

Independent

Member APNS & CPNE

Chief Editor: Syed Farooq Shah

www.dailyindependent.com.pk Quetta

Ph: 2841470/2841473 REG: No. BC-116 B/ID-445 Vd XXVI No. 34, Rabi-ul-Awwal 20, 1446 AH Wednesday September 25, 2024 Pages 08, Price Rs.15

Reaffirms commitment to thwart hostile forces Pak Army to continue steadfast support, technical assistance to LEAs against terrorism: COAS

Appreciates officers for high preparedness to counter threats; Role of KP's people in maintaining peace acknowledged by Gen Munir; Army chief honours martyrs by laying floral wreath at Shuhada Monument.

RAWALPINDI (APP): Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Syed Asim Munir on Tuesday during his visit to Wana, South Waziristan District emphasized that Pakistan Army would continue to provide steadfast support and technical assistance to law enforcement agencies (LEAs), particularly Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Police, to enhance their capacity.

The Army Chief visited Wana, South Waziristan District, where he received a comprehensive briefing on the prevailing security situation, ongoing counter-terrorism operations, and development initiatives, an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release said. The COAS paid heartfelt tribute to the security forces and law enforcement agencies (LEAs) who have made ultimate sacrifices in the line of duty. The COAS also acknowledged the pivotal role of the people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in maintaining peace and advancing various projects under the South Waziristan Integrated Development Plan.

He underscored Pakistan Army's dedication towards leveraging its resources for the prosperity and development of the

people of KP.

During his interaction with officers and troops, the COAS appreciated the high level of preparedness and exceptional morale to counter hostile threats. He reaffirmed Pakistan Army's unwavering commitment to thwarting the nefarious designs of hostile forces and their facilitators. Furthermore, the COAS expressed gratitude for the tribal elders' invaluable support in combating terrorism and their unwavering backing of Pakistan Army.

Upon arrival, the COAS honoured the martyred by laying wreath at the Shuhada Monument.



SOUTH WAZIRISTAN: Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Asim Munir received a comprehensive briefing on the prevailing security situation, ongoing counter-terrorism operations, and development initiatives during his visit to Wana in South Waziristan.

No decision yet about Imran Khan's military trial, govt tells IHC

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Tuesday disposed of the petition filed by former prime minister and PTI founder Imran Khan, seeking a court order to the government not to hold his military trial in May 9-related cases when it was informed that the government had not taken any such decision as yet. Justice Mianqul Hassan Aurangzeb heard the petition.

Additional Attorney-General (AAG) Munawar Iqbal Duggal and a representative of the Ministry of Defence appeared in the court, while Uzair Bhindari and Faisal Farid Chaudhry represented the former prime minister. During the hearing, the AAG told the court that if any such decision was

taken, the legal procedure would be followed. "If the government decided in favour of the trial, it would first file an application in the court of a civil magistrate," he informed.

The government last Monday too had informed the IHC that the military trial of Imran Khan was not on the cards.

However, Bhindari expressed the fear that there was a possibility that the former prime minister could be tried in a military court, saying one of the PML-N leaders, Barrister Aqeel Malik, had said this at a press conference.

He also prayed to the bench to take notice of the presser addressed by the former prime minister, without naming the PTI founder, had hinted at his trial in a military court.



QUETTA: Chairman PM Youth Program Rana Mashood Ahmed Khan meeting with Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti

IMF Board to approve \$7 bln program today

LAHORE (APP): Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb on Tuesday expressed the optimism that International Monetary Fund (IMF) Board would approve the 37-month \$7 billion Extended Fund Facility (EFF) arrangement for Pakistan in its meeting scheduled on Wednesday.

He was speaking at "High Level Private Sector Dialogue - CPEC-II and the Region" virtually through Zoom. The event was organized by Pakistan Regional Economic Forum.

"Pakistan successfully concluded 9 month Standby Agreement (SBA) with IMF and we have the IMF board meeting tomorrow here in US. We are very hopeful the board would

approve the 37-month 7 billion Dollars programme," he said.

The minister said, under the programme Pakistan was committed to do structural reforms. He said Pakistan needed to stay on reforms agenda whether on taxation, energy sector, state-owned enterprises or privatization side. "We will stay on the course," he resolved.

He expressed gratitude to China for its support on the fund programme as the lone standing partner of the country.

The minister highlighted that Pakistan's economic trajectory has continued from the last fiscal year into the first quarter of this fiscal year, with notable improvements in various economic indicators.

'IPP owners asked to revise PPAs or face consequences'

ISLAMABAD (INP): Task Force on Independent Power Producers (IPPs) has completed its work.

According to details, owners of four independent power producers (IPPs) set up under the 1994 policy and another, established under the 2002 policy, have been warned of consequences if they don't terminate the power purchase agreements (PPAs) voluntarily, the sources said. The task force has asked the owners of the IPPs to end capacity charges payment and charge against the power supplied to the government only. The Independent

Power Producer owners have also been warned of forensic audit if they continue to go with the present PPAs, the sources said.

Pakistan strongly condemns Israel's aggression against Lebanon

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan on Tuesday strongly condemned Israel's latest military aggression against Lebanon, massacring hundreds of civilians. "This act of aggression against the Republic of Lebanon is a grave violation of the UN Charter and international law. It is a dangerous escalation that has further endangered peace and security in an already volatile region," a Foreign Office press release said. It said Pakistan reaffirmed its full support for Lebanon's sovereignty and territorial integrity, and stood in solidarity with the people of Lebanon and for their right to live in peace and security.



NEW YORK: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif attending the inaugural session of United Nations General Assembly, New York.

CM Sarfraz Bugti & other high ups welcome MMA fighter at Airport:

Shahzaib Rind gets warm welcome upon arrival in hometown

Mir Sarfraz Bugti pleased over achievement of Shahzaib Rind; invites him in CM's House; says Karate Champion is pride of Balochistan and Pakistan

Independent Report
QUETTA: The Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) fighter and reigning World Karate Combat Light Heavyweight Champion, Shahzaib Rind reached Quetta on Tuesday.

Shahzaib Rind got very warm welcome upon his arrival in the hometown from the Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti, Provincial Ministers Bakht Muhammad Kakar and Mir Asim Kurd, Advisor to Chief Minister for Labour and Manpower, Ghulam

Rasool Umrani, Parliamentary Secretary for Sports, Ms. Meena Majeed Baloch, Parliamentary Secretary, Abdul Samad Gorgej, spokesman of provincial government, Shahid Rind, Secretary Sports, Qamar Baloch, Commissioner Quetta, Muhammad Hamza Shafqaat, Director General Sports, Yasir Khan Bazai, and other government functionaries.

Needless to mention here is that Shahzaib Rind has won the World Karate Combat Light Heavyweight



QUETTA: Balochistan Chief Minister, Mir Sarfraz Bugti welcomed Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) Fighter, Shahzaib Rind after he won the Karate Combat World Championship title in Singapore, on his arrival in Quetta.

Certificate distribution ceremony of Agri-based training at Governor House:

We can bring revolution in agri sector thru out-of-box deliberations & adopting modern techniques: Jaffar Mandokhail

Governor deeply concerned about situation of water in different districts of Balochistan; calls for growing Olive trees which require least water; we have to ponder upon our policies & projects whether Balochistan suitable region for agriculture or not

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail has categorically stated that we can bring about revolution in agriculture sector through out-of-box deliberations and by adopting modern techniques in the province.

He said that the per acre yield can be increased by adopting modern agricultural techniques. He said that not only the quantity and quality can be increased by adopting agricultural techniques, but we can also create new opportunities and prospects. This spirit would enable us to cope with the challenges and find

solution to the issues. Therefore, the time requires us to break the traditional barriers and review our issues afresh and reset our direction.

The Governor was addressing the certificate distribution ceremony held under the auspices of Pakistan Oil Seed Department in end of the agri-based training at the Governor House on Tuesday.

The Vice Chancellor of Loralai University, Professor Dr. Ehsan Kakar, Chief Executive Officer, BEEF, Hajra Sohail, agricultural expert, Dr. Khair Muhammad Kakar, other



QUETTA: Governor Balochistan, Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail distributing certificates during a ceremony held under the auspices of Pakistan Oil Seed Department in end of the agri-based training

Newspaper reading key to combating fake news: PM

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif has urged every individual to adopt the habit of newspaper reading citing it as a key to combating fake news and fostering a culture of responsible citizenship.

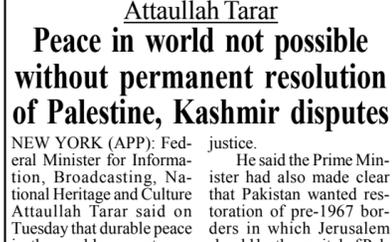
The prime minister, in his message on the National Newspaper Day being observed on Wednesday (September 25), also called for strengthening the role of newspapers in the daily life and support the invaluable institution so it could continue to serve the nation with integrity and dedication.

He said the power of a well-informed society could not be underestimated. "It is through informed citizens that we can build a stronger, more resilient Pakistan."

The prime minister highlighted that in the contemporary world, the relevance of print media had become even more significant. "While social media has revolutionized the way we access information, it has also raised challenges in the form of fake news, misinformation, and disinformation."

He said newspapers, with their established editorial standards and rigorous fact-checking process, continued to serve as a reliable source of information in a time of digital noise and confusion.

"They provide a level of accountability that is often missing in online spaces, ensuring that truth is not compromised," he added.



ISLAMABAD: The Chairperson Benazir Income Support Program (BISP), Rubina Khalid, called on the President Asif Ali Zardari, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

Peace in world not possible without permanent resolution of Palestine, Kashmir disputes

NEW YORK (APP): Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaullah Tarar said on Tuesday that durable peace in the world was not possible without permanent resolution of Palestine and Kashmir issues.

Talking to media outside the United Nations General Assembly, he said that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif had raised both issues at all international fora.

He said on Palestine issue, the PM had stated that war crimes were being committed in the area, genocide of armless

Palestinians was being committed and the world should take notice and bring the perpetrator Israel to

justice. He said the Prime Minister had also made clear that Pakistan wanted restoration of pre-1967 borders in which Jerusalem should be the capital of Palestine.

"We want immediate ceasefire in Gaza and accountability of the aggressor Israel for war crimes and genocide being committed in Palestine", he remarked.

Tarar said that Pakistan had dispatched humanitarian aid through ships and C130s. Moreover Pakistan had offered to give admission to Palestinian medical students in Pakistani institutions, so that they could complete their education without any hindrance.

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KARACHI: Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari addresses to lawyers during ceremony organized by Sindh High Court Bar Association, held in Karachi.

Bilawal vows to introduce judicial reforms in Constitution

KARACHI (INP): Chairman Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) and MNA Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Tuesday vowed to introduce judicial reforms in Constitution.

"We will implement the Charter of Democracy," addressing lawyers at the Sindh Bar Council, People's Party chairman said. He said constitutional legislation and lawmaking could not be made by the court. "The constitutional court has been necessary and a compulsion," Bilawal Bhutto said.

"Think, you are sitting in court for the purpose that responsibility is not being fulfilled," he said. "We want to provide justice to common people," he said.

"There are 15% cases related to the constitution and law that take 90 percent time of court. The Federal Constitutional Court

will hear the constitutional and political cases.

"The judges had warned to throw the 18th Amendment. The 19th Amendment in the constitution was passed under duress," Bilawal Bhutto said. "We want to empower the judicial system for immediate justice," he said.

People's Party chairman said that the chief justice of the federal constitutional court will be nominated on rotation. "Every province will get its representative as chief justice of the court on rotation," he added. He said the constitutional court and judicial reforms are not a new idea. "It is necessary for the supremacy of the constitution to ensure equal rights to all provinces," he said.

"It will be better to form the constitutional court with mutual consultation," he added.

Maulana Wasey re-elected as JUI Provincial Ameer

Independent Report
QUETTA: The senior leader of Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (JUI) and former Federal Minister, Maulana Abdul Wasey has been re-elected as its Provincial Ameer in the intra-party elections conducted in Quetta on Tuesday.

Moreover, in the intra-party elections, Agha Mehmood Shah was elected as the provincial General Secretary of JUI.

The intra-party elections of JUI were held for five years term.

The members of the general body of Jamiat participated in the intra-party elections.

Meanwhile, some untoward incidents were reported during the intra-party elections of JUI. The scuffles were also witnessed among the people.

They also kept on chanting slogans in favour of their respective candidates.

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Shahzeb Rind calls for sports culture development

ISLAMABAD (INP): Shahzeb Rind, Pakistan's first Karate Combat World Champion, proudly claimed his title in the name of his nation, emphasizing the urgent need for a sports culture in Pakistan.

In a press conference at the residence of former Federal Minister Sardar Yar Mohammad Rind, Rind revealed his personal sacrifices, training for three months in America without a sponsor. He expressed gratitude for ex minister Rind's support during his challenging journey.

Shahzeb Rind shared that his victory surprised the world, especially as he faced skepticism due to his Pakistani identity.

Despite being underestimated, he dedicated two years of hard work to raise Pakistan's flag in the global arena. He highlighted the lack of training infrastructure and support for young athletes in Pakistan, contrasting it with other countries where children receive scholarships and training from a young age.

He said that the government of Pakistan should patronize the youth. They have the ability to surprise the world. He said that there was a time in the final match that I felt like I had lost. But my heart and the mind did not accept defeat. And I preferred to fight till the end and

die even though I fell. He said that my opponent had hit me with such a powerful punch on the head that I went into a semi-unconscious state.

"If I lose, what face will I show to the nation? I was a Muslim and I had a passion in me. I wanted to fight for Pakistan. My opponent got the upper hand over me. But Allah gave me strength and I got the upper hand over my opponent with the help of the prayers of the nation and my parents" he added.

He said that if it was any other country, there would have been celebrations in this country for many weeks to win this title. Because European countries spend billions of rupees on their people to win this title. And the youth are trained for many years. I belong to a middle class family. From childhood I was interested to do something for Pakistan.

He stressed that his win was not for monetary prizes but for national pride, calling on the government to support the youth and develop sports programs. Rind's heart and determination drove him through intense competition, even when facing a near-defeat moment in the finals. "I wanted to fight for Pakistan," he said, emphasizing the support of the nation behind him.

'81 industries shut down in 5 years due to electricity crises

KARACHI (INP): The Sindh Assembly was on Monday informed that 81 industrial units, including 10 textile mills and five sugar mills, have shut down over the past five years due to the persistent electricity crisis.

In response to queries from lawmakers, Parliamentary Secretary of Industries and Commerce Department, Ali Ahmed, told the house that the provincial government is extending cooperation to industrialists.



SOUTH WAZIRISTAN: Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Asim Munir laying floral wreath at the Shuhada Monument during his visit to Wana in South Waziristan.



QUETTA: Chairman Prime Minister's Youth Programme Rana Mashood Ahmed Khan posing for a group photo with Shahzaib Rind and the youth at BUTIEMS Quetta.

DC Nasirabad chairs revenue officers meeting

INDEPENDENT REPORT
NASIRABAD: A meeting of revenue officers from across the district was held under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Nasirabad, Munir Ahmed Kakar. The meeting was attended by Assistant Commissioner Dera Murad Jamali, PA to Deputy Commissioner Manzoor Ahmed Shirazi, Tehsildars, Naib Tehsildars, and revenue officers.

The meeting discussed block-wise maps, government agricultural income tax and water charges collection, four-year jamabandi (land record), and unauthorized constructions on government land.

Addressing the meeting, Deputy Commissioner Kakar emphasized that the responsibilities entrusted by the Government of Balochistan must be implemented. He directed the officers to ensure the recovery of outstanding dues from landowners and complete the four-year jamabandi process.

Kakar warned that action will be taken against those involved in unauthorized constructions on government land. He held the concerned officers and patwaris responsible for any encroachments in their respective areas and directed them to perform their duties without fear or favor.

Name of Pervaiz Elahi removed from PCL under court order

LAHORE (Online): Name of former Chief Minister (CM) Punjab and PTI leader Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi and others have been removed from Passport Control List (PCL) under the orders of Lahore High Court (LHC).

Justice Shams Mahmood Mirza of LHC took up for hearing the contempt of court pleas filed by Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi and others Tuesday.

The petitioner took the plea name is not being removed from PCL and Exit Control List (ECL) despite

court's orders. The court should order for initiating contempt of court proceedings against the officers.

The state counsel presented report in the court during the hearing of the case.

The court ordered for removing name of Pervaiz Elahi and others from PCL and ECL. Name of Rasikh Elahi and Zara Elahi have also been removed from ECL.

The court wrapped up the petition in the light of report from state counsel.

PTI says: Constitutional package annihilation of SC, HC

ISLAMABAD (Online): Terming the government constitutional package annihilation of Supreme Court (SC) and High Court (HC) PTI leaders have said lawyers will never accept such constitutional amendments which are aimed at undermining the system.

The present government is of form 47 government and it should not even think of constitutional amendments as they have no right to bring general amendments, this was said by PTI senior leaders Hamid Khan advocate and Suleman Akram Raja while talking to media men outside Supreme Court (SC) here Tuesday.

Hamid Khan said I had made a request to Chief Jus-

ice of Pakistan (CJP) that he is biased and this impression is there since several months. Decisions come against PTI and which come in favor of PTI they are not implemented.

We consider practice and procedure amendment ordinance illegal. Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa removed a senior judge under this ordinance. Qazi Faez Isa said on the application it will be heard later.

The lawyers have been asked not to file such petitions otherwise their license will be suspended. The lawyers term all these things unconstitutional.

A larger lawyers convention has taken place in Lahore.

We can bring revolution in...

Continued from page 1
experts and students of the Loralai University who completed the agri-based training.

The Governor maintained that we need to ponder upon our policies and projects that whether Balochistan is really suitable region for agriculture or not?

If it (Balochistan) is suitable for the agriculture then why don't adopt methodology of agriculture that is compatible with the modern requirements, the Governor said adding that if the province is not suitable for agriculture, then we have to ponder that which means and opportunities can be availed and mobilized in alternative.

He said that unfortunately, we are just limited to cultivate the vegetables, onions, potatoes and tomatoes in the present developed era even while the orchards are limited to grapes and apples.

Means, why don't we opt such crops and orchards which require least water for cultivation or at least we can earn more money in less time.

The Governor noted that major portion of Balochistan's population is associated with agriculture and livestock.

For example, livestock sector can be put on modern lines in Musakhail, Zhoab and Loralai, he emphasized adding that there are lot of grazing fields due

Pakistan name squad for first England Test

PESHAWAR (APP): The Pakistan cricket selectors announced a 15-player squad on Tuesday for the first Test against England, set to take place in Multan from October 7-11.

Following the squad announcement and based on the recommendation of head coach Jason Gillespie, the selected players have been withdrawn from the Champions One-Day Cup play-offs to allow them some rest ahead of the series. The squad will assemble in Multan on Monday, September 30, with the training camp commencing on October 1, 2024. Squad (for 1st Test): Shan Masood (captain), Saud Shakeel (vice-captain), Aamir Jamal, Abdullah Shafique, Abrar Ahmed, Babar Azam, Mir Hamza, Mohammad Huraif, Mohammad Rizwan (wicket-keeper), Naseem Shah, Noman Ali, Saim Ayub, Salman Ali Agha, Sarfaraz Ahmed (wicket-keeper), and Shaheen Shah Afridi.

PCB urges players to support captains of all formats

LAHORE (INP): Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has urged players to fully support their captains in every situation, sources revealed during the PCB's Strategic Connection Camp in Lahore.

The camp, attended by both players and coaches, focused on improving communication, and team spirit, and addressing concerns raised by the players. According to sources, the PCB has conveyed to the players that fear of being dropped or losing the captaincy should not hinder their commitment to the team's success.

All players, particularly those capable of performing across all three formats of the game, have been urged to work together to build a unit front.

PCB Chairman Mohsin Naqvi reinforced the message of unity, stressing that success is only possible if players

back one another and support their captain, irrespective of the format. To address ongoing concerns, the PCB plans to form a special committee independent of management, where players can freely voice their issues. Sources indicate that players raised concerns over a lack of communication between them and both the international and domestic cricket departments.

During separate sessions with coaches and PCB officials, players discussed the need for a clear policy on workload management and selection processes. In response, the coaches and officials assured the players that their problems would be addressed.

Additionally, the players were instructed to stand by their captain at all times and contribute to team success through mutual support.



QUETTA: Governor Balochistan Sheikh Jaffer Khan Mandokhail enquiring about health of former Provincial Minister Abdul Karim Nausherwani

Shahzaib Rind gets warm...

Continued from page 1
Championship in Singapore recently.

The young MMA fighter from Balochistan had trounced Brazilian rival, Luiz Victor Rocha in the final event of the World Karate Combat Light Heavyweight Championship.

He was proud to be the first World Champion from Pakistan in Martial Arts. History was made with his win in the event.

The Chief Minister and other senior government high ups extended greetings to Shahzaib Rind on his marvelous victory in the World Karate Combat title fight.

Mir Sarfraz Bugti embraced Shahzaib and expressed best wishes for him on his victory in the World Karate Combat Light Heavyweight Championship.

Speaking to the champion, Chief Minister told that "You are pride of Balochistan and Pakistan." He said that he (Shahzaib) has brightened the name of Pakistan and the future of country is linked with the talented youth like him.

He said that Shahzaib Rind is a bright example of progress for youth of the province.

Meanwhile, speaking to the media persons, Shahzaib Rind said that he is pleased to brighten the name of country at the world level.

He said that he knocked out the player which had never been knocked out in the past. He said that there's a great talent among youth of the province. He said that he would play the role of model for youth of the province.

Shahzaib Rind on the occasion complained about inappropriate welcome at the Islamabad airport. He said that he got disappointed over seeing welcome in Islamabad.

CORRIGENDUM

Reference to PRQ No.1011 dated 12-09-2024 published in daily newspapers Quetta. The other terms and conditions will remain the same as published in daily Jang Quetta Newspaper. The Estimated Cost of scheme namely "Construction of Judicial Complex Killa Abdullah at Jangle Pir Alizai" TSE No. 242509547893 may be read as RS: 532,222,211/= Million instead of RS:575,004,541/=

Executive Engineer (Buildings)
CWPP & H Department, District
Killa Abdullah.

PRQ No.1182/24-09-2024
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TENDER NOTICE

The Divisional Forest Officer Loralai has invited the Sealed Tender on the Composite Schedule of Rates from the interested Firm / Contractors of the following works:-

S.#	Name of Works.	E/Cost
1.	Raising of 150,000 High Energy Value Plants (Injeer/Anar/American Saroo/ Morepankh. TSE-242509556373	2,059,999/-

The Procurement shall be carried out in accordance with Balochistan Public Procurement Authority rules, 2014 amended up to date. **BASIC ELIGIBILITY:** The Firm/ Contractors must have valid registration with Pakistan Engineering Council who also has deposited case for renewal (2024-25) in relevant Category. Firms (Single Entity) having valid registration with Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) in the Category C-6 or above and the relevant Specialized code. The firm must be registered in Balochistan Revenue Authority and presence in active tax payer list (ATL) Valid Registration with Income Tax & Presence in Active Tax Payer List in FBR (ATL) Turnover at least of last three years. The bidder must have completed 3 Assignment of similar nature of work. The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Call Deposit or Bank Guarantee of 2 % specified above in the name of the under-signed from a scheduled bank. The bidding firm must not be blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan. Other Mandatory conditions and Detail Criteria mentioned in the Bidding Documents. Sequential page numbering of Bid Proposal. Signing and stamping of bid proposal wherever indicated as well as initial/ signature and seal on all other pages of proposals. The Proposal is bound as hard book to deny addition/ removal of pages **METHOD OF PROCUREMENT:** Single Stage-Two Envelope Procedure. **ISSUANCE:** The firms/contractors can also download the bidding documents from the BPPRA website at www.bppra.org.pk. The tender processing fee of Rs. 1,000/- for each tender must be deposited in the government treasury under the head of account C-03370 through the Green Challan Form at the National Bank of Pakistan (NBP). **Deadline of Submission:** The Bidding Documents duly filled and attached with copies of supporting documents must be delivered in sealed envelopes by hand or through registered mail to the address mentioned below on or before on 11/10/2024 at 11:00 am. **Opening:** The bids will be opened on 11/10/2024 at 12:00 pm, before the procurement committee in the presence of firm/ contractors or their authorized representatives/agents. Place of issuance and submission will be: -Address: Office of the Divisional Forest Officer Loralai Telephone No.: 03369288138 Bid Validity Period: Ninety (90) Days. Email: imranmani001138@gmail.com

PRQ No.1180/24-9-2024
www.dprgob.pk @dpr_gob @dprgob @dprbalochistan

Divisional Forest Officer
LORALAI

PUBLIC NOTICE

Application for issuance of Letter of Administration / Succession Certificate by Ms. Shah Bibi with regards to movable & immovable assets of deceased Mr. Bibi Fatima citizen number 513012060912 has been received. Following are declared as legal heirs. 1. Shah Bibi (Daughter) 2. Durjan (Daughter) 3. Abdur Razzaq (Son)

On the above application the objections of public at large are invited. Any aggrieved person may approach in person the undersigned for submission of objection (if any) within fourteen (14) days after publication of this notice.

INCHARGE SFU, NADRA KHARAN, SFU

PUBLIC NOTICE

Application for issuance of Letter of Administration / Succession Certificate by Ms. Maimona Begum with regards to movable & immovable assets of deceased Mr. Faqeer Muhammad citizen number 514015267655 has been received. Following are declared as legal heirs. 1. Shah Bibi (Daughter) 2. Durjan (Daughter) 3. Abdur Razzaq (Son)

On the above application the objections of public at large are invited. Any aggrieved person may approach in person the undersigned for submission of objection (if any) within fourteen (14) days after publication of this notice.

INCHARGE SFU, NADRA KHARAN, SFU

PUBLIC NOTICE

Application for issuance of Letter of Administration / Succession Certificate by Ms. Hina Khan with regards to movable & immovable assets of deceased Mr. Bibi Fatima citizen number 544000422430 has been received. Following are declared as legal heirs. 1. Yasmeen Usman (Daughter) 2. Darwezza Khan (Daughter) 3. Hina Khan (Daughter) 4. Abdul Basit (Son) 5. Shamim Ara (Daughter) 6. Sonia (Daughter) 7. Nabia (Daughter) 8. Bibi Samina (Daughter) 9. Sabia (Daughter)

On the above application the objections of public at large are invited. Any aggrieved person may approach in person the undersigned for submission of objection (if any) within fourteen (14) days after publication of this notice.

INCHARGE SFU, NADRA KHARAN, SFU

PUBLIC NOTICE

Application for issuance of Letter of Administration / Succession Certificate by Ms. Ghazala with regards to movable & immovable assets of deceased Mr. Abdul Rashid citizen number 5160268218809 has been received. Following are declared as legal heirs. 1. Hameeda (Spouse) 2. Zahida Rashid (Daughter) 3. Abdul Rauf (Son) 4. Bibi Aamina (Daughter) 5. Nooreen Rashid (Daughter) 6. Samina (Daughter)

On the above application the objections of public at large are invited. Any aggrieved person may approach in person the undersigned for submission of objection (if any) within fourteen (14) days after publication of this notice.

INCHARGE SFU, NADRA KHARAN, SFU

Peace in world...
Continued from page 1
He said the Kashmir issue would figure in the Prime Minister's engagements in the United Nations.

Besides, he said climate change was a major issue for Pakistan which contributed only 2 per cent of the gas emissions but had to bear the brunt of adverse effects of the climate change.

He said the UN secretary general had himself visited Pakistan and himself saw the impact of climate change in Pakistan due to heavy floods.

He further said that Pakistan had also badly suffered in the war against terrorism and it was still suffering in this war launched by the western powers.

The minister said that after 2018 Pakistan was isolated on foreign policy affairs as Pakistan's friends both in East and West were unhappy. He said now the warmth in relations with all friendly countries was restored and cooperation was showing surge. He said that talks with the International Monetary Fund had been concluded and final endorsement was due shortly.

He said there was also good news about Pakistan's economy and the world should come and invest in Pakistan to take advantage of its huge potential.

He said that Bloomberg had termed the Pakistan stock market as an emerging stock market and Moody's and Fitch had upgraded its rating.

He said there was good news that inflation had fallen to 9.6 per cent whereas exports have increased by 14 per cent. Information technology exports have touched the 3.1 billion mark and remittances have also shown an upward trend.

He said that the entire world could share in the economic revival of Pakistan.

To a question, he said that during the PM's visit, meetings will be held with doctors, bankers and representatives from other walks of life.

Elaborating on Pakistan's isolation in the past, he said that during the PTI rule on the one hand China-Pakistan Economic Corridor was shut down and on the other the US was accused of toppling its government and even friendly countries in the Middle East were not happy with the foreign policy of the then regime.

He said that the entire world could share in the economic revival of Pakistan.



QUETTA: Berak Shahwani, Muhammad Nasir, Asadullah and others meeting with Parliamentary Secretary Culture & Tourism Nawabzada Zareen Khan Magsi

Pak-South Korea shares common heritage of Buddhism: Speakers

ISLAMABAD (APP): Speakers at a symposium Tuesday said that Pakistan and South Korea were tied in common relations and their ongoing collaboration in cultural heritage conservation, rooted in a shared historical connection, particularly the common heritage of Buddhism.

Addressing the "Digital Transformation of Cultural Heritage Conservation and Management in Pakistan" symposium held at a local hotel, they said that since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1983, both nations have actively engaged in archaeological initiatives that celebrated and preserved their rich cultural legacies.

They said that scholars and professionals from both countries have exchanged visits, enriching each other's knowledge and expertise.

They added that the Pakistan and Korean partnership achieved significant milestones including the exhibitions of Gandhara Art in 2000 and 2017 in Korea, and the archaeological re-

search conducted by the Dongguk Buddhist University in Taxila Valley in 2004

Hassan Nasir Jamy, Secretary of National Heritage and Culture, while speaking as Chief Guest said that the symposium was a testament to the enduring partnership between South Korea and Pakistan in cultural heritage preservation.

"By leveraging digital technologies, we can safeguard our shared legacies for future generations."

Currently, to promote the activities of the Research Center a five-year Official Development Assistance (ODA) project from the Republic of Korea is underway, focusing on establishing the Gandhara Archaeological Research Center at the Department of Archaeology and Museums in Islamabad initiated in 2021.

The project includes a research centre for the digital documentation of Buddhist heritage sites and a conservation laboratory for the treatment of museum artefacts.



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Kazakhstan to Pakistan Yerzhan Kistafin addressing during a conference titled "Rising Kazakhstan agenda for building regional cooperation" organized by Embassy of Kazakhstan at Institute of Regional Studies, in the Federal Capital

Senate body directs PWD to transfer possession of Constantia Lodge

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Senate Standing Committee on Housing and Works Tuesday directed the Pakistan Public Works Department (PWD) to facilitate the demarcation process and transfer possession of the Constantia Lodge to the ministry, as well as to resolve all related issues.

The Senate body that met here with Nasir Mehmood in the chair addressed agenda items, examining the jurisdiction, mechanisms, and processes for implementing the Building Code of Pakistan 2021, including the Seismic Provisions of 2007 and environmental protection measures nationwide.

It was noted that the Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) oversees the building code and that notifications are issued by the Ministry of Science and Technology. The code establishes minimum standards for building safety, structural integrity, and



ISLAMABAD: Patients being treated in the special dengue ward of the Polyclinic Hospital in the Federal Capital.

Boot camp empowering youth on sustainable alternatives to open waste burning concludes

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Institute of Urbanism (IoU) with the support of Royal Academy of Engineering (RAE), successfully concluded a transformative five-day boot camp titled "Social Impact for Sustainable Alternatives to Open Waste Burning (OWB) here on Tuesday.

This initiative was designed to engage, educate, and empower young change makers to address the pressing environmental challenge of open waste burning through innovative and sustainable solutions, a news release said.

Throughout the boot camp, participants were introduced to a holistic approach to tackling OWB, emphasizing the integration of social impact, behavior change, and entrepreneurship. Experts across various sectors shared insights on how community engagement, resource innovation, and strategic communication are crucial for achiev-

ing long-term, sustainable outcomes. One key session focused on effective waste management practices, led by representatives from the Rawalpindi Waste Management Company (RWMC).

RWMC plays a pivotal role in managing solid waste across Rawalpindi and Murree districts. Engr. Bilal Niazi, Manager Operations, RWMC highlighted that, "Partnership with international companies has enabled us to implement advanced waste management technologies. However, real progress requires ongoing adaptation, and the youth can drive this forward through innovation."

Dr. Ejaz Ahmad, Senior Program Fellow at IoU, underscored the connection between open waste burning, health, and public health, noting, "The toxic emissions from OWB not only harm the environment but also pose serious health risks, particularly for vulnerable, low-income com-



ISLAMABAD: Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), Senator Rubina Khalid witnesses the signing ceremony of an agreement between Benazir Income Support Programme and World Health Organization (WHO) under the Benazir Nashonuma Programme in BISP HQs.

BISP signs agreements with WHO, UNICEF under Benazir Nashonuma initiative

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) has signed two separate agreements with UNICEF and the World Health Organization (WHO) under the Benazir Nashonuma Programme, aimed at tackling malnutrition and improving the health of children and mothers in Pakistan.

The agreement with UNICEF focuses on Social Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) and the provision of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) for the treatment of Severe Acute Malnutrition

(SAM). The agreements were signed by Secretary Amer Ali Ahmad from BISP, Mrs. Abdullah Fadi from UNICEF and Dr. Luo Dapeng from WHO.

This partnership aims to enhance community awareness and provide life-saving nutrition support to affected children and mothers. The agreement with WHO involves the management of stabilization centers across the country at the district level within District Headquarter Hospitals (DHQs).

These centers will provide specialized care for children suffering from

SAM with complications. Speaking on the occasion, Senator Rubina Khalid highlighted the importance of these agreements in combating malnutrition in Pakistan.

"Together, we aim to build on our strong working relationships to provide health and nutrition support to vulnerable communities across Pakistan. I am confident that through this collaboration, we will achieve impactful results and make a lasting difference in the lives of our beneficiaries," she said.

"Children living in impoverished communities

and households need to be prioritized when it comes to nutrition and social protection programmes to ensure they can survive, thrive, and reach their full potential," UNICEF Representative in Pakistan, Abdullah Fadi said.

"WHO is honoured to partner with BISP to provide evidence-based interventions aimed at providing life-saving treatment to 75,000 severely acute malnourished children with medical complications as well as protecting, supporting and promoting breast feeding as a key strategy to prevent stunting."

Governor KP calls on President

ISLAMABAD (APP): Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi called on President of Pakistan Asif Ali Zardari at the President House.

The discussion focused on various issues affecting the province, including security, economic stability and the welfare of its residents.

During the meeting, Governor Kundi briefed the President Zardari about the recent terrorist attack on a convoy of foreign diplomats in Swat, as well as the rising incidents of terrorism in the southern districts and merged tribal areas.

He highlighted the deteriorating law and order situation in the province.

President Zardari commended Governor Kundi for his efforts towards the overall improvement of the province.

PIAC bidding process to be telecast on Oct 1

ISLAMABAD (APP): The National Assembly's Standing Committee on Privatization was informed on Tuesday that the bidding process for Pakistan International Airlines Company (PIAC) will be shown live on media on October 1, 2024 after approval by the Cabinet. The meeting of the committee was held under the Chairmanship of Muhammad Farooq Sattar, according to press release issued by the National Assembly Secretariat.

The Secretary Ministry of Privatization informed the committee that the contract with the winning company/consortia will be finalized. The Committee was assured that the rights of the employees of the company will be protected during the privatization process.

Resolving public grievances police top priority; says IGP Islamabad

Independent Report

ISLAMABAD: According



to the details, the Inspector General of Police (IGP) Islamabad Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi, held a Khuli Katchery at the Central Police Office Islamabad. Eight citizens and five police officers participated in the khuli katchery.

During the khuli katchery, he listened to the

issues of citizens and police officers and issued di-

office is always open for my citizens, the IGP said.

IG Islamabad further directed the officers to resolve the citizen grievances on merit within the stipulated time frame and report back to the Central Police Office. He directed all SDPOs and SHOs to adhere to the designated office hours and prioritize resolving citizens' issues.

On this occasion, the IG Islamabad said that the Islamabad Police are taking various measures for the facilitation of citizens. The daily holding of Khuli Katchery helps in resolving issues on a priority basis, he added.

Moreover, all zonal officers and SHOs are directed to meet citizens during the designated office hours and resolve their issues promptly and on merit.

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General of Police (IGP) Islamabad Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi, held a Khuli Katchery at the Central Police Office Islamabad. Eight citizens and five police officers participated in the khuli katchery.

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issues of citizens and police officers and issued di-

office is always open for my citizens, the IGP said.

Ban on protest gathering Federation, law secretary put on notice in petition challenging law

ISLAMABAD (Online): Islamabad High Court (IHC) has issued notice to federation and law secretary and sought reply within two weeks on the petition challenging the law on imposition of ban on gathering for protest without permission.

The court has summoned Attorney General (AG) for assistance.

The court issued this order on Tuesday.

Chief Justice (CJ) of IHC Aamer Farooq remarked public gathering is conditional to permission.

The CJ IHC remarked the gathering is linked to permission and a venue is reserved for it.

Over 400 students and teachers receive road safety training

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad Police conducted one day road safety training for students and teachers of Islamabad Model College for Girls G-8/4 to sensitize the participants about the traffic rules and road safety measures. More than 400 students and teachers participated in the workshop and it got an overwhelming response from them. Students were educated during the workshop about dangers of risky driving, rights



ISLAMABAD: Labourers busy in road construction with the help of heavy machinery during development work near Faizabad.

Zardari underlines importance of newspapers in supporting democracy, human rights

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Asif Ali Zardari on Tuesday called on newspapers to champion democratic values, raise awareness of socio-economic issues, and promote tolerance, interfaith harmony, patriotism, and respect for human rights.

The president, in his message on the National Newspaper Readership Day being observed on Wednesday (September 25), urged newspapers to play their role in promoting moral, ethical, and democratic values in the society.

He further asked the newspapers to educate the people about socio-economic issues as well as to promote tolerance, interfaith harmony, patriotism, civic responsibility, and respect for human rights.

Extending heartfelt

congratulations to the All-Pakistan Newspapers Society (APNS) on the National Newspaper Readership Day, Zardari emphasized that newspapers were vital for raising political awareness, informing citizens about their rights and responsibilities, and aiding them in making informed decisions.

"In today's fast-paced digital age, where misinformation and fake news can go viral rapidly, the role of newspapers has become even more critical. Newspapers need to provide accurate and well-researched news to discourage fake news by using modern information technology.

Their role in promoting facts over sensationalism is essential to counter the spread of false information," he stressed.



ISLAMABAD: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi meeting with President Asif Ali Zardari at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

Shaza Fatima says: 'One Patient, One Identity' system on the anvil under 'Smart Islamabad' initiative

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister of State for Information Technology and Telecommunication Shaza Fatima Khawaja on Tuesday said that the government would soon introduce the "One Patient, One Identity" system under the "Smart Islamabad" initiative in the Federal Capital.

Speaking to the media, she said that the system would help save a patient's entire medical record, which would be accessible across all hospitals operating in the Federal Capital, including basic health units.

"This will eliminate the need for patients to visit the hospital where they had initially received medical care. They can visit any hospital in the Federal Capital, and the doctors there will access their medical records using the identity issued under the 'One Patient, One Identity' system," she added.



ISLAMABAD: Dr. Khalid Aftab Sulehri human rights party talking to medical entry test student.

Powers enhanced of CJP in practice, procedure amend. ordinance challenged

ISLAMABAD (Online): The powers enhanced in respect of Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) in practice and procedure amendment ordinance have been challenged in Supreme Court (SC).

Chaudhry Ehtisham ul Haq advocate filed petition in SC making secretary for law ministry, secretary establishment and secretary cabinet respondents.

The petitioner has taken plea in the petition promulgation of ordinance is against parliamentary democracy. SC has also main-

The minister further said that as part of the project all schools in Islamabad, including both rural and urban areas, would be centralized and provided with Internet connectivity, along with other resources to improve the quality of education.

"The Ministry of Education is actively collaborating with the Ministry of Information Technology on this initiative," she added.

Sahza Fatima said that the centralized education system would enhance the quality of education in the Capital without requiring additional resources.

As part of the programme, she said that separate police facilitation centers would also be established across the city to serve the public.

The Inspector General of Police Islamabad was actively working on the project.

EC seeks reply from respondents, adjourns hearing

ISLAMABAD (Online): Election Commission (EC) while seeking reply from the respondents on changing election tribunal of federal capital has adjourned the hearing till next week.

A four members bench under Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) heard the case related to changing election tribunal in federal capital on Tuesday.

The counsels for petitioners appeared in the commission.

The counsels for PTI sought time for filing reply.

The counsel for PML-N candidate Anjum Aqeel requested the commission they need time for filing reply. Give time for two weeks to us.

CEC said they should file reply before next hearing. Two weeks time cannot be given.

CEC adjourned the hearing of the case till next Tuesday.

It is pertinent to mention all the three MNAs from PML-N in Islamabad had filed petition for changing election tribunal in Islamabad.

Daily Voice of Masses
Independent
Wednesday September 25, 2024

Reserved seats

The verdict is in. But does that make a difference? The Supreme Court's detailed reasoning for its decision in the reserved seats case was finally made public on Monday, after weeks of clamouring for its release. However, the judgment, which carries the weight of a full court, was promptly rejected by the PML-N. The ruling party described it on X as "a political decision" issued by "eight specific judges in violation of their oath, to give political benefits to a party that spreads chaos and division".

It seemed like a knee-jerk reaction to the 70 pages of meticulous reasoning for why 11 of the 13 judges who heard the case, including the chief justice of Pakistan, agreed that the PTI had been wronged by the ECP and deserved relief, and also why eight judges differed from the other three on what relief would be suitable.

The operative part of the judgment had, it may be recalled, been issued much earlier in July. After a first reading of the detailed reasoning, it is still difficult to understand why the ECP and government reacted so adversely to it from the get-go. The Supreme Court has, in fact, unanimously rejected two important arguments presented by the Sunni Ittehad Council and the PTI: ie, the SIC was entitled to reserved seats based on the strength of its parliamentary party despite not having directly won a seat, and that reserved seats could not be distributed to parties other than the SIC even if it was not to be given any.

In fact, the verdict makes clear that it was the ECP's original sin — not allowing candidates to contest as PTI's nominees, in violation of the Constitution and the law — that necessitated intervention and a prescription for rectification from the court.

The judgment explains that the court considered the dispute as being larger than just a disagreement between two parties, and that it acted to protect the rights of the electorate, not a particular political party. Based on that, the government's position seems rather weak. Has it been risking contempt merely because the Supreme Court pointed out that the ECP did something wrong and instructed, as is its mandate, that justice be done? Moreover, how does the government morally justify its position considering that it is a direct beneficiary of the actions struck down as unlawful and unconstitutional by the court? Perhaps if this detailed verdict had been issued sooner, much of the controversy that has surrounded it may have been avoided. However, now that it is in hand, the government should either file for a review or accept it as is. Refusing to implement it is a dangerous strategy; it may unravel the entire edifice of the state.

Jawed Naqvi

A month to the date before Sri Lanka's Sept 21 presidential polls would elect a firebrand Marxist head of state, and disturb the political furniture in the region and beyond, the Indian high commissioner to Colombo installed a free water vending machine at a tourist site in Sigiriya.

At slightly over half the steep climb to the summit of the 180 metres high volcanic granite relic of King Kasyapa's ancient fort-and-cave spectacle in the heart of Sri Lanka, the Indian envoy announced the RO machine on a metal plaque, which glistened in the sapping heat with the message of neighbourly goodwill "from the people of India".

If the Indian envoy's intent was to win friends or impress visitors, the investment fell short of its goal on two counts. A truer point that the water taps missed lies in a six-hour drive to Sri Lanka's southernmost tip.

It's here that a strategic port has come up abutting a sea lane seen as more crucial for India's Western allies than for In-

dia. How New Delhi under Narendra Modi's watch has got itself entangled with the US-led and completely self-centred 'pivot to the East' strategy offers an object lesson on how not to rise to the bait in a purely bilateral dispute, this one being essentially between Beijing and Washington. The day the two make up, even if they don't end up kissing, proverbially, the cheerleaders in the transient stand-off wouldn't know where to look.

Pakistan has been used selfishly twice by the West, on both turns under the watch of a muscle-flexing military ruler. It's in an economic mess today, but does the West care? Moreover, in the current context, the ascent of the Philippines as a China-specific military outpost for the US threatens to undercut Delhi's worth in the Western strategy, say leading US think tanks.

And so, it would seem odd for New Delhi to share Western enthusiasm that the China-built Hambantota port somehow poses a threat to its interests.

The anti-China Quad group of which India is a member, others being Japan, Australia and the US, is as tenuous as the next business deal between the economic and political heavyweights. Yet, it so transpired that as the Beijing-friendly Anura Kumara Dissanayake was leading the Sri Lankan race, the Quad leaders were huddled in a meeting with President Joe Biden at his home in Delaware, India's recent rapprochement with the tiny archipelago nation of the Maldives, after initial fears of Male veering sharply towards Beijing, may illustrate how mistaken Indian leaders could be about their neighbours' intentions. The upsurge in Bangladesh also saw Delhi's chorus boys in the media going out of their way to sow mistrust with another neighbour.

Coincidences apart, there was a starker message from the Sri Lanka polls waiting to ambush India, or perhaps not so much India as Prime Minister Narendra Modi, personally. To its credit, New Delhi was not entirely unaware of the impending

defeat of its preferred friend in Colombo, the outgoing president, Ranil Wickremesinghe.

Sensing the mood for change stalking the southern neighbour, New Delhi as early as February this year invited Dissanayake to visit the country, which he did as head of the National People's Power. The NPP is purportedly a phlegmatic avatar of the virulently leftist JVP, the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna, in which the 56-year old Dissanayake cut his political teeth. The future president was taken on a guided tour of Delhi and Ahmedabad, Modi's home state, and there's a picture of him beaming in a frame with India's External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar from that visit.

The diplomatic soft-soaping from the India visit seems not to have worked, however. Upon his return Dissanayake reiterated his main theme of fighting bigtime corruption he has accused his predecessors of indulging in. One such deal he mentioned in particular involved an Indian tycoon who has been in the

crosshairs of Modi's domestic opponents too — Gautam Adani. Modi has been accused of sacrificing India's political and economic interests in plugging for Gautam Adani on his diplomatic sojourns. Dissanayake has been quoted as threatening to cancel Adani's 450 MW wind power project in Sri Lanka if elected. Reports quote him as claiming the agreement was corrupt and skewed against Sri Lanka's interests.

There are two ways for India to handle the crisis. It could treat it as a business deal between a private individual and a foreign government. Or it could regard the dealings of an individual as a cause to intervene as Indian government. "Dissanayake highlighted that Sri Lanka is purchasing energy from Adani at a rate of \$0.0826 per unit, whereas a nearby Sri Lankan firm supplies energy at only \$0.0488 per unit," a local daily in Colombo quoted him as saying. "The Adani project's costs should decrease, given its large scale, but it's the opposite. This is clearly a corrupt deal, and we will definitely

cancel it." The problem is that Adani is facing similar charges in Bangladesh and even from state governments in India.

In February 2023, Sri Lanka's Board of Investment approved Adani Green Energy's \$442 million wind power project, with plants planned for Mannar and Pooneryn in northern Sri Lanka. The project has since faced legal challenges, local reports say, with its details currently under Sri Lankan supreme court's review.

The Adani Group, led by billionaire Gautam Adani, is also involved in the development of a \$700m container terminal at the Colombo Port, adding to its growing presence in Sri Lanka, reports say. From all accounts Dissanayake is not a Trotskyite variant of Don Quixote tilting at global capitalism. He says he wouldn't reject his country's deal with the IMF, and would prefer to adopt the business model of Vietnam, which doesn't needlessly ruffle the West. It is India that needs to do more than humour the neighbours with RO utilities. -- Courtesy Dawn

Arifa Noor

Pakistani politics is a gift which keeps on giving — to the language we speak. And the recent buzzword for the state of politics in our land is 'hybrid regime'. It's descriptive, pejorative and analytical all at once; it can be used to criticise any party in power and explain inexplicable happenings.

A phrase which became rather popular during the PTI tenure, it didn't fall into disuse even after the party was sent packing. The PDM government was described in no less complimentary terms once it 'settled' down, disappointing some and vindicating others with its inability to govern.

Before long, the 'hybrid regime' tag was upgraded to hybrid plus. Once the elections took place, the plus wasn't deemed enough and the phrase became 'hybrid plus plus' or 'hybrid promax'. This is now as much a part of our conversations as 'khalai makhlooq' once was.

But as a phrase and its connotations it does raise questions. In a country where civilian govern-

ments have always been hampered and compelled to cede power to or share it with the establishment, is it only recent governments that deserve to be called 'hybrid'?

After all, Benazir Bhutto's first government was able to come into being only after she agreed to accept that those running finance and foreign policy would be appointed by those who had 'kindly' allowed her to become prime minister. Once 'they' decided to send her packing, Nawaz Sharif was brought to power in an election, which was perhaps the most controversial and manipulated of the four polls held in the 1990s. It was also the only one of the many controversial elections in Pakistan to have been challenged in the Supreme Court. After the 2008 election, story after story reported how then chief of army staff Ashfaq Kayani held meetings on the economy at his office in Rawalpindi attended by the relevant federal ministers.

So what makes it different post-2018? Is it even different? Perhaps last weekend's sorry saga of the constitutional

amendment that wasn't provides some enlightenment.

For months, talk of a constitutional package was doing the rounds. And for days if not weeks, the government told us the numbers were in the bag (or was it the maunah who was in the bag?) as the president, prime minister and interior minister went a-calling. But the presence of the last heavyweight made it more than evident which stakeholders were behind this bout of lawmaking. And yet, once the operation turned out to be as successful as Joe Biden's second election run, the guns were turned on the political government only.

From 'independently' elected senators (this election has given us not just the PTI-allied independents but also a cast of independent senators) to powerful journalists, no one was willing to mince their words about the government's incompetence in getting the job done. But was it simply the government's failure? Who can afford to ask this question?

Perhaps, this is what distinguishes what we call the 'hybrid system'. It is

one in which the relationship between the government and establishment works at two levels: officially the claim is that of a close relationship while at the unofficial level, a different picture is painted.

This doublespeak starts with the election; not only are polls questionable to begin with but the controversy generated is kept alive. The election continues to be called into question even as the government is formed. Constant references to RTS and Form 47 keep the election controversy alive in people's minds; the unceasing talk about Nawaz Sharif's Lahore election is a case in point.

This is accompanied by constant, unsubtle references to 'one page'. The government and establishment are working in coordination with each other; as the government has been put in power by the establishment, the widespread assumption is the latter will support the former. Publicly and officially, this is mentioned again and again. While the PTI spoke proudly of the 'one page', Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif went a step further to speak of

the chief and him being 'yak jaan do qalib' (best friends).

Along with these public pronouncements, however, is the unofficial messaging, which is no less vociferous. This messaging, carried out during closed-door meetings and background briefings, together with the analyses of media people with sources aplenty, is used to explain how the establishment is tiring of the incompetence of a government which refuses to stand on its own feet.

All of this builds up an image of a government which was helped into power at great cost but has since disappointed those who propped it up. Imran Khan was disappointing — no one realised that he had no plan to fix Pakistan's problems and then he was obsessed with corruption, using the state powers to demolish the opposition. Now it seems that Shehbaz Sharif and his government have similarly disappointed the powerful; once again the plan is missing as is the ability to make decisions. And along with the disappointment come whispers of how 'they' are being

forced to manage it all. To borrow a phrase from Pervez Elahi, diaper-changing duties never stop.

It is here where this hybrid regime perhaps varies from earlier governments, with which the hostilities were rather public. From the 1990s to even the PPP and PML-N governments post-2008, the clashes with the establishment were upfront and aggressive, be it Memogate or Musharraf's trial. Second, one reason for the hostilities or the tussle was the government's assertion of power, which is rumoured to not be an issue as such.

But hybrid regimes are also marked by a third feature, where despite the control, the failures somehow are the government's alone — from the mishandling of the economy to diplomatic isolation, be it the PTI or PDM.

Within this larger context, the confidence of the government about the numbers being there for a constitutional amendment till the last moment can tell a very different story. If there is anyone out there who wants to move beyond the obvious.

Practice & Procedure

Sameer Khosa

Recent moves by the government leave no doubt that the judiciary is facing one of the most serious onslaughts in its history. Although attempts to tame the courts have been afoot for a while, as seen by the letter written by six judges of the Islamabad High Court, these have only met with mixed success. Various courts in the country have continued to pass strict observations in cases of enforced disappearances, granted bail to persons that the state is unwilling to release, and zeroed in on the phenomenon of audio leaks. Most significantly, a 13-member bench of the Supreme Court denied the government its extra reserved seats in parliament.

Faced with a judiciary refusing to declare total submission, the government first attempted to pass a constitutional amendment proposing widespread changes to the structure of the judiciary. Having failed to achieve that for the time being, the president promulgated the Supreme Court (Practice and Procedure) Amendment Ordinance, 2024.

The contents of the proposed constitutional amendment are now well known: all the significant constitutional powers of the Supreme Court would stand transferred to a federal constitutional court (FCC), which would effectively be handpicked by the government. Judges of the high courts would face being transferred to another court without their consent. The powers of the high courts in matters related to laws in relation to national security would stand eliminated. The government would also have the power to bypass the senior most judge in appointing the chief justice.

Now, the ordinance

issued by the president demonstrates that the government remains undeterred. Through the ordinance, the government has changed the composition of the committee that forms benches and fixes cases under the original Supreme Court (Practice and Procedure) Act, 2023.

The committee originally consisted of the chief justice and two senior-most judges of the court. Now it will consist of the chief justice, the next most senior judge, and a judge picked by the chief justice.

The promulgation of the ordinance is problematic in several respects. For one, the Constitution does not envisage the president as a lawmaker except in exceptional circumstances when parliament cannot be summoned. No exceptional circumstances seem apparent given that the original committee was functional and available.

For another, it seems to be yet another attempt to interfere in the functioning of the judiciary. In recent weeks, the chief justice has found himself out-voted on matters that are important to the government's ability to pass the constitutional amendment. In particular, the chief justice unsuccessfully attempted to fix a review petition related to the reserved seats verdict and the Article 63A verdict (related to floor crossing). In case either of these review cases is successful, the government's ability to pass a constitutional amendment would greatly increase (either through reserved seats, or defections).

Instead of respecting the Supreme Court and the committee, the government decided to modify the committee to strengthen the chief justice so that it could change outcomes for itself. It is a dangerous game for the

government to contract and expand the powers of the chief justice at will depending only on its preferred temporary outcomes.

Unfortunately, instead of sticking to the original committee, within hours the chief justice changed the formation of the committee by skipping the third and fourth most senior judges of the court. The composition of the committee is particularly important at this time because if the government can successfully pass the constitutional amendment, then any challenge to the amendment filed in the Supreme Court would be subject to the decision of this committee as to whether it is heard, when, and by whom. In effect, the chief justice would now control this process.

Add to this the fact that, according to an official press release of the Supreme Court, the government already made its interest in extending the tenure of the chief justice clear several months ago. The clear intent is, therefore, to ensure that the chief justice, who himself potentially stands to be one of the intended beneficiaries of this whole exercise (in the form of an extended tenure at the FCC), can control any challenge to the proposed amendment.

Last year, when the government was in no mood to implement the Supreme Court's decision related to elections in Punjab and KP, it brought in the Practice and Procedure Act to thwart the chief justice. This year, when it is in no mood to implement the reserved seats case, it has brought in the ordinance to retain the chief justice's control.

Behind all of the government's claims, there is only one real aim: subjugating the Supreme Court. -- Courtesy Dawn

Society's safety net

David Walmsley

A record number of newsrooms have signed up for World News Day 2024, recognising the positive influence of journalism in the world over.

More than 600 newsrooms and media associations across all continents join to bring awareness to the purpose of journalism, a trade that is under constant attack.

It's a day to pause, and reflect on the importance of independent and often brave journalists who make a difference in their communities and countries, by providing the proof that leads to the truth.

Too often, he or she who shouts loudest on social media seems to be the newsmaker of the day, overshadowing the professional reporters and editors trained and determined to stand behind everything they publish.

Responsible journalism is a tough business when done properly. It necessarily confronts the easy, repetitive, and instant swirl of polemicists and propagandists determined to derail life to fit agendas that are often based on uncertainty and exclusion.

Photographing events that happen, reporting on the facts; beginning with incomplete information and building a more complete file over time and ultimately ensuring, in the final edit, that the facts are pried out and placed squarely into the public discourse, is the business of mainstream media. It is inefficient yet is a timeless tradition without parallel.

Professionals fight back against the hackneyed idea that belonging to the mainstream is somehow inferior to being extreme.

World News Day (Sept 28) is a day of

awareness, to better explain journalism to the public at large.

It is also a moment to provide room for our audiences and highlight how their meeting a journalist improved their life. How, perhaps, finally, they were listened to.

Or to reflect on the contributions of a local newspaper to the body politic, or the cost of liberty for a reporter detained for no reason — other than that she could be — by those with armies at their disposal.

Amid the growing coarseness of public debate, the pride of independent journalism stands as a source of optimism and belief.

Often at significant personal cost, whistleblowers entrust journalists with secrets. Businesses, politicians and others in power increasingly refuse to meet reporters or explain themselves — but that doesn't mean they are unaccountable. The rot is still exposed by individuals.

This past year I met a source determined to get the truth out, but the conversations took place in a hot-tub to prove I was not wearing a listening wire, and, on another occasion, in my underwear for the final interview. The story was worth it all, but I couldn't have known it would be when I started out on the four-month odyssey.

That's the romance of the business that recruits and repays the indefatigable.

Interest groups laden with bias threaten economic punishment: 'I'll cancel my subscription' or 'we'll pull our advertising'. Perhaps next year we will list those people who act that way.

So far, news organisations take the hit, and don't make it public. But it is all an attempt to interfere with editorial in-

dependence, and it is wrong.

Attacks on journalists — including murder — run at record highs. Journalism was not created for the messenger to be shot. But, while you can kill the journalist, you can't kill the story. Others will take it on. Look at journalists in Mexico or Iran if you haven't received your daily dose of inspiration. The rate of impunity, killing journalists and not being arrested, creeps toward 100 per cent in some countries, but still the stories mount up.

A great miracle exists in the business of journalism: facts are not suppressible.

Those in need understand it. And it is those least in need who fight us most: the powerful, terrified their world can't be entirely controlled.

That's the magic of World News Day.

As you talk to friends, and consider your community, village, town or the wider world, think about what you have learned today. There is a fair bet journalism was involved. The storytellers, who come from your community, tell the facts, no matter how uncomfortable that can be.

That is why, unarmed and living in your community, they are targeted, hassled, belittled, threatened. And it is why they respond with more facts, more answers, more independence of thought — and maintain the link between you and the wider world.

Journalists are a bridge as we build the future, supported by the capstone of our audience, who are as loyal and determined as the reporter and the editor. Together, on World News Day, if it feels at times that the vestiges of hope are falling away, remember the safety net of journalism is there. -- Courtesy Dawn

CM chairs 16th cabinet meeting, approves major projects including recruitment of 7,354 CTIs

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif presided over 16th provincial cabinet meeting in which the recruitment of 7,354 College Teaching Interns (CTIs) was approved across Punjab.

CM Maryam Nawaz Sharif sought a comprehensive and uniform housing policy across Punjab. The cabinet paid tribute to the police personnel on performing duty in Rahim Yar Khan and Katcha area. The cabinet approved special allowance for police personnel on performing duty in the Katcha area.

The Chief Minister stopped increasing hostel charges for working women across Punjab. The CM commended Irrigation Minister Kazim Pirzada and the Irrigation Department for no loss of life being caused due to the recent floods. The cabinet approved the issuance of Rs. 500 million 'Endowment Fund for Writers Welfare' under the auspices of the Information and Culture Department. The cabinet, appreciated the peaceful conduct of MDCAT examination in Punjab. It was approved in the meeting that controversial questions are being raised on the conduct

of MDCAT examination in other provinces besides Punjab.

The Chief Minister sought a monthly package plan for the differently-abled visually impaired persons. The cabinet approved a special court for persons with disabilities under the Punjab Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities Act. Conditional approval was given to delegate the powers of Sub-Registrar to the Tehsildar and Naib Tehsildar. The CM Punjab directed the Board of Revenue to submit a five-year comprehensive housing policy to the Cabinet.

The cabinet rejected the Working Women's Hostels policy for increasing charges by the Women Development Department.

An approval was given to sign an MoU between the Government of Punjab and the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) during the meeting. An approval was granted to include Lahore Knowledge Park (Nawaz Sharif Limited City) Bedian Road under the scope of Punjab Central Business District Development Authority. The Cabinet approved the nomination of Member of

Gujranwala Development Authority and Vice Chairman of WASA Gujranwala.

An approval was granted to delegate the powers of Sub-Registrar to the transferee of land of legally recognized authority. The amendment of the exchange policy with government land and housing schemes and the reissuance of funds for the up-gradation and construction as well as rehabilitation of tertiary care hospitals of specialized healthcare and medical education were approved during the meeting.

The cabinet approved the request to provide financial assistance for the treatment of Syeda Sara D/O Syed Mian Abu Bakar Kaka Khel. Under the Muslim Family Laws Ordinance 1961, an approval was granted to amend the notification to allow Assistant Director Local Government to perform duties as Chairman of the Conciliation Council. It was informed during the meeting that a 'Central Portal' will be set up for transparent recruitment of College Teaching Interns (CTIs) in the government colleges. An approval was granted to make amendment in the Punjab Infrastructure Development Cess Act 2015.



LAHORE: Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan in a group photo with delegation of District Faisalabad Bar Association led by President (PLF Punjab) Raheel Kamran Cheema at Governor House.

CM Sindh chairs meeting to review progress on Karachi Safe City Project

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Tuesday said that the work done so far was a significant step toward establishing Karachi as a safer city through enhanced surveillance and response capabilities.

"I have got the work on the long-awaited Safe City Project in Karachi, Phase-I significantly accelerated, he said in a meeting here at CM House.

Minister Home Ziaul Hassan Lanjar, Secretary to CM Raheem Shaikh and others were present on the occasion.

The IG Police briefed the CM on the project's progress and informed him that 1300 Cameras will be installed at different loca-

tions. It was disclosed that all 300 pole site surveys and 18 Point of Presence (POP) site surveys have been completed. Under the civil work, Right-of-Way (RoW) approvals from all relevant stakeholders have been obtained and foundation excavation and digging have been completed at 200 pole sites. The CM was told that 50 poles have been installed so far, with ongoing work at the remaining sites. The CM was informed that the Control Room and Data Center equipment, along with a Video Wall, have been installed at the Central Police Office (CPO), receiving live monitoring through 35 cameras at 7 locations.

As far as equipment is concerned, the CM was told that all shipments [of equipment] from Hikvision, Huawei, Vertiv, POP sites, and Optical Fiber Cables (OFC) have been received and safely stored.

The CM was told that five Emergency Response Vehicles (ERVs) have been procured and branded.

To a question, CM was told that the allocation of 18 POP sites within police stations has been completed, with groundwork started following surveys and renovation estimates. The Safe City Authority's headquarters at Shahrah-e-Faisal is being established for which the land has been developed and handed over its possession to the National Radio Telecommunication.

Punjab Governor says: Lawyers' always struggled to ensure political, constitutional stability in country

Independent Report

LAHORE: A delegation of District Faisalabad Bar Association led by President (PLF Punjab) Raheel Kamran Cheema called on Punjab Governor, Sardar Saleem Haider Khan at Governor House Lahore.

Speaking on the occasion, Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan said that the lawyers' community has always struggled to ensure political and constitutional stability in the country. He said that the role of the lawyers' community in the restoration of democracy movement is commendable. Governor Punjab further said that the People's Party

has never been a part of any illegal amendment and will never be a part of it. He said that every section of the society, including lawyers, has to play a positive role for the betterment of the country. The delegation of Faisalabad Bar Association apprised the Governor Punjab about the formation of a separate High Court Bench for Faisalabad Division and other issues faced by the Bar. Governor Punjab assured the delegation to talk to the concerned quarters for the establishment of the High Court Bench. The delegation also invited the Governor Punjab to visit the Faisalabad Bar Association.



KARACHI: President of Awami National Party Aimal Wali Khan addressing journalists during Meet the press at KPC.

UNICEF team meets KP health advisor; assures support in health sector

PESHAWAR (APP): A delegation of UNICEF officials called on the Advisor to Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) on Health, Ihtisham Ali here and congratulated him on assuming new role and provided a comprehensive briefing on UNICEF's support for the Health Department. The UNICEF team was led by Dr Inam Ullah, alongside Immunization Officer Dr Kamran Qureshi, Additional Director General Public Health Dr Shahid Younas, Director Nutrition Dr Fazal Majeed and Director Maternal and Child Healthcare Dr Khizar Hayat, said a press release issued here Tuesday.

During the meeting, Dr Inam Ullah He outlined the various areas in which UNICEF was providing technical and financial assistance to the department and discussed installation and maintenance of oxygen plants in 10 districts across the province. The Advisor was also briefed on the Integrated Service Delivery Program currently being implemented in the southern districts with UNICEF's support. Dr Inam Ullah highlighted UNICEF's collaboration in improving maternal health services, specifically in Torghar district, where the deployment of female doctors has significantly enhanced maternity care.

190 million pounds reference: Cross questioning of last witness adjourned due to absence of counsel for Bushra

RAWALPINDI (Online): The cross questioning of last witness in 190 million pounds financial scandal against PTI founder Imran Khan and his wife Bushra Bibi was postponed due to absence of counsel for Bushra Bibi in Accountability Court (AC) Islamabad.

The court adjourned hearing of the case till today (Wednesday).

Both the accused and their lawyers were present in the court during the hearing of the case.

However the other associate lawyers of the ac-

cused while requesting for adjourning the hearing told that the counsel for Bushra Bibi is unwell and he cannot appear in the court due to ailment. NAB prosecutor opposed the adjournment of hearing. NAB prosecutor was of view that 12 lawyers have filed their power of attorney from the side of the accused. The last witness of reference is appearing in 23 hearings regularly but cross questioning is not being completed. IHC has stopped from announcing decision of the case.



HYDERABAD: Student of Government Girls Urdu Primary School Hali road studying on the floor due to furniture not available.

NAVTTTC, TVET, provinces join hands to transform TVET Institutes

PESHAWAR (APP): A major step in the development of employable skills for youth in the country was taken on Tuesday, with the signing of agreements to transform selected model Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutes into four Centres of Excellence (CoEs) in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan and Gilgit Baltistan.

Through provision of modern equipment, improved curricula and trained teachers these centres of excellence will be providing state-of-the-art skills training to youth, in line with requirements in the labour market.

Establishment of the Centres of Excellence in Pakistan is a recognized flagship intervention under EU's Global Gateway initiative, in which the EU le-

verages public and private sector investments across the globe.

Co-funded by the European Union and the Federal Republic of Germany, the initiative is implemented by GIZ and the British Council in close collaboration with NAVTTTC as part of a broader strategy to strengthen the TVET sector and enhance youth employment opportunities.

The signing ceremony was attended by the Secretary of Education, Ministry for Federal Education and Professional Training Mohyuddin Ahmad Wani, European Union Deputy Ambassador Philipp Oliver Gross, NAVTTTC, the TVET Sector Support Programme, and high ups of the governments of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan and Gilgit Baltistan.



LAHORE: Ambassador of Japan to Pakistan WADA Mitsuhiro cutting the ribbon during inauguration ceremony of painting exhibition at Al-Hamra art Gallery, in the Provincial Capital.

All Teachers Association delegation called on Kundi, assures full support

PESHAWAR (APP): A delegation of All Teachers Association of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Tuesday called on Governor Faisal Karim Kundi at the Governor's House.

The delegation, led by President Mian Faik Zada Kakakhel, discussed various educational issues and challenges faced by teachers in the province.

During the meeting, the delegation raised concerns about the state of educational institutions, demands for salary and benefits increases, the impact of pension reforms, and other related issues.

Governor Kundi assured the delegation that promoting peace, women's

empowerment, and youth engagement are among his top priorities, and that appropriate measures would be taken to address teachers' issues at the federal level.

He emphasized that teachers are the architects of the nation and mentioned that provincial assembly member Ahmad Karim Kundi of PPP would play a role in supporting these concerns.

Ahmad Karim Kundi expressed his full support for the teaching community during the meeting.

All the Teachers Association officials appreciated the Governor's interest and commitment to education.

LHC moved for implementation of SC order on reserved seats

LAHORE (Online): Petition has been filed in Lahore High Court for implementation of Supreme Court (SC) order in respect of reserved seats.

A miscellaneous petition has been filed by one Munir Ahmad in LHC in connection with implementation of SC decision in the matter of reserved seats Tuesday.

The petitioner has taken the plea decision of 8-member bench of SC has come. This is detailed decision of SC and it has not been implemented. Letters have been written to speakers of all the four provincial assemblies. The reserved seats have not been given to PTI so far.

1.2mn children enrolled in KP

PESHAWAR (APP): The enrollment of children in government schools continued in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa where about 1.2 million kids were admitted this year.

The spokesperson of KP Elementary and Secondary Education Department told APP on Tuesday that efforts were underway to enroll three lakh more children in public sector schools this month.

He said that enrollment campaign would continue till September 30 in the province.

Under education for all program, special focus was being given on admission of girls students in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

In this connection, scholarships were also being provided to girl students on merit.

Federal Ombudsman secures payment resolution for Virtual University employee

ABBOTTABAD (APP): The timely intervention of Federal Ombudsman Ijaz Ahmad Qureshi has successfully resolved a payment dispute for Abdul Majid, an employee of Virtual University from Abbottabad.

As a result, Majid has received his long-overdue dues. Rashid Ahmad, Advisor In-Charge of the Federal Ombudsman Regional Office in Abbottabad, emphasized that the Ombudsman's office addresses cases of maladministration within federal institutions.

The issue arose when Abdul Majid filed a complaint with the Federal Ombudsman, citing that despite his resignation from Virtual University, his outstanding dues had not been paid, and the institution was causing unnecessary delays.

Notices were issued to the concerned authorities at Virtual University, and following a thorough investigation, the Federal Ombudsman ruled in favor of the complainant. The university was directed to make the payment without further delay.

Two killed in Gujrat firing

GUJRAT (APP): Two persons were killed in a firing incident that took place near Danga road of Gujrat district, tv channels quoting police reported on Tuesday. According to details, two persons were going home after attending hearing of their case when unknown assailants opened fire near Danga road. As a result of firing, both the persons identified as Iqbal and Fazal Hussain died on the spot. Police rushed to the site of incident and shifted the dead to nearby hospital. Police team also started search operation for the perpetrators who fled from the scene.



LAHORE: Chairperson Child Protection Bureau Sara Ahmed leading the mass awareness campaign organized by Child Protection and Welfare Bureau.

Full court reference organized in honour of retiring Justice PHC

PESHAWAR (APP): The Peshawar High Court (PHC) on Tuesday organized a full court reference in honor of Justice Shahid Khan on the occasion of his attaining age of superannuation and paid homage to his services.

The event was graced by Chief Justice PHC, Judges and Registrar of PHC, the Advocate General, the Deputy Attorney General, representatives from the KP Bar Council, the President of the Peshawar High Court Bar Association, the Director General of the KP Judicial Academy, the District and Sessions Judge of Peshawar, Principal Of-

ficers of the Peshawar High Court, former Judicial Officers, and members of the legal community.

In his address, Fida Gul, President of the Peshawar High Court Bar Association, paid homage to Justice Shahid Khan, reflecting on his distinguished judicial career. The Deputy Attorney General, Sana Ullah, also honored him while elaborating on the significant contributions to justice throughout his tenure.

The Advocate General of KP, Shah Faisal Utmankehl, remarked that "32 years of delivering justice is a remarkable achievement and a proud moment for any Judge." He emphasized that the contributions of his lordship to the justice system will be fondly remembered.

Justice Shahid Khan expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the Chief Justice, Judges, and the legal fraternity for organizing such a dignified ceremony in his honor.

Finally, the Chief Justice acknowledged the tireless efforts of Justice Shahid Khan in serving justice to society and assured that every Judge of PHC is committed to delivering justice effectively and as a priority.

Resolving harassment, inheritance cases top priority: Ombudsperson

MULTAN (APP): Provincial Ombudsman for Women, Nabila Hakim Ali Khan, visited Multan and presided over hearings related to inheritance disputes and workplace harassment at the Regional Office, here on Tuesday.

During the visit, she issued directives for the resolution of several cases.

In a notable case, a woman from Tehsil Duniyapur was granted possession of a two-marla commercial shop, valued at Rs. 5 million, after a decade-long legal battle. Expressing her gratitude, the woman commended the Provincial Ombudsman for her persistent efforts in

securing her rightful property.

Nabila Hakim Ali Khan shared the government's commitment to ensuring women receive their inheritance rights and are empowered both socially and economically. She stated, "We are making every effort to support women in gaining their rightful inheritance and ensuring a conducive work environment. Women must not be deprived of their legal rights, especially in matters of inheritance."

She further highlighted the steps taken by the government to promote women's welfare across Punjab.



RAWALPINDI: Members of Punjab Teachers Union protesting outside the Press Club against the privatization of government schools.

Commerce Minister reaffirms commitment to deepening collaborations with Belarus

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan on Tuesday reaffirmed Pakistan's strong commitment to deepening its collaboration with Belarus across all sectors to further promote bilateral trade and economic relations between the two countries.

Addressing the 7th Session of the Pakistan-Belarus Joint Ministerial Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation, Kamal stated that Pakistan and Belarus have long shared a bond rooted in mutual respect, trust, and common interests, which has evolved into a more meaningful partnership.

The minister emphasized that the Pakistan-Belarus Joint Ministerial Commission serves as a vital platform for reinforcing longstanding ties, adding that since the establishment of the Joint Ministerial Commission, the two countries have made significant progress in strengthening bilateral relations.

Jam Kamal Khan further said that the Pakistan-

Belarus trade volume during the last financial year (2023-24) was recorded at \$34.88 million, with Pakistan exporting goods valued at \$0.39 million to Belarus and importing goods worth \$34.49 million from Belarus. He also stressed the need to prioritize expanding trade volumes by exploring new markets and diversifying their export portfolios, noting that the role of forums such as the Joint Business Council is critical.

However, he acknowledged that considerable potential remains to be explored for enhancing bilateral investments in various sectors, including agriculture, health, trade, tourism, and cooperation in addressing the impacts of climate change.

The minister highlighted the tremendous opportunities for cooperation in the industrial sector, noting that increased interaction between the investors of both countries—particularly through joint ventures in textiles and automotive manufacturing—would fur-

ther enhance economic cooperation.

Jam Kamal Khan announced that the 6th session of the Joint Business Council (JBC) will be organized later this year, which will facilitate the promotion of business-to-business contacts and the development of bilateral trade and investment relations.

"Our countries have a tremendous opportunity to share knowledge, technologies, and best practices to enhance agricultural productivity and sustainability," he said, adding that Pakistan is keen to explore opportunities for technology transfer and the establishment of joint ventures in the industrial and agricultural sectors to produce machinery compatible with local needs in terms of size and adaptability.

The minister pointed out that agricultural mechanization offers immense opportunities for collaboration, and Belarus's expertise in this field can significantly support Pakistan's efforts to modernize its agriculture sector.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan and Belarusian Minister of Energy Aleksei Kushnarenko co-chair the 7th Joint Ministerial Commission, signing the Protocol and MoUs between the two countries.

WEF official urges Pakistan to seek financial, technical assistance from world bodies for renewable energy

FAISALABAD (APP): Pakistan should seek financial and technical assistance from world organizations including the UN, IMF and WEF to switch over from fossil fuel to clean renewable energy in order to contribute its productive role in minimizing ill impacts of Green House Gaseous (GHG) emission, said Hassan Abulenein, Associate Director World Economic Forum (WEF).

Addressing an online meeting with the R & D department of the Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FCCI), he said that WEF

has already chalked out a comprehensive strategy to phase out hazardous fuel which has posed serious threat to the earth and environment. He mentioned climate change and increase in global warming which have become a key threat to life and may cause the extinction of a large number of endangered species of animals and plants.

He appreciated the research work conducted by the R & D department of the FCCI on environment preservation and said that we could collaborate to carve out a workable strategy to promote renewable

energy in Pakistan.

Engineer Ahmad Hassan Convener FCCI Standing Committee on R&D and former Vice President FCCI said that WEF, UN, IMF and other global organizations have already given a plan to cut use of fossil fuel by 50% by the year 2030. He said that Pakistan is trapped by the IPPs which are producing costly electricity by using fossil fuel. "We should exploit the global agreements including UN sustainable development goals and Paris agreement to get rid of the harsh conditionalities of the IPPs."



RAWALPINDI: Coordinator to Prime Minister on Climate Change, Romina Khurshid Alam inaugurating a solar energy project of a beverage company.

U.S. Ambassador visits SCCI aimed to enhance U.S., Pak bilateral trade relations

SIALKOT (APP): U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan Donald Blome and U.S. Consul General Lahore Ms. Kristin K. Hawkins visited the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI), marking the Ambassador's second visit to the historic industrial hub. The visit aimed to enhance U.S.-Pakistan bilateral trade relations and explore opportunities for collaboration in various sectors, including clean energy and climate action.

President SCCI Abdul Ghafoor Malik welcomed the U.S. delegation and reiterated the importance of boosting trade relations. Malik said that the visit of Ambassador Blome for second time to Sialkot is a testament to the importance of the U.S. attaches to this industrial city.

He stressed the need for enhanced business collaborations between U.S.

based companies and the industry of Sialkot and discussed the immense potential for further joint ventures between U.S. and Pakistani businesses.

On the occasion the President acknowledged the support of the U.S. government to facilitate Pakistan's transition to 60% renewable energy by 2030.

He lauded the address of the Ambassador Blome given recently at the "Recharge Pakistan" launch event. The project focuses on rehabilitating floodwater channels, improving water security, and uplifting Pakistani farmers through enhanced irrigation systems and boosted agricultural productivity. This initiative is set to create new job opportunities, open avenues for climate financing, and directly benefit farmers by increasing water access and protecting agricultural lands from floods, he added.

Türkiye's capacity utilization slightly up in September

ISTANBUL (AA/APP): The capacity utilization rate for the Turkish manufacturing industry saw a slight increase of 0.2 percentage points to 75.9% in September versus August, according to the findings of a Turkish Central Bank survey released on Tuesday.

Data showed that the highest utilization in this month was 76.1% in investment goods, and the lowest rate was 73.6% in consumer goods.

Broken down by sector, the highest capacity usage was in the manufacture of paper products at 83.1%, while the lowest, 61.4%, was in leather products.

Capacity utilization rate figures are based on responses to a business tendency survey of local units operating in the manufacturing industry.

The Turkish Central Bank said 1,766 companies responded to the survey this month, and the data does not reflect the bank's views or predictions.

SNGPL severs 16 more connections, five illegal extensions

MULTAN (APP): In a series of rigorous operations, the Sui Northern Gas Pipeline Limited (SNGPL) UFG Control Task Force, raided and disconnected 16 more gas meters, including one from a private housing colony and dismantled five illegal gas extensions.

Acting on directions from the General Manager, the team intensified its efforts to curb gas theft and illegal usage. The team led by Task Force In-charge Muhammad Jameel Shaheen and Senior Associate Engineer Muhammad

Yaqoob Khan, in an operation on Bahawalpur road, found nine consumers supplying gas to an unauthorized private colony. All meters were immediately disconnected.

In addition, four consumers were caught using compressors. Their meters were disconnected. Two more consumers had meters installed at a considerable distance from the service line, leading to significant gas leakage and financial loss to the department. Their meters were also re-

Iranian envoy calls on FBR chairman

ISLAMABAD (APP): Ambassador of Iran to Pakistan Dr Reza Amiri Moghaddam Tuesday called on Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) Chairman Rashid Mahmood Langrial.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed matters pertaining to Customs, cross-border trade and management for smooth flow of bilateral trade between the two countries, said a news release.

They agreed to remove the irritants in the bilateral trade to tap the true trade potential for increased economic activity between the two neighbours.



ISLAMABAD: Belarusian delegation headed by Minister for Energy Aleksei Kushnarenko is meeting with the delegation of Ministry of Economic Affairs under the leadership of Minister Ahad Cheema.

KP govt decides to increase wheat storage capacity

PESHAWAR (APP): Chief Minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Ali Amin Gandapur has said that all matters related to wheat procurement must be transparent, and the quality of the wheat must be assured at all costs.

He made these remarks while chairing a meeting of the Department of Food on Tuesday.

Provincial Minister for Food, Zahir Shah Toru, and senior officials of the Food Department also attended the meeting.

The meeting discussed the provincial government's plan of action in light of the federal government's decision to dissolve PASSCO.

Chief Minister directed that for this purpose, the entire process of wheat procurement, transportation, and storage will be digitized, he added.

"There will be no compromise on the quality of wheat, and it must be ensured that no substandard wheat is released into the market," he said.

The meeting decided that in the event of PASSCO's dissolution, the

provincial government has decided to increase its wheat storage capacity.

This will be included in the Annual Development Program.

The provincial government will seek guarantees from the federal and Punjab governments that there will be no ban on inter-provincial wheat transportation after PASSCO's dissolution.

The meeting also discussed pending payments related to wheat procurement from PASSCO.

The meeting decided that outstanding payments to local farmers for wheat procurement would be made on a priority basis.

The meeting also decided to fill staff shortages needed to enhance the department's capacity.

The process of wheat procurement, transportation, and storage will be digitized to ensure transparency.

The meeting discussed the management of the department's assets and ways to maximize revenue from them, leading to significant decisions.

PSX continues with bearish trend, loses 366 points

ISLAMABAD (APP): The 100-Index of the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) continued with bearish trend on Tuesday, losing 366.86 more points, a negative change of 0.45 percent, closing at 81,483.64 points against 81,850.50 points on the last working day.

A total of 369,620,812 shares were traded during the day as compared to 400,309,071 shares the previous trading day, whereas the price of shares stood at Rs 17,062 billion against Rs 18,690 billion on the last trading day.

As many as 427 companies transacted their shares in the stock market, 127 of them recorded gains and 246 sustained losses, whereas the share price of 54 companies remained unchanged. The three top trading companies were WorldCall Telecom with 39,357,051 shares at Rs1.25 per share, Pace (Pak) Limited with 22,589,739 shares at Rs 5.23 per share and Hub Power Company XD with 21,241,308 shares at Rs 129.09 per share.

Ismail Industries Limited witnessed a maximum increase of Rs 146.54 per share price.

NA Panel directs to start work on ML-1 project at earliest

ISLAMABAD (APP): National Assembly Standing Committee on Railways Tuesday directed the authorities concerned to start the Mainline-1 (ML-1) project at the earliest after completing all the documents and necessary steps.

The committee that met here with Rai Hassan Nawaz Khan in the chair apprised that the phase-I would start in end of this year or in start of next year and would be completed within five years.

Secretary, Ministry of Railways briefed the Committee about the project of Main Line (ML-1).

Divisional Superintendents, Pakistan Railways, Lahore, Mughalpura, Peshawar and Rawalpindi briefed the Committee about encroachments and lease of Railways land.

They talked about non-cooperation of concerned district administra-

tion during anti-encroachment operations.

The Committee recommended to approach the Provincial Governments for supporting during such operations. The Committee showed displeasure on presence of some officers on zoom and directed their presence in person in next meetings. The Inspector General of Police, Pakistan Railways also briefed about issues of staff, equipment, salaries and packages of Railways Police. The Committee recommended to perform its role to resolve those issues.

The Secretary also talked about outstanding dues of Rs. 2155 million which had to be paid by sponsoring agencies of Railway level crossings.

The Committee recommended to approach the Provincial Governments to pay all the dues to Pakistan Railways.



Ambassador of Iran to Pakistan, H.E. Dr. Reza Amiri Moghaddam called on Chairman Federal Board of Revenue, Mr. Rashid Mahmood Langrial at FBR Headquarters in Islamabad

Railways offer 50% concession for disabled persons in trains fare

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan Railways is offering a 50 percent concession in rail fares to facilitate disabled persons traveling in all express and passenger trains, except the Green Line. "The concession is granted upon the presentation of the Computerized National Identity Card (CNIC) bearing the disability logo," an official in the Ministry of Railways told APP. He said that a 50 percent discount is also offered to the attendant accompanying visually impaired persons. About the facilities at Railway Stations and Reservation Offices, he said that wheelchairs are available at all major stations to assist disabled passengers.

Additionally, the official said that exclusive reservation and booking counters have been designated for disabled persons at reservation offices.

The free-of-cost access to executive washrooms and restrooms has been provided at a few major stations for special persons.

The official said that the facility of executive washrooms at 12 major stations is also being developed and will have free access for disabled passengers.

To a question, the official said that Khushal Khan Khattak Express was discontinued in March 2020 owing to COVID-19, as train operation was suspended.

He said that Pakistan Railways is operating 98 trains on a daily basis with 1,180 serviceable coaches. The department owns 1,680 passenger coaches on books out of which 72 percent of coaches have surpassed their useful life.

The official said the overage coaches require extra resources, and maintenance costs to keep them fit for operation. At present, 2 Up and 2 Down trains are running between Peshawar and Karachi, he added. He said that two passenger trains Bolan Mail and Monjodaro Express are operating on the Larkana section to cater to the transportation needs of the area.



ISLAMABAD: UK Trade Commissioner Oliver Christian meet Sardar Sadyr Ilyas Khan CEO of Centaurus Group.

Sarhad CCI goes to elect EC members for 2024-25

PESHAWAR (APP): Sarhad Chamber of Commerce and Industries (SCCI), Peshawar is going to elect Executive Committee members for the year 2024-25 tomorrow (Wednesday) September 25, 2024.

Polling will be held for 20 seats of the executive committee with 10 seats each for the Corporate and Associate Groups. A total of 46 candidates with 26 in run for the Corporate Group and 20 are contesting for Associate Group seats of the executive committee respectively.

The nominee of the BF for the seat reserved for Town Associations has returned opposed while the fate of the two seats for women (one each for Corporate Group and Associ-

ate Group) will go to the group which wins majority of executive committees of both categories.

Sarhad Chamber has 8000 registered voters out of which 5000 are Corporate Group members and 3000 are Associate Group members.

Three major groups of the business community including Businessman Forum (BF) of the former Senator Ilyas Ahmad Bilour, Sarhad Business Alliance of the former Governor KP Haji Ghulam Ali and the Pakistan Business Community of Sharafat Ali Mubarak have fielded their candidates.

Ilyas Bilour led Businessman Forum is ruling the chamber since the period of last over two decades.



ISLAMABAD: A labourer carrying bananas on his shoulder after unloading from a loading truck at fruit and vegetable market, in the Federal Capital.

Pak Pavilion draws global attention at 21st China-ASEAN Expo with exquisite crafts

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Pakistan Pavilion on Tuesday attracted global visitors on the opening day of the 21st China-ASEAN Expo (CAEXPO) in Nanning, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region showcasing an exquisite collection of specialties, including polished rosewood furniture, elegant jade ornaments, and intricately designed brass wares.

"We are so honored to participate in the CAEXPO, a high-level platform connecting all parts of the world, which allows our traditional products to enter thousands of households in China," Muhammad Kamil, Managing Director of Pak Link Enterprises, who has been exploring in the Chinese market for many years, told China Economic Net.

He pledged to further promote more types of local specialty products in

the Chinese market to let more people fall in love with 'Made in Pakistan'. "Pakistani furniture is elaborately crafted by our most skilled craftsmen; the saffron from the northern region is sought after in China's high-end culinary market, as well as our jade and brass handicrafts, as a cultural heritage passed down for centuries, can add a touch of color to the homes of our friends around the world, including in China," Kamil introduced.

Every year, the CAEXPO is bustling with activities across all exhibition sections. The most lively and attention-grabbing zones, however, are undoubtedly the ASEAN Pavilions, Exhibition of Products from RCEP Countries and the Belt and Road International Pavilion, which feature unique and high-quality products from different countries and regions.



QUETTA: Balochistan Chief Secretary Shakeel Qadir Khan presides over the meeting of E-Commerce Council.

New Israeli strikes on Lebanon as death toll from Monday attacks surges to 558

Monitoring Desk

GAZA: Israel announced dozens of new air strikes on what it said were Hezbollah strongholds in Lebanon on Tuesday, a day after 558 people, including 50 children, were killed in the deadliest bombardment since a devastating war in 2006. Israel's overnight strikes on southern Lebanon came after it said it had killed a "large number" of fighters when it hit about 1,600 suspected Hezbollah targets around the country, Hezbollah said it had launched volleys of missiles at Israeli military bases, hours after 180 of its projectiles and an unmanned aerial vehicle crossed into Israeli airspace, sending people in the city of Haifa running for shelter.

The Israeli military said more than 50 projectiles were fired into northern Israel in less than 10 minutes on Tuesday morning, most of which were intercepted. In Lebanon,

Monday's raids killed 492 people, including 35 children and 58 women, and wounded 1,645, according to the health ministry, which said "thousands of families" had fled their homes. People in Israel's coastal city of Haifa were seen running for cover on Monday when air raid sirens sounded.

"Everyone is heading (to Lebanese capital Beirut) with their children and their belongings — it's the first time we see such panic since 2006," said Lebanese journalist Nazir Reda, who was driving to his hometown near the Israeli border to get his family away from the violence.

Longtime foes Hezbollah and Israel have been locked in near-daily cross-border exchanges of fire for nearly a year, since October 7.

Hezbollah, which has been fighting Israel for decades, and other Iran-backed fighters in the region have

been drawn into the violence.

Monday's bombardment of Lebanon was by far the largest, not just in the past year, but since the Israel-Hezbollah war in the summer of 2006. That war killed 1,200 people in Lebanon, mostly civilians, and 160 Israelis, most of them soldiers, and devastated large swaths of Hezbollah's strongholds. Pakistan condemned the Israeli aggression "in the strongest possible terms". A statement from the Foreign Office (FO) said the act of aggression was a "grave violation" of the UN Charter and international law. "It is a dangerous escalation that has further endangered peace and security in an already volatile region," the FO added. It reaffirmed full support for Lebanon's sovereignty and territorial integrity, saying that Pakistan stood in solidarity with the people of Lebanon and for their right to live in peace and security.



Rescuers inspect the debris at the site of an overnight Israeli strike on a pharmacy in the southern Lebanese village of Akbiyeh.

Joe Biden highlights two-state solution in his last address as US President at UNGA

Monitoring Desk

GENEVA: In his last address at the UNGA as US president, Joe Biden said a two-state solution with a Palestinian state, in which Palestinians can live peacefully, is the only way to ensure permanent peace, as Israel continues to escalate violence by attacking Lebanon.

Speaking at the session in New York, Biden, who has come under fire for his administration's unconditional support

to Israel, as it commits acts of genocide in the Gaza Strip, said it was time for a cease-fire in Gaza.

He said that "innocent civilians" in the blockaded Palestinian enclave were "going through hell," adding that now was the time for Israel and Hamas to agree to a cease-fire and hostage deal.

The deal would "bring the hostages home and secure security for Israel" and ease the suffering in Gaza and end this war.

Iran seeks to calm Iraqi infighting over spy row as region flares up

Monitoring Desk

BAGHDAD: Iran's Quds Force commander told Iraqi political leaders last week to ease criticism of the prime minister who has been embroiled in a row over spying allegations, sources said, seeking to steady a regional ally as conflict in the Middle East flares.

Esmail Qaani made the request during a visit to Baghdad, according to seven Iraqi sources, including people in political parties whose leaders the Iranian commander met. A regional diplomat confirmed the account.

US, Canada to negotiate maritime boundary in Beaufort Sea

Monitoring Desk

WASHINGTON: The United States and Canada on Tuesday said they will create a task force this autumn to negotiate the maritime boundary in the Beaufort Sea and resolve the overlap along the continental shelf.

The group will work toward a final agreement covering the border area, which lies north of Alaska and the Canadian provinces of Yukon and the Northwest Territories.

China 'firmly supports' Lebanon in safeguarding its security

Monitoring Desk

HONG KONG: China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi told Lebanese Foreign Minister Abdallah Bou Habib on Monday that Beijing firmly supported Lebanon in safeguarding its sovereignty and security and strongly condemned violations after Israel's large scale airstrike.

Wang and Habib met in New York where they exchanged views on the situation in the Middle East, according to a statement from China's Foreign Ministry.

Israel's military said it launched airstrikes against Hezbollah sites in Lebanon on Monday, which Leba-

nese authorities said had killed 492 people and sent tens of thousands fleeing for safety in the country's deadliest day in decades.

Wang said no matter how the situation changes, China would continue to stand on the "side of justice and on the side of Arab brothers, including Lebanon".

"We pay close attention to the development of the regional situation, especially the recent explosion of communication equipment in Lebanon, and firmly oppose indiscriminate attacks on civilians," Wang said, according to the statement.

Turkey's Erdogan calls for US to lift sanctions hindering defence purchases

Monitoring Desk

ANKARA: Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan called for US sanctions blocking some defence purchases by his country and for other "unilateral" measures that hinder the NATO allies' ability to hit long-term bilateral trade targets to be lifted. Ties between the allies have been strained over a host of issues in recent years, ranging from policy differences in the eastern Mediterranean, Syria and Gaza to Ankara's purchase of Russian S-400 air defence systems, which prompted the US sanctions and Turkey's removal from the F-35 fighter jet programme in 2019.

After that, Ankara

worked to procure 40 Block-70 F-16 fighter jets and 79 modernisation kits from Washington. The deal was approved after Turkey's blessing of Sweden's NATO bid, which also led to a thaw in relations. Ankara and Washington have a long-term goal of \$100 billion in bilateral trade, up from about \$30 billion in 2023.

During a visit to New York for the UN General Assembly, Erdogan told Turkish and American businesspeople that though he believed the goal would be possible to meet, cooperation in defence industry had "fallen very short" of the potential due to the remaining restrictions.

France's new interior minister vows immigration curbs in rightward shift

Monitoring Desk

PARIS: France is likely to see much tougher immigration and security measures to reflect a broad rightward shift in society, its new interior minister said in remarks hinting at the minority government's dependence on the tacit support of the far right.

Bruno Retailleau's calls for a harsher line on asylum claims, violence against police, prison sentences, radical Islam and drug trafficking underline the sway of Marine Le Pen's National Rally (RN) on the newly installed government.

After a June election in which the centre-right lost its ruling majority, the ascendant RN took on a king-maker position, signalling tacit support for Michel Barnier's premiership while reserving the right to

withdraw it if its concerns are not met.

Retailleau, 63, a veteran of the mainstream conservative Republicans (LR) party and a longtime sceptic of immigration, gave details of his vision for the powerful interior ministry during Barnier's first cabinet meeting on Monday.

But he has since been more explicit in a series of press interviews, telling Le Figaro daily that he would unveil new measures within weeks, and that France "must not refrain from strengthening our legislative arsenal".

"My objective is to put a stop to illegal entries and to increase exits, particularly for illegal immigrants, because one should not stay in France when one has broken in," he was quoted as saying by Le Figaro.

A UN expert says Russian convicts sent to war in Ukraine commit crimes when they return

Monitoring Desk

GENEVA: A U.N.-backed human rights expert on Monday decried violence in Russia by former convicts whose sentences are commuted to fight in Ukraine who then return home to commit crimes including rape and murder.

Mariana Katzarova, who is monitoring rights in President Vladimir Putin's Russia under a mandate from the U.N.-backed Human Rights Council, said the return home to Russia of former criminals who have had their legal slates wiped clean is adding to more domestic violence.

The phenomenon first emerged last year among returning fighters, but Katzarova noted that pardons and shortened sentences in Russia for prisoners who agree to fight in Ukraine became law in Russia in March. Speaking to reporters, Katzarova said an estimated 170,000 convicted violent criminals have been recruited to fight in Ukraine. "Many of them who return—and this is an emerging trend—have been

perpetrating new violent crimes to begin with against women, against girls, against children, including sexual violence and killings," she said in Geneva, where the council is holding its autumn session.

"This has increased, the violence against women in Russia, which already is on a very high level with thousands of women dying each year as a result of domestic violence," she said. "There is no law in Russia distinctly criminalizing domestic violence or gender-based violence." Russia's war in Ukraine is in its third year, and the Kremlin has gone to great lengths to replenish its troops there. In 2022, the authorities mobilized some 300,000 men in a partial call-up, and human rights groups and media also reported an effort to recruit inmates serving time in prisons across the vast country. Initially, the recruitment was carried out by the Wagner mercenary group, but then Russia's Defense Ministry took over, according to activists and media reports.



Sri Lanka's new Prime Minister Harini Amarasuriya (L) with President Anura Kumara Dissanayake (R) attending her swearing-in ceremony, in Colombo.

Sri Lanka President Dissanayake picks Amarasuriya as PM, takes finance job

Monitoring Desk

COLOMBO: Sri Lanka's new president, Anura Kumara Dissanayake, named college professor and first-time lawmaker Harini Amarasuriya as the new prime minister of the Indian Ocean island nation on Tuesday, making her the third woman to be appointed to the post.

Dissanayake, 55, has taken the key finance portfolio himself as Sri Lanka looks to emerge from its most punishing economic crisis in 70 years and its first debt default while keeping promises to aid the nation's poor.

The Marxist-leaning firebrand politician will also hold the economic development and tourism jobs in the cabinet.

Dissanayake's intentions to slash taxes and desire to revisit the terms of a

\$2.9 billion International Monetary Fund bailout have worried investors, who fear that it could delay a crucial \$25bn debt restructuring.

His comments during Monday's inauguration offered few clues as to how headline his economic approach will be.

"Our politics needs to be cleaner, and the people have called for a different political culture," the 55-year-old said. "I am ready to commit to that change."

Dissanayake ran in Saturday's presidential election as the candidate for the National People's Power coalition, which includes his Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna party that traditionally championed Marxist economic policies centred on protectionism and state intervention.

China urges Japan to deal with boy's fatal stabbing 'calmly'

Monitoring Desk

BEIJING: China's top diplomat Wang Yi told his Japanese counterpart that he hoped Tokyo would handle the fatal stabbing of a schoolboy in Shenzhen "calmly and rationally", Beijing's foreign ministry said Tuesday.

Prime Minister Fumio Kishida demanded an explanation after the attack last week in the southern Chinese city and urged Beijing to ensure the safety of Japanese citizens.

The boy, reportedly 10 years old, was stabbed on his way to a Japanese school.

Beijing's foreign ministry said one of his parents was Japanese and the other Chinese.

Foreign Minister Yoko Kamikawa during a visit to New York and told her that China would investigate and handle the case "in accordance with the law".

"Japan should show this calmly and rationally and avoid politicising or escalating the issue," Wang said, according to the Chinese foreign ministry. Beijing "will as always safeguard the safety of all foreign citizens in China", he said.

It remains unclear if the attack was politically motivated, although it happened on September 18 — the anniversary of the 1931 "Mukden incident" or "Manchurian incident", which is known in China as a day of national humiliation.

Biden not giving up on Gaza ceasefire, hostages: White House

Monitoring Desk

WASHINGTON: US President Joe Biden is determined to bring about a Gaza ceasefire and hostage deal with Hamas while also seeking to de-escalate tensions on Israel's border with Lebanon, White House national security adviser Jake Sullivan said on Tuesday.

"He absolutely hasn't given up," Sullivan said in an interview with MSNBC hours before Biden addresses the UN General Assembly for the last time as president.

Biden will huddle with world leaders gathered in New York to work on a ceasefire and hostage deal in Gaza and avert an all-out war in the Middle East, Sullivan said.

Tropical Storm John lashes Mexican coast, two killed in mudslide

Monitoring Desk

MEXICO CITY: Tropical Storm John unleashed heavy rains along Mexico's southern Pacific coast as it moved inland on Tuesday morning, threatening dangerous flooding and causing at least two deaths in a mudslide.

Stretching across several Mexican states, the storm uprooted trees and electrical posts and damaged roofs, officials told reporters at a briefing on Tuesday. The affected area is home to both cargo ports and some of the country's top beach resorts. Around two-thirds of local power users were without electricity and phone service was also hit, officials said. Video posted on social media showed sheets of rain pummeling empty streets overnight near the large Lazaro Cardenas port.



A view of RSS Impeccable during a commissioning ceremony of the Republic of Singapore Navy's first and second Invincible-class submarines Invincible (INV) and Impeccable (IPB) at the Changi Naval Base in Singapore.

Bangladesh army chief pledges support for Yunus' interim govt 'come what may'

Monitoring Desk

DHAKA: Bangladesh's army chief vowed to back the country's interim government "come what may" to help it complete key reforms after the ouster of then-prime minister Sheikh Hasina, so that elections could be held within the next 18 months.

General Wakeruz Zaman and his troops stood aside in early August amid raging student-led protests against Hasina, sealing the fate of the veteran politician who resigned

after 15 years in power and fled to India.

In a rare media interview, Zaman told Reuters at his office in the capital Dhaka on Monday that the interim administration led by Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus had his full support and outlined a pathway to rid the military of political influence.

"I will stand beside him. Come what may. So that he can accomplish his mission," Zaman, bespectacled and dressed in military fatigues, said of Yunus.

California becomes latest state to restrict student smartphone use at school

Monitoring Desk

SACRAMENTO: School districts in California will have to create rules restricting student smartphone use under a new law Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom signed Monday. The legislation makes California the latest state to try to curb student phone access in an effort to minimize distractions in the classroom and address the mental health impacts of social media on children. Florida, Louisiana, Indiana and several other states have passed laws aimed at restricting student phone use at school.

"This new law will help students focus on academics, social development,

and the world in front of them, not their screens, when they're in school," Newsom said in a statement.

But some critics of phone restriction policies say the burden should not fall on teachers to enforce them. Others worry the rules will make it harder for students to seek help if there is an emergency or argue that decisions on phone bans should be left up to individual districts or schools. "We support those districts that have already acted independently to implement restrictions because, after a review of the needs of their stakeholders, they determined that made the most sense.

Australian woman detained in Turkey over alleged links to Kurdish insurgents

Monitoring Desk

ISTANBUL: An Australian woman was arrested in Turkey over her alleged links to a Kurdish militant group in a joint operation by anti-terrorist police and intelligence officers, Turkish media said.

Cigdem Aslan, 51, was detained at Istanbul airport after an investigation found she was "actively involved in the Australian structure of the terrorist organization," according to a report by the state-run Anadolu news agency.

Murdered South Korean woman found after 16 years encased in cement

Monitoring Desk

SEOUL: A South Korean woman has been arrested after confessing to murdering his girlfriend 16 years ago and entombing her body on his balcony under a layer of cement, police told AFP on Tuesday. The man, who is now in his 50s, was charged with murdering the woman in October 2008 during an argument, according to the Gyeongnam Provincial Police and Geosje Police Station. He fatally struck the woman with a blunt object then placed her body in a large travel bag, police said.



Ghana's former president and current main opposition National Democratic Congress (NDC) party presidential candidate John Dramani Mahama, 65, gestures as he and his wife Lordina Mahama attend a political campaign launch ahead of December polls, in Tamale, Ghana.

Pakistan-China agreed for working together to complete mega projects

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan and China will work together for the completion of ML-1, M-6 and M-9 projects in order to strengthen trade and economic cooperation between both the countries.

While 2nd Phase of KKH and construction of Kaghan Naran, Jhal Khand, Babusar Top and Tunnel till Karakrum Highway will also be constructed.

The consensus to this effect was developed in a meeting between Minister for Communications Abdul Aleem Khan and Transport Minister of China Li Xiapeng during International Transport Conference, which was held at Beijing.

Both the ministers

held a detail discussion and agreed on 4 mega projects to be completed in Pakistan, said a press release.

According to the details Minister for Communications, Privatization & Board of Investment Abdul Aleem Khan reached Beijing where an hour long discussions and meeting was held with Chinese Minister for Transport Mr. Li Xiapeng who welcomed him warmly and expressed deep interest in Joint Ventures and working together for these important projects.

In the meeting Public Private Partnership and other financial modalities were came under discussion. It is mentionable that missing links of CPEC

projects will be completed which include Motorway from Sukkhar to Haider Abad and Karachi.

Similarly, railway project of ML-1 Seaport to Multan and to Lahore, Karakrum Highway Thakot to Raikot and Highway of Kaghan Naran, Jhal Khand and Babusar Top will also be constructed.

Abdul Aleem Khan thanked China for its cooperation and expressed hope that this International Conference on Transport will merge more benefits and development for Pakistan.

Transport Minister of China Mr. Li Xiapeng assured full cooperation from his Department for Pakistan in future, as well.



Federal Minister for Communications, Abdul Aleem Khan being received by Chinese Transport Minister Li Xiapeng in Beijing.

Ahsan pushes for digitalization of Planning Ministry's operations in one year

ISLAMABAD (APP): Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission of Pakistan Professor Ahsan Iqbal on Tuesday highlighted the importance of transitioning the entire Planning Ministry's operations online to meet the demands of the modern era, terming "crucial" for ensuring transparency, preventing resource wastage and improving governance.

"We must focus on bringing all of the ministry's operations online within a year," he said while chairing a review meeting of ongoing development projects under the Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives.

Among others, the meeting was attended by Parliamentary Secretary for Planning Wajih Akram, a news release said.

Ahsan Iqbal advocated for the inclusion of private sector consultants to enhance the performance of the Ministry's ongoing

projects, adding, "The expertise of the private sector will be instrumental in improving project management and execution."

He also called for a critical review of ongoing projects, advising that those not contributing to governmental efficiency should be terminated.

He stressed the need for a more efficient and modernized approach to project planning and approval processes. "When approving new projects, their practical implications and expected outcomes must be thoroughly assessed. Ministries need to move beyond mere project initiation and focus on successful completion," he added.

The Deputy Chairman also issued strategic directives for improving the Intelligent Project Automation System (iPAS) under the Ministry of Planning, adding iPAS should evolve into a comprehensive

project management tool to ensure the highest level of efficiency in this key initiative.

As the government prepares for the next Public Sector Development Program (PSDP), Ahsan Iqbal underscored the importance of determining the availability of resources for projects initiated by various ministries. He reminded ministries to ensure that new projects are conceived within their allocated budgets. "Project directors must take responsibility for hiring project staff, and every ministry must ensure that its projects are financially viable," he added.

Ahsan Iqbal also stressed the critical role of the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) in supporting the government's economic agenda, specifically through research on economic growth, governance improvements, and new project proposals.

Pak committed to enhance cooperation with Maldives in diverse fields: PM

UNITED NATIONS (APP): Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to enhancing cooperation with the Maldives in the fields of trade, tourism, education, investment and climate change.

He was talking to President of the Maldives Dr Muizzu on the sidelines of the 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

During the meeting,

both leaders underscored the deep-rooted ties between Pakistan and the Maldives.

Both leaders agreed on the need for increased people-to-people exchanges and collaborative efforts to promote economic growth and sustainable development in their respective countries.

The two sides also recognized the shared responsibility of South Asian nations to work together for peace, prosperity, and stability of the region.

Inclusion of Balochistan's youth especially women in armed forces of Pak proud moment for us: Dr. Rubaba

Independent Report QUETTA: The Advisor to Chief Minister for Women Development Department, Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi has said that the inclusion of Balochistan's youth, especially women, in the

Balochistan into various departments of the Pakistan Navy. Dr. Rubaba Buledi remarked, Increasing women's representation in the Navy is crucial for gender equality and for tapping into the immense po-



armed forces of Pakistan is a proud moment for the province, as they step forward to safeguard the nation's defense.

Their participation highlights the growing opportunities for Balochistan's women to play an active role in the security of Pakistan, symbolizing strength, resilience, and dedication.

These remarks were given during her visit to Navy Headquarters Quetta, where she was welcomed by Navy Commandant Officer Captain Abdullah Siddiqui. On this occasion, Navy Commandant Officer presented her with a commemorative souvenir.

Dr. Rubaba Buledi discussed several initiatives aimed at advancing opportunities for the people of Balochistan. A key point of the discussion was the recruitment of women from

tential of the women in our province.

The establishment of a Bahria University campus in Quetta was also a central topic of discussion. Dr. Rubaba Buledi stated, The establishment of Bahria University in Quetta will bring world-class educational opportunities to the region, enabling our youth—especially women—to thrive in their academic and professional pursuits.

Another significant topic discussed was the development of a Maritime Technology Training Park for Balochistan's youth. This training park will provide advanced skill development in maritime technologies, offering our young people new career pathways and fostering economic growth in the region, Dr. Rubaba Buledi added.

Dr. Rubaba Buledi discussed several initiatives aimed at advancing opportunities for the people of Balochistan. A key point of the discussion was the recruitment of women from

Shahzaib Rind our pride, Govt to extend wholehearted support, says Meena Majeed Baloch

Independent Report QUETTA: The Parliamentary Secretary for Sports, Ms. Meena Majeed Baloch has stated that the

Asim Kurd and Advisor to Chief Minister for Labour and Manpower, Sardar Ghulam Rasool Umrani and other high ups were also



world karate combat champion Shahzaib Rind is our pride as he has brightened the name of our province and country at the international level. Ms. Meena Majeed Baloch was speaking to the media persons along with the champion of World Karate Combat Light Heavyweight Champion, Shahzaib Rind at the Quetta airport on Tuesday.

The Parliamentary Secretary for sports reached the airport to welcome Shahzaib Rind upon his arrival after winning the World Karate Combat Light Heavyweight Championship in Singapore last week.

The Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti, Provincial Ministers Bakht Muhammad Kakar and Mir

present there to welcome and greet the young World Champion belonging to Balochistan province.

Ms. Meena Majeed Baloch said that Shahzaib Rind raised the name of province and country at the national and international level. She said that we all have come to welcome Shahzaib Rind and we own him. She said that there is a immense talent among youth of the province, what they need just opportunities to prove and excel.

The Parliamentary Secretary for Sports also said that we would do our best to provide necessary facilities to youth so that they may brighten the name of country and province like Shahzaib Rind.

DC Quetta vows to resolve land revenue issues

Independent Report QUETTA: Deputy Commissioner Quetta, Lt. (R) Saad bin Asad, said that all possible measures are being taken to resolve public issues related to land transfers, record corrections, land revenue, and road expansion projects. He ensured that landowners will receive prompt payments for their land acquired for development projects.

The citizens of Quetta face severe difficulties related to land revenue, and comprehensive planning is underway to address these

issues. The problems of landowners affected by road expansion projects will be resolved, and payments will be made promptly.

Asad stated that the district administration is taking effective measures to resolve public issues. The difficulties faced by people regarding land revenue and land transfers will be addressed. The issues of landowners affected by road expansion projects will be resolved quickly, ensuring the projects' completion without hindrance.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan addressing to the 7th Session of Joint Ministerial Commission between Pakistan and Belarus.

Asif links stability in world to solution of Gaza-like conflicts

ISLAMABAD (INP): Minister of Defense Khawaja Asif on Monday said there will be no lasting peace and stability in world without solving Gaza-like conflicts.

During his speech at the Summit of the Future Plenary Session in UN General Assembly, Khawaja Asif said that collective efforts have to be made to meet the security challenges.

Khawaja Asif said that security issues are a threat to our coming generations, as well as to the world's lasting peace. He said that the global system needs reforms to provide better opportunities to more than 100 developing countries.

He said that as an international community, we

have a role to play in setting a better course for our world.

The minister further said that international financial institutions should provide debt relief to poor nations as well as these institutions should cooperate [financially] with the developing countries. He said that Pakistan wants to benefit from artificial intelligence (AI). He said that the Summit of the Future offers a once-in-a-generation opportunity for change and a chance to commit to bold new solutions. "It provides an opportunity to create international mechanisms that better reflect the realities of the 21st century and can respond to today's and tomorrow's challenges and opportunities."



QUETTA: Chairman PM Youth Policy Rana Mashood Ahmed Khan meeting with Chief Secretary Balochistan Shakeel Qadir Khan

Sardar Yar Muhammad Rind honors Karate Champion Shahzeb with land grant

ISLAMABAD (INP): Former Federal Minister Sardar Yar Muhammad Rind has announced the allocation of a square of agricultural land to Shahzeb Rind, Pakistan's first Karate Combat World Champion.

The announcement was made during a press conference held in honor of Shahzeb, who has made significant strides in martial arts despite facing challenges, including financial difficulties in securing travel for competitions.

At the event, Ex-Minister Rind criticized the federal and provincial Ministry of Sports for their inadequate support of Shahzeb, highlighting what he termed "double standards" in recognizing local talent.

He expressed his disappointment over the lackluster reception Shahzeb received upon returning to Pakistan after his champi-

onship win, stating that the young athlete had elevated Pakistan's status on the global stage.

Ex Minister Rind emphasized Shahzeb's dedication and the pride he brings to the nation, noting, "The youth of Balochistan are immensely talented but often go unrecognized. I am committed to advocating for their rights." He recounted how he had supported Shahzeb financially and emotionally, encouraging him to pursue his passion for karate despite his middle-class background.

The former minister referred to Shahzeb as a son and praised his hard work, which he believes should be acknowledged and celebrated by the government and society. In a gesture of support, Rind pledged to officially register the land in Shahzeb's name upon his return to their village in Balochistan.



SOHBATPUR: Provincial Minister for Communication & Works Mir Saleem Ahmed Khosa listening problems of people

Hub river bridge construction nears completion

Independent Report QUETTA: The Hub River Bridge, a vital link between Sindh and Balochistan, is nearing completion. Following the Balochistan High Court's orders, Commissioner Quetta Division Muhammad Naem Bazzi and National Highway Authority (NHA) Project Director Hub River Bridge Parakash are overseeing the final stages of construction.

The bridge's black topping process has begun, and NLC's Colonel Raheem is monitoring the project's progress. The federal government approved the reconstruction of the bridge, damaged in the 2022 floods, at a cost of Rs. 1198 million.

The National Highway Authority (NHA) has assured the Balochistan High Court that the Hub River Bridge will be completed this month and opened to traffic. The court was informed that the bridge's construction is in its final stages, with only the shoulder's construction remaining. NHA officials confirmed that funds are available for the project, and the remaining work will be completed soon. The court directed NHA to complete the project without delay.

While lauding the victory of Shah Zaib Rind, he said youth of Balochistan are so talented to represent Pakistan globally.

Shahzaib is Pakistan's hero as his tireless efforts brought title of World Karate Champion to Pakistan.

The youth of

Man killed in Quetta barber shop

ISLAMABAD (APP): A man was shot killed while another was injured on Tuesday when unidentified gunmen opened fire inside a barber shop on Brewery Road in Quetta.

According to a private news channel, police said that the assailants fired indiscriminately at a man seated inside the shop, killing him on the spot.

Following the incident, police and rescue teams arrived at the scene, and after completing the necessary legal formalities, the deceased's body was shifted to the hospital for further procedures.

According to police officials, the victim, identified as 55-year-old Mujahid, hailed from the Bahawalpur district of Punjab. Eyewitnesses reported that the assailants arrived on a motorcycle and fled the scene immediately after the attack. The police have started gathering evidence and initiated efforts to arrest the suspects.



QUETTA: Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti offering Fataha for departed soul of mother of Agha Shakeel Ahmed Durrani

Rana Mashood says: Balochistan's rising star Shah Zeb Pakistan's hero

QUETTA (APP): Chairman, Prime Minister's Youth Program Rana Mashood said on Tuesday that Balochistan's rising star athlete Shahzaib Rind is our national hero, with his victory in World Karate Champion, every Pakistani feels pride with this triumph.

He expressed these views while addressing a ceremony held at Balochistan University of Information Technology Engineering and Management Sciences (BUITEMS) in connection with acknowledging the national heroes.

Balochistan has immense talent, if they get a chance, they can represent Pakistan in the world.

"I visited Balochistan before and met the youth, and I was impressed by these youths, he said lauding that the girl who made the logo of the National Volunteer Corps belongs to Quetta's Sariab Road, which is yet another big achievement for the province.

Just like Arshad Nadeem, Balochistan's rising star Shahzaib Rind would be invited to Prime Minister House as soon as the Prime Minister Mohammad Shehbaz Sharif returns to Pakistan from his official visit to the USA.

Chairman Youth Program noted that 3 Danish schools are being opened in Balochistan to promote education.

CM condoles death of mother of Agha Shakeel Durrani; offers fataha

Independent Report QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Bugti visited Durrani House in Khuzdar on Tuesday.

During the visit, Chief Minister condoled the death of mother of Agha Shakeel Ahmed Durrani, Senator Agha Shahzaib Durrani, Captain (Retd) Agha Shehryar Durrani and mother-in-law of Chief of Jhalawan, Nawab Sanaullah Zehri.

Also accompanied him were the Provincial Ministers and members of provincial assembly.

PTA publishes framework for WLAN

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) has published the Framework for Wireless Local Area Network (WLAN) 2024.

According to a PTA news release, the framework designates specific unlicensed frequency bands, including the 2.4 Gigahertz (GHz), 5 GHz, and 6 GHz bands, for WLAN usage. The framework had been finalized after extensive consultation with the relevant stakeholders.



QUETTA: Administrator Metropolitan Corporation Quetta Hamza Shafiqat signing MoU between Metropolitan Corporation Quetta, Akhtar Hameed Khan Memorial Trust and Qatar Charity regarding solid waste management

BHC directs finance, health secretaries to implement orders on health care commission

Independent Report QUETTA: A divisional bench of the Balochistan High Court, comprising Justice Abdullah Baloch and Justice Iqbal Ahmed, heard a constitutional petition regarding the financial affairs and matters of the Balochistan Health Care Commission (BHCC).

The court observed that during the last hearing on September 9, 2024, the Additional Secretary, Finance Department, appeared along with the Advocate General and informed the honorable bench that Rs. 50 million had been released to the Chief Executive Officer of BHCC and would be transferred to

their account within two to three days.

However, the CEO of BHCC informed the court that no amount has been transferred to their account to date. The Assistant Advocate General, Finance Department, and Law Officers of the Health Department failed to satisfy the court regarding the release and transfer of Rs. 50 million.

Previously, the Chief Secretary Balochistan held a meeting with the Chairman and members of BHCC, Secretary Finance, and Secretary Health, where it was decided that BHCC would submit its future demands/require-

ments through the Health Department to the Finance Department. Accordingly, BHCC submitted its demands, but no action has been taken yet, which was acknowledged by the Law Officers of the Finance and Health Departments.

The honorable judges expressed displeasure, stating that the behavior of the Finance and Health Departments suggests they do not want BHCC to function as a fully autonomous organization.

The court directed the Secretaries of Finance and Health to comply with its orders and appear personally on the next hearing.