.

PTI founder has always talked of supremacy of law and constitution. What is being done with PTI founder and his party is deplorable. If law and constitution are not upheld then country will not make progress. People gave decision on February 8.



ISLAMABAD: Thai artists performing Thai traditional dance during a ceremony titled "Sawasdee Pakistan" organized by Thai Embassy at a local Mall, in the Federal Capital.

Twin cities admin unite to combat dengue surge: over 900 cases reported

ISLAMABAD (APP): The district administrations of Islamabad and Rawalpindi were taking co-ordinated prevention and enforcement actions to tackle the dengue outbreak.

Amid the alarming rise in dengue cases in the twin cities, a joint meeting of officials from both administrations outlined the next steps in controlling the spread of dengue.

The meeting co-chaired by the Commissioners of both cities while the Deputy Commissioners of Islamabad and Rawalpindi were also in attendance to discuss strategies aimed at curbing the dengue outbreak.

The numbers are concerning so far, 537 dengue cases have been reported in Rawalpindi and 389 in Islamabad.

In Islamabad alone, 41 patients have been admitted to various hospitals. The data also revealed that most of the cases (74%) occurred among men, while 26% were women. The majority of the affected persons were from particularly between the ages of 20 and 39.

In the last 24 hours, 48 new cases of dengue have emerged. Over the past week, 1,646 positive larvae cases were found across both cities. During the meeting, a briefing was given on the ongoing anti-dengue operations, especially at the borders between Islamabad and Rawalpindi. Joint efforts have identified several larvae breeding grounds, which the authorities were targeting for further action.

The administrations stressed the need to use all available resources to prevent the growth of dengue larvae. Officials also highlighted the importance of launching a public awareness campaign to inform citizens about dengue prevention and the standard operating procedures (SOPs) they should follow.

CM chairs 7-hour long meeting in P&D dept

LAHORE (APP): Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif chaired a seven-hour long meeting in P&D Department to review progress on 77 initiatives, 70 projects and 7 special programs of the Chief Minister.

She was briefed by Senior Provincial Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb that 28 PDWP meetings were held in which 287 public welfare schemes in the province, besides 206 special measures of the Chief Minister were considered. She was also apprised in detail of the progress made so far for in various development sectors including agriculture, meteorology, IT and social welfare.

Madam Chief

Minister was updated that Rs 278 billion have been allocated for the development schemes, out of which Rs 83 billion have been released so far. Monitoring is being introduced through modern technology including drones and GIS mapping.

Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif was further briefed, "Progress on projects will be ensured against clear timeline." She reviewed current status of the development projects and their completion dates. She said, "I will not compromise on transparency, speed and quality of implementation of these projects to ensure maximum public welfare."



LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif presides over the special meeting about Health Department.

Punjab Governor says: Pakistan, Azerbaijan enjoy long standing brotherly ties

Independent Report

LAHORE: The Ambassador of the Republic of Azerbaijan to Pakistan, Khazar Farhadov, called on Punjab Governor, Sardar Saleem Haider Khan here today at Governor House Lahore.

The two sides stressed the need to enhance trade relations between Pakistan and Azerbaijan.

Speaking on the occasion, the Punjab Governor, Sardar Saleem Haider Khan said that the two countries enjoy long standing brotherly relations. He appreciated the role of the Ambassador of the Republic of Azerbaijan in supporting the direct flights between two brotherly countries and mutual exports from Azerbaijan to Pakistan and from Pakistan to Azerbaijan.

He stated that Pakistan and Azerbaijan enjoy close ties and it is heartening to know that Pakistani flags are displayed in Azerbaijan that reflects the love of Azerbaijan's people towards Pakistan, adding that Pakistani people cherish the same feelings for Azerbaijan. He said that the relations between the two countries are based on common religion, culture and mutual support. He stressed the need for exchange of trade delegations between the two countries.

The Ambassador of the Republic of Azerbaijan to Pakistan, Khazar Farhadov said that Pakistan stood with Azerbaijan in difficult times. He expressed determination to enhance trade relations between the countries. He said that plan for preferential trade facilities for Pakistani businessmen was on the cards. He said that there are vast opportunities for cooperation in infrastructure and energy sectors between Azerbaijan and Pakistan. He reaffirmed his commitment to foster economic relations with Pakistan. Both sides highly appreciated the successful State visit of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in last July. Meanwhile, a delegation of young IT experts called on Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan at Governor House Lahore.



KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister, Syed Murad Ali Shah exchanging views with Barrister Hallar Wassan, MPA during meeting held at CM House in Karachi.

CM KP to inaugurate development projects next month

PESHAWAR (APP): Chief Minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Ali Amin Gandapur, will inaugurate several projects next month under the Peshawar Uplift Program phase second.

After the timely provision of funds by the provincial government, the ongoing projects under the Peshawar uplift program have gained further momentum.

The ongoing projects include the construction of the six kilometer-long Hayatabad Jogging and Cycling Track in the provincial capital, the renovation and construction of Peshawar Zoo Road (Palosi Road), the Iqra Chowk Island on University Road, the Park Avenue Island on the University Road, and the

construction of the Walkway Town Market. Additionally, several projects have been completed at the historic University of Peshawar, including the renovation of the university, repair and construction of the main roads, flooring of key areas, construction of public washrooms, and modern parking facilities.

Alongside, several development projects at the adjacent Jinnah College for Women have been completed, including flooring, repairs, and other improvement works. Furthermore, the renovation and restoration of the historic Government Hussain Sharif Higher Secondary School No. 1 in Peshawar City, as well as the repair, renovation,



LAHORE: Punjab Local Government Minister Zeeshan Rafique chairs high level meeting regarding preparation of app for citizens under "Suthara Punjab Program".

KP govt takes initiatives to empower youth for future challenges: Barrister Saif

PESHAWAR (APP): Advisor to Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for Information and Public Relations Barrister Dr. Saif Friday said the provincial government was actively working on policy and at ground levels to provide better opportunities to prepare the youth for future challenges.

Addressing the Young Leaders Parliament Conference, he emphasized that the youth should not merely focus on acquiring degrees, but also strive to become responsible citizens and better individuals, equipped with modern education and skills.

Barrister Dr. Saif

urged young people to prioritize entrepreneurship over relying on government jobs.

He stated, "We need to move beyond nepotism and corruption, and it is essential for the youth to contribute to this change."

The three-day entrepreneurship conference, organized by the Young Leaders Parliament in collaboration with the Directorate of Youth Affairs, saw participation from over 70 young leaders across Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The event featured extensive sessions on entrepreneurship, e-commerce, technical education, and online

businesses.

Dr. Saif praised the efforts of the young leaders involved in organizing such activities, stating that these initiatives are crucial for preparing the youth to take on the responsibilities of tomorrow. He encouraged the youth to learn from the experiences of their elders, understand modern-day requirements, and plan effectively for the future.

He also stressed the importance of identifying issues and corruption within various departments and bringing them to the attention of the authorities or highlighting them on social media.

The advisor said the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Punjab Home dept issues dengue alert to police, jails

LAHORE (APP): The Punjab Home Department on Friday issued a dengue alert to the police formation offices and jails.

The Punjab government official sources informed APP that the Home Secretary has sought a report on immediate dengue measures.

The Forensic Science Agency has also been ordered to speed up dengue measures.

9 dead, 1488 injured in 1372 road accidents in Punjab

LAHORE (APP): Nine persons were killed and 14,77 injured in 1372 Road Traffic Crashes (RTCs) in all 37 districts of Punjab during the last 24 hours. Out of these, 653 people with serious injuries were shifted to different hospitals, while 835 victims with minor injuries were treated at the incident site by rescue medical teams thus reducing the burden of hospitals.

Furthermore, the analysis showed those 790 drivers, 54 underage drivers, 193 pedestrians, and 514 passengers were among the victims of road traffic crashes. The statistics show that 270 RTCs were reported in Lahore which affected 288 persons placing the Provincial Capital at top of the list followed by Faisalabad 100 in with 100 victims and at third Multan with 77 RTCs and 102 victims. The details further reveal that 1497 victims were affected by road traffic crashes including 1205 males & 292 females, while the age group of the victims shows that 242 were under 18 years of age, 814 were between 18 and 40 years and rest of the 441 victims were reported above 40 years of age.

Chinese investors to be encouraged to invest in Sindh: Governor Tessori

KARACHI (APP): Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori attended the 75th founding Day celebration of the People's Republic of China in Islamabad. Upon his arrival, Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori was warmly welcomed by the Chinese Ambassador, Jiang Zaidong and the diplomatic staff.

According to the spokesman of the Governor Sindh, on this historic occasion, Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori congratulated the Chinese Ambassador and presented a bouquet as a gesture of goodwill.

He highlighted the deep-rooted friendship between Pakistan and China, noting that it is based on unshakable love and mutual respect, rising higher than the Himalayas and deeper than the seas.

Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori invited Chinese investors to explore investment opportunities in the province, emphasizing that the region offers an ideal environment and lucrative sectors for investment. He assured that through the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC), investors are provided with full support, assistance, and cooperation to ensure smooth operations.

He further remarked that China is confidently progressing on the path of economic, scientific, and technological advancement, steadily strengthening its global standing. Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori also acknowledged China's active role in addressing key issues on the regional and global agenda.



LAHORE: The Ambassador of the Republic of Azerbaijan to Pakistan, Khazar Farhadov, called on Punjab Governor, Sardar Saleem Haider Khan at Governor House.

No compromise can be made on liberties of citizens: SHC

KARACHI (Online): Sindh High Court (SHC) has said no compromise can be made on the liberties of citizens and constitution has given guarantee for it.

The petitions for recovery of 6 citizens who had gone missing from different areas came up for hearing Friday.

The court expressed dissatisfaction and annoyance over the reports of investigating agencies.

Justice Nemat Ullah Phulpoto remarked you cannot satisfy the court by preparing traditional reports.

The investigating officer said in the court several meetings of JIT and

task force have been held. All steps are being taken. Letters have been written to jails all over the country and other institutions.

The state counsel said financial assistance has been approved for the affected family.

The family members got annoyed over on offer of financial assistance.

The family members said we want Muhammad Tahir, We pay tax more than what financial assistance is given by the government.

According to petitioner Muhammad Tahir is missing from the area of New Town Karachi since 2018.



LAHORE: Punjab Minister for Health Khawaja Salman Rafique chairs high level meeting at Punjab Health Initiative Management Company.

Punjab govt committed to maintain peace: Azma

ISLAMABAD (APP): Punjab Information Minister Azma Bukhari on Friday reiterated the provincial government's commitment to maintaining peace and stability, warning that no one will be allowed to disrupt law and order or exploit youth for political purposes.

Talking to a private news channel, Azma said under Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif's leadership, the Punjab government is determined to deliver on its promises.

She said the government is launching multiple projects for youth welfare, including free IT courses, the Punjab Rozgar Scheme, the CM Punjab

Skill Development Program, the Punjab Youth Helpline, sports development initiatives, and women empowerment programs.

"These initiatives aim to provide young people with skills, resources and opportunities to thrive, aligning with Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif's vision for a progressive and prosperous Punjab", she added.

Punjab Information Minister Azma Bukhari has thrown down the gauntlet, challenging critics to compare the performance of previous Chief Minister Buzdar with the current CM.



KARACHI: Police and Rangers officials are taking part in mock exercise as a practice to defend in perception of any terrorist attack, at Cantt Railway Station in Karachi.

LHC orders DC to decide on PTI's plea for rally

LAHORE (APP): The Lahore High Court (LHC) on Friday ordered the deputy commissioner of Lahore to make a decision by 5 PM on Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's (PTI) application for permission to hold a rally in the provincial capital.

A three-member bench, headed by Justice Farooq Haider and comprising Justice Tariq Nadeem and Justice Ali Zia Bajwa, passed the order while disposing of a petition filed by former MNA Aliya Hamza and others, seeking permission for a rally scheduled to be held on September 21 at Minar-e-Pakistan.

During the proceedings, Punjab Chief Secretary Zahid Akhtar

Zaman, Inspector General of Police Dr. Usman Anwar, and other relevant officers appeared before the bench. A provincial law officer, representing the Punjab government, opposed the petition, claiming the petitioners had not approached the relevant forum for permission to hold the rally and rejected allegations of harassment.

The bench instructed the PTI to submit an official request for the rally and emphasized the need to find a permanent solution by designating rally sites across Punjab.

Later, the PTI submitted a written request in the court, and the deputy commissioner was ordered to make a decision.

Food Minister chairs meeting to review development projects

PESHAWAR (APP): To review the progress of work on different ongoing development schemes a meeting was held under the chairmanship of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Minister for Food Zahir Shah Toru which was attended by Provincial Assembly members Iftikhar Ali Mashwani, Amir Farzand Khan, Chairman DDAC Zarshad Khan, Tariq Ariani and Deputy Commissioner Mardan Behzad Adil besides officers from other

departments. During the meeting, the provincial minister and members of the assembly were briefed in detail about the progress on development projects.

The Provincial Food Minister strictly instructed the officers to perform their duties efficiently for the timely completion of development projects and provide maximum relief to the people. The officers of all the departments were instructed to complete the ongoing development.

ESSI to issue E-cards for treatment: Fazal Shakoor

PESHAWAR (APP): KP Minister for Labour Fazal Shakoor Khan has said that steps for provision of all possible medical facilities to patients at Employees' Social Security Hospitals would continue and very soon labourers would be issued E-cards for the purpose.

He expressed these views during visit to Employees Social Security Hospital Gadoon Amazai on Friday. Special Assistant to KP CM on Industries, Commerce and Technical Education, Abdul Karim Khan, Secretary Labour Mian Adil Iqbal, Secretary Workers Welfare Board Muhammad Tufail, Director Labour Irfanullah, and Director Workers Welfare Board (Education), other authorities also accompanied the minister during the visit.

The provincial minister inspected medical store and various other sections of the hospital while management gave him a detailed briefing.

The Minister for Labour said that the issuance of E-Card will secure all data of the patients and ensure the provision of treatment facilities to all visitors and they will be got rid of waiting in long queues.



HYDERABAD: Large number of candidates gathered outside the National Database and Registration Authority office for interviews for the various jobs in NADRA office, in the city.

Salman vows to make health insurance program beneficial for common man

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Health Minister Khawaja Salman Rafique has reaffirmed the government's commitment to ensuring that the health insurance program benefits the common man.

"We want to run the health insurance program through a sustainable model," he stated while presiding over a meeting at the Punjab Health Initiative Management Company (PHIMC) on Friday.

During the meeting, the minister reviewed modern reform measures aimed at enhancing the efficiency and reach of the health insurance program. He emphasized that the program, which serves more than 120 million

people in Punjab, will continue uninterrupted. He also highlighted that PML-N leader Muhammad Nawaz Sharif initiated the health card with an experienced team, and efforts are ongoing to relaunch the program in an improved form.

"We are brainstorming day and night to launch the health card in a better format," said the Minister.

He further stated that the government aims to ensure that the real benefits of the health insurance program reach the common man, with plans to shift a larger portion of the health insurance program from the private to the public sector.



LAHORE: A view of heavy shipping containers placed alongside a road for road block due to PTI public gathering (Jalsa) at Minto Park, headed on 21 September Saturday, in the Provincial Capital.

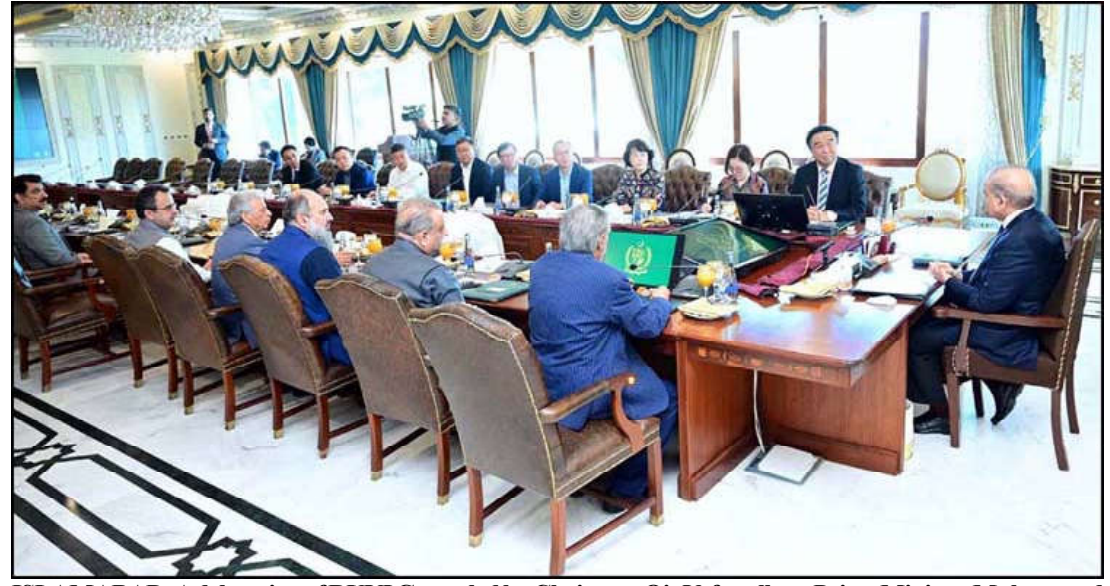
Awais chairs introductory meeting of BoDs, CEOs, WB, ADB, IDB experts

ISLAMABAD (APP): The introductory meeting of Chairpersons Board of Directors (BoDs), Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) of power companies, experts from World Bank, Asian Development Bank, Islamic Development Bank and other development partners was held here on Friday. Federal Minister for Power Division Sardar Awais Ahmed Khan Laghari presided over the meeting, said a press release issued here.

NTDC and development partners were brought together on one platform under the leadership of the federal minister to formulate a comprehensive strategy for the future. Speaking on the occasion, the minister said that NTDC would be restructured to make the grid strengthen and sustainable. He said that there were some hurdles in the system due to lack of infrastructure and technology. "We need more transparency in the system and Power Division is

working on it to achieve the goal," he added. Awais Leghari sought effective proposals from development partners in order to create a more efficient, effective and transparent environment in the power sector. In current scenario, each matter required to be referred to the board of NTDC, which needed to be changed. He said due to slow decision making, targets were not achieved on time which created more uncertainty and added that the Power Division would restructure NTDC.

to introduce a robust and sustainable system. The minister stressed that we need more transparency in data and investment plans, to reduce electricity costs for consumers. "Transparency is part of our vision and we need to make prompt, data-driven decisions for the benefit of consumers," he said. Awais Leghari appreciated the support of development partners and the vision of the newly appointed chairmen BoDs and NTDC, and directed them to focus on transparency and effective decision-making.



ISLAMABAD: A delegation of RUYI Group led by Chairman Qiu Yafu calls on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.



ISLAMABAD: Minister for Power Sardar Awais Ahmed Khan Laghari in a meeting with Board Chairpersons and CEOs of power companies, along with experts from the World Bank, Asian Development Bank and other development partners.

Steps being taken to boost cultivation of onion, tomato: Ashiq

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Agriculture Minister Syed Ashiq Hussain Kirmani on Friday said the Punjab government was taking practical steps to boost seasonal and off season cultivation of onion and tomato in Punjab. While presiding over a meeting at the Agriculture House, here, he said that to increase production of onion and tomato the government had started pilot project worth Rs 6 billion. In this regard 33 farmer enterprise groups of 450 farmers would be formed on an area of 2500 acres to ensure availability of affordable quality vegetables to the people throughout the year, he added.

For success of the project, it was need of the hour that there should be link of farmer groups with value added industry, local businessmen and investors with international market, he said and added that World Bank would provide financial support for onion and tomato seeds, nursery plants, machinery and agricultural equipment and cold storage. Punjab Agriculture Secretary Iftikhar Ali Sahoo said that under this project, the seasonal and non-seasonal production of onions would increase by 28,500 tons, while the seasonal and non-seasonal production of tomatoes would increase by 39,000 tons. He said that under this project, farmers training programs would be conducted to attract farmers towards onion and tomato cultivation while demonstration plots would also be set up.

Honorary CG of Kazakhstan visits SCCI

SIALKOT (APP): Honorary Consul General of Kazakhstan Rao Khalid Mahmood, Director of Kazakhstan House, Lahore Abuzar Butt and Manager of Travel and Tourism at Kazakhstan House Umair Afzal visited the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI).

SCCI President Abdul Ghafoor Malik and Senior Vice President (SVP) Wahub Jahangir warmly welcomed the distinguished guests. The office-bearers of the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) had a productive meeting with Honorary Consul General of Kazakhstan Rao Khalid Mahmood. The meeting focused on strengthening trade ties, exploring tourism opportunities, and discussing potential collaborations between Sialkot's business community and Kazakhstan.

Gold prices surge all-time high

LAHORE (APP): Gold prices rose sharply in global and domestic markets, setting new all-time highs on Friday.

In the international bullion market, gold price rose by \$35 to hit a new high of \$2,612 per ounce. According to the All-Pakistan Gems and Jewellers Sarafa Association (APGJSA) sources, the prices of gold in the local bullion markets also reached a new high in history, as a result of which the price of 24 karat gold rose by Rs.3500 to a new high of Rs.272000 per tola. The price of gold per 10 grams also rose by Rs 3001 to a new high of Rs.233196.

On the other hand, the price of 10-gram gold of 24 karats also registered a huge rise, increasing by Rs 3001 to settle at Rs.233196. In contrast to the big rise in gold prices, the price of silver per tola remained unchanged at Rs 2950 and the price of silver per 10 grams remained unchanged at Rs 2529.14.

UN resident coordinator meets Jam Kamal to discuss sustainable trade growth

ISLAMABAD (APP): The newly appointed United Nations (UN) Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator (UNRHC) Mohamed Yahya on Friday met with Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan and discussed sustainable trade growth in Pakistan.

He was accompanied by representatives from UNRHC office, United Nations Industrial Development Organization and International Trade Centre, said a news release.

During the meeting, the minister appreciated the work of UN in the realm of trade and advised

to take provinces and other relevant stakeholders onboard in the process. Jam Kamal stressed that Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs) should be given preference while devising policies.

He emphasized that to ensure sustainability benefits of exports growth should be equitably with marginalized and vulnerable including the populace living in peripheral areas.

He appreciated the work being done under UN agencies for promoting equitable and sustainable development in bordering districts.

He specially took note of the projects working in agricultural sector to improve the conditions of small farmers and growers. Earlier, Yahya briefed the official on wide range of interventions for improving trade competitiveness of Pakistan. He said trade was an important sector for generating much needed fiscal space vital for ensuring sustainable development. The UN team highlighting the importance of trade related environmental measures globally.



UN Resident Coordinator Mohamed Yahya presenting a souvenir to Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan during a meeting to discuss sustainable trade growth and cooperation between Pakistan and the United Nations.

Sahiwal Coal Power Plant paid Rs 120.5 bln tax so far

ISLAMABAD (APP): Since its establishment, the Sahiwal Coal Power Plant has made a significant contribution to Pakistan's fiscal landscape, with approximately Rs 120.5 billion in taxes paid to the federal and provincial governments.

These tax contributions are a testament to the plant's role in driving economic growth and supporting public finances, said a press release issued here Friday. Since its inception, this plant has significantly contributed to the country's fiscal health, playing a pivotal role in expanding Pakistan's tax net and fostering economic growth.

The financial impact of the Sahiwal plant reaches far beyond its direct contributions through corporate taxes. A substantial portion of its revenue flow comes from value added tax (VAT) generated through its extensive procurement processes. This includes the purchase of coal, machinery, and maintenance materials. Furthermore, the presence of the Sahiwal plant has stimulated the growth of local industries, which, in turn, contribute to provincial revenues through various channels. By fostering a dynamic economic environment around the plant, it has become a significant contributor to the local economy.

Rupee gains 08 paise against dollar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistani rupee on Friday appreciated by 08 paise against the US dollar in the interbank trading and closed at Rs 277.83 against the previous day's closing of Rs 277.91. However, according to the Forex Association of Pakistan (FAP), the buying and selling rates of the dollar in the open market stood at Rs 279.25 and Rs 280.75 respectively. The price of Euro increased by 36 paise to close at Rs 310.19 against the last day's closing of Rs 309.83, according to the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP). The Japanese yen came down by 02 paise and closed at Rs 1.93, whereas an increase of Rs 1.62 witnessed in the exchange rate of the British Pound, which traded at Rs369.81 as compared to the last day's closing of Rs 368.19.

Indonesian market open to Pak rice, meats, medicines, cosmetics and more: Envoy

ISLAMABAD (APP): Acting Ambassador of Indonesia to Pakistan Rahmat K. Hindiarta has said that trade relations between Pakistan and Indonesia can have very positive effects at the global stage.

He made these remarks during a meeting with a business delegation led by Pakistan Development Foundation (PDF) Chairman Muhammad Bilal Sethi at the Indonesian Embassy. The delegation included JW Holdings Chief Executive Officer Hasnain Waheed, Yasir Kamran Khattak, and Malik Mubasher Khan.

Rahmat underlined the vital role that Pakistani food products could play in enhancing global food security in the future. "There is an ample

opportunity to absorb Pakistani rice, meats, medicines, cosmetics, and other commodities in the Indonesian market," he added. He said Indonesia was a big country with huge population and untapped potentials, as the country gave high priority in the food security and health sectors for the people. During the meeting, Indonesian Embassy officials provided a detailed briefing on the Indonesia-South and Central Asia (INASCA) Business Forum and Trade Expo Indonesia (TEI), scheduled to be held in Jakarta this October. They invited the Pakistani delegation to participate in the largest expo in Indonesia, highlighting the opportunities for fostering trade ties between the two nations.

Senate body reviews overbilling, power theft, data discrepancies

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Senate Standing Committee on Power Division on Friday reviewed overbilling, power theft and data discrepancies in power sector. The Committee which met with Mohsin Aziz in the Chair discussed a point of public importance raised by Senator Palwasha Muhammad Zai Khan regarding the overbilling of electricity bills and the indifference of officers/officials to the plight of consumers. Senator Palwasha expressed concern over incorrect meter readings,

stating that her family had to visit the office 28 times in three months, where they were met with misbehavior. Senator Palwasha condemned this conduct, labeling it as part of a mafia, and called for strict action. She suggested referring the matter to the FIA to dismantle this group and set an example. She emphasized that if such treatment could happen to her family, the hardships faced by the common public would be unimaginable. The Committee Chairman, acknowledging her concerns,

China shifts from solar manufacturing giant to solar IP innovator

ISLAMABAD (APP): China is transitioning from a solar manufacturing powerhouse to a leading innovator in intellectual property (IP) as in 2022, China has accounted for over 80 per cent of capacity and production in all stages of the solar PV supply chain including polysilicon, wafers, cells, and modules. Executive Deputy Director of China's Photovoltaics Industry IP Operation Centre, Chen Wei informed the participants at the China IP annual meeting, citing the Photovoltaics IP Development Report for 2023 in Beijing, China Economic Net reported on Friday.

in PV technology over the past years," he said adding, "This is a significant investment given the specialised nature of PV technology." The manufacturing prowess and R&D investments have encouraged more Chinese enterprises and research institutes to innovate in the industry. In solar cell efficiency research, more and more Chinese solar enterprises and research institutes have become contributors to the best research-cell efficiency chart. The chart, updated by the Colorado-based National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), a national laboratory under the US Department of Energy, documents the highest confirmed conversion efficiencies for research cells for a range of solar technologies.

Beyond PV manufacturing, Chen also noted a significant increase in research and development (R&D) investment among Chinese firms. "Several Chinese PV giants have been allocating about 5 per cent of their business revenue to R&D

is a critical metric in the industry," Chen explained adding.



RAWALPINDI: People are busy buying secondhand clothes in a Landa Bazaar at Namakmandi area in the city.



PESHAWAR: Vendor selling and displaying wrist watches to attract the customers at Khyber Bazaar.

Rice exports grew 98.58% in two months, reached to \$646.667mln

ISLAMABAD (APP): Rice exports from the country during the first two months of the current financial year increased by 98.58 per cent as compared to the exports of the corresponding period of the last year.

During the period from July-August, 2024, over 340,703 metric tons of rice valued at \$464.667 million were exported as compared to the exports of 340,703 metric tons worth \$233.992 million in the same period of last year.

The exports of basmati rice grew by 103.63 per cent as 187,016 metric tons of basmati rice worth \$192.610 million were exported as against

the exports of 79,180 metric tons valued at \$94.590 million in the same period of the last year.

During the period under review, the country earned \$272.057 million by exporting about 430,045 metric tons of rice of other varieties, which was recorded at \$135.402 million in the first two months of the last year.

Meanwhile, the food group imports into 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.

PFA shuts down 10 food points on Motorway

LAHORE (APP): The Punjab Food Authority (PFA) carried out an inspection of food points along the Motorway from Lahore to Faisalabad to ensure the provision of healthy and quality food to commuters.

On the directions of Punjab Food Authority (PFA) Director General Muhammad Asim Javid, food safety teams under the supervision of PFA Additional Director General (Operations) Sardar Asif Dogar inspected 81 food points including restaurants, tuck shops and cafes. The teams have thoroughly examined the production area, kitchens and other areas of the food outlets. The teams closed down 10 famous food points, punished 63 eateries with Rs1.8 million cumulative fine and issued warning notices for improvement to 25 others. Further, the PFA's enforcement teams discarded 205kg of unhygienic meat and 49kg of expired food items. PFA DG Muhammad Asim Javid said that the authority had taken action and closed down food points for failing to meet hygienic working environment.

Short term inflation eases by 0.52%

ISLAMABAD (APP): The weekly inflation, measured by the Sensitive Price Indicator (SPI), decreased by 0.52 per cent for the combined consumption groups during the week ended on September 19, the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) reported on Friday.

According to the PBS data, the SPI for the week under review in the above-mentioned group was recorded at 317.61 points as compared to 319.28 points during the past week.

As compared to the corresponding week of last year, the SPI for the combined consumption group in the week under review witnessed an increase of 12.72 per cent.

The weekly SPI with the base year 2015-16 =100 covers 17 urban centres and 51 essential items for all expenditure groups. Likewise, SPI for the lowest consumption group of up to Rs 17,732 witnessed decrease of 0.42 per cent and went down to 310.84 points from last week's 312.14 points.

The SPI for consumption groups of Rs 17,732 to 22,888; Rs 22,889-29,517; Rs 29,518-

44,175 and above Rs 44,175, decreased by 0.45 per cent, 0.44 per cent, 0.48 per cent and 0.58 per cent respectively.

During the week, out of 51 items, prices of 17 (33.34%) items increased, 15 (29.41%) items decreased and 19 (37.25%) items remained stable.

The items, which recorded major decrease in their average prices on a week-on-week basis included chicken (1.49%), pulse gram (0.83%), cooked daal (0.81%), shirting (0.74%), cooked beef (0.72%), eggs (0.69%), garlic (0.65%), gur (0.59%), georgette (0.50%) and salt powder (0.24%).

On-year basis, the commodities that witnessed decrease included wheat flour (38.14%).

Israel kills top Hezbollah figure in Beirut strike

Israeli military says around 10 senior Hezbollah commanders killed along with Aqil

Monitoring Desk
BEIRUT: Israel killed a top Hezbollah commander in an airstrike on Beirut's southern suburbs on Friday, the Israeli military and two security sources in Lebanon said, sharply escalating the year-long conflict between Israel and the Iran-backed group. Israeli military said that Aqil, who served on Hezbollah's top military body, was the acting commander of the group's elite Radwan force and that he was killed along with other senior commanders of the unit. One of the security sources in Lebanon said he was killed with members of the Radwan unit as they held a meeting.

The strike killed nine people and wounded 59 others, Lebanon's health ministry said, in a preliminary toll. The strike inflicted another blow on Hezbollah after the group suffered an unprecedented attack earlier this week in which pagans and walkie-talkies used by its members exploded, killing 37 people and wounding thousands. That attack was widely believed to have been carried out by Israel, which has neither confirmed or denied its involvement. The civil defence said its rescue teams were searching for people under the rubble of two buildings hit in Friday's strike.

The Israeli military said it had conducted a "targeted strike" in Beirut, without giving further details. It marks the second time in less than two months that Israel has targeted a leading Hezbollah military commander in Beirut. In July, an Israeli airstrike killed Fuad Shukur, the group's top military commander. Aqil has a \$7 million bounty on his head from the United States over his link to the deadly bombing of Marines in Lebanon in 1983, according to the U.S. State Department website.

The Israeli military reported warning sirens sounded in northern Israel following the Beirut strike. Israeli media reported heavy rocket fire in northern Israel. Hezbollah said it had fired Katyusha rockets at what it described as the main intelligence headquarters in northern Israel "which is responsible for assassinations". White House national security spokesman John Kirby said he was not aware of any Israeli notification to the United States before the Beirut strike, adding that Americans were strongly urged not to travel to Lebanon, or to leave if they are already there.



People and members of the military inspect the site of an Israeli strike in the southern suburbs of Beirut, Lebanon.

Israeli forces deepen raid in Rafah, kill 27 people across Gaza

Monitoring Desk
CAIRO: Israeli forces killed at least 27 Palestinians in tank and air strikes on north and central areas of the Gaza Strip on Friday, medics said, as tanks advanced further into northwest Rafah near the border with Egypt.

The unrelenting fighting between the Israelis and Hamas militants in the enclave carried on even as a parallel conflict in the Lebanon-Israel border area involving Hamas' allies Hezbollah intensified.

Meanwhile, some Palestinians displaced by the Israeli assault on Gaza said they feared their temporary beachside camp would be inundated by high waves.

Palestinian health officials said shelling by Israeli tanks killed eight people and wounded several others in the Nuseirat refugee camp in the central area of Gaza, and six others were killed in an airstrike on a house in Gaza City.

Sudan's warring parties say they are open for peaceful solutions

Monitoring Desk
CAIRO: Sudan's army and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) said they are open for peaceful solutions to a war that has been ongoing for more than 17 months, in response to US President Joe Biden's call on warring parties to re-engage in talks.

Army chief Abdel Fattah al-Burhan said on Wednesday the Sudanese government remains open to all constructive efforts aimed at ending the war, before RSF leader Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo followed suit with a similar sentiment early on Thursday.

"We reaffirm our commitment to ceasefire negotiations. We believe that the path to peace lies in dialogue, not random violence, and we will continue to engage in peace processes to secure a future free from fear and suffering for all Sudanese civilians," Dagalo said on X.

However, both men traded blame for a failure to bring an end to a conflict that has killed more than 12,000 people since it started in April 2023, accusing each other of committing abuses.

Saudi crown prince says no Israel ties without Palestinian state

Monitoring Desk
RIYADH: Saudi Arabia's de facto ruler said that the kingdom will not establish ties with Israel until a Palestinian state has been created, in a blow to US efforts to seal a normalisation deal. "We renew the kingdom's rejection and strong condemnation of the crimes of the Israeli occupation authority against the Palestinian people," Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman told the opening session of its advisory Shura Council.

"The kingdom will not cease its tireless efforts to establish an independent Palestinian state with east Jerusalem as its capital, and we affirm that the kingdom will not establish diplomatic relations with Israel without one," he added. Normalisation deals brokered by then US president Donald Trump in 2020 between Israel and Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates had ended a longstanding Arab consensus that there should be no normalisation without an independent Palestinian state and thrown the spotlight on their more powerful neighbour Saudi Arabia.

As recently as earlier this month, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken had been holding out the prospect of the swift establishment of ties with the Gulf Arab oil kingpin as a potential dividend for Israel.

Zelenskiy says Ukraine 'victory plan' depends on quick decisions by allies

Monitoring Desk
KYIV: Ukraine's "victory plan" in the war against Russia depends on quick decisions being taken by allies this week, President Volodymyr Zelenskiy said on Friday during a visit by European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen.

Zelenskiy told a joint press conference with von der Leyen that Ukraine planned to use a proposed multi-billion dollar European Union loan for air defence, energy and domestic weapons purchases.

Zelenskiy singled out the importance of U.S. President Joe Biden to the victory plan, which he said the two leaders will discuss when they meet. The Ukrainian leader is travelling to the United States next week.

"Most of the decisions from the plan depend specifically on him (Biden). On other allies too, but there are certain points which depend on the goodwill and support of the United States," Zelenskiy said.

Bangladesh struggling to muster dollars to pay Indian power debts, sources say

Monitoring Desk
DHAKA: Bangladesh's efforts to clear debts of more than \$1 billion owed to Indian power companies are being hampered by its inability to access the dollars it requires to pay them, documents showed and sources familiar with the matter said.

The Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) told Reuters on Friday.

Of the more than \$1bn owed to India's power companies, some \$800 million is to Adani Power, he added. Adani Power did not respond to a request for comment.

PTC India and SEIL Energy India Ltd have written to the BPDB to recover about \$80m and \$190m respectively in payment for the power they provided to Bangladesh, documents reviewed by Reuters show.

"PTC has a long term business relation of supplying power to BPDB since 2013 and the power supply under [the] current contract is from 2022," a PTC India spokesperson said. A SEIL spokesperson said it had informed the Bangladesh authorities about what it called an "unsustainable situation".

Bangladesh, which imports nearly 20 per cent of its power from its neighbour India, has not paid for the electricity for the last eight to nine months, a source told Reuters.

Poland's third-largest city braces for peaking floods

Monitoring Desk
WROCLAW: Poland's third-largest city Wroclaw was bracing for peaking flood waters on Thursday, with early indications its defences were holding firm after the worst floods in at least two decades ravaged central Europe this week.

The flood wave that has inundated the Polish-Czech border region since the weekend reached Wroclaw overnight, but there were no signs of serious damage initially.

"It is too early to announce that the flood in Wroclaw has been overcome," Prime Minister Donald Tusk said during a meeting with a crisis team. "I would prefer that we hold on nervously and try to guess... the increase in the state of rivers as accurately as possible."

Agnieszka Popowicz-Wozniak, 44, an infertility clinic employee who had cycled through the city, told Reuters the situation seems to be better than expected.

Shamim Ahmed was enrolled at Jahangirnagar University in the capital Dhaka, and was a top member of the student wing of Hasina's Awami League party, police officer Abu Bakkar said. Bakkar said Ahmed was beaten by unknown assailants.

"There is no flooding in the city centre at the moment (...). The recreational beaches are flooded, but I think we all expected it, and I think for now everything looks optimistic." The army said 16,000 soldiers were helping out in the region, alongside



European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskiy attend a joint press conference, amid the Russia-Ukraine conflict, in Kyiv, Ukraine.

Iranian hackers tried but failed to interest Biden's campaign in stolen Trump info, FBI says

Monitoring Desk
WASHINGTON: Iranian hackers sought to interest President Joe Biden's campaign in information stolen from rival Donald Trump's campaign, sending unsolicited emails to people associated with the then-Democratic candidate in an effort to interfere in the 2024 election, the FBI and other federal agencies said Wednesday.

The emails were received before the hack of the Trump campaign was publicly acknowledged, and there's no evidence the recipients of the emails knew their origin.

The announcement is the latest U.S. government effort to call out what officials say is Iran's brazen, ongoing work to interfere in the election, including a hack-and-leak campaign that the FBI and other federal agencies linked last month to Tehran.

U.S. officials in recent months have used criminal charges, sanctions and public advisories to detail actions taken by foreign adversaries to influence the election, including an incipient targeting a covert Russian effort to spread pro-Russia content to U.S. audiences.

Ukraine official claims Russian advance in Kursk has been 'stopped'

Monitoring Desk
KYIV: Russia's counteroffensive to retake Ukrainian-held territory in the Kursk region has been "stopped", a spokesman from Ukraine's military administration there told AFP on Wednesday, after Moscow said it was beginning to renege on the surprise incursion.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy, meanwhile, said that Kyiv has "fully prepared" its "victory plan" to end the war with Russia, which he has said he will discuss with US leader Joe Biden.

Russia earlier this month said it had taken back several villages where Kyiv has held on to swathes of land since its shock offensive began more than a month ago.

"The situation was stabilised and today everything is under control, they are not successful," he said.

A Ukrainian official later played down the claim. "The Russian operation in the Kursk region is still ongoing, so it is too early to say that it has failed completely," the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Zelenskiy later struck a determined tone in his daily evening address. "Today we can say that our victory plan has been fully prepared—all the points," he said.

"Everything has been worked out. The most important thing now is the determination to implement it."

Ex-Iran president Rafsanjani's daughter released from prison after two years

Monitoring Desk
TEHRAN: Faezeh Hashemi Rafsanjani, the daughter of former Iranian president Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, has been released from Tehran's Evin prison after serving two years for her role in protests over women's rights.

Faezeh was sentenced to five years in prison following her arrest during the 2022 protests.

Her release followed a ruling by an appeals court, as confirmed by her lawyer, Mohammad Hossein Aghassi. Faezeh was arrested in September 2022 during nationwide protests sparked by the death of Mahsa Amini.

Mahsa's passing while in police custody for allegedly violating Iran's strict dress code ignited widespread demonstrations demanding change.

The protests, which began on September 16, 2022, have seen significant participation from women and schoolchildren.

Ship with 20,000 litres of diesel fuel sinks off Greenland

Monitoring Desk
COPENHAGEN: A ship carrying 20,000 litres of diesel fuel ran aground and sank off Greenland's coast on Thursday, said authorities who were working to contain a potential spill in the fragile Arctic ecosystem.

"Last night, around 1:45am, a ship hit a reef near Nanortalik and started taking on water," Greenlandic police said in a statement. The vessel sank around 7am.

Authorities believe the 30-metre (98-foot) ship contained some 15,000 to 20,000 litres (3,963 to 5,283 gallons) of diesel fuel in its tanks, in addition to 1,000 litres of engine oil.

China says carrier accused of entering Japanese waters was on routine training

Monitoring Desk
BEIJING: China said on Thursday its Liaoning aircraft carrier had been on a routine training mission in the western Pacific and dismissed charges by Tokyo that the vessel and its escorts had entered Japanese waters.

In the latest incident in a drawn-out dispute between Beijing and Tokyo over maritime activities, Japan's defence ministry said on Wednesday the carrier and two accompanying destroyers had sailed between Japan's southern Yonaguni and Iriomote islands in waters where Japan can exert control.

China's defence ministry responded on Thursday by saying the vessels were on a training exercise that was in line with relevant international laws. It did not give an exact location for the flotilla.

"There is no need for relevant parties to over-interpret it," the defence ministry said in a statement. Japan's Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Hiroshi Moriya said on Wednesday that Tokyo had conveyed its serious concerns to Beijing.

Striking Indian doctors to resume work after protest against Kolkata rape

Monitoring Desk
NEW DELHI: Indian doctors on strike in Kolkata to protest the brutal rape and murder of a colleague will resume some duties from Saturday, the group leading the protests told AFP on Friday.

The discovery of the 31-year-old doctor's bloodied body at a state-run hospital in the eastern city last month rekindled nationwide anger at the chronic issue of violence against women.

While the protests and strikes have since calmed in the rest of India, regular demonstrations had continued in Kolkata, the capital of West Bengal state.

Nigeria's flood-hit residents lament expensive canoe rides

Monitoring Desk
MAIDUGURI: When floods swept through Nigeria's northeastern city of Maiduguri last week, canoe owners volunteered to help move residents to safety. But residents say they are now being ripped off by the canoe owners charging steep fees to move their belongings.

Maiduguri, the capital of Borno state, is reeling from the worst flooding in three decades after a dam wall burst following heavy rains that also hit several parts of West and Central Africa. With vehicles unable to move in many parts of Maiduguri, residents are relying on canoes.

Pro-Hasina student leader beaten to death on Dhaka campus

Monitoring Desk
DHAKA: A Bangladeshi student leader was beaten to death at his university campus in an apparent reprisal for attacks on protesters during the uprising that ousted ex-premier Sheikh Hasina last month.

Shamim Ahmed was enrolled at Jahangirnagar University in the capital Dhaka, and was a top member of the student wing of Hasina's Awami League party, police officer Abu Bakkar said. Bakkar said Ahmed was beaten by unknown assailants.



Members of the West Bengal Junior Doctors' Front march along a street during a protest condemning the rape and murder of a trainee medic at a government-run hospital, in Kolkata, India.

FBR's digitisation, improved enforcement vital for economic reforms: PM

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday said the digitisation of the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) and its improved enforcement mechanism were the need of the hour to bring about economic reforms in the country.

The prime minister chaired a meeting to review the matters related to the FBR, directed the authorities concerned to formulate a comprehensive strategy to improve FBR's enforcement, according to a PM Office press release.

Calling the FBR the backbone of the national economy and appreciating its transformation plan, he said enhanced tax receipts would upgrade service delivery and the social sector.

He called for consulting the prominent taxpayers and all stakeholders on the FBR transformation plan and seeking approval of amendments in coordination with the relevant government departments

for their effective implementation.

The prime minister said the promotion of the private sector was among government priorities calling it inevitable for a strong economy.

He instructed the third-party audit of FBR's projects and expedited efforts to curb smuggling.

During the briefing, Prime Minister Shehbaz was told that the FBR transformation plan featured effective utilisation of technology, awarding efficient officers to improve tax receipts, and improving enforcement of taxation laws.

Formulated by FBR officers and experts within the last 40 days, the program would ensure tax collection without impeding economic development besides facilitating the honest taxpayers.

It also provides for strict action or restrictions on transactions against those failing to pay full tax



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a meeting on transformation plan of Federal Board of Revenue.

Ayaz Sadiq urges for global unity to maintain peace

ISLAMABAD (APP): Speaker of the National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq on Friday said that global unity, tolerance, and dialogue are essential for establishing long-lasting peace. He also said that peace is essential for the progress and well-being of humanity and stressed the importance of resolving conflicts through peaceful means.

In his message, Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq has said that the role of diplomacy is pivotal for maintaining peace. He also added "Nations and leaders must prioritize dialogue and understanding over conflict. Peace cannot be achieved through violence; it can only be sustained through mutual respect, cooperation, and a commitment to justice."

He also urged the international community to uphold human rights and promote equality, as these principles are key to building a peaceful world. He said, "Peace is more than the absence of war. It is the presence of harmony, justice, and respect for diversity." "Only by embracing these values can we hope to create a world where future generations can thrive in peace and security," he added. Sardar Ayaz while underscoring Pakistan's steadfast commitment to advocating for the rights of oppressed people of Palestine & Kashmir stated that Pakistan is consistently calling for an end to the illegal occupation of Palestinian territories and is advocating for the Kashmiris who

Dr. Musadik invites Chinese enterprises to invest in Pak energy, petroleum sectors

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Petroleum Dr. Musadik Malik Friday invited Chinese enterprises, especially those from Shaanxi province, to invest in Pakistan's energy and petroleum sectors.

In his opening remarks at China (Shaanxi)-Pakistan Conference for Economic and Trade Cooperation on the sidelines of the 8th Silk Road International Expo at Xi'an Shaanxi Province, China he said "Top companies from Pakistan specializing in upstream, midstream and downstream petroleum and coal companies were looking to work with Shaanxi Companies to



collaborate through investment, joint ventures and technology transfer said a news release received here. He highlighted that this was a part of Pakistan's broader effort to attract foreign direct investment to that the Belt and Road Initiative and its flagship project, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, were not only infrastructure projects but platforms for peace, prosperity and development for the entire world.

Thanks Chairman PPP, CM for Health portfolio: Putting health sector on modern lines included in top priority of Govt.: Kakar

Independent Report
QUETTA: The newly appointed Provincial Minister for Health, Bakht Muhammad Kakar has stated that it is included in top priority of the provincial government to provide healthcare facilities to people at their doorstep and put the important sector on modern lines.

He said that all available resources would be mobilized to achieve the target of improvement in health sector. He said that more resources are required for provision of healthcare facilities in remote areas of the province. However, he would not let people disappointed at all, Bakht Muhammad Kakar said,

who was assigned the portfolio of Health the other day.

In this regard, he thanked the Chairman Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP), Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on reposing confidence on him.

He said that PPP has always given top priority to serve the masses. He said that the services rendered by PPP are open to everyone, he added.

He also thanked the Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfaraz Bugti on the confidence reposed on him by assigning the portfolio of Health and adding he vowed to come up to his expectations and work on his vision.

Grand Jirga affirms support to Pak Army in war against terrorism

PESHAWAR (APP): The tribal elders and scholars from Wana, South Waziristan on Friday expressed strong resolve to extend full support to Pakistan army in war against terrorism and militants.

A grand Jirga of tribal elders and scholars was organized by Frontier Corps South in Wana, South Waziristan wherein the participants reiterated their commitment to stand by Pakistan Army in the ongoing war against Khawarij. The participants also endorsed one point agenda of the Government against the terrorists and militants and called it the right step and need of the hour.



DUBAI: Consul General of Pakistan in Dubai, H.E. Hussain Muhammad, honored Mr. Muhammad Siddique Baksh, a long-standing Pakistani expatriate, with a Certificate of Appreciation for his exemplary conduct while working in UAE since 1968.

ECC approves export of 40,000 tons sugar to Tajikistan

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) of the Cabinet on Friday approved a proposal to export 40,000 metric tons of sugar to Tajikistan, subject to finalizing the sale agreement with the Tajik entity.

The ECC, which met with Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Muhammad Aurangzeb in the chair, gave its consent for sugar's export on a summary of the Ministry of Industries and Production.

The committee, however, directed that after further discussions with the Tajik entity, the final form of the sale agreement be brought back to it for approval. The Industries Ministry, in conjunction with the Trading Corporation of Pakistan (TCP), would lead the process, a news release said. The ECC also reviewed and approved another proposal from the Industries Ministry regarding the further export of 0.100 million metric tons of surplus sugar. The meeting was informed that the price of sugar as per the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) data had shown a downward trend since July while sufficient stocks of sugar were available to meet domestic requirements up to January next year.

Saad, Syedaal urge political parties to end economic turmoil in country

ISLAMABAD (APP): Former Federal Minister for Railways and Senior leader of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), Khawaja Saad Rafiq called on Deputy Chairman Senate, Syedaal Khan Nasar where both the leaders urged all the political parties of the country to strive for pulling that nation out of economic turmoil.

Khawaja Saad Rafiq expressed his condolences on the death of Syedaal Khan's mother in law at his residence here on Friday and prayed for the departed soul. Deputy Chairman Senate welcomed the senior PML-N leader and former Federal Minister Khawaja Saad Rafiq and had a detailed discussion on the overall political and economic situation of the country, a news release said.

Saad Rafiq said that measures were being taken to improve the economic and political affairs of the country. "PML-N is the largest political party in the country. All the political parties of the country should support the present government for the better interest of the country". He appreciated the services of Deputy Chairman Syedaal Khan in the Upper House and paid tribute to his services. He said that the current government's effort was to implement such legislation that was beneficial to solve the economic, social and political problems of the country.



QUETTA: Provincial Secretary Finance Babar Khan presiding over board meeting of Balochistan Education Endowment Fund

9 shopkeepers held on violation of price control in Quetta

Independent Report
QUETTA: At least nine shopkeepers were arrested and 13 others were charged fine of thousands of rupees during the campaign continued against the profiteering and violation of the hygienic principles in provincial metropolis.

According to an official hand out issued here on Friday, in all 76 shops and hotels were visited by the assistant commissioners and special magistrates in different parts of the metropolis. Otherwise, stern action would be taken against them, it was warned further.

During the inspection, nine shopkeepers were arrested on charges of violation of the non-implementation of official price list while fine was charged from 13 others on charges on neglecting the hygienic principles.

The Assistant Commissioner Sariab, Maria Shamooin led the crackdown in different areas of the city including airport road and adjacent areas.

During the crackdown, the gauge of petrol pumps was also checked.

The district administration has warned to all shopkeepers, hotels and restaurants owners to follow the official price list and ensure cleanliness in their respective outlets.

Otherwise, stern action would be taken against them, it was warned further.

NAB operates strictly in accordance with laws: DG

Independent Report
QUETTA: A group of students and faculty members from University Law College Quetta visited the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) Balochistan office on 20th September 2024. The team was warmly welcomed by Addl. Director (A&P), ensuring a seamless and informative views of NAB operations. Later, a comprehensive interactive session was conducted by Mr. Imran Majeed, Additional Director. He delved into NAB's working by adopting three-pronged strategy i.e. awareness, prevention and enforcement, and briefed about key sections of the National Accountability Act, 1999 and its amendments.

Director General NAB Balochistan made a special appearance, addressing questions from the law students and faculty. He emphasized NAB's role as an apex anti-corruption agency, operating strictly under the laws. The DG highlighted the vision of Honourable Chairman NAB to shift the focus towards mega cases and preventive measures to eradicate corruption.

The event concluded with the presentation of a shield to the senior faculty member and a group photo. Both hosts and guests expressed gratitude for the enriching experience.



QUETTA: Members of Tehreek-e-Jawan-e-Pakistan are holding rally in favor of Pakistan Armed Forces, at Quetta press club.

DEO says 87 closed schools made functional in Pishin

Independent Report
QUETTA: As many as 87 closed schools have been made functional in while 40 temporary teachers of the Balochistan Education Community Schools and NCHD have been made permanent in Pishin district.

This was informed by the District Education Officer, Pishin, Muhammad Zaman Tareen on Friday.

The DEO was speaking on occasion of the distribution of the letters of making permanent among the teachers in the Deputy Commissioner Complex Pishin on Friday.

Needless to mention here is that the initiative was taken in light of the directives of the Provincial Minister for Education, Ms. Raheela Hameed Durani and Secretary Education, Muhammad Saleh Nasar.

Also present on the occasion were the Deputy Commissioner Pishin, Zahid Khan and Additional Deputy Commissioner besides the officials.

Protest in Gwadar: pickup drivers demand freedom of movement

Independent Report
GWADAR: Choose the one that suits your preference! drivers in Gwadar's Kontani Hor area staged a protest at the Coastal Highway's Sarbandan Cross, bringing traffic to a standstill.

The drivers are upset about restrictions imposed on their business and movement in the area. They claim that Pakistan Coast Guards have banned the transportation of Iranian petroleum products out of Gwadar district.

Representatives from various political parties, including BNP Awami's Central Secretary General Advocate Saeed Faiz, All Parties Gwadar's Convener Ghaffar Hoot, National Party's Central Secretary General Adam Qadir Baksh, and PPP's District President Yousuf Faradi, joined the protest to show solidarity with the pickup union.

The students group visited different wings of the bureau where they were provided insightful experience.

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